

ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

OVER A CENTURY OF CATHOLIC PRESENCE

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

June 7, 2020



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God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
might not perish but might have eternal life.

John 3:16

Rev. James W. McGuffey - Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Pafnouti Wassef - Parochial Vicar
Rev. Sean G. Winters - In Residence
Deacon Ramon Torres - Hispanic Ministry

Deacon George Kimball - Permanent Deacon
Mrs. Roseann Johnson - Principal
Mrs. Marcelle Doherty - Coordinator of Religious Education/Pastoral Assistant
Dr. Thomas Juneau - Director of Music

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

JUNE 7, 2020

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY	June 6
5:00 PM	Giuseppantonio DiMartino
SUNDAY	June 7
8:00 AM	Joseph and Anna Sahulcik
10:30 AM	Dominic J. Mastromonico
12:00 PM	John DeBella
1:30 PM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish
MONDAY	June 8
8:00 AM	Michael Hughes
TUESDAY	June 9
8:00 AM	Souls in Purgatory
WEDNESDAY	June 10
8:00 AM	The protection of all human life
THURSDAY	June 11
8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish
FRIDAY	June 12
8:00 AM	Giuseppantonio DiMartino
SATURDAY	June 13
8:30 AM	Vocations to the Priesthood
5:00 PM	Henry and Marie Ostrowski
SUNDAY	June 14
8:00 AM	Christopher Robateau
10:30 AM	Kathleen Shornack
12:00 PM	Jose Manuel Romero
1:30 PM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish

Though these Masses will not be said publicly, our Priests will say them privately for the individual intentions.

***“For everything there is a season and
a time for every purpose under heaven. . .”***

***a time to heal...** for the sick of our Parish and especially for Anthony LaMotta, Joseph Sabol, William Lenahan, Charles Alongi, Angelina Virola, Rachel Rustemeyer
a time to die... Joseph Sabol*

PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, You gift me with all the good gifts that make me the person You created me to be. Help me to know and find Your will and to trust that You will help me to understand the path You call me to journey in life. Give me a heart open to Your quiet voice so I can hear Your call. Where there is doubt give me courage. Help me to know Your faithfulness and help me to be faithful to that which You call me to. Amen.

TRINITY SUNDAY

We pray to the one God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that our lives may bear witness to our faith.

Father, You sent Your Word to bring us truth and your Spirit to make us holy. Through them we come to know the mystery of Your life. Help us to worship You, one God in three Persons, by proclaiming and living our faith in You. We ask You this, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, true and living, for ever and ever. Amen.

MASSES WILL RESUME JUNE 12

With Restrictions

Under the new guidelines issued by the state, **we will be able to safely gather in our Church, once again, beginning on June 12, with restrictions.** Daily Masses, in the Chapel, will resume on that day. On Saturday, June 13, parishes may reopen for weekend Masses with a congregation, not to exceed 30% of the Church building's capacity (approximately 200 people). **Beginning next weekend, we will celebrate Mass on Saturday at 5:00 p.m., and on Sunday at 10:30 a.m., with a Spanish Mass at 1:30 p.m.** We hope to continue to livestream the 10:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday. Additional information, including a letter from Bishop Checchio, can be found on our Parish website.

As we begin to restore Masses with a congregation, we will do so following the guidance of our State health officials. Our aim is to keep us all safe.

Our Church is now open for **Confessions**, in the Church Chapel, on Saturdays, from 11:00 a.m. until noon. For your safety, all social distancing guidelines will be followed.

RESPECT EVERY HUMAN PERSON



That is the dignity of America, the reason she exists, the condition of her survival, yes, the ultimate test of her greatness: to respect every human person, especially the weak and most defenseless ones, those as yet unborn. **-St. John Paul II**

Prayer for the Dignity of All Human Life

Lord and Giver of Life, help us to value each person, created in love by You. In Your mercy, guide and assist our efforts to promote the dignity and value of all human life, born and unborn. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please Support the Life-Saving Work of Life Choices

Join us on Friday, **June 19**, at 7:30 p.m., for our **Online Auction**. Visit www.bidspirit.com/lifechoices to participate. Great deals on vacations, tickets, items, and baskets!

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading - Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel - John 3:16-18

The Holy Trinity

Today we honor the Holy Trinity—one God, yet three Persons. God is one, but God is not alone. God is love and in the Trinity we have an ideal example of a relationship of pure and infinite love. Every time we make the sign of the cross may we be reminded of the love that bonds the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May the love of the Holy Trinity be a model for us in our relationships with each other.

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6; Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16; Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3; Mt 5:20-26
Friday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16; Mt 5:27-32
Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21; Mt 5:33-37
Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58

Thank You for Your Continued Support!

We are extremely grateful to our parishioners who are able to contribute to the continuing needs of the Parish, during this difficult time, by mailing in their Contribution Envelopes, dropping them in the Parish Office mail slot, or by participating in Online Giving. To donate through Online Giving, visit www.stjosephparishfamily.com and click on *Donate Now*. It's fast, easy, and convenient!

WEEKLY OFFERING

May 31, 2020 \$3624 \$5263 (2019)

Everyone must give according to what he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver. -2 Corinthians 9:6-8

RESTRICTIONS CONTINUE

Please be patient and look for regular updates from the Diocese of Metuchen at www.diometuchen.org/coronavirus or visit our Parish website at www.stjosephparishfamily.com

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office 732-541-8946
Religious Education 732-969-8767
St. Joseph School 732-541-7111
St. Vincent de Paul 732-541-8946 ext.108

Parish Website: www.stjosephparishfamily.com

PREP Website: www.stjosephprep.net

School Website: www.sjps.net

For the Safety of Our Troops

Lord, You have put among us those who are strong to defend our freedom. Please bless them, protect them, and keep them in Your loving arms. Amen.

Remember in your prayers the members of our Armed Services, especially: *Taylor Setar*, daughter of Greg and Terry Setar; *Thomas Rapp*, grandson of Jeanette Miller; *Justin Lurker*, grandson of Helen Lurker; *Robert Michnowicz*, nephew of Helen Lurker; *Justin Molarz*, grandson of Susan Molarz; *Andrew Weaver*, grandson of Joanne Halkovich; *Darren T. Dreboty*, son-in-law of Jacqueline Eak; *James Molnar*, grandson of Alice Benson; *Elizabeth Brito* and *Lisa Marie Brito*, daughters of Ivette Brito; *Raymond Torres*, son of Deacon and Mrs. Ramon Torres; *Laura Roe*, daughter of Louis and Maria Pena.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

Register now for the 2020-2021 School Year!



Catholic Schools are known for their commitment to high academic standards. The curriculum aims to educate and develop all aspects of each student.

To learn more about enrolling your Student in St. Joseph School, visit www.sjps.net or call 732-541-7111.

PREP REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registrations and re-registrations for the 2020-2021 PREP year. Registration Forms are available for printing on our Parish website,

www.stjosephparishfamily.com. Please print, complete, and mail the 2020-2021

Registration Form, with your payment, to: St. Joseph PREP, 865 Roosevelt Avenue, Carteret, NJ 07008. Your prompt attention will reserve a place for your child as well as help us to make appropriate plans for the new PREP year. If this is your child's first year of religious instruction with us, a copy of your child's Baptism certificate is required to be submitted with your Registration Form.

Please note: To register your child in St. Joseph PREP, your family must be registered, actively involved parishioners, in good standing, at St. Joseph Parish or a parish in the area. Students who are enrolled in our PREP are required to attend weekly Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass.

There is a great need for Catechists, Classroom Aides, and Substitute Catechists. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents. For more information, contact the St. Joseph Church PREP Office at 732-969-8767.



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DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

June 1, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Come Holy Spirit! Just like the Apostles gathered in the Upper Room on that first Pentecost, we prayed this past weekend with expectant faith for the coming of the Holy Spirit to renew the Church and the face of the earth once again!

Gratefully, as you likely heard, the Governor last Friday announced that health officials have green lighted the incremental lift of restrictions in our state and, as part of that, we will be able to safely gather in our churches again beginning on June 12. The clergy of the diocese, along with the good staff who assist them, look forward to welcoming those of you who are able back home to your churches that weekend, when we will appropriately celebrate the true presence of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, on the feast of Corpus Christi. What better way to return to the celebration of in-person public Masses in our churches, to be in His presence, as we celebrate His true presence?

To prepare us for these next steps, guidance was issued to all pastors on May 26 to assist them in their role of facilitating the process of the restoration of Masses with a congregation. These guidelines will need to be made particular for each of our parishes. The way in which your parish might gather for Mass may be a bit slightly different than others, even neighboring parishes. As pastors are in the best position to understand the needs and practices of their own parish communities, it will ultimately be up to the pastor to finalize the specific plans for the parish he leads.

The restoration of Masses with a congregation will be completed in a phased approach, beginning first with the celebration of weekday Masses with a limited number of people (10 or less people present), then in phase 2 with the celebration of Sunday Masses (with only a percentage of the church being used) with more than 10 people at daily Mass present. Infectious disease experts from St. Peter's Hospital helped to develop our procedures for the resumption of communion distribution. In the future, as the general health situation continues to improve, Phase 3 will allow for the celebration of weekday and Sunday Masses with an increased number of people present; somewhat relaxed physical distancing, use of masks and specified procedures for the distribution of Holy Communion. Phase 4 will allow for the celebration of weekday and Sunday Masses with an additional increased number of people present; additional relaxation in physical distancing, use of masks as optional and relaxed procedures for the distribution of Holy Communion. As we await further guidance from health officials, there is no firm date set for each phase. We are in phase 1 now, and will begin phase 2 on June 12.

As we work to restore Masses with a congregation, we will do so with the safety of all parishioners, clergy, religious, parish staff, and lay ministers in mind. Therefore, following the guidance of health officials, high use areas within the church will be wiped down with disinfectant before and after each liturgy; restroom facilities will be sanitized after each liturgy and regularly; all hymnals and missalettes (and other items) will be removed from the pews and stored for the duration of the pandemic. Singing will be limited. In addition, the faithful are encouraged to wash their hands at home and bring their own masks and hand sanitizer, which should be used upon entering the church. Face masks are

expected to be worn by all except for the very young (parents are in best position to determine if their child is capable of wearing a mask).

Out of deep respect for human life and concern for the common good, those in vulnerable groups should stay home and those who are sick or symptomatic must stay home. Priests who do not feel well will not be able to celebrate Mass. Depending on how many people come to Masses, with social distancing, Mass schedules may need to be adjusted. Pastors will have to keep their parishioners informed of changes.

Understanding that every individual has their own concerns or is not able to return Mass in-person, I am continuing to dispense all Catholics in our diocese from the obligation to attend Mass until further notice. No one will be required to physically attend Mass during this period of time. While the obligation to attend Mass is dispensed, I encourage you to keep the Lord's Day holy by some other means. For example, I encourage you to tune into a livestreamed Mass from a local parish within our diocese (www.diometuchen.org/parish-live-streams) or on TV. You can also pray the Liturgy of the Hours, read and reflect on Sacred Scripture, and pray the rosary or some other devotion.

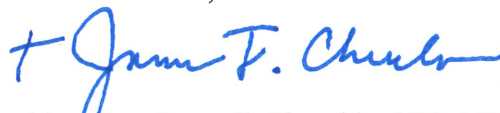
Finally, I want to express my deep gratitude for your faithfulness and perseverance in these past weeks. I am edified by the reports I get from our pastors and others about the creative ways that so many have sought to remain "connected" to the life of the Church. Please know that each day I carry you in my heart, my prayers and daily work. It is your physical safety, health and spiritual well-being that are my constant concern. As we look forward to gathering for public worship again, we have much to be thankful for and many concerns to pray and reflect upon. In addition to the scars of the pandemic, now the social landscape of our country is very tenuous; violence and unrest seems to be everywhere on the news. The Christ we follow as missionary disciples calls us to be ambassadors of a "peace the world cannot give." Our nation will find its peace only by turning wholeheartedly to the God of love. May our parishes and schools of Metuchen be places of light, helping to transform fear and anxiety into hope and confidence in God. May we be the instruments of His peace, justice and love wherever we find our life journey right now.

One day soon, I hope to be back at your parish again. I miss you! It is my joy to be your shepherd here in the Church of Metuchen; this is a gifted and wonderful spot in God's Kingdom on earth. I count on your prayers and support to fulfill my mission. May Mary, Mother of the Church, intercede for us, protect us and lead us safely to Her Son.

I am grateful to you for your patience in these past few months and assure you that with each day that has passed, I have prayed for you and your families, for your safety and health. I prayed too for the day I would be able to write you and tell you of our joyous return to the public in-person celebration of the Mass. So, know that I miss you and I am praying for you. With renewed confidence in His Holy Spirit, I ask that you please pray for me too as we take these next steps forward in faith, completely listening to Him and trusting in Him, who is always for us and with us! We are facing so many challenges in our world at this time and we need more prayer as we work together on a road forward as we face this worldwide pandemic and for peace and justice in our country.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,



Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

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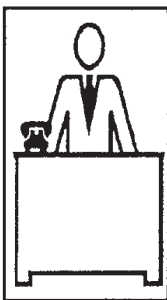
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