

AS
THE
FATHER
HAS
SENT
ME,
I AM
SENDING
YOU.

—John 20:21

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. Greg Zanetti, 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

**WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY**

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 – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

SATURDAY, October 21, 2023

8:00 AM	Anne Moratto, r/o The Benjamin Family
5:00 PM	Lou Vicidomini, r/o Wife & Family

SUNDAY, October 22, 2023 – St. John Paul II

8:00 AM	For the People of the Parish Living/Deceased
10:00 AM	29th Anniversary of Conrado Tumanda Jr., r/o Tumanda Family
12:00 PM	Fred Gabriele Jr., r/o Gabriele Family

MONDAY, October 23, 2023 – St. John of Capistrano

7:00 AM	Lata Shah, r/o Colonia Pharmacy
8:30 AM	Ruth Hawke, r/o Marie Cavallero

TUESDAY, October 24, 2023 – St. Anthony Mary Claret

7:00 AM	In Celebration of the 50 TH Wedding Anniversary of Darlene & Edward Holobinko, in his memory, r/o Family
8:30 AM	Adam Schpakow, r/o Janice & Tom Michnewicz

WEDNESDAY, October 25, 2023

7:00 AM	Thomas Racca, r/o Natalie Barbella & Family
8:30 AM	Luke Dunbar, r/o Cliff & Agnes Bacsik

THURSDAY, October 26, 2023

7:00 AM	Fr. John Byrnes
8:30 AM	Vera McFadden, r/o Colette

FRIDAY, October 27, 2023

7:00 AM	Patricia Gravish, r/o Family
8:30 AM	Thomas Therriault, r/o Peggy & Paul Therriault

SATURDAY, October 28, 2023 – St. Simon & St. Jude

8:00 AM	Andrew Bukowski, r/o Peter & Christine Farbaniec
5:00 PM	Thomas W. Russinelli, r/o Janice & Tom Michnewicz

SUNDAY, October 29, 2023

8:00 AM	Paul Handon, r/o Adeline Specchio
10:00 AM	Michael A. DePaola, r/o Pagano Family
12:00 PM	For the People of the Parish Living/Deceased



**The Bread & Wine
have been offered
in loving memory of
Pietro Bagnato
from Wife,
Josephine
Bagnato.**

**The Sanctuary Light
has been offered
in loving memory of
Pietro Bagnato
Wife, Josephine Bagnato.**



The Prayer Corner

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

A TIME TO BAPTIZE

TO WED

TO HEAL

Eileen O'Donnell Ammon, Gertrude Karabin, Michael Baron, Alicia Deborgia, Bill Houston, Carol Oberdick, Frances Alencewicz, Robert Kilsby, Stanley Koberski, Justin Chiera, Bruce Horning, Caroline Stauffer, Mariola Warzyniak, Stephen Jankowski, Christina Daliani, Msgr. O'Neill, Gladys Schmidt, Henry & Joanne Sokoloski, Robert Jardines, Kathy Leary, 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, Maria Famiglietti, 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, Jean Nych, Gregory Kolaranda, Johanna Esposito, Mary Shegas, Nina Stefanelli, Nikoloz, Clare Weber, Vincent Dellaquila, Joe Vitello, Arlon Roth, Edward O'Brien, June Laub, Nick Troiano, Carl Walker, Dan Weiss, Arthur Shipiro, Christine Camping, Catherine Donahue, Marie Negri, Christiano Bianco.

FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED

MaryAnn Robson & Josephine Fulvio

A TIME OF WAR & PEACE

S. Sgt. Keith D. Lee (Air National Guard), Major Brian McCartin (Army), John Bridges (Navy), 2nd 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

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b
Matthew 22:15-21

Weekday readings can be found on the parish website.

October 22, 2023

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

MATTHEW 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

Autumn

Although I like each season,
There's none I hold more dear
Than on these bright-blue amber days
When autumntime is here.

The hills are flaunting red and gold
To mark October's day;
A view that is so dazzling,
It takes our breath away.

The tawny fields so peaceful,
The harvest gathered in,
Our barns and bins now overflow
With God's good gifts again.

The sugar maple trees aflame
Neath sky of sapphire blue,
A picture only God could paint
And send each year anew.

I count all seasons beautiful,
Each one our Lord has blessed
But none uplifts my heart so much
As Autumn's warm caress.

— Kay Hoffmann

Second Collection

Please note that this weekend, October 21/22, is World Mission Sunday, and there will be a second collection. Please drop the additional envelope for this collection in the second collection basket that is passed around. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Weekend Mass Schedule

October 28 TH	5:00pm	Fr. Greg
October 29 TH	8:00am	Fr. John
	10:00am	Fr. Greg
	12:00pm	Fr. Bob

St. Vincent de Paul News

In the Gospel today Jesus says: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." When God is the center of our lives there is no problem with giving others their due.

Through your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you are helping your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless, and frightened to know that they belong to God. Your donation of money in the "Poor Box" makes this assistance possible.

The September 2023 Poor Box contained \$2347.00. Thank you for your generosity and financial support.

COAT & BLANKET DRIVE

The Coat & Blanket Drive is now under way. Please donate New or Lightly used coats and blankets to help those in need. These items will be distributed at The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Perth Amboy on November 5, 2023. The 15th Annual Adopt-A-Turkey Food Drive will begin on the weekend of October 28-29, 2023. The flyer will be in next week's bulletin.

**All Souls Mass of Remembrance
November 2, 2023**

There will be a special Mass on Thursday, November 2nd at 7pm for all those who were buried from our parish between November 1, 2022 and October 31, 2023. Immediately following the Mass, refreshments will be served in the cafeteria.

If one of your family members died this past year and was buried from another parish and you would like that person to be remembered during the mass on November 2nd, please call the rectory office at 732-574-0150, **no later than Friday, October 27th**. We will ask you to provide the following information: name of the deceased, date of death and the number of people who plan to come to the Mass and refreshments afterwards.

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
Youth Minister	Sr. Luciana D'Cruze	sruciana@sjvs.net

Saint of the Week: St. Jude

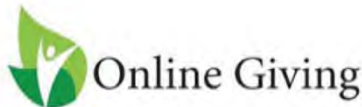
St. Jude is an interesting saint because not many things are known about him. What we do know is that he was one of Jesus' twelve apostles and his name was shortened to Jude from Judas to distinguish him from Judas Iscariot. In the books of Matthew and Mark,

Jude is also referred to as Thaddeus. We often see posts or articles of people thanking St. Jude for helping them through something, which is interesting since not much is known about him. St. Jude is, however, the patron saint of impossible or hopeless cases. People often find it to be a nice and respectful gesture to publicly thank St. Jude if they've prayed to him in times of struggle or frustration. May we look to St. Jude as a symbol of hope when everything seems to be against us, and also as a symbol of thanksgiving for all that we are blessed with in this life.

OCTOBER 15, 2023 OFFERTORY:

Collection:	\$ 10,196.25
On-line giving:	\$ 4,790.50
	<u>\$ 14,986.75</u>

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



A Secure & 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!

**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

The food supply for the St. James and St. Cecelia's Food pantries has fallen to critical levels. At one time the pantries had approximately one month's supply of food, now they have less than one week's supply. Rising food prices and demand for necessary food have caused this problem. Please donate one extra food item each week and the pantries can get some relief.

Needed items are: tuna, cereal, canned fruit, jelly, peanut butter, coffee, tea, all canned vegetables and all personal hygiene products. Remember if you need it they need it. Thank you.

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

"Jesus said: My flesh is true food, My blood is true drink." John 6:55

Scrip Program Update

The SJV School Scrip Program Fundraiser ended on May 31, 2023 and has been replaced with a different fundraiser for this school year for a variety of reasons. We still have some of our scrip gift card inventory at the rectory and are selling them 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!



Please join Sr. Luciana D'Cruze this Sunday, October 22nd, after the 12pm Mass ! The meeting will take place in the Youth Group rooms in the rectory office from 1pm-2pm. We are always welcoming new members! For more information, please call Sr. Luciana D'Cruze at the rectory at 732-574-0150.



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 – 9:30am. 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.

SJV Seniors

The next meeting of the St John Vianney Seniors will be our Thanksgiving Luncheon Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, November 1, at 2:30 PM in the school cafeteria. If you have paid your membership dues but have not yet secured a luncheon ticket but now wish to attend, you may make a reservation by calling Mary Nilan (732) 574-3427. Tickets are \$10 per person and are payable at the door. The deadline for making a telephone reservation is Wednesday, October 25.

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

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 (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

This Week At A Glance 10/21 – 10/29

Monday	SVdP – LBR 6-7pm CCD 6:15-7:15pm
Tuesday	Al-Anon – Classroom 7-8pm Cub Scouts – 5 Classrooms/CAF 6:30-7:30pm Boy Scouts – CAF 7:30-9:30pm Cheer – CAF/2 CL 4:30-6:30pm Pro-Life – LBR 6:30-7:30pm
Wednesday	Adult Choir – CH 7:30-10pm
Thursday	Legion of Mary – UBR 7pm Cheer – CAF/2 Classrooms 4:30-9pm
Friday	Youth Group Halloween Patry – UBR 7-9pm
Saturday	Carmelite Group – UBR 9am-12pm 8th Grade Car Wash & Clothing Drive – SJV Parking Lot 9am-3pm
Sunday	RCIA – UBR 11:15-11:45am Youth Group Rosary Rally – Mary's Island 1-2pm



St. John Vianney School News

732-388-1662 <https://school.sjvianney.com/>

The school year at SJV is well underway! We have completed our first round of standardized testing and have many exciting events planned!

Join us for our Eighth Grade Car Wash and Clothing Drive on October 28th in the parking lot 9am-3pm! See our website for dates and details.

So many great ideas and suggestions have come in! Continue to email us at 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!

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.



Bus Trip

Join us for a bus trip to Wind Creek, PA on Tuesday, October 24th. 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.

GIRL SCOUTING IN FAITH

A GATHERING Day is normally held each year for Catholic Junior, Cadette, Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts who would like to work on a Catholic scouting program. During that day, scouts accomplish several requirements towards their respective medals. This year's Girl Scout GATHERING Day will be held on Saturday November 11, 2023 from 10:00AM until 4:00PM at St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 500 Route 22 East, Bridgewater. Breakfast and lunch will be provided along with scouting activities and fellowship. The cost for the program is \$15.00. Catholic Girl Scout Medals are offered at each scout level with activities and requirements, just like with regular girl scout badge work. Daisy and Brownie programs are completed within the family. Junior, Cadette and Senior medal programs are completed largely in a group environment with adult advisors.

Daisy.....God is Love
Brownie.....God and Family
Juniors.....I Live My Faith
Cadettes.....Marian Medal
Seniors and ambassadors.....Spirit Alive

Contact domgirlscouts@gmail.com for further information on any of the Catholic Girl Scout programs or to request a registration form for the Gathering Day.

Navex Ethics Point Anonymous Reporting

Website URL: <https://diometuchen.ethicspoint.com>
Mobile URL: <https://diometuchenmobile.ethicspoint.com/>
Hotline: 844-796-1296

Your understanding and support of this effort is greatly appreciated by Bishop Checchio. The successful implementation of Navex EthicsPoint will be a further way to ensure that our Diocese and all its entities are cooperating in the light to be authentically who we are called to be.

Pastor's Column October 21 – 22, 2023

Last Sunday I kind of felt like a ping pong ball. I drove out to Fr. Bede's new parish in Baptistown for his installation as pastor. Then I drove home to catch the end of the parish breakfast and offer the 12 Noon Mass.

Fr. Bede's installation was beautiful. Our bishop celebrated the Mass, with me and Fr. John Gloss concelebrating. Of course, Fr. Bede also concelebrated the Holy Mass. After Mass they had a little breakfast and coffee set up to celebrate. I was happy to be there, and to see some of our parishioners who likewise made the trip.

Remember that Election Day is coming on November 7th. We are blessed to have the right to vote as Americans and choose those who make the laws of our land. As Catholics, we have a moral obligation to vote, and to do so intelligently – guided by a well-formed conscience.

For Catholics, a well – formed conscience is one that is formed according to the Gospel and the teachings of the Church. This does not mean that the Church tells for whom should vote or even recommend certain candidates. Rather, the Church gives us moral principles that should guide our choices on election day.

Among these are the dignity of the human person and concurrent right to life. With abortion legal through all nine months of pregnancy in New Jersey, it is hard to see how we are respecting this most basic of all rights. Our state even permits minors to have abortions without any parental involvement.

You can learn how your representatives vote on such issues quite easily. Voting Records NJ Legislature, which I found online, tells you a lot of information about how your representatives vote on every bill that comes up. It is a good way to keep informed as you prepare to vote.

Last week I told you that I would tell you more about All Souls Day and praying for the dead. I'm going to start with the story of St. Monica, a woman of great faith who lived in the 300's. During her final illness, her sons asked if she wanted them to send her body back to her native land for burial. Her answer to them was classic: "Bury this old body anywhere. Don't trouble yourself over it. I simply ask you to remember me at the Lord's Altar wherever you are."

St. Monica knew that her sons' prayers would help her get to Heaven (2 Macc. 12:46). She knew that this is especially true of the prayers offered at the Altar – the Holy Mass – which is the most powerful prayer we have. That's why she wanted her sons to have that prayer offered for her when she passed from this life.

It is for this reason that we have a Funeral Mass when a loved one dies. The Funeral Mass is our first and foremost way of remembering those who've died at the Altar of the Lord. While some families today omit the Funeral Mass – and replace it with a simple Funeral Home Service – this should be done only when absolutely necessary.

Our All Souls envelopes are another way of remembering our deceased loved ones at the Altar of the Lord. We write on those envelopes the names of loved ones who have died. The envelopes are then placed near the Altar on All Souls Day (a day the Church sets aside specifically to pray for her dead members) and throughout the month of November (a month dedicated to praying for the souls of our departed brothers and sisters). In this way our deceased loved ones are included in all the Masses offered that month – especially those of the All Souls Novena. While it is customary to put an offering in these envelopes – that is strictly optional. Any offerings made are used to support the priests who say the Masses for our deceased loved ones.

Yet another way to remember our beloved dead at the Altar is to have Masses said for them. Many people have Mass said on the anniversary of a loved one's death – or their birthday or some other significant day. I personally have Mass offered for each of the deceased pastors of our parish on their anniversaries, and for all the priests who ever served here on both Holy Thursday and the Feast of St. John Vianney (the patron saint of priests). You can do this by contacting the parish office – who will be happy to schedule a Mass for you so long as there is one available on that date (weekends fill up very quickly!). While there is a usual offering of \$10, it is actually voluntary – as with the All Souls Envelopes.

The main point is this: our prayers help our loved ones pass quickly through purgatory and into Heaven. I have placed pamphlets purgatory and praying for the dead on the book rack in the Church lobby. Feel free to take one home, read it, and pass it along to your family.

I want to thank everyone who joined in the Rosary for peace last Tuesday. Please continue to pray for peace, especially in the Holy Land and Ukraine. Pray also that people will come to respect each person's right to life, and for an end to acts of terror and violence.

Please also pray a Hail Mary for me today – and every day.

Have a great week! Fr. John

Update from the Religious Education Program

Upcoming Parent Meeting

2nd grade: - Preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion is a two-year process, beginning when the child is in 1st grade and continuing in 2nd grade. We will have a meeting with parents of 2nd grade students on Monday, October 23rd, and Tuesday October 24th, beginning at 6:20. The meetings will be held in the cafeteria. Parents should select the date that works best for their schedule. Although this meeting will primarily be to discuss First Penance, there will be some discussion related to First Holy Communion. A separate meeting, in January, will focus specifically on First Holy Communion.

Confirmation Retreat

One of the requirements for the second year of Confirmation preparation is participation in a retreat. The first Confirmation retreat date is next Saturday, October 21st. Please keep the students in your prayers as they journey toward Confirmation.

Mass Replaces Class

Religious education students in grades 5 and 6, along with their families, are attending one of the Masses this weekend, October 21/ 22, 2023. The Check-In table in the gathering area is where I take attendance. Be sure to stop at the table for check-in! Students in grades 5 and 6 will not have class on Monday October 23rd. Siblings in other grades will have class.

Opt-Out

The website includes information from the NJ Catholic Conference regarding the process parents can use to opt-out of certain health and physical education lessons presented in public schools.

Contacting Me

The best way to reach me is by email at 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 – NEW Information

This year can be a time for change since all 120 State Senate and Assembly seats are up for election. Mail-in Voting or in-person Early Voting is being encouraged. **Mail-in:** The deadline to *request a mail-in ballot is October 31*. Completed ballots must be postmarked by Election Day (Nov. 7) or placed in the drop box at Town Hall or Main Library (Woodbridge) before 8 pm on Election Day. **In-Person Early Voting:** from Sat, Oct. 28 - Sun. Nov. 5 from 8am-6pm Mon-Sat & 10am-6pm Sun. To find a location for Early Voting, go to: <https://nj.gov/state/elections/vote-early-voting.shtml>.

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

Pope John Paul II

Starring Jon Voight and Cary Elwes, this epic film follows Karol Wojtyla's journey from his youth in Poland through his late days on the Chair of St. Peter.

Slaves and Kings: The Story of St. Anthony Mary Claret (English Audio)

Following the life of St. Anthony Mary Clare—Archbishop, writer, publisher, social reformer, and confessor to the Queen of Spain—this film tells the compelling story of one of Spain's most popular preachers and founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Liberating a Continent: John Paul II and the Fall of Communism

This powerful documentary captures how spiritual power can triumph over violence and oppression. Get a new glimpse of history through this film as you learn about John Paul II's intricate role in the collapse of communism.

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Gospel Today

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees had a plan to entrap Jesus in speech. They said, "Teacher, we know you will tell the truth. Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"

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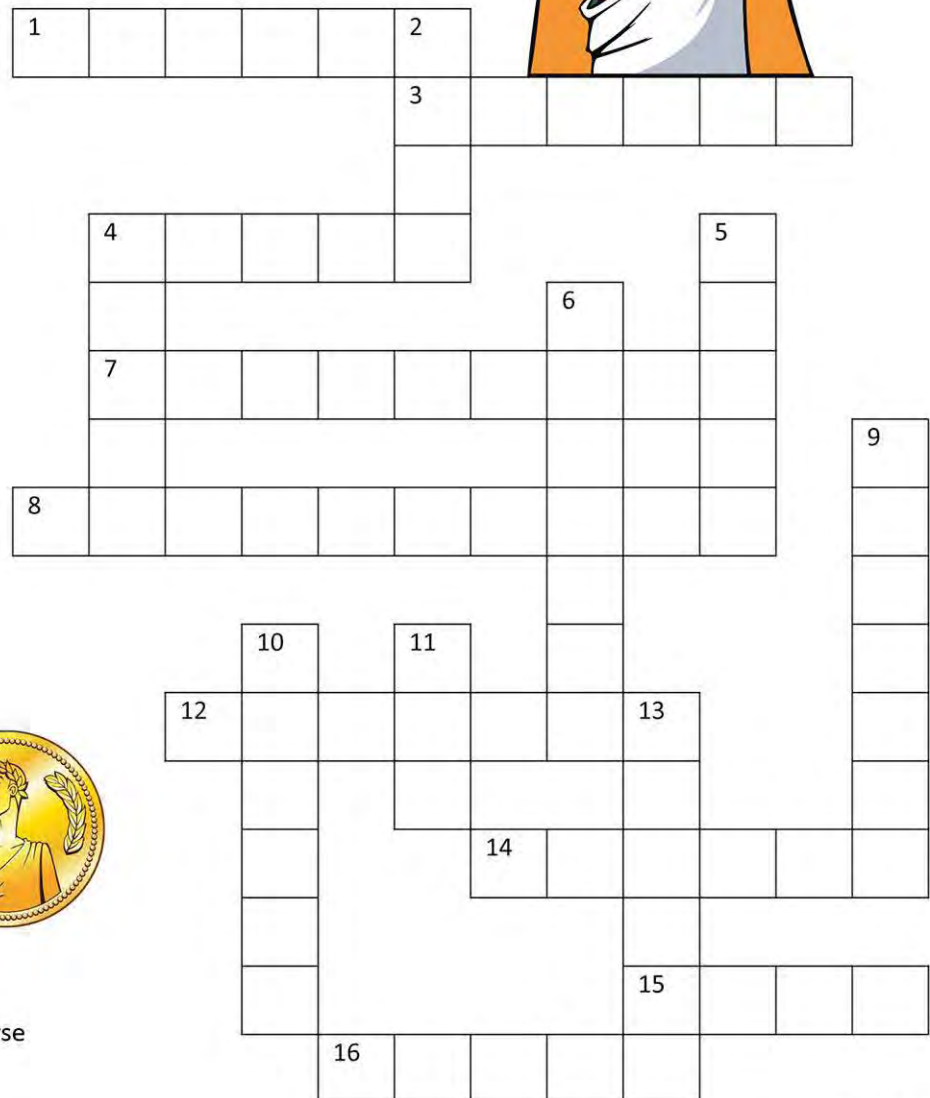
Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." They handed Him a Roman coin, with an image and inscription of Caesar. Jesus replied, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

ACROSS

- 1 To catch in; as if in a trap
- 3 Allowed by law
- 4 ____ Catholic Church
- 7 Ancient Jews who strictly observed Mosaic law
- 8 Person pretending to be what they are not
- 12 To be owned by someone
- 14 Title of Roman emperors after Augustus
- 15 Round, flat, metal money
- 16 Real fact, honest

DOWN

- 2 A detailed scheme (to achieve an objective)
- 4 To pay back
- 5 ____ Christ
- 6 Evaluate
- 9 Person who teaches
- 10 Periodic population count
- 11 Supreme Being, Creator of universe (Our Father)
- 13 Act of speaking; public address



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