

Saint Cecilia Parish

90 Church Street
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Parish Office: 973-627-0313

Website: st-cecilia.org — Office: stcec@optonline.net

Fax: 973-627-4811

To Contact: Fr. Zig: Ext. 12 or speplowski@optonline.net

Fr. Matt: Ext 15 or frmateuszdarlak@gmail.com

School: 973-627-6003

CCD Office: 973-627-0313 Ext. 17

Rev. Sigmund Peplowski
PASTOR

Rev. Mateusz Darlak
PAROCHIAL VICAR

Deacon Angel Torres

Mrs. Janet Maulbeck
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
and YOUTH PROTECTION/
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
COORDINATOR

Mr. James Clancy
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Mrs. Ann Mitchell
PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Diane Boykow
CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Charles Linnell
MUSIC DIRECTOR



CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

All Catholic Churches in the United States require from Catholics serving as a Godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation a certificate of eligibility. This document certifies that the Godparent/sponsor is a registered member of the parish, attends Holy Mass, approaches the sacraments regularly and contributes to the support of the Church via the Sunday offering envelope program or "Parish Pay". It is the responsibility of the individual to meet these requirements as listed in the Code of Canon Law, #874.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Arrangements for the Sacrament of Baptism can be made by calling Fr. Matt at extension 15.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements are to be made at least ONE YEAR in advance. The date should not be set until the priest has been consulted.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night. If there is anyone at home or in the hospital who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or old age, please inform one of the priests or call the Parish Office @ 973-627-0313.

EMERGENCY PHONE:
862-251-3914

MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:15 am

10:45 am and 12:15 pm

5:00 pm (Vietnamese)

Holydays

Vigil 4:30 pm

6:30 am, 8:00 am & 7:00 pm

Weekday Schedule:

Monday - Friday

6:30 am & 8:00 am

Saturday

8:00 am followed by Novena

Confessions

Saturday @ 3:30—4:00 pm &

6:15-6:45 pm (when Mass is

celebrated in the church) &

Monday during Holy Hour

7:00—8:00 pm

Susan Brennan
TRUSTEE

James Gallagher
TRUSTEE

PARISH PRAYER LIFE

NOVENA: OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Saturday morning after the 8:00 am Mass

HOLY HOUR : Monday @ 7:00 pm

RCIA—RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION— FOR ADULTS:

Please contact Jim Clancy @ 973-627-0313

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Monday through Sat. @ 7:30 am

FEMININE GENIUS PROJECT: 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 7:00 am in the parish office.

ST. JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month at 6:00 am in the parish office

Parish Summer Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday: 8:30—4:30

(Lunch 12:00—1:00)

Friday: Closed

June 25 until Labor Day weekend

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 26, Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 am — For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:00 am — MaryAnn Ullrich req. by Barbara Quinby

Tuesday, July 27, Weekday

6:30 am — Msgr. Denis Hayes

8:00 am — Craig Slanovec req. by the McDonnell Family

Wednesday, July 28, Weekday

6:30 am — Joseph C. Feola

8:00 am — Ellen Tordik req. by cousin, Carol

Thursday, July 29, Saint Martha

6:30 am — Margaret V. O'Brien

8:00 am — Madeline Lusardi req. by her husband Anthony

Friday, July 30, Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop

6:30 am — Diane Milo

8:00 am — Veronica Morgante

Saturday, July 31, Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

8:00 am — Katherine Buonocore Deo req. by the Maulbeck Family

Sunday, August 1, Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm — Dolores Haltigan req. by Family

Kathy Deo req. by Pat

7:00 pm — John & Peggy Whalen

8:00 am — Larry Langer req. by Bob & Tom Benjamin

9:15 am — For the parishioners of St. Cecilia Parish

10:45 am — Renato Sebastian & Antonita DeJesus req. by Family

12:15 pm — Adolf DeMarco req. by Bobbie Willard

Rojeo Alonzo req. by the Basanese Family

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS

Week Ending : July 18, 2021

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 6,684.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 5,111.00
<u>Total Weekly Collection</u>	\$ 11,795.00

Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)	\$ 730,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 13,137.25

<i>Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)</i>	\$ <i>(1,342.25)</i>
<i>Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)</i>	\$ 705.24

THE WORD OF GOD

110:2 Kgs 4:42-44 Ps 145:10-11, 15-18

Eph 4:1-6 Jn 6:1-15

We are thankful for your consistent stewardship. ©JPPC

Our Condolences to the Family of:
Theresa Romito & William Kennedy
Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord

2020 Diocesan Ministries Appeal

2020 Parish Goal:	\$38,371.00
Cash Received as of June 30, 2021:	\$95,200.00
March 2021 Rebate (if applicable):	\$23,417.00
Final June 2021 Rebate Enclosed:	\$ 4,997.50

PRAY

For the sick of our parish
and their caregivers

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, Doris Cusick, Carol Centonze, Jane Goricca, Sam Sessa, Carol Ferrante, Jim Golden, Karen Niles, Noel Wadleigh, David Cicchine, Teresa D'Atria, Derek Bascharow, Debbie Malc, Grace McDermott, Joe Horvath, Jr., Elvira Bugaoan, Owen Peter Byrne, Tia Maddaloni, Mason Walker Steussing, Susan Mejia, Derek Bascharow, Jim Rat-tay, Tom Hull, Kathleen Fazio, Kristin Wich, Kyle Johnson, Kate Darlington, Jake Michael Miraldi, Cheryl Anne Bornemann, Sean Nolan, Maryann Hughes, Peggy Eileen Miars, Ray Kennedy, Richard Corcoran, Madison Rose Leslie, Demetrius Barbee, Lucille Bardi, Frances Finn, Dorothy Murray, Victoria Santana, Stephanie Lewis, Kimberly Dugan, Gale Sessa, Marguerite Buggy, Mike Murray, Helene Turner, Michael Turner, Ruben Lorenzo, Michael Alvarez, Mina Simmons-Jones, Joe Maulbeck, Mary Merz, Marion Cables, Patricia Smith Schulman, Vincent Fortunato, Joyce Turner, Tom Cumiskey, Dennis O'Brien, Steven Simmons, Ariel, James DiStasio, Marty Mackin, Brian Bosworth, Dennis Dilger, Robyne LaGrotta, Dave Lewis, Christopher Darlak, Frieda Solow, Claudia Fontanella, Jimmy Carroll, Claire Wasacz, Peggy Traino, Emilio Viola, James Deegan, Diann Bulfone, Martha Salvesen, Robyn Duvall, Ramiro Hinojosa, Jimmy Buckley, Emily Gatzke, Clare Desmond, Rosemary DeFilippo, Craig Huffman, George Stitik, Stephen Goord-man, Cecilia Donofrio, Deidra Zink, Ray Wiest, Anthony Pane, Victoria Zuber, Keith Newman.



The people of St. Cecilia Parish are asked to pray for the following people serving our country in the armed services: **SmE3 Andrew Clifford, Joseph Giannetti US Navy, Lance Corporal Dennis Wuest, Capt. Kelley E. Robbins, Pvt USMC, Diego Usma, Major Glenn E. Martinez, Sgt. Brian Whalen, Capt. Anthony Odierno, Cpl. Kong V. Nguyen, Cpl. Jim Van Valen, LCPL Anthony Eresman, Sgt. Paul J. Willson, PFC Cano Janeth, Sgt. Bob Autrey, Col. William Paliwada, Sgt 1st Class (E7) Sam Colon, PFC Marylyn Rivera-Sachez, Cpl. Edward C. Thompson, Major Kevin M. Nash, Lt. Amy Cronin, Col. John L. Medeiros, Jr., Sgt. Daniel Healy, Marine Keith Leitner, Sgt. Spencer Lopez, PFC Taryn Kemp, Jeffrey Braunhausen, E7 Joseph Grimsey, Bill Maloney, Greg Bloete, Gian Carlo Bruzzese, Spc. Christopher Little, PFC Brittany Martindell, PO1 (E6) Matthew Fitzgerald, SA Justin C. White, Matthew & Daniel Rosica, Mark Leonard, Sr. Armn. Ashley Valetta, Sgt. John Wisnofsky, Cpl. T.J. Finn, Sgt. Kristopher Faber, Capt. Vincent Presto, Airman First Class William Kussler, Spc. Gregory Villaneuva and Sgt. Casey W. Lyness. We ask God the Father of us all, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces, to bless them in their efforts toward bringing peace and justice to our world. May they be brought back safely to those they love.**

580-St. Cecilia

PARISH EVENTS

SUNDAY MASS LOCATIONS – Holy Mass in observance of the Lord's Day will be celebrated in the church and the parish cemetery. Our schedule is as follows: SATURDAY – The 4:30 Mass will be celebrated in the church. The 7 o'clock Mass will be celebrated at the parish cemetery. In the event of inclement weather the Mass will be celebrated in the church. SUNDAY – The 8 o'clock, 9:15 and 10:45 Masses will be celebrated in the church. The 12:15 Mass will be celebrated at the parish cemetery. In the event of inclement weather the Mass will be celebrated in the church. A FLOCKNOTE will be sent out at Noon on Saturday to provide information regarding the outdoor Masses if the weather is inclement. (Sign up for FLOCKNOTE, go to the parish website for information.)

CAN YOU HELP? – Perhaps you may have noticed, our sound system in the church is in need of replacement. After many service calls and evaluation of our current system it has been recommended that a new sound system be installed. Sound quality is an important feature for our worship and therefore we will be purchasing a new microphone system for the church as soon as the equipment is available and the scheduling of the work possible. As your pastor, I come to you to ask for your help in the payment of this unforeseen expense of \$20,000. If all of us make a contribution this will be "a piece of cake." You may want to contribute whatever it costs you to go to a restaurant for a "good dinner." I know I can count on your generosity. Whatever you can do I really appreciate it and I know that the Lord will reward your generosity. Your donation can be placed in an envelope with the designation, "SOUND SYSTEM" or by writing on the check memo, "SOUND SYSTEM." Thank you, my good people! – Father Zig

GOLF OUTING – The Sisters of Christian Charity seek your support in their golf outing which will be held on Thursday, September 30th at the beautiful Cedar Hill Golf and Country Club in Livingston, NJ. The Sisters of Christian Charity (3 of their Sisters live in our parish convent) work tirelessly in schools, parishes, women's centers, healthcare facilities, Assumption College for Sisters and Villa Pauline Retreat and Spiritual Center. Please register for the golf outing on line at www.sceast.org/golf-outing or call 973.714.5614.

THANK YOU – My thanks to John Sullivan and Jim Gallagher to who did repair work on the pews located in the church. May the bless them for their labor. – Father Zig

FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNION CALLS – Father Matt and I would like to update our First Friday Communion Call list. Both of us will continue our practice of visiting the homebound with the sacraments every month on the First Friday. The visits begin at about 9:30 am and normally conclude by noon. Please call the parish office (973.627.0313) to add your name or another's to our *First Friday Visitation List*. We are happy to visit you! – Father Zig

Are you going into the hospital? Do you have a family member in the hospital? We would like to visit our parishioners who are homebound, in the hospital or other health care facilities. Because of patient confidentiality laws, the only way we can know is if someone informs us. Please call our parish office @ 973.627.0313. Thank you!

THE CHOSEN—I highly recommend a series on the life of Jesus entitled "The Chosen". The series is in its second season and may be viewed by installing a free app on your cell phone. Just go to the app store and type in "The Chosen" for free viewing. The actor who plays Jesus is a devout Catholic and I am sure you will find the series of great spirit benefit. It is well worth it! - Fr. Zig

Divine Mercy Academy News

Help Wanted

Divine Mercy Academy, a PreK3 to Grade 8 elementary school located in Rockaway has multiple openings for teaching positions for the 2021-2022 school year. Proper certification required. Available positions include:

- Early Childhood Teacher
- Fifth Grade Teacher
- Middle School Math & Science
- School Nurse

If interested, please contact Annie Mitchell, Principal at principal@dmrockaway.org or call 973-627-6003.

In addition, please send your cover letter, resume, and certifications to principal@dmrockaway.org

Applicants must also apply through the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Paterson using the procedure and application found in this link:

<https://patdioschools.org/teacher-employment-forms>

BEWARE OF SCAMS – Be on the alert of scams which say they are from me. THEY ARE NOT!!! Please call me at the office (973.627.0313x12) if you have doubt about a text, email, etc, which is supposedly from me asking for money, gift cards, etc. PLEASE DO NOT BE FOOLED!!!

Monday, July 26**Tuesday, July 27**7:00 pm—*Light of Christ Prayer Meeting (Church)***Wednesday, July 28****Thursday, July 29****Friday, July 30***Parish Office closed***Saturday, July 31****Sunday, August 1**

Our Diocesan-wide Corpus Christi Food Drive will conclude on Monday August 2nd, but there is still time to feed the hungry throughout our diocese.

Visit www.ccpaterson.org/corpus to make a monetary donation or for more information about this important effort. Here you can find our parish and shop for items of great need. You may also email: info@ccpaterson.org or call 973-737-2077 ext. 403 with any questions. Thank you for supporting this important effort during this critical time. God Bless you all!

SAVE THE DATE: Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, **November 20th** from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm in St. Cecilia Church Hayes Hall. For further information, please email: saintceciliarosarysociety@gmail.com

Go 2 St. Joe Pilgrimage

All people are welcome and encouraged to partake in the Go 2 St. Joe Pilgrimage hosted by the Diocese of Paterson to celebrate the year of St. Joseph. To participate, visit insidethewalls.org/go2stjoe and print the pilgrimage passport. You then have until December 8th to visit 7 of the 11 locations listed on the passport. Full details can be found on the website.

The Joy of Love & Family Conference

The Diocese of Paterson, in collaboration with the other four Roman Catholic Arch/Dioceses in New Jersey, will sponsor "The Joy of Love & Family," a conference series in celebration of the Year of the Family as declared by Pope Francis. Beginning on June 24, the series of free talks will premiere over six months, covering topics for every stage of family life. More information, including the full speaker line up and talk titles, is available on www.lightingheartsonfire.org, where you can also sign up to receive notifications. Stay tuned to diocesan social media pages @dioceseofpaterson for continued updates!

We are online: www.st-cecilia.org

Faith Formation 2021-2022

The Easter season reminds us of the gift of life and of new beginnings. This is a good time to provide an update on our plans for our parish Faith Formation programs for the fall 2021 - spring 2022 year. Local and Diocesan guidelines are always re-evaluating best practices and we will do our best to keep with up all changes. Our hope is to have a robust and active in-person Faith Formation environment next year!

Stay tuned for an announcement in early June for the opening of registration for all programs. We look forward to seeing you all and studying with you all again very soon!

Just some of the programs we look forward to launching again in the fall...

- First Communion sacrament prep for 2nd graders
- Confirmation sacrament prep for 7th & 8th graders
- Catechesis for all children and families ages 5 and up
- Youth Ministry – middle school & high school
- Weekly Bible Studies
- RCIA

Etc...

Be sure to check our website and bulletin for updates.

500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines! To mark this very special year, a replica of the Jubilee Cross will be traveling to 12 different parishes pre-selected as Jubilee Churches in the Archdiocese of Newark and the Diocese of Paterson. The original Jubilee Cross was erected by Fernand Magellan during the first mass in Limasawa Island in the Philippines.

Two churches from the Diocese of Paterson were chosen as Jubilee Churches. These are the SACRED HEART of JESUS in Rockaway, NJ and ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA in Passaic, NJ.

Be a witness of this historical event of Philippines' Christianity in our diocese on **August 1, 2021**, Sunday at **12:00 noon** at **Sacred Heart of Jesus in Rockaway, NJ**. with Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney, DD as the main celebrant of the Eucharist. Fellowship with Filipino food will be served after.

This commemoration event is sponsored by the Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) in coordination with Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Please contact Elmer Maximo at dccfmevents@gmail.com for more details.

FLOCKNOTE—If you haven't signed up for FLOCKNOTE please do so today. It's easy, it's confidential and it keeps you instantly informed of significant parish events. Notices can be sent as a text to your cell phone or email to your computer. Stay with the flock, stay informed! Go to the St. Cecilia website to join.

RCIA 2021-2022**(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)**

RCIA is a program for adults that are interested in being received into the Catholic Church via Baptism, Holy Communion, or Confirmation. If you or someone you know has for whatever reason never received one of these sacraments, and would like to enter into the fullness of the Catholic Church, please reach out! This is a small group that works with each candidate to help prepare them for the reception of the sacraments and the fullness of participation in the life of the church. The program includes weekly classes on Thursday evenings from October through April.

For more information, please contact Jim Clancy at StCecilia.FaithFormation@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart/St. Cecilia Rosary Society will hold their first monthly meeting on **Saturday, September 4, 2021**. All Rosarians are asked to assemble in the church at 7:30 am for the Rosary followed by Mass and Novena. After Mass, we will meet in Hayes Hall. Parishioners interested in joining the Rosary Society, you are more than welcome to attend. Contact Pat via email at pattyannmarie64@yahoo.com or by phone at 973.627.1732 if you are interested or have any questions.

VOTIVE CANDLES – The Saint Padre Pio votive candle room has reopened after being closed since last March due to the pandemic. You are once again able to enter and light a candle for prayer. I ask that no more than 2 persons be in the room at the same time so that we can maintain social distancing. Please do not sit in the votive candle room during Holy Mass. – Father Zig

SENIOR CITIZENS—The St. Cecilia Senior Citizens organization is hoping to resume meeting in Hayes Hall following Labor Day. Notification will be sent regarding the start up date. The meeting location will be finalized after consultation with school officials and Father Zig, our Pastor.

Joey Bella Memorial Fund September Events: The Joey Bella Memorial Fund, Inc. will host their annual fundraisers in September this year. For more information regarding The Joey Bella Memorial Fund, please visit their website at joeybella.org or email at info@joeybella.org or message them on Facebook.

LAY MINISTRIES TO RESUME – Since March 11, 2020 many things associated with our “normal” practice had ceased as a result of the world-wide pandemic. Likewise at Saint Cecilia’s many things stopped functioning all together as we knew it. Our religious sisters, who live in our convent, had accepted my request for their assistance in serving as lector, acolyte and extraordinary minister of Holy Communion for our daily and weekend liturgies. Sister Diane, Sister John Paul and Sister Paulina are faithful servants and have been of great support to the parish. I have asked the Sisters to continue serving in these ministries for the summer. **After Labor Day I would like to return to parishioners filling the mentioned liturgical ministries.** Since these ministries have not had lay participation in more than a year, I cannot assume that those who served in these ministries prior to the pandemic are willing and available to return. Therefore, I would ask all those interested in serving as a lector, altar server or extraordinary to please call the parish office (973.627.0313) to register. I will meet with each ministry right after Labor Day to discuss our procedures. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Let’s get back to normal! – Father Zig

Summer Community Nights—Looking for a fun and relaxing way to spend your summer nights? Come to the parish for our new Summer Community Nights! A casual community event that includes a fire pit and free hot dogs, water, and ice pops. Bring your own lawn chair and other food / drinks. If available, children can use the field or the open gym. Join the 7:00 pm Mass at the cemetery, then go to the parish for Community Night. Saturdays from 7:30 – 9:00 pm in the parish parking lot. Starting on July 10th and continuing through August 21st. Weather permitting. This is a free event and is open to ALL PARISHIONERS!

SAINT JOSEPH HOLY HOUR—The monthly Saint Joseph Holy Hour will take place on **Wednesday, August 18th** at 8 o’clock in the evening in the church. The next episode of the series, “In the Breach,” produced by the Knights of Columbus on male spirituality will be shown followed by 20 minutes of Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to attend.

FIRST SATURDAY: DAY OF DISCERNMENT – College age young men and above are invited to come to the diocesan House of Discernment (913 Birch Street, Boonton) on Saturday, August 7th at 10 a.m. for prayer and discussion regarding vocation, “what is God calling me to.” The day will include Holy Mass, Holy Hour with the praying of the Rosary, lunch and social time. For additional information please contact: Father Ed Rama (cell) 973.997.2527 or Erama@Patersondiocese.org.

J E S U S
I Trust In You



My dear parishioners,

As we assemble to celebrate the Eucharist on the Lord's Day we do so observing the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. We begin our continuous reading from the 6th chapter of the Gospel of John which is entitled, "the Bread of Life Discourse." Portions of this chapter will be proclaimed up until August 22nd. (Sunday, August 15th is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which will be the exception in our reading from John.) The 6th chapter begins with the miracle of the multiplication of bread and fish, a miracle which is recorded in all four Gospels. Following this miracle we find the Lord Jesus giving the theology regarding "the Bread of Life." Catholic and Orthodox Christians have always understood these words in regard to the Holy Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament.

Beginning today, and following, will be a wonderful opportunity for homilists to speak on the Holy Eucharist which is "the source and summit of our life." The Blessed Sacrament is that which we receive each Sunday as pilgrim food to sustain us on our journey to heaven. This "Bread which comes down from Heaven" is made present to us through the power of the Holy Spirit AND through the words and actions of the priest during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. After the words of consecration the elements of bread and wine are transformed into the holy, precious and life-giving Body and Blood of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. We do this at the Lord's command when at the Last Supper He instructed the Apostles (and their successors) to do this until He comes again.

In the Gospel we find that that which was left over was not discarded but rather gathered up by the Apostles. The Church has always done the same in that whatever Eucharist was not consumed at the liturgy was reserved for the sick and home-bound. This "Bread of Life" was stored in a special box called the TABERNACLE, a name which was given to the tent in the Old Testament which housed the Ark of the Covenant. In recalling this many tabernacles today have a veil either inside the tabernacle or on the outside covering it.

Over these upcoming weeks Father Matt and I will be speaking to you about the HOLY EUCHARIST at our Sunday Masses. This will be a grace-filled time for us to renew our faith in the Lord Jesus who is hidden in the Blessed Sacrament. The words which we will hear Jesus speak regarding His flesh and blood cannot be challenged nor misinterpreted, as was done by the Protestant reformers.

In the epistle reading for today the Apostle Paul reminds the Ephesians, and all of us, that our faith in Jesus has unified us, making us one and we know that this unity is manifested in the Holy Communion which we share.

God bless you! Father Zig

STS. JOACHIM AND ANN, Parents of Mary
July 26 – (St. Ann) Patroness of Christian Mothers

STS. JOACHIM and ANN, both of the tribe of Judah of the royal house of David, are venerated by the Church as the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary who was probably their only child. The other Mary mentioned in the Gospels as the sister of the Mother of God was, it is believed, her cousin; for this was a customary way of designating relatives in the East. St. Ann has been honored from early Christian times. Churches were dedicated to her honor, and the Fathers, especially of the Eastern Churches, loved to speak of her sanctity and privileges. She is often represented as teaching her little daughter to read the Scriptures.

ST. JOACHIM has been honored from time immemorial in the Churches of the East, and since the 6th century public devotion to him has been observed in all countries. However, as in the case of St. Ann, the Gospel tells us nothing about his life.

Tradition, grounded on very old testimonies, informs us that Sts. Joachim and Ann in their old age came from Galilee to settle in Jerusalem, and there the Blessed Mother of God was born and reared; there also they died and were buried. A church was built during the 4th century, possibly by St. Helena, on the site of the home of Sts. Joachim and Ann in Jerusalem.



PRAYER Lord, God of our fathers, through Sts. Joachim and Ann You gave us the Mother of Your Incarnate Son. May their prayers help us to attain the salvation You promised to Your people. Amen.

Taken from, *Lives of the Saints*; Catholic Bookings Publishing Company, 1999, New Jersey

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