

Presentation of the Lord



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF
ST. JOHN VIANNEY & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
ST. JOHN VIANNEY 973-697-6550 - ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 973-208-0090
WEBSITE: WWW.STSTHOMASJOHN.ORG

The Parish Communities of

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY & SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE



PASTOR'S CORNER

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 FEBRUARY 2026

Gratitude and humility. If anyone boasts, it should be in the Lord! My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we should always remember that every gift that we have received comes from Almighty God. First and foremost, the gift of life. Then, our talents, and our treasures. They have all come from God who loves each of us infinitely. **Gratitude and humility are key!**

With the above points in mind, true discipleship has a cost, and “from a **beatitude** perspective, **discipleship is worth the cost!**” [1] Obviously, life in this world is not completely rosy. There will inevitably be disappointments and sufferings that will come our way. However, our lives do not have to end in suffering and disappointment! According to the Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary by FAITH Catholic, “**Jesus gives us a different point of view on suffering and discipleship through the beatitudes. Suffering will not have the last word; rather, those who suffer will be blessed. Discipleship is not without cost, but it will be rewarded.** With a beatitude perspective, we are reassured and inspired to press onward with rejoicing rather than fear.” [2]

“Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.” (Matthew 5:6) [3] “By proclaiming the beatitudes, Jesus turns the world’s values and expectations upside down. He tells us that the poor, the meek, and the hungry are at the center of God’s kingdom, not the wealthy or powerful. God’s ways are not our ways, and Jesus’ words invite us to live by a different set of standards than the world offers.” [4]

In today’s Gospel passage from St. Matthew, Jesus teaches His disciples “a series of statements [The Beatitudes] promising blessings and rewards for those who suffer, especially for His sake [and that of the Gospel] as His disciples.” [5]

In our second reading, St. Paul explains that God calls the weak and the lowly of this world to shame the proud and the strong. The “playing field” is levelled in such a way that there should be no boasting except boasting in the Lord our God. Let’s face it, nobody wants to suffer. However, when suffering does eventually come our way, do we unite our sufferings to those of Jesus Christ for the sake of our world? St. Paul teaches us that, “[God Almighty] is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption...” [6]

The readings from today’s Mass reminds all of us that we should give God the praise and the honor that are His due! Without God and His Divine Providence, we would each be nothing, have nothing and accomplish nothing! Every breath that we take is a gift from God. If Almighty God ceased to will us into being, we would lapse into nothingness! We have been generously blessed by God with all that we are, and all that we have! Our life, our health, our parents, our families, our friends, our intellect, are abilities, etc., have all been given to us freely and lovingly by God! Let us all give due glory and honor to Him, and boast in the Lord for all to hear, to see, and to understand that we are the Lord’s to the glory of God’s Holy Name! Be well and God bless you and all those whom you love!

Prayerfully, Fr. Ben

[1] Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary, FAITH Catholic, Lansing, MI, January 2022, Pg. 43. [2] Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary, FAITH Catholic, Lansing, MI, January 2022, Pg. 43. [3] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 4. [4] Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary, FAITH Catholic, Lansing, MI, 2025 Vol 59, No. 1, Pg. 48.[5] Daily Universal Prayer and Commentary, FAITH Catholic, Lansing, MI, January 2022, Pg. 43. [6] The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, New Testament Copyright 1965, Old Testament Copyright 1966, New Testament Pg. 151.

Saturday, January 31st

4:00 pm (St. John Vianney)

No intentions for this Mass

5:00 pm (St. Thomas the Apostle)

No intentions for this Mass

Sunday, February 1st

8:00 am (St. John Vianney)

No intentions for this Mass

9:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

No intentions for this Mass

10:00 am (St. John Vianney)

† Maria Phuong Do by Thu Chu

11:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

No intentions for this Mass

6:00 pm (St. John Vianney)

For our Antioch Team Leaders (Living)

by the parish family of St. John Vianney & St. Thomas the Apostle

Monday, February 2nd

6:30 pm - Eucharistic Adoration (St. Thomas the Apostle)

7:30 pm (St. Thomas the Apostle)

† John Presbruhi by Mary Bacchetta

Novena to St. Peregrine immediately following Mass (St. Thomas the Apostle)

Tuesday, February 3rd

8:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

† Linda Martini by George Gillesheimer

Wednesday, February 4th

8:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

† Nerieda Addotta by her husband Vito

12:00 pm (St. John Vianney)

† Susan Kitchell by Brian Silva

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help immediately following Mass

Thursday, February 5th

8:00 am - Communion Service (St. Thomas the Apostle)

First Friday, February 6th

8:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

† Susan Kitchell by Ricky Meyer

Holy Hour immediately following Mass

12:00 pm (St. John Vianney)

No intentions for this Mass

Holy Hour immediately following Mass (St. John Vianney)

"Catholic education is a gift to so many. It leads to souls to Christ and is leaven in society, bringing truth, beauty, and goodness into the public square" - unknown

Saturday, February 7th

4:00 pm (St. John Vianney)

No intentions for this Mass

5:00 pm (St. Thomas the Apostle)

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Katie by St. Thomas

Sunday, February 8th

8:00 am (St. John Vianney)

No intentions for this Mass

9:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

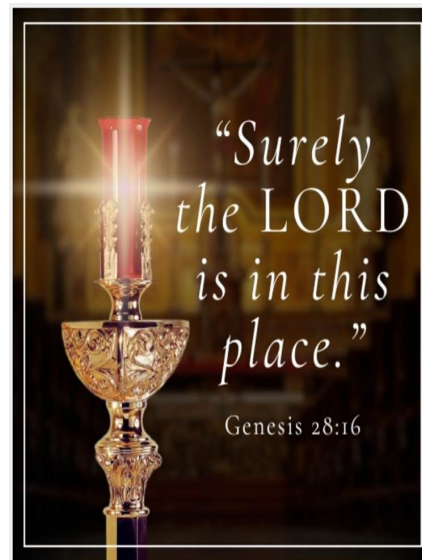
† Patricia Snouffer by Anne Kaiser

10:00 am (St. John Vianney)

† Robert Paiva by Marie Neubig

11:00 am (St. Thomas the Apostle)

† John Zboraj Sr. by his wife Anna



The Living Flame
at Saint Thomas the Apostle
Sanctuary Lamps
for
January 25 thru January 31
Is in Memory of
Margaret Gorman
by Cheryl Prescott

From Fr. Martin...

COR AT ST. JOHN VIANNEY

As part of the new initiatives beginning in our parish, I would like to invite you to Cor, a faith formation program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Cor comes from the Latin word for "heart" and reflects the idea that faith grows best when hearts speak to hearts. This initiative is centered on prayer, formation, and fraternity, helping us grow in a deeper and more intentional relationship with Jesus Christ. While Cor has a special focus on strengthening the faith of men, this gathering is open to **ALL** parishioners who are interested in learning more.

Our first formation meeting will take place **on Feb. 8**, following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Light refreshments will be provided. I encourage you to come, listen, and see if this may be a good fit for you as we continue building a stronger faith community together.

ST. BLAISE THROAT BLESSING THIS WEEKEND

In anticipation of the Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr (February 3), the Blessing of Throats will be offered this weekend after all Masses.

St. Blaise is the patron saint of those who suffer from illnesses of the throat. According to tradition, he miraculously cured a young boy who was choking on a fishbone. Because of this, the Church has long invoked his intercession for protection from illnesses of the throat and for good health.

During the blessing, the priest holds two blessed candles crossed at the throat and prays for God's healing and protection. All are invited to remain after Mass and receive this beautiful sacramental of the Church.

TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS
WE WILL BE TAKING DOWN THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS IN OUR CHURCH **THIS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, AT 6:30 PM.** PIZZA AND HOT CHOCOLATE WILL BE PROVIDED. ALL ARE WELCOME TO HELP.

JOIN US FOR
**ROSARY
PRAYER AT
9:15 AM THIS
SUNDAY, AND
STAY FOR
COFFEE AND
DONUTS
FOLLOWING
THE 10:00 AM
MASS.
ALL ARE
WELCOME!**

ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH

**COFFEE
AND
DONUTS**



**AFTER 10AM MASS
FIRST SUNDAYS
OF THE MONTH**

PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL AND SPAIN (SEPT. 21 - OCT. 5, 2026)

I WILL BE ORGANIZING A PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL AND SPAIN FROM SEPTEMBER 21 TO OCTOBER 5. AN OPEN INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR ANYONE INTERESTED WILL TAKE PLACE ON **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, AT 11:15 AM IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT.** ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES WORLD DAY OF THE SICK HEALING MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT NOON

On Wednesday, February 11, the Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and observes the World Day of the Sick, instituted by Pope Saint John Paul II as a special day of prayer and solidarity with those who suffer from illness. A **Healing Mass** will be celebrated **at Noon**, followed by the **Anointing of the Sick** for those who are seriously ill or of advanced age. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is intended for the sick and elderly.

All are invited to attend and to join in prayer for the sick in our families, our parish, and throughout the world, especially those who are seriously or chronically ill. While the sacrament itself is for the sick only, everyone is encouraged to participate in this prayerful celebration.

Those wishing to receive the Anointing of the Sick are encouraged to be in the state of grace.

Confessions will be available **Saturday** from 3:00-3:45 PM and before Mass from 11:00-11:45 AM.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jan. 31/Feb. 1

Be Not Afraid: Trusting God in Times of Loss and Uncertainty to Restore Purpose and Inner Peace in Our Lives.”

Please join us on Feb. 7, 2026 for a retreat on loss and healing. “Be Not Afraid: Trusting God in Times of Loss and Uncertainty to Restore Purpose and Inner Peace in Our Lives.” Led by international speaker and award winning author, Janet Pfeiffer.

Loss is painful, and change can be frightening. Yet, both are inevitable aspects of life. Are there hidden benefits in each? Can loss be an unexpected blessing? Can change open the door to remarkable possibilities? By relying on sacred Scripture, we can overcome suffering and fear while embracing a glorious new life filled with unlimited joy and inner peace, thanks to our Creator.

ST. Thomas Church classroom

Date: Feb. 7, 2026, 10 am – 2 pm

Register: Janet@PfeifferPowerSeminars.com before Feb. 1

Please bring your own lunch –Refreshments available All are welcome to attend. This event is free but we will be accepting a free will offering for our food bank.

St. Thomas the Apostle Children's Choir



February 15 AFTER 9AM MASS

In the STA Social Hall EVERYONE IS INVITED!

HEALING MASS

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
World Day of the Sick

Wednesday, February 11

12:00 Noon

Healing Mass &
Anointing of the Sick

— Prayers for the Sick and Suffering —

Join us as we pray for our loved ones
and all who are ill.

The Anointing of the Sick will be offered
to those who are seriously ill or of advanced age.

All are welcome to attend and
join in prayer for the sick in our families,
parish, and the world.

Confessions: 11:00 – 11:45 AM

St. John Vianney Church • Stockholm, NJ

Celebrant: Fr. Martin Bradtke

PROJECT ANDREW



EVENING OF DINNER & PRAYER WITH BISHOP SWEENEY

St. Mary's R.C. Church
15 Myers Avenue
Denville, NJ

Friday, February 6, 2026
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM



Registration requested
No fee to attend

FOR YOUNG MEN OF HIGH SCHOOL AGE & OLDER

OPEN TO YOUNG MEN, HIGH SCHOOL AGE AND OLDER

- An evening of prayer and dinner with Bishop Sweeney.
- Vocation talks given by priests and seminarians.
- Great opportunity to ask questions about the life of a priest.
- Meet other young men trying to discover God's call in their lives.

St. Mary's R.C. Church
Denville, NJ

Feb. 6, 2026 | 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Sponsored by Paterson Diocese Office of Vocations



"Come after me, and I will
make you fishers of men."
(Mt. 4:19)



Registration
requested

No fee

Contact: Rev. Charlie Lana
Vocation Director
(973) 777-8818 x.711

vocations@patersondiocese.org
patersonvocations.org

Women's Spirituality Group "In the Image of Jesus: A Woman's Guide To Exemplifying the Life of Jesus And Making Virtuous Decisions In A Misguided World" Please bring a passage from Scripture that is meaningful for you or relevant to a situation you're dealing with. We meet the First and Third Mondays, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Call or text Janet Pfeiffer for more info: 201-213-8499 Or email [Ja-net@PfeifferPowerSeminars.com](mailto:Janet@PfeifferPowerSeminars.com)

THE BEREAVEMENT GATHERING

Next Meeting Wednesday,
February 18 at 7:00PM STA
Classrooms

We're a place to find healing
during this most difficult time.

Let us help you through your
grief journey. We understand
as we are grieving with you. God's healing grace
will be felt throughout our meetings. Let God be
with you on your journey to healing. Our
fellowship is here to support one another in their
time of need.

Come join us in a safe, loving, spiritual, supportive
and healing environment.

Additional Meeting: March 4 & 18.

If you have questions please call Maria Pasterchick
at 201-506-3151 or sisco9458@gmail.com



Grief has no timeline

"Exercising the body for the sake of the soul"

Through breath and movement, the body relaxes,
the mind quiets. The body becomes more flexible,
stronger and agile as our balance improves.

Focusing on gentle movements enhances
concentration improving prayer and
reflection.

We meet Thursday mornings at 9:30 at
St Thomas the Apostle in the classrooms.

Wear comfortable clothing,
arrive 15 minutes early.

Donations are accepted to support
Hope House.

Dates: **February 5, 12, 19 & 26**

March 5, 12, 19 & 26

April 2, 23, & 30



In the **Catholic tradition**, a **prayer shawl** serves
as a tangible reminder of God's care and love.
It is often created through a ministry where pa-
rishioners knit or crochet shawls, infusing them
with prayers for the recipients, who are often in
need of comfort and support. These shawls are
given freely, symbolizing the community's love
and prayers, and they are intended to wrap
the recipient in warmth and spiritual solace.

**For information on receiving a blessed shawl or lap blanket, To
request a shawl or lap blanket (which come with the promise of
continued prayer) you have four options:**

1- Complete the form in the Narthex and put in envelope

2- Use the form on the parish website

Consider joining our ministry to create items made with love
and to pray for all our recipients. You can craft at home and
drop off your gift, and if you'd like, **join us for optional meet-
ings at 7 pm on the second Thursday of each month in the
STA classroom.** For more information see the "Prayer Shawl
Ministry" tabs on the parish website, or
email at prayershawlstasjv@gmail.com.



SPIRITUAL BOUQUETS

Please offer up prayers for those whose name or intentions are on the Altar for the month of February.

Bill Bulwin by the Prescott Family

Todd McClelland by Mike & Cheryl Prescott

For my parents, Claire & Vincent Pedone by Cheryl Prescott

My parents Arthur & Chris Osborne by Linda Osborne

For our Parents by Jeannie & Eric Stroud

JOHN 12:14



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**OPEN
THURSDAYS
6PM-8PM
SATURDAYS
10AM-2PM**



Acts of Kindness

Outreach to the Homebound

Let's remember our parishioners who are homebound, in assisted living, or in nursing homes with a card, visit, or phone call to brighten their day.

Carmela (Mel) Houlihan

6 Aztec Trail

Oak Ridge, NJ 07438



Tess Martin

200 Bristol Glen Drive

Apt. 414

Newton, NJ 07860

If you would like to add someone's contact information to this list, please email it to Lynn at

dmccart4@optonline.net

or call 973-970-5335.

Catholic Charities **HOPE HOUSE**

If you can please, these are the items we are in most need of:

****RICE (1 OR 2 LB. BAGS) / COFFEE
CEREAL / PASTA / PASTA SAUCE**

**** URGENT NEED FOR RICE**

Donations can be dropped off when you come to Mass at St. Thomas or during the week at the STA Rectory Door under the overhang. You do not have to ring the door bell as the front door is checked throughout the day. The food doesn't stay there for long!



Catholic Charities Community Service, Partnership for Social Services **FOOD PANTRY**

During these uncertain economic times our food pantry is having a hard time keeping up with needs of those who struggle to put food on their table please help.

PASTA SAUCE / PASTA / SOUP/CANNED TOMATOES /JUICE BOXES

*You can drop off your donation of non perishable food items or monetary donations at St. John Vianney Church OR at the Food Pantry, Location: 48 Wyker Road, Franklin, NJ Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm **Flip top or easy open cans and or containers work best most homeless people cannot open cans.***

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — January 25, 2026

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

Envelopes, Loose Check & Cash: \$2,125
Online Giving: \$1,295
TOTAL: \$3,420
Weekly Expenses: \$5,598
Last Year: \$2,448

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Envelopes, Loose Checks & Cash: \$4,403
Online Giving: \$1,555
TOTAL: \$5,598
Weekly Expenses: \$6,972
Last Year: \$4,716
Diocesan Assessment: \$150

AS ALWAYS THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT! ESPECIALLY THIS SNOWY MONTH!

ONLINE GIVING

ENGAGE AND SUPPORT YOUR PARISH. Online Giving will help sustain our parishes

We currently live in a society that is on the move. Whether we are at work, out of town for our kids sporting events, caregiving or you forgot your envelope or check-book, Online Giving gives you the opportunity to give anytime and anywhere with just a click of a button.



Saint Thomas the Apostle

<https://www.osvhub.com/ststomasjohn/giving/funds>

Saint John Vianney

<https://www.osvhub.com/ststomasjohnv/giving/funds>



Having a family get together?

First Communion?

Confirmation?

Bridal shower?

Baby shower?

A club or association dinner?

Consider renting Saint John Vianney's Madonna Hall!

For more information about booking Madonna Hall, please contact Mrs. Cristin Gandy:

Madonnahallrentals@gmail.com , 973-670-3523.

"TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON"

A TIME TO BE HEALED

Prayers for the sick: Kathy Brennen, Kevin Wickert, Fumiko Lutz, Patricia Carapola, Gail Brennan, Richard Lavelle, Stephen Vecchiotti, Vincent Ottani, Darlene Kolakovic, Kenny Miscisak, Emily Schmidt, Tim Lambert, Nancy, Sebastian Drelick, Frank Weber, Carole DeCepoli, Bert DeLuca, Maryellen Leppard, Kelly Cokinos Fleming, Sophia Brandt, Elaine M., Joey Dyl, Teresa Nussbaum, Antionette Volpe, Paul Pini, Jimmy Bariso, Joanne, Noreen Schuk, Katherine Kaiser, Danielle Peece, Chris Day, Carmela Houlihan, Sharon VanDyke, Karen McCarthy, Robert Martin, Ashlyn Lausch, Jim, Barbara Eckert, Sandor Heitler, Kevin Corman, Lily, Nicholas Falzarano, Paul Farruggia, Val Ciaburri, Thomas Sharkey, Lisa Litterri, Lynn Hall, Norbert Kalokira, Michael Savage, Guy Bakera, Shannon Murphy Flannery, Brenda, Debra Willams Robarge, Joe Stanley Karen (Karre) Hagman and Al Nichols

A TIME TO MOURN

Prayers for the deceased: Joan DeVito, Al Cannarozzi, Jr., Angelina (Angel) Pappianne, Frank Wilpert, Jeffrey Ryan, Frank Scillieri, Etzer Jerome, Rita Rugel, Alice Warren, Joseph T. Murphy, Joseph F. Dooley, Patricia (Pat) Snouffer, Amy Snouffer, Joan Myszka, Crescia (Chris) Osborne, Ray Troxell, Barbara Runz, Joseph Carabillo, John R. Gadbois, Elizabeth A. O'Donnel, Tommy Gigante, Thomas Joyce, Richard "Dick" Martin, James (Jim) Cerullo, Jr., Mario Provenzano, Richard Alheidt, William H. Osbun, Lynn Padula Brennan, Daniel Morales, Joseph Spagna, Carol Corazza, Amy Alheidt, Dominick Restuccia, Helen Engle, Stanley Fautas, Robert Michael Allender II, Alfanso Bruccoleri, Anthony (Tony) Campana, Elaine J. Marone, Delores Carhart, Lynda McTigue, Karen Dulfer, Joe Carrier, William "Bill" Feuss, John Golden, Noreen Nuzzo, William Marone and Ed & Grace Battaglia, Richard Sandervan, Rosina Gleeson, Mary Ann Castiglia, Rich Day, Dolly Petrosino, Dorothy Konner, Diana J. Matthews, June Day, Joseph Farawell, Anne Cooper, Peter Joyce, Tommy Klein, Andy Dambach, Rick DeYoung, John Gleason, Dolores M. Urcinole, Angela Feldman, Brenda Nussbaum, Frank Bagnati, Anthony Tran, Zdzislaw Lewicki, Jack Furman, Lillian Agovino, Courtney Sanchelli, Joan Castringnano and Robert Paiva.

A TIME FOR PEACE

We pray for those in our parish who are+ currently serving in the armed forces especially: Staff Sgt. Antoino Lettizia, USMC, OSSN (SW) Anthony S. Gambuti, US Navy, Captain Andrew Verdes, Haley Kerrison Lt1, Army, 2nd Lt. Clara Fetter, USMC, USAF Airman Andrew Babich, Chaplin Major Jhon Madrid, Airman Gianna Perez, USAF and Lt. Col. Colleen O'Brien, Army, Paul Letizia Sergeant USMC, Sergeant Thomas J. Soules III, US Army, PFC Thomas Young, Army National Guard and PFC Thomas Young, Army, PFC Kyle Peters, Army, Nicholas Roberts, US Navy, Petty Officer Miguel A. Rodriguez USN and Ret. Master Chief Miguel Rodriguez, USN *In honor of the Military serving our country at home and abroad, we invite you to recite three (3) Hail Mary's for their safety. We also pray for the family and friends of those listed above.*

BAPTISM

Baptisms are held at both parishes. If you are a first time parents you must attend a Baptism Preparation class. Baptism Classes are held Mondays at STA 7:00pm and Saturdays at SJV 10:00am check our website for dates.

For more information and to register for Baptism: www.ststjohn.org

MARRIAGES

Prior to your booking of the reception, please call the Parish Office 1 year in advance of the wedding date to allow for proper pre-marital preparation.

Knights of Columbus Council Meetings

St. John Vianney Council #12649 meets at Saint John Vianney the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Joseph Lamb Council #5510 meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Wiegand Farm.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: A parishioner is one who belongs to the parish family. As such, they are registered and committed through participation in the life of the parish. In order for marriages to be administered and for Sponsor Certificates, recommendations, etc. to be issued by the office, the person requesting must be a registered online: ststjohn.org and active member of Saint John Vianney or Saint Thomas the Apostle.

We request that you register when you move into our community so that we may be of service to you. Please use the QR code register.

"If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office and Diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Ken McNeil at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Rev. Msgr. T. Mark Condon, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 Ext. 205 or Sister Theresa Lee, FMA, Chancellor / Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 Ext. 248. The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available on the diocesan Web site: www.patersondiocese.org.

The Schools of the Catholic Academy of Sussex County --- 973-729-6125 ext. 3055

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