

ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

OVER A CENTURY OF CATHOLIC PRESENCE

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40



FOURTH Sunday OF *Advent*

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MISSION STATEMENT

"IN SINCERE GRATITUDE AND WITH GRACE IN OUR HEARTS, ST. JOSEPH PARISH CALLS GOD OUR ONE FATHER. HIS LIFE IS SHOWN TO US THROUGH JESUS AS HIS SON AND OUR SAVIOR. IN THE SPIRIT OF THAT SAME DIVINE LIFE WE REMEMBER, PROFESS AND PRACTICE AS A FAMILY OF BELIEVERS SO THAT THE GOSPEL MAY BE LIGHT AND LEAVEN TO OUR WORLD."

Rev. Msgr. John B. Gordon - Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Pafnouti Wassef - Parochial Vicar
Rev. Sean G. Winters - In Residence

Deacon Ramon Torres - Permanent Deacon
Deacon George Kimball - Permanent Deacon
Ms. Joanne McKnight - Principal
Mrs. Marcelle Doherty - Director of Religious Education/Pastoral Assistant

Forth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021



2021 Holiday Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24th, 2021

4:30 p.m. Children's Nativity Presentation

5:00 p.m. Children's Mass,

9:30 p.m. Christmas Carols

10:00 p.m. Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th, 2021

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. English Mass

12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

NEW YEARS EVE

December 31st, 2021

8:00 a.m. Mass

5:00 p.m. Vigil Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

NEW YEARS DAY

January 1st, 2022

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Dear Parish Family,

Greetings to you on this final Sunday of Advent 2021!

Christmas blessings are at hand and our church will be prepared for the wonderful Masses to begin Friday evening and into Saturday morning and day. The Christmas Mass schedule is posted on page 2 of our bulletin. (Remember, there will be no Saturday 5:00 pm Mass on December 25, so Sunday Masses will be celebrated only December 26 at 8:00 am, 10:30 am (in English) and 1:30 pm (in Spanish).

After each Christmas Mass (Friday, December 24 - 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm and Saturday, December 25 - 8:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm) we will have hot chocolate and cookies served in the foyer of church and will share some simple Christmas carols. Please join us!

Our youth of the parish are hosting the recently confirmed youth to a special December 31 Youth Mass at 5:00 pm in church. After Mass, we will toast the New Year in the church foyer asking blessings upon our lives and futures.

Our church office will be closed December 24 thru January 2 in observance of the holiday week and the Christmas break. Please feel free to call the emergency number 848-203-2795 if there is an urgency.

Merry Christmas on behalf of myself, Fr. Wassaf, Fr. Sean, Deacon George, Deacon Ramon, our seminarian Anthony and our parish staff!

In the peace of the Christ Child,

Msgr. John



O LORD of hosts,
look down from heaven and see;
take care of this vine,
and protect what your right hand has planted.

— Psalm 80:15-16

SACRAMENTS

Baptism (English): The second Saturday of the month at 1:00 PM.

Baptism (Spanish): The first Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m.

Please arrange for the obligatory preparation session by calling the Parish Office.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The Holy Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick are available to the sick and shut-ins upon request.

First Penance, First Eucharist, Confirmation: Children are expected to receive a Catholic upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to receive ongoing Religious Education in the years preceding the reception of these sacraments.

Matrimony: To allow ample time for preparation, please contact the Parish Office at least one year before the intended wedding date.

Holy Orders or Religious Life: If you are considering serving God as a Priest, Deacon or Religious, you may contact your Parish Priest or Deacon; or phone the Office of Vocations at 732-562-2457 for additional information.

MASS SCHEDULE

5:00 PM (Saturday evening Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

1:30 PM - Spanish Mass

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM; Saturday: 8:30 AM

Thursday: 7:00 PM - Spanish Mass

St. Peregrine Mass for the Sick

Second Thursday of the month - 7:00 PM

Recitation of Rosary before 8am Daily Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 11:00 AM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Parish

7 Locust Street
Carteret, NJ 07008

School

865 Roosevelt Avenue
Carteret, NJ 07008

MAILING ADDRESS

Parish Office	732-541-8946
Parish Office Fax	732-541-0500
Religious Education	732-969-8767
School	732-541-7111
St. Vincent de Paul Society	732-541-8946 x108

PARISH SERVICES

Parish Registration: New parishioners are welcome. Please call the parish office to register. Please inform us if you move.

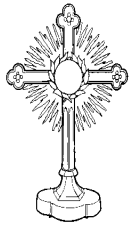
R.C.I.A.: Adults inquiring about the Catholic Church with a desire to become Catholic are invited to call the parish office for information about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Parish Organizations: Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Ministry to the Sick & Elderly, RCIA Team, Food Pantry, Hispanic Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Home School Association, Athletic Association, and Catechetical Instruction.

Sponsorship: To act as a Godparent for Baptism or sponsor for Confirmation, the sponsor must be a baptized Catholic, Confirmed, received Communion, and live a morally good life; if married, done so within church law. Ordinarily the sponsor must be at least 14 years old.

WEBSITE: sjps.net

EMAIL: stjosephchurch@sjps.net



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays in the Church Chapel

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Restoration, sanctification, transformation, reparation, and salvation are the graces being poured out graciously upon us with each Holy Hour we make. -Excerpt from Letter To A Brother Priest

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration. Prayer and meditation before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to spend some special time with Him. You can ask Him for graces for yourself or for loved ones, reflect on His Word, or just keep Him company!



Advent Season Schedule



Date	Time	Event & Location
Dec. 22	7:00pm	Advent Evening of Reflection Theme: 'O Antiphons' @ Church



A heartfelt Thank you to all who help support our party pantry by donating gift cards. Your thoughtfulness has helped over 150 families to reduce their worries and focus on the joy of the season.

Thank you so much for supporting this year's giving tree program, your support is greatly appreciated!



January 22 & 23 we will be having fellowship after all Masses. Please remember to bring in baked goods to share with the parish community.

Thanks in advance for your donation and participation.

Diocese of Metuchen

SCAM ALERT!

We would like to remind everyone in our parish that in the midst of all the good we seek to do, this time of year also sadly brings out those who look to scam our parishes and people. Please be aware that our parish staff and/or Priest would never contact parishioners to ask for bank information, Venmo, or Zelle transfers of money.

Please do not give out any personal or financial information to anyone who may call you at home or may contact you via email. Any donation you or your families would like to make to our church, can be made via the parish collection baskets, our secured parish online giving program found on our website sjps.net donate now [li](https://sjps.net) or directly to our parish office located at 7 Locust St.

Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass & Pro-Vita Awards

Friday, January 14, 2022 at 5 pm
at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi,
Metuchen. All are welcome!

Rally for Life at the Statehouse in Trenton, NJ

Friday, January 14, 2022 at 11 am.

For bus information, please contact Angela at amarshall@diometuchen.org.



MARCH FOR LIFE

The March for Life will take place as a normal on-site event on: **Friday, January 21.**

Please be sure to check the March for Life website marchforlife.org directly for related updates concerning travel and other logistical details.

3 WAYS TO JOIN

9DaysforLife.com

JANUARY 19-27, 2022

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION OF AN UNBORN CHILD

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love you very much.

I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.

— Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Pray this prayer every day for nine months. Although the baby you spiritually adopt will be known only to god, You can look forward to meeting him or her in Heaven one day.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Unborn,
Pray for Us!

PRAYER TO END ABORTION

Lord God, I thank You today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that You have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son. I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn. I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our Nation once again becomes a Nation with liberty and justice — not just for some, but for all. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pour forth, we beseech you,
O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation
of Christ your Son
was made known by the message
of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his
Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I make known to others
the Incarnation of Christ?

ADVENT SUGGESTIONS

- Create an Advent wreath for your home and light it at mealtime.
- Make a donation to the Food Pantry so that they may provide Holiday Baskets to families in need.
- Share an Advent calendar with special scripture references or activities with your family.
- Read the Christmas story in the Bible to remind you of the true meaning of Christmas (Luke 2: 1-14).
- Have a family night each week where you gather together and share prayers and songs in preparation for Christmas.
- Make plans to attend Eucharistic Adoration for some time on Thursdays or attend an Advent Enrichment Evening.

Mother Seton Virtual Gala and Silent Auction

Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark would like to announce its Gala Evening of Celebration and Recognition Annual Fundraising Event.

Join us on January 15, 2022 from 6:30 until 10:30 p.m. for the 2021 Gala. This year it will be both virtual or in-person. There will be a limited number of tickets available for an in-person Gala Watch Party to be held at the school. Alumnae, family, and friends are invited to visit us online for the 2021 awards and silent auction. Bidding for the silent auction starts on January 1, 2022. For more information, visit our website at MSRGala.org. There is no charge to register for the virtual Gala or place bids in the Silent Auction. #MSRGala2021



DONATE TO THE FOOD PANTRY

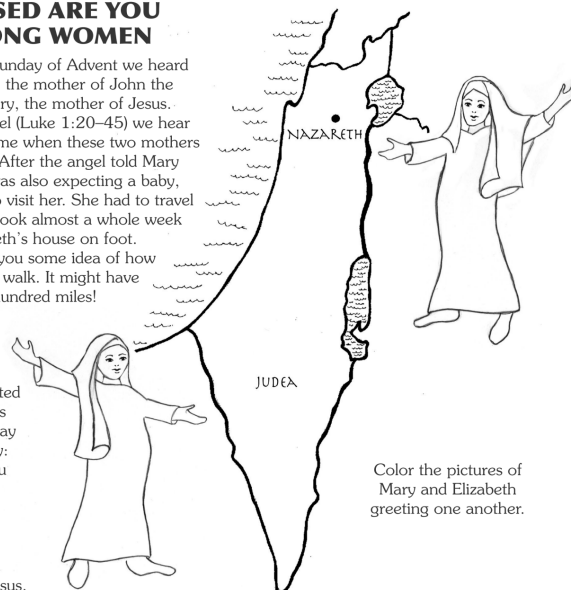
With tens of millions of Americans currently unemployed due to the pandemic, it's no surprise that many families are facing shortfalls when it comes to purchasing food. As a result, there are many families skipping meals or relying on their local Food Pantry to feed their families.

With your support, our Food Pantry is able to feed several families in our community each month. To help them with the increase in the number of families in need of food and a decrease in available resources, we are now accepting donations for the Food Pantry online. To donate online, please visit our website at www.stjosephparishfamily.com and click on the Food Pantry button. *Your support is greatly appreciated!*



BLESSED ARE YOU AMONG WOMEN

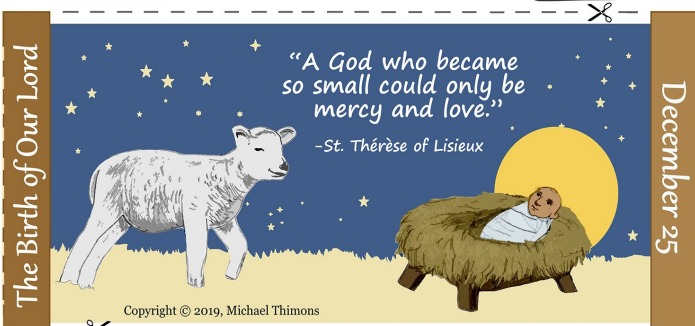
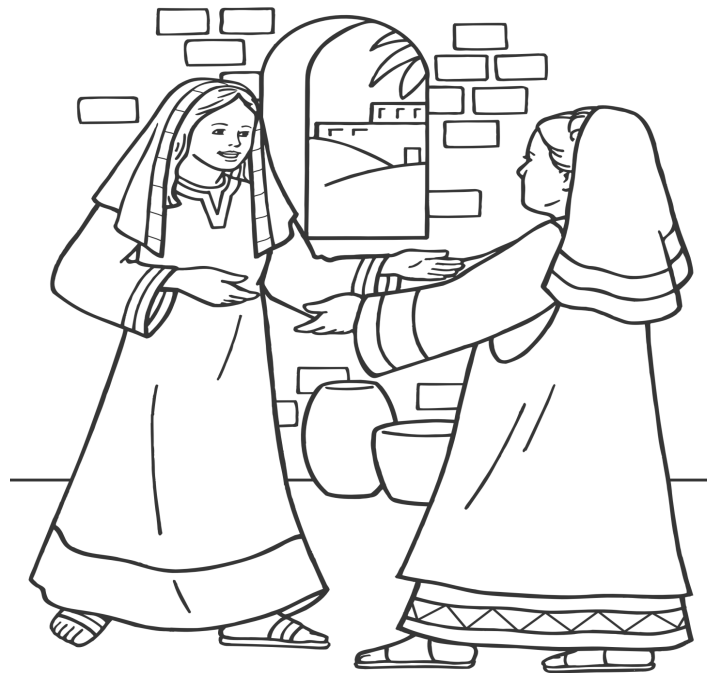
On the First Sunday of Advent we heard about Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, and Mary, the mother of Jesus. In today's Gospel (Luke 1:20-45) we hear the story of a time when these two mothers came together. After the angel told Mary that Elizabeth was also expecting a baby, Mary decided to visit her. She had to travel a long way—it took almost a whole week to get to Elizabeth's house on foot. The map gives you some idea of how far Mary had to walk. It might have been almost a hundred miles!



Elizabeth greeted Mary with words we still pray today in the Hail Mary: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Elizabeth was talking about Jesus.

Color the pictures of Mary and Elizabeth greeting one another.

Before you go to sleep tonight, pray a Hail Mary. Think about how excited Mary and Elizabeth were when they thought about their babies soon to be born. In two days we will celebrate that great event when God came to us as Jesus and was born as one of us.



MASS INTENTIONS



SATURDAY December 18th

Late Advent Weekday

5:00 PM + Anthony Steffie Ostrowski

SUNDAY December 19th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM + Members of the Perpetual Mass Guild

10:30 AM + Peggy Milevoi

1:30 PM + People of the Parish

MONDAY December 20th

Late Advent Weekday

8:00 AM + Helen Gillian

TUESDAY December 21th

Late Advent Weekday St Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM + Irene Eccles

WEDNESDAY December 22th

Late Advent Weekday

8:00 AM + Aitza Rivera

7:00 PM Advent Evening of Reflection

THURSDAY December 23th

Late Advent Weekday Saint John of Kanty, Priest

8:00 AM + William Lenahan Sr.

11:30 AM Adoration

7:00 PM + All the Unborn

FRIDAY December 24th

Late Advent Weekday

5:00 PM + People of the Parish

9:30 PM Christmas Carols

10:00 PM + People of the Parish

SATURDAY December 25th

The Nativity of the Lords (Christmas)

8:00 AM + People of the Parish

10:30 AM + People of the Parish

12:30 PM + People of the Parish

SUNDAY December 26th

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:00 AM + Edward Mihalko

10:30 AM + People of the Parish

1:30 PM + Faustino Saez Jr

****Recitation of Rosary before 8am Daily Mass****

INTENTIONS ~ December 19 -December 25

The St. Joseph Church Sanctuary Lamp burns for the intentions of the Souls of Purgatory.

The Pieta Lamp burns in loving memory of *Peggy Milevoi* requested by the Panlichko Family.

The St. Joseph Lamp burns in loving memory of *Mike Gervino* requested by Joan Gervino.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
 Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Lk 1:57-66
 Friday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
 Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;
 Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] or 1:18-25
 Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
 Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or
 1:1-5, 9-14
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
 Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sn 1:20-22, 24-28;
 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

"For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under Heaven..."

a time to heal... for those in our Parish who are ill and especially for Alice Benson, Anthony LaMotta, Angelina Virola, Betty Ann Feeney, Constance Sewing, Helen Lurker, Joey Conti Sr., Josie Gibbs, Kirsten Kisselman, Mary Warren, Ray Sewing, Raymond Sewing, Robert Sulo and Theresa Tumolo.



Keep Christ in Christmas

Observe Advent with Your Family. Advent is the time of reflection and preparation before Christmas. ...

Light Advent Candles. ...

Write Christmas, Not X-mas. ...

Bake a Birthday Cake for Jesus. ...

Go to Church. ...

Read the Bible. ...

Decorate Your Tree With Christian Ornaments. ...

Send Christian Christmas Cards. ...

Trim Your Shopping List. ...

Forget the Mall....



Pray This Christmas Prayer or Find One that Speaks to You

"The Christmas Prayer"

By Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,

Help us remember the birth of Jesus,

that we may share in the song of the angels,
 the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

December 12th 2021 Parish (TBD)



Thanks
for Your
Support!

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

—Psalm 80

AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.

May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body

for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Forever faithful is the One who calls us—God our Father!

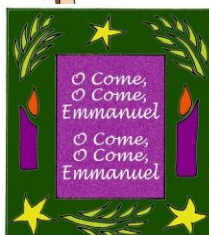
Expectant, let us live in joyful hope

for the revelation of the glory

of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!

To him be glory forever!

Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

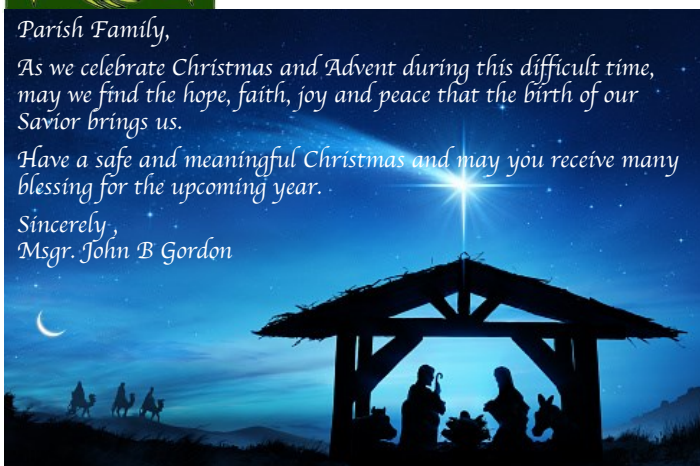


Parish Family,

As we celebrate Christmas and Advent during this difficult time, may we find the hope, faith, joy and peace that the birth of our Savior brings us.

Have a safe and meaningful Christmas and may you receive many blessing for the upcoming year.

Sincerely,
 Msgr. John B Gordon



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