



**SPREAD
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GOOD
NEWS**

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



CHURCH OF ST. MARY • CLOSTER, NEW JERSEY

ST. MARY PARISH WORSHIPPING SINCE 1911

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 –

Is. 53: 10-11; Heb. 4: 14-16; Mk. 10: 35-45 or 10: 42-45

5:00 PM Vera Carlson / req. by the Torre Family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 –

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is. 53: 10-11; Heb. 4: 14-16; Mk. 10: 35-45 or 10: 42-45

7:30 AM Orlando "Toby" Tobia / req. by Joey Tobia

9:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

12:00 PM Ambrogio Grieco / req. by the Grieco Family

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22 – ST. JOHN PAUL II, POPE

Eph. 2: 1-10; Lk. 12: 13-21

8:00 AM Cammille Rodano / req. by the Smith Family

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 –

ST. JOHN OF CAPISTRANO, PRIEST

Eph. 2: 12-22; Lk. 12: 35-38

8:00 AM Robert Menillo

req. by Barbara R. Demarest and Family

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24 –

ST. ANTHONY MARY CLARET, BISHOP

Eph. 3: 2-12; Lk. 12: 39-48

8:00 AM Jack Caldwell / req. by Thom & Grace Calabro

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25 – WEEKDAY

Eph. 3: 14-21; Lk. 12: 49-53

8:00 AM Eileen and John Patrick McKenna

req. by Mona Grbic

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 – WEEKDAY

Eph. 4: 1-6; Lk. 12: 54-59

8:00 AM Jean Geormaras, Irene DeFabiis and

Joyce Jacko / req. by Gloria Tropiano

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27 – WEEKDAY

Eph. 4: 7-16; Lk. 13: 1-9

8:00 AM Segundo Calderon

req. by the Hirschhorn Family

5:00 PM Louis Buonomo / req. by Phyllis Buonomo

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 –

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jer. 31: 7-9; Heb. 5: 1-6; Mt. 10: 46-52

7:30 AM Gregory Drobinko / req. by the Ditzel Family

9:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

12:00 PM Carmen Avelar (Del Toro)

req. by Doreen Berardi

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Altar Bread – In memory of Michael and Nellie Duffy.

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – Intentions of Philip Devaney, req. by the Kleine Family.

Sanctuary Candle – In memory of Joseph Suriani, req. by the Kleine Family.

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Weekly offerings of: Altar Bread, Altar Wine, Blessed Virgin Mary Candle and Sanctuary Candle are available throughout **2018**.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Last weekend we were honored to welcome to our parish six seminarians from Immaculate Conception Seminary along with the vice rector Fr. Bob Suzsko and a member of the formation team, Fr. Renato Baptista. The seminarians were not here to collect donations or raise funds for the seminary, rather to make us all aware of our need to pray for vocations in the church and to assist those studying for the priesthood with our prayerful support. Two of the men who visited our parish are locals, from Cresskill and Bergenfield and are studying for our archdiocese. The others were from the diocese of Metuchen and Fall River. As the gospel of St. Luke reminds us, "the harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few, so ask the master of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest".



This week our parish will host the Women's Cornerstone Retreat. Please pray for those making the retreat and those hosting. It is truly a wonderful spiritual experience, I'm sure its not too late to join in. Please keep in your prayers the repose of the soul of Kay Scarpa, the mother of our director of music and development, Lou Scarpa, who passed away last week. May she rest in peace.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Joe

Collections and Income for September 2018

Regular Sunday Collection	\$18,533.00
Maintenance & Repair Coll.	\$605.00
Archdiocesan Assessment	\$3,240.00
Other Income (primarily from school rental)	\$13,420.00
September Total Income	\$35,798.00
September Expenses	\$45,144.00
Total Outstanding Debt	
..... Year to Date	\$100,418.00
Eastern Europe Collection	\$580.00
Catholic University Collection	\$549.00

Thank you for your continued support of the regular collections. St. Mary's relies upon your support all summer long. Please remember to support the parish even if you are traveling. Why not give through electronic giving. Signup at Parishgiving.org. God bless you!

We Pray for the Sick

Irene Abad, Paula Bertelloni, Christian Brueck,
 Fran Caldwell, Dolores Collier, Lee Ann Davito,
 Lisa Deegan, Desiderio Fernandes, Frank Forte,
 Ed Koch, Sr. Dominic Marie McDonnell, Carol Munkins,
 David O'Hanlon, John Pagano, Alicia Parent,
 Joan Pinto, Richard Pinto, Jim Walsh



PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Catherine D. Scarpa

Elmer Greey

Thank you, St. Mary's Parishioners

I would like to thank each St. Mary's parishioner who offered prayers, words of comfort, mass cards or were able to attend the wake and funeral of my mother, Catherine. Special thanks to Father Joe for concelebrating the funeral mass and accompanying my family with the prayers of the Church to Catherine's place of rest. It is at these times when being Catholic and connected to God's family in a parish truly sustains us. Thank you! – Louis Scarpa

Please remember in your prayers...

The newest member of our St. Mary's music ministry, Joseph Greey, cantor, recently lost his beloved grandfather, Elmer Greey. Please keep Joseph and his family in your prayers and offer a him a word of consolation.

MINDS MATTER Regardless of Age

- * 1 in 4 people struggle with mental illness
 - * 80% of children with anxiety and 60% of children with depression are not getting the treatment they need
 - * Suicide is the second leading cause of death for children ages 10 to 24
- Join us for a panel on depression, anxiety and suicide and their effect on our children. Tuesday, **October 23rd** at 7:30 PM in the Closter Senior Center. Featuring clinicians, therapists and mental health advocates. Closter Stigma Free Committee.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

Oct. 21:

No LWC
 10:30 AM – 11:50 AM – Religious Education – Grades K – 6
 10:30 AM – 11:50 AM – Confirmation Class – Fr. Roger Troy Hall
 11:15 AM – Flash Mob Choir Call
 12:00 PM – Flash Mob Choir at Mass
 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM – Third Order Lay Carmelites – Fr. Roger Troy Hall

Oct. 22:

10:00 AM – Prayer Shawl Ministry – Parish Life Room
 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament – Church
 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Deepening the Journey – Parish Life Room

Oct. 23:

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM – Religious Education – Grades 6 – 7
 7:30 PM – Parish Choir Rehearsal – Church
 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Women's Cornerstone – Parish Life Room

Oct. 24:

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Morning Scripture Study – Parish Life Room
 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Evening Scripture Study – Conference Room

Oct. 25:

7:30 PM – Marian / Eucharistic Holy Hour

Oct. 26:

Women's Cornerstone Retreat Begins

Oct. 27:

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM – First Reconciliation Retreat – Fr. Kevin Cahill Room and Church
 4:15 – 4:45 PM – Reconciliation
 Women's Cornerstone Retreats Ends

Oct. 28:

9:30 AM – LWC
 11:15 AM – Parish Choir Call
 12:00 PM – Parish Choir at Mass

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Mary's will be having shawls blessed at all the Masses on **October 27th – 28th**. These shawls are available for the sick and those seeking comfort.

When you take a shawl please provide us with wearer's first name so they can be remembered in our prayers. If you would care to join us, our meetings are held every other Monday, please see the bulletin. A donation to our ministry is greatly appreciated. Cathy Thornhill – 201-768-0722.

Second Collection

This weekend, **October 20th** and **21st** the second collection is World Mission Sunday Collection.

Who Benefits from the World Mission Collection?

Mission Sunday is a day set aside for Catholics worldwide to recommit themselves to the Church's missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice. Annually, World Mission Sunday is celebrated on the next-to-last Sunday in October. Offerings from Catholics in the United States, on World Mission Sunday and throughout the year, are combined with offerings from Catholics around the globe and distributed to mission dioceses – about 1,100 at this time. God bless you in your generosity.

**Women's Cornerstone Retreat
LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!**

Hopefully, thought, consideration, and prayer have helped women in making their personal decision about attending the Retreat here at St. Mary's, **October 26th – 27th**. Reminder: brochures with the details and the registration form are in the doorways of the church. For those planning to attend, but have not yet returned a registration form, please do so this week, so we will have ample time to provide for meals, space accommodations, and other preparations. Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATE – Knights of Columbus
Pasta Dinner**



Knights of Columbus Queen of Peace Council 3679, Closter, Sixth Annual Pasta Dinner, Saturday, **November 3rd**, 5:45 PM to 8:00 PM, Fr. Roger Troy Hall. Good Food, Prizes, Music, BYOB. Adults \$14.00, children (4-12) \$5.00. For tickets call Ken Chamberlain at 201-768-7839 or John Hernandez at 201-768-8871.

**Lector and Eucharistic Minister
Brunch, Prayer and Practice**

Our last meeting earlier in the month was a great success on many levels. It was great to spend time together and discuss practicalities. For all lectors, eucharistic ministers who serve WEEKENDS, WEEKDAYS and to the HOME BOUND and who were not able to attend the meeting, please come to the next meeting on Saturday, **November 3rd**, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM at the Fr. Kevin Cahill Room. Light refreshments served. Please RSVP with Louis Scarpa at ministry@stmarycloster.org or leave a message at the parish office. God bless all!



INVITING ALL WOMEN – Come away for awhile . . . to an oasis of peace and healing
Spiritual weekend retreat, **January 11th – 13th, 2019**. Come for a wonderful weekend after the hustle and bustle of the Holidays. St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. "The Journey is

Made Holy by Walking". Price \$175.00 per person single, \$165.00 per person doubles. \$80.00 deposit (payable to St. Francis Center for Renewal) balance paid at retreat center. Leave from St. Mary 2:00 PM Friday, January 11th and return after lunch on January 13th. For information call Victoria Maiorino at 201-767-1698.



**Holy Water
Dispenser
Location**

The holy water dispenser has been returned to the main vestibule of the church.

We will be ordering some small holy water bottles so that you may take some blessed water home with you. We will place them out when they arrive.

Water of life...cleanse and refresh us!



Email Server at St. Mary's

We are having many problems with the current e-mail server at St. Mary's. We apologize for any issues that you may have experienced when trying to contact St. Mary's. Thankfully, Tom Derfus will volunteer to help St. Mary's migrate to a new server. Thanks, Tom!

**Not Objects of Charity,
to be Pitied**

In the Apostolate of the Suffering a sick person, the bearer of a handicap, one who is physically or mentally challenged or a suffering individual is not considered an object of charity, someone to be pitied, but rather an active, responsible participant in the work of evangelization and salvation. It is recognized that their suffering has a salvific (saving) value, which gives meaning and value to their lives. It is for these special people our Apostolate of the Suffering was founded.

**The Infinite Value of the
Holy Mass**

The Holy Mass is the highest form of worship. It is the sacrifice of Calvary renewed. One Mass gives God more praise and thanksgiving, makes more atonement for sin, and pleads more eloquently than does the combined and eternal worship of all the souls in heaven, on earth and in purgatory. In the Holy Mass, it is Jesus Christ, God as well as Man, who is our Intercessor, our priest, and our Victim. Being God – as well as Man – His prayers, merits, and His offerings are infinite in value.

WHY GOD WOULD NOT WANT YOU

There are many good reasons why God would not want YOU, but don't worry
You would be in very good company. You see:

Moses Stuttered
David's armor didn't fit him well
John Mark was rejected by St. Paul
Hosea's wife was a prostitute
Amos' only training was as a dresser of sycamores (i.e.: he pruned fig trees)
Jacob was a liar
David had an affair, made his lover pregnant, then had her husband killed!
Solomon was too rich
Abraham was too old
David was too young
Timothy had ulcers
Peter was afraid of death
Lazarus was already DEAD
John was too self-righteous
Naomi was a widow
Paul was a murderer, and so too was Moses
Jonah ran away from God
Miriam was a gossip
Gideon and Thomas were both doubters
Jeremiah was depressed and at times suicidal
Elijah was burned out
John the Baptist was considered a loudmouth
Martha was a worry-wart, and Her sister
Mary was lazy
Samson had long hair
Noah got drunk
Oh, and did I mention Moses had a short fuse??
And so too did St. Peter, and St. Paul, and well lots of folks

But the point is this: God doesn't require a job interview!
He doesn't hire and fire like most bosses do; because He's more like our Dad than our boss.

He doesn't look at financial gain or loss.
He's not prejudiced or partial.
He never judges, nor is he grudging or sassy or brassy.
He is NOT deaf to our cries, nor is He ever blind to our needs.

And As much as we try not to believe it---all of God's gifts are free!
All He really asks of us is this: to be righteous, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Him by serving one another, and most especially, 'The least among us.'
Satan tries to tell us, "You're not worthy!"
But Jesus says, "So what, 'I AM!'"
Satan looks back and sees all our mistakes.
God looks back and sees the Cross!

He doesn't calculate what we might have done in 1978 or 1988 or 1998.
Most times, those things are not even on the record, because He never tires of forgiving us—it is we who tire of asking Him for forgiveness.

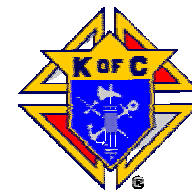
So sure. There are lots of reasons why God should NOT want us,
But if we are magically in love with HIM, if we hunger for HIM more
Than our next breath---**HE WILL USE US!!!!**
In spite of who we are, or where we've been, or what we look like, or what we might have done.
He just doesn't care!!

And So my brothers and sisters, I'm asking you: "Be Not Afraid", and try; even if it's just once, to step out of your own limitations, and into the illimitable nature of who our God really is!!

– from a parishioner

Religious Education News

Some of the St. Mary Religious Ed Kindergarten children learned last Sunday that God's family helps each other and made cards to give to someone they were going to help.



QUEEN OF PEACE COUNCIL 3679

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. This means that an applicant or member accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church. Queen of Peace Council 3679 chartered here at St. Mary in 1953 and serving Northern Valley parishes, meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Fr. Roger Troy Hall and a dinner meeting on the fourth Thursday usually at *A Taste of Spain Restaurant* in Northvale. For information on membership please contact Grand Knight John Hernandez at 201-768-8871 or email jah21344@aol.com.

Hospital Privacy

Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow the hospitals/pastoral care offices to contact parishes if their parishioners are in the hospital. If you or a loved one are going into the hospital and want Father to visit you or a loved one, please call the rectory office and let us know.

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"I Do" Take Two?

Is my Marriage Recognized by the Church?

Like other couples in our parish or family, you may be wondering if your marriage is fully recognized by the Catholic Church. Catholic Church law ordinarily requires Catholics to marry before a priest or deacon. Unless they received a "dispensation from canonical

form," Catholics who exchange vows in the presence of ministers from other religious traditions or civil officials are married but not considered married in the eyes of the Catholic Church. Regardless of what happened in the past, the Church invites you to build upon your vocation of marriage and dedicating your family's mission to sharing God's love in the Catholic tradition.

Why Marry Catholic?

Catholic Marriage is unique among other marital relationships because it is a *sacrament that makes Christ present in our world*. The relationship between husband and wife mirrors the relationship of Jesus Christ for his people; husband and wife accept a role in God's plan for humanity. They are ambassadors of God's love, and they collaborate with God to keep humanity alive.

The vows exchanged by the couple are a sacred pact through which the spouses embrace each other, and, together, embrace Jesus as their partner. Through their union with Christ they participate in the unbreakable pact between God and humanity: the covenant that was sealed in the death and resurrection of Christ.

Benefits of Sacramental Catholic Marriage

One of the many benefits of a sacramental marriage is the power of God's grace, which helps couples keep their commitment and find happiness together. Social scientists are finding that couples who recognize God's presence in their relationship experience more satisfaction and are more likely to achieve lifelong marriage. All in all, couples who choose to bring their marriage into the Church receive many gifts – peace of heart, oneness with the Church, the fullness of the sacraments, and God's special blessing upon their marriage.

Next Steps

If you would like to discuss the possibility of having your marriage convalidated (from the Latin to "strengthen/to firm up) right here at St. Mary's, please be in touch with Father Joe. It can be a simple celebration with immediate friends and family or can occur during a Mass. We have recently celebrated a number of convalidations at St. Mary's and it is a blessing for the couples and the Church!

Please, give it some thought.

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~ ST. MARY'S CHURCH

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