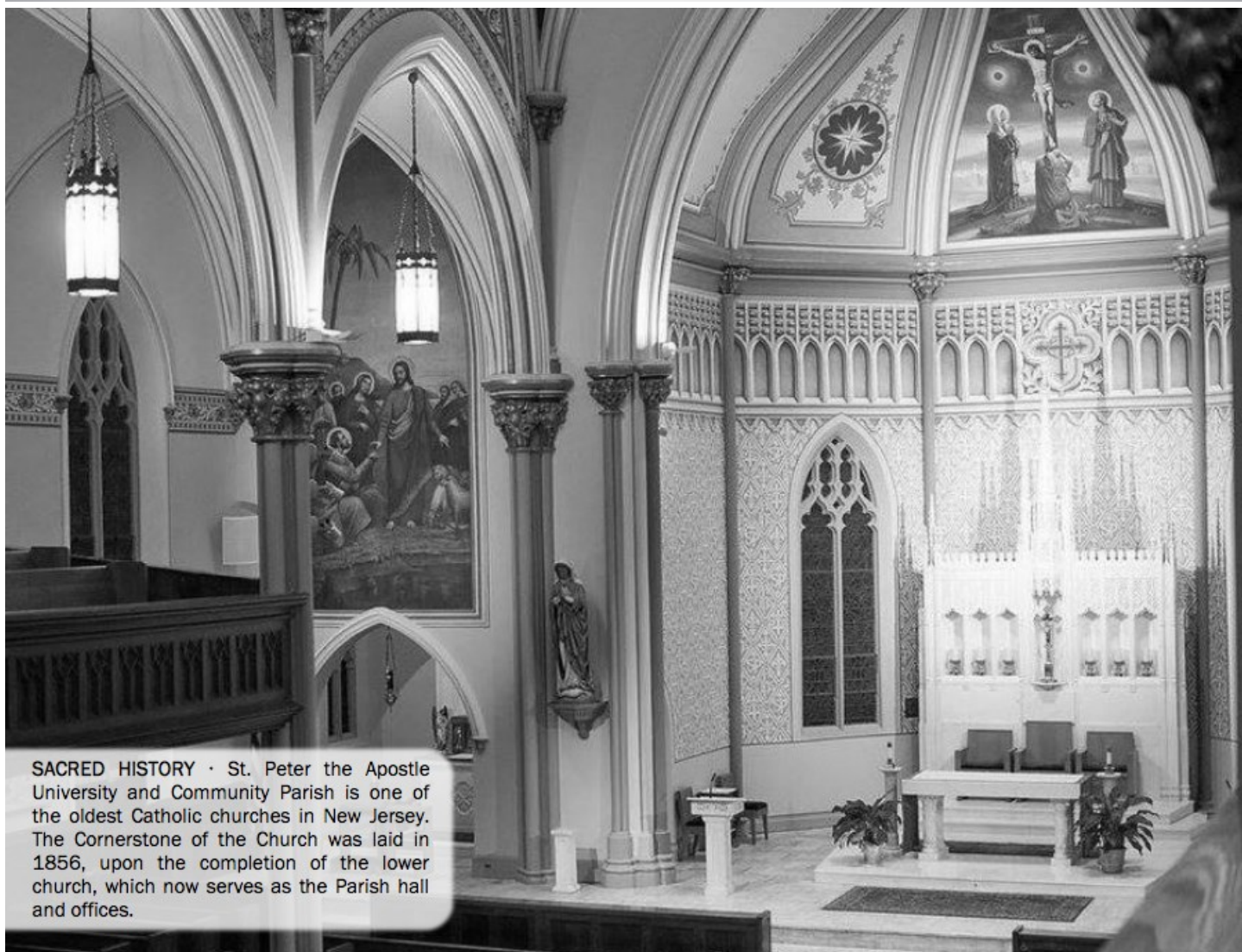


St. Peter the Apostle University & Community Parish

The Catholic Center at Rutgers University



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 St. Peter's Church

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.

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

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ParishOffice@StPeterNewBrunswick.org
 732.545.6820 Ext. 110

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 732.545.6663 Ext. 15

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APesta@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

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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**

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 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 March 7/8, 2020:

Weekly Budget Need **\$5,125**

Total Weekly Envelope and Cash Contributions:

\$4,362

WeShare/Automated Giving and Other Contributions:

\$1,819

Total Weekly Offering for March 7/8, 2020:

\$6,181

Surplus/(Deficit)

\$1,056



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*From the desk of our pastor Msgr. Joseph Celano
on the second Sunday in Lent, Coronavirus and the Lincoln
Annex School:*

A few years ago, I baptized my parish youth minister's second child. His twin sister, a Franciscan Sister of the Renewal, received permission to attend the baptism and came with another sister from her community. They were both in their early 30's and missioned in the South Bronx to work with the poor.

After the baptism, I had a chance to talk with the sister who accompanied my youth minister's twin. After making some small talk, I asked her to tell me the story of her vocation. She smiled, grateful that I had asked, and told me that she was raised in a Catholic family but was not particularly religious. Church attendance was limited to Christmas and Easter. By the time she entered college, she had completely abandoned her faith. Her college career was a distinguished one – she received a full athletic scholarship and was on her way to become a professional tennis player. That is until a group of her friends invited her to attend a Catholic campus ministry retreat. She normally wouldn't go to something like this, but she felt she needed a break and some time with her friends.

Something began to stir in her on the retreat. She felt disturbed about something but couldn't quite put her finger on what it was. She decided to spend some time alone in the chapel where the Blessed Sacrament was exposed. For the first time in her life, she found herself praying – not just saying prayers, but really praying. She looked me right in the face and then said, "Monsignor, that's when Jesus showed me how empty I had become. That's also when I knew that He had something better in mind for me."

It was a pivotal moment in her life; a transfiguring moment. She began attending Mass weekly, tending to her spiritual life, and seeing a spiritual director. She finished college, but chose not to pursue a career as a professional athlete. Instead, she gave it all up to enter religious life and serve the poor.

What takes place on the mountain of the Transfiguration is also a pivotal moment. From this time on, Jesus sets out for Jerusalem, fully aware of what awaits him there. The event of the Transfiguration is not for Jesus' benefit but for his disciples'. It has one purpose: to strengthen the disciples for what lies ahead. But for now, on this mountaintop, the disciples see Jesus most clearly; the fulfillment of Israel's hope, represented by Moses and Elijah; the "beloved Son" of the Father whose words must be listened to and lived. But they also see themselves in His light, chosen and believing, yet still unprepared for what lies ahead. Perhaps, seeing Jesus like this, transfigured in glory, assures them that their faith in Him will never be in vain. But that does not mean that their faith won't be put to the test. It will. Peter, for all his bold words and bravado, will fail Jesus in His moment of greatest need. James will go into hiding with the others, and John will be left alone to stand with Mary at the foot of the cross...

John Henry Cardinal Newman once wrote, "*Conversion is noth-*

ing more than a deeper discovery of what we already truly desire." Lent calls us to this "deeper discovery" of our desire for Christ, and be converted. God sometimes brings about moments of change in our lives; moments in which we realize how empty we have become, how far we have strayed, and how much Christ desires to fill our emptiness with Himself. These are the transfiguring moments when, like Peter, James, and John, we see ourselves most clearly in the light of Jesus Christ and are invited to listen and to follow.

There, shining on the mountain is the "something better in mind" the Father has for us all. Which is why the Father commands that we listen to Jesus, that we discover the fulfillment of our desire in Him, and stay the course even if faith should be put to the test.



Dear Friends,

Below are two important announcements that I want to share with you. As announced last weekend at all Masses, we will be making modifications to our liturgical practices when it comes to the sign of peace and the distribution of Holy Communion in light of growing concerns to contain the spread of the Coronavirus. Below is the text of the announcement that was made at the beginning of all Masses last weekend. As noted in the announcement, these changes are both precautionary and temporary. We will return to our normal practice when directed to by the Bishop. The second is a statement issued by the Diocese of Metuchen regarding the Lincoln Annex School. As you know from various news sources, there has been some discussion about the proposed repurposing of the site. The statement was issued in response to these discussions as reported in the local press.

Msgr. Joe Celano

ANNOUNCEMENT ON LITURGICAL MODIFICATIONS IN RESPONSE TO CONCERNS ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS

In light of growing concerns about the spread of the coronavirus, Bishop Checchio has directed that the following temporary modifications be made to our liturgical practices throughout the Diocese of Metuchen.

Continued on page 5

*Mass Intentions***Monday, March 16**

7:30 a.m. M/M Arthur Roenbeck
12:15 p.m. Joseph & Martha Ritchick

Tuesday, March 17—St. Patrick, Bishop

7:30 a.m. William Hughes
12:15 p.m. Steven King

Wednesday, March 18—St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the CC Prayer Box
12:15 p.m. Chester Kuchnicki

Thursday, March 19—Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 a.m. Helen Lasota
12:15 p.m. Angelica Garlatti

Friday, March 20—Abstain Today

7:30 a.m. Joseph Sclicker
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 21

9:00 a.m. Marty Engelhardt
5:00 p.m. Narciso Manansala

Sunday, March 22—Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m. For the parishioners of St. Peter's Church
11:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Anigbogus/
Onwuasonyas Families



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, Marge Alfrey, Boris Rukshin

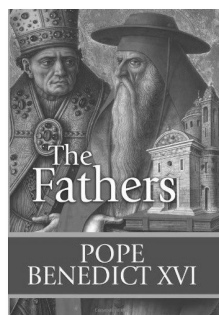
All the sick, those who are homebound, the hospitalized, and all who serve in the military.

**FROM THE PARISH****STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Join us again this **Friday, March 20**, for St. Peter's weekly Stations of the Cross service. The service takes place every Friday during Lent, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in St. Peter's Church.

Please join us this week and each following Friday until Easter to more fully enter into the Lenten season.

The Sunday Café presents:

FATHERS OF THE CHURCH

We've all heard their names; Ignatius of Antioch, Jerome, Augustine of Hippo, John Chrysostom, John Damascene, Gregory Nazianzus... These are but a few of the giants of the patristic age, a period in Church history that spans the six centuries following the age of Apostles. Come, get to know the men who shepherded the Church through the imperial persecutions, theological controversies and seismic social and political change and became the architects of our Catholic faith built on the Rock of Jesus Christ.

This course will meet for 6 sessions, beginning on **Sunday, March 15 at 9:15 a.m.** (following the 8:00 a.m. Mass) in the parish hall. Fr. Jason Pavich will be the presenter. Additional dates after Easter are TBD. All are welcome. To order the book, search for "The Fathers by Pope Benedict XVI" on Amazon.com or find a direct link to purchase the book at <https://stpeternewbrunswick.org/lent>. Click on the tab that says "Book Study".

If you have any other questions, please email Colleen Donahue at colleen@stpeternewbrunswick.org.

LOOKING FOR CONFIRMATION?

An adult Confirmation class will begin in the next few weeks. If you have not been Confirmed and desire to receive the sacrament please **contact the Parish Office at (732) 545-6820**.

LENTEN RICE BOWLS

Join our faith community this and commit to our global human family by Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving through the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Program. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the back of the Church. During the 40 days of Lent, let us respond to Jesus by sharing with those in need. 25% of the collection stays in our Diocese to help our local parishes.

For more information, visit: crsricebowl.org





FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONT'D)

- **As is practiced in so many of our parishes already, priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are urged to practice good hygiene, washing their hands and using anti-bacterial hand sanitizer before and after distributing Holy Communion.** To this end, the clergy and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will briefly leave the altar during the Lamb of God to wash and sanitize their hands prior to the distribution of Holy Communion, and again afterward.
- **The sign of peace should be exchanged without physical contact.** The sign of peace is an important liturgical action which symbolizes our communion with one another in the Body of Christ before approaching the altar. By custom, this is usually done by handshake in the United States. In light of this directive, please turn to your neighbor and say "peace be with you" without engaging in physical contact.
- **Distribution of the Precious Blood of Christ from the chalice is to be suspended. Furthermore, no member of the faithful is obliged to receive the Body of Christ on the tongue; worthy, reverent reception by hand is preferred until otherwise notified.** It is our Catholic faith that the fullness of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – is contained in each of its species. To receive the Host alone, or from the Chalice alone, is to receive Jesus Christ in His fullness, provided we do so worthily in the state of grace. Until we are directed otherwise, Holy Communion will be administered in one form only, namely in the species of the Host. Further, a preference is indicated that Holy Communion be received worthily and reverently in the hand to reduce the risk of spreading infection. Those who receive on the tongue should carefully consider this directive intended to protect the interests of public health. However, after giving this directive consideration, Holy Communion on the tongue will not be denied to those who still wish to receive in this manner.
- **Any individual who is sick or has flu-like symptoms should not attend Mass or other Church gatherings.** Please remember that it is not objectively sinful to miss Sunday Mass because one is ill or caring for someone who is ill. Please exercise good judgment in this matter.

As I previously mentioned, these directives are both precautionary and temporary. We will return to our usual practice as soon as the risk passes. Thank you for your attention and for cooperating with these precautionary directives from our Bishop.

STATEMENT FROM THE DIOCESE OF METUCHEN ON THE LINCOLN ANNEX SCHOOL

February 27, 2020

The Diocese of Metuchen and the Catholic pastors of the parish communities that serve the City of New Brunswick have heard the concerns voiced by coalition members on behalf of the Lincoln Annex School community and have responded to the letters we received.

For decades, the diocese and parishes in the City of New Brunswick have maintained a special connection to the immigrant community and have worked closely with them to ensure equity in all aspects of life, including education. Together, we will continue to support the human rights and dignity of all people, including the care for and the welcoming of our immigrant brothers and sisters. The Catholic pastors of New Brunswick, who have great love for the people whom they serve day in and day out, are committed to listening to and accompanying the people they serve.

We have heard, indirectly, of the New Brunswick Board of Education's plans and have contacted the City of New Brunswick, and while we have not yet received any formal proposal or inquiries from them, we expect that we will have an opportunity to listen to them and learn more about their plans. We have read in local news reports they are proposing that students be relocated to a campus that, in the past, has served as a school facility, while a new state-of-the-art school building is constructed.

We have deep respect for all people involved – immigrant families, the Board of Education, the school community, our pastors, the coalition, and Mayor Cahill – and are open to beginning the dialogue. Together with St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, which also serves the Catholic students of Rutgers University, we remain committed to the careful study of any proposals that come to us.

FORTY HOURS DEVOTION

St. John Paul II reminds us that "time spent with Christ is never time wasted." The Forty Hours devotion is forty hours of continuous adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. It invites us to "come apart and rest awhile" (Mk. 6:31) in the gentle love of Jesus, to lay our burdens at His feet and be reawakened to the identity and mission given to us as a member of His Body, the Church.

The Forty Hours will begin at the end of the 6:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, March 22. Solemn Vespers will be prayed in the Church on **Monday, March 23 and Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.**, when the Forty Hours will be concluded. During this time, the Church will remain open throughout the day and night. *You can sign-up to keep vigil for an hour in the vestibule of the church, or come visit the Lord in the Eucharist at any time during this forty hour period.*





FROM THE DIOCESE

2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal Stepping Forward in Faith: Grace in Action

By now you have received a letter from Bishop Checchio inviting your participation in the 2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The diocesan ministries supported by the Appeal directly impact many of the parishioners here in St. Peter the Apostle University & Community Parish, most notably the Catholic Student Association and the Catholic Center. Your gift provides formation opportunities for our catechists, youth and young adults. Among other important ministries, your sacrificial gift supports our renewed efforts in Evangelization & Communication.

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 21/22, 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 goal will be returned to us in the form of a parish rebate. Just as important as our financial goal is our goal of reaching 100% participation. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated.



FROM THE ORATORY

With praise and gratitude to Almighty God
The members of the Congregation of the Oratory of
St. Philip Neri in Raritan joyfully announce the
Ordination of their brother

John Fredy Triana Beltran, C.O.

to the Order of Presbyter through the invocation of the Holy Spirit and the laying on of hands by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Mario Alberto Avilés, C.O., Titular Bishop of Cataquas, Auxiliary Bishop of Brownsville on

Friday, March 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church
16 E Somerset Street
Raritan, New Jersey

There will be a light reception following Mass.



The parish community of St. Peter the Apostle shares our warmest congratulations with Br. Fredy and The Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Raritan on this wonderful occasion! May God bless you abundantly!

Don't miss another Update from our parish!

We have a tremendous community here at St. Peter's and we want to make sure it's as easy as possible for every one of you to be involved and connected to it all.

Text SPNB to 84576 and join our parish Flocknote Community! Once you send that in, Flocknote will text you back a confirmation message AND another message with a link you'll need to click to complete the process.



Notes... from the choir loft

During LENT...

As a church, we set aside the forty days of Lent as a special time of prayer, fasting, and sacrificial giving in anticipation of the joy of Easter. Even our music during Mass reflects this penitential spirit. Have you noticed the following?

The usual full hymn at the entrance is replaced with a simple chant (*Attende Domine*). The congregation's refrain remains constant each week, while the cantor's verse is the Entrance Antiphon of the day. Tune into this antiphon, as it points to some themes that will be found in the other prayers of the Mass.

The Gloria is omitted on the Sundays of Lent, and we sing the Kyrie Eleison (*Lord, Have Mercy*) of the Penitential Act.

In lieu of a Eucharistic hymn at Communion, we sing simple psalm refrains, and (at Masses with a choir) when the Communion procession concludes, a simple meditative refrain is repeated (in the style of the music of Taizé). Both of these connect to the Scripture readings of the day.

As we anticipate the celebration of Christ's resurrection, may the music that is a part of our prayer at Mass help us enter into the true spirit of Lent with a humbling recognition of our sins and with grateful confidence in the healing power and mercy that is offered through the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The "SUNDAY ONLY" Choir

Have you considered joining the 11am Mass Choir, only to think that the Thursday evening rehearsal is just one thing too many on your busy schedule? Well then this message is for you.

For the months of February and March, the 11am Mass Choir will rehearse *only* before Mass - 10:30am on a Sunday, reviewing music for Mass that same day. This means that for the next two months you can come and sing as you are able. Sing for just one Sunday, every Sunday, or whenever you can make it. If you can be in the choir loft at 10:30am on a given Sunday, you can sing with the choir for that Mass! There's never been a better time to give it a try.

See you in the loft!

*For more information, contact our director
of Sacred Music, Anthony Nardino at*

Anthony@stpeternewbrunswick.org

or just come up to the choir loft any Sunday.