

ST. SIMON THE APOSTLE CHURCH

1010 GREEN POND RD.

GREEN POND, NJ 07435

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FAX: 973-697-1784

WEBSITE: WWW.STSIMONAPOSTLE.ORG

E-MAIL: SAINTSIMON@OPTONLINE.NET



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:30 am

Monday through Saturday 8:30 am

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

FIRST EUCHARIST AND SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Students receive these sacraments in Second Grade. This is a mandatory two year program.

CONFIRMATION

This is a mandatory two year program beginning in 7th Grade, with confirmation administered in the 8th Grade.

RECONCILIATION

Celebrated on Saturday afternoons at 4:30pm or by appointment with Father Rich. Parish Penance Services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of healing is available at any time to all who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or preparing for surgery, as well as those of advanced age. Please contact the Rectory to arrange for Father to administer the Sacrament.

BAPTISM

Please contact the Rectory for an appointment.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance. Please call the Rectory for appointment.

Parish Staff

Father Richard A. Bay
Pastor

fatherRich@stsimonapostle.org

Dr. Kevin McKeever
Deacon

deaconkevin@stsimonapostle.org

Connie Catania
Parish Secretary

Local Youth Protection Coordinator
saintsimon@optonline.net

Stephen Shevlino
Music Minister

stephenshevlino@stsimonapostle.org

Connie Catania

Coordinator of Religious Education
saintsimon@optonline.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

K through 8th Sunday 10:15 – 11:15 am
Grade 9 & 10 Sunday 10:15 – 11:30 am

Parish Registration is requested for individual/families who worship regularly with us on Sundays and who plan to participate in the life of our parish with their time and talents. For more information please call the Rectory. Registration is necessary for celebrating Marriage and Baptism, attending Religious Education, as well as for the issuing of Sponsor Certificates.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK & MASS INTENTIONS

<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	†	<i>Louise Traficante</i>
	<i>5:00 pm</i>	†	<i>Wayne Gregory</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>7:45 am</i>		<i>Crystal Brook Residence</i>
	<i>9:00 am</i>	†	<i>Peter Lyden</i>
	<i>11:30 am</i>		<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	†	<i>Dr. Louis Owen</i>
	<i>7:00 pm</i>		<i>Parish Reconciliation Service</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	†	<i>Skip DeBlock</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	†	<i>Lydia Bay</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	†	<i>Mary Regec</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>		<i>Sick of the Parish</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	†	<i>Sister Jeanette</i>
	<i>5:00 pm</i>	†	<i>Deceased Members of Martinez & Garcia Families</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>7:45 am</i>		<i>Crystal Brook Residence</i>
	<i>9:00 am</i>	†	<i>Jordan Tenk</i>
	<i>11:30 am</i>	†	<i>Kathleen Reynolds</i>

Stewardship

Offertory Collection

\$2,728 needed Weekly
 Dec. 8 \$ 1,929 Envelopes
 + 917 Online Giving
\$ 2,846 Total

Diocesan Assessment Collection

\$1,853 needed Monthly
 \$ 383 Envelopes
 + 112 Online Giving
\$ 495 Total



You can set up your online giving account at <http://www.stsimonsapostle.org> and follow the instructions. For help in setting up your account, please contact the rectory office at 973-697-4699.

Pastor's Column

This Sunday we are at the midpoint point of Advent. It is called Gaudete Sunday, on this day the vestments are old rose to mark the half way point of the season. So, how are we doing on our journey? How is our commitment to Jesus being established?

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and our connection should be getting stronger as we proceed through Advent. If you have not started it is not too late to begin! God's mercy is open to us at any time. On Monday, December 16 we will have our Advent Penance service at 7:00pm. This presents to us the opportunity to make our peace with God and neighbor. Reconciliation is important. It gives us peace with God, our families and neighbors. So take the time to participate in the Penance service and confession. There will be other priests present to hear confessions, so please make yourselves available for the sacrament.

On Tuesday, December 17 we start the "O" antiphons at the start of mass and the liturgy of the hours. These antiphons are the titles of Jesus. They are a novena to the feast of Christmas. These special nine days are the days of intercessory prayer to assist us in celebrating the feast of the Incarnation. You will find a copy of a Christmas Novena in the bulletin for you to pray. By praying this you will see the "O" antiphons coming to life each day and have a better appreciation for the liturgy.

So, let us pray and prepare the way to a blessed Christmas and thank you for supporting the Giving Tree and Toy Drive, they were both a great success.

***God Bless,
Fr. Rich***

Parish News & Events

Congratulations to Danielle & Tim Dugan on the Baptism of their son, Troy Tucker that was on Saturday, December 7th who is the grandson of John & Paula Cleary.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: Kindergarten thru 8th Grade: There will be class on Sunday, December 15th from 10:15-11:15am. Our next class for Grades K-8th will be Sunday, January 5th from 10:15-11:15am.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: 9th and 10th Grade: There will be class on Sunday, December 15th from 10:15-11:15am. Our next class for 9 & 10th Grade will be on Sunday, January 5th from 10:15-11:30am.

Christmas Flower Envelope are due back no later than December 20th to be included on the Flower List.

Advent Parish Reconciliation Service: Will be on Monday, December 16th at 7:00PM in the church with individual confessions also being offered.

Food Collection: Will be this weekend of December 14-15 for the Rockaway Food Closet.

Christmas Wafers are now available in the vestibule located in the back of the church.

Christmas Ornament Fundraiser: The Confirmation class will be selling customized Christmas ornaments this year. They are available \$10 after all weekend masses. The proceeds will be donated to the Parish Charity Fund and The Rockaway Food Closet and Hope House. Please support our Confirmation Class.

Bible Study: Bible Study's next session will be on Tuesday, January 7th at 7:30pm in the Parish Center. We will be studying the Women in the Old Testament. All are welcome to enjoy the series or even a single session.

St. Nicholas Breakfast: Thank you to all who volunteered to help and to those who attended the breakfast.

The candle in front of Blessed Virgin Mary burns in memory of Patricia Zuravnsky and Mary Aquino Samuel.

The candle in front of St. Joseph burns for Renata Haila and Charlie Favale.

The Giving Tree: Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Giving Tree.

Toys for Children: Thank you for supporting the toy drive.

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal "*For I Was Hungry*"

As the year comes fast to an end, and many are planning on how to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact, please consider the many lives that are helped because of the support given to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. These are your neighbors, your friends, our senior priests and seminarians and urban school students. All of us can play a part in the Bishop's Annual Appeal - as either a contributor to the cause or as a recipient of its mission - and all are blessed as a result. Please make the Bishop's Annual Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be by check, credit cards, through gifts of securities or on-line at www.2019appeal.org. If you are 70 ½ or over and have an IRA, you can receive a tax benefit by instructing your IRA investment manager to donate your required minimum distribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at 973-777-8818, ext. 218 for addition details and also consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

SAVE THE DATE:

Christmas Mass Schedule: On **Christmas Eve** masses are as follows:

Christmas Pageant 4:30pm, Family Mass 5:00pm, 8:00pm Mass,

Carols with the Choir 10:30pm, Mass 11:00pm.

Christmas Day Mass 10:00am.

Please Pray for Our Sick

Marjorie Gormley, Frank & Lorraine Nardi, Kelly Finn, Sue Censier(Nerger), Kim Stier Careccia, Renata Haila, Eva Breczinski-Bonanno, Judy Bisconti, Ruth White, Joseph Pakula, John V. McIntyre, Sr., Shannon Koepfel, Cassidy Koepfel, Debbie Little, Gilbert Wright III, Rich Kimble, Dennis Fry, Annette Martin, Orlando Riccardi Sr., Hank Behnke, Kathy Pakula, Eleanore Alessi, Chris Gormley, Michael McGreal, Al Kucinsk, Joe Sarti, Mary Sanford, Rev. Daniel Kelly.

If there are parishioners that are homebound or in the hospital, please call the Rectory to let us know so Fr. Rich can visit them. Due to HIPAA regulations, visitation must be requested for hospitalizations & home visits.

Prayer for an End to Infanticide: The U.S. Senate recently failed to pass the Born-Alive Survivors Protection Act—legislation that prohibits infanticide by ensuring that a child born alive following an attempted abortion would receive the same degree of care to preserve her or his life and health as would be given to any other child born alive at the same gestational age. Please join us in prayer for an end to infanticide:

“Jesus, Lord of Life, transform the hearts of our elected leaders to recognize that infanticide is wrong and must not be tolerated. We especially pray for our Senators Corey Booker and Bob Menendez. Open their hearts and minds to recognize and defend the precious gift of every human life.”

Catholic Charities Clothing Boxes: Donate Your Old Clothes:

Now that we are starting to go through our old fall/winter clothing and putting away spring/summer clothing, please consider donating some of your old or used clothing to Catholic Charities. Your donated clothes raise money to fund our Catholic Charities poverty relief services throughout the Diocese. For your convenience there is a clothing drop-off bin located behind the church.

The Rosary

Join us in Praying the Rosary on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
After the 8:30 AM Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday after the 8:30 am Mass until 10:00 am

Come to pray before the Lord,
to give thanks and hear his voice in the quiet of your heart.
Benediction is celebrated at the conclusion of Holy Hour

Weekend Schedule

DECEMBER 14 & 15

DECEMBER 21 & 22

Lectors

SATURDAY	5:00 pm	R. SCHELL	M. MUTTER
SUNDAY	9:00 am	9 TH GRADE CCD STUDENTS	M. DAVIS
	11:30 am	D. GOSCICKI	D. GOSCICKI

Altar Servers

SATURDAY	5:00 pm	*NEEDED*	*NEEDED*
SUNDAY	9:00 am	S. MCKEEVER	J. O'TOOLE
		R. MCKEEVER	T. O'TOOLE
	11:30 am	*NEEDED*	*NEEDED*

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY	5:00 pm	*NEEDED*	*NEEDED*
SUNDAY	9:00 am	H. KAFAFIAN, M. SARTI	K. CHAN, M. MEAD
	11:30 am	V. DEBLOCK	P. FERRARA

Collection Counters

MR. & MRS. ROGERS	MR. & MRS. MEYER
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Ushers

SATURDAY	5:00 pm	J. BREZINSKI	J. BREZINSKI
SUNDAY	9:00 am	B. KNOTT	B. KNOTT
	11:30 am	R. NERGER	R. NERGER

Ethics Point Hotline:

As part of the ongoing efforts of the Diocese of Paterson to strengthen and support a culture of integrity, mutual accountability and responsibility, an ethics hotline for the use of employees, volunteers, parishioners, vendors and other interested parties is being introduced. This service provides opportunity for confidential, anonymous reporting of suspected misconduct in financial matters and human resource issues. *Ethics Point*, an independent third-party company, has been selected to offer all diocesan parishes, schools, agencies and departments the opportunity to file reports via the web at www.patersondiocese.org or through a call to 1-855-247-3140. For more information, check the *Ethics Point* link on the diocesan website.

ALERT! If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office and the Diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Ken McNiel at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Rev. Msgr. James T. Mahony, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 ext. 205 or SisterJoan Daniel Healy, S.C.C., 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.



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We welcome all new parishioners and are thankful God has sent you to us. Registration Forms can be found on our website
www.stsimonapostle.org or complete the information below and we will contact you.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, & ZIP _____

We look forward to hearing from you.