

July 30, 2023

17TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



St. Joseph

Catholic Church

*A community
of faith
growing in
God's love*

91 Stillhouse Rd., Millstone Twp., NJ 08510 732-792-2270

What is
Heaven
Worth to You?

Matthew 13:44-52

MASS

Saturday

5:00 PM

SUNDAY

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Mon. Tues. Wed. Fri.

9:00 AM

Masses are also

live streamed

SERVED BY

Rev. Michael P. Lang, Pastor

frmlkestjoseph@optonline.net

Chris Chandonnet, Deacon

chrisstjoseph@optonline.net

Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate

VickicStjoseph@gmail.com

Genevieve Semanchick

Parish Secretary & CRE

jeanstjoseph@optonline.net

CONNECT

Fax: 732-792-2271

Website:

www.stjosephmillstone.org

Facebook:

[@stjosephchurchmillstone](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone)

Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

Each person has a different set of values in life. Some people crave fame and popularity. Nothing pleases them more than to be recognized and have their pictures in the press and social media. For others, their pursuit is for status and respectability in the community. Very often they are not happy unless others admire them for their luxury home, the amount of money they have or the car they drive. They seek material things with the belief that it will bring them happiness. However, the Readings in our Liturgy on this day issue a direct challenge to all types of worldly lifestyles and tell us to get our priorities right. Many married couples find out the hard way that it is more important for a family to be happy than to live in plush surroundings. Time spent as a family is more valuable than money that will be spent on foolish things. Relationships that are nurtured and have a higher priority than filling the house with stuff are much more likely to be strong and last for a lifetime. We may live in an age where everything is expected to take place in an instant, but nurturing relationships take time, there is no way to rush them or expect that they will be strong if effort is not put into the relationship.

The treasure that the Gospel Readings today refers to is our faith. Through our faith, we are heirs to the Kingdom of God. If we nurture our faith and our relationship with God, then we will inherit what God has prepared for us. If we fail to pay attention to our faith and relationship with God, we will never recognize what we are being offered. The set of values that we give top priority to will determine if we find what we yearn for or not. If we give a higher priority to the search for superficial happiness, we will likely miss the opportunities that lead to lasting happiness.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the Gospel is that treasure that comes from God, and can lead to lasting happiness, can be found in ordinary places. God is constantly speaking to us in the simplicity of our lives.

If we really want happiness, we must be willing to give a high priority to staking everything on Christ and the values he stands for and portrays.

Peace, prayers and love to all of you,

Fr. Mike

Mass Schedule + Readings

Saturday	July- 29	Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus (Ex 24:3-8 Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42)
5:00pm		<i>Giuseppe Di Sclafani</i> r/b The Ladies of St Joseph
Sunday	July- 30	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 Rom 8:28-30 Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46)
9:00am		<i>Patricia Sierotowicz</i> r/b Bo & Stella Smith
11:00am		<i>Alex Luzardo</i> r/b M/M Daniel Gorfain
Monday	July- 31	Saint Ignatius of Loyola (Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Mt 13:31-35)
9:00am		<i>Steven Hill</i> r/b Mickey & Donna Napolitano
Tuesday	August- 1	Saint Alphonsus Liguori (Ex 33:7-11; 34-5b-9, 28 Mt 13:36-43)
9:00am		<i>Giuseppina & Filippo Panariello</i> r/b Anthony & Rosemarie Raimondi
Wednesday	August- 2	St Eusebius of Vercelli St Peter Julian Eymard (Ex 34:29-35 Mt 13:44-46)
9:00am		<i>Shirley Puthumana</i> r/b Val & Babu Perumpail
Thursday	August- 3	Weekday (Ex 40: 16-21, 34-38 Mt 13:47-53) <i>No Mass</i>
Friday	August- 4	St John Vianney (v 23:1, 4-11, 15-6, 27, 34b-37 Mt 13:54-58)
9:00am		<i>Danuta Kulesa</i> r/b Sigmund Kulesa
Saturday	August- 5	The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major (Lv 25: 1, 8-17 Mt 14:1-12)
5:00pm		<i>Louise Poggi</i> r/b Nick & Rita Poggi
Sunday	August- 6	The Transfiguration of the Lord (Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 2Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9)
9:00am		<i>Lois Hill</i> r/b Mary & Al Teodoro
11:00am		<i>Joseph Agate</i> r/b M/M Peter Benemerito

Sanctuary Candle... this week
Healing Intentions of Leonard Rataski Jr.
r/b Mom & Dad



Prayer Chain Contacts:

Patty Hileman 732-446-7651 Mary Costagliola 732-446-4255

Please Keep in your prayers: The sick and the lonely, the safe return of our service men & women, for vocations to the priesthood and religious life and for the hungry and the homeless.

REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2023-2024



Registration for September Classes in our Parish Religious Education Program is taking place. To complete a re-registration for current students or to register a new student (1st Grade or a transfer from another program) please visit the parish website

<https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/prep-parish-religious-education-program>. Print the Parent Handbook and registration materials and return the correct registration form to the Parish Office along with the Parent Agreement. Remember, classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. While there is room for everyone, some specific times and days are already filled. Once a class has reached capacity, no other children will be placed in that class. To be fair to everyone, there are no exceptions to the policy.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER NEEDED

The Religious Education Program is in need of one volunteer teacher. The opening is on Mondays at 4:30PM for grade 6. No experience is necessary – just a desire to share our faith with the children of the parish. All materials are provided and support is readily available. If you are willing to serve as a Catechist, or want more information, contact Jean at the parish office or Fr. Mike. Thanks

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Tuesday, August 15 is the Feast of the Assumption and is a Holy Day. Mass will be celebrated at 9:00AM and 7:00PM. The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the Holy Day.

ST JOSEPH CHURCH FAITH ENRICHMENT - SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL 2023

Art invites us to encounter the Divine through imagery and imagination. This summer expand your spiritual experiences through art, film, and architecture at St Joseph's. The last of the series will be on Friday **8/18 in the parish hall 10 AM-12:30 PM**. Relax enjoy coffee and fellowship. We will watch the film - Monuments Men starring George Clooney and Matt Damon. To sign up, email Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate at: vickicstjoseph@gmail.com. All adult members of the parish are invited. You are welcome to choose to attend any individual session or all of them.

GOLF OUTING



The 23rd Annual St. Joseph Men's Guild Golf Outing will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at the Forsgate Country Club in Monroe, NJ. Brochures that include registration and sponsor information are available on the table at the entrance of the church. The registration information is also available on the Parish website at <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/golf-outing>. There are great opportunities for sponsors available. If you need additional information, please contact Dave - dcerulosr@gmail.com. The proceeds from the golf outing are used to help with some parish costs and offer assistance to those in need. Come and have a wonderful day at the course.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE



The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet on Monday, August 7 at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. Any member of the parish who like to be a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee or find out more information is welcome to attend the meeting. For more information about the Buildings and Grounds Committee contact Tom tbaber@moneymailer.com.

BISHOP'S ANNIVERSARY BLESSING 2023

All couples celebrating their 1st, 25th or 50+ wedding anniversary during 2023 calendar year are invited to share the Eucharist, reaffirm your sacred wedding vows, and receive Bishop O'Connell's Episcopal Blessing. Anniversary Couples from Ocean and Monmouth Counties may attend the Mass and reception at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold on Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 3 pm. For more information and to register for this event online visit us at www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing, or go to the parish website at - <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/bishop-anniversary-blessing> print the form and return to the Parish Office or pick up a registration form from the Parish Office. The registration deadline for all anniversary couples is September 15, 2023.

WELCOME....

As a parish community we joyfully welcome:

Charlotte Adeline Etzel
Sariyah Tye Gainer
Sofia Rose Horsch
Kit Quigley Lucas
Jameson Richard May
Evette Rose Pinho

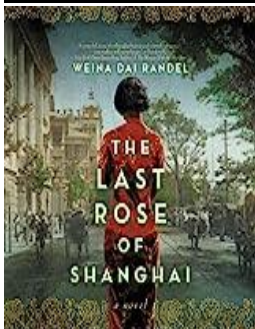
who were welcomed into God's family and the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Let us lift p them up in our prayers.

FOOD COLLECTION



Thank you for your continued generosity with the food donations. There will always be a need for assistance with food for many people so we will continue to collect food, paper goods and toiletries in the bins inside the church entrances. After the first and third Sundays of the month volunteers will deliver the donated items to the Millstone Community Center where they are greatly appreciated and will reach those in need. **PLEASE NOTE → Please check food for expiration dates or "best by" dates – items past the date cannot be given to those who need help so please do not bring food that is past the expiration date.** Thank you again for your generosity.

READERS' CLUB



The Readers' Club has chosen *The Last Rose of Shanghai* by Weina Dai Randel as the next book for discussion. From the electrifying jazz clubs to the impoverished streets of a city under siege, *The Last Rose of Shanghai* is a timeless, sweeping story of love and redemption. In Japanese-occupied Shanghai, two people from different cultures are drawn together by fate and the freedom of music. Our theme for food will be Asian Fusion. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 2nd at 7:30PM in the Parish Hall. For more information about the Reader's Club or to RSVP contact Fran - ambiofran@gmail.com.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



RCIA sessions take place each Sunday, unless otherwise noted on Sunday mornings after the 9:00AM Mass. If you are interested, or know of someone who is interested, please contact Fr. Mike – frmikestjoseph@optonline.net or 732-792-2270. The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a faith journey for those who wish to be Baptized, those who are Baptized and are now interested are interested in joining the Catholic Church and those who have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation). The RCIA is a journey of faith where people are encouraged to discern God's call in their lives. It is not a typical classroom setting. Our Catholic beliefs are introduced and explained and participants in the RCIA are encouraged to see how our beliefs, practices, Liturgies and Sacraments can have an impact in everyday situations. Anyone and everyone is invited to "come and see" to find out if the RCIA process is what you are being drawn to in your life. RCIA sessions have resumed. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Fr. Mike – frmikestjoseph@optonline.net or 732-792-2270.

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ. RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **August 18-20, 2023**. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.

ALS PRAYER GROUP

Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS) is a neurological disease with no known cure. For those impacted with ALS, the Holy Innocents Society of the Diocese of Trenton is sponsoring a weekly virtual prayer group. It is an opportunity to pray for strength with others impacted by ALS. If you have ALS or are a caregiver or family member of someone with ALS, you are invited to participate every week or just when you can. The group will meet via Zoom every Monday at 10:00AM. For more information or to register, please send email to holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org with the subject line "ALS". Please include your name and telephone number. Let us pray together.

POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH



A part-time position is available in the parish for Janitorial/Maintenance. Responsibilities include cleaning and keeping the building tidy. The hours are a bit flexible and are about 20 hours per week. For more information or to apply contact Fr. Mike at the parish office 732-792-2270 or frmikestjoseph@optonline.org.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:30 PM. Up to four families will be scheduled for each celebration of Baptism. If you would like to schedule Baptism for your child, please call the parish office 732-792-2270.

HELP US TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU

The Parish uses Flocknotes which is a program to send out email and text messages to parishioners. This will allow us to stay in touch about parish events, emergency closings and important information. To benefit from this, you must sign up with your cell phone number and/or email address. In the present time, it is important that we have a way to get news out to everyone. We will use Flocknotes to let parents know if Religious Education classes are canceled and we send out reminders about scheduled closings for holidays, etc. It is easy to be on the notification list – just text the code sjmill to 84576 and follow the prompts. You may also go to our website to be included – stjosephmillstone.org/flocknotes. Just enter your information and follow the prompts. You can then select the groups that you want information from. All information is confidential.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please sign up to serve at Mass. If Deacon Chris is present, we will need 2 Eucharistic Ministers. If Deacon Chris is not present, we will need 3 Eucharistic Ministers. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside of the library. Thanks

STAY CONNECTED – FIND THE LATEST NEWS

Don't forget to stay in touch with parish events through social media. Find out what is going on at our website at www.stjosephmillstone.org. Connect with the parish on Facebook. Give our page a like to keep informed about events. You can find the parish page on Facebook at St. Joseph Catholic Church Millstone Twp. NJ or @stjosephchurchmillstone. Stay informed – stay connected!

CHOIRS, CANTORS AND MUSIC MINISTRY



Do you love to sing? Do you use your voice to praise God? The parish choirs would love to have you join either the St. Choir or the Children's Choir. You do not need to be a professional singer. If you have a good voice and feel comfortable in leading singing, why not use your talent to be a Cantor at Mass? Can you play an instrument and willing to put your talent to use as we gather to celebrate Mass? Perhaps you would like to join the contemporary group. These opportunities do not demand a lot of time – just a commitment and willingness. If you would like to become part of a choir, serve as a Cantor or lend your musical abilities, you can sign up by visiting our parish website <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/music-ministry> or email Kristine at kris0373@aol.com.

Let us always be willing to praise our loving God.

BAPTISM BIBS

At the Sacrament of Baptism for infants, a white Baptismal bib is given to each child as a symbol that they have been clothed with Christ. We have been blessed with parishioners who have lovingly made the bibs. This gives it a special meaning since they come from members of the community. If any of those who have so lovingly made the Baptism bibs can continue, that would be very much appreciated. New people who would like to make the bibs are also welcome. If you would like to see a sample, please see Fr. Mike. The Baptism bib is a symbol of the newly Baptized child putting on Christ. The purpose of having parishioners make the bibs instead of using prepackaged felt bibs, is to demonstrate that we are all connected in faith and as community. While making the bibs, many have prayed for the child who will receive it. If you have questions or just want some more information, give Fr. Mike or see him after Mass. Thanks!

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary meets on Wednesday mornings after the 9:00AM Mass. The Legion of Mary is an international association of members of the Catholic Church. Anyone in the parish is invited to come to find out more about the Legion of Mary.

TRANSPORT PEOPLE FROM MILLSTONE MANOR TO CHURCH

On Sunday mornings, some of our parishioners transport residents of Millstone Manor to our Church for Mass. There is a need for some additional drivers to fill in the schedule. If you are willing to help, or want to find out more information, please contact Mickey at brunonap@AOL.com. THANKS

LIVE STREAM OF MASS –

Masses continue to be live streamed at <https://vimeo.com/event/106444>, on our parish website at www.stjosephmillstone.org/live-stream on our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone and on the Parish YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/StJosephChurchMillstoneTwp



A convenient way to donate is through online Parish Giving. This is offered free of charge to you so that you may make donations by credit card or transfer from your checking account. Check it out at WWW.stjosephmillstone.org and click on **“Contribute/Donate”** then click on the link for **Electronic Giving**. You can then set up an account or choose a onetime donation without an account. If you have any questions about this, please email or leave a message for Fr. Mike



The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop’s Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office: 732-792-2270

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Mailing Address: 91 Stillhouse Road

Millstone Twp, NJ 08510

WWW.STJOSEPHMILLSTONE.ORG

PARISH STAFF	MASS TIMES
<i>Rev. Michael P. Lang - Pastor</i> frmikestjoseph@optonline.net	Saturday Evening - 5:00 PM
<i>Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon</i> Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net	Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
<i>Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate</i> vickicstjoseph@gmail.com	Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 9:00AM
<i>Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary & Coordinator of Religious Education</i> Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net	Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin
<i>Kristine Reide, Music Ministry Leader</i> Kris0373@aol.com	Confessions: Confessions take place on Saturdays after the 5:00PM Mass or anytime by appointment.

BAPTISM – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. Baptisms must be scheduled in advance by calling the Parish Office. Sponsors must obtain Sponsor forms from their home parish – Sponsors must be active practicing Catholics. The Sacrament of Baptism is not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

Marriage – Diocesan policy requires that arrangements for Marriage be made one (1) year in advance of the wedding. Refer any questions to the Pastor.

Sick Calls – Please contact the Parish Office when someone is seriously ill requiring a visit by a Priest. If someone is unable to attend Mass on a regular basis and would like to receive Communion please call the Parish Office

Registration – We are glad you are here and want you to feel like a full member of the parish. Registering as a parishioner helps us to know who you are and to stay in touch. Registration is required for sponsor forms.

Sponsor Certificates – This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Confirmation. To receive a form, the following is required: -Be a registered, active (attends Mass) member of the parish (for at least 6 months); be at least 16 years of age; must have completed the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation; If married, have a valid marriage within the Church.

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