

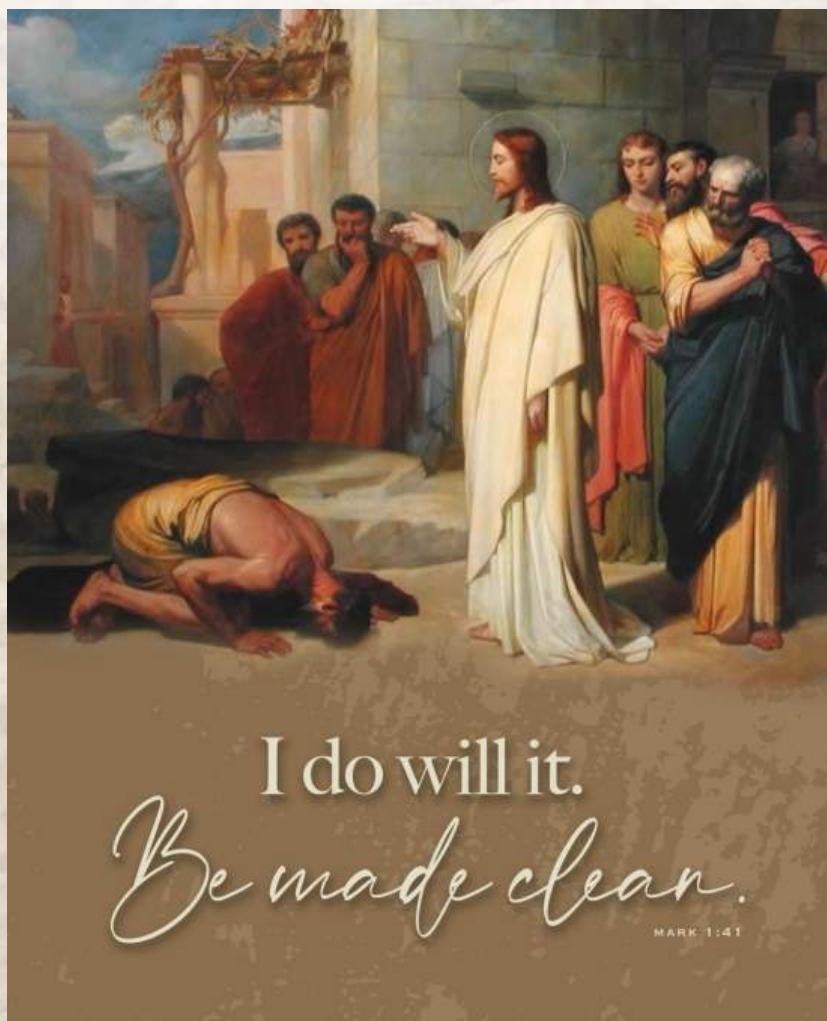


St. Mary of the Lakes

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

We Make Missionary Disciples

Parish Office 40 Jackson Road, Medford, New Jersey 08055
(609) 654-8208 frontdesk@smlparish.org smlparish.org
School 196 Route 70, Medford, New Jersey 08055
(609) 654-2546 mainoffice@smlschool.org smlschool.org



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, February 11, 2024

Very Reverend Daniel F. Swift, **Pastor**
Reverend Kevin Hrycenko, **Parochial Vicar**
Deacon Richard Lutomski Deacon Louis (Ed) Mayer
Maria Sobel **School Principal**

Mass Times (Ash Wednesday on page 2):

Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sun. 7:30 a.m.,

9:00 a.m. (livestreamed), 10:30 a.m., and 12:00 p.m.

Mon.-Fri. 7:15 a.m. Mon.-Sat. 9:00 a.m. (livestreamed)

Parish Office Hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Adoration Chapel 24/7

DIRECTORY, SACRAMENTS AND TIMES

WORSHIP

Regular Mass Schedule: Located on cover

Ash Wednesday (2/14) Masses: 7:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
4:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Rosary: Monday – Saturday (after morning Mass)

Miraculous Medal Novena: Monday after 9:00 a.m. Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena:

Tuesday and Saturday after 9:00 a.m. Mass

Chaplet of the Most Precious Blood of our

Lord Jesus Christ: Friday after 9:00 a.m. Mass

CLERGY AND STAFF

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

Reverend Kevin Hrycenko, Parochial Vicar,
khrycenko@smlparish.org

Deacon Richard Lutomski

Deacon Louis (Ed) Mayer

Christine Brandt, Pastoral Associate

Susan B. Kraemer, Business Administrator

Lenora Gange, Administrative Assistant

Laura Dicus, Administrative Assistant

Stanley Thompson III, Marketing/Admin. Assistant

Frank Babinchock, Parish Youth Minister

Carolyn Cuperwich, Music Coordinator

Harry Meshirer, Parish Bookkeeper

Maria Sobel, School Principal

Todd Nolan, Parish Catechetical Leader

Lisa Helm, PREP Administrative Assistant

Pat Kiernan and Kevin Loughlin, Parish Trustees

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

ST. MARY OF THE LAKES ONLINE

Website: www.smlparish.org

School Website: www.smlschool.org

Email: frontdesk@smlparish.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/smlparish

Instagram: www.instagram.com/smlparish

Knights of Columbus: www.medfordknights.org

LOCATION AND NUMBERS (609)

Parish Office: 40 Jackson Road 654-8208 x110

SML School: 196 Route 70 654-2546 x210

Pastoral Associate: 40 Jackson Road 654-2546 x113

Parish P.R.E.P.: 96 Route 70 654-2546 x310

Parish Youth Minister: 40 Jackson Road 654-2546 x111

Marketing/Bulletin: 40 Jackson Road 654-8208 x131

Music Coordinator: 40 Jackson Road 654-8208 x119

St. Vincent de Paul: 1 Jones Road 953-0021

K. of Columbus: Recruitment 458-0704

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 by the church exits, the parish office and on our website:

smlparish.org/registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Confessions are heard on Saturdays after the 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 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 one year in advance.

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Pray with the Real Presence of the Eucharist. The Adoration Chapel off the Jackson Road entrance is open 24/7.

MINISTERIAL VISITS Sacraments are available to anyone confined to their 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 Marie Cox, president: (609) 953-0021

PRAYER INTENTIONS



Long-term prayer requests will not be published individually, but will be prayed for at each Mass, as will the following:

Andrea Orland, Mark McFadden, Bill DeVuono, Jim Burke, Zak Reynolds, Elizabeth Lutomski, Mia Daly, Meghan D., Robert McCormick, Ryan Jastrzemski, Bill Anderson, Laura Palacio, Peggy Luciani, Jesse Verrecchia, Tommy Willis, Joe Halloran, Phil Gallagher, Niki Kruse, Charles Baker Family, Joe White, Joseph Lambariski, Garrett and Marie Pitman, Kevin Rynn, Emelia DiCarlo, Andrew Klamo, Georgie Pollis, Allison Turner, Anna Mae Wade, Diane Wolf, John V. Conte, Sally Bush, Linda Nowak, Andrew Boyle, Joan Irwin, michelle Sprenger, Eileen McFadden, Michael Gill, Itai Rosen, Denise McFadden, Betty West, Phillip Greunder, Kathleen Chwastek, Tim Denihan, Amanda Bader, Cynthia Lewandowski, Donna Skalski, Barbara Skalski, Kristin Oyola, Shannon Adamucci, John Cirenda, Melissa, Kathie Belonger, Bernadette Giambuzzi, Marilyn Peoples, Bob Kehoe, April McFadden, Joan Block, John Lock, Joel Martin, Judy and Jack Martin, Jane Andrews, Laurence Peterson, Tom King, Judy and Jack Martin, Hayley Worrell, Mary Manning Beckett, James J. Becket IV, and Jessie Gillian.



Capt. 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; CPL Aaron Bill, USMC; 2nd LT Alexander Feighery, USA; 1st LT Grace Winton, USA.

Saturday, February 10

9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Hansen/The Nagy Family
Michael Vincent Iezzi/Sandra Straccione
5:30 p.m. Kathleen Averill/Her Granddaughter
Kay Mazzagatti
Breda Fitzgerald/Ann Walsh

Sunday, February 11

7:30 a.m. Deceased Members of KoC 6520
9:00 a.m. John Scotto/Ralphie Jr. and Annie
Betty Weikel/Karen and Bill Harland
10:30 a.m. John Scotto/Lisa
Violetta Fifis/Herzer Family
12:00 p.m. Our Parishioners

Monday, February 12

7:15 a.m. Ellen Ziegler/Susan Jankowski
Gordon Allen Lake II/Karla Lake
9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Hansen/David Fritsche
Jacquelyn Buchanan/Jack Pensabene

Tuesday, February 13

7:15 a.m. Madeleine Mazza/The Vasturia Family
Ruth Carroll/SML Clergy, Staff and
Parishioners
9:00 a.m. Joan Claire Bennis/Jim and
Barbara Wilhelmi
Ellie Rivello/Phyllis Robino

Wednesday, February 14

7:15 a.m. Joseph W. Sokolowski/His Family
9:00 a.m. Lillian DiStasi/The DiStasi Family
Anna Mae Wade/Barbara Catrambone
Sr. Justina Miller, OSF./
Susan Kramer, Kurt and Tim Watkins
7:00 p.m. Joseph Giambone/Debbie Cancelliere

Thursday, February 15

7:15 a.m. Constance Svensen/Jim and Tracy Giordano
Margaret A. Eckley (Peggy)/Francis
and Ann Babinchosk
9:00 a.m. Ted Nash/Jan Nash
Louis Fantacone/Jean Andriulli

Friday, February 16

7:15 a.m. Brien Karlson/The Vasturia Family
9:00 a.m. Dorothy Denniston/The Jennison Family
Margaret Carter/Mr. and Mrs. Carullo

Saturday, February 17

9:00 a.m. Kenneth Scupp/His Family
Eleanore O'Brien/Her Family
5:30 p.m. Betty Pitrone/The Campanaro Family
Joseph Dawson/Maryann and Steve Mason

Sunday, February 18

7:30 a.m. Andrew V. Zarcone/John and
Rita Wisniewski
9:00 a.m. Our Parishioners
Anna Mae Wade/Joseph Catrambone
10:30 a.m. John Scotto/Dominic Jr. and Marie
12:00 p.m. Steven Coluzzi/The Powell Family

CALENDAR AND GIVING

Saturday, February 10

- Baptism Prep Class/10:00 a.m./Emmaus Center
- Chair Fitness Class/2:00 p.m./Emmaus Center/
Details on page 6
- Confirmation Bake Sale/Before and after
5:00 p.m. Mass/Church/Details on page 11

Sunday, February 11

- Confirmation Bake Sale/Before and after all Masses/
Church/Details on page 11
- R.C.I.A./8:30 a.m./Emmaus Center
- Children's Mass/10:30 a.m. Mass/Church
- Matthew 5:11/6:30 p.m./Emmaus Center/
Details on page 7

Monday, February 12

- That Man Is You/6:00 a.m./Emmaus Center/
Details on page 12

Tuesday, February 13

- Bereavement Group/10:00 a.m./Conference Room/
Details on page 6
- Prayer Shawl Meeting/10:30 a.m./Emmaus Center
- SSJ Associates Meeting/7:00 p.m./Conference Room
- "Glory to God" Prayer Group/7:30 p.m./
Emmaus Center/Details on page 7

Wednesday, February 14

- Special Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday/
Details on page 8
- Legion of Mary/9:30 a.m./Emmaus Center
Bocci Room/Details on page 7
- Faith Seekers Book Club/10:00 a.m./
Emmaus Center Blackboard

Thursday, February 15

- Thursday Prayer and Bible Study/10:00 a.m./
Emmaus Center
- Apostolic Fathers Class with Fr. Kevin/5:30 p.m./
Parish Meeting Room (in School)/Details on page 9

Friday, February 16

- Living the Eucharist - Year B with Sister Judy/
9:30 a.m./Emmaus Center/Details on page 9
- Stations of the Cross/7:00 p.m./Church/
Details on page 9

Saturday, February 17

- KoC Blood Drive/9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m./
Emmaus Center/Details on page 12

Sunday, February 18

- Community Sunday/After 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and
10:30 a.m. Mass/Emmaus Center/Details on page 6
- Y.E.S. Meeting/5:00 p.m./Emmaus Center/
Details on page 7

New Parishioners

Saint Mary of the Lakes welcomes

Michael and Joann Monte

The King Family

Stephen, Allison, Liam, Stevie, and Beau

The McCoy Family

Dan, Pia, Shannon, and Cara

to our parish family!

CRS Rice Bowl Collection



For the season of Lent, Catholic Relief Services "Rice Bowls" can be found at all Church entrances beginning Ash Wednesday. This little cardboard box, filled with your donation, provides food to those in need. 25% helps fight against hunger and poverty on a local level, and 75% supports CRS work around the world. Rice Bowls can be returned in the same spot during Holy Week. Details and personal stories on the cause can be found at crsricebowl.org.

Livestreamers Wanted

We have a great small team, but we need more streamers for weekend and daily Mass. Are you intimidated by tech? Don't have the knowledge because they didn't teach you this in college? Rest assured, our setup is not complicated! Contact Stanley Thompson at sthompson@smlparish.org to help transmit Mass to those who want to see our parish, but truly cannot make it!

From Palms to Ashes

If you still have palms from last year, you may place them in the baskets at any church entrance.

Palms will be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please remove any packaging including rubber bands.



Parish Giving



We constantly rely on your generosity. Please take a moment to make a prayerful recurring online gift. Once set up, you don't have to worry about forgetting your donation!

TinyUrl.com/PGivingSML

Restoration

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged Him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." Mark 1:40–41

In Leviticus 14, God gave Moses a purification rite to be used for those who were cured of leprosy. This detailed rite that spanned several days was used to reintegrate a healed leper back into society. After Jesus healed the leper in today's Gospel passage, He ordered him to "go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." Thus, Jesus not only healed the man but instructed him that he was ready to be restored to the community.

At that time, leprosy was a horrible disease, not only for its physical effects, but also because the leper was not permitted to be a part of the society. This was because leprosy was quite contagious. By keeping those infected separate, the disease did not spread as easily to others.

As we ponder this healing, try to imagine not only the pain caused by the leper's disease, but especially the pain caused by his isolation. Obviously, there were no phones at that time, no video chatting, and no means of communication from a distance. Therefore, isolation would have meant a complete loss of the person's relationship with his family and friends, as well as his former livelihood, home and all that was a part of his life.

On a spiritual level, the various illnesses that Jesus cured are, in part, to be seen as symbols of sin. In the case of leprosy, we should see this illness as a symbol of the effects of mortal sin. Mortal sin, unless it is cured by God's forgiveness, has the effect of completely isolating a person from the life of grace. One becomes cut off from a relationship with God, as well as every other relationship that is centered in Christ. When one commits mortal sin and remains in that sin, that person is not capable of true love, since all grace is gone from their life. Therefore, their relationships become self-centered, demanding and unholy.

For those who have fallen into mortal sin, this leper is a symbol of the way out. First, he came to Jesus and knelt down before Him. He humbled himself before our Lord, acknowledging that Jesus was the

answer to his ailment. He then begged Jesus for help. The way he begged Jesus is also revealing: he did not demand a healing, but instead simply professed his faith in the fact that Jesus could heal him. He then knelt there in trust and hope. This leper teaches us the perfect way to approach our Lord when we struggle with serious sin.

Reflect, today, upon this leper. Try to understand his isolation and loss. Try to understand his humility and faith, and seek to imitate the way that he comes to our Lord. Do not be afraid to humble yourself before God as you acknowledge the sins and other needs you have. Profess your faith in His almighty power and love, and place yourself into His hands of merciful love. He will not let you down.

Most merciful Lord, You desire all of Your children to be healed of the many sins that keep them from communion with You and with Your people. Please give me the faith and trust I need to always be able to humble myself before You so as to receive the restoration to Your grace I so desire. Jesus, I trust in You.

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Fasting versus Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting AND abstinence for Catholics. In addition, every Friday during Lent are obligatory days of JUST abstinence.

For members of the Latin (Roman) Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59.

What is fasting?

A person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

How is abstinence different from fasting?

The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "Paschal Fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and readily celebrate His Resurrection.

More info found in a special section on page 9

COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING

Chair Fitness Class for Seniors 55+

The next Chair Fitness Class will take place on **Saturday, March 2nd from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** in the Emmaus Center. The Parish Health Ministry is offering this complimentary fitness class exclusively to seniors ages 55+.

If you are interested in attending the class, please fill out the sign up sheet at the Church parking lot entrance, or confirm via call/text: (609) 222-4501.



Friendly in February

Wearing a nametag provides a great opportunity to put names to familiar faces. Perhaps you've seen somebody for years, but at this point are too embarrassed to ask for a name. Grab a name tag by any entrance, write your name, and look for others with a tag. Who knows? Maybe the person you've seen for so long wants to know your name too!



The Ministry of Consolation offers Bereavement Support

The parish Ministry of Consolation has started the bereavement support group for those who have experienced a loss. The support group covers a broad range of grief concerns focusing on the journey from grief to healing. Sessions have started and are held once a week for from **now** until March 19th in the Parish Office Conference Room. You may join even if you have missed a week. All meetings will be conducted in the strictest confidence. If you or a loved one can benefit, consider contacting the parish office at (609) 654-8208 x110.

Community Sunday

Community Sunday, Health and Marriage Ministries invite you to stop by the Emmaus Center next **Sunday the 18th** after the 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., or 10:30 a.m. Mass to visit with your fellow parishioners and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with a donut or a Medford Bagel Shop delicious bagel. We will also be serving **wedding cake** to celebrate World Marriage Day! There will be an opportunity to have your blood pressure checked at the same time and place. We hope to see you there!

February Health Tips: Mental Health *from your Parish Health Ministry*

Saint Valentine's Day may bring up emotions that are good or bad. Here are tips to make the most of it:

- **Contact family and friends:** Schedule meaningful conversations in person, or over the phone.
- **Get physical:** If negative emotions surface, going for a walk or run can help clear your mind, and get endorphins mentioned in last week's blurb going.
- **Mindfully Consume Media:** One may be tempted to compare your relationships with what is seen online. It may not be a very accurate depiction.
- **Practice gratitude:** Take time to be thankful for what and who you have in your life.
- **Practice self-care:** Make sure you set aside some time, day or night, just for yourself.

Ministry of Consolation Needs Help

The ministry needs new Consolation Ministers and Adult Altar Servers. There is a set schedule where members are on duty for a week at a time. Consolation Ministers meet with a family who are grieving and help make decisions regarding the details of a funeral Mass. Adult Altar Servers/Sacristans in our Ministry set up the church for a funeral and assist the priest during the funeral Mass. If you are already a Sacristan, you know half the job! Interested parties should be available at any time during the week or weekend. This is rewarding work with members of our congregation who are going through a very difficult time. If you are interested, please e-mail Sue Roggio at: chairfxr@aol.com, or call the office.



MINISTRY NEWS



Upcoming Events

If you or someone you know in 7th through 12th grade loves service with a purpose, or just wants to meet new friends from our church, consider Y.E.S.

Soonest event: Sun, Feb 18th @ 5 p.m. Emmaus Center

Next Event: Sun, Mar 4th @ 5 p.m. Emmaus Center

Sound like fun to you? Contact Parish Youth Minister Frank Babinchock to join in! Contact info on page 2

Choir

The Youth Choir is back in session! Listen for us every other week at the noon Mass! If you or your child is interested in Youth Choir (grades 5-12), Children's Choir (grades 2-4), or Adult Choir, contact our music ministry! Contact information is on page 2.



Matthew 5 to 11

"Jesus Began to Teach Them...and Learn from Me."
Matthew 5:1 ...11:29

This 16 week series will prepare H.S. students for Confirmation, and provide adults with a deeper understanding of Our Catholic Faith. Classes are from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. in the Emmaus Center.

2/11: Holy Spirit, Paul, Early Church, Apostolic Succession; Todd Nolan

3/3: Introduction to the Sacraments; Todd Nolan

3/10: Baptism, Confirmation; Tom McDonald

Glory to God



You CAN be Catholic AND Charismatic! We begin our meeting with the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. We sing (to live music) and pray out loud (not required). We allow for the Holy Spirit to speak to our hearts. We have a teaching and share how God is working in our lives.

There's no age limit, all are welcome.

Come and test the waters. This prayer group meets every **Tuesday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** in the Emmaus Center. Questions? Contact Marianne Perkins at (609) 760-9221 or marnperk@gmail.com.

Legion of Mary Bulletin Corner

Featured Saint of the Month

St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows - Feast Day 2/27- Patron of Clerics

Born in 1838, Gabriel was a native to the city of Assisi. He attended the Jesuit college of Spoleto. However, he decided to leave after being miraculously cured of two bouts of illnesses. He was guided by Our Lady into the Passionist Institute and became a veritable Apostle of her Sorrows. At 24, he died of tuberculosis. He was canonized by Pope Benedict XV in 1920.



Traveling Pilgrim Virgin

If you desire to increase your spiritual life, our Blessed Mother is waiting for you at our Legion of Mary prayer group. We meet **every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.** in the Emmaus Center, all are welcome. The Traveling Pilgrim Virgin Statue of "Our Lady of Fatima" is a source of many blessings. Parishioners are encouraged to welcome the Blessed Mother into their homes for a week of praying the Rosary for peace and vocations. Conveniently, you may also opt to pick up from the Emmaus Center. Please leave a voicemail to Teresa McHenry at (609) 388-4528.



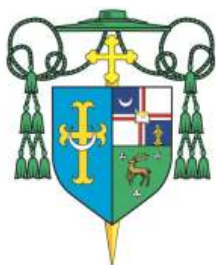
Rosary

Please join the Legion of Mary on **Tuesday, March 19th from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** in the Emmaus Center to pray the Rosary.



LENT AT SML

A Letter From the Bishop



MINISTRARE NON MINISTRARI

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,
During the days and weeks of penance that lie ahead, from **Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024, until Holy Thursday morning, March 28, 2024**, the Catholic Church throughout the world commemorates the penitential season of Lent ending with the Sacred Triduum of Holy Week. The model Jesus gave us for “these forty days” was his own experience in the desert and the temptations that followed him there where he encountered Satan face to face. And yet, Jesus, there in the desert, alone, fasting and in intense prayer, beat back the devil and triumphed over temptation, as strong and as unrelenting as it was throughout those forty days.

We enter the desert of Lent like Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, to face our devils, our temptations head on. But we are not alone. The Lord Jesus Christ is with us. And so, too, is the Church, the entire community of faith observing Lent. Here is what the Catholic Church in the United States requires of us as baptized Catholics:

The days of FAST (only one full meal) and ABSTINENCE (no meat) are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No dispensations are granted on these solemn days except for reason of sickness or those provided in canon law below. ALL OTHER FRIDAYS OF LENT are days of ABSTINENCE.

The pastor of a parish has the faculty to give a dispensation to individual parishioners in his parish and the Diocesan Bishop alone has the authority to dispense groups of Catholics but only for a serious reason.

Those who are automatically dispensed from fast and abstinence regulations outside the age limits noted below include: the physically or mentally ill, especially individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also included in the dispensation are women who are pregnant or nursing. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to FAST (only one full meal) as noted above. From the age of 14, people are also obliged to ABSTAIN: this obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.

The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence is a serious one for Catholics. Failure to observe one penitential day in itself is not considered a serious sin. It is the intentional failure to observe any penitential days

at all, or a substantial number of penitential days, that must be considered a serious matter.

The obligation, the privilege really, of receiving the Eucharist at least once a year, often called “Easter duty”, for those in the state of grace should still be fulfilled during the period from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 17-18, 2024, to Trinity Sunday, May 25-26, 2024**. However, the Church’s law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at another time during the year when there is a just cause.

I want to encourage all Catholics, especially those who are conscious of serious sin, to go to Confession and to make use of the sacrifices and traditions that have always been part of our Lenten practices in the Church.

We do, indeed, fast and pray with the Lord Jesus and with our fellow Catholics. May this Lent be a time of Penance leading to grace and joy for us all at Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David M. O’Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton

The Stations of the Cross

at Saint Mary of the Lakes

Walk the path of our Savior’s Passion this Lent.
Fridays at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.

2/16	Stations and Benediction w/ Fr. Kevin and Deacon Ed
2/23	Stations and Benediction w/ Choir and Fr. Kevin
3/1	Stations w/ Knights of Columbus Soup at 6pm in Emmaus, then dessert after stations.
3/8	Stations w/ Y.E.S. Ministry Reenactment Meatless potluck dinner starting at 5pm in Emmaus See smlparish.org to sign up.
3/15	Stations w/ Deacon Ed
3/22	Stations w/ the Legion of Mary
3/29	Stations w/ Father Dan

LENT AT SML

Lenten Mission offered by Rev. Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap.

Monday, February 26th to Thursday, February 29th
7:00 p.m. in the church.

Abridged version after the 9:00 a.m. daily Mass.

Born in Philadelphia, Fr. Simeon is a member of the Mid-America Province of the Capuchin Order. Ordained priest in 1971, he has served the Church in many capacities such as pastor, military chaplain, clergy retreat master, and ecumenical speaker.

The mission's theme is "The Freedom to Believe: Becoming an Adult Catholic". Each day covers a different topic: "Stories of Escape from Self" Luke 7:36-50, "Escape from False Values and Religious Adolescence" Luke 14:28-33, "Quest Stories: Humanity as Grace" John 3:1-10, and "Love Stories: The Freedom Only Christ Can Give" John 4:4-42.

The talks are geared to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. This is a great opportunity to invite those who have left the Church as well as your non-Catholic spiritual friends. Bring family, friends and neighbors to join you as we prepare for the Lord's Resurrection!



Living the Eucharist—Year B

We are offering Living the Eucharist small group again this year! This is designed to help experience the Mass in a more meaningful way – by getting to know, understand, and deeply love the Eucharist.

The meetings will be Friday mornings beginning **February 16th at 9:30 a.m.** in the Emmaus Center. If you are interested in registering for Living the Eucharist, and have not already registered with Sr. Judy, contact Christine Brandt at cbrandt@smlparish.org or 609-654-8208 ext. 113.

Penance and Reflection

- **Regional Penance Service** (in addition to our regular schedule found on page 2 under "Sacrament of Reconciliation"): **3/26 at 7:00 p.m.**; Church
- **"Little Black Book"** daily reflections: Starting this weekend; Available at the Church exits

The Passion of Luke Concluded

Mondays, 2/19, 3/4, 11 and 18, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

In the Emmaus Center and virtually.

Father Dan will be offering hybrid a four-week Lenten Intergenerational Scripture Study to conclude the Passion of Luke. This study will include the Burial, Resurrection, Road to Emmaus, Resurrection Appearances, and Ascension.

Those planning to attend in person are asked to sign the roster in the Parking Lot Entrance, email father_dan@smlparish.org or call the Parish Office.

Those attending virtually may use this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/34zs8pzf>

Please bring your own Bible. Bibles will be also be available at the class for \$5.00.



The Church Fathers

Father Kevin will be offering a class on the Church Fathers this Lent on **Thursday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** from **February 15th to March 14th** in the Parish Meeting Room behind SMLS. The class will be recorded for those who can't make it.



KID'S CORNER

Children's Church



Children in PRE-K & K are invited to participate! Families attend the 10:30 a.m. Mass, the children will walk to the Emmaus Center from church, then return to the church before the end of Mass. Upcoming days: **March 17th**, April 7th, and April 21st. Volunteers are needed to assist with the program. For more information, please contact Todd Nolan: tnolan@smlparish.org

The Littlest Disciples Ministry



The littlest Disciples is a craft and snack event after the 10:30 a.m. Childrens Mass. Newborns through age 10 along with their families are invited to the Emmaus Center for crafts and snacks on Sundays: **March 3rd and April 14th**. For more information, please contact Mary Bell: mbohitrack@verizon.net



Ages 3+

February 11, 2024 • Mark 1:40-45

A Man with Leprosy

A sick man asked Jesus to heal him.

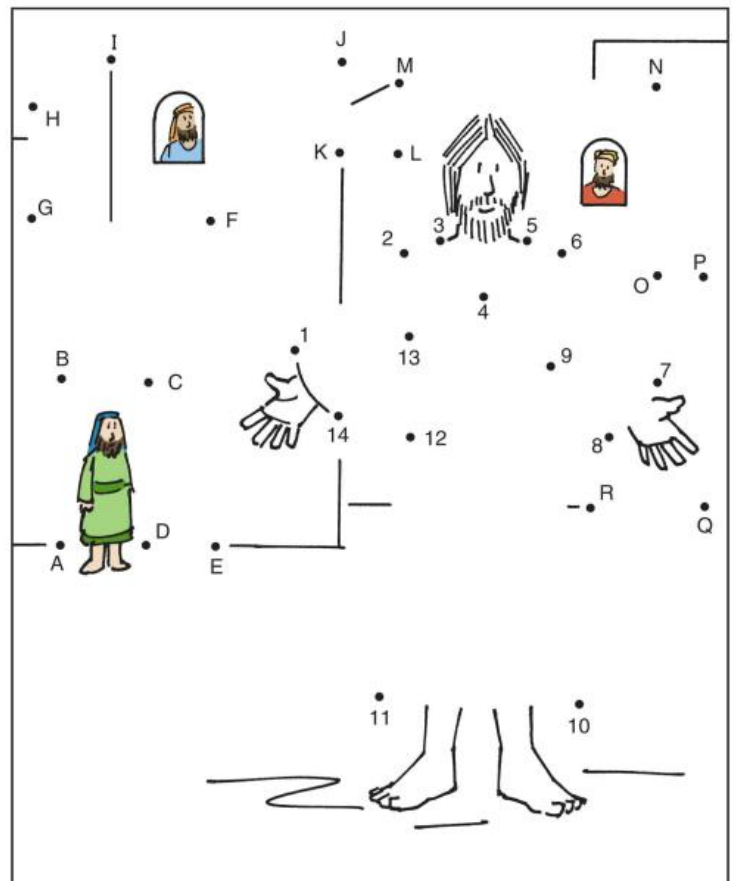
Find and circle the hidden letters. M I R A C L E



People came from all over the city to see Jesus.

Connect the dots.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				



PHOTOS AND SCHOOL/P.R.E.P. HAPPENINGS

“On Purpose” Youth Conference



School Fashion Show



BAKE SALE

After all Masses on **February 10th and 11th**

Proceeds Benefit

**Big Heart
Harvest**



This Bake Sale is sponsored by our confirmation candidates in support of their retreat leader JP Kasperowicz and his farming ministry to the hungry. Big Heart Harvest is a nonprofit farming ministry which cultivates fresh produce and eggs that are in turn given freely to rescue missions, soup kitchens and families in need. 100% of all proceeds and donations go directly to support this effort.

Find out more at BigHeartHarvest.com

All baked goods can be dropped off at the back of the church by 4:30 p.m. on February 10th.



Medford Knights 17th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, June 24, 2024

Registration/Lunch: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Golf: 12:00 p.m. Cocktails/Dinner: 5:15 p.m./6:30 p.m.

Medford Lakes Country Club – Medford Lakes, NJ

“Chip in for Charity” to benefit homeless, less fortunate, women in crisis, and children. Tax-deductible sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and individuals to help St. Vincent de Paul Society, Family Promise of Burlington County, and First Way of B.C.. These organizations provide critical services like food, shelter, clothing, financial assistance, and counseling to the needy in our area.

We need golfers, sponsors, and contributions from local and corporate businesses to make our event successful. Please consider supporting the event with a sponsorship, merchandise, and/or a gift certificate for our baskets. Sponsor names are showcased on the course and company names are prominently displayed with the baskets.

For questions about golf, sponsorships, or how to donate, contact Bill Schmidt at billschmidt902@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION FORM

Golf Registration includes golf with cart, lunch, beverages on the course, and buffet dinner.
4-Person scramble format with prizes for top teams, closest to the pin, longest drive and hole-in-one car.

- ☐ Please assign me to a foursome
- ☐ I am a member of the foursome below

My Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

- ☐ Golf & Dinner combo: **\$200** (After 4/26: **\$225**)
- ☐ Dinner only: **\$70** (Includes Tax & Gratuity)

Other members of my foursome:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

I need # _____ buffet (dinner only) tickets (\$70ea).

Buffet Dinner Entrees: Salmon, Chicken Francaise, Roast Beef w/Aus Jus or Pasta Penne Ala Vodka.

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Payment must be received by **5/24**. No Refunds after **6/10**.

No spots will be held without payment.

For questions, contact Bill Schmidt 609-667-5106

(GOLFER REGISTRATION LIMITED TO 144 GOLFERS)

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

Mail registration form and check to:

Harry Meshirer, 18 Indian Trail, Medford, NJ 08055

MENS MINISTRIES



Blood Drive

The Red Cross is in a national blood emergency. Donate at the Emmaus Center on **Saturday, February 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** and receive a \$10 Amazon card! Appointments preferred. Call 1-800-REDCROSS or redcrossblood.org and use code 6520.

Fundraising Funnies f./ Joe Conklin

The “Man of a Thousand Voices”

Joe Conklin, along with two other comedians take stage at the school auditorium on

Saturday, April 13th. Food comes

with the show in form the knights know best: beef and beer! Tickets: \$60 each (available at TinyUrl.com/JoeC24 or the office). Show: 8 p.m. Doors open: 6:30 p.m.



Pray the Rosary

Experience the power of prayer by joining us for a Rosary session in the Church on **Thursday, February 22nd and Monday, March 25th at 6:30 p.m.** At Fatima, the Blessed Mother said: “Say the rosary every day for world peace”. Pray the rosary with us; praying the rosary in a group is more powerful than praying it alone.

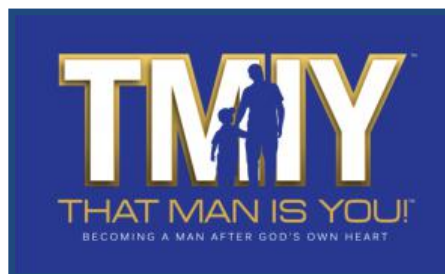
That Man Is You Men’s Ministry

T.M.I.Y. is **every Monday at 6:00 a.m. in the Emmaus Center** and it wraps up right before 7:15 a.m. Mass (optional). There will be coffee and breakfast before listening to the speaker introduce the theme for small group breakout sessions. Join us by visiting this site:

<https://programs.paradisusdei.org/join/5145B0>

For more information, contact **Andre Caldini**

(609) 760-4026, or email: aj.caldini@yahoo.com



EVENTS AND RETREATS OUTSIDE OF SML



We will be visiting Paris,
Lisieux, Omaha Beach, Ars,
Nevers, Paray Le Monial,
Avignon and Lodes

Spiritual director:
Father Dan



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journey now!



Join other Catholic men from across the Diocese of Trenton at the 27th Annual Men's Conference on **Saturday, February 25th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Mary Mother of God Church in Middletown.**

The theme of this year's conference is "Moored to Mary and the Eucharist", featuring Mass celebrated by the Bishop, Joe Klecko, renowned for his formidable presence on the defensive line with the New York Jets in the 70s and 80s, international speaker Tim Glemkoski, and Xavier Reyes-Ayral, best selling author of "Revelations: The Hidden Secret Messages and Prophecies of the Blessed Virgin Mary".

Cost is \$50ea, \$60ea at the door and \$20ea for students. Breakfast and lunch provided.

Register at catholicmenforjesuschrist.org

Options for Her: A Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers to drive our mobile medical unit are needed! This unique serving opportunity allows you to be a part of the Options family and help our team reach abortion vulnerable women in local and neighboring communities.

Our drivers transport our staff and team members, and help to provide protection and security while also being a strong and available presence to even the men we encounter on the road. A CDL is not required.

Contact Debbie Biskey at dbiskey@optionsforher.org.

Hitting the Streets: 40 Days for Life

It's time to schedule your appointment with God on the sidewalk! The Spring 40 Days for Life campaign begins Ash Wednesday/ St. Valentine's Day. This is very appropriate as our campaign is about love- not judgement.

Although prayers from home are important, our bodily presence has the power to make a big difference.

40 Days for Life needs much help to cover 12 hours of prayer (7am -7pm Tuesdays through Saturdays) on the sidewalk of the Cherry Hill Women's Center.

Sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/cherryhill AND share this invitation with others.

Since our campaign began in 2010, there have been over 100 mothers that we know of who have changed their minds at the last minute. Those present who are peacefully praying are the last sign of hope for these desperate mothers.



Parent submitted photos of their children who were in danger of abortion.



Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love In Marriage

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through the Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy) retreat. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA on **Friday, February 16th at 8:00 p.m. to Sunday, February 18th at 4:00 p.m.** For more information or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call (215) 766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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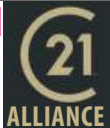
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