

First Eucharist

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE. WHOEVER COMES TO ME WILL NEVER GO HUNGRY, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER BE THIRSTY.

—JOHN 6:35



Ellie Casbar
Jacob Fajardo
Andrew Fanelli
Yazemin Iscan
Deacon Leoce
Jacob Martins
Demetrius Placido
Jacob Riecken
Massimo Sausa
Roma Stella
Marius Syvoravong

**Church of St. Mary
Closter, New Jersey**

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 8 –
Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn. 4: 7-10; Jn. 15: 9-17
5:00 PM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

SUNDAY, MAY 9 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn. 4: 7-10; Jn. 15: 9-17
8:30 AM All Mothers – Living and Deceased
11:00 AM All Mothers – Living and Deceased

MONDAY, MAY 10 – ST. DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, PRIEST
Acts 16: 11-15; Jn. 15: 26 – 16: 4a
8:00 AM Barbara Thomas
req. by Donna and Brian Horan

TUESDAY, MAY 11 – EASTER WEEKDAY
Acts 16: 22-34; Jn. 16: 5-11
8:00 AM Anthony Malone / req. by Ann Malone

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 – STS. NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS,
MARTYRS; ST. PANCRAS, MARTYR
Acts 17: 15, 22 – 18:1; Jn. 16: 12-15
8:00 AM Paula Leichtnam
req. by John and Canice Cristofolletti

THURSDAY, MAY 13 – OUR LADY OF FATIMA
Acts 18: 1-8; Jn. 16: 16-20
8:00 AM Lisa Deegan / req. by Steven Ditzel

FRIDAY, MAY 14 – ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE
Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26; Jn. 15: 9-17
8:00 AM Lisa Deegan
req. by Paula and Kevin Cummings

SATURDAY, MAY 15 –
Acts 1: 1-11; Eph. 1: 17-23 or Eph. 4: 1-13 or 4: 1-7, 11-13; Mk. 16: 15-20
5:00 PM David “Skip” Watkins
req. by the Watkins Family

SUNDAY, MAY 16 – THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
Acts 1: 1-11; Eph. 1: 17-23 or Eph. 4: 1-13 or 4: 1-7, 11-13; Mk. 16: 15-20
8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
11:00 AM Martha Anderes / req. by Camille Cantarella



THIS WEEK’S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Flowers For Mary – In memory of Barbara Westervelt,
req. by Joan Westervelt.

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Weekly offerings of: Altar Bread, Altar Wine, Blessed Virgin Mary Candle and Sanctuary Candle are available throughout 2021.

This can be arranged either by calling Grace at the rectory at 201-768-7565 and leaving a message or sending an e-mail to gditzel@stmarycloster.org.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother’s Day to all our Moms, Grandmothers, and all those who are like Moms to us. May your day be blessed with love and appreciation from all your family and friends.

Last weekend our young people received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time and this coming Saturday will receive the Eucharist for the first time. Please keep them and their families in your prayers during this special time in their lives.

This coming Thursday, May 13th, according to our calendars, is the Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord. For several reasons, our archbishop, Cardinal Tobin, has transferred the celebration of the feast day to Sunday, May 16th. This applies not only to our archdiocese, but to the entire state of New Jersey. One reason for the transfer is so the fullness of the Easter Season, which the Ascension is a major part of, can be celebrated when the Sunday congregation will be present in the church. Although the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is suspended due to the pandemic, it is still wonderful to celebrate this feast day in all its fullness.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Joe



Pray for the Sick

George Abad, Irene Abad,
Sr. Dominic Marie McDonnell, John Pagano,
Alicia Parent, Baby Luke Totaro, Marianne Tracey

Prayer List

If you would like to add a name to or have a name removed from our prayer list please e-mail gditzel@stmarycloster.org or call the rectory at 201-768-7565. To add a name you must have the permission of the person or their family.



PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Patrick Joseph Biondo

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, **May 15th** and **16th** the second collection is the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

What is the Catholic Home Missions Appeal?

The bishops' Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions is a grant-making agency. It offers financial support to missionary activities that strengthen the Catholic Church in the United States and in its territories and former territories. Through its annual fundraising campaign, the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, Catholic Home Missions educates American Catholics about mission needs and invites them to assist fellow Catholics in the practice of the faith.

Collections and Income for April 2021

Regular Sunday Collection	\$11,016.00
Maintenance & Repair Coll.	\$4,103.00
Archdiocesan Assessment	\$2,200.00
Other Income	\$16,428.00
Total April Income	\$33,747.00
Total April Expenses	\$42,262.00
Total Outstanding Debt to Archdiocese	\$78,277.00
Archdiocese Special Collection	
Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land	\$346.00
Rice Bowl	\$489.00
Easter Collection	\$17,091.00

Thank you for your generosity at Easter and your continued support of the regular collections. St. Mary's relies upon your support all year long. Please remember to support the parish even if you are away. Why not give through electronic giving. Signup at Parishgiving.org. God bless you!

Why Register at St. Mary's?

First, because we need each other on this journey of life and faith!

Every Catholic should be registered in a parish. Beside the active support and involvement that the registration enables, parish registration is also a mandatory condition for many sacraments including Baptism and Matrimony and being a sponsor or godparent. It is therefore important to register at St. Mary's as soon as you start worshipping with us regularly.

- You may receive verification letters to sponsor individuals for sacraments, receive sacraments yourself or your child (i.e. marriage, baptism).
- You will receive end of the year tax contribution statements.
- You will be personally invited to gatherings to meet the staff and other parishioners.
- The parish will know the demographics and respond to needs. Further, the Archdiocese will know that our parish has a healthy base of registered, supportive parishioners.

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM!](#)

When it comes to Mass, here are eight things to remember

1. Dispensation from Sunday Mass Obligation *remains in effect for all Catholics of the Archdiocese*
2. Diocesan Liturgical Directives *remain in effect*
3. Wear a mask *properly*
4. Wash your hands *often*
5. Keep social distance
6. Stay home *if not well or at risk*
7. Observe church capacity limits
8. Love and respect each other by keeping safe!



Stabilizing the Sunday Collection

St. Mary's, like your household, must count on a steady and predictable income to pay the bills. Our Sunday collections fluctuate greatly due to vacations, inclement weather, etc. It is difficult to the budget and provide for ministry under these circumstances. And we sometimes simply forget to make-up our offering because, well, life gets busy. Please consider making your offering to St. Mary's through egiving or bank transfer. A number of parishioners are using St. Mary's Parishgiving platform. It's secure and convenient and costs the donor nothing. Just go online, sign-up and indicate your offering. You may even get "points" on your rewards credit card for doing so! You can also have your bank transfer the funds directly. Simply visit stmarycloster.org and follow the link to Parishgiving or you can scan the QR code below with your cell phone. Thank you to our dedicated and generous parishioners who make ministry possible at St. Mary's.



Here's just one of our confirmation candidates finding ways to help out the community even during the pandemic. Thank you Patrick for continuing to provide service to others.



Sacrament of Reconciliation – by Appointment

Please contact Fr. Joe at the Rectory at 201-768-7565.

Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms

Please contact the parish office at 201-768-7565.

Sacrament Certificate Requests

For various reasons there are times when one needs to obtain a new current Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation, or Marriage Certificate. When doing so please allow the office **at least two weeks time**. Thank you.

Hospital Privacy

Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow the hospitals/pastoral care offices to contact parishes if their parishioners are in the hospital. If you or a loved one are going into the hospital and want Father to visit you or a loved one (covid regulations permitting), please call the rectory office and let us know.

Keep Up on Parish and Community Announcements

The parish sends an informative weekly email blast with pertinent spiritual, social and community announcements. Send St. Mary's your email address today and be added to the blast. You can opt out at any time. Send an e to gditzel@stmarycloster.org to be kept in the loop.

St. Mary's Benefits from Amazon Smile



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Did you know your purchases can make a difference? Same low prices and selection as amazon.com. AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your purchase to our parish, St. Mary's Catholic Church when you do

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Music News

The choir sings every Sunday at the 11:00 AM Mass. Want to become a member? See Andrew our Music Director before or after mass or call the rectory at 201-768-7565.



Moving? Change of Address? E-Mail Address

If you are registered in the parish and are moving please let us know. Also, if you have changed your e-mail address or if we don't have one on file for you please let Grace Ditzel know at gditzel@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565, so we can keep our records current. Thank you for your help.

2021 Annual Appeal

Catholic Stewardship in Action

The 2021 Annual Appeal will fund essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in our four counties – namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care for the poor and those on the margins and forming future priests and supporting retired clergy.

Now more than ever, especially during this health crisis, our ministries and programs need your support.

Will you prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2021 Annual Appeal?

The Archdiocese of Newark is here to help with bereavement and more

“Someone who has had an impact in our life stays with us a lot longer than we think.” The Family Life Office places the Catholic family at the center of the Church’s mission and ministries. More than 60 support groups in the Archdiocese offer resources and assistance such as bereavement support. Learn more at <https://www.rcan.org/offices.../family-life/loss-transition>. Did you know your gift to the Annual Appeal supports programs and ministries like these? Please consider making a gift today.

Update –

61 families have donated and or pledged to the 2021 Appeal. We have reached **57%** (\$17,190.00) of our goal of **\$29,600**. The Appeal will benefit future and retired priests, care for the poor, passing on the faith, and to proclaim the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge or a gift to this most important cause.

Food Security Task Force

Over the past year, Bergen County has seen staggering rates of food insecurity, affecting residents in every municipality, many of whom never thought they would find themselves needing assistance from a food pantry. The enduring economic impact of the pandemic has dramatically increased the rate of food insecurity, and has proven the necessity of connecting our residents to services that not only help them put food on the table but assist them in solving the underlying issues causing them to be food insecure.

There are many programs and organizations in Bergen County charged with helping those in need, whether it be for food, job training, mental health counseling, domestic violence, childcare, or housing assistance. These services are available to all Bergen County residents. However, one major obstacle in accessing those services is that many of those most in need do not know that help exists.

NJ 211, We're here for you.

When you need help, count on 211. Find assistance with food, utilities, finances, housing, healthcare, senior services, childcare, mental health, legal matters, substance use disorders, diabetes management and prevention, transportation, domestic abuse, disaster response and recovery, and more ...

With a database of over 10,000 programs and services, we are your connection to help. Dial 211 or 877-652-1148, Text your zip code to 898-211, E-mail info@nj211.org or Online www.nj211.org.

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Virtual Open House at Bergen Catholic High School

On Wednesday, **May 12th** at 6:30 PM, Bergen Catholic will be hosting a Virtual Open House for prospective students. This is an opportunity for students to learn more about Bergen Catholic as we begin to review the admissions calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. Registration can be found on www.bergencatholic.org. For questions, contact Matt Rosa '08, Director of Admissions at mrosa@bergencatholic.org.

How To Report Abuse

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.



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