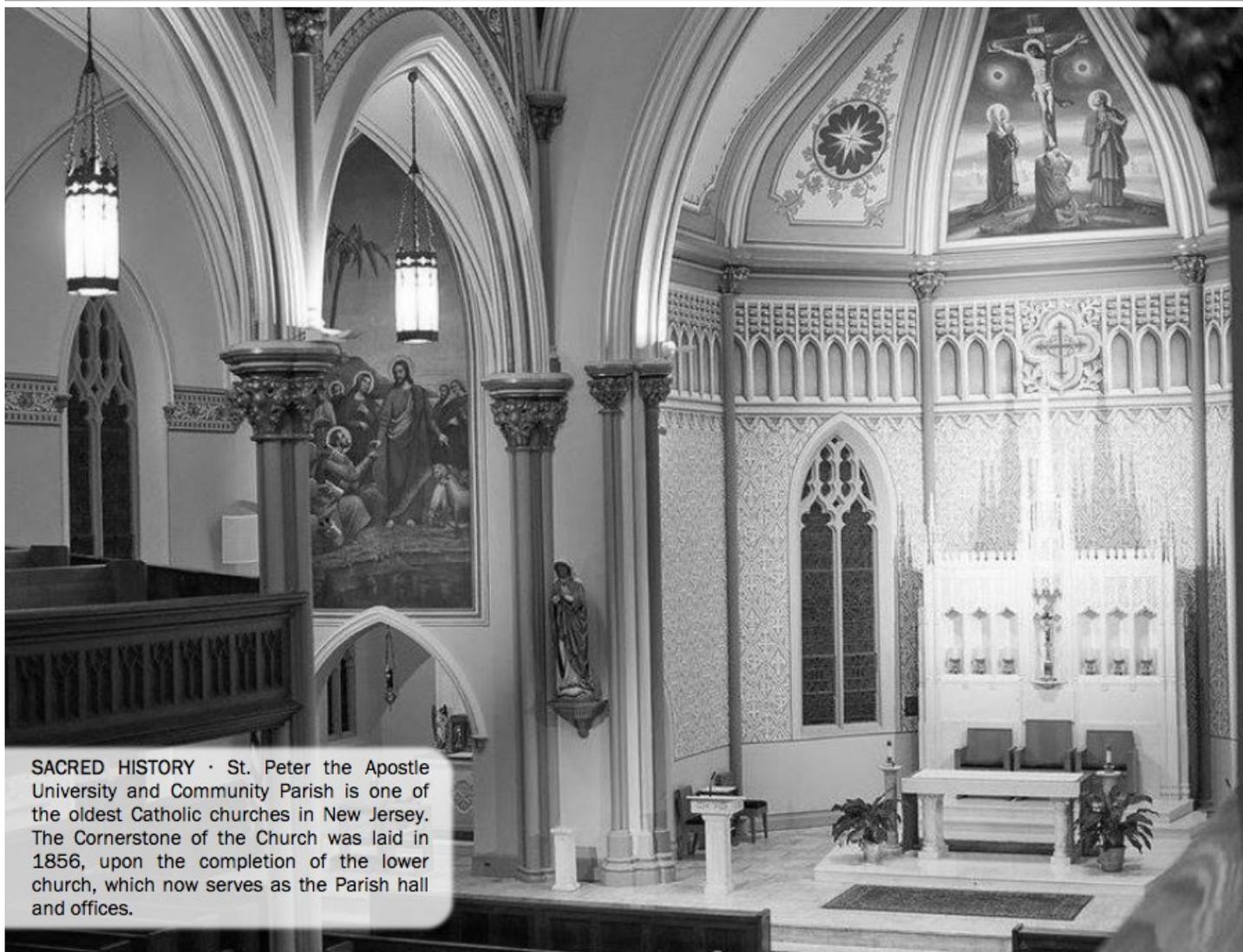


# St. Peter the Apostle University & Community Parish The Catholic Center at Rutgers University

Celebrating a Marian Year 2018-2019



**SACRED HISTORY** · St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish is one of the oldest Catholic churches in New Jersey. The Cornerstone of the Church was laid in 1856, upon the completion of the lower church, which now serves as the Parish hall and offices.

## **SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

## **WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Monday – Friday:** 7:30 a.m. in St. Peter's Church

**Monday – Thursday:** 12:15 p.m. in the Catholic Center Chapel

**Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. in the Catholic Center Chapel

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

For any last minute changes regarding the Mass schedule on Holy Days of Obligation, please visit: [StPeterNewBrunswick.org](http://StPeterNewBrunswick.org).

## **CONFESSION (Sacrament of Reconciliation):**

**Mondays:** 12:45 - 1:30 p.m.; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (CC Chapel)

**Saturdays:** 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon; and by appointment

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:**

In the case of an **emergency** requiring a priest after business hours, please call **732-545-6185**.

**ST. VINCET DE PAUL SOCIETY:** 732-668-6584

(for assessment of assistance needed, leave message including name and contact number)

## **BAPTISMS:**

Normally scheduled on the second & fourth Sundays of the month at 12:30pm (not during Lent). Please observe the requirements for sponsors. Must contact the office in advance to register. First-time parents are required to attend a baptism formation session.

## **WEDDINGS:**

Marriage arrangements should be made one year in advance of the wedding. Please call the parish office before making other definitive plans. Once a wedding is approved and the date is confirmed, the required marriage preparation process may commence.

## **PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:**

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for the administration of the Sacrament of the Sick and/or for the reception of the Holy Eucharist to those who are ill or elderly.

**PARISH OFFICE AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH**

94 Somerset Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
 Phone: **732.545.6820** Fax: 732.545.4069  
 Visit our website: **StPeterNewBrunswick.org**

**Office Hours:** Mon-Thurs, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Fri-Sun, **CLOSED**

**Parish Clergy:**

**Msgr. Joseph Celano - Pastor**  
 MsgrCelano@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
 732.545.6820 Ext. 113

**Rev. Jay Pavich - Chaplain/Parochial Vicar**  
 FrJay@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
 732.545.6820 Ext. 111

**Fr. Dario Endiape - Chaplain/Parochial Vicar**  
 FrDario@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Patrick Gutsick, Permanent Deacon**  
 DeaconPatrick@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Helmut Wittreich, Permanent Deacon**  
 DeaconHelmut@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Parish Staff:**

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 732.545.6820 Ext. 110

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 732.545.6663 Ext. 15

**Colleen Donahue - Office Manager & Wedding Coordinator**  
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**Jude Lasota, BH - Pastoral Assistant**  
 BrotherJude@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Tom Setar - Maintenance**  
 Tom@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**St. Peter's Cemetery**

500 Somerset Street (Rt. 27), New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
 Phone: **732.249.0894** *SPTAcemeteryNB@gmail.com*

**Staff:** William Carroll - Cemetery Director



**Our Parish Is On Venmo!**

RU Students and those who use debit cards, St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish is now on Venmo! Please consider sacrificing one cup of name-brand coffee each week and donate the cost to help support our parish and campus ministry. Every sacrifice to the Lord matters and is appreciated!

You can find us on the Venmo app by searching for either of the following two options, or by scanning the QR code with your cell phone camera. The profile picture will be the front of St. Peter's Church.

SEARCH FOR:

OR SCAN:

*St Peter the Apostle University Parish at Rutgers*

OR @MsgrJoseph-Celano



***Report of the Sunday Offerings in Support of Our Parish***

**Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

The Sunday offering is the principle means by which we fund the ordinary operations of our parish and its ministries. Thank you for making ministry possible at St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Church.

Please consider using WePay or another form of automated giving as your preferred means of contributing to the support of the parish. You can sign up for online giving by clicking on the "Giving" photo-button on the home page of our Parish website: ***www.StPeterNewBrunswick.org***

When writing or updating your will, please remember our parish in your planning. For more information on planned giving, please contact the parish office.

RU Students, please consider giving the cost of one name brand cup of coffee, or making some similar sacrifice, each week to help support your parish.

**Weekly Collection for Nov. 30/Dec. 1, 2019:**  
 Weekly Budget Need **\$5,125**

Total Weekly Envelope and Cash Contributions **\$3,687**

WeShare/Automated Giving and Other Contributions **\$1,635**

Total Weekly Offering for Nov. 30/Dec.1, 2019 **\$5,322**

**Surplus/(Deficit) \$197**

*This report reflects the latest Sunday Offering information available at the date of printing this bulletin, 12/11/2019.*



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*A few messages from our pastor, Msgr. Joseph Celano:*

### ***A homily from Msgr. Celano given on the 4th Sunday of Advent:***

The Basilica of the Annunciation in the city of Nazareth stands over the first century village of Christ's childhood and youth, and enshrines the site traditionally identified as the house of Mary, the place of the Annunciation.

I had the privilege of concelebrating Mass in the lower part of the basilica directly in front of what remains of the house of Mary. As I stood to read the Gospel text of the Annunciation, I glanced over to the spot where the house once stood. All that remains of it today is a natural cave often used as storerooms for first-century dwellings. It is separated from the main body of the church by an iron gate. A circular marker on the floor at its entrance reads in Latin "Hic Verbum Caro Factum Est". It was the Latin word "Hic" that suddenly caught my attention. "Hic" is a hard word to translate. It means "here", but carries the sense of "here before you". HIC VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST means, "Here the Word Became Flesh". Here, or very near here, Mary received the astonishing greeting of an angel and Joseph dreamed a dream in which he was told to not be afraid. Here, God became incarnate in history and among humanity.

Later that day, as I wound my way through the streets of modern Nazareth watching all the comings and goings of life there, I couldn't help but be drawn back to the word "hic" that marked a spot not far away from where I found myself. All the ordinary things around me, the people walking hurriedly to work or lounging over an espresso with friends...the sounds of cabbies blasting their horns...or the children playing in the nearby park...all pointed to the same awesome mystery: God was "here before you". But this reality is not over and done with; it continues. By becoming man – *human* – God has raised humanity up, giving us a new dignity and calling, so that human nature and human activity might be set free to share in the divine life.

The fathers of the Church used a word to describe this mystery. They called it a "condescension". That word has a negative meaning today, but that's not how the fathers used it. Imagine a parent bending over to embrace and pick up a child. This is what they mean by the word "condescension". God "bends low" to embrace us, pick us up, and redeem what we have lost by sin in the most extraordinary way...by becoming one of us and one with us. Is there any greater mercy than this? Perhaps just one... it will take place on the cross, the supreme act in which God "bends low" to save us.



*The site of Christ's birth in the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem*

But for now, let it be said that we are a people who understands the word "hic" so that in our faithfulness to Christ, our loving service to others, and in the thousand and one other ways we go about living ordinary lives rooted in Jesus Christ, we proclaim to the world "Here before you" God is made present.

### ***A Christmas message from Msgr. Celano:***

It once was a series of caves in the soft limestone hills that surrounded the village. For centuries, these caves served as a shelter to the local shepherds and as stables for their flocks. The shepherds carved a feeding trough, a manger, into the soft rock wall of one particular cave so they might have a place to feed and water their sheep.

Today, the oldest church in the world, the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, stands above these caves. The central cave is illuminated by the light of oil lamps suspended from its ceiling. On the marble floor toward the rear of the cave, a silver star has been laid upon the floor. The star is inscribed with a simple inscription, written in Latin, which memorializes the event that took place in this cave. It reads: "Here, Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary". To the right of the star is the hollow of the animal's feeding trough - the manger. Today, it is covered with marble and adorned with silver oil lamps that fill the cave with the fragrance of frankincense and myrrh.

I once sat on a wooden bench in the rear of that cave. During the course of the hour or so I was there, I watched a steady stream of tourists enter the cave of the Nativity, look around, and immediately begin to take pictures. Smiling poses were struck before the star. Selfies were taken by the manger. After the pictures and video had been taken, people just left: sometimes in small groups, sometimes one by one.

Watching this, I was struck by the fact that very few people paused to pray in the cave that once heard the cries of the young woman who labored to give birth there; or of her newborn son, whose first cradle, a feeding trough for the animals, still remains carved in its wall. Perhaps, it was because their

*Mass Intentions***Monday, December 23**

- 7:30 a.m. Dec. Members of the Calderone/Robertson Families  
 12:15 p.m. Dorothy Hanson & Edward Sypeck

**Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve**

- 5:00 p.m. Dec. Members of the Mulvey & Maroon Families

**Wednesday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas Day**

- 12 Midnight George & Betty Pellowski  
 8:00 a.m. Howard Crouch  
 11:00 a.m. For the People

**Thursday, December 26—St. Stephen, The First Martyr**

- 9:00 a.m. Peggy Riley

**Friday, December 27—St. John, Apostle & Evangelist**

- 9:00 a.m. Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life

**Saturday, December 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

- 9:00 a.m. Joseph Schlicker  
 5:00 p.m. George & Clara Fiedler

**Sunday, December 29—Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

- 8:00 a.m. For the People  
 11:00 a.m. Joseph & Genevieve Helfin  
 6:00 p.m. All Catholic Families

**THIS WEEK OUR SANCTUARY CANDLE IS LIT:**

*In Memory of Michael De'heron*

*In your charity, please pray for...*

Kevin Hoagland, Thomas Spataro, Connor Montferrat, Theresa Birdsey, Ginnie Previte, Jonathan Swedel, John William Criscuoli, Danielle Reiser, Esther Wambui, Norman Corbett, Florence Gowin, Margaret Cleary, Teresa Yannazzone, Bill Spataro, Nicholas Rossi, Chris Joyce, Gary Vavila, Patricia & Sylvanus Ashamole, Louis Svelec, Joseph D'Imperio III, the sick members of the Akushie and Nwachukwu Families, Doris Tarquinio, Peg Byrne, Rick Scuderi, Linda Ryan, Rita Pietrobono, Nicole Mancini, Angelo Mancini, Becky Yurga, Rebecca Miller, Orlando Gines, Yvonne Finaldi, Sheila Lavery, Tanya Davis, Sgt. John McLaughlin, Patricia Deri, Alessia DePasquale, Brian Donoghue, Christine Fellin, Jose Lopez, Joseph Gerity, Mary Cignarella, Lorraine Fellin, Russell C. Hall, Russell J. Hall, Angelo Rossi, Mary Ann Hrapsky, William Kish, Maria Kratzar, Theresita DeGuzman, Bette Smith, Mary Spicer, Tom and Kathleen Monchek, Anna Graziosi, Shirley Murphy, Joey Mahoney, Evelyn Echevarria, Patricia Krakowski, Carmella LaVera, Joseph Gutsick, Marlene Salimbene, Barbara Wittreich, Frederick DeLong, Anne Gutsick-Smith, W.J.R., Ag Yashinski, Marian Egan

*All the sick, those who are homebound, the hospitalized, and all who serve in the military.*

**FROM THE PARISH****HOLIDAY PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Please note the following office hours for our parish this coming week:

<b>Monday, Dec. 23:</b>	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 24:</b>	CLOSED
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 25:</b>	CLOSED - Merry Christmas!
<b>Thursday, Dec. 26:</b>	CLOSED
<b>Friday, Dec. 27:</b>	CLOSED

If you are in need of a priest, please see the emergency contact information on the front page of the bulletin.

**JOIN US**

**DURING ADVENT**

**FOR:**

**The Nativity of Christ**

*Presented by Msgr. Joseph Celano*

December 1, 8, 15 & 22, at the Sunday Café (beginning following the 8AM Mass in the Parish Hall).

A bible study and reflection on the Infancy Narratives of the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. All are welcome - bring a Bible and a friend!

**Notes...**   
*from the choir loft*

The Fourth Sunday of Advent points us to Jesus through our Blessed Mother, Mary. We will sing *Maiden, Yet a Mother*, with marvelous poetry that expressed the paradox of Mary: a virgin, yet a mother - daughter of her son - lowly, yet exalted. Consider praying with this hymn before Mass: see #632 in the St. Michael Hymnal for the full text.

*Maiden, yet a mother, / Daughter of thy son, /  
 High beyond all other / Lowlier is none; /  
 Thou the consummation / Planned by God's decree, /  
 When our lost creation / Nobler rose in thee!*



## FROM THE PASTOR CONT'D

tour directors were eager to keep to the day's schedule and there was no time for such a trivial thing as prayer. Perhaps still, it is because what I witnessed betrays something else...

People are hungry. I believe we hunger to reclaim a sense of the "sacred" that we seem to have been forgotten along the way. We look for the "spiritual", that elusive element that opens us to the deeper meaning of who we are and restores our proper place in the universe. I believe we are seekers, you and me. But what will we do if we should find what we're looking for? What difference will it make in our lives?

St. John Paul II tells us that, *"The birth of Jesus at Bethlehem is not an event which can be consigned to the past. The whole of human history in fact stands in reference to Him... In the encounter with Christ, every man discovers the mystery of his own life"* [Incarnationis Mysterium, 1].

You see, deep in the heart of every person is the intuitive knowledge that we are more than what we are; that life is about far more than just living. The knowledge of the eternal is in us and we sense in ourselves that we cannot truly live fully, joyfully, humanly, apart from it. Yet we also perceive that our vision of it is darkened; that somewhere along the line we strayed from its truth, goodness, and beauty and became "less than," caught in an unbreakable web of sin and death. Yet, the most profound statement of our Catholic faith is that in this darkness the Eternal God has searched *us* out. God has heard the cry of the human heart and has answered it in a way that, if we pause to consider it, should astound us. God reveals Himself to us, not in spectacles and wonders, but in something so ordinary - so human - that we may miss it entirely. The fullness of the Revelation of God, and the mystery of our own lives, is seen and heard in the cry of a newborn child. In this child. God says to each of us "Here I am!" by becoming one with us; by suffering and dying for us; by placing Himself in our hands in simple gifts of bread and wine.

This time, this year, can we dare come, not as "accidental tourists" in our own faith, people who consign this story to history as if it has no lasting relevance, but as pilgrims who are searching for the encounter with God? This year, can we come bringing the deepest hungers of our hearts to this place; to Him who is a child no longer? What wonders of love might be revealed to us here? What hope might we find in the Mystery of the Word Made Flesh? And what might we become if we should, for but one brief instance, look upon the human face of God?

*On behalf of the Clergy and Staff of St. Peter's University & Community Parish, we wish you a blessed and Merry Christmas!*

*Rw. Msgr. Joseph A. Pelano*

CHRISTMAS SEASON  
MASS SCHEDULE

***For those who will be in town for the upcoming Christmas season, please take note of the following Mass schedule at St. Peter's:***

**Tuesday, December 24, 2019**

The Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
Mass Times: 5:00 p.m., 12 Midnight (with Choral preludes at 11:30 p.m.)

**Wednesday, December 25, 2019**

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday, December 29, 2019**

Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 31, 2019**

\*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the Mother of God  
Mass Times: 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020**

\*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the Mother of God  
Mass Times: 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, January 5, 2020**

The Epiphany of the Lord  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 12, 2020**

The Baptism of the Lord  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

***\*The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God is a holy day of obligation in the Diocese of Metuchen.***

**PRELUDES TO MIDNIGHT MASS**

*A time of music, prayer and preparation*

Beginning at 11:30 p.m., our church will be filled with the joyful music of Christmas. The parish choir and an ensemble of brass and string instruments will lead the singing and offer choral anthems and solos. Plan to arrive early and enter into this time of music, prayer and preparation!



## 2019 CHRISTMAS FLOWER LIST

*We are grateful to the following people for their contribution towards the Christmas decorations in our Church. Please remember them and their intentions in your prayers.*

### **Donation given by:**

**Lisette Acevedo**  
**Mrs. Margaret Alfrey**  
**Ms. Maria Astorga**  
**Mrs. Marica Batarilo**  
**Timothy Bourgeois**  
**James and Laura Cahill**  
**Mr. and Mrs. John Cline**  
**Miss F. Eileen Connolly**  
**Mrs. Barbara Curry**  
**Mr. Frederick R. De Long**  
**Mrs. Catherine Doyle**  
**Mrs. Jennie Dudas**  
**Jean Dure**  
**Mrs. Carolyn Farkas**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Louis Franov**  
**Clare Giangreco**  
**Mr. and Mrs. David Goldbeck**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hayes**  
**Mr. John A. Hoffman**  
**Ann Marie Hrapsky**  
**The Hufnagel Family**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jordan**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Keefe**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Klinger**  
**Sarah M. Kowal**  
**Mr. and Mrs. James Lyons**  
**Jorge and Angelica Martinez**  
**Ninfa Mueller**  
**Raymond Nesser**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Raymond R. Pilote**  
**Eileen O'Rourke**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Prah**  
**Anthony F. Puglisi, Jr.**  
**Maria and Wilfredo Rivera**  
**Mrs. Helen Rosol**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Rossi**  
**Mr. and Mrs. John Sabatura**  
**Mr. Cosmo Santangelo**  
**Raquel Sarmiento**  
**Mrs. Marie Solazzo**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Michael Spero**  
**Mrs. Fran Stuhl**  
**Lori and Helen Szentgyorgyi**  
**Joan J. Terelmes**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Vela**  
**Sandra E. Wehrle**  
**Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. White**  
**Mrs. Elizabeth Wikoff**  
**Mr. and Mrs. John Zimmerman**

### **In Memory of:**

**Felix R. Acevedo**  
**Emmett Alfrey**  
**Herminio Astorga**

**Juleen Bourgeois**  
**Deceased members of the Cahill and Zsegnyan Families**  
**Spezio Family**  
**Deceased members of the Connolly and Kenny Families**  
**Joseph F. Curry**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Frederick P. De Long, Mrs. Donna J. De Long**  
**Kelly Doyle McFadden, John Doyle, Thomas Egan, Mary Egan, Yolanda Egan**  
**George and William Dudas**  
**Maselis and Dure Families**  
**Bill Farkas, Bill and Helen Davis**

**Agnes and Ernest Giangreco, Christine Giangreco, Matthew Giangreco**

**Judith Hoffman**  
**Deceased members of Hrapsky and Warga Families**

**Horan, Kinney, Keefe, McNamee and Kinghorn**  
**The Kuc and Klinger Families**  
**Orlando Micale**  
**Frank and Rose Small and Tom, Dot, Bill and Kay Lyons**

**Rose and Antonio DoVale**  
**Nesser, Naaman and Kazoun Families**

**Ed and Linda O'Rourke, Arthur Gatarz and Kevin O'Rourke**

**Deceased members of the Puglisi Families, Bill Hamilton**

**Smutz and Rosol Family**  
**Mr. and Mrs. A. Rossi, Sophia and Kimberly Trovato**  
**Lavenburg and Sabatura Family**

**Deceased members of the Sarmiento, Roggi and Arata Families**  
**Solazzo, Spinelli, Sciortino Families**  
**David and Rita McGouey**

**Tony and Ilona Szentgyorgyi**  
**Louis Piskorski**  
**Snediker and Vela Families**  
**Mary and Ernest Wehrle**  
**Mary and Michael Revolinsky, Rose and Edward R. White**  
**Dick Wikoff**  
**Deceased members of Zimmerman and McCann Families**