



March 5, 2023



40 Jackson Road, Medford, New Jersey 08055

Parish Website: www.smlparish.org

Parish Email Address: frontdesk@smlparish.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 7:15 a.m. and

Monday - Saturday: 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

Very Reverend Daniel F. Swift, Pastor, father_dan@smlparish.org

Reverend Roy Ballacillo, Parochial Vicar, rballacillo@smlparish.org

Deacon Rich Lutomski

Susan B. Kraemer, Business Administrator

Christine Brandt, Pastoral Associate

Lenora Gange, Administrative Assistant

John Scott, Administrative/Marketing Assistant

Mary Thomas, Administrative Assistant

Maria Sobel, School Principal

Linda Xerri, Director of Religious Education

Lisa Helm, PREP Administrative Assistant

Frank Babinchock, Parish Youth Minister

Carolyn Cuperwich, Music Coordinator

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: www.smlparish.org

Email Address: Frontdesk@smlparish.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/smlparish

Twitter: www.twitter.com/smlparish

School Website: www.smlschool.org

Knights of Columbus: www.medfordknights.org

LOCATION, TELEPHONE NUMBERS, FAX (609 Area Code)

Parish Office 40 Jackson Road 654-8208

Parish Office Fax 975-0137

St. Mary of the Lakes School 196 Route 70 654-2546

St. Mary of the Lakes School Fax 654-8125

Parish Religious Education 196 Route 70 654-2546

Parish Youth Minister 40 Jackson Road 654-2546

Bulletin Editor 40 Jackson Road 654-8208

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. Click on Contact us/registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Confessions are heard on Saturdays after 9:00 a.m. Mass and at 4:30 p.m. You may also call the parish office to make an appointment for a different time.

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Session prior to their child's Baptism. Please call the parish office 609/654-8208, x110 as early as possible to make the necessary 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 off the Jackson Rd. Entrance is open 24/7.

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 Maureen Sokolowski, President. 609/953-0021.

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/smlparish
Follow us on Twitter @SmlParish

Get our parish phone app at the App Store or Google Play by
downloading myParish app
Please subscribe to SML Parish on YouTube

Second Sunday of Lent Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 4th

5:30 p.m. Robert Judge / Elsie Judge

Sunday, March 5th

7:30 a.m. **Military and Law Enforcement
Personnel and Families** / Peg and
Jerry Oyen

9:00 a.m. **Dorothy Racz** / Mary Beth Curcic and
Peter Dobush

10:30 a.m. **Michael Francis Falciani** /
Mary Beth Curcic and Peter Dobush

12:00 p.m. **Our Parishioners**

Monday, March 6th

7:15 a.m. **Purgatorial Society**

9:00 a.m. **Mary Farrell** / Martin and Christina Farrell
Mary Hainesworth / Brian and
Michelle McManus

Tuesday, March 7th

7:15 a.m. **Eilen Smith** / Guido Scrivanich

9:00 a.m. **Mary Custer** / Trudy Hajduk

Wednesday, March 8th

7:15 a.m. **Michael Sokolowski** / His Family

9:00 a.m. **LaVonne Camp** / Jim and Marian Incognito
Sam Trunzo / Irene and Joe Strempek

Thursday, March 9th

7:15 a.m. **Ted Nash** / His Friends

9:00 a.m. **Valerie Wall** / Mike and Natalie Maher
Dan Plas / Brian and Michelle McManus

Friday, March 10th

7:15 a.m. **Olga M. Cross** / St. Mary of the Lakes
Clergy, Staff, and Parishioners

9:00 a.m. **Domenico DiFilippo** / Kristen Smith

Saturday, March 11th

9:00 a.m. **Roseann Aristone** / St. Mary of the Lakes
Clergy, Staff, and Parishioners
Angela and Concetta / Grace

5:30 p.m. **Jim Kelly** / The Conklin Family

Sunday, March 12th

7:30 a.m. **Deceased Members of the Knights of
Columbus**

9:00 a.m. **Samuel Trunzo** / St. Mary of the Lakes
Clergy, Staff, and Parishioners

10:30 a.m. **Warren Murray** / Kay Murray and Family

12:00 p.m. **Our Parishioners**



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:

Andrea Orland, Mark McFadden, Bill DeVuono, Zak Reynolds, Elizabeth Lutomski, Crane Hertz, Mia Daly, Meghan D., Robert McCormick, Ryan Jastrzemski, Bill Anderson, Laura Palacio, Peggy Luciani, Jesse Verrecchia, Tommy Willis, Edward Mooney, Charles Baker, Joe Halloran, Niki Kruse, Joe White, Joseph Lambarski, Garrett Pitman, Laura Kucklinca, Tom Murray, Kevin Rynn, Emelia DiCarlo, Andrew Klamo, Georgie Pollis, Allison Turner, Anna Mae Wade, Diane Wolf, John V. Conte, Sally Bush, Linda Nowak, Joan Irwin, Michelle Sprenger, Eileen McFadden, Denise McFadden, Rose Piontkowski, Jimmy Gleason, Phillip Greunder, Kathleen Chwastek, Tim Denihan, Amanda Bader, Itai Rosen, Alexandra Peoples, Cynthia Lewandowski, Donna Skalski, Barbara Skalski, Kristin Oyola, Phil Gallagher, Shannon Adamucci, Michael Gill, Betty West, Elizabeth Hansen, John Cirenda, James Kehoe



1st LT Christian Aguilar, USA; Capt. Kyle Brandt, USAF; 1st 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; 2nd LT Waverly Hock, USAF; MAJ William Hock, USAF; 2nd LT Rachel Kelly, USAF; LT Commander Matthew Knepper, USN; Capt. Patrick Kneram, USA; SGT Brett Koerner, USMC; PVT Morgan Lawrence, USA; GM3 David Lewis, USN; MIDN Abigail Lutz, USNA; Christopher Macready, USMC; 2nd LT Doug MacDonald, USMC; 1st LT Michelle Mathews, USMC; MIDN 4/D Patrick McKernan, USA; PO3 Allston Megill, USN; Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Pinto; 1st LT Victor Prato, USA; CM Jonathan Ross, USN; ENS Nolan Smith, USN; TSGT Adrian Tomkus, USAF; LTJG Bruce Lemyre; Staff Sergeant Brady Guthrie; SPC Eric White, USA; PFC Aaron Bill, USMC

Come Join Us in Prayer

- **Rosary:** after all morning Masses - Monday through Saturday
- **Miraculous Medal Novena:** after 9:00 a.m. Mass on Monday (approximately 9:30 a.m.)
- **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena Prayer:** after 9:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesday and Saturday
- **Chaplet of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ:** after 9:00 a.m. Mass on Friday

Second Sunday of Lent



First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a | *The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.*

Responsorial

Psalm 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 | *Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.*

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:8b-10 | *God has saved us and called us to be holy.*

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9 | *Jesus' face shone like the sun.*

LENT

— 40 DAYS OF RENEWAL —

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let Your perpetual light shine
upon them.**

Please pray for the souls of Rita Fenerty,
Donna Pritchett, and Judith Vlastaris

**Congratulations
to all those who were baptized at
St. Mary of the Lakes
10 Years ago in March 2013**

Ava Erolino
Christina Garofalo
Ryan Plantier

Welcome to St. Mary of the Lakes:

Szymon and Nicole Zegar
Doug and Marti Casserly

The sanctuary lamp in the Adoration
Chapel is memorialized this week
by Ed and Judy.



**“Please pray for
the souls in
purgatory.”**

Stations of the Cross for Lent 2023

7:00 p.m. in the Church

March 10: Living Stations of the Cross with YES

March 17: Stations of the Cross with Deacon Rich

March 24: The Passion of the Blessed Mother

March 31: *No Stations due to Confirmation*

April 7 (Good Friday): Stations of the Cross

Sunday Offertory Collections (includes e-giving)

February	2023	2022
Weekend 1	\$33,762	\$37,989
Weekend 2	\$38,100	\$32,426
Weekend 3	\$32,246	\$31,451
Weekend 4	\$36,342	\$33,083
Monthly Total	\$140,450	\$134,949
Increase/(Decrease) from 2022*	\$5,501	

*Note: 2023 includes one-time gifts of \$300

Using the Sunday Envelope to Track Your Attendance

Our Blessed Lord is one who counted and tracked. How did He know that He was sending 72 disciples (Luke 10)? He counted and tracked them. How did the Good Shepherd know He was leaving 99 sheep behind to track down the one that was lost (Luke 15)? He counted and tracked them. We count because you count.

It is your responsibility to track your weekly attendance at Mass. This will be necessary if you are asked to be a Godparent or a Confirmation sponsor, as you will be required to present a certificate of eligibility (stating that you are a practicing Catholic who attends Mass weekly) at the church where the sacrament will be celebrated. Being a Godparent or Confirmation sponsor is an honor that is reserved for those who attend Mass weekly. An accurate record of your active participation can only be maintained either by using envelopes or if I see and remember that you are attending Mass on a regular basis (Code of Canon Law, Canon 874,3). Electronic givers are asked to check the box indicating same on the weekly envelope. With a weekend attendance of over 1,700 persons, it is not reasonable to expect that I will be able to remember your weekly attendance.

- Father Dan



CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official humanitarian relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through CRS Rice Bowl, faith communities in dioceses throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in more than 100 different countries each year, including continued work with Ukrainian refugees as well as now in Turkey and Syria. To learn more about CRS, go to: www.crsricebowl.org/

Twenty-five percent of donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in our own communities. Parishes are also invited to participate in the 25 percent initiative, which enables the parish to keep 25 percent of their collection to support parish social service ministries.

St. Mary of the Lakes will once again be participating in Operation Rice Bowl this Lent. "Rice Bowl" collection boxes will be available at the doors of the church throughout Lent. Once you fill your bowl, please place it in the collection bin at the parking lot entrance or return it to the parish office during regular business hours. *If you prefer to write a check, please make it payable to St. Mary of the Lakes Church. Please note that for St. Mary of the Lakes to benefit from the 25 percent initiative, you must either use the collection bowls provided or write a check payable to St. Mary of the Lakes, who will in turn send one check for all monies collected to the diocesan CRS fund.* If you have any questions, please contact Linda Xerri at lxerri@smllparish.org.

Second Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

The second collection this weekend is for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Your generosity enables St. Vincent's to help men, women, and children with food and financial assistance for housing, auto insurance, utilities, and other expenses.

If you donate through parishgiving.org, you can include "St. Vincent de Paul" in your list of contributions. Just go to the My Contributions section and select St. Vincent de Paul from the drop down menu.



Community Sunday Next Sunday

Thank you all that were able to attend our first Community Sunday for 2023.

We are looking forward to gathering together again next Sunday to share some fellowship and light refreshments. Our Health Ministry will be joining us again to offer free blood pressure screenings. We hope you will mark your calendars and join us after Mass.

Please stop in the Emmaus Center next Sunday, March 12th, after the 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. Masses to visit with your fellow parishioners and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with a doughnut or a Medford Bagel Shop delicious bagel. Fruit will also be available.

Bring a friend! We hope to see you there!

March Children's Mass

Next Sunday, March 12th, the Mass at 10:30 a.m. is a children's Mass. Children interested in signing up for a role may do so by using the link on the parish website homepage. All children are welcome.



The Catechism Corner

Forgive Us Our Trespasses

"With bold confidence, we began praying to our Father. In begging him that his name be hallowed, we were in fact asking him that we ourselves might be always made more holy. But though we are clothed with the baptismal garment, we do not cease to sin, to turn away from God. Now, in this new petition, we return to him like the prodigal son and, like the tax collector, recognize that we are sinners before him. Our petition begins with a 'confession' of our wretchedness and his mercy. Our hope is firm because, in his Son, 'we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.' We find the efficacious and undoubted sign of his forgiveness in the sacraments of his Church."

-Catechism of the Catholic Church – Paragraph #2839

ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2023 DIOCESE of TRENTON

The Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) is ongoing throughout the Diocese of Trenton. Each year, the Bishop seeks support of our parishes, our clergy, Catholic education and social services. Each of us has a vital part in all the work the diocese does in Christ's name, and each of us can share in that work with a gift to the ACA. The ACA gives us the opportunity to support the Church beyond our local parish.

Thank you to all those who have helped St. Mary of the Lakes toward our 2023 ACA goal of \$140,000. We have received \$50,990 in pledges and have achieved approximately 36 percent of our goal.

St. Mary of the Lakes will receive 15 percent of our goal and an additional 50 percent of all funds received over our goal as a rebate!

We thank you for making a gift to this year's ACA!

To make a gift, please fill out and mail the Appeal card found at all entrances of our Church or you may give online by visiting our parish website and clicking on the Catholic Appeal image.

Thank you for your generosity!

Lending Library

A popular Lenten practice is to "give up" your secular reading and replace those bedside novels with spiritual or Christian reading. Feel free to stop by the Lending Library for a wide range of reading to enhance your Lenten journey. Topics range from devotionals, to apologetics, to parenting, to marriage, to living out your faith in the workplace. There are so many books and CDs to edify, educate, and comfort.

Teens: check out our the dystopian series

I Am Margaret. If you liked *The Hunger Games*, this is along the same lines, but the protagonist is a Catholic in a world where that admission carries a gruesome death sentence.

Parents: if you spend a lot of time in the car with your tweens/teens, there are many great CD's with a variety of topics that explain the more complicated aspects of our faith. Turn your car ride into a captive audience!

The Lending Library is located on the Jackson Road entrance, adjacent to the Adoration Chapel.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Knights in Action

Tony Stone has been named Knight of the Month by Knights of Columbus Council 6520 for his “exceptional contributions to the Council and being one who exemplifies his faith through his action.” Tony once again performed in the La Famiglia and plays a vital role on the Knights’ Golf Committee.

Council 6520 also congratulates Howard and Joan Gilland for being named Family of the Month for spearheading the Knights’ community breakfast.

If you want to help those in need, serve your parish, and grow in your faith, then join the Knights of Columbus. Membership is open to men age 18 or older who accept the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspire to live in accord with the precepts of the Church, and are in good standing with the Church. For more information, contact Scott Lattimer at slattimer@aol.com or visit www.medfordknights.org. Vivat Jesus!



“Chip in for Charity” to Benefit the Homeless, Less Fortunate, Women in Crisis, and Children

Medford Knights Charity Fund, a New Jersey nonprofit corporation, is hosting its 16th annual charity golf tournament on Monday, June 26 at Medford Lakes Country Club. Net proceeds benefit Medford’s Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Family Promise of Burlington County, and 1st Way of Burlington County.

Tax-deductible sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and individuals to help these three organizations continue to provide critical services like food, shelter, clothing, financial assistance, and counseling to the needy in the area. Medford Knights Charity Fund invites local business owners and men and women golfers to “chip in for charity” to support these vital organizations that treat every man, woman, and child with respect, dignity, and kindness. Nonprofits face a threefold challenge: costs have increased, needs are up, and fundraising opportunities have been hampered.

Golf registration is \$195 per person (\$215 after April 28) and includes greens fee, golf cart, lunch, gifts for all participants, beverages and snacks on the course, cocktail hour with hors d’oeuvres, and dinner. The tournament is a scramble format for 144 golfers and begins with a shotgun start at 12:00 p.m. Dinner-only tickets are also available for \$65. Awards, gift baskets, and multiple raffles offer opportunities to win great prizes.

For questions about sponsorships or registering for golf, contact Bill Schmidt at billschmidt902@gmail.com.



Medford Knights Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, June 26th

Medford Lakes Country Club – Medford Lakes, NJ

All Net Proceeds benefit

St. Vincent de Paul Society, Family Promise of Burlington County & First Way of Burlington County

Please select your desired sponsorship level

☐ Event Sponsor: \$5,000.00

Includes recognition on prominent signage displayed in the clubhouse and on the golf course, special recognition before, during and after the event. Recognition on the K of C council website and recognition in the golf event booklet.

(4) Complimentary golfers, to include golf, lunch and dinner.

☐ Platinum Sponsors: \$3,500.00 & up

Includes recognition signage displayed in the banquet room and on the golf course, recognition on the K of C council website, and recognition in the golf event booklet. (3) Complimentary golfers, to include golf, lunch and dinner.

☐ Gold Sponsors: \$2,000.00 & up

Includes recognition signage displayed in the banquet room and on the golf course, recognition on the K of C council website, and recognition in the golf event booklet. (2) Complimentary golfers, to include golf, lunch and dinner.

☐ Silver Sponsors: \$1,000.00 & up

Includes recognition signage on the golf course, recognition on the K of C council website, and recognition in the golf event booklet. (1) Complimentary golfer, to include golf, lunch and dinner.

☐ Bronze Sponsors: \$500.00 & up

Includes recognition signage on the golf course, recognition on the K of C council website, and recognition in the golf event booklet. (1) Complimentary event dinner

☐ Booster: \$100.00 & up

Includes recognition in the golf event booklet.

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

<div>Company/Org Name</div> <div>Street Address</div> <div>CityStateZip</div>	<div>Contact Name</div> <div>() Phone</div> <div>Email</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Artwork included</div>
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Use tournament registration form (on back page) to list golfers.

Thank you for your support and God Bless You!

Make check payable to **Medford Knights Charity Fund**

Mail check and form to: Harry Meshirer 18 Indian Trail, Medford, NJ 08055

For questions regarding sponsorships please contact Bill Schmidt @ 609-667-5106 or billschmidt902@gmail.com

Email company logo/artwork to Joe McMullen @ McMullenJH@hotmail.com

DEADLINE IS MAY 28, 2023



St. Mary
of the Lakes
SCHOOL

JOIN OUR TEAM

Kitchen and Lunch Service Manager

St. Mary of the Lakes Catholic School in Medford seeks a part-time kitchen and lunch manager, beginning immediately. This includes finishing this school year through mid-June and leadership for next school year starting in late August/September. Our school kitchen and lunch service manager will organize, train, and lead a group of school volunteers in preparing and distributing meals by grade. This includes weekly and daily scheduling of the volunteers and providing team direction. The manager's key responsibilities include lunch preparation, distribution of prepared meals, heating up parent-supplied meals, and meal tracking for all students.

In addition, the kitchen and lunch service manager will be the point person weekly to provide lunch choices to school families and process the orders with our food service provider. This process includes gathering each student's specific orders, labeling the lunches per day by student, and ordering other supplies needed weekly, including milk, produce, and utensils.

Candidates with cafeteria and food service experience are preferred and must be able to work minimally from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. daily, Monday - Friday. In addition, on Mondays and Fridays, an additional 1-2 hours will likely be required to organize the weekly menu and order the meals for the week. A successful candidate will be subject to fingerprinting and background checks and will also have to attend Virtus training.

Qualified candidates should submit their letters of interest to Jim Sterbenz School Operations Coordinator, at jsterbenz@smlschool.org. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

Before and After Care

St. Mary of the Lakes School is seeking part-time staff to work at the before and after school programs. Responsibilities include supervising students as they play, complete crafts, have quiet time, etc. Candidates must be available in the morning from 6:45-8:00 a.m. for before care and during after school hours for aftercare. Interested applicants should send their letter of interest and resume to Jim Sterbenz, School Operations Coordinator, at jsterbenz@smlschool.org.

Maintenance Position

St. Mary of the Lakes Catholic School is seeking a part-time maintenance/custodial staff member. The work will include specific daily cleaning and sanitizing duties including bathrooms, classrooms, and offices. In addition, this position includes various jobs as they pertain to the maintenance of buildings and grounds, and set-up and breakdown of school functions.

Candidates must be able to work from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Over time hours may be required to complete tasks and assist with evening or weekend functions. This position reports to the facilities manager.

If interested, please submit letter, application and salary requirements to: Bill Scherf, Facilities Manager at wscherf@smlschool.org. Application can be found on the homepage at smlschool.org.

Please include SML#2546 on the email subject line for your application to be considered.

School Happenings and Events



St. Mary of the Lakes
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Think minted. for Spring



Easter Cards | First Communion Invitations | Confirmation Invitations
Birth Announcements | Baptism Invitations
Kids Birthday Invitations | Graduation Announcements And More

<https://www.minted.com>

Enjoy 20% off your cards and gifts order,
and 15% will be given to SMLS.

USE CODE: FUNDRAISESMLS

Questions? Please email PTA@smlschool.org

St. Mary of the Lakes School presents

Disney

NEWSIES JR.



TICKETS ON SALE NOW

FRI • MARCH 17TH 7:00PM

SAT • MARCH 18TH 2:00PM & 7:00PM

SUN • MARCH 19TH 2:00PM

For ticket information please visit
www.smlschool.org/theater
or Tickets sold at the door
Adults \$10 • Children \$5
You may also use our
QR code to purchase tickets!



SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH

6:00 p.m. TO 10:00 p.m. - SMLS AUDITORIUM



BUY TICKETS AT:

[https://buytickets.at/
stmaryofthelakes/854322](https://buytickets.at/stmaryofthelakes/854322)

or use the QR code below.



WEDDING FACILITATORS MINISTRY

Wedding facilitators are needed to assist the priest or deacon at wedding rehearsals and on wedding days.

A meeting to schedule facilitators for 2023 weddings will be held on Wednesday, March 15th, at 7:00 p.m. in the parish meeting room at St. Mary of the Lakes School
196 Route 70 E Medford, NJ

If you are over 19 years old and are interested in being a part of this ministry, plan to attend this meeting. Remember to bring your 2023 calendars with you. Any questions should be directed to Rosemarie Lyczak 609-654-0272 or email smlweddingfacilitator@gmail.com.

Marriage Retreat

The Marriage Ministry is happy to offer the opportunity for married couples to experience the wonder, mystery, and joy behind that first "I do," whether you said it last year or many years ago. You are invited to a one-day retreat on "The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage" on Saturday, March 18th, in the Emmaus Center, hosted by Sister Jacinta. The retreat will provide time for prayer, inspirational talks, discussion and sharing with your spouse, and a noon meal. Sign-in begins at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast, and the conference runs from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. There is no cost for the event, but a freewill donation would be helpful to cover costs. For more information or to register, please contact the parish office at frontdesk@smlparish.org or call 609-654-8208, ext. 110.

Y.E.S. Stations of the Cross

On March 10th, Y.E.S. will have a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Emmaus Center, followed by a reenactment of the Stations of the Cross performed by our students in Y.E.S, SMLS, and PREP in the church. Please contact Frank Babinchock at the parish office 609-654-8208 ext. 111 with any questions.

Collection for Operation Yellow Ribbon

Operation Yellow Ribbon collects items to assemble care packages that are shipped, and distributed to United States military personnel deployed throughout the world. Bins for donations to this cause are placed at the parking lot and Jackson Road entrances. All donations must be received before Sunday, April 2nd.

Sixth Visit to the Most Holy Sacrament

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. [Luke, xii. 34]-----Jesus Christ says, that where a person esteems his treasure to be, there also he keeps his affections. Therefore the Saints, who neither esteem nor love any other treasure than Jesus Christ, centre their hearts and all their love in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

My most amiable Jesus, hidden under the sacramental veils, Who for the love which Thou bearest me remainest night and day imprisoned in this tabernacle, draw, I beseech Thee, my whole heart to Thee, that I may think of none but Thee, that I may love and seek and hope for Thee alone. Do this by the merits of Thy Passion, through which I seek and hope for it.

Ah, my sacramental Lord and Divine Lover, how amiable and tender are the inventions of Thy love to gain the love of souls! O Eternal Word, Thou, in becoming Man, wast not satisfied with dying for us; Thou hast also given us this Sacrament as a companion, as food, and as a pledge of Heaven. Thou reducest Thyself so as to appear amongst us, at one time as an infant in a stable, at another as a poor man in a workshop, then as a criminal on a gibbet, and now as bread on an altar. Tell me, couldst Thou invent other means to win our love?

O infinite goodness, when shall I really begin to correspond with such refinements of love? Lord, I will only live to love Thee alone. And of what use is life to me, if I do not spend it wholly in loving and pleasing Thee, my beloved Redeemer, Who hast poured out Thy whole life for me? And what have I to love, if it is not Thee, Who art all beauty, all condescension, all goodness, all loving, all worthy of love? May my soul live only to love Thee; may the sole remembrance of Thy love dissolve my soul with love; may the very names of crib, and Cross, and Sacrament inflame it with the desire to do great things for Thee, O my Jesus, Who hast indeed done and suffered great things for me!

Ejaculatory prayer: Grant, my Lord, that before I die I may do something for Thee!

What To Do in an Emergency

Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are located by the boiler room door across from the sacristy at the parking lot entrance and by the bathrooms in the Jackson Road entrance (JRE).

A first aid kit is in a sacristy cabinet and a first aid kit and stop the bleed kits are in the cabinet in the JRE by the door that is open 24/7 for Adoration (gravel parking lot side). Both cabinets are marked. There is refrigerated water in the sacristy, as well as towels to make cold compresses.

EVERYONE in the congregation should understand the protocol in an emergency, not just the ushers. The protocol is:

1. Regardless of whether Father Roy or Father Dan is offering Mass, they must be notified by interrupting the Mass and yelling to either of them, "THERE IS AN EMERGENCY."
2. If Father Roy is offering the Mass, he will say into the microphone, "Father Dan, there is an emergency. If there is a doctor or nurse in the congregation, please help." 99 percent of the time, Father Dan is at his desk while Father Roy is offering the Mass. There is an intercom from the church to Father's office.
3. If Father Dan is offering the Mass, he will come off the altar to assess and give directions.
4. If Father Dan is in his office, he will respond within seconds, and determine to call 911. Father Dan will most probably make the phone call.
5. Up to four persons may be needed, and will be individually told to go outside and direct the responders at each corner of the church building which door to enter, which would be the door closest to the incident.
6. If the person needs CPR, Father Dan will announce, "Anyone who knows CPR, please help." He will also direct someone to "Get the AED." He will begin CPR either alone or with the help of another.
7. Father will also give directions to go into the sacristy for a first aid kit, cold-water, and cold-water compresses made with towels. There is flat Coca-Cola in the refrigerator in case the person has low blood sugar. There is also hard candy in the top left drawer by the window.
8. Once things calm down and we are waiting for responders, either priest will anoint the person.

If Father Dan is not at the parish, someone else will need to be calling these shots. Initial decisions can be made by anyone (calling 911, directing specific parishioners to go outside and wait for responders, beginning CPR, etc.) If a doctor or nurse identifies themselves, they should make decisions. If Father Dan is present, he will follow the advice of the doctor or nurse.

In the event of a bad actor in the church, there are three options:

1. **RUN:** Run to the nearest exit away from the bad actor. Once outside, do not run to the back of the parking lot or the rectory as there are fences. A better option is to run into the neighborhood to the left of the gravel parking lot, or to Jackson Road when you see responders, do what they tell you.
2. **HIDE:** This is a limited option, as everything (confessional doors, storage room doors, and sacristy doors) is locked. Hiding under a pew will provide very limited protection.
3. **FIGHT:** If you choose this option, nothing is sacred, and everything (candle sticks, processional cross, prayer candles in candle stands, fire extinguisher, missals, etc.) can be used to stop the bad actor.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING! Father Dan has no hesitation confronting anyone who is acting suspiciously. Recently, a young man with long hair and a backpack was seen going up into the choir loft before Mass. Father Dan was notified. He went up to the choir loft, and as it turned out, he was the cantor for the Mass. He has long hair, carries a backpack, and sings with the voice of an angel. But Father Dan was grateful someone saw something and said something.

Lastly, the stained glass at the entrances is being replaced with clear glass, as this was identified as problematic when the church was assessed for safety in the event there is a bad actor.

Our emergency response protocols have been shared with the Medford Township Police Department.

With this plan in place, we will be prepared in the event of an emergency. However, please pray we will not need to use it.

Small Group Opportunities for Lent

The Search

The Search is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

Whether you are a practiced inquirer or a jaded skeptic, The Search will speak to you. You may be reassured by some parts, and challenged by others. Either way, you'll find a lot here to think about. And when all is said and done, life's questions demand to be answered.

Meetings are on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in either the Emmaus Center or the Parish Meeting Room at the school. The next meeting, March 9th, will be in the Emmaus Center .

Living the Eucharist – Year A

Living the Eucharist is designed to help participants experience the Mass in a more meaningful way – by getting to know, understand, and love the Sacrament of the Eucharist more deeply.

Meetings are on Friday mornings 9:30 a.m. in the Emmaus Center. Underway now.

If you are interested in participating in either The Search or Living the Eucharist, please contact Christine Brandt at cbrandt@smlparish.org or 609-654-8208 ext. 113.

Intergenerational Study: The Theology of the Eucharist

Father Roy is currently offering a six-week intergenerational study on the Theology of the Eucharist continuing on Thursdays, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 and 4/20 from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Meeting Room in St. Mary of the Lakes School.



Glory to God

The Glory to God Prayer Group meets every Tuesday from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Emmaus Center.

Contact Marianne Perkins at 609-760-9221 or marnperk@gmail.com with any questions.

Two Lenten Self-Studies

Return: Lent with Fr. John Burns

Fr. John Burns invites you on a pilgrimage this Lent using Return. Fr. John will guide you through the most difficult season of the Church, yet also the most transformative. Are you ready to enter the desert and experience the richness of the Paschal Mystery?



Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT

Take a healing journey with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, as she helps you turn away from what wounds you and toward God who heals you and makes you whole. Each week, Sr. Miriam will lead you to meet the tenderness of God's mercy, the power of his love, and the restoration of your heart and life as you practice prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and sacrifice.



Each week, links to the new weekly episodes will be posted on SML's website, smlparish.org. You can also access them on FORMED, a free Catholic on-demand service provided by the parish. You can set one up at FORMED.org. Click on "Sign up as a parishioner." In the box under "Find your Parish or Organization", enter "St. Mary of the Lakes, Medford"; choose our parish at 40 Jackson Road. Click "Next". Enter your name and e-mail address, then click "Sign Up." FORMED will send you an e-mail with a link to log in. Once you log in, you should not have to log in again.



Lenten Intergenerational Scripture Study: The Passion of Luke Continued

Father Dan is currently offering a hybrid five-week Lenten Intergenerational Scripture Study on the Passion of Luke from the Trial to the Ascension continuing on Mondays, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20 and 3/27 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Emmaus Center and virtually.

Those attending virtually may use the link located on the parish website homepage. Please bring a Bible. Bibles will be on sale at the class for \$5.00.

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 light your candle, please go to the www.smlparish.org homepage. *You may include an offering with your Sunday gift.*



The Legion of Mary meets every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Emmaus Center.

If you are interested in joining, please call Teresa McHenry at 609-388-4528 and leave a voicemail.

Bulletin Announcement Submissions

Please submit bulletin announcements at least ten days prior to publication to: bulletin@smlparish.org



A Pilgrimage to Italy October 9 - 19

Spiritual Directors:
Father Dan Swift
Father Dan Kirk

The
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JOURNEY**
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the-catholic-journey.com/1023swift

St. Mary of the Lakes This Week

Sunday, March 5th

- Children's Church / 10:20 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- AA Meeting / 7:00 p.m. / Parish Meeting Room

Monday, March 6th

- Men's Gospel Group / 7:45 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- Children's Choir / 5:30 p.m. / Church Choir Loft
- YES / PREP Stations of the Cross Rehearsal / 6:30 p.m. / Church
- Knights of Columbus Officers Meeting / 6:30 p.m. / Parish Office Conference Room
- Fr. Dan's Intergenerational Study / 7:00 p.m. / Emmaus Center

Tuesday, March 7th

- "Glory to God" Prayer Group / 7:30 p.m. / Emmaus Center

Wednesday, March 8th

- Legion of Mary / 9:30 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- Faith Seekers Book Club / 10:00 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- Adult Choir Rehearsal / 8:00 p.m. / Church Choir Loft

Thursday, March 9th

- Thursday Prayer and Bible Study / 9:45 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- Fr. Roy Intergenerational Study / 4:30 p.m. / Parish Meeting Room
- The Search / 7:00 p.m. / Emmaus Center

Friday, March 10th

- Living the Eucharist / 9:30 a.m. / Emmaus Center
- YES Lenten Pot Luck Dinner / 5:30 p.m. / Emmaus Center and Church
- Stations of the Cross Reenacted by YES / 7:00 p.m. / Church

Saturday, March 11th

Sunday, March 12th

- Children's Mass / 10:30 a.m. / Church
- Baptisms / 1:30 p.m. / Church
- YES Meeting / 6:30 p.m. / Emmaus Center
- AA Meeting / 7:00 p.m. / Parish Meeting Room

Fr. Dan's Homilies on Video

Fr. Dan's homilies are posted weekly on YouTube as well as the parish website. Please visit the St. Mary of the Lakes parish YouTube site or click www.smlparish.org and click on the ABOUT tab on the home page, click PASTOR, and then scroll down to *Fr. Dan's Video Homilies*.