

SAINT JOSEPH

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

973-383-1985



*Even though
our doors are closed,
Our hearts are open
awaiting your return!*

*Be safe!
Be strong!
Be healthy!*

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 26, 2020

Parish Center: 22 Halsted Street, Newton NJ 07860-2003

Church: 24 Halsted Street - Newton

www.stjosephnewton.org

OUR PARISH FAMILY IS SERVED BY

Father ST Sutton, Pastor
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Fr.Alexanderlondono@gmail.com

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TRUSTEES OF THE PARISH
Dorothy Bosi, George Hayek
and Gerard Woodring

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 4/25 5:00pm Mary Jane Smith
Thomas Francis Sullivan

Sunday April 26th 8:00am Father Michael Burke

Third Sunday of Easter 9:30am Ann L. Crane
Joey Savage IV



11:30am Francis & Stella Covell
Joseph Doremus

5:00pm Armand Iannotti

Monday 4/27 12:05pm Helen Bay

Tuesday 4/28 12:05pm Aida Diaz

Wednesday 4/29 12:05pm "Red" Fowler

Thursday 4/30 12:05pm Bronislawa Leszniowska

Friday 5/1 12:05pm John Tomasula

Saturday 5/2 5:00pm Helen Salza
Brian Steven Barrett

Sunday May 3rd 8:00am Arthur Markey
Walter Neiderlitz

Fourth Sunday of Easter 9:30am Kerri Knight
Neita Green



11:30am John Kaczmarczyk
James Snyder

5:00pm John Cardinal O'Connor

WEEKLY REMEMBRANCE



The Sanctuary Lamp, which burns near the Tabernacle as a reminder of our Lord's presence in the Most Holy Eucharist, burns this week in loving memory of:

Patricia Fitzpatrick

And the hosts and wine, which will become the Holy Body and Precious Blood of our Lord, were given in loving memory of:



Jimmy Costello

May they now be resting in the peace of the Lord's heavenly kingdom!

"OREMUS PRO INVICEM"

We pray for all those who are in need of the Lord's healing presence:

Gary Arvary, Ron Ayers, Gene Belcher, Fred Bender, Mary Benziger, Egon Berninger, John Ciccone, Louise Crann, Father Angelus Croce, James Cunningham, Alex DeMartino, Derya Demirtas, Jennifer DiNardo, Mary Ann Dowling, Jennifer Downing, Russell English, John Fedash, Kathie Fetchko, Chris Flora, Linda Flynn, Theresa Fusco, Monsignor Mark Giordani, John Greed, Joy Grenewicz, Suzanne Hammond, Finnuala Hanifan, Jessica & Hannah Joseph, Ann Inglima, Susan Kadar, Father Daniel Kelly, Jessica Kirby, Darby Knox, Valerie Landell, Shirley Lavin, Elaine LeFever, Roberto Leyva, Beth Malkin, Sal Mauceli, Deirdre Metzger, Sharon Miller, Jake Michael Miraldi, Mike Palumbo, Matthew Parsons, Cheryl Piritz, Joyce & Mike Polster, Michael Porfido, James Proulx, Joan Riccardi, John Rokicki, Donna Rozsas, Alexia Russ, Father Jude Salus, George Scarpa, Ben Sellitto, Steve Sherwood, Coleen Shields, Crystal Siro, Francis Siro, Terri Skill, Ernest Sprague, Gloria Steets, Evelyn Strauss, Joni Strauss, Delia Sutton, Paul and Edna Swenson, Father Philip-Michael Tangorra and Rita Zimich.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 26, 2020

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

FOOD PANTRY

CANCELLATIONS

ALL PARISH CENTER OFFICES ARE CLOSED

Sunday, April 26

CONFIRMATION CLASSES (CANCELLED)

Monday, April 27

FAITH FORMATION (CANCELLED)

Wednesday, April 29

Prayer Shawl Ministry (CANCELLED)

Thursday, April 30

Legion of Mary (CANCELLED)



Saint Mother Teresa

Food Pantry

*"It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving."
- Saint Mother Teresa*

Due to the Wuhan Virus epidemic and for the safety of our volunteers, we had to unfortunately close the food pantry. However, we still are accepting donations for when we re-open. We pray that this will be soon!

In the interim, the best way to support our food pantry is financially; we accept any Weis or ShopRite gift cards or you may also make a direct contribution online or send a check (or drop one off) at the Parish Center during the week from 9:00-12:00Noon.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to help those who are in need during this epidemic and to prepare for when our food pantry will hopefully be open once again in the very near future.

Thank you!

WEEKEND DONATIONS

April 19, 2020

Collection \$ 5,247
Online Giving \$1,858

Total: \$ 7,105

Thank you for your generosity!



NEXT WEEKEND READINGS



May 3, 2020

Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20b-25
Saint John 10:1-10

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

This past week, we were among the very few parishes that we are able to secure a PPP-Small Business Association Loan from the government. Special thanks to Charles Shell who helped me submit the necessary paperwork ahead of everyone else on our own. Thank you also to all the employees of Lakeland Bank that made the application and notification a simple but much paper-filled process.

You can continue to support your parish family by making a one time or weekly online (secure) donation. Just scan this code (or if you have an Apple phone, you only have to take a picture of this code) and follow the directions.



PARISH CENTER CLOSED

By mandate of the Bishop,
the Parish Center Offices
**ARE CLOSED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**



*If you are in need of anything please email us
at secretary@stjosephnewton.org*

Thank you for your continued generosity!

QUARANTINE HUMOR

I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.

Classified Ad: Single man with toilet paper seeks woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun.

Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said, "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year"I'm offended.

Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

First Holy Communions which were scheduled for **April 25-26th** and **May 2-3rd** have been postponed.

Also, the Confirmation Retreat at Sacred Heart Center on **Saturday May 2nd** has also been postponed until further notice.

POSTPONED

SALVATION OF SOULS



The Don Bosco Columbiettes #7784 are sponsoring a campaign to seek our Blessed Mother's intercession for the **Salvation Of Souls**. Please support this endeavor to pray **ONE MILLION HAIL MARYS**.

The campaign will continue until **May 31, 2020**.

You can e-mail your tallies to: hailmarysforsos@gmail.com or write the number on a slip of paper and drop it into the container by Mary's statue.

The tally so far is: 1,049,744

MEET SISTER CHRISTINA

"God has a sense of humor and He is full of surprises." Sister Christina Chong might describe herself as the most unlikeliest of Nuns. But little did she realize how God had been planting seeds throughout her whole life that would one day lead her to become a Salesian Sister.

Sister Christina grew up in Livingston, New Jersey attending mass every Sunday with her family. Although she participated in many Church activities as a child, it wasn't until college and as a young adult, that her faith began to grow and take deeper root.

After graduating from Carnegie Mellon University, Sister began working in New York City as an editor and graphic designer. She had everything that she was "supposed" to want according to the world's eyes – a good job, nice clothes, many friends, boys to date and a disposable income. Yet, there was a hunger for something more.

It was at this point that Christina began to actively study the Catholic faith. She joined a Bible study and began to read Church documents on her own, discovering for the first time the treasures of faith that the Church had. This time of her life was eye-opening and she began to realize that it was okay to ask questions, to think critically about her faith and that the Church did indeed have answers to many questions that were rising in her heart.

Still, Christina didn't think anything of a religious vocation, until one day meeting a young nun at a weekend conference. This chance encounter stirred in her a commitment to begin to pray about her vocation every day. Although in the beginning the thought of becoming a Religious Sister was scary to her because she didn't know anyone who had done so, God was patient and slowly worked on opening her heart to the idea. He also showed her, in many small ways, His personal love for her.

He led her to the Salesian Sisters whom she had actually known many years before, when she attended Camp Auxilium as a child! Today, she is thrilled to be back at the ministry that started it all. Sister Christina works on program development for the Camp Auxilium Center and is on the communications team of the province working on the Sister's website. She is also teaching first year Confirmation classes here at Saint Joseph Church.

We continue to pray for Sister Christina and all our Salesian Sisters, who give of their time and talent to help educate our youth, pray for our parish and give us a beautiful example of selfless giving as vowed religious in our family of faith.



WILL PEOPLE RETURN TO CHURCH?

Since the ongoing crisis with the Wuhan Virus, many churches have sought alternative avenues of evangelization in order to reach their parishioners. Interestingly enough, the overall percentage of people who actually watch these live streaming Masses and services is less than 26% nationally.

This statistic, coupled with several bishops of the United States (e.g. Bishop Tobin of Providence, Rhode Island), fearing that after this epidemic, many people will just stop coming to church altogether, is what lead me to write about this particular issue.

I recently had a conversation with several priests on this very topic. They too feared that people would just get used to lounging around at home on the weekends and the 20's and 30's crowd of people would not return. First, I had to take exception that the "crowd of 20s and 30s" rarely exist in many parishes. Secondly, for those in that age range who were actually coming to church, if they are committed enough already, it seems to give them motivation for their future return.

As I shared with my brother priests, I cannot speak for any other church other than my own, which (in my opinion) is a "Red," somewhat conservative (both politically and spiritually) and dedicated to their family of faith. Unlike many other parishes that are "hawking" their faithful for money (at the behest of the bishops) to help sustain the parish, I have specifically decided never to post a live message about the financial needs of our parish. As you know, I have never preached about this topic in church. Although, I have written about this subject and offered opportunities for people to support their parish, even when we are closed to the public. It does not make any sense to me that people would support a Church that has closed its doors to them, especially in a time of need and most especially at the time when their loved ones are dying, either from the Wuhan Virus, other diseases or by an accident and the priest is not allowed to be present.

As I have written in the past, the faithful (according to Church law) have the "right to the sacraments" and we also have the Constitutional right, afforded by the very First Amendment, to peacefully assemble and to worship as we see fit and necessary. When this "right" is taken away by the civil authorities and the Church authorities, fall silent, who would support this Church? I believe that is why so many churches are nearing bankruptcy and possibly closing permanently. Why would I support a Church that does not support me?

I cannot express enough times how I am truly in awe of the exceptional generosity of so many people here in Newton! To which my brother priests have asked me how and why is this true of our parish? My answer was that I think it is because I am not selling sacraments or services, but rather, over the last nearly five years, I have pounded home the notion that we are a family of faith and it is this "family" which needs their support. It is our family. It is our church. It is our needs and the needs of those to whom we continue to

minister to in their names, even though our church doors have been closed on us.

So, to answer the question of whether I think that after this epidemic, will more people stop coming to church? My answer for our parish, is a resounding and definite "NO!" I think that it will not be exactly as we experienced after 9/11, when the churches were packed. However, our beautiful church will be filled with great hope and joy, which people, that our family of faith can finally return to their home.

I met a man in the supermarket this past week and he said to me: "Father, I hate to admit, but I really miss you!" To which I responded: "I do not hate to admit it, but I miss you too!" I tightened my mask and he left looking for toilet paper and sanitizer and I, keeping my proper social distancing and quietly walked away.

So as we continue in our governmental mandated quarantine, please know that I continue to pray for each of you, your families and friends. Even though we cannot see each other, we are united in our great faith, our powerful prayer and our unending love, as I celebrate a private Mass each and every day for your intentions.

As you know, I always pray for our troops, police, fire, EMS workers and recently I have added our nurses, nurses aides, doctors and caretakers. But one group of people that seems to be overlooked are our funeral directors. They are truly on the "front line" of picking up our beloved dead either in their homes or in nursing homes or hospitals. They are truly at the highest risk of contagion as they enter people's homes who have died from the Wuhan Virus, usually with other family members still living there. So please keep them in your prayers as well.

I also ask you to remember those who have lost their jobs, apartments, homes and the ability to put basic food on their tables. Unfortunately, we had to close our Saint Mother Food Pantry for the safety of our volunteers. Nonetheless, we still have been helping our own parishioners who are in need.

If you go to NJ211.org, there is a list of agencies and churches that are still open. A few local agencies that are still open are: the First Baptist Church (Main and Liberty Streets), Sussex County Division of Social Services (83 Spring Street), Bodhi Monastery (67 Lawrence Road, Andover) and Project Self-Sufficiency (127 Mill Street).

As we continue to experience what I call our new "surreal" lives, which seems to be like a bad episode of the Twilight Zone, take this time to build stronger bonds with your loved ones. Enjoy your time together and give everyone the proper social distancing (even in your homes) so that we will all survive this epidemic and remember to stay strong! Stay healthy! And stay faithful!

SUPPORT GROUP

Sussex County Support Group

You are not alone.

1. Go to Zoom.com
2. Click join meeting
3. Enter Meeting ID and Password.

1st Wednesday- 12:30 - 2:00 PM Meeting

**For newly bereaved only (13-months or less).*

ID:180 920 953 Password:167668

2nd Monday - 7:00 - 8:30 PM Meeting

ID:340-963-644 Password: 262469

3rd Wednesday 12:30 - 2:00 PM Meeting

ID: 534-808-499 Password: 396723

Please Call 973-948-2283 for more information



MINISTRY SCHEDULES

With the hope that our church will be opened soon, we are preparing the new schedules for the months of : June, July and August for Eucharistic Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers.

Please **email** the Parish Center by **May 1st** with any dates that you are unavailable during these months.

Please note: there will be no 5:00pm Sunday Mass starting Memorial Day until Labor Day. If you usually serve at this Mass, please let us know if you can serve at another. **Thank you.**

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



SAINT CORONA

Saints Victor and Saint Corona (pictured to the left) legend states that Victor was a Roman soldier of Italian ancestry, who was tortured, including having his eyes gouged out and was beheaded. Most sources state that he and Corona were killed in Roman Syria during the reign of Marcus Aurelius (around the 160s-170s AD), but various hagiographical texts disagree about the site of their martyrdom, with some stating that it was Damascus, while Coptic sources state that it was Antioch. Some Western sources state that Alexandria or Sicily was their place of martyrdom. They also disagree about the date of their martyrdom. They may have been martyred during the reign of Antoninus Pius, or Diocletian, while the *Roman Martyrology* states that it was in the third century when they met their death.



While he was suffering from the tortures, the sixteen-year-old wife of another soldier, named Corona or Stephanie (or *Stefania* or *Stephana*, from Greek στέφανος, *stéphanos*, "crown", the Greek version of her Latin name, which also means "crown") comforted and encouraged him. For this, she was arrested and interrogated. According to the *passio* of Corona, Corona was bound to two bent palm trees and torn apart as the trunks were released; the *passio* is considered largely fictional, and she herself may also be fictional. Other sources state that Victor and Corona were husband and wife.

CHALLENGES

**CHALLENGES ARE WHAT
MAKE LIFE INTERESTING;
OVERCOMING THEM
IS WHAT MAKES LIFE
MEANINGFUL.**

- Joshua J. Marine.

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to receive this discount.

*We remember Police Officers Justin Putnam and
Christopher Ewing and Probation and Parole
Agent Kaitlin Cowley*

*who all died in the line of duty or from the
Wuhanvirus this past week. May they be resting
in the peace of the heavenly kingdom!*



**Father Michael
J. Burke**
March 11, 2018

*We remember you with great
fondness and love.*

Father Brian Tomlinson, C.F. 16, Cyp.

Confessor, Spiritual Advisor and
Friend. Gone to his eternal reward.

Dr. Francis A. Siro, OFS



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Dr. Maria M. Cruz
Dr. Carlos A. Abdul-Chani

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**Saint Corona,
we pray for a cure
of this epidemic
in our world.**

Happy Birthday



Theresa
Salzano

*In
Loving
Memory
of
Kay Steiner
who was 104!*

M Come and Visit our new
Father Michael J. Burke Thrift Shop
(located across the street from the Parish Center)

**IS CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**



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289 Route 206, Newton
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Books, Rosaries, Statues,
Jewelry, Crucifixes

Tuesday-Saturday 9:30-11:45am
1:15-4:30pm, Sunday 1:15-4:30pm



**We pray for all those who are sick with
the Wuhan Virus, those who have died
and those who care for them.
May the Lord of mercies continue to
bless them with His Grace.**

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For further information, please contact our Parish Center at: 973.383.1985

*S
M*

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We pray for all those who have lost loved ones by the Wuhan Virus. May the Lord give those who have died eternal rest and share with their families and friends, His peace!



Pray for our Salesian Sisters and all the good work they do, especially as Catechists in our Faith Formation Program.

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My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

Exodus 15:2


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Is there someone you would like to remember on their anniversary or birthday?

Please pray for all unborn children and those who have been abused. May the Lord always be with them and their families!

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