

A Roman Catholic Presence in Madison since 1805

ST. VINCENT MARTYR

Welcome!



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

DECEMBER 24, 2023

My Dear Parishioners,

How quickly Advent has gone. As we gather here on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Christmas is upon us. During these past weeks of Advent, we have prepared our hearts for the celebration of the birth of the Christ child. Our hearts are full and our spirits are high as we celebrate God being born among us. Each year, Christians gather from around the world to remember to give thanks for our Savior, born in a manger. As we sit around the Christmas table this year, let us talk about the place where Jesus was born, not in a house, no warm blankets, no roaring fire, simply being sheltered from the elements. How blessed we are to celebrate Christmas in our comfortable homes, our tables are set for the feast. Let us appreciate the gift of being able to live in a beautiful area and surround our table with loved ones. As we consider the gift of family and friends, we consider those less fortunate in our world, refugees, victims of war and violence who will celebrate Christmas in a tent or surrounded by the rubble of bombed out buildings around them. The true meaning of Christmas is to feel the love of God and live God's love in relationship to those we know and those we have never met. For those we know, we wish them seasons greetings, for those we have never met, we pray for them and ask the Lord our God to give them hope and strength this Christmas season. We welcome home our college students and those who are living in Manhattan, Hoboken, and Jersey City and all who have come home to celebrate this holy day of Christmas.

A big thanks to everybody who sacrificed this year and contributed to the Diocesan Ministries appeal. Last year, we had a total of 417 donors, this year we were fortunate to have that number increase to 443 donors with an increase of \$17,655 which brings this year's total to \$174,755. We are delighted that this will go to an important charity. May God continue to bless you for your generosity.

How blessed I am in the gift of priesthood bestowed upon me by almighty God, I send our love and fond greetings to Fr. George as he spends his first Christmas as pastor of St. Gerard Majella. I send my greetings to Fr. Michael as he spends his first Christmas at St. Luke Parish, Long Valley. What a joy it is to share Christmas and the life of our wonderful parish with Fr. Kris and Fr. Yojan. How blessed we are in the gift of our priesthood which we treasure and share with great joy. How blessed we are to have Carlos here at St. Vincent Martyr Parish. What a privilege it is for me to help form him for the holy priesthood and how blessed we are with all the support and help he gives us here.

Thanks to the many hearts and hands who have worked so hard to make our Christmas so special, to our dedicated staff and to our many ministry heads. It takes a lot of work and a lot of time to pull all the pieces together, the musicians, the welcomers, the Knights of Columbus, the lectors, the extraordinary ministers, the altar servers who give of their time so lovingly. We appreciate you and all that you do.

Fr. Kris will be leaving to spend time with his family in Gliwice, Poland on the evening of Christmas. It is very important that our young vicar gets to spend time with his mother, Anna, his siblings, and this Christmas, he is going to be a godfather to his baby niece. We wish Fr. Kris a wonderful time with family in Poland. Carlos is also headed home on Christmas afternoon. I am thrilled that he will get time to spend time with his parents, Carlos and Luz, his sister and extended family in his hometown of Barranquilla. Carlos is very close to his family, and this is a very special time for them to have to spend together.

Fr. Yojan

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

5:00 pm Picone & Petrock Families, Anna S. Ganly, Lewis, Margaret & Mary Tyler, Bill Barry, Jim Corlett, Bill Eutsler

7:00 pm For the People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:15 am Arlene Kennedy

10:00 am Maria Amaral

CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY MASSES

For all of our Living and Deceased family members and friends whose names are lovingly inscribed in the Flower Christmas Memorial Book

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:30 am Toni Chiarolanzio, Evka Hromin, John G. & Elaine T. Shubeck

12:00 pm Tom Grady

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:30 am Joseph J. Martin, Michael Standing

12:00 pm Eileen Smith, Ron & Bill Liggett, Erminia Rossi

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:30 am Healing Intention for Kathy Charles, Healing Intention for Shannon Cook, Robert Ward

12:00 pm Thomas Figenshu, Anthony Mara, Mary & Thomas Grady

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:30 am C. J. Szotak, Viola L. DeLuca, Maryann Rillo

12:00 pm Maria & Nunzio Olivieri, Greg Olear, Jean & Walter Matusiak, Ena Moran

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:30 am Maria Adelina Ferreira, Greg Olear

5:00 pm Peter, Regina, Patty & Peter O'Brien, Joseph & Peggy Farrell, Greg Olear, Bill Eutsler, Tim Foley

7:00 pm For the People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:15 am Anna S. Ganly

9:00 am Felice Piccolo

10:30 am Gregory Olear, Shirley Sockaski

12:00 pm Gloria Fernandez Solis Rionda

5:00 pm Gerardo Bledt

Sacraments

... A TIME TO BE BORN

James Shelby O'Loughlin baptized on December 16, 2023



...A TIME TO HEAL

Ira Vosper, Andrew Vaccaro, Kevin Conroy, Tom Farley, Jackie Kruger, Gloria Thomas, Aida Corvelli, Carol Jarmen, Bonnie Riley, Alice Giordano, Jake Mocko, Lucyena Vermont, Patricia DeRiggi, Richard Galterio, Dante Gianfortune, Peggy Dellanno, Joan Graziano, Sadie Lynn Harrigan, Bobbie Murphy, Marilyn Rand, Carmela & Hal Moeller, Diego Benitez, Christopher Dyer, Christine Drew

...A TIME OF GREAT JOY

Timothy James Saunders and Allyease Hailee Schwartz married on December 14, 2023



... A TIME TO DIE

James D. Zotti, Fernando Alberto Salazar, Edith Piscopo



The Altar Bread & Wine is in Memory of
Julia & Roland Romano
for the Week of December 24-30



PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S HOURS

The office will close at noon on December 22nd and will reopen on Wednesday, December 27th.

The office will close at noon on December 29th and will reopen on Wednesday, January 3.

In gratitude to the staff, Fr. Owen has closed the parish office on January 2nd.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

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Please submit all Bulletin Articles to MainOffice@svmnj.org

Parish Vision Statement

Our Vision: St. Vincent Martyr, a Roman Catholic community where all are welcome and belong, is growing our faith in Jesus Christ, and personally moved by the Spirit, is bringing love, mercy, compassion, and justice into the world.

MASS PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

5:00 pm—Fr. Kris / 7:00 pm—Fr. Yojan

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:15 am—Fr. Yojan / 10:00 am—Fr. Owen

In the Lower Church (Gym)

Holy Hour is canceled on Thur. Dec. 28th & Thurs. Jan. 4th

Mass Schedule

Saturday—5:00 pm, 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday—7:15 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am

12:00 pm, 5:00 pm

Daily Mass

Monday-Friday 8:30 am, 12:00 noon; Saturday 8:30 am

Reconciliation Saturday

7:45 am First Saturday; 4:00-4:30 pm,

6:00-6:45 pm (Spanish)

Holy Days of Obligation

6:30 am, 8:30 am

Christmas Mass Schedule

DECEMBER 24

4 PM: Church-Fr. Kris, Lower Church (Gym)-Fr. Yojan,
St Paul Inside the Walls-Fr. Owen

6 PM: Church-Fr. Owen

7:30 PM: Misa en español in Church-Fr. Yojan

10 PM: Prelude with Congregational Carols

10:30 PM: Solemn Mass of Christmas-
Fr. Owen, Fr. Kris, Fr. Yojan



DECEMBER 25

Church Only

7:15 AM-Fr. Kris, 9 AM-Fr. Yojan, 10:30 AM-Fr. Owen and Noon-Fr. Owen

(There will not be a 5 PM Mass on Christmas Day.)



The beautiful flowers in the sanctuary at Christmas are given to the glory of God by parishioners who want to remember a loved one or to give thanks for the people and events in their lives. Flowers and decorations enhance our liturgical worship at Christmas and are a wonderful way to remember our loved ones, both living and deceased.

To participate, you can use the envelope included with your monthly packet, Faith Direct or donate on our website:
<https://www.svmnj.org/christmas-flower-memorials>

WEEKEND & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 30—Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

5:00 PM-Fr. Owen, 7:00 PM-Fr. Yojan

Sunday, Dec. 31—Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:15 AM-Fr. Owen, 9:00 AM-Fr. Owen, 10:30 AM-Fr. Owen, 12:00 PM-Fr. Yojan

5:00 PM-Fr. Yojan (Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God)

Monday, Jan. 1—Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:00 AM—Fr. Yojan, 11:00 AM—Fr. Owen

Alpha 6 Begins in February!



We will begin our 6th Alpha Experience this February. Our 11 sessions will be held weekly.

Feb. 15, 22, 29, Mar. 7, 14, 21, Apr. 4, 11, 18, May 2

In-person with dinner at 6:30 PM

We are happy to partner with the Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township again this year!

WHY ATTEND THE ALPHA COURSE?

Alpha provides an opportunity to look at faith with a beginners mind.

Alpha discussions bring us closer to others in our parish and community.

Alpha gives faithful Catholics a path and a language to fulfill their baptismal call to evangelize.

Alpha time together on Thursday evenings begins with fellowship and ends the week with an upbeat experience of community.

WHAT IS THE ALPHA COURSE?

The ALPHA Course is a series of sessions designed to explore the Christian faith in a welcoming, nonjudgmental environment. Each session includes an engaging video, and then small group discussion. There is no obligation to say anything... and there is nothing you cannot say!

Visit our website for more information and to register. <https://www.svmnj.org/alpha> or scan



Please Save This Important Date!
Wednesday, January 17 7:00 pm.
SVM Ministry Center - Community Room

The Church's Best Kept Secret: Catholic Social Teaching
Presented by Fr. Terrence Moran

Curious about a secret? Please join us as Fr. Terrence Moran introduces us to Catholic social teaching, a beautiful and central element of our faith. Be inspired for the New Year as we learn how the Gospel message to bring forth peace and justice is presented in this essential teaching. Fr. Moran will share some practical ways that we can live our call to be peacemakers, right where we are, just as we are.

Fr. Terrence Moran is the Director of the Office of Peace, Justice, and Ecological Integrity for the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth. His ministry experiences include parish work, teaching moral theology on the college level, Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Paterson, and six years as Chair of the Coordinating Council of Spiritual Directors International.

Please come on Wednesday, Jan 17, and help us to welcome Fr. Moran.

Registration is required. Seating is limited. Please register and see information on the SVM website at <https://svmnj.org/outreach>.



Silent Night in Polish

Cicha Noc

Cicha noc, święta noc,
Pokój niesie ludziom wszem,
A u żłóbka Matka święta
Czuwa sama uśmiechnięta,
Nad Dzieciątka snem,
Nad Dzieciątka snem.
Cicha noc, święta noc,
Pastuszkowie od swych trzód,

Biegną wielce zadziwieni,
Za anielskim głosem pieni,
Gdzie się spełnił cud
Gdzie się spełnił cud
Cicha noc, święta noc,
Narodzony Boży Syn
Pan wielkiego majestatu,
Niesie dziś całemu światu,
Odkupienie win
Odkupienie win

Stewardship

"THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US"

What a wonderful and beautiful day! We come to the end of the shortest Advent on the eve of the birth of our Lord! And upon His birth He fulfills His promise in Ezekiel that He will come and shepherd His own people. During Advent we have heard a lot about John the Baptist and how he made way the path of the Lord. We end advent with Mary's great Fiat. Her yes to God. Her yes to serving His plan. Her yes without fully understanding only knowing that God asked and she was His handmaid. And so throughout our Christmas celebrations, let us spend as much time as we can in prayer with our Savior focusing on: expressing gratitude for coming into the world to save us; how we, like Mary, can and will say our own Yes to God whenever He asks something of us; how we, like John the Baptist, can straighten the way for Jesus and lead people to Him.

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Joyful New Year!



Rosary Altar Society Collection for Mary's Hands



*Please donate new hats and gloves for
children and new and gently used gloves for adults
during the month of December. Collection boxes are located
in the vestibule of St. Vincent Martyr Church.*

Thank you!

ATTENTION: MEN OF THE PARISH

SILENCE



"Silence" comes from the Latin word "silens" meaning stillness. Stillness, the renowned theologian Father Romano Guardini tells us, "is the tranquility of the inner life" the quiet at the depths of its hidden streams. It is a collected, total presence, a being 'all there', receptive, alert, ready . . . It is when the soul abandons the restlessness of purposeful activity." Experience stillness for yourself. Join the men of the Parish for

our Annual Retreat under the direction of the Jesuits at Loyola Retreat house in Morristown beginning with dinner on Friday evening, January 12 and ends by noon on Sunday, January 14. You may call any of the men listed below if you would like more information or to make a reservation. Mike Newman 973-822-2078, Jim Penders 973-377-8803, Steve Penders 973-443-0570 or Bill Rojack 973-377-1962 or Jim Perello. Also for more information, you can visit the Loyola website at www.loyola.org.

FIRST FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH



In XVII century, Jesus asked a French nun, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, to promote devotion to His Sacred Heart on the first Fridays of the month. Following this request, we have introduced to our parish all day long adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration will begin at 9 am and end with benediction at 6 pm, with a break for the noon Mass, on every first Friday of the month. While sign-up is not mandatory, we would like to ask those who plan on attending this prayer time to please sign up at the entrances of the church or through the sign-up genius on our parish website as the Blessed Sacrament cannot be unattended. More information is on our website. Thank you.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AAA62AA2FAC61-46815204-january#/>

Schedule for First Fridays Adorations of the Blessed Sacrament:

January 5*, February 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7

****January 5th— following 12 noon Mass until 4 pm in the Children's Chapel***

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us!

YOUTH MINISTRY



1. The March Antioch team will meet in the youth center on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd from 7-9pm....personal stories and introductions are due.
2. The final Antioch follow-up for the Dec. Antioch Retreat will be on Wednesday, Jan. 3rd at 7:15 pm in the youth center, Please use our direct entrance.



Special needs coordinator and catechist are needed to assist the formation of children in religious education.

If you or someone you know has had proper training and experience, please contact Denise.Stefanelli@svmnj.org or 973-377-4000 ext. 251 for more information.

MOMS WITH LITTLE ONES

Calling all moms (and caretakers) with babies and toddlers to join our Moms with Little Ones group for a fun bi-weekly get together. This group is a great way to make new friends within our SVM and Madison community. The group meets currently on Tuesday mornings below the Parish offices.

Please text Christine at 908-752-3416 for further information and to be included on the email list of when and where the gatherings take place. We have so many kid friendly activities planned! We welcome you to join us.

San Vicente Mártir

24 de diciembre de 2023
Experiencia Hispana

Mis queridos feligreses,

Qué rápido se ha ido Advent. Mientras nos reunimos aquí el cuarto domingo de Adviento. La Navidad está sobre nosotros. Durante estas últimas semanas de Adviento, hemos preparado nuestro corazón para la celebración del nacimiento del Niño Jesús. Nuestros corazones están llenos y nuestros espíritus elevados mientras celebramos que Dios nace entre nosotros. Cada año, cristianos de todo el mundo se reúnen para recordar dar gracias por nuestro Salvador, nacido en un pesebre. Mientras nos sentamos alrededor de la mesa navideña este año, hablemos del lugar donde nació Jesús, no en una casa, sin mantas calientes, sin fuego crepitante, simplemente estando protegido de los elementos. Qué bendecidos somos de celebrar la Navidad en nuestros cómodos hogares, nuestras mesas están preparadas para la fiesta. Apreciemos el regalo de poder vivir en una zona hermosa y rodear nuestra mesa de seres queridos. Al considerar el regalo de familiares y amigos, consideramos a los menos afortunados de nuestro mundo, refugiados, víctimas de la guerra y la violencia que celebrarán la Navidad en una tienda de campaña o rodeados por los escombros de los edificios bombardeados a su alrededor. El verdadero significado de la Navidad es sentir el amor de Dios y vivir el amor de Dios en relación con aquellos que conocemos y aquellos que nunca hemos conocido. Para aquellos que conocemos, les deseamos saludos navideños, para aquellos que nunca hemos conocido, oremos por ellos y le pedimos al Señor nuestro Dios que les dé esperanza y fortaleza en esta temporada navideña. Damos la bienvenida a casa a nuestros estudiantes universitarios y a aquellos que viven en Manhattan, Hoboken y Jersey City y a todos los que han regresado a casa para celebrar este día santo de Navidad.

Un gran agradecimiento a todos los que se sacrificaron este año y contribuyeron a la campaña de Ministerios Diocesanos. El año pasado, tuvimos un total de 417 donantes, este año tuvimos la suerte de que ese número aumentará a 443 donantes con un aumento de \$17,655, lo que eleva el total de este año a \$174,755. Estamos encantados de que esto se destine a una importante organización benéfica. Dios los siga bendiciendo por su generosidad.

Cuán bendecido soy por el don del sacerdocio que me ha concedido Dios todopoderoso. Envío nuestro amor y afectuosos saludos al P. George mientras pasa su primera Navidad como párroco de St. Gerard Magella. Envío mis saludos al P. Michael mientras pasa su primera Navidad en la parroquia St. Luke, Long Valley. Qué alegría es compartir la Navidad y la vida de nuestra maravillosa parroquia con el Padre. Kris y el P. Yojan. Cuán bendecidos somos por el don de nuestro sacerdocio que atesoramos y compartimos con gran alegría. Qué bendición tener a Carlos aquí en la Parroquia San Vicente Mártir. Qué privilegio es para mí ayudarlo a formarlo para el santo sacerdocio y qué bendecidos somos con todo el apoyo y ayuda que él nos brinda aquí.

Gracias a los muchos corazones y manos que han trabajado tan duro para hacer que nuestra Navidad sea tan especial, a nuestro dedicado personal y a nuestros numerosos jefes de ministerio. Se necesita mucho trabajo y mucho tiempo para juntar todas las piezas: los músicos, los que dan la bienvenida, los Caballeros de Colón, los lectores, los ministros extraordinarios, los monaguillos que dan su tiempo con tanto amor. Te apreciamos a ti y a todo lo que haces.

P. Kris se irá a pasar tiempo con su familia en Gliwice, Polonia, la noche de Navidad. Es muy importante que nuestro joven vicario pase tiempo con su madre, Anna, sus hermanos y esta Navidad será padrino de su sobrina pequeña. Deseamos al P. Kris pase un tiempo maravilloso con su familia en Polonia. Carlos también regresa a casa la tarde de Navidad. Estoy encantado de que tenga tiempo para pasar tiempo con sus padres, Carlos and Luz, su hermana y su familia en su ciudad natal de Barranquilla. Carlos está muy unido a su familia y este es un momento muy especial para pasar juntos.

En nombre del P. Kris, P. Yojan, el diácono Bob, Carlos y nuestro personal, les deseo una Navidad santa y pacífica. Tengan la seguridad de nuestras oraciones, amor e intenciones de misa durante estos días santos. ¡Feliz Navidad!

Jr. Ovan



¡Bendiciones y agradecimientos!

Blessings and thanks!

Solo agradecimientos y bendiciones podemos darles a todas los Voluntarios, empleados y miembros de la comunidad anglosajona e Hispana por hacer posible este magnifico evento que nos une como una sola Familia. Todo se hizo con mucho amor para la gloria de Dios y veneración de la Virgen María.

We can only give thanks and blessings to all the Volunteers, employees, and members of the Anglo and Hispanic community for making this magnificent event that unites us as one Family possible. Everything was done with great love for the glory of God and veneration of the Virgin Mary.

