



Church of St. Joseph

149 Cottage Street, Middletown, N.Y. 10940 ☩ (845) 343-6013 ☩ www.SJChurch.com

The Fourth Sunday of Lent March 14, 2021

Very Rev. Dennis A. Nikolić, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Seán M. Connolly, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Simon Nwachukwu, Hospital Chaplain
Deacon Richard Trapani
Deacon Alexander Gapay

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY

Parish Office: 845-343-6013

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinator: Ms. Linda Byrons: 845-343-4415

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday evening: 5:30
Sunday morning: 7:00, 9:00, 9:00 (Latin), 11:30
Sunday afternoon: 1:00 -- en Español

DAILY MASS

Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. -- en Español
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

HOLY DAYS

Mass and Confession schedule announced ahead of time.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 7:00 p.m.
Other occasions as announced
Also by appointment

BAPTISMS

For registered parishioners, by appointment, after instruction. Sundays at 2:30 p.m.; second through last Sunday in English, first Sunday in Spanish.

PARENT BAPTISMAL INSTRUCTION

Meetings in the Parish Center
English: Third Saturday, 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Spanish: Fourth Saturday, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

MARRIAGES

For registered parishioners. arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance.

PASTORAL VISITS

Communion for the home-bound and anointing of the sick: please call the Rectory: 845-343-6013.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

For adults interested in becoming Catholics and for Catholics who need to receive Communion and/or Confirmation: please call the Rectory: 845-343-6013.

LITURGY

Eucharistic Ministers: *Coordinator*, Deacon Trapani
Lector Coordinator: Mr. Martin Suchy
Organist: Mr. Joseph Bertolozzi

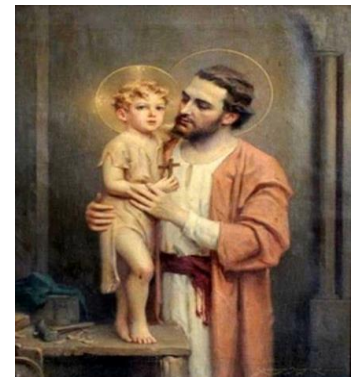
DEVOTIONS

Adoration in Church: Wednesdays 1:00p.m. – 8:00p.m.

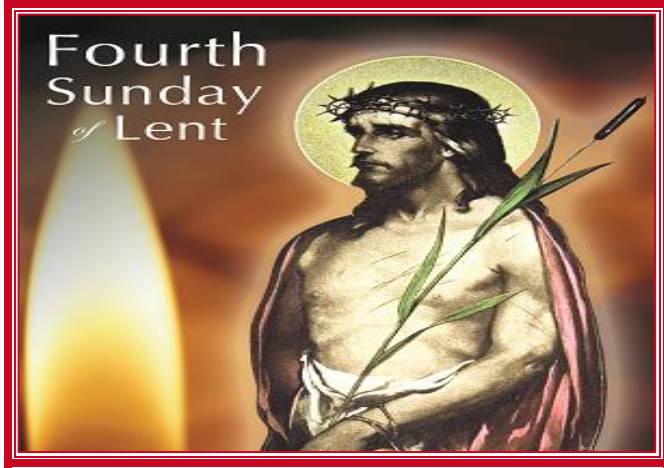
PARISH SERVICES

Food Pantry: available to all in need by appointment
Parish Website: www.SJChurch.com
Parish E-Mail: Parish@SJChurch.com
Youth Group: Schedule published in the bulletin

*Welcome to
Our Parish*



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 14, 2021**



MASS INTENTIONS

for the Week of March 14- March 21

SAT:	5:30pm	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	
LATIN	7:00am	Frank P. Biasi	
	9:00 am	Alfredo Rabino	
	9:00am	William Brennan Jr.	
	11:30am	Giovanni & Carmela Durante	
	1:00pm	– <i>por los difuntos</i> –	
MON:	8:00am	John Iype	
TUE:	8:00am	Edward Godwin	
WED:	8:00am	Dennis Tarrant	
	7:00pm	Charles Carlucci	
THU:	8:00am	Charlie Giles (living)	
FRI:	8:00am	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	
SAT:	8:00am	Catherine Tarrant	
	5:30pm	Carmela & Giovanni Durante	
SUN:	7:00am	All Parishioners Living & Deceased	
	9:00am	Antonio Gallo, Giuseppiana Arceri, Carolina Parrella	
	LATIN	9:00am	Maria Di Iorio
		11:30am	Angelina & Luigi Lutrario
		1:00pm	– <i>por los difuntos</i> –

Note: All above Masses are being prayed in public with the added intentions remembered by our priests in private Masses that continue.

+ PRAY FOR +

**Giuseppe Grazioso, Ricardo Perez,
Ann Dineen, Stanley Nowak,
Maria Rotundo, Louis Ogden, Jr.**

**Mass and devotions are still
being offered on YouTube.**

Visit us on YouTube at:

SJChurch

Or at our website:

www.SJChurch.com

PRECAUTIONS FOR PUBLIC MASS

Social distancing and the wearing of masks are required for those attending Mass. The Mass schedule, plus information about the other Sacraments may be found at our website's homepage: www.SJChurch.com

DAILY MASS FOR LENT

During Lent, millions of Catholics throughout the world attend daily Mass, the greatest of Lenten devotions. Weekday Mass, at St. Joseph's, is at 8:00 a.m. in the Main Church.

**GOOD FRIDAY: A DAY OF FAST, ABSTINENCE;
LENTEN FRIDAYS ARE DAYS OF ABSTINENCE**

FASTING requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken, during the day, to maintain physical strength, but these two meals, together, should not equal a full meal in quantity. Fasting is obligatory for all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues until they are 59. Those not specifically obligated to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

ABSTINENCE prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obligated to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this discipline to the extent that they are able.

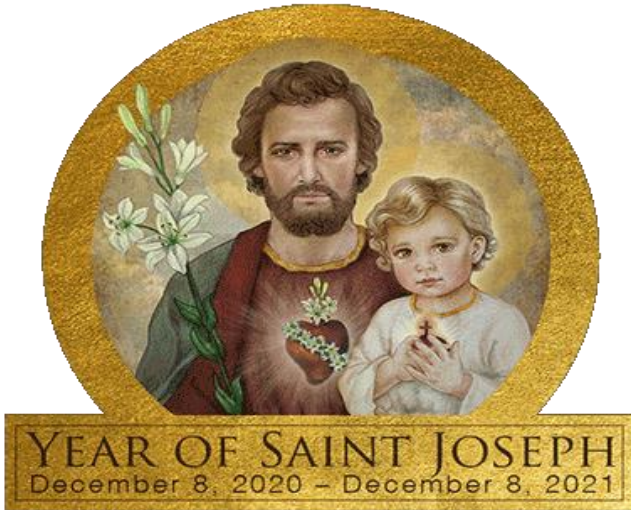
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross will be offered in the main Church on Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. and on Fridays at 7:00 p.m. in English and at 8:00 p.m. in Spanish. Stations of the Cross will NOT be offered this Friday, as there is a bilingual Mass at 7:00 p.m., in honor of St. Joseph on his feast day.



Social distancing and the wearing of masks are required and all are asked to remain in their pews.

PERPETUAL ADORATION



“Certainly, among all devotions after that of receiving the Sacraments, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament holds first place, is the most pleasing to God and the most useful to ourselves. Do not then, O devout soul, refuse to begin this devotion: and forsaking the conversation of men, dwell each day, from this day forward, for at least a half or quarter of an hour in some church in the presence of Jesus Christ under the sacramental species. *O taste and see that the Lord is sweet.* (Ps. 33:9). Only try this devotion, and by experience, you will see the great benefits that you will derive from it. Be assured that the time you spend with devotion before this most divine Sacrament will be the most profitable to you in life and the source of your greatest consolation in death and in eternity.

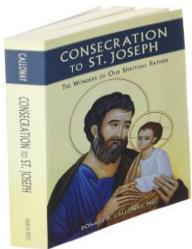
“You must be aware that in a quarter of an hour’s prayer spent in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, you will perhaps gain more than in all the other spiritual exercises of the day. It is true that in every place God graciously hears the petitions of those who pray to Him, having promised to do so: *Ask and you shall receive* (John 16:24); yet the disciple tells us that Jesus dispenses His graces in greater abundance to those who visit Him in the Most Holy Sacrament.” – **St. Alphonsus Liguori** (*Visits to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin Mary*)

Please avail yourself of the opportunity to adore Jesus. Although Perpetual Adoration has been suspended, every Wednesday from 1 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. the Main Church is open and Jesus is exposed for our visits and Adoration. Come. If you have any questions regarding Perpetual Adoration, please call **Marty** or **Clarice Suchy** at 845-692-4510.

CELEBRATING SAINT JOSEPH ON MARCH 19

Friday, **March 19**, is Saint Joseph’s Day. At 12:00 noon, **Cardinal Dolan** will offer a consecration of the Archdiocese to **Saint Joseph** in St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Every Deanery will offer the same consecration simultaneously. In Orange County, our very own **Father Dennis** will consecrate the Deanery here at St. Joseph’s in Middletown at 12:00 noon.

At 7:00 p.m., we will have a bilingual Mass in honor of Saint Joseph. It is especially fitting this year, as **Pope Francis** has dedicated the entire year to St. Joseph.



We will soon give details about a parish-wide consecration to St. Joseph which will be geared toward **May 1**, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. This consecration will follow **Father Donald Calloway’s** book, *Consecration to St. Joseph*, which will be available to all who register for this event. Registration forms are available on line or you may call the parish office. A registration fee of \$20 per person is due by **March 18**.

Laetare Sunday

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called **Laetare Sunday**, from the first words of the Introit at Mass, "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem").

Like Gaudete Sunday midway through Advent, Laetare reminds us of the event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season and the joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. The vestments for this day will be rose, as they are on Gaudete Sunday in Advent.

Catholic Fortress

FOR UPDATES ON WHEN THE CHAPEL WILL OPEN, YOU MAY CALL THE CHAPEL RECORDING, 845-956-1455

(this number might not work from a Spectrum house phone).

YOU MAY ALSO CALL: 845-343-6013, ext. 105

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

FIRST READING

From the Second Book of Chronicles (2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23)

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects.

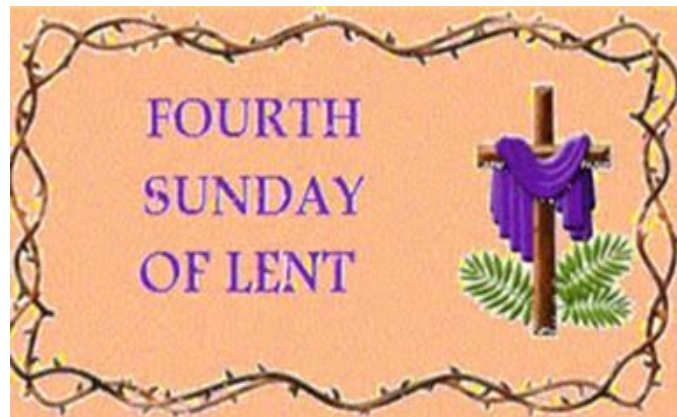
Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 137 (Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6)

- R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget You!
By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept
when we remembered Zion.
On the aspens of that land
we hung up our harps.
- R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget You!
For there our captors asked of us
the lyrics of our songs,
And our despoilers urged us to be joyous:
"Sing for us the songs of Zion!"
- R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget You!
How could we sing a song of the LORD
in a foreign land?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
may my right hand be forgotten!
- R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget You!
May my tongue cleave to my palate
if I remember you not,
If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy.
- R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget You!



SECOND READING

From the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians (Eph 2:4-10)

Brothers and sisters:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love He had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ – by grace you have been saved – raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

- R. Praise and glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.
God so loved the world that He gave His only Son,
so everyone who believes in Him might have eternal life.
R. Praise and glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL

From the Gospel of John (Jn 3:14-21)

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life."
For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that His works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that His works may be clearly seen as done in God.