Solemnity of Mary,

THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Saint Clare of Assisi Parish

Serving the Communities of Gibbstown, Paulsboro, Swedesboro and beyond

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ministeriohispano@stclarenj.org Website: https://stclarenj.org/communidad-hispana

Línea directa en español: 856-467-0227

Este fin de semana, al marcar el comienzo de un nuevo año, recordamos los eventos del año pasado en nuestras vidas, y anticipamos con esperanza orante, cosas aún mayores por venir en el próximo año. En medio de esta transición del cambio de calendario al nuevo año, la Iglesia, este fin de semana, nos llama a celebrar dos hermosas solemnidades. La solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios (sábado) y la solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor (domingo). Ambos celebraron a la luz de la Navidad, todavía ardiendo intensamente en nuestros corazones y mentes.

Celebramos a María, la mujer perfecta, que fue elegida como el camino para que Dios se acercará a la humanidad. Con alegría, merecidamente titulamos a María como la Madre de Dios, porque de hecho lo es. Como la madre humana de nuestro Salvador, Jesucristo, el Hijo de Dios completamente humano y completamente divino, María es la Madre de Dios. Nuestra devoción a ella a través de este título, abre nuestras mentes al misterio de la Encarnación y nos lleva a una comprensión más profunda de su papel en nuestra salvación. Necesitamos verla claramente como el camino que podemos elegir para acercarnos a Jesús, Nuestro Señor y Nuestro Dios. Que nuestra oración de *"Santa María, Madre de Dios, ore por nosotros los pecadores, ahora y en la hora de nuestra muerte",* caiga de nuestros labios a menudo.

Y este fin de semana, celebramos la Fiesta de la Epifanía. Así como los Reyes Magos ofrecieron sus regalos al Rey recién nacido, nosotros también estamos llamados a ofrecer nuestros dones al Niño Jesús, nuestro Dios y nuestro Rey. Pero no los dones materiales son. El don de nuestro amor. El don de lo que somos como hijos de Dios. Al igual que cualquier padre que prefiere el amor y la presencia de sus hijos más allá de cualquier don material, así es con Dios nuestro Padre.

Al comenzar este nuevo año de 2022, comprometámonos con este regalo continuo a Dios. Ofreciéndole nuestro amor y vidas de maneras nuevas y diferentes que mejorarán nuestra relación con Él. Seamos más fervientes en nuestras vidas de oración mientras hablamos con Él diariamente y más decididos en nuestro compromiso con la Eucaristía al recibir, con amor y devoción, la plenitud de su presencia humana y divina en nuestra propia humanidad. Que estemos más abiertos a amar a nuestro prójimo por nuestra ayuda en sus momentos de necesidad, por nuestra presencia en sus tiempos de soledad, y por nuestro apoyo y defensa hacia ellos cuando las injusticias apuntan a destruir sus espíritus.

Vivamos este año venidero recordando siempre lo que el Señor nos ha revelado: *"Lo Que hacéis por los más pequeños, lo hacéis por Mí. "*

Que tengas un 2022 lleno de alegría y espiritualmente renovado.

Paz y todas las cosas buenas,

Deacon Jerry

This weekend, as we mark the beginning of a new year, we recall the events of the past year in our lives, and we anticipate with prayerful hope, even greater things to come in the year ahead. Amid this transition of the calendar flip to the new year, the Church, this weekend, calls us to celebrate two beautiful solemnities. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Saturday) and the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (Sunday). Both celebrated in the light of Christmas, still burning brightly in our hearts and minds.

We celebrate Mary, the perfect woman, who was chosen as the path for God to approach humanity. With joy, we deservedly title Mary as the Mother of God, because indeed she is. As the human mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the fully human and fully divine Son of God, Mary is the Mother of God. Our devotion to her through this title, opens our minds to the mystery of the Incarnation and brings us to a deeper understanding of her role in our salvation. We need to see her clearly as the path we may chose to approach Jesus, Our Lord and Our God. Let our prayer of *"Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death",* fall from our lips often.

And this weekend, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Just as the Magi offered their royal gifts to the newborn King, we too are called to offer our gifts to the Christ Child – our God and our King. But not the material gifts fit for an earthly King, but rather the gifts of ourselves. The gift of our love. The gift of who we are as God's children. Just like any parent who prefers the love and presence of their children beyond any material gift, so it is with God our Father.

As we begin this new year of 2022, let us commit to this ongoing gift giving to God. Offering Him our love and lives in new and different ways that will enhance our relationship with Him. Let's become more fervent in our prayer lives as we talk with Him daily and more resolute in our commitment to the Eucharist as we receive, with love and devotion, the fulness of His human and divine presence into our own humanity. And may we be more open to love our neighbors by our assistance in their times of need, by our presence in their times of loneliness, and by our support and advocacy toward them when injustices aim to destroy their spirits.

Let us live out this year ahead by always remembering what the Lord has revealed to us: *"What you do for the least of these, you do for Me."*

May you have a joy-filled and spiritually renewed 2022.

Peace and all good things,

Deacon Jerry

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

GB = Gibbstown / SB = Swedesboro / MH = Ministerio Hispano

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

8:00 AM SB	Darlene Casella r/o Pete Patane
9:30 AM GB	The People of the Parish
9:30 AM SB	The People of the Parish (MH)
11:00 AM SB	Ephraim Block & William & Mary McDevitt r/o Grant Family

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022

8:30 AM GB	Sister Joan Clare OSF r/o Donna Gentile

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022

8:30 AM GB	Robert Ferretti r/o Bernadette & Jim Ford & Family
6:30 PM SB	The People of the Parish (MH)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022

8:30 AM GB	The People of the Parish

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

8:30 AM SB	Gaudiosa Geollegue r/o Mary Lamey & Richard Klimek

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2022

8:30 AM SB	Tim Lamey & Mary Klimek r/o Mary Lamey & Richard Klimek

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2022

9:00 AM SB	C. Darlene & Frank Casella r/o Donna Chuba
4:30 PM GB	Ralph & Fanny Russo r/o The Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

8:00 AM SB	Michael Kavchok 1 Yr Anniversary r/o Wife & Children
9:30 AM GB	Happy Birthday Charles, Regina, & Teresa r/o Patricia Collins
9:30 AM SB	The People of the Parish (MH)
11:00 AM SB	Joseph S. Basara r/o The Grant Family

The **Pro-Life Rose** is in memory of
Salvatore Leonardo r/o Cookie

The Tabernacle Candle burns in memory of
Anthony Joseph Sr & Anthony Joseph Jr r/o Catherine Lisa

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

In Preparation for The Baptism of the Lord: Jan 9th

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7

Second Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Community Outreach

St. Vincent de Paul Society
(856)423-4190

Kings Things
1404 Kings Highway
Swedesboro
(856)467-1796

Go to: stclarenj.org to make a donation

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022—KOC ST. FRANCIS HOAGIE SALE—SB

10:30 AM	Hispanic Ministry Leadership Meeting—SB Parish Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022

8:00 PM	Knights of Columbus St. Francis Council Meeting—SB Parish Hall

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022

2:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive—SB Parish Hall
7:00 PM	RCIA Meeting—SB Parish Office 2nd Floor Conference Room
7:00 PM	St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting—GB Convent LL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022

10:30 AM	Legion of Mary Meeting—SB Parish Office
8:00 PM	AA Meeting – GB Convent LL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

7:00 PM	AA Meeting—SB Parish Hall

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2022

9:00 AM	Adoration—SB Church

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2022

7:00 PM	Bingo—PB GARS Gym

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022—COFFEE & DONUT SUNDAY—GB & SB

10:30 AM	Baptism—GB Church
12:00 PM	Baptism—SB Church
2:00 PM	Bingo—PB GARS Gym

PRAYER LIST

Angela Anderson, Michele Baran, Michelle Barr, Vinny Battaglia, Margaret Barrett, Sandy Belcher, Linda Boone, Jane Boone, Adam Boucher, Vincent Bridda, Britner Family, Dalton Britner, Geri Buckley, Michael Campbell, Mario Carpino, Mikie Coco, Deacon John Colanero, John Collins, Dee Conrad, Marie Corey, Melissa Couto, Shawn Croley, Jeanne Daly, Mark Dawalt, Megan Davis, Philip Delacot, Alex DeSimone AF, Andrew DiFonzo, Virginia DiLella, Mikey DiPaolo, Susan Dobzanski, Jim Donnelly, Nancy Donnelly, Ann Doran, Kathleen Alice Doyle, Edward Duerstock III, Solina Feliciano-Gonnion, Peggy Fiderko, Ann Marie Finkel, Caroline Fountain, Anne Marie Harrington, Annalise Hicks, Caitlyn Hill, Curtis Holland, Gloria Holland, Thomas Jennings, Ronald Karpovich, Karpovich Family, Thomas Keegan, John Kelly, Baby Koa, Emmanual Kuoma, Kenley Kuhn, Richard Lane, Anna Lanzalotti, Jack Laumakis, Hugo Leiva, Patricia Leiva, Lucille Leonardi, Sabrina Lisa, Louis Leonardis, Nina Lopes, Baby Lucy Eileen Lupisella, Kayla Marich, Kathy McCann, Bruce & Kate Macphail, Tammi Minix, Agnes Musumeci, Mary Nastasi, Jonathan Ortiz, Larry Oswald, Carl Owen, Yesenia Vazquez Pagan, Susan Paul, Pasquale Pezzano, Clelia Pezzano, Nancy Plant, Brianna Racabaldo, Paige Reardon, Carolyn Reistle, Maribeth Reyes, Marcelo Riberos, Zach Rizzuto, Anthony Salvatico, Sarah Salvatore, Natalie Schembs, Carol Schultz, Matthew Shepherdson, Maryann Sparks, Ron Steidler, Trish Sutcliffe, Susan Taylor, Elizabeth Tammello, Jada Thompson, LeeAnn & Amron Acevedo Thompson & Family, Gabrielle Tiedeken, Pasquale Tropiano, Dave Vanneman, Sergio Vera, Michelle Vause, Vause Family, Ruben Vedar, Jill Watson, Bridget (Bea) Weiss, Claire Whittaker, Jonathan Wisham and Pat Zabel

Pray for our Service Men and Women ★ ★ ★

Sgt. Christopher Clark, FA Alex Curran, Andrew DeMartini, Capt. Patrick George, Mason Harris, Mitchell Harris, Lt. David Kehoe, FA Jacob G. Ireland, Lt. Jeffrey Riggs, SFC Sarah Nothdurft, HN Michael C. Rutcosky, Jr., Dylan Sams, H.N. Michael Alstan Sarmiento, Lt. Cdr. Sarah Turse EOD, Cpl Issey Wright and the Diocese of Camden Clergy who serve in the armed forces.

Guardian Angels Regional School

The Guardian Angels Regional School community wishes you a
Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Guardian Angels Regional School
Open House

Guardian Angels Regional School will be hosting their Open House on Wednesday, February 2nd from 5:30-7:30 pm. All families interested in learning more about Guardian Angels Regional School are invited to attend.
Visit classrooms, meet current parents, and learn about our school's curriculum.
RSVP by calling the school office (856) 423-9440 or visit, www.gars-online.com and click on "Tour Guardian Angels" button on our website.

Feeling a deep sense of loss or emptiness in your life? The Stephen Ministry team here at St. Clare's Parish may be able to help.

Stephen Ministers provide high quality, confidential one to one Christian care to those suffering losses, isolation, illness, loss of job, grieving the death of a loved one, caring for a family member with Alzheimer's, stress or any of life's countless challenges. For many, the COVID pandemic magnifies these struggles and adds new ones. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with their care receivers to provide emotional and spiritual support. (With enduring concerns due to COVID, these meetings may take place by phone.) If you or someone you know is facing a crisis and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, please contact the Stephen Ministry at the parish office (856-467- 0037).

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Christ's Arms for Others

Addictions Support Group
St. Clare of Assisi Parish
Contact Maureen 856-524-5731
joev@cheerful.com

2021—2022 Sunday Missals are now available at the Parish Office in Swedesboro or GARS School in Gibbstown for $5 each!

Right to Life Bus Trip
Washington DC

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Friday January 21, 2022

Bus will leave from Incarnation in Mantua

Mass: 7:00 AM
Bus Departure from Incarnation: 7:45 AM
Arrive in Washington: approximately 11:00 AM

Bus capacity: 56, bus includes a bathroom facility – Light refreshments, served about mid-way to Washington

Washington drop off area: Near 7th & and Independence which will eliminate the need to take the train as had been done in prior years.

To reserve a seat contact Randy Weiland at 609-458-3311 or grandknight7526@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Sunday, January 2nd

The Knights Hoagie Sale is featuring a new vendor!

Rastelli's 10" Italian, Turkey or Roast Beef

$7 Each or 3 for $20

*The Knights of Columbus are hosting a hoagie sale on the **first** Sunday of every month in Swedesboro after all morning Masses*

American Red Cross
Together, we can save a life

Blood Drive

January 4, 2022
2 to 7 PM

St. Clare of Assisi Parish
Parish Hall
140 Broad St. Swedesboro
New Jersey 08085

Sponsored by the Red Cross and St. Francis Knights of Columbus

For more Information contact Tom Hilferty 856-467-3135

Upcoming Second Collections:
1/9—Parish Improvements
1/23—Church in Latin America

2022 Parish Calendars
Due to delays due to COVID our physical calendars have not yet shipped but will hopefully be here by 1/8

Office of Faith Formation Corner

THE OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation offers spiritual formation for children who are in 1st - 8th grade. If you are interested in learning more about the program, please email:

faithformation@stclarenj.org

PLEASE NOTE: THE OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY FROM DECEMBER 18TH THROUGH JANUARY 16TH

Family Faith Formation (Grades 1-5)

www.stclarenj.org/family-faith-formation-program

Vision (Grades 6 & 7)

www.stclarenj.org/vision

Youth Ministry (Grades 8-12)

For more information please email us at youthministry@stclarenj.org

Small Group Adult Faith Formation

Our Catholic faith and tradition is a "smart" one with answers that make sense!

Our Small Group Faith Formation meetings via Zoom take place each Thursday from 6:30—8:00 PM.

Please come join us for a very worthwhile experience by contacting Maria and Bill Murray at wmurra@comcast.net (856-467-4093)

walking with purpose

"Keeping In Balance"

Women's bible study at St. Clare's

Tuesdays at 7 p.m. (Virtual, occasional in-person meets)

Are you looking for a way to refuel and be refreshed while making authentic connections with others?

Would you like to have a better understanding of your faith and learn more about God?

For more information, please contact:
Melissa Paone: melissa.a.fordyce@gmail.com

FORMED® PICK OF THE WEEK

January 2, 2022

WATCH

GOD'S DOORKEEPER: ST. ANDRÉ OF MONTREAL

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!

FORMED NOW! HOW TO PRAY

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!

LEARN

LISTEN

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

As we celebrate the Epiphany, Dr. Scott Hahn explains how we should understand the three Magi and their gifts to the Lord!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

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please email us at info@stclarenj.org

CATHOLIC STAR HERALD
SOUTH JERSEY'S OFFICIAL CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER

2022

HAPPY FELIZ

new year *año nuevo*

We wish all of our parishioners and their families
a Happy, Healthy & Joyful new year!
¡Deseamos a todos nuestros feligreses y sus
familias un año nuevo feliz, saludable y alegre!

Fr. Ed, Fr. Grace, Deacon Joe, Deacon Jerry,
Deacon Cesar & the St. Clare of Assisi Parish Staff

Tired of your old New Year's Resolutions? Make getting involved at St. Clare's your resolution this year!

¿Estás cansado de tus viejos propósitos de año nuevo? ¡Involucrarse en St. Clare's sea su resolución este año!

For information on any of these ministries visit our website or contact the Parish Office!

Para obtener información sobre cualquiera de estos ministerios, visite nuestro sitio web o comuníquese con la Oficina Parroquial.

Ministry List

Legion of Mary
Columbiettes
Knights of Columbus
Bereavement Ministry
Simon Ministry
Stephen Ministry
Hispanic Ministry
Environment Ministry
Youth Ministry
Music Ministry
Liturgical Ministry
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Altar Serving Ministry
Adult Virtual Bible Study
Women's Bible Study
St. Vincent de Paul Society

www.stclarenj.org

Stewardship

January 2, 2022
2 de enero de 2022

Stewardship Gifts

The Ephiphany of the Lord

"…They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." (MATTHEW 2:11)

What gifts do Stewards give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold – we should reflect Christ's wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense – represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh – is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.

La Epifanía del Señor

"...Se postraron ante Él y lo adoraron. Entonces abrieron sus cofres y le ofrecieron sus regalos de oro, incienso y mirra" (MATEO 2:11)

¿Qué regalos le da usted al Señor? El papa San Gregorio dijo que estos tres dones representan lo que deberíamos dar al Señor cada día. El oro - debemos reflejar la sabiduría de Cristo en todas nuestras relaciones. Incienso - representa nuestras oraciones diarias y la adoración a Dios. Mirra - es un símbolo de nuestros sacrificios diarios que nos unen con Jesús por el bien de los demás.

We're Hiring!

We are looking for someone to join our Parish Team!

Position: Parish Secretary
Status: Full Time

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Provides secretarial and clerical duties for pastor and business manager. Fields telephone calls, scheduling appointments, greets and refers visitors to appropriate staff
- Establishes and maintains office record-keeping and filing systems. Oversees and maintains schedule of office hours for staff
- Maintains facility and ministry schedules
- Coordinate scheduling of weddings, funerals, and other parish events
- Oversees maintenance of parish records, including Mass intentions and sacramental records
- Provides support to parish ministries as needed

Qualifications

- Active, practicing Catholic with an understanding of the Faith
- High School graduate or equivalent
- Three years of secretarial experience preferred
- Proficient with Microsoft Office
- Must be able to represent the parish to those who call, email, or visit
- Ability to maintain and honor confidentiality
- Supervisory and office management experience preferred
- Proficient with ParishSOFT a plus but not necessary

Submit resume to JSquarcia@stclarenj.org

www.stclarenj.org

Service Opportunity

After Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan, he emphasized that our neighbor is not based on where we live, or who we are comfortable with (Luke 10:25-37). A neighbor is anyone is need.

In that same dialogue, Jesus also commands us to be merciful to such people, for our ministry to them is a ministry to Christ himself (Matthew 25:35).

Blessing Bags For The Homeless

These blessing bags are distributed every weekend to the homeless.

We are collecting the following items:

- Chap Stick
- Toothbrush
- Trial Size Toothpaste
- Trial Size Lotion
- Trial Size Shampoo and Conditioner
- Trial Size Hand Sanitizer
- Wet Wipes
- Trial Size or Full Size Deodorant
- Washcloths
- Prepackaged Snack (Peanut Butter Crackers, Granola Bar, Chips (etc).
- Hand Warmers (During Cold Weather)

Sponsored by Saint Joseph Neighborhood Center

Drop off items in the bins in the back of the Gibbstown or Swedesboro Church the weekend of January 8th & 9th.

Donut Sunday

Sunday, January 9th
after all Masses in
Swedesboro
&
Gibbstown

JOIN US FOR COFFEE
AND DONUTS
AND FELLOWSHIP

2021-2022 Young Adult Priesthood Discernment Group

The "Young Adult Priesthood Discernment Group" will begin meeting in September. The Office of Vocations invites any young man between the ages 16-39 who has thought about the vocation to the priesthood to come and join the group to learn more about this great calling from God. We meet about once a month to discuss topics of discernment and to support one another in the discernment process.

Sunday, January 9th from 2 PM -3:30 PM
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Office
135 N. White Horse Pike, Lindenwold, NJ.

Upcoming Topics:

1/9: Life as a Seminarian
2/20: God said Go, and I said No
3/20: Signs of a Vocation
5/22: My Path to the Priesthood: When do I Start?

Please go to www.camdenpriest.org for more details.

Catholic Engaged Encounter is a weekend away with other engaged couples which allows plenty of time alone as a couple to dialogue honestly and intensively about your prospective life together.

Engaged Encounter Weekends are held at Pope John Paul II Retreat Center in Vineland, NJ. All weekends begin promptly at 8:00 p.m., Friday evening, and close by 3:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon.

Upcoming Weekends:
March 11, 12, & 13, 2022
June 10, 11, & 12, 2022
August 12, 13, & 14, 2022
November 11, 12, & 13, 2022

Registration for Engaged Encounter : The registration fee of $410 for Catholic Engaged Encounter includes lodging, meals, and program resources for the weekend for two people. To register, go to https://camdendiocese.org/engagedencounter/

Questions: Please contact the Office of Family and Youth Ministry by phone at (856) 583-2908 or email at MarriagePrep@camdendiocese.org

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