

## Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



*Hail Mary, full  
of grace. Our Lord  
is with thee. Blessed  
art thou among  
women, and blessed  
is the fruit of thy  
womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary,  
Mother of God,  
pray for us  
sinners, now  
and at the hour  
of our death.*

*Amen.*

## St. John Vianney Church

420 Inman Avenue – Colonia, New Jersey 07067

(732)574-0150 – <https://parish.sjvianney.com>

Rectory Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm



Fr. John J. Barbella, Pastor  
Rev. John C. Gloss & Msgr. Edward M. O'Neill, Pastor Emeriti  
Very Rev. Jay Toborowsky, V.G. in Residence  
Fr. Bede Kim, Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Robert Gorman, Parochial Vicar  
Deacons Joseph Ragucci, Thomas Michnewicz & Vincent Brigande  
Ellen DeRosa, Director of Religious Education  
Nancy Tannucilli, Principal of St. John Vianney School  
Jessica Hicks, Vice Principal of St. John Vianney School  
Jamie Frame, Director of Sacred Music



**Mission Statement**

In the spirit of St. John Vianney's zeal and concern for people, we are a community proclaiming the Gospel in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. The community of St. John Vianney strives to utilize the gifts and talents of each parishioner to create a vibrant welcoming parish. Through our liturgies, ministries, and organizations, we encounter Christ and are empowered to bring Him to the world.

**Parish Staff**

Parish Administrative Assistant	Stephanie Noto
School Administrative Assistant	Sandy Gambotto
School Office Assistant	Laura Gruenling
Parish/School Bookkeeper	Karen Dudas
Maintenance Supervisor	Poncho Julius

**Mass Schedule**

Monday-Friday	7am – 8:30am
Saturday	8am - 5pm
Sunday	8am - 10am - 12pm

Holy Days will be announced at the beginning of mass and in the bulletin.

**Sacramental Schedule**

**Confessions:** Saturdays 11am-12pm, 4:15-4:45pm  
Anytime in the rectory – call ahead

**Baptism:** most Sundays at 1:30pm.  
Babies should be Baptized as soon as possible. Please call the Parish office to make arrangements. We will be happy to help you schedule your baby's Baptism.

**Last Rites/Anointing of the Sick:** anyone who is ill and or would like to receive Communion is asked to call the rectory.

**Marriage:** Couples should call the Parish office as soon as possible to schedule a wedding. Our priests and deacons will help you through the preparation process.

**Parish Membership**

All new families who live within our boundaries are welcome to the parish. They are requested to register at the rectory.

**Parish Gift Shop**

Please note that the Parish Gift Shop is now open! The gift shop hours of operation are before and after the 8:00am, 10:00am and 12pm Mass on Sunday's each weekend.

**Mass Intentions – 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****SATURDAY, September 2, 2023**

8:00 AM Antonio Santos r/o Faculty, Staff & Students of SJV  
5:00 PM Castner – Gibbs Family r/o Family

**SUNDAY, September 3, 2023**

8:00 AM For the People  
10:00 AM Kazimiera & Jozef Jania r/o Granddaughter Ashley  
12:00 PM Warren Devine r/o Mr. & Mrs. Connie O'Donnell

**MONDAY, September 4, 2023 –**

7:00 AM Robin Whitehead r/o The Renzi Family  
8:30 AM Donald Malloy r/o Rose Marie Saraco

**TUESDAY, September 5, 2023**

7:00 AM  
8:30 AM Balthasar Hilvano r/o The Viernes Family

**WEDNESDAY, September 6, 2023**

7:00 AM Laura Megna r/o Zangari Family  
8:30 AM Laura Megna r/o Elaine Coppiello

**THURSDAY, September 7, 2023**

7:00 AM Richard Giannone r/o his beloved wife  
8:30 AM Andrew Provenzano r/o Anthony & Aurora Migacz & Family

**FRIDAY, September 8, 2023**

7:00 AM Donald F. Hoehn r/o Rocky Pagano  
8:30 AM Robert John Berzito r/o Ashley Nilsson  
9:30 AM Dolores Sisk r/o SJV Faculty, Staff & Students (School Mass)

**SATURDAY, September 9, 2023 – St. Peter Claver**

8:00 AM Michael Orlowski r/o The Jones Family  
5:00 PM For the People

**SUNDAY, September 10, 2023**

8:00 AM Brigida & Benedetto Cosentino r/o Patty Kilkenny  
10:00 AM James Waltsak Sr. r/o Family  
12:00 PM Robert & Joan Pero r/o Pero Family



**The Sanctuary Light  
has been offered  
in loving memory of  
Gail Mauriello  
from her family.**

**Save the Date for the  
Harvest Moon Dance on  
Saturday, October 14th.  
Details to follow!**

## The Prayer Corner

*"There is a season and a time for every purpose..."*

### A TIME TO BAPTIZE

### TO WED

### TO HEAL

Bruce Horning, Caroline Stauffer, Mary Nilan, Mariola Waryniak, Stephen Jankowski, Christina Daliani, Msgr. O'Neill, Robert Anderson, Gladys Schmidt, Henry & Joanne Sokoloski, Robert Jardines, Kathy Leary, Eileen Barrett, Margaret Anne Kerr, Douglas Castner, Maureen Horning, Trevor Horning, Bill Riley, Theresa Szablowski, Cody Brown, Dolores DiGangi, Harold Carney, Sue Zafian, Leslie Johnson, Rita Weissenburger, Alberta Clark, Therese Clark, Angelo Gallo, Heidi Egan, Carol Kolator, Rita Scarpone, Macario and Linda Yap, Michelle Gargiulo, Sonia Stefan, Harrison Chung, Maria Famiglietti, Kevin Pydeski, Connor Feeney, Doug Christie, Donna Sandklev, John & Maryanne Delutis, Joshua & Amelia Ford, Marie Novak, Jo Ann West, Denise Stanislawczyk, Catherine Buettel, Rose Campanelli, Kyle Brown, Collin Sciahetano, Giovanni Caccamo, Mark & Victoria, Nancy Genna, Sherry Canavale, Domenic Canavale, Michael Canavale, Rose Currie, Nina Laico, Tommy Birkner, Ronald Harvey, Artie Schapiro, Tina Deliaquila, Robert Feeney, Debi Leiter, Jane Fitzgerald, Wayne Bartlett, Julia Skrya, Mary Charniga, Brenda & Dolores Tourtellot, Mary Jantas, Kathleen Baumann, Giuliana DeAngelias, Dennis Costante, Gene Moore, Joel Leiter, Jerry Hill, Susan Sepedy, Geri Lazarowitz, Aymee Iannacone, Annie Panaccione, Jean Nych, Gregory Kolaranda, Johanna Esposito, Mary Shegas, Nina Stefanelli, Nikoloz, Clare Weber, Vincent Dellaquila, Joe Vitello, Arlon Roth, Edward O'Brien, June Laub, Maryann Robson, Nick Troiano, Carl Walker, Dan Weiss, Arthur Shipiro, Christine Camping, Catherine Donahue, Marie Negri, Christiano Bianco.

### FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED

### A TIME OF WAR & PEACE

S. Sgt. Keith D. Lee (Air National Guard), Major Brian McCartin (Army), John Bridges (Navy), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Phillip G. Faccone Jr. (Marines), Bryan Alexander Perez (Army), Brandon Haynes (Army), Jared Endler (National Guard), LTJG Liam Keenan (Navy), Mas. Sgt. Michael Primavera (Air Force), John O'Donnell (Marines).

### Weekend Readings

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27

*Weekday readings can be found on the parish website.*

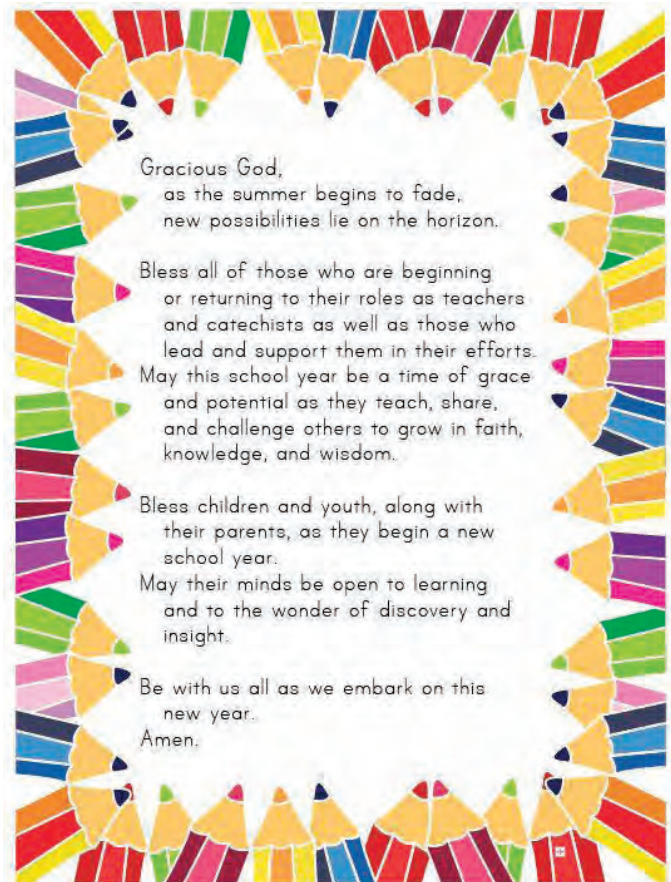
### September 3, 2023

### 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?"*

Matthew 16:26

St. Francis of Assisi said, *"Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else."* We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.





**Weekend Mass Schedule**

September 9 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm	Fr. John
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am	Fr. Greg
	10:00am	Fr. Jay
	12:00pm	Fr. Bob

**Welcome Fr. Greg!**

Concurrent with Fr. Bede's move, Fr. Gregory Zanetti will join our parish as Parochial Vicar (Associate Pastor). Please welcome him and keep him in your prayers.

**St. Joseph's Senior Home (Woodbridge, NJ)**  
**Operated by the Little Servant Sisters**

We are looking to hire Licensed Social Workers, dedicated LPN Nurses, Certified Nursing Aides (CAN's), (HHA), to work at the Senior Home. All shifts are available. We are also looking for kindhearted volunteers to help in the activity department, especially on the weekends. Please contact us for further information at 732-750-0077 or 732-634-0004 or by email at [jadwiga\\_zaremba@yahoo.com](mailto:jadwiga_zaremba@yahoo.com).

**Thoughts From God's Garden**  
**Sr. Gabriela of the Incarnation, O.C.D.**  
**Carmel in New Jersey**
*Praised be Jesus Christ!*

THE CLOISTER IN OUR MONASTERY here in Flemington isn't as grand as the Cloisters in New York, but it serves a similar purpose. It is a square courtyard, covered over with a skylight instead of being open to the sky, and from it radiate the various corridors leading to different parts of the Monastery. We often pass one another in the cloister and corridors, and when we do we exchange a greeting: "Praised be Jesus Christ!" "Now and forever."

WE PRAISE HIM each time we meet one another because He is the one who brings us together. He brings us together in the Church, He brings us together as a religious community, and He brings us together in His Father's love.

IN A WORLD AND A SOCIETY that seems to be splintering apart, our simple greeting is an act of trust that true unity is possible in God. We can be one in Him as He asked of His Father. May this unity spread more and more among us.

PRAISED BE JESUS CHRIST in each of you who read this!  
 Visit: [www.flemingtoncarmel.org](http://www.flemingtoncarmel.org)

**PARISH MINISTRIES & CONTACTS**

Organization	Contact	Phone/Email
Altar Rosary Society	Jane Bianco	732-382-1512
Altar Servers	Deacon Vinny	vbrigande@sjvs.net
Basketball	Joe Marinello	908-347-9269
Bible Study	Deacon Joe & Rose Ragucci	732-548-3880
Cheerleading	Jennifer Grasso	732-943-2409
Communion/ Homebound	Joanne Streck	732-382-4147
Cub/Boy Scouts	Sandra Franczak	732-754-5613
Eucharistic Ministers	Rose Ragucci	732-548-3880
Fair Coordinator	Joe Noto	sjv_fair@sjvs.net
Finance Council	Mike Kaplonski	732-735-0184
	Jeanette Wilmanski	jwilmanski@gmail.com
HSA	Jaclyn Falzarano	sjvhsa@sjvs.net
	Lydia Guerrier	
Knights of Columbus	Bob Luban	732-382-6939
Lazarus Ministry	Ann Ruth	732-381-6815
Lectors	Deacon Tom Michnewicz	732-574-1651
Legion of Mary	Joan Wilson	732-548-3359
Music Ministry	Jamie Frame	908-331-0471
Parish Life Comm.	Egger Lugo	732-801-6705
Pastoral Council	Suzanne MacIntyre	732-283-0731
Pre-Can	Deacon Tom & Janice Michnewicz	732-574-1651
Pro-Life	Carolyn Glodek	973-349-4626
R.C.I.A.	Deacon Joe Ragucci	732-548-3880
SAC	Jeanette Wilmanski	jwilmanski@gmail.com
Secular Franciscans	Rev. J. Kubiak	732-494-3399
	Anna Zielski	732-325-7779
SJV Seniors	Bob & Mary Nilan	732-574-3427
St. Isidore's Garden	Maureen Jorgensen	732-778-8471
St. Vincent de Paul	Jim Leathem	732-388-5512
Track	Amanda Miller	732-549-2356
Ushers	Ray Morgan	732-815-1037

**St. John Vianney Seniors**

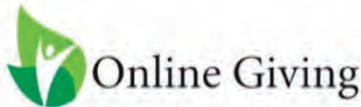
The first meeting of the St John Vianney Seniors for the 2023-2024 season will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 2:30pm in the school cafeteria. We will be conducting a Bingo Vino, with our Bingo Caller, Barbara Devine. Our membership secretary, Agnes Larkin, will be collecting membership dues of \$10 per person. Fran O'Donnell will be accepting sign-ups for our bus trip on Thursday, October 12, 2023, to LiGreci's in Staten Island for an Oktoberfest Celebration. The cost is \$95 per person and that fee can be paid either at our September meeting or at our meeting on October 4th. Mary Nilan will be selling tickets at \$12 per person for our Thanksgiving Luncheon to be held on Wednesday, November 1st. Remember to bring a donation for the St. James Food Pantry. Leave your contribution in the library conference room off the narthex in the church.

Welcome Back!  
 Bob Nilan, President

**AUGUST 20, 2023****OFFERTORY:**

Collection:	\$ 13,174.25
On-line giving:	\$ 4,967.50
	<u>\$ 18,141.75</u>

*Thank you for your  
generosity!*



A Secure &amp; Convenient Way to Give to St. John Vianney Church

**Donate Now!**

No cash or check? No problem! Our parish offers a convenient, safe, and automatic way to contribute to our parish directly from your bank or using a credit card. Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. You will still receive offering envelopes to present during offertory at Mass to indicate "I've given online". Online Giving is very easy to use and requires no special knowledge. If you haven't already signed up, then go to our parish website at "sjvianney.com" and select Online Giving. It's easy and safe!



**Urgent Message from  
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

There is an urgent need for our local food pantries. The need is real. Our parish assists the two local food pantries, St. Cecelia's in Iselin and St. James in Woodbridge. Because of the rapid increase of families in need, the local pantries are in dire need of basic food. The most needed items are: Canned meats e.g., tuna, chicken. Vienna sausage, Pasta, Tomato sauce, Canned vegetables, Canned and single serve fruit, Rice, Cake mixes, pudding and jello, peanut butter and jelly, Breakfast essentials e.g., cereal, oatmeal, and other single serve foods. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The SVdP Society would like to thank you for your generosity to the local food pantries. The need continues for increased food donations.



**Have You Heard?**

**WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A  
NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL!**

The Church needs healing, and the world needs Jesus. The Holy Spirit is inviting us to return to the source and summit of our faith—the Eucharist.



eucharisticrevival.org

***Scrip Program Update***

The SJV School Scrip Program Fundraiser ended on May 31, 2023 and will be replaced with a different fundraiser next school year for a variety of reasons. We are in the process of selling off the remainder of our scrip gift card inventory at the rectory until they are gone.

While we will no longer have any gift cards available for purchase in the rectory office, the online program will still remain active. If you would like to continue to purchase e-gift cards or physical gift cards, please see below for further information.

Go to <https://www.raiseright.com/> and create a profile if you do not already have one. It will ask you to input an enrollment code that will give credit and a percentage of your total purchase back to SJV School. The enrollment code for SJV is: **34L9D9638273**. If you purchase physical gift cards, you will have to select the "ship to my address" option, so the cards will be sent directly to your home address. You will then be sent a confirmation email with any necessary information about the shipment, or with your e-gift card information if that's the type of gift card you purchase.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this school fundraiser over the years!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

St. John Vianney Golf Outing &  
Dinner Fundraiser  
**Monday, October 2, 2023**  
at the Metuchen Country Club

We hope you join us for this important fundraiser to benefit our Church and School! Please find the sign-up forms in the gathering area of the Church and on the Parish website.

**Eucharistic Adoration at St. John Vianney**

We are looking for people to commit to spending a scheduled hour a week in the Blessed Sacrament at Adoration. Come adore the Lord for one hour or more in Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar of St. John Vianney Church each Saturday from 8:30am – 11:00am starting on September 9th. We must have at least two people present during each hour as the Most Blessed Sacrament may not be left alone while exposed. Please prayerfully consider giving Jesus an hour of your week in Adoration. If you are interested, please call Jo Ann Worosila at 908-420-5083 or Joanne Streck at 732-382-4147.

Eucharistic Adoration is a silent meditation in the presence of the exposed Host. One hour a week with Jesus, to recite your favorite prayers, read the bible, contemplate acts of faith, hope and charity, thanksgiving, reparation, pray a rosary or do whatever prayerful devotion that suits you before Our Lord. You can just sit and say nothing simply keeping Him company, just as you would with a dear friend.

## Belong to Something Greater Calling all high school graduates!

It's overwhelming to be new on campus with no connections, no friends, and no group to call your own. With Newman Connection, graduating seniors can...

- Meet like-minded people
- Find their Church community
- Remain active in their Catholic faith

All before getting to campus! Get connected now.

[www.signupnc.newmanministry.com](http://www.signupnc.newmanministry.com)

## The Pro-Life Corner

If you are a man or woman affected by abortion, please check this website for information that may help you:

<http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org/>

**Unplanned Pregnancy?****Find help at one of these centers:**

Life Choices Resource Center, Metuchen, NJ  
Phone: 732-516-911

First Choice Women & Resource Center,  
New Brunswick, NJ  
Phone: 908-561-0079

Life Choices Inc., Phillipsburg, NJ  
Phone: 908-454-2066

Inspire Women's Resource Center, Warren, NJ  
Phone: 908-615-9008

Bridge Women's Center, Old Bridge  
Phone: 732-588-0999

**Or go to [optionline.org](http://optionline.org) (Pregnancy help online) to search for a location near you.**

**Please refer to this link from the Diocese of Metuchen: <https://diometuchen.org/pregnancy-help>**

**SAFE HAVEN INFANT PROTECTION**

An unwanted baby?

You can safely and anonymously give it away.

No shame, No blame

Call SAFE HAVEN HOTLINE:

1-877-839-2339



## *Pastor's Column : September 2 - 3, 2023*

I want to start by wishing a Happy Labor Day to all the working people of our parish. Much more than just a holiday marking the unofficial end of summer, Labor Day is a time for all of us to reflect on the meaning of human labor. While we often think of work in negative terms – as something we have to do to make a living – the truth is that there is more than that to work.

As Catholics we believe that human work is a way in which God allows us to participate in His work of creation. This is especially apparent in the case of those whose work produces useful things, such as farmers who grow food and those who provide us with clean water – to name just a few. But it is no less true for those whose work helps other people in less obvious ways.

St. Joseph, of course, is the model worker. His work as a carpenter put a roof overhead for Mary and Jesus. But his work as a husband and foster father was even more important. We do well to imitate St. Joseph by doing our best at the jobs we have in life, realizing that in doing so, we are serving God like he did.

This weekend we are welcoming a new worker to our parish. Fr. Gregory Zannetti begins his assignment as a priest of our parish. I am very happy to have him with us and am sure we will make him welcome.

Fr. Greg was ordained two years ago. His first assignment was at St. James Church in Basking Ridge. In my experience, it is a special grace for a parish to have a recently ordained priest – with all the energy and zeal they bring. I am sure that Fr. Greg will be such a grace for us.

Evangelization – or spreading the Gospel – is yet an important work that has been entrusted to us by Jesus. One way of doing this is by inviting people to participate in this year's RCIA. For those who may not know, RCIA is the process by which converts are welcomed into the Catholic Church. It will begin soon and is open to any adult who was never baptized (but wants to be), or was baptized in another denomination (and wishes to enter the Catholic Church), or was baptized Catholic (but never received their First Communion or Confirmation). If you know a person like this, why not suggest that they learn more about RCIA?

I want to thank all of you who attended the farewell breakfast for Fr. Bede last Sunday. It was great to see so many people at Holy Mass and waiting to greet and thank Fr. Bede. He worked very hard for our parish and will continue to work for the Lord in his new priestly assignment. I will pray for him every day and hope you will do the same.

While you're at it, please pray a Hail Mary for me today – and every day. Please also include Fr. Greg – and all of our priests – in your prayers. Ask God to help us be the kind of priests He wants us to be! I pray for you daily and thank you for your prayers for me. Let's all be sure to pray for those suffering from the storms, violence, and other troubles. Most of all, let's pray for peace.

Have a great week!  
Fr. John

**This Week At A Glance**

Monday	Rectory Closed – Labor Day
Tuesday	First Day of School! (K-8)
Wednesday	SJV Seniors 2:30pm CAF
Thursday	First Day of Pre-K Legion of Mary 7pm UBR
Friday	School Mass 9:30am

**St. John Vianney School News**732-388-1662 <https://school.sjvianney.com/>

Welcome back to school! We can't wait to see our SJV School Family!

**First day for grades Kindergarten through 8th:  
Tuesday, September 5th**

**First day for Preschool:  
Thursday, September 7th**

Please see our website for more information. We can't wait to see you!

Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is open! Continue to email us at [sjvhsa@sjvs.net](mailto:sjvhsa@sjvs.net) and someone will respond to your email within 24-48 hours. Don't forget to visit our school website and follow us on Facebook!

**2024 MASS BOOK**

We opened the 2024 Mass Book on Monday, August 21st. Please see the below information regarding the Mass Book prior to the 21st and share with whoever you think would like to know this information.

The rectory hours of operation are 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm Monday-Thursday and is closed on Friday's until after Labor Day. There will be a limit of requesting 3 weekend Masses per person at a time, but weekday Masses will not have a limit. We do this so that many people will have the opportunity to get a Mass said in memory of a loved one, especially since it's easier for people to get here on the weekends, and those fill up for the year much faster. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

**Ready to fully live your Catholic Faith?  
Join the Legion of Mary**

The Legion of Mary will be meeting in the upper room of the Church every Thursday at 7 pm. To Jesus through Mary. For information call Joan Wilson at (732) 548-3359 or email at [jhoynes.wilson@yahoo.com](mailto:jhoynes.wilson@yahoo.com).



Legion of Mary Day will be held at the Blue Army Shrine in Washington, NJ on Saturday, August 19, 2023 from 10am to 4pm. Father Barbella will be the celebrant of the Mass and 2 guest speakers will be giving talks on the Eucharistic Revival.

**Bus Trip**

Join us for a bus trip to Wind Creek, PA on Monday, September 18th. The bus will be leaving the SJV parking lot at 10am and will return at 6:30pm. Cost is \$45 and get back \$35. For more information and to sign up please call Mary Lou at 732-710-3201.



## Update from the Religious Education Program Contacting Me

### Classes for 2023 – 2024 –

Based on registrations received thus far, classes for the 2023 – 2024 year have been formed. Parents will be advised via email of class placements. In the event of some straggler registrations, I will wait until early September to send the class placement emails. To prepare for the coming year please be sure to review the updated Parent Handbook that is posted on the website. The calendar for the 2023 – 2024 year is also available on the website. Note that Classes will begin September 18 with the new time: Monday evenings from 6:15 – 7:15.

I have been asked if there are required supplies. I offer the following suggestions.

A backpack or other carrying case dedicated to Religious Education would be helpful. Every student will be given a red pocket folder that will be the way to carry papers back and forth from class to home. There are two books for students in grades 1 – 6. Students in 5 – 8 will also have Bibles. Students in grades 7 and 8 will have an additional folder for Confirmation. Keeping all the materials for Religious Education in a dedicated backpack or case could help avoid misplacing materials.

All students should bring a pencil. Students in grades 5 – 8 will find a notebook useful. We have various supplies such as markers, crayons, scissors, glue, and craft paper that will be available for the students to use.

### Parent Meeting

The 2023 – 2024 year will begin with a parent meeting for parents with children in grades 1 through 8. The meeting has been scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2023, beginning at 6:15 and will be held in the Church. Note that new drop off and pick up procedures for students in grades 1 and 2 and will be discussed. Most of the catechists for grades 1 – 8 will attend so you will have a chance to meet them. We hope most of you can arrange to come to the meeting.

### Contacting Me

The best way to reach me is by email at [ederosa@sjvs.net](mailto:ederosa@sjvs.net). If you would like to speak with me, please send an email with your phone number.

Have a blessed week!  
Ellen DeRosa

### **New Jersey Election, November 7, 2023**

The news is filled with so much about the potential candidates for the presidential election in 2024 but, **for New Jersey, 2023** is a very significant year. All 120 State Senate and Assembly seats are up for election. It's an opportunity to support new, and like-minded people for these positions. It is extremely important for pro-life people to vote this year, and Mail-in Voting is being encouraged. Please keep sharing this message with like-minded friends and family. Change is possible, but only if citizens take action by voting.

### **This Week on FORMED : the link for FORMED is on the parish website**

#### *The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Sacred Art*

By studying Sacred Art, we fuel our prayer and contemplation. In this episode, Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Taylor Kemp to examine the theological nuances contained in Bartolome Murillo's depiction of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

#### *Mother Teresa: No Greater Love*

Mother Teresa: No Greater Love is a soaring tribute to a spiritual icon, a powerful witness of authentic Christian charity, and a guidepost for all who seek hope in our turbulent times: Mother Teresa of Calcutta. This film reveals not just who Mother Teresa was, but how her singular vision to serve Christ in the poor continues to be realized through the Missionaries of Charity today.

#### *Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

In this episode, Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn discuss the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

# < KID'S > KORNER

**Gospel Today | 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 16:21-27**

The Bible tells us when we live for Jesus on earth, eternal life awaits us in Heaven.

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## THE CROSS ROOM



The young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer.

"Lord, I can't go on," he said. "I have too heavy a cross to bear."

The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear it's weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then open another door and pick any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief. "Thank you, Lord," he sighed, and did as he was told.

As he looked around the room he saw many different crosses; some so large the tops were not visible. Then he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall. "I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered.

And the Lord replied, "My son, that's the cross you brought in." -Unknown

- Draw your own Cross Room pictures -




Taking up a cross doesn't mean we carry a real cross like Jesus did, it means "follow Jesus". We are told doing so is sometimes hard work or great labor, but it is a labor of love for Jesus, with great rewards.

**In the Cross Room story the man thought his labor was too great. What did he learn?**

**Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28





**NICHOLAS MARKETS**  
**the fresh grocer**  
 510 Inman Ave, Colonia, NJ 07067  
 732-388-6363

**SHEVCHENKO MONUMENTS**  
 EST. 1919  
 Granite - Cemetery Inscriptions - Bronze  
 732-442-1286  
 www.shevcomonuments.com  
 329 FLORIDA GROVE ROAD  
 PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861

**MICHAEL C. FRESCO CPA, LLC**  
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
 Specializing in all aspects of Business Accounting, Individual Tax Preparation, Payroll Services, Tax and Financial Planning  
 24 Brant Ave., Clark  
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