

January 21, 2024

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time



# St. Joseph

Catholic Church

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

91 Stillhouse Road, Millstone Twp., N.J. 08510

732-792-2270



## 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  
*frmikestjoseph@optonline.net*

*Chris Chandonnet, Deacon*  
*chrisstjoseph@optonline.net*

*Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate*  
*VickicStjoseph@gmail.com*

*Genevieve Semanchick*  
*Parish Secretary & CRE*  
*jeanstjoseph@optonline.net*

## CONNECT

Phone:

732-792-2270

Fax:

732-792-2271

Website:

[www.stjosephmillstone.org](http://www.stjosephmillstone.org)

Facebook:

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



### Sunday – January 21

Children's Liturgy of the Word  
Food Collection  
10:00AM – RCIA  
12:30PM - Baptisms

### Monday – January 22

9:00AM – Mass  
Religious Education Classes

### Tuesday – January 23

9:00AM - Mass  
10:00AM – Prayer Shawl Meeting  
Religious Education Classes

### Wednesday – January 24

9:00AM - Mass  
10:00AM – Legion of Mary

### Friday - January 26

9:00AM - Mass

### Saturday – January 27

Middle School Youth Group Trip  
5:00PM - Mass

### Sunday - January 28

10:00AM - RCIA

### Monday – January 29

9:00AM - Mass  
Religious Education Classes

### Tuesday, January 30

9:00AM - Mass  
10:00AM – Prayer Shawl Meeting  
Religious Education Classes

### Wednesday – January 31

9:00AM – Mass  
10:00AM – Legion of Mary  
7:30PM – Reader's Club

### Friday – February 2

9:00AM – Mass

### Saturday – February 3

5:00PM - Mass

### Sunday – February 4

10:00AM - RCIA  
12:00PM – Parent-Child Breakfast

### Mass Schedule + Readings

**Saturday** January- 20 **Saint Fabian – Saint Sebastian**  
(2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Mk 3:20-21)

5:00pm *Jack MacPhee* r/b Frances DeRosa

**Sunday** January- 21 **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Jon 3:1-5, 10 1 Cor 7:29-31 Mk 1:14-20)

9:00am *Alice Anthony* r/b The Tkachuk Family

11:00am *Jack MacPhee* r/b The Schlegel Family

**Monday** January- 22 **Weekday**  
(2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Mk 3:22-30 )

9:00am *Jo-Ann Trifiro* r/b The Stewart Family

**Tuesday** January- 23 **St Vincent - St Marianne**  
(2 Sm 6: 12b-15, 17-19 Mk 3:31-35)

9:00am *Intentions of Val & Babu Perumpail*  
r/b The Family

**Wednesday** January- 24 **Saint Frances de Sales**  
(2 Sm 7:4-17 Mk 4:1-20)

9:00am *K.C. Joseph* r/b Val & Babu Perumpail

**Thursday** January- 25 **The Conversion of St Paul**  
(Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22 Mk 16:15-18) **No Mass**

**Friday** January- 26 **St Timothy and St Titus**  
(2Tm 1:1-8 or Ti1:1-5 Mk 4:26-34)

9:00am *Mark & Michele Paulowski* r/b The Family

**Saturday** January- 27 **Saint Angela Merici**  
(2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17 Mk 4:35-41)

5:00pm *Joseph A. McGuire*  
r/b Linda & Peter Abrahamsen

**Sunday** January- 28 **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Dt 18:15-20 1Cor 7:32-35 Mk 1:21-28)

9:00am *Bob Paasch* r/b The Tkachuk Family

11:00am *Michael O'Riordan* r/b The Alacha Family

### Sanctuary Candle... this week

*Craig Brian Anderson* r/b Vicki Craig



### 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.



Stay in touch, get involved

Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

The Readings for Mass today highlight the theme of repentance. Jonah, a reluctant prophet, was sent to preach a message of repentance to the Ninevites, the sworn enemies of Israel. Jonah had no enthusiasm for that job and was annoyed with God for squandering God's mercy on the enemies of Israel. Jonah would have preferred to see Ninevah destroyed rather than giving the people of Ninevah an opportunity to be converted. However, God thought otherwise. The people were important to God and worth giving a new opportunity. To Jonah's great dismay, when he preached, the people listened, changed their ways and the city was spared. God's call to repentance is based on God's love and respect for us. It is an affirmation of our basic worth and that in God's eyes, we are valuable. Unless we are gripped by this feeling of being worthwhile objects of God's love, we will miss the point of the Gospel's call to conversion.

There is something striking about the Apostles' response to the call of Jesus. Those called obviously had the realization that something better was being offered to them. They sensed that Jesus was calling them to a higher way of life and they were able to see themselves, not as they were, but as they could be. To such an invitation there could only be one response: to repent and believe the Good News. There is more to repentance than saying a few extra prayers, doing some time fasting or being sorry for past sins. The Gospel tells us that, just as those called to follow Jesus had to leave everything behind, we must be willing to leave those things and ways that take us away from God or prevent us from drawing closer to God.

The call to repentance and conversion must be an on-going desire on our part if we desire to draw closer to God. When we sin, we prevent ourselves from being who God calls us to be. When we repent and seek true conversion of heart, we open ourselves to realizing that something better is waiting for us. God constantly calls us to conversion because God believes we are worthwhile and capable of reaching new potentials. Jonah's message holds hope for us. The Gospel message encourages us to see ourselves as more than we have been – to respond to a higher calling. God's mercy is available to all who seek it. When we seek that mercy, it can change our lives.

Peace, prayers and love to all of you,

*Fr. Mike*

### **PARENT-CHILD BREAKFAST**



The Parent-Child Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 4 after the 11:00AM Mass. Tickets are just \$5.00 per person. There will be a delicious breakfast, door prizes of Hess Trucks, and a raffle for basketball tickets – so plan to join us! It is a wonderful opportunity to make memories with your child(ren). To reserve your spot or if you have questions, contact Dave at [dcerulosr@gmail.com](mailto:dcerulosr@gmail.com).

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### **MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP**



The next gathering for the Middle School Youth Group is on Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00PM. There will be fun, food, friendship & faith. The Middle School Youth Group is open to all those in grades 6, 7 & 8.

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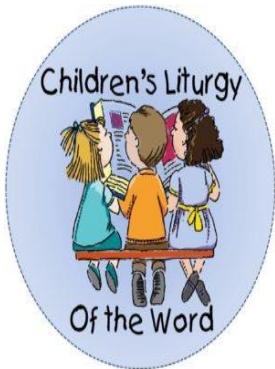
## **LEGO COLLECTION FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP**



Do you have Legos that no one is using anymore? Wondering what to do with them? Hate to throw them out but don't know what else to do? Well, the Middle School youth group would like to take them off your hands to use for some youth group projects. If you have Legos that you would like to donate (they do not have to be complete sets – miscellaneous pieces are good) the Middle School Youth Group will be collecting them from January 6 – January 28. Just bring them to church and place in the collection bin. Thanks!

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## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**



Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place on Sunday, January 21 at the 9:00AM and 11:00AM Masses. Children's Liturgy of the word is for children in grades K – 6. Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at the 9:00AM Mass and the 11:00AM Mass. After the Opening Prayer (Collect), children will be invited to come forward for a blessing and then will be sent to the Parish Hall where they will hear one of the Scripture Readings for the day, be given a message that is appropriate for them and have an activity to help reinforce the teaching. They will return to their families during the Offertory. If you would like to help out as a teacher or an aide, or want some more information, contact the Parish Office – 732-792-2270.

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## **RCIA – RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**



The RCIA meets on Sundays at 10:00AM in the Parish Hall. 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 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. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Fr. Mike –

[frmikestjoseph@optonline.net](mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.net) or 732-792-2270.

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## **BAKE SALE**



The Ladies of St. Joseph will hold a Parish bake sale on Sunday, February 11. It will be a great opportunity to pick up some tasty treats for Super Bowl Sunday or just for your enjoyment.

Donations of baked goods are very welcome (just drop them off in the kitchen). Your support of the Ladies of St. Joseph is greatly appreciated!

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## LENTEN ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

### ***Jesus: The Way, The Truth, and The Life***

Begin your Lenten journey immersed in the life of Jesus. Take a fresh look at who he is, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation in this 5 week video study program filmed in the Holy Land. Experience the extraordinary world in which Jesus lived and taught—the historical context, the politics, the clashing cultures, the history, and the ancient land—and see where the most significant events of his life took place, from his infancy to his ascension.

**Format:** Video presentations 1 hour, followed question/discussion period. Background material, bible references, and discussion questions will be provided to participants before each session.

**When:** Choose either Thursday evening session starting 2/15/24 at 7:00-8:30PM or Friday morning session starting 2/16/24 10:00-11:30AM. There is no cost for this program. The program will take place over 5 sessions and all sessions will take place in the parish hall.

**\*\*\*Please note the specific dates that we will meet below:**

**Session 1**      2/15 and 2/16

**Session 2**      2/22 and 2/23

**Session 3**      2/29 and 3/1

**\*NO SESSION** 3/7 and 3/8

**Session 4**      3/14 and 3/15

**Session 5**      3/21 and 3/22

A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church, online at the parish website, or email Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate at: [vickicstjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:vickicstjoseph@gmail.com) or sign up on our Website at <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/adult-program>. All adult members of the parish are invited.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT



A Women's Retreat sponsored by the Ladies of St. Joseph will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2024, 12 noon to 4 pm In the Parish Hall with Sr. Marcy Springer, S.S.J., from the Francis House of Prayer Lunch will be served. Free admission.

Sign-up by Friday, February 16th...contact Jo Ann at [jannkronenthal@gmail.com](mailto:jannkronenthal@gmail.com)

Theme is "Without Change, There Would Be No Butterflies". This retreat provides a message that instead of giving up ice cream, chocolates, desserts, etc., consider giving up bad acts, behaviors, attitudes or habits such as anger, envy, gossip, judging others or ourselves, self pity, complaining, negativity. Make this year a Spiritual Discipline. Identify IT and make up your mind to change or let go of IT. Then we replace the "dark with light" with the help of God and prayer.

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## BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry gathers to knit or crochet shawls that are given to those who are sick or going through difficulties in life. The purpose of the shawl is to offer encouragement and to allow the individual to be wrapped in the prayers of those who made the shawl. Especially in challenging times, it is good to know that we are not alone and can wrap ourselves in the prayers of others. If you knit or crochet you are welcome to join us. We meet every Tuesday at 10:00AM. You can make shawls from home as well. If you are in need of some comfort and would like a prayer shawl, just let us know. We will pray for you and do our best to get a shawl to you. For more information, or to request a shawl, please contact Pat - [314PMCD@gmail.com](mailto:314PMCD@gmail.com).

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## 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.

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## 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

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## READERS' CLUB



The Readers' Club has chosen is *The Thread Collectors* by Alyson Richman and Shaunna J. Edwards. In *The Thread Collectors*, The authors offer a vibrant tapestry of characters whose lives have been shattered by slavery and Civil War, yet find a tenuous connection in scraps of fabric that symbolize hope, love, even escape. It is both heartbreaking and thrilling.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30PM in the Parish Hall. For more information about the Reader's Club or to RSVP contact Fran - [ambiofran@gmail.com](mailto:ambiofran@gmail.com).

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## CHOIRS, CANTORS AND MUSIC MINISTRY



Do you like 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 email Kristine at [kris0373@aol.com](mailto:kris0373@aol.com) or sign up by visiting our parish website <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/music-ministry>

*Let us always be willing to praise our loving God.*

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### **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!

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### **RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE**

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held February 16 - 18, 2024 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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### **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. If anyone is interested in participating in the Visiting Pilgrim statue of Mary contact Claire – 732-995-0869.

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### **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](mailto:holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org) with the subject line "ALS". Please include your name and telephone number. Let us pray together.

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### **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](http://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.

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## **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](mailto:brunonap@AOL.com). THANKS

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## **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](http://www.stjosephmillstone.org/live-stream) on our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone) and on the Parish YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/c/StJosephChurchMillstoneTwp](https://www.youtube.com/c/StJosephChurchMillstoneTwp)

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## **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](http://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!

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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](http://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

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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](mailto: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](http://WWW.STJOSEPHMILLSTONE.ORG)

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

**BAPTISM** – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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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Expires 12/30/2023

To advertise in our bulletin please contact Fr. Mike - 732-792-2270 or  
[frmikestjoseph@optonline.net](mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.net) Very reasonable rates.