

Third
SUNDAY OF
LENT

**God is Spirit, and
those who worship
Him must worship in
spirit and in truth.**

JOHN 4:24

Church of St. Mary
CLOSTER, NEW JERSEY



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 –

Ex; 17: 3-7; Rom. 5: 1-2, 5-8; Jn. 4: 5-42 or 4: 5-15, 19b-26, 40-42

5:00 PM Elva Marin / req. by the Pozotrigo Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 12 – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Ex; 17: 3-7; Rom. 5: 1-2, 5-8; Jn. 4: 5-42 or 4: 5-15, 19b-26, 40-42

8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

11:00 AM Teresa Davis
req. by Pat and Kingston Rhodes

MONDAY, MARCH 13 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

2 Kgs. 5: 1-15ab; Lk. 4: 24-30

8:00 AM Ferenc Csanko
req. by Nancy and Larry Bucciarelli

TUESDAY, MARCH 14 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

Dn. 3: 25, 34-43; Mt. 18: 21-35

8:00 AM Mary O. (McLoughlin) Turner
req. by Nancy and Larry Bucciarelli

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

Dt. 4: 1, 5-9; Mt. 5: 17-19

8:00 AM Thomas Menezes
req. by the Menezes Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 16 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

Jer. 7: 23-28; Lk. 11: 14-23

8:00 AM Ron Olsen / req. by the Olsen Family

FRIDAY, MARCH 17 – ST. PATRICK, BISHOP

Hos. 14: 2-10; Mk. 12: 28-34

8:00 AM Liddy / Keavin Families
req by the Liddy Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 –

1 Sm. 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph. 5: 8-14; Jn. 9: 1-41 or 9: 1. 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

5:00 PM Richard Luzzi / req. by Phyllis Buonomo

SUNDAY, MARCH 19 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Sm. 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph. 5: 8-14; Jn. 9: 1-41 or 9: 1. 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

11:00 AM Bernard Kelly / req. by Ita and Mary Kelly

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – In memory of Presley Miranda, req. by Peg and John Killeen.

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Weekly offerings of: Altar Bread, Altar Wine, Blessed Virgin Mary Candle and Sanctuary Candle are available throughout 2023.

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 3rd Sunday of Lent.

As we continue to journey toward Easter, the Lenten season reminds us all of our duty to be charitable, to pray, and to fast. May our works of charity, fasting and prayer help us and those around us to live as God wants us to as we continue this season of conversion and repentance.

As we continue our Lenten journey, we will celebrate a few very special days. As we all know, St. Patrick's Day is Friday, March 17th. Our archbishop, Cardinal Joseph Tobin, C.Ss.R., has graciously granted all the faithful of the archdiocese a dispensation from the discipline of Lent to eat meat on Friday, St. Patrick Feast Day. But remember we must do some other work of charity or fast on a different day.

Traditionally, St. Joseph's Feast day is celebrated on March 19th. Since that day is a Sunday, the feast has been moved and will be celebrated on Monday, March 20th. Also, the Solemnity of the Annunciation is on Saturday, March 25th. We will have a special Mass celebrated in the morning in honor of the Annunciation at 8:00 AM.

Have a wonderful week and Happy St. Patrick's Day to one and all.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Joe



Pray for the Sick

Catherine Arnao, Giulia Belfert, Glen Connolly, Joseph Culhane, Thomas DeFabiis, Orlee Fromm, Amy Hartwell, Sr. Dominic Marie McDonnell, Kim McWilliams, Jacqueline Mundy, Michael Mundy, Anthony Neusch, Brianna Neusch, Michele Neusch, John Pagano, Alicia Parent, Joanne Surterenonet, 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.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, **March 18th** and **19th** the second collection is for the Black and Indian Missions / Catholic Relief Services Collection.

Collections and Income for February 2023

Regular Sunday Collection	\$16,093.00
Maintenance & Repair Coll.	\$2,521.00
Archdiocesan Assessment	\$1,275.00
Other Income	\$16,051.00
Total February Income	\$35,940.00
Total February Expenses	\$38,606.00

Archdiocese Special Collection

Churches in Central and Eastern Europe	\$377.00
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Thank you for 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!

2023 Annual Appeal

Proclaiming the Gospel
Passing on the Faith
Caring for the Poor and Vulnerable
Forming Future Priest and Supporting Retired Clergy

St. Mary's Goal is \$29,000.00

Please help us reach it!

If you didn't see the video from Archbishop Cardinal Tobin you can view it at <https://www.rcan.org/video>.

You may make your donation at Mass, on Parish Giving or at rcan.org/sharing.

Thank you to those that have already made their donations.

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.

Stations of the Cross

We have Stations of the Cross every Wednesday during Lent at 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

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!](#)

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.

Fridays During Lent

Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

Third Saturday Mass for Recovery and Healing

All are welcome to Church of St. Mary, for the Third Saturday Recovery and Healing Mass on Saturday, **March 18th** at 12:00 noon. This special Mass speaks to those affected by the use and abuse of drugs and/or alcohol and for those who love them. Current religious gathering protocol will be strictly followed. Following Mass, all are welcome to a meeting and refreshments in the community hall.

For information, please contact The Father Jim McKenna Memorial Fund at 201-281-6247 or visit our website at <https://fatherjimckenna.org/>.

Christian Marriage Anniversary Liturgies

We are excited to announce we are once again preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of valid marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2023!

These anniversary liturgies will be held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows below. The 50th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin. The 5th and 25th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Gregory Studerus.

Fifty years on Sunday, **April 16th** at 3:00 PM

Five years and twenty-five years on Sunday, **May 7th** at 3:00 PM

Please call Grace at the rectory at 201-768-7565 to register. The **deadline** for April 16th is **April 5th** and the deadline for May 7th is **April 27th**.

It is our desire that every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. The presence of these couples will be a tender witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.

The Archdiocese will acknowledge the reservation directly to the celebrating couple and provide them with directions to the Cathedral Basilica.

Since we were unable to host these celebrations in 2020 and 2021, and many families are still playing 'catch-up' with their celebrations, any couple who would have celebrated their Silver or Gold Anniversary in those years may still join us as well. Please note whether the milestone anniversary took place in **2020, 2021** (or even if they missed in **2022**), the certificates will still say Silver or Gold, not 26, 51 etc.



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 with your cell phone. Thank you to our dedicated and generous parishioners who make ministry possible at St. Mary's.



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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

Sun. – March 12th :

Daylight Savings Time begins – change your clocks one hour ahead
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – 7th Grade Doves – Faith Formation Building
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – FIRE Program – Fr. Roger Troy Hall
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – Sacrament Program – Sprouts and Lambs – Faith Formation Building

Mon. – March 13th :

8:30 AM – Immaculate Medal Novena – Church
3:15 PM – 5:00 PM – 7th Grade Doves – Faith Formation Building

Wed. – March 15th :

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament – Church
9:15 AM – Scripture Study – via Zoom*
4:00 PM – Stations of the Cross – Church
7:00 PM – Stations of the Cross – Church
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Men's Cornerstone Meeting – Fr. Roger Troy Hall

Sat. – March 18th :

12:00 PM – AA Special Mass – Church, followed by meeting in Fr. Roger Troy Hall

Sun. – March 19th :

9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – 7th Grade Doves – Faith Formation Building
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – Confirmation Program – Faith Formation Building
9:30 AM – 10:50 AM – Sacrament Program – Sprouts and Lambs – Faith Formation Building

* Scripture Study

Meets every Wednesday at 9:15 AM via Zoom. For more information contact Dave Reeves at 551-206-5284.

Save the Date –

Lenten Deanery Penance Service

Tuesday, **March 21st**, 7:00 PM at Church of St. Mary.

From the Faith Formation Coordinator

Good day parishioners,

This past Sunday was wonderful, it didn't rain and the sun was shining. Inside our church was shining too with the faces of our Doves and Evangelists groups after the 8:30 mass! We introduced, or re-introduced, these two groups to the meditation of the Stations of the Cross. Fr. Joe did a beautiful job at explaining this time of reflection to the children and some of the parents who joined us. We discussed why this is such a wonderful and holy practice. We also discussed how it can help us enhance our prayer life during Lent while we contemplate the sacrifice Jesus made for us. One parent who stayed for the meditation even asked to take a book home to introduce it to his younger child.

If you have not practiced the Stations of the Cross ever or maybe not in a long time, you can do so every Wednesday during Lent at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. I pray everyone takes advantage of this special time with Jesus.

Have a beautiful week.

Maria Matos

Music Ministry



Here at St. Mary's, music is an integral part of our worship and is embedded into each of the weekend Masses. Serving as a ministry,

our music program is open to all who wish to volunteer their time as either vocalists in our choir, or instrumentalists who play at Mass – no experience or ability to read music is necessary. Our choir rehearses on Sundays at 10:00 AM, and presents an array of liturgical genres at the 11:00 AM Mass each week (except for during the summer, since everyone deserves a break!). If you are interested in joining our music ministry, please feel free to reach out to our Music Director, Andrew Monticello, by contacting the Rectory office: 201-768-7565. As St. Augustine reminds us, "To sing is to pray twice!"

First Communion Outfits – Needed

The First Communion Day of our child is a very special occasion – a day to be celebrated and always remembered!

Please help to make another child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any Communion dresses, suits, shirts, ties, head pieces or shoes.

Please bring all articles, clean, on hangers, and covered in plastic, to St. John the Baptist Church, Hillsdale on Saturday, **March 25th** from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, or call Kathy at 201-666-4185.

Monetary donations will also be accepted. This collection will be held on ONE DAY ONLY. If you or anyone that you know may need an outfit, please contact Kathy. Thank you!

Lost And Found

We have a lost and found basket in the North Vestibule of Church, on the side by the Faith Formation building.

Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Student Scholarship Applications – 2023

Student scholarships are available through the Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Trust. Applications are now being accepted from parish 7th and 8th grade students (primary consideration) attending a Catholic grammar school, as well as Freshmen and Sophomores (secondary consideration) attending a Catholic high school and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the parish office and/or on the parish website. Applications are due April 7th with decisions due on or about May 1st.

Support Groups

Many who hunger for God's consolation after the loss of a loved one, separation or divorce or other circumstance will find that faith based programs can offer them hope and comfort. A listing of parish support groups are now available on the Family Life Office webpage. Currently, the Archdiocese of Newark has over 60 different types of support groups ministering to an estimate of 1,200 people each year. The types of groups include: general bereavement, bereaved parents, separated & divorced, single parents & same sex attraction. To find a support group near you, please go to: <https://www.rcan.org/general-bereavement-support-groups> or <https://www.rcan.org/offices-and-ministries> and select the group type from the menu.

Free Ministry to Traveling Catholics

To find nationwide Mass times and locations while traveling or on vacation there is a free ministry. Visit www.Masstimes.org or call 1-858-207-6277 enter the zip code desired location and receive a computer-generated response that gives Church locations and Mass times.

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