



December 13, 2020



40 Jackson Road, Medford, New Jersey 08055

Parish Website: [www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org)

Parish Email Address: [Frontdesk@smlparish.org](mailto:Frontdesk@smlparish.org)



#### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday through Friday at 7:15 a.m. and  
Monday through Saturday at 9:00 a.m. (*simulcasted*)

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.,

Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (*simulcasted*), 10:30 a.m. and noon

#### CLERGY AND STAFF

Reverend Daniel F. Swift, Pastor, [father\\_dan@smlparish.org](mailto:father_dan@smlparish.org)

Reverend Roy Ballacillo, Parochial Vicar, [rballacillo@smlparish.org](mailto:rballacillo@smlparish.org)

Deacon Ken Motylinski

Deacon Rich Lutomski

Susan B. Kraemer, Business Administrator

Christine Brandt, Pastoral Associate

Lenora Gange, Administrative Assistant

Mary Thomas, Administrative Assistant

Maria Sobel, School Principal

Mary Pat Scordato, Director of Religious Education

Kevin Callahan, Minister of Evangelization and Marketing

Carolyn Cuperwich, Music Coordinator

Linda Xerri, Parish Youth Minister

Harry Meshirer, Parish Bookkeeper

Ralph Gallo and Kevin Loughlin, Parish Trustees

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### ST. MARY OF THE LAKES ONLINE

Website Address: <http://www.smlparish.org>

Email Address: [Frontdesk@smlparish.org](mailto:Frontdesk@smlparish.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/smlparish](https://www.facebook.com/smlparish)

School Website: <http://www.smlschool.org>

Knights of Columbus: <http://www.Medfordknights.org>

LOCATION, TELEPHONE NUMBERS, FAX	(609 Area Code)
Parish Office 40 Jackson Road	654-8208 x110
Parish Office Fax	975-0137
Parish Health Ministry	654-8208 x610
St. Mary of the Lakes School 196 Route 70	654-2546 x210
St. Mary of the Lakes School Fax	654-8125
Parish Religious Education 196 Route 70	654-2546 x310
Parish Youth Minister 40 Jackson Road	654-2546 x111
Bulletin Editor 40 Jackson Road	654-8208 x131
St. Vincent de Paul Society 1 Jones Road	953-0021

**PARISH REGISTRATION: ALL ARE WELCOME** "God is rich in mercy, because of His boundless love for us." Ephesians 2:4 tells us God's love knows no boundaries and neither does St. Mary of the Lakes. New parishioners, regardless of where they live, are welcome and encouraged to register at our parish. Registration forms are available in the parish office and on our website at [www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org). Click on contact us/registration.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** Confessions are heard in the altar server sacristy on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** Please call the parish office anytime or speak to one of the priests after Mass.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Baptisms may be scheduled at any time on any day, provided one of the clergy is available at the time you are requesting. Please call the parish office 609/654-8208, x110 as early as possible to make the arrangements.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY** Congratulations to our engaged couples. Call 609/654-8208, x110 to make arrangements for your wedding. We suggest you call at least a year in advance.

**BECOMING CATHOLIC (RCIA)** If you or someone you know is considering becoming Catholic or is/are baptized Catholic but have yet to receive First Communion and/or Confirmation, please call Christine Brandt at 609/654-8208, x113.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** The Adoration Chapel is open 24/7 to one Adorer at a time.

**MINISTERIAL VISITS** The Sacraments are available to anyone confined to home or institution. Please contact the parish office if you know anyone who is unable to get to church.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** The St. Vincent de Paul Society is an all-volunteer ministry with services provided and supported by many of our parishioners. "Vincentians" provide outreach and assistance to anyone in need throughout our parish region. Contact Joe Pasquarella, President. 609/953-0021.

Get our parish phone app at the App Store or Google Play by downloading myParish app

Please subscribe to smlparish on YouTube

Like us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/smlparish](https://www.facebook.com/smlparish)  
and follow us on Twitter @SmlParish

## Dear Parishioners and Visitors to St. Mary of the Lakes:

The first three Masses on Christmas Eve will require a seat reservation. These three Masses have already filled. The following Masses will not require a seat reservation and they will be filled on a first come – first seated basis:

### Christmas Eve:

6:30, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 p.m.

### Christmas Day:

7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and noon.

Those who have attended Mass since Churches opened realize single seats are available in the side sections of the Church and multiple seats (two-three-four) are available in the middle section of the Church. Please do not move the tape to accommodate you or your family as you will not be sitting six feet from the person at the other end of the pew. Everyone will be required to wear a mask. Before leaving, please leave your kneeler down to indicate to volunteers which seats need to be sanitized. If you are able to stay after Mass to help sanitize, there will be spray bottles and towels in the Jackson Rd. Entrance.

Please pray for cooperating hearts this Christmas as our parishioners, staff and I do our best during this pandemic.

God Bless,  
Father Dan

## Christmas Schedule 2020

### Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Please stay six feet from one another in line.

## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>

2:00, 3:30 and 5:00 p.m.

*Seat Reservations are filled*

6:30, 8:00, 9:30 and 11 p.m.

Seat Reservations are not required.

### Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>

7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

Seat Reservations are not required.

### Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at

7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Holy Day of Obligation

## Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is 24/7.

The Adoration Chapel is open to one Adorer at a time.

## Mass Schedule

### Weekend

Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Sunday

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,

10:30 a.m. and noon.

Everyone must wear a mask.

*The Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass*

*is simulcasted at*

[www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org)



### Daily

A daily Mass is offered

Monday-Friday at 7:15 a.m.

and

Monday-Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Everyone must

wear a mask.

*The daily 9:00 a.m. Mass is*

*simulcasted at*

[www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org)

## Third Sunday of Advent

### Sunday, December 13

- 7:30 a.m. Our Parishioners  
 9:00 a.m. Maria Sperger / Ann & Tom King  
 10:30 a.m. John Scotto Jr. / Mom  
 12:00 p.m. Katherine Bailey / The Woodhouse Family  
 Anne Gehin / Joan Smith

### Monday, December 14

- 7:15 a.m. Mary Jo McNamara / Stephanie & Chris Jobes  
 9:00 a.m. Antoinette DeMarco / Jim & Marian Incognito  
 Bill Leonard / Francine Scott

### Tuesday, December 15

- 7:15 a.m. Josephine LaRosa / Charles LaRosa  
 9:00 a.m. Catherine Fawley McCutcheon /  
 Gary & Eileen Palko  
 Gerald Lanoza / His Family

### Wednesday, December 16

- 7:15 a.m. Jean Moyer / SVdP  
 9:00 a.m. George (Mike) Finan Jr. / Sal & Peggy Benigno  
 Rian Anthony / The Healy Family

### Thursday, December 17

- 7:15 a.m. Ephraim Block / Richard Konzelmann  
 9:00 a.m. Mrs. Candee Costa / Rebecca & Tom Weill  
 Joseph Munn

### Friday, December 18

- 7:15 a.m. Donna Crisefi / Bill & Eileen Casian  
 9:00 a.m. Janice Brown Schuster / Nancy Binter

### Saturday, December 19

- 9:00 a.m. Robert Salemi /  
 Rick & Barbara Gillespie and Family  
 5:30 p.m. Rosemary Hogan / Nancy & Joe Popielarski

### Sunday, December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 7:30 a.m. Our Parishioners  
 9:00 a.m. Deceased Knights of Columbus Council #6520  
 10:30 a.m. Rosemary Hogan / Justin & Kyle Popielarski  
 12:00 p.m. Edward Brickner / Kate & Emma DiBenedetto  
 Joseph Beach / Michele & Sophia Brodecki

Welcome to St. Mary of the Lakes:

**Bill and Beth Kurtz**

& their children William, Ella and Thomas !

#### Confessions

Confessions are heard in the altar server sacristy on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. If a line forms, please stand six feet apart. When making your confession, please stand by the barrier, which is positioned six feet from Father Roy or Father Dan.



Long-term prayer requests (those over a year old) will not be published individually, but will be prayed for at each Mass, as will the following: Michelle Allen, Connie Aromando, Marty Ball, Keith



Bodendorf, Ann Bober, John Boyd, Michael Bryan, Sherri Colan, Dave Clor, David J. DiLullo, Sandra DiMaio, Theresa R. Dumas, Jim Endahl, Joseph Finizio, Margaret Fitzpatrick, Joyce Frenia, Louis Giansante, Baby Emily Hereghty, Sawyer Michael Howarth, Jim Kehoe, Morgan Kelly, Jim Kester, Lee Knecht, Louis Kramer, Gail LaBarber, Gregory Law, Bob Lender, Rosemarie Lyczak, Joe Meile, Maria Minadeo, Richard Moken, Carol and Steve Newman, Joseph Nguyen, Rita O'Connor, Colette Parisi, Marilyn Peoples, Garrett Pittman, Rose Piontkowski, Bill Quigley, James Quigley, IV, Sue Rebel, Joel Rivera, Christine Rock, Garry Roettger, Richard SM, Joseph Stern, Jr., Dianne Stippick, Leoncia Sullivan, Mary Ann Sullivan, Anna Mae Wade, Thomas Walsh, Hudson Edward Wingate, Ava Zachery, Madeline.



1<sup>st</sup> LT Christian Aguilar, USA; 1<sup>st</sup> LT Kyle Brandt, USAF; Capt. Katherine Collins Kneram, USA; 1<sup>st</sup> LT Erin Corcoran, USA; CAPT Kevin Emmons, USA; BG Steve Gilland, USA; MAJ Suzanne Gillern; PVT CM Sean Grannan, USA; LTJG Jeremy Griffin, USN; Chief Warrant Officer Kevin James Haddon, USA; LT Sean Hickey, USN; 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Waverly Hock, USAF; MAJ William Hock, USAF; Capt. Richard Jordan, USMC; ENS William Jordan, USN; 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Rachel Kelly, USAF; LT Commander Matthew Knepper, USN; Capt. Patrick Kneram, USA; Cpl Brett Koerner, USMC; PVT Nicholas Lawrence, USA; GM3 David Lewis, USN; Christopher Macready, USMC; 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Doug MacDonald, USMC; 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Michelle Matthews, USMC; MIDN 4/D Patrick McKernan, USA; PO3 Allston Megill, USN; Sgt. Mark Mickinak, USMC; General Scot Miller, USA; Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Pinto; 1<sup>st</sup> LT Victor Prato, USA; CM Jonathan Ross, USN; ENS Nolan Smith, USN; TSGT Adrian Tomkus, USAF.

#### Offertory Collections for Sunday, December 6, 2020

Donations in Cash	\$1,707
Donations in Envelopes	\$23,830
Total Collection December 6, 2020	\$25,537
Immaculate Conception - December 8, 2020	\$1,526
Total Collection December 1, 2019	\$32,780
Total Collection December 2, 2018	\$27,175



## Increase Your Cross – Week Three

Welcome to Week Three of Strengthening Your Cross. How did you do the first week? Here are the Week Three! A blessed Advent to you!

- **Vertical Strength:** Use the index of citations in the back of the full size Catechism to see what the Church teaches about the daily Mass readings for this week.
- **Horizontal Strength:** Make and freeze or buy a frozen casserole for Feed My Sheep and drop it off in the Emmaus Center box freezer.
- **Core Strength:** Invite someone to pray a decade or a whole Rosary with you. Offer up that Rosary for whoever prays with you.

### Welcome Newly Baptized Chloe Lauren & Hailey Rose McAfee



Congratulations to all those who were  
baptized at St. Mary of the Lakes  
25 years ago in December 1995.

Cheyenne Taylor Stead  
Anthony Michael Martucci  
Charles Jacob Compton  
Joseph Charles Naulty  
Courtney Monique Gomez  
Gentry Renee Gomez  
J. Alex Gomex  
Aizpea Murphy  
Emily Catherine Jones

Congratulations to all those who were married  
at St. Mary of the Lakes  
25 years ago in December 1995.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kent  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kugler  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jackson  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weber

## Church Study

Father Dan will continue to offer an online Intergenerational Church Study on the second Wednesday of each month with the next class **January 13** from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Due to the recent executive order, attending virtually is the only option for those interested.  
A link will be posted on the website each month to attend virtually.

For the 1/13 Church Study, click on the link or copy and paste the link: <https://tinyurl.com/y4qykglw>  
Meeting number (access code): 126 668 6965  
Meeting password: Francis

This course was inspired by Timothy Cardinal Dolan, who wrote, "I don't hear a lot of people today having trouble with God and I don't really hear a lot of people having trouble with Jesus. I hear everybody having trouble with the Church. In some way, we've got to reclaim the identity of Christ in His Church."

To that end, the course was written using Fulton Sheen's *The Mystical Body of Christ*.

# Moral Guidance Regarding Vaccines and COVID-19

(Nov. 23, 2020)

Rev. Joseph M. Koopman, STD

Associate Professor of Moral Theology

St. Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology

Diocese of Cleveland

With the prospect of the FDA approving one (or more) COVID-19 vaccines within the next few weeks, many questions have been raised regarding the ethical status of these vaccines (particularly questioning whether embryonic stem cells or tissue from aborted fetuses were used in their creation, and whether Catholics can morally receive such vaccines). The following is a brief moral analysis to help provide you some guidance when these questions arise. *Be mindful that this analysis is dependent on current information, and therefore could change once more information is released.* It has only been within the last few days that the findings of some of the vaccines have been submitted to the FDA for approval, so more information will be forthcoming in the upcoming weeks as the government and independent researchers have access to data.

At this point, it appears as if the vaccine created by **Pfizer/Biontech**, along with the vaccine created by **Moderna** *have not been created using material of illicit origin (i.e., embryonic stem cells and/or the tissue of aborted children.)* For Catholics, this is *great* news. Theologically speaking, there are no moral or religious grounds that would restrict the consciences of Catholics from receiving these vaccines.

There have been articles and press releases that affirm that, while these above vaccines were not *created* with material of illicit origin, there is good reason to believe that these vaccines may have been *tested* (post production) utilizing the tissue of aborted fetuses. These articles and statements, therefore, conclude that it is immoral to use them. This sweeping conclusion is *inconsistent with Catholic moral teaching*.

A critical question is: “Are Catholics always forbidden to perform an action if it touches upon evil, or cooperates, somehow, with the evil action of another?” The answer is ‘no’. There *certainly* are instances when Catholics *must* refrain from immoral cooperation. However, Catholic teaching on moral cooperation makes critical distinctions (mediate/immediate, proximate/remote, etc.) to determine the *degree or level to which* one cooperates in evil. In some cases, some forms of cooperation, while unfortunate, can be allowed in certain circumstances.

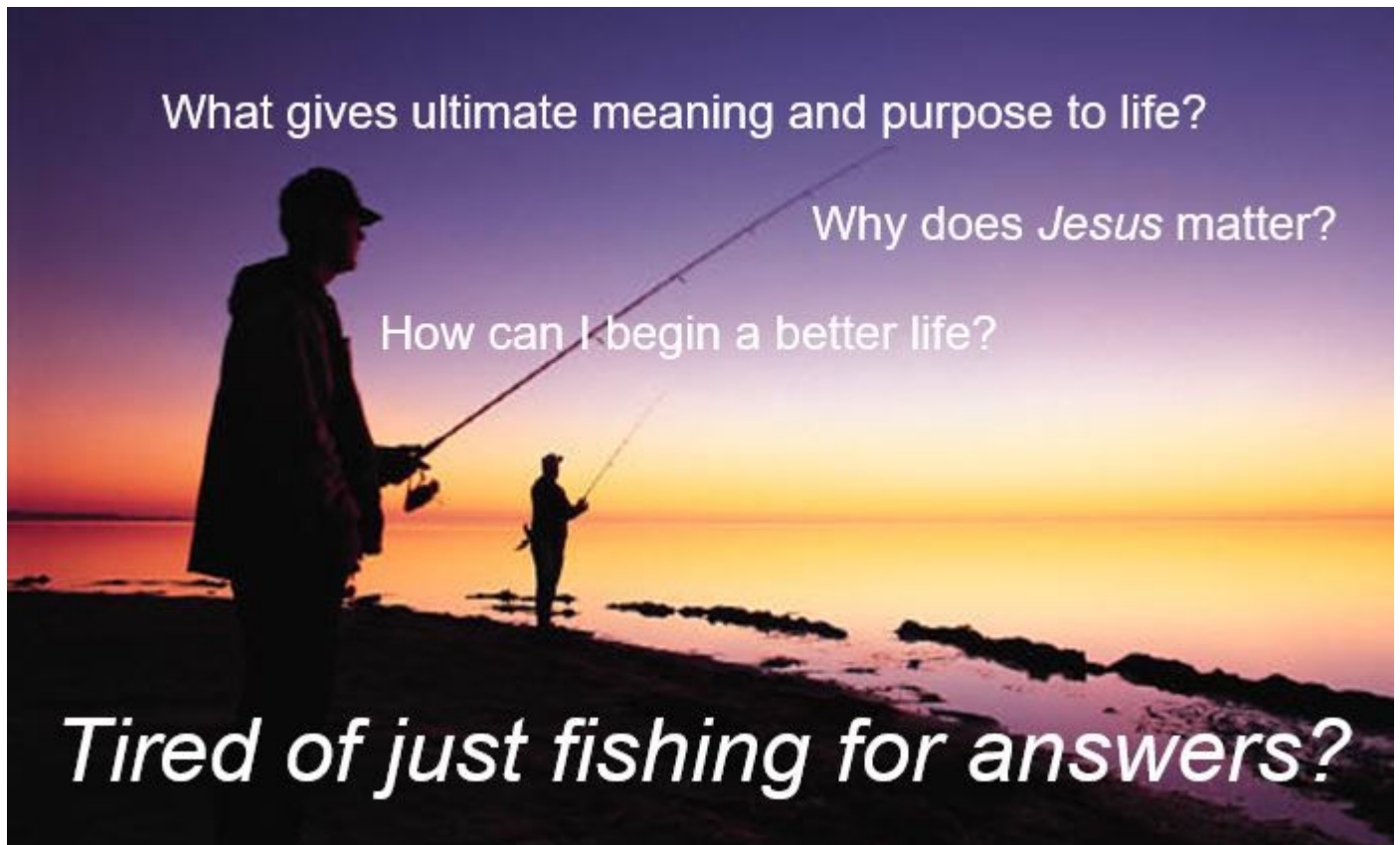
Unfortunately, we live in a fallen world. Dig deep enough, and one finds that many of our actions somehow touch upon evil and the evil actions of others. While the Church draws a firm line in delineating certain acts of cooperation as immoral, it does not condemn *all* actions of cooperation as such. It challenges us to be aware of evil around us, to *always* choose the option that involves less evil (or no evil), and to speak and challenge others to desist from evil. It is for this reason that the Church, in the early months of vaccine development for COVID 19, boldly challenged (and continues to challenge) researchers and the medical industry to seek moral means of vaccine production (and to reject the use of material of illicit origin that involved the destruction of unborn life).

Regarding the previous statement regarding the immorality of taking the vaccine because of immoral post-production testing, or even statements from some bishops that have forbidden vaccines derived from material of illicit origin, the following paragraph from *Dignitas Personae*, issued from the CDF under Pope Benedict XVI, offers critical (and perhaps surprising) conclusions. In speaking of the use of embryonic stem cell lines or the tissue of aborted children, the document states in no. 35: “Grave reasons may be morally proportionate to justify the use of such ‘biological material’.” Thus, for example, danger to the health of children could permit parents to use a vaccine which was developed using cell lines of illicit origin, while keeping in mind that everyone has the duty to make known their disagreement and to ask that their healthcare system make other types of vaccines available.” While the statement uses the example of the danger to the health of children, the dangers of COVID-19 particularly to our vulnerable elderly or those with compromised health could reasonably be presumed as grave reason for vaccination. While the Church unequivocally condemns researchers and the medical industry for the creation, production, and distribution of vaccines produced from embryonic stem cells and from the tissue of aborted children, the *receiving* of these vaccines is in another moral category.

In conclusion, at this point there appears to be no moral issues to prohibit a Catholic from receiving vaccines produced by Pfizer or Moderna. If other vaccines are released which do have recourse to material of illicit origin, Catholic moral teaching would direct Catholics to utilize the option that is least morally problematic (i.e., the vaccines that were *not* created via such immoral means). Providentially, these two listed vaccines satisfy that criteria.

As more vaccines are produced, we recommend that you visit the following website, which provides a fairly complete list of all vaccines, and how they were produced and tested:

<https://lozierinstitute.org/update-covid-19-vaccine-candidates-and-abortion-derived-cell-lines/>



## Discovering Christ

Join us for this exciting seven-session series where we gather to listen to a dynamic teaching and explore answers to some of the most important questions worth asking about God and finding ultimate purpose in life.

Thursday Evenings, beginning January 7, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.,

*or*

Friday Mornings, beginning January 8, from 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

We will be running this course virtually on Sysco Webex unless COVID-19 restrictions permit in-person meetings.

For more information on this course contact Christine Brandt at:  
[cbrandt@smlparish.org](mailto:cbrandt@smlparish.org) or 609-654-8208, ext. 113.

To register, print and return bottom portion of this form to the parish office, *ATTN: Christine Brandt*

- - - - - Registration form - - - - -

## Discovering Christ

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph #: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (other) \_\_\_\_\_





# St. Mary of the Lakes

SCHOOL

*Celebrating 60 years of Catholic Education*

## Employment Opportunity

St. Mary of the Lakes Catholic School has an immediate opening for one part time bookkeeper.

### Overview

The School Bookkeeper is responsible to the School Principal and Business Administrator to manage the school's financial recordkeeping. Record and monitor school tuition payments. Monitor financial aid applications, notify families & record tuition awards. Create purchase orders, order school supplies/books, reconcile school class bank account monthly, oversee vendor contracts, record & track school expenses, attend room parent meetings & communicate school financial policies and procedures, assist with the preparation of the school budget. Assist with grant applications. Prepare analysis and reports as requested by School Principal or Business Administrator.

### Job Qualifications

This individual must have excellent problem solving, communication, interpersonal skills and ability to maintain confidentiality. Proficiency in WORD and Excel; knowledge of QuickBooks a plus. Must be a self-starter, well organized; perform multiple tasks simultaneously and ability to meet deadline dates. Bachelor's Degree in accounting/business/finance is preferred. Work experience in accounting with successful coursework in Business/Accounting may be considered in lieu of a degree

Qualified candidates should submit their letter of interest, resume and salary requirements by **December 31, 2020** to: Susan Kraemer, Business Administrator, at [skraemer@smlparish.org](mailto:skraemer@smlparish.org)

Please include SML#8208 on the email subject line for your application to be considered.

If interested, submit application (please click on the link or copy and paste the link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y2s4989s>  
for employment application.)



**Awesome prizes and gift cards to enjoy this Christmas!**

**16 Prizes to Win!**  
Winners chosen everyday!  
**December 14th to December 22nd**  
**Prize Value \$50-\$250**  
Prizes include: Gift Cards, and Gift Giving Items  
Perfect as Christmas gifts or to keep for yourself!

**1 Ticket \$20 / 10 Tickets \$100**  
Tickets purchased by 12/13 will be entered into all 16 drawings!

**Two Additional Raffles**  
Limited Tickets Available!  
**Dec 21st**  
**24 Bottle Wine Refrigerator**  
(With two bottles of wine)  
**Dec 22nd**  
**Inflatable Movie Screen and Projector**  
**1 Ticket \$10 each / 10 Tickets for \$50**  
Visit [www.smlschool.org/countdown-to-Christmas](http://www.smlschool.org/countdown-to-Christmas)

All prizes must be picked up by December 23rd Sponsored by SMLS PTA

### Shopping Online?

Use AmazonSmile & Support  
St. Mary of the Lakes  
Church & School



AmazonSmile provides an easy way to direct funds to St. Mary of the Lakes Church and School! When you use AmazonSmile 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases are donated to the charitable organization of your choice. There is no additional cost to you! Simply download the latest version of the Amazon app, find "Settings" and tap on AmazonSmile and follow the on-screen instructions.

Thank you in advance for your support!



### Need Gift Cards For Christmas?

Gift Cards can now be mailed directly to you! Buy a gift card through the Scrip Program & support St. Mary of the Lakes School!

Now you also have the option of getting physical gift cards delivered right to your door or to a recipient! Choose from hundreds of brands labelled "Ship to Home Eligible"! Or you can still print or send e-gift cards! 750+ Brands including Target, Amazon, Walmart & More! Visit [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) and "Join a Program" use the Enrollment Code BCB1L9CF6583.





## Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Lighting



### Christian Caring Center Food Collection *This Weekend*

On **December 12 and 13** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shop Rite of Medford will be collecting nonperishables specifically for the Christian Caring Center Food Bank in Browns Mills. Knights will be manning the doors, so please plan to go shopping those days and drop off your food at the collection trailer. We will also be collecting food for SVdP on those two days at the SML Church garage as the trailer will be used for this event.

Any questions, contact Bill Mazzio at: [williammazzio@yahoo.com](mailto:williammazzio@yahoo.com) or 609-458-0704.

### Become a Knight of Columbus

If want to help those in need, serve your parish, and grow in your faith, then join the Knights of Columbus Council 6520. For more information, contact Scott Lattimer at [slattimer@aol.com](mailto:slattimer@aol.com) or visit: [www.medfordknights.org](http://www.medfordknights.org).





## St. Mary of the Lakes Brick Fundraiser



We are pleased to offer you the opportunity to engrave a brick with your special message of hope to be permanently displayed on a walkway entering the church.

The Knights of Columbus are selling bricks that will be placed along the walkways and in the shape of two (2) Crosses, which will be placed entering the church from the back parking lot. Not only can you help us and the church, but you have the opportunity to leave an impression that will last forever. You can have the bricks inscribed with the names of your family, an anniversary, a special event or a deceased loved one by getting a brick to commemorate their legacy. It's also a great way for people to always see your businesses and be reminded of your support among the community.

Time is limited, spaces are filling up, don't miss your chance to get a brick and leave a legacy that will last a lifetime. The cost is \$125 for a 4x8 brick and \$175 for a 8x8 brick. Add \$25 for clip art and mini replica bricks are available for an additional \$35. Samples of the bricks can be found by the Parking Lot entrance.

Please click on the link or copy and paste the link: [www.4everbricks.com/donors/SML/](http://www.4everbricks.com/donors/SML/) for an order form or visit [www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org) to see a photo of the sample brick and minibrick.

*You can make your check payable to St Mary of the Lakes Church and drop off at the parish office.*



### Fill the Trailer !

The trailer will be opened to the public and will not be staffed. Individuals may drop off at their convenience keeping with the local social distancing rules.



## Food Dropoff

*The Knights of Columbus in conjunction with St. Vincent de Paul Society are collecting food to restock the pantry and feed the local hungry.*



Thanks for doing your part by staying home; however, if you want to do more & need to venture out, please help us out!





## Christmas Anticipation Prayer

*(Also known as the St. Andrew Novena)*

The following beautiful prayer is traditionally prayed fifteen times a day until Christmas. This is a very meditative prayer that helps us increase our awareness of the real focus of Christmas and helps us prepare ourselves spiritually for His coming.

*Hail and blessed be the hour and moment In which  
the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin  
Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.  
In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to  
hear my prayer and grant my desires,*

*[here mention your request]*

*through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of  
His blessed Mother. Amen.*

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2020

Each year, the Bishop seeks the support of our parishes, our clergy, Catholic education and social services.

SML has pledged \$152,233. Our parish goal was \$140,000. By reaching our goal, the rebate will be \$21,000 (15 percent of goal). By continuing to exceed our goal, the rebate will be \$21,000 + 50 percent of difference above \$140,000, which is currently \$27,116.50.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Spiritual Christmas Crib

Build a spiritual crib in your heart for Christ by reading the thought and ejaculation indicated for each day of December until Christmas. Practice it during the day and make your heart a worthy crib for Christ on Christmas Day.

### DECEMBER 13 - PROVISIONS

Bring a supply of food to the crib. Deprive yourself of some food at mealtime or candy as a treat.

*Jesus, be my strength and nourishment.*

### DECEMBER 14 - LIGHT

See that the crib has sufficient light. Be neat and orderly about your person; keep everything in its place in your room. Jesus, be the life and light of my soul.

### DECEMBER 15 - FIRE

Take care to have the crib of your heart warmed by a cozy fire. Be grateful to God for the love He has shown us in becoming man; behave with grateful respect towards your parents and relatives.

Jesus, how can I return Your love; how can I show my gratitude to You?

### DECEMBER 16 - THE OX

Lead the ox to the crib. Obey cheerfully without making excuses and without asking "why."

I will obey for love of You, Jesus.

### DECEMBER 17 - THE DONKEY

Bring the donkey to the crib. Offer to the Divine Infant your bodily strength; use it in the service of others.

Jesus, accept my service of love; I offer it for those who do not love You.

### DECEMBER 18 - GIFTS

Gather some presents for the Divine Infant and His Blessed Mother. Give alms for the poor and say an extra decade of the rosary.

Come, Jesus, to accept my gifts and to take possession of my heart.

### DECEMBER 19 - LAMBS

Strive to bring some little lambs, meek and patient. Do not murmur or complain.

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.

### DECEMBER 20 - SHEPHERDS

Invite the shepherds to pay homage to our newborn King. Imitate their watchfulness; stress in your speech and thoughts the idea that Christmas is important because Jesus will be born again in you.

Jesus, teach me to love You above all things.





## Young Adult Ministry SOAR



Members of our Young Adult Ministry, SOAR, made casseroles for the Feed My Sheep Ministry while watching/listening to *LOTR: Fellowship of the Rings* on Thursday, December 10.

*This Sunday, December 13*, SOAR will be meeting in the church at 5:00 p.m. for the sixth session of *Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible: The Divided Kingdom*.

*Next Sunday, December 20*, they will meet in the parking lot of the church to carpool and see lights set to music displays throughout South Jersey.

SOAR, Serving Our Amazing Redeemer, is a ministry for young adults ages 21-35 who long to grow in their relationship with the blessed Trinity and the community through service, prayer/Scripture study and fellowship.

If you are interested in joining them on any of these adventures or would like more information, contact Lauren at [lrusso1317@gmail.com](mailto:lrusso1317@gmail.com).

## Casserole Collections

Those who wish to donate must follow the suggested guidelines from the CDC posted at [www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org) along with our directive to not cook/deliver food if you or a member of your household are sick. Donated food must be frozen prior to delivery to the Emmaus Center.

The Emmaus Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for food collection.

Those entering must wear a mask. Please go directly to the Emmaus Center and place the frozen casserole in the LARGE WHITE CHEST FREEZER (*right*) which is located against the back wall of the Emmaus Center – closest to the backyard door. The freezer will be open – just lift up and place donation in the freezer.



**DO NOT PLACE ITEMS IN THE KITCHEN AREA FREEZER OR REFRIGERATOR.**

There is no reason to stop in the Parish Office to tell us that you are dropping off food. The Office staff will check the freezer and monitor the donations daily.

For students who would like to earn community service hours, please contact Mrs. Xerri at ext. 111 for instructions on how to record your hours using the new Mobile Serve App.

## Decorating the YES Tree



### YES Under the Tent *This Sunday*

RSVP required due to outdoor gathering limits – contact: [yes@smlparish.org](mailto:yes@smlparish.org)

*This Sunday, December 13*, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., please bring an item from the list below with you to the meeting. We will be filling stockings for teens/tweens in Camden! Do to decreased outside gathering limits recently issued by the Governor, YOU MUST RSVP to [yes@smlparish.org](mailto:yes@smlparish.org) if you plan on attending.

*Items requested: lip gloss, nail polish, brush/comb set, hair ribbons/accessories, body spray/cologne for boy or girl, facemask for kids, Christmas socks, Christmas or holiday t-shirt size Sm-XL for kids*

Virtual permission forms can be found by clicking on the link or copying and pasting the link <https://tinyurl.com/y4omhdnh>

Virtual meeting dates and times will be posted in the GROUPME chat. Parents may also email permission to [yes@smlparish.org](mailto:yes@smlparish.org) for minors to participate virtually. We use the GROUPME texting APP but we cannot add a student without parental permission.

## Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

*Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center*  
84 Walnford Road •  
Allentown, NJ 08501  
609-877-0509 /[www.FHOP.org](http://www.FHOP.org)



### GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS

**Tuesday, December 15 / 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

The upcoming holidays can be a source of sorrow and grief for those who have lost loved ones recently (or not so recently.) Come together with others for a morning of prayer to remember your loved ones and be consoled and strengthened by God and one another. Donation: \$25, lunch included.

**To register, call 609-877-0509.**



~Congratulations~  
2020 Super 50/50  
Winners!

**Top Prize (\$7,367.50)**  
# 48800 Carmela Bonfrisco  
Hainesport



**Consolation Prizes (\$736.75 each)**

# 49168 Vince Henry  
Medford

# 29517 P. Douglas

# 20201 Mr. & Mrs. Gerard P. Skalka  
Medford

# 03317 Ron Johnson  
Mt. Laurel

# 03812 Jeff Johnson  
Medford

# 25794 Jeff Heller  
Medford

# 27674 Diane Novelly  
Medford

# 18602 Polly Welch  
Medford

# 31721 Debbi Cancelliere  
Medford

# 15706 Shirley Kappa  
Marlton

**Advent Giving Tree**



Our tree will still be decorated with ornaments listing needed items. We added the list of items below and on both the parish [www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org) and school [www.smlschool.org](http://www.smlschool.org) websites for your safety and convenience.

All donations can be placed in the decorative box (*right*), which will be located next to the tree at the Jackson Road entrance.



**Please do not place  
any purchased item  
under the tree this year!**

Thank you for remembering those  
most in need in our community.

*"Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers,  
that you do unto me."*

*Questions contact [yes@smlparish.org](mailto:yes@smlparish.org)*

**REQUESTED ITEMS:** Toiletries: men's and women's deodorant; body wash (15 oz) shampoo (15 oz), chapstick, lip gloss; purse size hand sanitizer; Large diapers size 5, 6 and up or Pull Ups

*All donations will benefit the  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul*

**SVdP Advent  
Giving Trees**



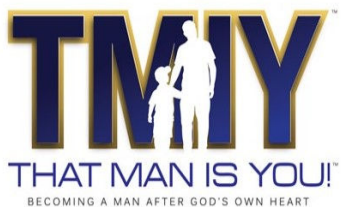
*"It is more blessed to give than to  
receive." (Acts 20:35)*

During Advent we are called to wait in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to bless our lives. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul invites you to make a tax-deductible donation to help children in need in our area celebrate God's love this Christmas.

The trees near the altar have envelopes with suggested donations from \$5 - \$50 based on the number of children in a family. Put your check in the envelope (made payable to *Society of St. Vincent de Paul*), seal it, and place it in the collection or in the gray box marked St. Vincent's. You also can drop off the envelope at the Caring Center on Jones Road or mail it to SVdP at PO Box 1131, Medford, NJ 08055 by **December 23**.

You also have the option of taking a decoration from the tree at the Jackson Road entrance and purchasing the item written on it. A list of needed item is also available at [www.smlparish.org](http://www.smlparish.org). Please place your *unwrapped* gift in the large brown box next to the tree by *this* Sunday, **December 13**. Thank you in advance for your generosity and God bless you for your continued support. Rest assured that St. Vincent's all-volunteer staff practices wise stewardship of donations.

**Mary wrapped the first  
Christmas gift.**



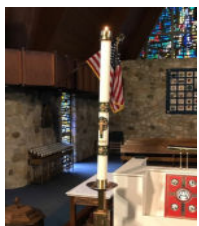
Men, come join us "virtually" via Zoom  
Choose from Wednesday evening *or* Friday  
morning *or* Saturday morning.

Click or copy and paste link to sign up or for  
more info: [www.stjoans.org/tmiy](http://www.stjoans.org/tmiy)

# Virtual Prayer Book

For a link to the St. Mary of the Lakes Virtual Prayer Book, please click on the link or copy and paste the link:

<https://smlparish.org/virtual-prayer-book>



## Light a Virtual Prayer Candle

We invite you to light a prayer candle for any intention.

The large Easter Candle is lit during Mass offered inside St. Mary of the Lakes Church to symbolize and commemorate all the virtual candles requested via the internet.

To Make Prayer Intention and Light Your Candle, please click on the link or copy and paste the link:

<https://smlparish.org/virtual-prayer-candle>

*You may include an offering with your Sunday gift*

## A Coronavirus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

May victims regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear. Stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Hear our prayer, O Divine Physician. Hear our prayer.

**Amen.**



## Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

**Amen.**

## St. Mary of the Lakes This Week

### Sunday, December 13

- RCIA / 8:30 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- YES Meeting / 4:00 p.m. / Tent
- AA Meeting / 7 p.m. / Parish Meeting Room

### Monday, December 14

- Men's Gospel Reflection Group / 5:45 a.m. / Virtual Meeting
- Bereavement Meeting / 10 a.m. / Conference Room
- Marriage Ministry Meeting / 7 p.m. / Webex
- Simbang Gabi / 7 p.m. / Church

### Tuesday, December 15

- Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph / 6:30 p.m. / Parish Meeting Room
- Glory to God Prayer Group / 7 p.m. / Emmaus Center

### Wednesday, December 16

- Legion of Mary / 9:30 a.m. / Emmaus Center

### Thursday, December 17

- Bible Study / 10 a.m. / Webex

### Friday, December 18

### Saturday, December 19

### Sunday, December 20

- RCIA / 8:30 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- AA Meeting / 7 p.m. / Parish Meeting Room

## PARISH OUTREACH TO THE TRENTON SOUP KITCHEN...

Many of you have called and emailed regarding our parish's annual Service trip to the Trenton Soup Kitchen. As you know the COVID-19 pandemic has placed many restrictions on organizations and has greatly impacted our ability to gather and physically be present to serve others. We want you to know that although we are not permitted to physically go as a parish to serve a Christmas meal on **December 19**, St. Mary of the Lakes will still be providing a hot meal that day to the needy in Trenton. We have sent a check which will cover the cost of several hundred catered boxed meals that will be distributed by the staff of Loaves and Fishes on our behalf. We will also be providing scarves and gloves for distribution that day.

We thank you for your continued generosity and support of this outreach and we pray for an end to coronavirus so that we can once again gather as a parish family to prepare and serve the meal to our brothers and sisters in Trenton.