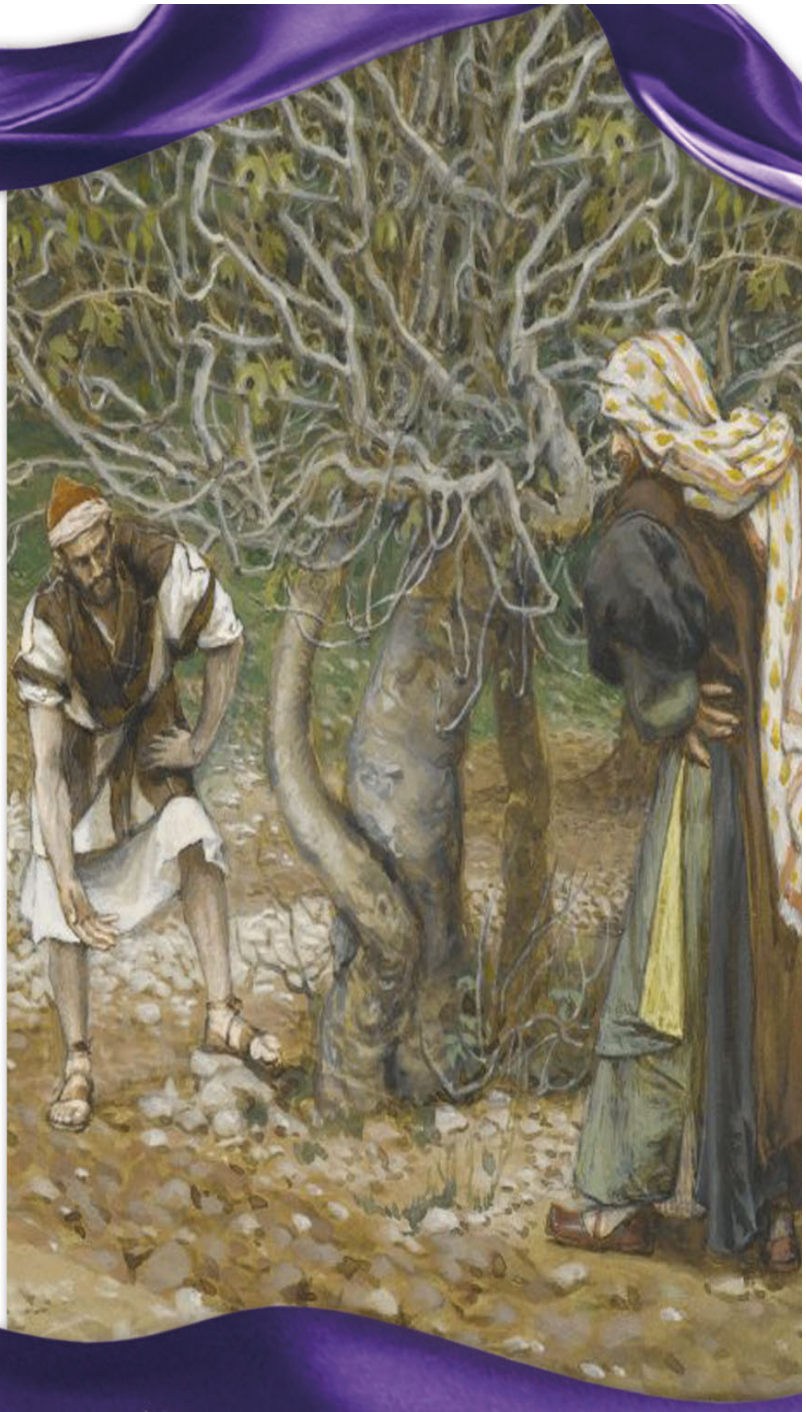
The Catholic Community of

Most Holy Redeemer

133 Amboy Road Old Bridge Township Matawan, NJ 07747-6816

"Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the grounds around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down."

Luke 13:8, 9



The Vine Dresser and the Fig Tree
by James Tissot, circa 1890s

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH OFFICE
732-566-9334

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
732-566-5630

FAX
732-566-2245

WEB PAGE
www.mhr-parish.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EMAIL
mhrccd1993@aol.com

CHURCH EMAIL
MHR1985@optimum.net

MONDAY, MARCH 21
8:00 AM -JOHN HANNA
-r/o Porter & Bill Keller

TUESDAY, MARCH 22
7:30 PM -ANNABELLA APUDA
-r/o Alex & Lou

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23
8:00 AM -VIRGINIA DE SIMONE
-r/o Michael DeSimone

FRIDAY, MARCH 25
8:00 AM -AGOSTINO TRUPIANO
-r/o Mark & Alma Fierro

SATURDAY, MARCH 26
9:00 AM -BENILDA RAMOS
-r/o Mercedes Cueva
5:00 PM -FRANCES MANNINO
-r/o Laura Jean Palma

SUNDAY, MARCH 27
8:00 AM -DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE ASSANTE FAMILY
-r/o Barbara & Tim Baron
10:00 AM -CALVIN WALZ
-r/o Barbara & Tim Baron and Family
11:30 AM -ERLINDA VILLAPANDO
-r/o Ellie Olona

IN MEMORY OF

Rosalie & Frank Moscarello
Artemia Tan
Marilyn Skibbie
Peter & Susan Colombo
Annabella Apuda
Tom Keating
Michael Kelsall

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Maria Buonpane
Beulah Remedios
William Dundas, IV
People of the Parish
Richard Wiersbicki

Thanksgiving & blessings of March for Flor & Apuda Family and World Peace

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

The next Pre-Baptism class will be held Wednesday, April 6, 2022, at 8:00 p.m. in the Church. Would you please call the Parish Office to register? Face masks are optional. Adequate social distancing will be maintained.

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

Blood Drive, Thursday, March 24th, 1:00—7:00 p.m. in Desmond Hall.

All other parish events have been canceled until further notice.

WEB PAGE

For updated bulletin information, please go to www.mhr-parish.org.

TABERNACLE LIGHT

The tabernacle candle in the church burns this week for a special intention.
r/o Marie Scifo

PARISH SICK LIST

Rev. Edward J. Struzik, Shannon, Hayley & Brett Lawrence, Sophie Wojtaszek, Veronica Balmore, Beatriz Castillo, Dolores Nee, Marieann Poplaski, Lucy Littlefield, Jean Marie Brigandi, Maryann Hughes, Germaine Raimo, Sandra Steinberger, Frank Roberts, Lenny Gatti, Sumanta Chowdhuri, Nicole E. Montagna, Nico Oneto, Alex Berg, Wendy Oates, Robert C. Pederson, Marie Scifo, Patrick Barry, Toni O'Rourke, William Sohor, Robert Conte, Jose Pacheo, Kathleen Lau, Kimberly Perry, Jackson Christian Thomas, Miguel Ley, Marie Ciezbka, Betty Pulido, Charley Goldsmith, Louis Martinez, Joel Rivera, Columbia Emilio, Andrew Gasperchek, Dominic DiFede, Jose Santos, Nora Decker, Adelaide Whelan, Faye Parrilla, Debbie Mangano, Karell Christian Bernardo, Anna Schiano, Carmela Fabrizio, Carol Ann Granata, Terry McCormick, Frank Piccillo, William Stefanelli, Vito Vitiello, Ruth Ikan, Dominick Perez, Bryce Lomas, Susan and Josephine Ponzillo, Courtney Palehonki, Robert Miglionica, Michael J. Williams, Alexander Pollack, Michael Tocci, Jr., Debbie Timko, Elisa Ortiz, Jennifer Vezzuto, Gabriella McDermott, Manny Marana and Mark S. Hartnett.

We ask Almighty God and our Blessed Mother, Mary, to comfort and heal the sick. If your loved one recovers and our prayers for them are no longer required, please call the parish office to have their name removed. Thank you.

SATURDAY CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be heard in the Reconciliation Room. **MASKS MUST BE WORN WHEN MAKING YOUR CONFESSION.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM OUR PARISH

Patrick Atherton, U.S. Army
Alex Barnhard, U.S. Navy
Jason Del Duca, U.S. Air Force
Krystal L. Gadowski, U.S. Army
Matthew B. Kaplan, U.S. Army
Michael Lanzafama, U.S. Army
Richard A. Lapp, U.S. Navy
Douglas Leo, U.S. Army
Edward K. Littig, U.S. Navy
Robert C. McCann, U.S. Marines
Timothy P. McCann, U.S. Marines
Christopher Putko, U.S. Navy
James Putko, U.S. Navy
Robert Putko, U. S. Navy
Michael J. Sanzone, U.S. Army
Thomas Welch, U.S. Army

If you have a family member who is an active-duty military member and wishes to have their name added to the Military Prayer list, please call the parish office at 732-566-9334.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul Ministry expresses our gratitude for our Parish's generous contributions during this recent pandemic. If you know of someone struggling with financial help or just in need of advice or support, currently, suggest they call St. Vincent de Paul at 732-566-9334. Many are too embarrassed to make that call but may be encouraged to know that our discussions with them are strictly confidential. However, our members are trained to be empathetic, non-judgmental, and eager to assist all who call us regardless of their religion, ethnicity, or financial status.

We are currently reviewing the federal, state, and county offerings available to better assist at this challenging time of recovery from the pandemic.

Food Pantry

Groceries are collected every weekend at Mass. **St. Lawrence Food Pantry has reopened.** The Pantry will be open on **Saturdays only** from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Face masks are required. Social distancing is in practice.

The St. Lawrence Food Pantry helped **34** adults and **17** children during **February**. Thank you for your generosity.

STEWARDS OF OUR TREASURE

Weekend of March 12/13, 2022:	***$6226***
Weekend of March 13/14, 2021:	***$5502***
Easter Flowers Collection:	***$ 155***
Ukraine Collection:	***$1701***

OFFICE STAFF EMAILS

Irma Knox—Parish Secretary
MHR1985@optimum.net

Janet Snyder—Finance Manager
mhr2012bkr@aol.com

Debbie Dyson—Parish Catechetical Leader
mhrccd@yahoo.com

Susan Tamke—Assistant Religious Education Office
mhrccd1993@aol.com

2022 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Celebrating 40 Years—
Continuing to Fan the Flame of Faith into Service

If you have yet to make your pledge to this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal, you will have the opportunity to do so next weekend, March 26/27, which has been designated as Bishop's Annual Appeal In-Pew Weekend. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal to help our parish reach its goal. If we can exceed our goal, 50% of the amount collected over the goal will be returned to us in the form of a parish rebate. Just as important as our financial goal is to reach 100% participation. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION

This weekend's special collection will be for the Easter Flowers. Names may be placed on the back of the envelope or a piece of paper and placed inside the envelope. **Please make sure to print loved ones' names clearly and legibly so they may appear correctly in the bulletin.**

SPECIAL COLLECTION

This weekend's second collection will be for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. **Please make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul Society.** Your generosity helps the Society help others.

PARISH BLOOD DRIVE HELP NEEDED!

Thanks to all who participated in our most recent parish blood drive. According to the blood drive service, we had sixty-six registered donors and collected sixty-three units. We had forty-seven whole blood donors and eight double red cell donors (each counts as two). Great success!

Our next Blood Drive will be conducted on **Thursday, March 24th, from 1:00—7:00 p.m. in Desmond Hall**. The blood supply is critically low—**PLEASE HELP**.

To remain in compliance with the federal guidelines for social distancing. APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED. DONORS PRESENTING:

- Must wear a mask or face covering
- Will have their temperature taken
- Must be 14 days symptom-free if recovered from COVID-19
- May **NOT** donate if they have had a positive diagnostic test or experienced symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- May **NOT** donate if they are currently on self-quarantine restrictions

Please be aware that we DO NOT test for COVID-19. You should contact your health care provider if you want to be tested. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Donors seventy-six and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file. Donors 16 years old need a signed NYBC parental consent form. If you have received the COVID vaccine, there is no waiting period before donating if you feel well.

To make an appointment, you can visit: nybc.org/newjerseydrive -sponsor code 10712, call 1-800-933-2566, or text 732-616-8736. Appointments encouraged; Walk-ins welcome if social distancing can be maintained. Please help spread the word.

HELP A MOTHER CHOOSE LIFE!

From Life Choices Resource Center

Life Choices Resource Center (Metuchen) serves women and families in our area by providing FREE services such as pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, material aid, adoption referrals, and abortion recovery support. Over the past year, babies have been saved, hearts changed, and lives transformed because of your support of our life-saving ministry. Help us build a legacy of life!

Most Holy Redeemer is once again graciously sponsoring a Baby Bottle Blessings Fundraiser benefitting Life Choices. Pick up a baby bottle before or after Mass this weekend. Fill it with your change, cash, or a check and return it by April 10th.

Your gift will make a difference in the life of a mother and child! www.LifeChoicesRC.com.

WEEKDAY MASS

8:00 a.m. - Monday-Wednesday-Friday
Special Lenten Mass - Tuesdays of Lent at 7:30 p.m.
9:00 a.m. - Saturday

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday Evenings - 7:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

April 12th following 7:30 p.m. Mass until 9:00 p.m.
April 13th – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

N.B. No confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday

PALM SUNDAY – APRIL 10TH

Palms will be blessed at each Mass

Masses:
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

SACRED TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY – APRIL 14TH

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Mass - 7:30 p.m.
The Church will remain open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 15TH

Stations of the Cross - 3:00 p.m.
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 7:30 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY – APRIL 16TH

Blessing of food - 12:00 noon

SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL – APRIL 16TH

8:00 p.m.
(No Confessions or 5:00 p.m. Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 17TH

Masses:
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

MOST HOLY REDEEMER ADORATION

Adoration will be on Friday, April 1st, after Stations of the Cross, and it will be held each month in the Church from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

PUTTING MERCY INTO ACTION

One-Act at a Time

PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

- Keep a prayer list of intentions and list those you know are sick, and pray for them every day
- Pray for those people who are listed in your parish bulletin
- Each day, pray for our seminarians, our bishop, our priests, our deacons, and our religious brothers and sisters
- When you hear sirens, pray for the safety of others
- Knit, crochet, or sew a prayer blanket or craft a rosary that can be given to some person who could find comfort and solace in the fact that someone else is praying for them
- Say a family rosary together with the intentions of all those in need
- Pray a Divine Mercy chaplet for those who will return to the Lord today
- Visit your local cemetery or one of our parochial or diocesan cemeteries to pray for the souls of the departed

FEED THE HUNGRY

- Support and volunteer at a local food pantry, soup kitchen, or agency that helps to feed the hungry
- Learn about global hunger and act in solidarity by participating in Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl campaign
- Avoid wasting food
- Keep some granola bars on hand or make a few sandwiches to hand out as you walk through areas where you might encounter people in need
- Give to or host a food drive
- Print a list of local food banks and soup kitchens to hand out as you encounter people in need
- Share food with a friend, relative, or co-worker
- Prepare and take a meal to someone in your community who is seriously ill or welcoming a child
- Help ensure proper nutrition for your loved ones
- Go grocery shopping for someone who cannot go to the store themselves

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY

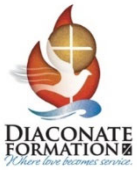
- Pass out water bottles to people in need
- Bring a bottle or glass of water to a neighbor working in your neighborhood
- Donate baby formula to a local pregnancy aid center
- Have a "donations only" lemonade stand and donate the funds to our local Catholic Charities or to Catholic Relief Services
- Watch for ways to save on water and to keep it clean
- Learn more about the issue of water by reading Pope Francis' Encyclical, Laudato Si' (Praise be to you)
- Pay for the coffee of the person behind you at a coffee shop
- Keep your fellow parishioners hydrated by offering to bring bottled water to those volunteering at a parish event
- Volunteer to hand out water to those participating in a local charity race or walk

BAPTISM

We wish to welcome into the family of God and the parish community of Most Holy Redeemer the following child who was baptized here on March 13th:

NOAH MASON AGUILAR
Son of Edgar and Taylor

We pray that his parents will be examples of faith to inspire him to follow the Lord. We, as their family in faith, also accept the responsibility to help these parents in their duty to bring up their child in the practice of the Faith by our prayers and example.



ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE DIACONATE?

The Diocese is looking for men who are interested in becoming Permanent Deacons. A new diaconate formation class is about to begin. Applications for that class will be accepted near the end of this summer; interested men must attend an Information Meeting before applying. A General Information Meeting will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, April 9, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. If you are between the ages of 35 and 60 and believe you are being called to this ministry, you, your wife, and your pastor are cordially invited to attend one of these meetings. If you have any questions or wish to advise that you will attend, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Diocesan Diaconate Office at 732-562-2457 or diaconate@diometuchen.org.

KID'S KORNER

Year C

Gospel Today

Third Sunday of Lent | Luke 13:1-9

The parable uses a barren fruit tree to help us understand God's patience and love for His creation. Given the proper nurturing, unfruitful people can again become pleasing to God.

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This tree has no fruit. It can be home to birds & animals, but it is capable of so much more! **It just needs to be nurtured.**

Jesus believes in us, is willing to give us another chance. We need to say we are sorry for not always doing the best we can. Thank Jesus for His forgiveness & faith in us as we:

Follow our FAITH for 40 DAYS

NURTURE
To feed, nourish, train, educate, cultivate

Draw fruit and leaves on the tree. Add any fruit that would be good to eat.
Example… apples, oranges, peaches, pears, figs. Don't forget to add a bird to the nest!

Now the tree represents people —ready to share & give good things to others.
What can people give others that trees can't give? Ex. a hug

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