



SAINT MARY'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH | A FRANCISCAN COMMUNITY

ALL ARE WELCOME!

17 POMPTON AVENUE
POMPTON LAKES, NJ 07442
P 973-835-0374 F 973-835-8173
WWW.STMARYS-POMPTON.ORG
SMC@STMARYS-POMPTON.ORG
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MON-THU 9:00-4:00, FRI 9:00-12:00
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12-12:30 MON-THU



St. Francis by Clarissa Cervantes

Clarissa Cervantes is a poet, photographer, physical therapist, and researcher. Clarissa strives to create meaningful Catholic images to inspire and uplift readers. Clarissa holds a doctorate in physical therapy, where she found her vocation to help as well as to deliver comfort to people all over the world through her images and words. For Clarissa, every image captured represents her faith, which is a gift from God to be shared with others and to encourage one another to find beauty, hope and gratitude in their daily lives. Clarissa made her vows as a Pauline Lay Cooperator and never looked back.

Please see page 6 for ways you can celebrate St. Francis and St. Clare this month!

October 12, 2025

FRIAR'S DESK

WE NEVER TOLD HIM HE COULDN'T DO IT

When Joey was born, his feet were twisted upward. His mother took him to the doctor and was told that he had club feet. The doctor assured her that eventually Joey would walk normally, but that he would never be able to run very well.

The first three years of his life, Joey spent in surgery, casts, and braces. And he had to go through a set of exercises every day. But by the time he was eight years old you would never know that he had a problem if you saw him walking.

But if he walked for a long distance, like at the amusement park or the zoo, he would complain that his legs were tired, and that sometimes they hurt.

Then his parents would stop walking and take a break for a soda or an ice cream cone.

They never told him why his legs were weak. They never told him that his legs were deformed at his birth. They never told him, and so he didn't know.

The children in our neighborhood run a lot when they play. And of course, Joey jumps right in and runs and plays too. We never told him that he probably wouldn't be able to run like the other children. We didn't tell him that he was different. We didn't tell him, and so he didn't know.

In 7th grade, Joey decided to try out for the school cross country team. Every day he trained with the team. We never told him that he would always remain back in the pack, and that he should not set his heart on making the team.

Seven children would make the team. Joey finished number six. He made the varsity. We never told him that he had no chance, and so he never knew.

When Jesus talks to us about faith, it is always faith in him and faith in ourselves. When life knocks us down, he will be there to help us get back on our feet. "All you have to do," Jesus tells us, is "come to me."

Jesus doesn't see me as a failure, and so I never knew.

—Father John Alderson, OFM

NUNCA LE DIJIMOS QUE NO PODÍA HACERLO

Cuando Joey nació, tenía los pies torcidos hacia arriba. Su madre lo llevó al médico y le dijeron que tenía pies torcidos. El médico le aseguró que, con el tiempo, Joey caminaría con normalidad, pero que nunca podría correr muy bien.

Joey pasó los tres primeros años de su vida entre operaciones, yesos y aparatos ortopédicos. Además, tenía que hacer una serie de ejercicios todos los días. Pero cuando cumplió ocho años, al verlo caminar, nadie diría que tenía un problema.

Sin embargo, si caminaba largas distancias, como en el parque de atracciones o el zoológico, se quejaba de que le dolían las piernas y, a veces, le dolían.

Entonces, sus padres dejaban de caminar y se tomaban un descanso para tomar un refresco o un helado.

Nunca le dijeron por qué tenía las piernas débiles. Nunca le dijeron que sus piernas estaban deformadas desde que nació. Nunca se lo dijeron, así que él no lo sabía.

Los niños de nuestro barrio corren mucho cuando juegan. Y, por supuesto, Joey se une a ellos y también corre y juega. Nunca le dijimos que probablemente no podría correr como los demás niños. No le dijimos que era diferente. No se lo dijimos, así que él no lo sabía.

En séptimo grado, Joey decidió hacer una prueba para el equipo de campo a través de la escuela. Todos los días entrenaba con el equipo. Nunca le dijimos que siempre se quedaría atrás y que no debía ilusionarse con formar parte del equipo.

Siete niños formarían el equipo. Joey terminó en sexto lugar. Entró en el equipo universitario. Nunca le dijimos que no tenía ninguna posibilidad, así que nunca lo supo.

Cuando Jesús nos habla de la fe, siempre se refiere a la fe en él y a la fe en nosotros mismos. Cuando la vida nos derriba, él estará ahí para ayudarnos a levantarnos. "Todo lo que tienes que hacer", nos dice Jesús, es "venir a mí".

Jesús no me ve como un fracasado, así que nunca lo supe.

—Father John Alderson, OFM

PARISH OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 973-835-0374

FRANCISCAN FRIARS SERVING YOU

Fr. John Aherne, OFM, x139 jaherne@stmarys-pompton.org
Fr. John Alderson, OFM rochester14220@gmail.com
Fr. John Coughlin, OFM, x169 jcoughlin@stmarys-pompton.org
Deacon Tom Kimak Tkimak@stmarys-pompton.org

BAPTISMS

Lynda Rogalski lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org

BUSINESS OFFICE

Toma Dedio tdedio@stmarys-pompton.org

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

Keith Orotosky, x145 korotosky@stmarys-pompton.org
Phillip Epstein, x140 pepstein@stmarys-pompton.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Milagros Anto, x703 Milagros@stmarys-pompton.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Craig & Dorothy Limey, x158 cdlimey@stmarys-pompton.org

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Food Pantry 973-831-4442 foodpantry@stmarys-pompton.org
Value our Veterans valueourveterans@stmarys-pompton.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Dr. Pamela Hall, 973-835-6337 Pathways Counseling Center
Clare Russo, 973-835-0374 x113 Stephen Ministry

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 973-835-7750

Toni Wong, x102 Grades 1 to 5 twong@stmarys-pompton.org
Cathy Feld, x103 cfeld@stmarys-pompton.org
Grades 6 to 8 & Confirmation cfeld@stmarys-pompton.org
Debbie Borroto, x130
Admin. Asst./ Local Youth Protection/
Safe Environment Coordinator debbie@stmarys-pompton.org

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY YOUNG ADULT & ADULT

Karen Niemann kniemann@stmarys-pompton.org

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY YOUTH

Andrea Piccirillo apiccirillo@stmarys-pompton.org

WEDDINGS

Getting married at St. Mary's? We'd love to celebrate the sacrament of marriage with you! Please contact Lynda Rogalski at lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org six months to a year before your desired date.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Trevor George, 862-274-5171 tgeorge@stmarys-pompton.org

UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT INFO

Please call **973-835-0374** or send an email to smc@stmarys-pompton.org if:

- your address, email address or telephone number has changed, and/or
- a parishioner has been married and/or
- a parishioner has moved.

Parish records need to be current so please be sure to inform us of any changes as soon as possible.

Thank you!

Calendar of Events

Please see our Parish Calendar for all the current events and activities going on at St. Mary's!

<https://stmarys-pompton.org/parish-calendar>



Worship Adorar

Scan for worship aids
Escanea para ayudas para la adoración



Online Giving Donaciones en línea

Scan to make a donation
Escanea para hacer una donación



Pray



Orar

Serve



Atender

Give



Donar

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!





MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

9:00 AM—Liturgy of the Word with Communion
(Prayer Room)

Vigil Masses:

5:00 PM—English

7:00 PM—English

SUNDAY

7:30 AM—English

8:45 AM—Español (livestreamed)

9:00 AM—English (Carnevale Center)

10:30 AM—English (livestreamed)

12:00 PM—English

WEEKDAYS

8:00 AM—Monday-Friday in English (livestreamed)

7:00 PM—Wednesday en Español (livestreamed)

MASSES ONLINE AT:

www.stmarys-pompton.org

www.facebook.com/smcpompton

www.youtube.com/c/stmaryspomptonlakes



This week, the Altar Flowers have been donated in loving memory of **Mary DeHaven** with love from Toni and Jennifer.



This week, the Bread and Wine have been donated in celebration and thanksgiving for 50 years of marriage for **Lou and Jean D'Onofrio**.



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, October 13th.
Daily Mass will be at 9:00 a.m.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9



CONFESSION AND ADORATION

CONFESSION: Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or call for an appointment.

ADORATION: The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration on Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and for one hour after morning Mass on the first Friday of each month.

During Adoration, please maintain a reverent silence.

St. Francis Month of Service

Upcoming Events

Box of Joy: register and get a box from the Parish Office to fill for a child in need.

Candy Collection: donate nut-free candy for the Trunk or Treat on 10/25.

"Fill the Ark": grab a calendar and participate in this 4-week family devotional.

10/12 Ministry Fair after all Masses
10/14 JPIC guest speaker at 7pm in the CC
10/15 pack meals for those in need at 6:30pm in Spina Hall. Please register!
10/16 distribute food to those in need with Bridges Outreach. Please register!

MASS INTENTIONS † = Deceased, L = Living



...THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY PASSED

Patricia McAvoy

...THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Angelo, John, Frank Furnari, John Molaro, Marc Rocco, Kellie Diemer, Lynn Hutman, Thomas Earley, Susan Esposito, Owen Patrick Brophy, Kathy Green, Magnus Slyfield, Janet Mahoney, Connor Murphy, Al Dedonna, David Grish, Paula Tedesco Carreras, Michael Burck, Peggy Turpen, Linda Gomez, Ana Panzardi, Ed Dittman, John Donnelly, Linda Bedell Kwaitkowski, Jama Rothschild, Joy Wechter

To add a loved one to this list, please call the Parish Office at 973-835-0374. Names are kept on the list for 30 days unless we are notified otherwise.

...THOSE SERVING IN HARM'S WAY

Lt. Jessica T. Atterbury, PFC Nathan Hunt, CMCN Michael LeTennier, MCS, PFC Sean Jennings, SGT Ryan Cronin, US Navy SO, SSG Kevin Carey, SPC Brian R. Sudol, CSM Robert Hammerle, Sgt. Mark Ashley, SGT Ryan J. Heppel, SPC Dean V. Lucas, LCpl Michael Vignuli, Major Daniel J. Ciccarella, Sgt. Justyn Shovlowsky, Captain Austin Canning, SSG Tiffany Thumann, TSSgt. Scott Miller, Capt. Krystal Thumann, Cpl F. S. Raza, Sean Flanagan, Capt. Matthew W. D'Amico, USMC Lt. 1st Thomas Seneski; Sgt. Anthony W. Gabriel; Brian Hansen, Sgt. Ashlee Quigle; Capt. Daniel M. Kearney, USMC; 2nd LT Emily Simone and Navy Lt. Ryan Hackett, Tracie Kasko, LT Vincent Bellomo, Staff Sergeant Andrew Murphy, Emmanuel Folleco, Sergeant Denise Gonzalez, Staff Sergeant Victoria Zimbaro.

IF THE STATUS OF SOMEONE ON THIS LIST HAS CHANGED, PLEASE INFORM THE PARISH OFFICE ASAP. THANK YOU!

Saturday		October 11
5:00 p.m.	† Roy Baldissard † Charles Garske † Mark Maily † Linda Novak	
7:00 p.m.	† Mick Smith	
Sunday		October 12
7:30 a.m.	† Linda Novak † Michael Reformat (8th Ann.) † Marianne Torsiello	
8:45 a.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish	
9:00 a.m. (CC)	† George Graf † David Searles † Cosmo & Margaret LaForgia	
10:30 a.m.	† Gloria Thompson (1st Ann.) † Joseph & Rose Rubino † James & Mary Wilson † JoAnn Nelson † AnnMarie Van Doran Sabarese L Jean & Lou D'Onofrio (50th Wedding Ann.)	
12:00 p.m.	† Bill Craig † Dave Burdett † Arthur Cetrulo	
Monday		October 13
		DAILY MASS 9AM
9:00 a.m.	† Bill Kozubal † Norberto Visto, Sr.	
Tuesday		October 14
8:00 a.m.	† Kathy Marshall	
Wednesday		October 15
8:00 a.m.	† Anita Costi † Holy Souls in Purgatory	
7:00 p.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish	
Thursday		October 16
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish	
Friday		October 17
8:00 a.m.	† Kathy Marshall † Flora Wylie	
Saturday		October 18
5:00 p.m.	† William McGrath † Walter J. Winrow, Sr. † Arthur McCormick † Bernice Weinheimer † Regulo V. Soliven	
7:00 p.m.	† Robert McCorry † Joan & Vincent Phalon	
Sunday		October 19
7:30 a.m.	† Josephine Ferrara (1st Ann.) † Robert Hogan	
8:45 a.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish	
9:00 a.m. (CC)	† Phyllis D'Onofrio	
10:30 a.m.	† Robert McCorry (1st Ann.) † Kathy Marshall † Frank Cocuzza † John McHugh † Richard DeYoung † Patricia Ann Hilsen	
12:00 p.m.	† Frank Trotta (3rd Ann.) † Fausto Redondo † Tulia Gomez † Jesus Gomez	

From the Parish Council



Please feel free to come up to one of the Parish Council members if you see us around or email parishcouncil@stmarys-pompton.org! For the most up-to-date report of the Parish Pastoral Council, please scan the QR code.



Diane



Toma



Zach



Kristine



Greg



Mark



Joanne



Dino



Katie

ST. FRANCIS CELEBRATION AND OCTOBER MONTH OF SERVICE

It was while living with and serving the lepers and poor that St. Francis of Assisi saw the face of God most clearly. Since then, service is at the heart of what it means to be a Franciscan Community. To celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi this year, we are encouraging everyone to participate in at least one act of service during the month of October. Below is a list of opportunities to serve along side fellow parishioners!

Find something that speaks to your heart, and in the humble Spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare, serve your neighbor or community. The Peace Prayer reminds us that "It is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." May we serve willingly, give generously, and receive with glad hearts the blessing of our Holy Father, St. Francis of Assisi!



Box of Joy: We will bless children suffering from extreme poverty by filling boxes with toys and other gifts, sharing the joy of Christmas and planting seeds of hope through the Gospel. Boxes can be picked up beginning October 1st in the Parish Office, after registration.

Nut Free Candy Collection: October 11/12 at all Masses. St. Mary's is partnering with a school in Paterson to provide a fun Trunk -or- Treat experience to children in need (see below). Candy that is being collected will be used for that event.

Heifer International / Fill The Ark Calendars: "Fill the Ark" is a four-week family devotional with a focus on gratitude for our blessings and a generous spirit of giving to our neighbors in need. Each week shares a scripture as the focus for reflection and study. Daily giving challenges bring parents, siblings, grandparents, or other family members together to appreciate their abundance and collect change to help struggling families. Calendars will be available in the church.

Ministry Fair: Enjoy coffee, fellowship and learn about all of the wonderful opportunities to serve with our ministries at St. Mary's on October 12th after all Masses.

10th Anniversary of Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Si" (2015-2025): The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Ministry (JPIC) invites you to an evening of Education, Sharing and Action with special guest speaker Jacek Orzechowski, O.F.M. on October 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Carnevale Center. Let's ponder the question, how are we caring for Our Common Home now?

Pack-a-Meal for Bridges Outreach: Join us on October 15th at 6:30 p.m. in Spina Hall as we pack sustainable meals and make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for those experiencing food insecurities. Please register for this event; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Families welcome!

The Bridges Organization aims to end homelessness through street outreach and intensive case management focusing on health, housing, and independence. Bridges forms relationships with those experiencing homelessness while meeting their most urgent needs. St. Mary's volunteers will distribute food and emergency items to individuals, helping to make a connection with those who are on the margins and underserved.

Bridges Outreach Food Distribution: Join us on October 16th from 6-10 p.m. as we distribute brown bag lunches, hygiene kits, and other essential items in Rahway, NJ. You will help with set up, item distribution, and clean up while engaging with patrons on our mission to end homelessness. Open to parishioners 18 and older, High School-aged volunteers must be accompanied by a parent. Please register for this event; spots are limited.

Adult Volunteer & Minister Appreciation Dinner: For all you do for St. Mary's! October 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the Carnevale Center. If you volunteer for one of our ministries, please register on our website so we can show our appreciation.

Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot at Paterson Arts and Science Charter School on October 25th from 2-4 p.m. This is a great family activity! All vehicles are welcome and must complete a registration form prior to the event. Trunk or Treating is open to Paterson students only. St. Mary's Families are encouraged to dress up and enjoy the experience of handing out candy to children in need. "Trunkers" will be asked to decorate their trunk, tailgate, or hatchback and provide nut-free candy for 100 "Treaters". St. Mary's will provide additional candy from the candy collection. Please register for this event!

Market Street Mission: Join us on November 1st from 9-11:30 am. on the Morristown Green as we partner with Market Street Mission to distribute coats, hats, gloves, and scarves to those who are in need. Please register for this event; spots are limited. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

St. Francis Inn: Join us on November 8th as we travel to Philadelphia to work with the St. Francis Inn, feeding the unhoused and those who have food insecurities. This trip is open to those in high school and older. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Please register for this all-day event. The St. Francis Inn is a Franciscan, Eucharistic community called to minister with the poor and homeless of Philadelphia. Formed in the spirit of the Gospel and inspired by the life and compassion of Francis and Clare of Assisi, we try to meet the immediate daily needs of the people we serve with food, clothing, and hospitality. Our restaurant-style soup kitchen, open 365 days a year! Our mission is to not only feed the hungry, but also provide essential toiletry products and a safe place to receive mail. Volunteers typically help seat, serve, and bus a meal service. We may help with Meal preparation, or assist in Marie's closet, the clothing distribution center. We will be there to serve however we can for the day.

Please scan the QR code for more information and to register for applicable events!



We are pleased to announce that you can now request Mass Intentions online! Whether you wish to honor a loved one, or celebrate a special occasion, submitting your intention is now just a few clicks away. Visit our parish website to fill out the simple online form: <https://stmarys-pompton.org/mass-intentions>

FOOD PANTRY

Upcoming Food Pantry distribution dates/times:

Saturday, October 18	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, October 22	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, October 25	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, October 29	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, November 15	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, November 19	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)

Current needed items:

Broth (chicken and beef), spaghetti (not other pastas), pancake mix and syrup, decaf tea, Manwich, spices (not salt, pepper or garlic), toilet paper.

We need drivers for the pantry's truck. A special license is not needed! Please call the Parish Office if interested.

The Food Pantry is located at 22R (Lower level, rear) Lakeside Avenue, Pompton Lakes (accessible from the municipal parking lot) and the phone number is 973-831-4442.

All donations are requested to be dropped off in the shed directly behind the church. It is open 24/7.

Donations can be mailed directly to the church at 31 Pompton Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442.

NO CLOTHING DONATIONS PLEASE.



1. From time to time, we'll need a group of volunteers to help us set up and move chairs and tables around the Carnevale Center. Sometimes this will be during the day; sometimes it may be later in the evening. If your schedule is flexible, and you might be able to help us out with this occasionally, please call the parish office or email smc@stmarys-pompton.org with your name and availability, and we'll add you to our list!

2. Due to high demand, we are thinking of opening the Parish Office from 8 a.m. to noon on Sundays for people to pick up mass cards, request mass intentions, buy Holy Bones and other basic services. If you are interested in volunteering to sit at our front desk during these hours--either by yourself or with a friend or two; once a month or every week---please call our Parish Office or email smc@stmarys-pompton.org and we'll get back to you.

3. We're looking for volunteers to help us with our weekly "children's liturgy of the word" during the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. During this Mass, we call the children out for 15 minutes to read an age-appropriate version of the Gospel and engage in a simple activity or lesson before bringing them back to their parents. Help get our young children excited about God by helping out as often as you are able. Volunteers will need to complete Protecting God's Children program. Please call the office or email smc@stmarys-pompton.org if you are interested.

Income:

Income from all sources including offertory and other donations for August:	\$199,496
Building and Maintenance fund collected for August:	\$10,122
Total:	\$209,618



Expenses: Our monthly expenses vary throughout the year. As a reference point, an average of our expenses per month based on what we spent in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is \$145,450.

Building and maintenance expenses on average per month are: \$44,692

August 2025 Building and Maintenance expenses

Utilities for all buildings:	\$17,294
Repairs to school roof, gutter and wall leak:	\$3,500
Repairs to church bell tower:	\$9,450
Repairs to parking lot lights (LED lights installed):	\$1,716

The Big Picture: Overall, we are ending Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in line with our balanced budget.

We will continue to refine our presentation of our finances so we can be as transparent as possible. For a more complete breakdown of expenses and income, please see our **October 20, 2024** bulletin which can be accessed from our website.

Through the waters of Baptism, we welcome into the Body of Christ...



**Wyatt Nicholas
Malet**



**Evangeline Anne
Tyson**



Clarissa Joyce Rojas



**Hudson Scott
Dimock**

"To infinity... and beyond!" Our Special Needs Community had a great time at their September dance. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this evening possible!



We appreciate everyone who made our annual golf outing a success! Thanks to the support of our golfers and sponsors, we were able to raise \$3,026 for the many ministries of St. Mary's! And congratulations to our winning team (pictured left): Joe Tomsey, Kevin Mooney, Kevin Dunn, Gavin Mooney.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1st and 2nd grade classes are filling up! If you are planning on registering your child please so ASAP as we do try to honor specific requests. Please use the QR code to register.



Third and Fourth Grade Classes are now going strong, and we are planning a service project for Thanksgiving. Detailed information will be provided via email and text to the children's families attending Religious Education.

All third graders attending their required Mass this weekend should remember to complete a Mass Reflection Sheet. The link was sent via email with a reminder. No class for 3rd grade on Monday, October 13 and Wednesday, October 15.

SPECIAL NEEDS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration continues for our special needs religious education classes! Confirmation classes begin October 8th for students of high school age or above. Students need to have already been baptized and have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

First Reconciliation and Eucharist classes will begin in January for students in Grade 2 or above. Students need to have already been baptized.

Anyone wishing to register their child and/or would like further information, please contact Andrea Piccirillo, Director, Special Needs Ministry - Religious Education
973-835-0374

Our youth ministry teens and adults held a surprise wedding shower for our youth minister extraordinaire Trevor George, and his equally wonderful fiancée Dora. May God bless them on these exciting days leading up to their wedding!



ALL SOUL'S DAY

NOVEMBER 2, 2025



We will commemorate All Soul's Day by placing photographs of those who have died in the past year around our church during the month of November.

Due to space limitations, we are only able to include photographs of people who have passed away since November 2024.

Email photographs to smc@stmarys-pompton.org with the deceased names in the subject line.

The deadline for submitting a photograph is October 20th.

During the month of November, the names of all the deceased who were written on our All Souls Day envelopes will be in this urn and remembered at all the Masses.



We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become.

St. Clare of Assisi





Knights of Columbus



SANT MARY'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH | A FRANCISCAN COMMUNITY

Proceeds to Benefit K of C Charitable Causes & St. Mary's Parish Ministries

Calendar Raffle

\$3,000 in Prizes

36 Chances to WIN!

\$10.00 Donation

Tickets on sale after the following weekend Masses

October 11/12...18/19...25/26

& at St. Mary's Parish Office



OCIA
(Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Interested in becoming a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church?

Who is it for? Any of the following:

- Persons who have never been baptized.
- Persons who have been baptized in another Christian faith tradition and are now interested in becoming Catholic.
- Persons who were baptized as Catholics but who were not raised Catholic.
- Persons who have not yet been confirmed in the Catholic Faith.

OCIA is a process by which one receives an overview of what the Catholic Church believes and what our faith is all about. It gives each person the opportunity to choose to become a full member of the Catholic Faith through the Sacraments of Initiation. If you are interested, or know someone who is, please call the Parish Office or email Monica Coyle at mccoyle@verizon.net.



St. Mary's Church
Special Needs Sensory Mass

What is a Sensory Mass?

A sensory friendly mass offers the opportunity for those individuals with auditory and visual processing sensitivities to celebrate mass along with their families. The mass is

shorter in length, church lighting is dimmer and music is softer providing a warm, inclusive environment for all.

Masses will be held monthly on the following dates:

2025 - Oct. 26th, Nov. 23rd, Dec. 21st

2026 - Jan. 25th, Feb. 22nd, Mar. 22nd, Apr. 19th,

May 17th, Jun. 14th

Spiritual Guided Meditation Hour

Thursday, October 16th at 7:00 PM
in The Prayer Room

Join us as we journey with St. Francis and his Canticle of the Sun

What is Guided Meditation?

Meditation, or contemplation, is a form of prayer that invites us to encounter God through our imagination, while being led with a story.

It engages both the mind and heart, using our thoughts and emotions to deepen our awareness of God's presence in our lives. We begin with quiet music, deep breathing, and relaxation, stilling our minds so we can be open to the grace to be led by our loving God.

We hope you can join us for this meaningful time of private reflection and prayer.

The Lost Angels Ministry of
St. Mary's Church
invites you, your family,
and friends to a

Memorial Service

For all persons who have died from
the disease of addiction

Please bring a framed picture of your
loved ones to the service

Thursday, November 6th
at 7:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Church
17 Pompton Avenue
Pompton Lakes, NJ



GOLD AND SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 2000, 1975 or 1965? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 60+, 50th or 25th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 3:00pm. Arrangements can be made by contacting your parish office. The deadline to register is Friday, October 17, 2025. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. Congratulations on this joyous occasion!

MISA DE ANIVERSARIO DE BODAS DE ORO Y PLATA

¿Parejas, Ustedes se casaron en 1965, 1975 o 2000? Están cordialmente invitados a celebrar su 60+, 50 o 25 Aniversario de Bodas con la Diócesis de Paterson. El Obispo Sweeney será el celebrante principal de la misa en la Catedral San Juan Bautista en Paterson el Domingo, 16 de Noviembre de 2025, a las 3:00pm. Para más información, por favor llame a su oficina parroquial. Los formularios para registrarse estarán disponibles hasta el 17 de Octubre de 2025. La Oficina de Vida Familiar de la diócesis le enviara información una vez que su registración haya sido procesada. Muchas felicidades en este maravilloso acontecimiento.

A JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

10/16-11/20 from 7-8:30pm
In the Banta Room (Carnevale Ctr.)



The group is open to all who have recently experienced the death of a loved one. We aim to create a supportive group in which one's unique journey through the grief process is examined and respected.

Pre-registration is required. Participation is free through the sponsorship of Pathways and St. Mary's Parish.

Those interested may contact Pathways at 973-835-6337 or email info@pathwayscounseling.org.



There will be a meeting of the Bereavement Support Group on Monday, October 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Banta Room of the Carnevale Center.



Calling all women of the parish -
Join us for **Game Night!**

Wednesday, October 29th
at 7:00 p.m. in the Carnevale
Center, Room 201.

All are welcome!

Bring a beverage or snack and
join us for some friendly
competition and laughter!

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973-835-0374, ext. 113

Christ Caring for People through People

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

For more information about these and our other ministries, call the Parish Office or email us at smc@stmarys-pompton.org

CONNECT WITH US

Active Seniors: We are a group for men and women over 55. We meet regularly, host speakers and plan trips and outings to promote community.

Filipino Ministry: We are a lay ministry of St. Mary's Parish. Most of us are both affiliate members of Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Group and the Missionary Families of Christ. We pray the Rosary and recite the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. We meet on a regular basis as a household to worship, pray and hold fellowship.

Hispanic Ministry: We are people who promote a truly Catholic formation that will help the community better respond to the challenges they face today. We are also all the people who speak Spanish as a first language. We are from different countries of the Americas: Honduras, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Peru, Guatemala, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and El Salvador. Most of us are immigrants who want to have legal status to be citizens of the United States and contribute to this country based on honesty, integrity and justice.

Knights of Columbus: We are the world's largest Catholic benefit society, providing both financial aid and volunteer hours to those in need. The principals are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

LGBTQ+ Spirituality Group: We are the parish faith sharing group for Catholic gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning persons 18 and over and their families. We are in frequent collaboration with our brothers and sisters across central NJ. We acknowledge and respect the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church and strive to create an environment where people may honestly and faithfully share their stories and faith lives.

Original St. Mary's Seniors: We are a group of Seniors 55 years or older who reside in Pompton Lakes and get together for fellowship in social and educational experiences.

Young Adult Ministry: We are a group of men and women between the ages of 18 – 35 who desire to grow closer to God and to each other through service, prayer and fellowship.

Youth Ministry: We are a group of high school age men and women who gather weekly and go on periodic retreats to grow in our faith with God and friendship with one another.

LEARN WITH US

Bible Study: We offer periodic scripture experiences that typically study a particular book or theme of the Bible. Sessions are conducted in a faith-sharing style of learning. They are facilitated scripture study groups in English and Spanish alternately.

Baptismal Preparation: We offer catechesis to parents interested in having their babies or other young children baptized in the Catholic Church. The class gives instruction on the sacrament of baptism and other key teachings of the Church. It also provides ideas, resources, and inspiration to parents in their efforts to raise their children as practicing Catholics.

Book Group Ministry: We are a group of parishioners who gather to read and discuss books based on religious and spiritual themes.

Marriage Preparation: We are a team of married St. Mary's couples who lead an interactive and uplifting seminar illustrating aspects of a successful Catholic Christian marriage. We use personal experiences, small group discussions and base the day on the St. Mary's Franciscan spirit of openness.

Men's Book Group: We are a group of men who meet throughout the year to read and discuss books on faith.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): The OCIA is designed for adults as a process for people who wish to become part of the Catholic community of faith including those who have never been Baptized, Catholics who have been Baptized but never received the sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation, and those from a different faith who wish to convert to Catholicism.

Religious Education: Religious education begins a lifelong process that helps children develop a strong religious foundation which will continue with their family, community and the Church. Religious Education and the Confirmation program provides religious education and sacramental preparation vital to a child's development as a Catholic.

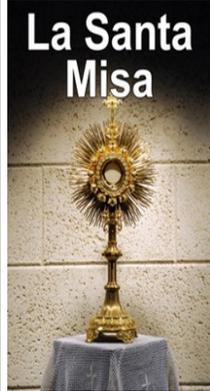
MINISTERIO HISPANO DE SANTA MARIA

La Santa Misa en español

Miércoles a las 7:00pm

Domingos a las 8:45am

En la iglesia Principal



Bautismos en español

Requisitos: Certificado de Nacimiento del(a) niño(a), padrinos y asistir a una clase antes de la celebración del Sacramento (padres y padrinos). Información: Milagros Anto. Si desea bautizar su hijo(a) en inglés debe asistir a una clase y llamar a Lynda 973-835-0374 Ext 192.



Visita de "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe" a tu hogar.

Si deseas que Nuestra Morenita visite tu hogar ponte en contacto con **Angelina Nuci** después de nuestra misa dominical o escríbele al siguiente correo electrónico: angehannuci@yahoo.com. Cada domingo en misa con la bendición de nuestra comunidad; "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe" es enviada a visitar cada familia que así lo requiere.

ANUNCIOS

1.- **Orar al Santísimo** es un momento de intimidad y amistad con Dios. Tendremos exposición al Santísimo después de la misa en español el miércoles 15 de octubre de 2025. Si conoces a alguien que no pueda comulgar por enfermedad u otros motivos, por favor, infórmale al Padre John Coughlin para que pueda visitarle.

2.- Catecismo de Primera Comunión, y

Confirmación: Estaremos inscribiendo para estos catecismos. Si necesita más información por favor comuníquese con:

*Angelina Nuci -Primera Comunión

*Milagros Anto – Confirmación

*Ana Cadena – RICA

Las clases empezaran la tercera semana de septiembre en el Centro Carnevale.

3.- **La Fiesta del Señor De Los Milagros** se llevará a cabo el domingo 19 de octubre de 2025. Como es tradición empezaremos con una procesión que inicia frente al jardín de San Francisco (frente al estacionamiento de la parroquia). La misa será a las 8:45am y después invitamos a todos a compartir un desayuno en comunidad. Si desea aunarse a la organización de esta festividad comuníquese con Yolanda Piscoya y Leydi Argandoña.

4.- **Fiesta de Disfraces:** El comité Guadalupano está organizando una fiesta para el sábado 25 de octubre de 7-12pm en el centro Carnevale con el fin de recaudar fondos para celebrar a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el 7 y 12 de diciembre de 2025. Su participación y apoyo son valiosos.

Iglesia Católica de Santa María y
Comunidad Franciscana

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Al hacer un donativo recurrente, usted puede proporcionar un apoyo continuo a las necesidades esenciales de nuestra parroquia, sus programas, sus ministerios y otras iniciativas de ayuda y asistencia.

Porque es dando que recibimos



Lecturas Bíblicas –Ciclo C -XXVIII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario - (12 de octubre de 2025)

Primera Lectura: 2 Reyes 5, 14-17
Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 97, 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4
Segunda Lectura: 2 Timoteo 2, 8-13
+Evangelio: Lucas 17, 11-19

Ministerio de Proclamadores de la Palabra

Por favor comunicarse con Lourdes Huerta (973-270-3453). Este Ministerio se reunirá el lunes 13 de octubre de 2025 de 7:30pm a 8:30pm en el salón Alma Banta del Centro Carnevale.



El premio Vivere Christus representa una de las distinciones más significativas que otorga la Diócesis de Paterson, Nueva Jersey. Por esta razón, dicho galardón reconoce anualmente el servicio ejemplar de laicos, familias y ministros, quienes mediante su compromiso y entrega reflejan el auténtico espíritu cristiano en sus comunidades parroquiales. Además, la frase latina “Vivere Christus Est”, que se traduce como “Vivir es Cristo”, inspira este premio al simbolizar la dedicación de los homenajeados al Evangelio y al servicio al prójimo.

Por otra parte, cada año las parroquias nominan a personas cuyas vidas y acciones marcan una diferencia especial en la misión evangelizadora y pastoral de la Iglesia. De este modo, en una ceremonia solemne que se celebrará en la Catedral de San Juan el Bautista el 19 de octubre a las 3:00pm, el obispo Kevin Sweeny reconocerá públicamente la labor de los galardonados, quienes recibirán la medalla Vivere Christus como símbolo de su entrega generosa. Sin duda, ser nominado y recibir este premio constituye motivo de orgullo y agradecimiento para toda la comunidad diocesana.

Este 2025, la parroquia de Santa María en Pompton Lakes ha nominado a **Angelina Nuci**, originaria de México, por su destacada e ininterrumpida labor como catequista de Primera Comunión desde 2003. Asimismo, Angelina se ha dedicado como proclamadora de la Palabra y ministra extraordinaria de la Eucaristía, siempre al servicio de la comunidad. Cabe resaltar que su constancia, entrega y profundo amor por los niños de la comunidad hispana la han convertido en un verdadero pilar para la fe y la formación cristiana de las nuevas generaciones.

Finalmente, lo más admirable de Angelina no es sólo su dedicación incansable, sino también su valentía ante los desafíos como inmigrante; nunca ha descuidado el cariño ni el servicio a los demás, en especial a los niños. Incluso, ha sido ejemplo de perseverancia y esperanza, mostrando siempre una actitud positiva y solidaria, aun en los momentos difíciles. Para nuestra comunidad es un honor contar con Angelina; todos aprendemos de su servicio y nos motiva su testimonio en Cristo. Nuestros frailes también se unen en esta felicitación, reconociendo el valor, la fe y la autenticidad de su entrega. ¡Felicitaciones, Angelina, ¡y gracias por todo lo que haces por nuestra familia parroquial!

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