



Church of St. Paul  
82 Lake Road West  
Congers, NY 10920

Church of St. Ann  
16 Jefferson Street  
Nyack, NY 10960

Pastor@spasaparish.org

Parish Office:

82 Lake Road West, Congers, NY 10920  
Phone: (845) 268-4464/-4465 Fax: -6790

Email: office@spasaparish.org

Website: spasaparish.org You Tube: Spasa Parish



**Rev. Vladimir Chripko, C.O. Pastor**

Rev. **Roman** Dominik Palecko, C.O. Assistant Pastor

Rev. Narisetty **Arogya** Raju, C.O., Parochial Vicar • Rev. **Joseph** Kumar Narisetty, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Maniraguha **Jean Paul** Ruriho, Assistant

Rev. **George** Torok, C.O., Weekend Assistant

♦♦ ST. PAUL ♦♦		♦♦ ST. ANN ♦♦
<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Dominic</b> Buonocore	<b>Luke</b> Conroy, Director RCIA <b>Charles</b> DeGroat <b>Gerald</b> Fenton, Liturgy Coordinator
<b>Parish Office Hours</b>	9:00 am-3:00 pm Monday—Thursday	
<b>Cemetery/Assistant to Pastor</b>	<b>Lisette</b> Diaz Lisette.sor3@gmail.com	
<b>Religious Education Program</b>	(845-268-5442) Email: Carmen.sor2@gmail.com Carmen Hernandez Lisette Diaz	
<b>St. Anthony-St. Paul School</b>	<b>Dr. Anna Adams, Principal</b> (845-623-2311); St. Anthony, grades 2 to 8 <b>Jessica Perez, Asst. Principal</b> (845-268-6506) St. Paul, PreK/UPK, Kindergarten, Gr. 1	
<b>Music Ministry</b>		<b>Vincent</b> Green
<b>Sunday Masses</b>	<b>Saturday</b> 5 pm <b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am 10 am, 12 pm, 6 pm	<b>Saturday</b> 5:30 pm <b>Sunday</b> 8:45, 11:30 am
<b>Weekday Masses</b>	Monday—Saturday 6:30 & 8:30 am	Monday—Saturday 7:30 am
<b>Streamed Mass</b>	Monday—Saturday 7:30 am Sunday 8:45 am Every day on YouTube Channel SPASA Parish	
<b>Confessions</b>	Saturdays 4:00-4:45 pm Anytime by request.	Saturdays 4:30-5:15 pm Anytime by request.

#### Sacrament of Baptism

To schedule a Baptism at St. Paul or St. Ann please call the rectory at 845-268-4464. Baptism instruction classes are held the last Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the St. Ann School in Nyack. Please call the rectory to register.

#### Sacrament of Marriage

Engaged couples should contact the Rectory at least six months in advance in order to arrange for their participation in the marriage preparation program. Please email assistantpastor@spasaparish.org.

#### Anointing of the Sick

If someone is homebound or in the hospital, please notify the Rectory. Arrangements can be made for the sick person to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Holy Communion is brought to the homebound by our Ministers of Holy Communion.

*Oct. 25, 2020 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

<u>ST. PAUL'S CHURCH</u>		<u>ST. ANN'S CHURCH</u>	
<b>Saturday</b>	Oct. 24, 2020	<b>Saturday</b>	Oct. 24, 2020
5:00 PM	Arlene Piscetelli	5:30 PM	James R. Kelley
<b>Sunday</b>	Oct. 25, 2020	<b>Sunday</b>	Oct. 25, 2020
7:30 AM	Pierina Recine	8:45 AM	Mary Sciarrillo (L) — Birthday
10:00 AM	Andrea Cartella — Birthday	11:30 AM	Barbara Cernuda
12:00 PM	Thomas Fico	Second Collection for Utilities	
6:00 PM	Virginia Cifuni		
<b>Monday</b>	Oct. 26, 2020	<b>Monday</b>	Oct. 26, 2020
6:30 AM	Jackie Gaine	7:30 AM	Aurore Romain Viviana Ruscitto -- Birthday
8:30 AM	Michael Matyi		
<b>Tuesday</b>	Oct. 27, 2020	<b>Tuesday</b>	Oct. 27, 2020
6:30 AM	Robert Sbordone (L)	7:30 AM	James C. Taylor
8:30 AM	Ben Fuentes — Birthday		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Oct. 28, 2020	<b>Wednesday</b>	Oct. 28, 2020
6:30 AM	Souls in Purgatory	7:30 AM	Jackie Lyda
8:30 AM	Thomas Fico Jr.		
<b>Thursday</b>	Oct. 29, 2020	<b>Thursday</b>	Oct. 29, 2020
6:30 AM	Jeanie Costanzo (L)	7:30 AM	Borgella Romain
8:30 AM	Nicholas Cifuni —1st Anniversary		
<b>Friday</b>	Oct. 30, 2020	<b>Friday</b>	Oct. 30, 2020
6:30 AM	Samantha Schwalje	7:30 AM	Brian Knecht
8:30 AM	Thomas Fico Jr.		
<b>Saturday</b>	Oct. 31, 2020	<b>Saturday</b>	Oct. 31, 2020
6:30 AM	Patricia & Charles Westwater	7:30 AM	Jacqueline Riche
8:30 AM	Coviello & Winard Families	5:30 PM	Miranza Desir (L) & Carl Anthony Desir (L)
5:00 PM	Josephine & Eugene Loughlin		
<b>Sunday</b>	Nov. 1, 2020 ALL SAINTS DAY	<b>Sunday</b>	Nov. 1, 2020 ALL SAINTS DAY
7:30 AM	Dr. Anthony Auguste (L)	8:45 AM	Dr. Anthony Auguste (L)
10:00 AM	Carmine & Elena Massaro	11:30 AM	Robert Trump
12:00 PM	Robert Trump	Second Collection for All Saints Day	
6:00 PM	Deceased members of Domingo-Sumangil & Palencia-Badong families		

Now you can now find out which masses are available for your special intentions and schedule them online. Go to our parish website, SPASAPARISH.ORG. On the homepage, click on the Mass Intentions box for instructions and access to the "Mass Intentions Booking" page. You may also reserve the sanctuary lamp at either church or at St. Ann's Chapel. You can make your offering by credit card. Or you can call the parish office (845-268-4464) to schedule masses the traditional way and make your offering by credit card, cash, or check.

THE HOMILY FROM THE  
MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL  
OF DEACON MARK CZERWINSKI

*Delivered by*

REV. ARTHUR MASTROLIA  
Pastor of the Church of St. Clare  
Staten Island  
Former Pastor of St. Paul's Church  
2001 to 2013



DEACON  
MARK J. CZERWINSKI

BORN  
SEPT. 8, 1962

ORDAINED  
JUNE 7, 2008

ENTERED INTO  
ETERNAL LIFE  
OCT. 11, 2020

The Parish of St. Paul & St. Ann grieves — along with his beloved family: wife Jennifer, daughters Mary and Elizabeth, mom Irene, sister and brother, Laura and Kevin; we grieve the loss of Deacon Mark Czerwinski.

He served the needs of his beloved family with gentle love, care, and fatherly guidance; and he served the needs of the family of this parish with commitment, dedication, and the same gentle, loving care. The essential character of the Roman Catholic deacon is precisely service — *Diakonia* — and Deacon Mark lived his dual-vocation as husband/father and deacon through ministerial service: offering this community and the community of the Church both a beautiful family and a beautiful ministry in terms of education, sacramentality, and pastoral care.

I remember when Mark first came to me back in 2003 or so with the idea of entering the deacon formation program for the Archdiocese of New York. His intentions were pure in that he felt the need to discern what he believed to be a call from God to offer compassion and accompaniment to the People of God who are the Church — particularly here in his beloved Rockland County.

Discerning such a vocation would demand of him an openness to Spirit-filled enrichment and learning — such as was presented to him in the very demanding academic and spiritual formation program offered at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. Church history, sacramental, dogmatic and pastoral theology were the areas he delved into with zeal — I know, because he often allowed me to read and comment on the papers he would frequently be submitting to his professors.

Grammar and style of expression were hardly areas of valid critique, since Mark was also a professional sports writer for the New Jersey *Paterson News* and the *Bergen Record* newspapers. Mark was like Ray Romano — the sportswriter character on the hit TV show “Everybody Loves Raymond,” but only inasmuch as “Everybody Loved Mark.” And, of course, to show his closeness to God’s “little ones,” Mark was a faithful fellow-Mets fan! Whether he was writing about local high school sports or fishing the rivers of northern New Jersey, he graced both the topics and the athletes of his columns with all due respect and dignity.

I remember, too, asking him to assume the leadership of the RCIA program here at St. Paul’s — a position which he embraced with the same fatherly care and zeal which characterized the most important aspects of his life: family and service.

Deacon Mark would then embrace the debility and fragility of the human condition over these recent years with dignity and faith; and although he has gone ahead of us much too soon, he has indeed gone “to prepare a place” —

like Jesus did — for his family in the natural order, and for his family in the spiritual order right here at St. Paul & St. Ann Parish.

And so it is good and right for us to be here this morning in this place as a family — celebrating and remembering the life that God gave to Mark Czerwinski. Painful though this loss indeed is, it is the time to share memories and to encourage one another through our shared faith in the resurrection which Deacon Mark lived and taught and preached so well.

And yes, it is also a time for us to say goodbye to Deacon Mark. Though saying goodbye is so very difficult, it is also so very important: he was your beloved son, husband and father, brother and uncle, friend and deacon. He was — and remains in spirit — one of the most influential figures in your life, dear family, and in the life of this faith community.

So when it comes right down to it, this mass is just as important for us who go on as it is for the one who has died.

It is said that Jesus never presided over a funeral. And that’s because when Jesus came into the presence of death, the dead came back to life! Deacon Mark was determined to live his life for us in the presence of Jesus. And death has no power over him, who was so dedicated to the Lord of Life. He has gone ahead of us, where for him, life has changed, not ended!

**May he now find the deepest of joy in the presence of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Thank you Deacon Mark Czerwinski! Thank you for your life of loving service!**



## DEACON MARK'S FUNERAL MASS HELD AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

On Thursday, Oct. 15, our Christian community gathered at St. Paul's Church for the funeral of our beloved Deacon Mark Czerwinski. Together his family, friends, fellow parishioners, priests and fellow deacons assembled in prayer as the Church, in the celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial, surrendered him into Our Father's loving hands.

The principal celebrant of the mass was His Excellency, The Most Reverend Edmund J. Whalen, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of New York. Co-celebrants were: Rev. Msgr. Emmet Nevin, Dean of Rockland County, pastor of St. Aedan's, and former pastor of St. Paul's; Rev. Arthur Mastrolia, pastor of St. Clare's in Staten Island and former St. Paul's pastor, who was the homilist; and the Oratorian Fathers, Rev. Vladimir Chripko, pastor of St. Paul & St. Ann's, Assistant pastor, Rev. Roman Palecko, Revs. Raju and Joseph Narisetty, and Rev. Peter Bujdos.

Among the deacons who took part in the mass were Deacon Mark's fellow deacons who served with him at St. Paul & St. Anns: Deacon Dominic Buonocore, Deacon Luke Conroy, and Deacon Jerry Fenton. Also present were Deacon Frank Orlando, Director of the Diaconate Formation Program at St. Joseph's Seminary, Deacon Rob Pang from St. John's in Piermont, and Deacons John Kelley and George Albin from St. Gregory Barbarigo in Garnerville.

The readings at mass were proclaimed by Deacon Mark's daughters, Elizabeth and Mary. His sister, Laura Biktjorn, delivered the eulogy. His mother, Irene, was also present with Deacon Mark's wife, Jennifer.

Rob Campodonico, a St. Paul & St. Ann's parishioner, assisted as altar server.

After the final blessing, the burial took place at Gethsemane Cemetery at Rockland Lake, where Deacon Mark was laid to rest next to his father, Thomas Czerwinski. Fr. Vladimir, Fr. Roman, and Deacon Jerry presided at the interment.

The day's funeral journey ended there. But we are assured that for the Christian who dies in Christ Jesus, there will be no end. "I am the resurrection and the life," said Jesus, "and those who believe in Me, even if they die, will live." May our faith that one day we will all be together in Christ console us — and may our memories of Deacon Mark's love, good deeds, and devotion to us and our parish fill us with gratitude for his time among us.



Deacon Dominic Buonocore sprinkles holy water as part of the last farewell and commendation before the casket of Deacon Mark is carried from the church. Holding the holy water container is another brother deacon, Deacon Luke Conroy.



Deacon Mark's image is shown on the monitors during the service. In the first row of mourners are (left to right): Terry Graziano, Deacon Mark's mother's good friend; his mother, Irene; daughters, Elizabeth and Mary; and his wife, Jennifer.

## TRIBUTES FROM DEACON MARK'S FRIENDS AND FELLOW PARISHIONERS

- ✝ We send our prayers and deepest sympathies to the family of Deacon Mark Czerwinski.  
— **St. Paul's Food Cupboard**
- ✝ We extend our condolences to his family and the entire Church. He was a good homilist. May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace. Amen. — **Msgr. Richard Kyeremeh**  
*Msgr. Richard, who is now back in Ghana, served at St. Paul's with Deacon Mark for several years.*
- ✝ I once told him that I sensed that God's own words passed through his lips. — **Ric Aberion**
- ✝ Remembering Deacon Mark makes me realize how much he will be missed, just as we felt his absence these last several months. He will be remembered for his inspirational homilies and his gracious greeting when you spoke to him, always making a warm connection! REST IN PEACE, Deacon Mark. — **Elda Zamparo**



✝ Deacon Mark, I will miss your homilies because I always looked forward to them. Every time you spoke from the pulpit you would touch a chord that would draw a tear, especially when you called our Blessed Mother, "Mom." I'll miss bumping into you in the parking lot or at Dunkin Donuts and having thoughtful conversations together. Thanks for all you did to increase our spirituality. You did your best in everything, and now Mom is waiting for you with open arms. Have two cups of coffee ready as I'll look forward to the day we get together again.  
— **Peter Masiello**

## IN DEACON MARK'S OWN WORDS

Deacon Mark was a well-respected professional writer, and his carefully crafted homilies and essays were a gift to our parish. Here are two excerpts.

### On the Mystery of the Trinity

The Trinity is all around us, part of our lives from the womb to the tomb and beyond, and yet, the Trinity is still a mystery to us. And, because our human nature seems to love a good mystery, we've been trying hard to figure this one out for some 2,000 years.

Have you ever been out by Congers Lake on a late winter morning when the air is just starting to warm up? There are still some patches of ice on the water, and often you see a misty fog hanging over the entire lake.

Water, ice, and fog. Three expressions of the same one entity. Just like the Trinity.

If you would like to send your condolences to the Czerwinski family, please use this address: Ms. Jennifer Czerwinski & Family, c/o St. Paul & St. Ann Rectory, 82 Lake St. West, Congers, NY 10920.

✝ I first met Deacon Mark in September 2015.

I recently had my third child, who was then 6 months old, and I was looking to have him baptized.

At that time, I really didn't belong to any church in particular for many personal reasons. Nonetheless, I so wanted my child to be baptized because it was important to me.

In addition, I hadn't been attached to any religious practices or institutions. Not a Catholic, nor a Christian, I was of no denomination — until I met the wonderful deacon Mark. That is where the beginning of many blessings unfolded.

Deacon Mark was very inviting, warm hearted and compassionate, nonjudgmental in any of my past qualms. In fact, he was very understanding, and even more welcoming.

We talked about my signing up for the RCIA class, which Deacon Mark taught along with other fellow dedicated members of St. Paul's .

I decided soon after to follow my true heart and join the class. I couldn't have been any more fulfilled by choosing to do so.

It created an even more burning light inside.

Meeting every Tuesday was something I looked forward to. There were many Tuesdays I could not have my husband watch our baby because of other obligations, but Deacon Mark encouraged me to bring my son. It was a blessing to have him there too joining us, even

if it meant him crawling under the tables or on top.

I remember when the classes reached the end and it was time to make my sacraments, which included Deacon marrying my husband and me in the Church. I remember my life becoming more in tune. So much changed for the better, and I have Deacon Mark to thank.

I remember saying thank you to Deacon Mark for the class and all he had done for me, but also for all he would continue to do for all the upcoming candidates.

I believe that Deacon Mark was and still is a beautiful soul on this earth. May his life and memory continue to be a blessing to all those he encountered .

God bless Deacon Mark on his journey home, and may God bless his wonderful family. — **Desiree Cardinale**



### On St. Joseph at Christmas

Could you imagine what it was like to be this man, how profoundly the Christmas experience must have changed his life?

As a father, I remember what it was like to just sit there and watch my infant daughters sleep. To come home at the end of a hard day and just quietly watch them, seeing hope and love in their tiny forms, and feeling a remarkable sense of peace and joy in those simple, quiet moments.

I'm sure St. Joseph did the same thing. I often think about what went through his mind at moments like that, and wonder if it was akin to what we feel as we sit here in silence during Eucharistic adoration and bask in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, that same Jesus from the Bethlehem crib, here on our altar.

Photos on these pages were contributed by Paul Aberion, Ric Aberion, Desiree Cardinale, & Marie Olivier



# FROM THE RECTORY

## PARISH OF ST. PAUL & ST. ANN STAY CONNECTED with LATEST NEWS & UPDATES



### OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

#### SPASA PARISH

Mass streamed Monday thru Saturday  
7:30 am; Sunday 8:45 am. Archived videos.



### OUR WEBSITE

#### SPASAPARISH.ORG

Photos, bulletins, mass schedules, events,  
and other parish information.



### OUR MASS SCHEDULING APP

#### SPASAMASS.ORG

View available masses and schedule one online  
for a loved one or your special intention.



### ONLINE GIVING TO OUR PARISH

#### SPASAPARISH.CHURCHGIVING.COM

Arrange for online giving. Support our parish  
and manage your giving online.



### FLOCKNOTES

Sign up to receive important  
emails or texts from the  
pastor and the Archdiocese.



**STPAULS.FLOCKNOTE.COM/**  
or text STPC to 84576 from your  
phone

**STANNYACK.FLOCKNOTE.COM**  
or text SACC to 84576 from your  
phone

### Are You "SURE" You're a Registered Parishioner?

Many times we meet people at church who attend mass, take part in events, or perhaps even have received their sacraments here. We're so very glad you're with us and part of our community. But that alone does not make you a parishioner. To be a member of the parish you have to REGISTER. Registering is very easy. You can register online at [spasaparish.org](http://spasaparish.org) or at the parish office. It only takes a few minutes.

Everyone over the age of 18 is encouraged to register. Even if you're an adult who received all your sacraments here as a child and still attend mass here, you need to register.

**Why register?** First and foremost, it's very important to register so we can serve your needs when, for example, you need a sponsor certification letter for Baptism or Confirmation. Also, to receive an acknowledgment of your donations for your income tax filing, you need to be registered so we have an official record of your giving over the year.

**So, please join us officially and register with the parish so we can meet all your needs now and in the future!**

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPONSOR CERTIFICATION LETTER

In order to receive a sponsor certification letter from the Parish of St. Paul & St. Ann, you must be an ACTIVE, REGISTERED PARISHIONER for 6 MONTHS. IF YOU ARE NOT OFFICIALLY REGISTERED AND DO NOT ATTEND MASS, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A LETTER.

The role of a sponsor is to lead a Christian life in a manner that faithfully fulfills the obligations of the Catholic faith. A sponsor must be living the Catholic faith and be able to be part of the sponsored person's life after the Baptism, who can guide him/her spiritually.

A sponsor must also:

- Be at least 16 years of age
- Have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation
- If married, must be married according to the laws of the Catholic Church

## September 2020 Collection

	09/06/20	09/13/20	09/20/20	09/27/20
St. Paul and St. Ann	11,899	11,469	11,132	11,626
SP and SA Parish Giving & We share	4,870 + 11,518			

### 300 CLUB WINNERS

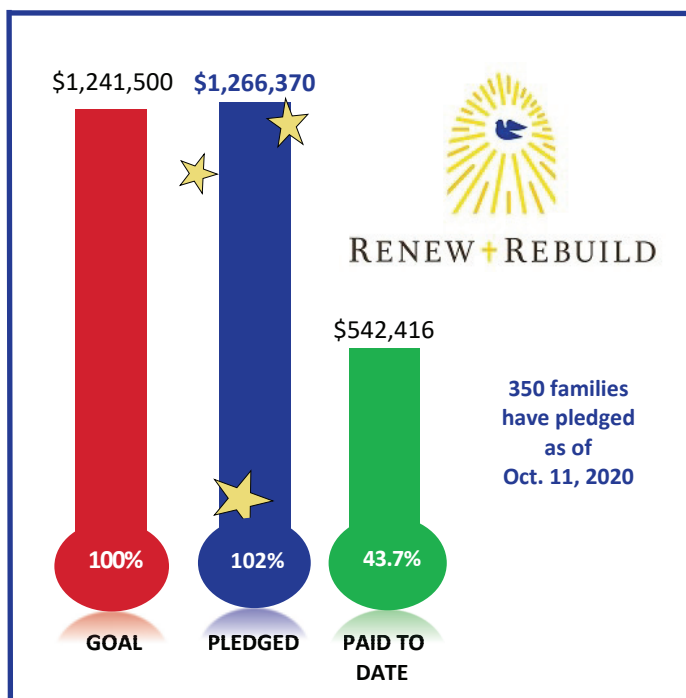
Congratulations to the Lucky Winners  
of our **SEPTEMBER** DRAWING!

#024 Virginia Ryan

#086 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Dailey

#133 Joan Lanzano

#222 Jean Lowinger



## Prayer for the Sick

We pray that the sick of our parish, our relatives, and friends will experience God's healing love, especially:

Michael Doria, Linda Calcarcu, Joseph Kirwan,  
Marinela Aberion Aguas,  
Ronald D'Elia, John Barch,  
Laura Mazzacone, Kathryn Scarmato,  
Emilia Raphael-Olivier, Carolyn Pagliuca,  
Michael Doria, Noah Diaz, Manuel Tucay

Please call the rectory (268-4464) to be placed on the list of those who need prayers in time of illness, or call with the names of any sick family members or friends. The name will remain on the list for 3 weeks and then be removed unless we hear from you that the person still needs our prayers.



## Memorial Intentions — Week of Oct. 25

Sanctuary Lamp (St. Paul)

Nancy McMenimon

Sanctuary Lamp (St. Ann)

Chapel (St. Ann)



## SPASAMASS.ORG

### THE MASS BOOK IS OPEN

You may now schedule masses for your intentions through March 2021

You can find available masses and schedule them online at [SPASAMASS.org](http://SPASAMASS.org). For the time being, you'll have to make the following adjustments:

Note that there is no longer a 12:10 pm mass at St. Ann's.

For a St. Ann's Saturday 7:30 am mass, select the St. Ann's Saturday 9 am box

For a St. Paul's 8:30 am mass, select St. Paul's 9:00 am box

For a St. Paul's Saturday 6:30 am mass, select the St. Paul's Saturday 7:30 am box

**Mass Intentions** When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his or her soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any sympathy card or flower arrangement. To have a Mass offered for a birthday, anniversary, or special need is appropriate, beneficial, and appreciated. You can find out what masses are available and schedule them online at [SPASAMASS.ORG](http://SPASAMASS.ORG) or call the office, 845-268-4464.

### EMAIL FOR THE PASTOR

[Pastorspsa@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorspsa@gmail.com)

### BULLETIN DEADLINES

Friday — the week before the bulletin is distributed at church  
Please send submissions to [bulletinspsa@yahoo.com](mailto:bulletinspsa@yahoo.com)

## Our Beloved Dead

Please remember in your prayers our deceased fellow parishioners, family, and friends.



Deacon  
Mark Czerwinski



Sean Brady, Robert Vasquez,  
Anthony Olivieri, Redgy Timeau

## GENERATIONS — IT'S HERE!

The three generations of the Holy Family — Jesus, his parents, Mary & Joseph, and his grandparents, Ann & Joachim — are the subject of this work of art commissioned for the outdoor shrine we've planned for St. Ann's



Church in Nyack. We're nearly halfway toward our goal of \$50,000. So far, generous donors have given \$24,930 toward this project. **Please support and help finish this shrine.** Please send your donation, marked "statue," to St. Paul & St. Ann's Parish, 82 Lake Rd. West, Congers, NY 10920.

## SPaSA Parish

SUBSCRIBE ON  YouTube  
AND HELP OUR PARISH REACH 1,000 SUBSCRIBERS.

MASS IS AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE 7 DAYS A WEEK  
AT 7:30 am MONDAY thru SATURDAY  
8:45 am on SUNDAY

**PARISH COUNCIL** Enrico Aberion, Ann Marie Blackwood, Hernan Caceres, Guy Gebbia, Vicki Gill, Marie Josee Joseph, Karin Lancellotti, Julie Lepore, Marie Lorenzini, Dennis Lynch, Bernadette Masiello, Greg Moreau, George Strayton, Keith Taylor

**FINANCIAL COUNCIL** William Dailey, Carlos Hernandez



## CORRECTION

From St. Paul's Food Cupboard:

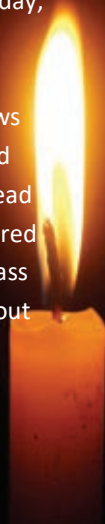
Our apologies to Julia Light Fisher. We called her Judith in the Oct. 10 bulletin! And we again thank Julia, her daughter, Sarah, and the local Alumni Chapter of Villanova for their generous donation to our pantry.

## MARIAN SHRINE RETREAT FOR WOMEN

A one-day retreat for women will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, at the Marian Shrine, 174 Filors Lane, Stony Point. The theme is **"Experience and become the love, healing, and revival needed to overcome these troubling times!"** Arrival is from 8:15 am to 9:00 am, and the retreat ends at 4:30 pm. The day includes breakfast, talks, reflections, rosary, lunch, adoration, holy mass, confession, fun, friendship, music and campfire. Join us as we enjoy "His Light, Love, and Laughter!" Masks are required and there will be social distancing. The cost of the retreat is \$20. **To RSVP (by Tuesday, 10/27)**, please contact [Maureen.Verschneider@gmail.com](mailto:Maureen.Verschneider@gmail.com) or [FrSteveSDB@aol.com](mailto:FrSteveSDB@aol.com).

## ALL SOULS DAY ENVELOPES

All Souls Day this year is Monday, Nov. 2, and envelopes are available in your monthly envelope packet or in the pews at both churches. Please send the names of your beloved dead so that they can be remembered in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on All Souls Day and throughout November, the month dedicated to prayer for the Souls in Purgatory.



## IMMACULATE HEART ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, Oct. 25, 11 am to 2 pm and Thursday, Oct. 29, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Register online at [www.ihanj.com](http://www.ihanj.com). Please check the website and social media pages for any potential changes in our Open Houses due to ongoing COVID-19 circumstances. For more information contact Ms. Alexis Fatigati, director of admissions, at 201.445.6800, ext. 112 or [afatigati@ihanj.com](mailto:afatigati@ihanj.com). IHA is located at 500 Van Emburgh Ave., Township of Washington, NJ 07676.

## ALBERTUS MAGNUS HS OPEN HOUSE

Looking for an amazing high school experience? Join us for our Virtual Open House and discover the AM advantage. Sunday, Nov. 1, at 12:00 pm. AM is focused on excellence in prayer, study, community, and service. Your future begins today. Register today at: <https://www.albertusmagnus.net/admissions/visit-our-campus>. More information: Diane Coffey 845-643-3857.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

The final week of the 40 Days for Life prayer campaign to change hearts and minds about abortion begins today. The closing prayer service will be at 3 pm, next Sunday, Nov. 1. This peaceful initiative is supported by the Archdiocese of New York, the Sisters of Life, and it has even received a commendation from Pope Francis. The Rockland vigil takes place near the Spring Valley Marketplace mall. Contact [rachelminister1@aol.com](mailto:rachelminister1@aol.com) for more information. Shown in the photo above on the right is Deacon Luke Conroy who, with his wife, Nancy, participates each year.



**Next Sunday, Nov. 1 — Daylight Savings Time ENDS!**



**NOV. 1  
ALL SAINTS DAY**

**"Be who God  
wants you to be,  
and you will set  
the WORLD  
on FIRE"**

**THAT'S JUST WHAT  
THE SAINTS DID!**

Quote from St. Catherine of Siena



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

## A Civil War Substitute

During the Civil War it was permitted for one man to take the place of another in the army.

It so happened that a farmer by the name of Blake was drafted. He was grief-stricken, not because he was a coward, but because he had a wife and children to take care of.

The day before he was to report at camp, a young neighbor by the name of Charles Durham came to Blake's farm.

"Mr. Blake," he said, "I will go instead of you."

The offer was accepted. The entire village turned out to bid farewell to the generous young man.

In the very first battle in which he engaged, young Durham was shot and killed.

When Blake read the name of his young friend in the list of the dead, he saddled his horse, rushed to the battlefield, found Durham's body, and brought it back to the little churchyard in the village.

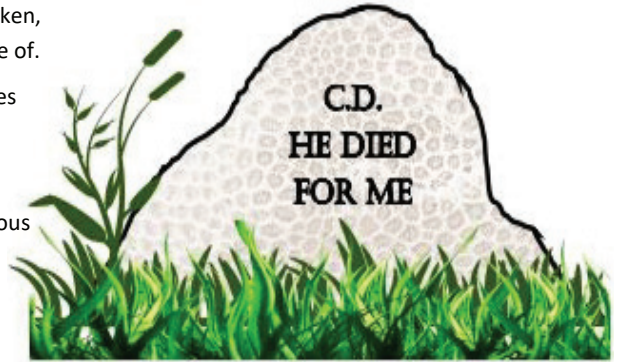
He found a large stone upon a hill and he carved an inscription. It wasn't beautiful, but it was sincere.

Blake placed it above the fresh sod-covered mound in the churchyard. It was not an elaborate inscription but it said much. It simply read "C.D. He died for me."

Above the cross of Christ and over our grave each one of us must carve the words: **He died for me.**

Christ took upon himself the suffering and evil unleashed by Adam's sin and perpetuated by our sins. His perfect, loving obedience up to death on the cross reversed Adam's rebellion and freed us from the power of the devil.

Jesus has lit in our hearts the flame of certain hope that will lead us to eternal life.



<https://archny.org/news-events/archways-magazine/>

Or access with the QR code below



Here's the fall issue of *Archways*, the Archdiocese's online magazine. It features stories of saints and other great Catholics who served God and His people in the New York region — beautiful art throughout! There's also an article about how we've adapted to the coronavirus, from cloistered nuns in the Bronx to worshippers at an outdoor sidewalk Eucharistic Adoration service. A priest answers the question "Why can't we receive the sacraments virtually or remotely?" You'll find an article about Christian face masks, perfect to wear to mass on Sunday, and a list of five great reads for Catholics — the book winners of this year's Christopher Awards.

## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

The Congers Veterans Memorial Association will hold a wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday, Nov. 8, in front of its building at 66 Lake Rd. in Congers. Please join the VMA in this brief ceremony to honor the service and sacrifice of our community's veterans.

## ST. PAUL FOOD CUPBOARD TURKEY ALERT!

We are preparing for our Thanksgiving distribution to our Rockland County neighbors on Saturday, Nov. 21. The distribution will take place from the St Paul's School parking lot.

Non-perishables can be donated & brought to the collection box in the foyer of the church any time. Non-perishables and turkeys can be brought to the school parking lot Friday, Nov, 20, between 4:30 and 6:00 pm.

Reminder: non-perishables include packaged potatoes, canned yams/sweet potatoes, stuffing, rice, fruit, vegetables, cranberry products, soups, and, of course, sweet treats.

The Food Cupboard is grateful for the support of our parishioners, especially during the upcoming holiday season.



**Confirmation Photos will resume next week.**

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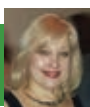
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