



**CHURCH OF ST. MARY  
CLOSTER, NEW JERSEY**

For God is the King  
of all the earth; sing  
to him a psalm of  
praise.

Psalm 47:7

**FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING**

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24 –

*Dn. 7: 13-14; Rv. 1: 5-8; Jn. 18: 33b-37*

5:00 PM Jean DeNicola / req. by the DeNicola Family

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25 –

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

*Dn. 7: 13-14; Rv. 1: 5-8; Jn. 18: 33b-37*

7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

9:30 AM Special Intentions of Fran Semler  
req. by Pat and Kingston Rhodes

12:00 PM Domenica and Florinda Conte  
req. by Pat and Angela Conte

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26 – WEEKDAY

*Rv. 14: 1-3, 4b-5; Lk. 21: 1-4*

8:00 AM Encarnacion Turla  
req. by Roger and Peggy Austria

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 – WEEKDAY

*Rv. 14: 14-19; Lk. 21: 5-11*

8:00 AM William Hutnik  
req. by Thom and Grace Calabro

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28 – WEEKDAY

*Rv. 15: 1-4; Lk. 21: 12-19*

8:00 AM Dick Flammer / req. by Phyllis Buonomo

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29 – WEEKDAY

*Rv. 18: 1-2, 21-23; 19: 1-3, 9a; Lk. 21: 20-28*

8:00 AM Catherine Apollo / req. by the Vecchio Family

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30 – ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE

*Rom. 10: 9-18; Mt. 4: 18-22*

8:00 AM Mary Neusch / req. by Tony Neusch

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1 – WEEKDAY

*Rv. 22: 1-7; Lk. 21: 34-36*

8:00 AM Oscar "Bud" Rauch  
req. by John and Canice Cristofolletti

5:00 PM Paul and Marie Vecchio  
req. by the Bertelloni Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 –

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Jer. 33: 14-16; 1 Thes. 3: 12- 4: 2; Lk. 21: 25-28, 34-36*

7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

9:30 AM Olga and Erne Hau / req. by the Griffin Family

12:00 PM Russell Burnside  
req. by Arthur and Marie Battaglia

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – In memory of Angela D'Agnese.

Sanctuary Candle – Special Intentions.

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL INTENTIONS

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

From the Director of Stewardship

Dear Parishioners:

Have You Checked Your Balance?

When you swipe your MetroCard, use that gift certificate, or write a check, the balance decreases. The results of these transactions, a decreased balance, is no surprise. It would be a fine world if the results of these transactions resulted in a balance increase!

Actually, it is a fine world! In a real sense, when we give of ourselves—our time, talent, and treasure the "balance" of peace, joy, and grace in our life increases. This is the paradox of altruism. St. Francis put it succinctly: "In giving of ourselves, we receive!" For the Christian steward, giving is act of love, justice and gratitude as a reflection of God's love for all humanity and creation itself.

Now is a good time to explore stewardship of your time, talent and treasure regardless of age, income, or abilities. Saint Mary's is a place where your gifts can flourish. Contact me to discuss increasing your "balance" of peace, joy and grace . . .

Louis Scarpa

Stewardship Ministry

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, Samantha

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> the second collection is for the Archdiocesan Assessment.

Why the ASSESSMENT COLLECTION?

Each parish of the Archdiocese of Newark (RCAN), to which St. Mary's belongs, is assessed a percentage of regular donations and rental income. Donations to St. Mary, such as the Sunday collection, are assessed at 14%. RCAN uses these assessed funds to operate the chancery and help subsidize charitable works. The ASESSMENT COLLECTION helps St. Mary's cover some of the monies due to RCAN. Thank you again for supporting St. Mary's and helping RCAN provide assistance beyond our doors.

**Welcome, Father Chris Ciccarino**

St. Mary's welcomes Father Chris who will assist on weekends. Father is no stranger to many in our neighborhood as he has served in various local parishes. Father is Associate Dean for Seminary and Academic Studies and Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Seton Hall's School of Theology. Please introduce yourself to Father the next time you see him at Mass!

**Altar Linen Help Needed**

Our parish altar linen ministers are responsible for laundering the liturgical linens (purificators, corporals, and towels) used during Mass and baptisms. We need volunteers to help with weekly laundering and ironing. The commitment is one assigned week per month, takes less than one hour, and is an easy way to share your time and talent with the parish. If you can assist please call Chris Hofmann at 201-768-6535. Thank you!

**THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH**

- Nov. 25:**  
No – LWC  
11:15 AM – Parish Choir meet  
12:00 PM – Parish Choir at Mass
- Nov. 26:**  
No – Prayer Shawl Ministry  
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Deepening the Journey – Parish Life Room
- Nov. 27:**  
7:30 PM – Parish Choir Rehearsal – Church  
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Women's Cornerstone – Parish Life Room
- Nov. 28:**  
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament – Church  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Morning Scripture Sturdy – Parish Life Room  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Evening Scripture Study – Conference Room  
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Men's Cornerstone – Parish Life Room
- Nov. 29:**  
7:30 PM – Marian / Eucharistic Holy Hour
- Dec. 1:**  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM – First Reconciliation  
4:15 – 4:45 PM – Reconciliation
- Dec. 2:**  
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 – Parish Choir meet  
12:00 PM – Parish Choir at Mass

*The Season of Advent is a time to let go of worldly distractions that take us away from God, and focus on growing closer to Him through prayer and concern for others.*

**ADVENT MISSION**

*December 3, 2018*  
*7:30 - 8:30 pm*

Prayer and Reflection  
Inspired Preaching by  
**Bishop John Flesey**  
Vespers (Evening Prayer)  
All are Welcome

The Church of Saint Mary  
20 Legion Place  
Closter, NJ

**HACKENSACK WALK-IN DINNER ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PREPARE FOOD**

Once again, our Parish will be serving dinner to the homeless and working poor at the Family Promise Shelter in Hackensack on **Wednesday, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>**. We anticipate feeding about 120 people. We are in need of volunteers to prepare various food dishes in their homes and to bring the hot food to the Fr. Roger Troy Hall between 12:30 PM and 3:00 PM on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Information and sign up sheets are located on easels in the outer vestibules of the church.**

For further information, please call Jane Bishop at 201-739-5622. Thank you for your generous support!!

**Afternoon of Reflection for Those Who Grieve, Sacred Heart, Haworth**

On Sunday, **December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, from 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM, there will be an afternoon of reflection for those who are mourning the loss of a loved one. The theme is "Getting Through the Holidays When You are Grieving." It will feature a time of prayer, sharing, a DVD on grief, and materials to help us at this stressful time. It is being held in the parish center at Sacred Heart Church which is located in the parking lot at 102 Park Street, Haworth. **Registration is necessary by November 26<sup>th</sup>**. Call Sr. Joanne at 201-387-0080 or e-mail her at [shpahaw@aol.com](mailto:shpahaw@aol.com). We ask you to bring a picture of your loved one.

**Let's Get Ready to Celebrate with the Songs of Christmas at St. Mary's**

**Students in High School to Grade 3**

**Rehearsals:** Saturdays, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM in Church

Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>: 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM in Church with a healthy snack served.

Christmas Eve, arrive 4:15 PM for 5:00 PM Mass.

Send a message to Mr. Scarpa at [ministry@stmarycloster.org](mailto:ministry@stmarycloster.org) to get started.



**Religious Education News –**

**First Reconciliation**

Next Saturday, **December 1<sup>st</sup>** at 11:00 AM our second graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. They will receive First Communion in May. Please keep these children in your prayers.



**INVITING ALL WOMEN – Come away for**

**awhile . . . to an oasis of peace and healing**

Spiritual weekend retreat, **January 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 11<sup>th</sup> and return after lunch on January 13<sup>th</sup>. For information call Victoria Maiorino at 201-767-1698.

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

Many who hunger for God’s consolation after the loss of a loved one, separation or divorce or other circumstance will find that faith based programs can offer them hope and comfort. A listing of parish support groups are now available on the Family Life Office webpage. Currently, the Archdiocese of Newark has over 60 different types of support groups ministering to an estimate of 1,200 people each year. The types of groups include: general bereavement, bereaved parents, separated & divorced, single parents & same sex attraction. To find a support group near you, please go to: [www.rcan.org/about-parish-based-support-groups-0](http://www.rcan.org/about-parish-based-support-groups-0) and select the group type from the menu on the right. To make updates to our list please contact Lauren Egan at 973-497-4327 or [Lauren.Egan@rcan.org](mailto:Lauren.Egan@rcan.org).

*“If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze!”*  
- St. Catherine of Sienna

**THE FIVE EFFECTS OF CONFESSION**

- It reconciles us with God and the Church**  
We regain the grace we lost because of sin and we recover the relationship with our Mother, the Church.
- We are forgiven**  
We receive the forgiveness of all our sins (mortal and venial).
- It reduces Purgatory time**  
Confessing diminishes, at least in part, the time we should be in Purgatory for our venial sins.
- It gives us peace**  
Confession gives us the peace of conscience and spiritual consolation we long for.
- It strengthens us**  
It provides us with the strength we need for our spiritual combat.

THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS **CatholicLink** SOURCE: CONECTACEC.COM



**Advent Giving Tree – Gift Tags available next weekend**

Our parish Advent Giving Tree will again support the New Bridge Medical Center (formerly Bergen Regional MC) in the “Share the Christmas Spirit” program for their 575 long-term care residents. **Gift tags will be available starting next weekend.** Take a gift tag (or two) that has the resident’s

desired gift, unit and room number. Shop for the gift, wrap it, and tape the gift tag with the unit and room number facing outward. **Wrapped gifts are due back under the Giving Tree by Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### Paint and Sip at Immaculate Conception, Norwood

It was such a success, we are doing it again! Join us at Immaculate Conception for an evening of **Paint and Sip, December 15<sup>th</sup>**, 6:30 - 9:00 PM, in the Church Hall at 211 Summit Street, Norwood. \$25 donation per person includes all materials, wine and cheese and hors d'oeuvres. Reservations and tickets are available by calling Immaculate Conception at 201-768-1600, emailing [immaculateconception@iccnorwood.org](mailto:immaculateconception@iccnorwood.org), or mailing Immaculate Conception, 211 Summit Street, Norwood, NJ 07648. Please make checks payable to Immaculate Conception. Reservations are due **November 30<sup>th</sup>**, **Tickets will not be available at the door.** For more information call 201-768-1600.

### Parish Mission at Immaculate Conception, Norwood

Please join Deacon Anthony Liguori and his son, Christian, as they present a three evening Parish Mission in prayerful reflections and heartfelt songs as we journey together through Advent. Tuesday, **December 11<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, **December 12<sup>th</sup>** and Thursday, **December 13<sup>th</sup>**, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. If you need more information you may contact Immaculate Conception at 201-7868-1600.

### St. Joseph School Open House, Oradell

Take a tour of St. Joseph School during our Open House: Tuesday, **November 27<sup>th</sup>** – Thursday, **November 29<sup>th</sup>**, 8:00 AM – 2:45 PM, meet our Principal Dr. Paula Valenti and see our talented students during the school day! St. Joseph School provides an exceptional education for students Pre-K – 8<sup>th</sup> grade including challenging academics with certified teachers; art, music and world language specials; before and after care; and nutritious hot meals. **St. Joseph School is expanding the Pre-K program for the 2019 – 2020 year.** St. Joseph School is a National Blue Ribbon School, Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and a Member of the National Catholic Educational Association. Please call 201-261-2388 for more information or to schedule a tour. St. Joseph School is located at: 305 Elm Street, Oradell, NJ 07649, [sjsusa.org](http://sjsusa.org).

### St. Andrew's Parish, Westwood

#### Fr. Phil Latronico To Lead A Reflection On The Words Of The *Magnificat*

The words of the *Magnificat* reveal how our Blessed Mother lived a life of expectation, joy and hope. St. Andrew's Parish has invited our guest speaker, Fr. Phil Latronico, Chaplain of the Community of God's Love in Rutherford, to lead us in a reflection that will unlock the path that leads to the heart of Christ.

Fr. Phil will present this reflection in St. Andrew's Parish Center, 120 Washington Avenue, Westwood. The dates and times are as follows: Friday, **December 14<sup>th</sup>**, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM and Wednesday, **December 19<sup>th</sup>**, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM. Refreshments will be served.

Please call St. Andrew's to register and advise which session you plan to attend: 201-666-5697

### ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL High School Performing Arts Department is proud to present: **Neil Berg's 50 Years of Rock and Roll**

With a cast consisting of Broadway stars and incredible rock singers, Neil Berg shares stories and tributes to the 50 year history of the music that changed the world. Join us for an exciting night of nostalgic music from Chuck Berry to the Beatles to Bruce Springsteen and beyond!

FRIDAY, **NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>**, 7:30PM – Interra Theater at St. Joseph Regional High School, 40 Chestnut Ridge Road, Montvale.

Pre-show reception with wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM. \$60 TICKETS (includes reception and show) AVAILABLE NOW AT [SJR.BOOKTIX.COM](http://SJR.BOOKTIX.COM). Call 201-391-7422 for more information.

### 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.

### HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.

### SACRAMENT CERTIFICATE REQUESTS

For various reasons there are times when one needs to obtain a new current Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation, or Marriage Certificate. When doing so please allow the office at least two weeks time. Thank you.

### St. Mary's Benefits from Amazon Smile

Did you know your purchases can make a difference? AmazonSmile donates to St. Mary's Catholic Church when you do your holiday shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1512275](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1512275).



### Follow and Like St. Mary's

Follow and like St. Mary's on FaceBook. Why? Because the latest news and announcements are posted there and by "liking," St. Mary's we reach more circles of people. [www.facebook.com/stmarycloster](http://www.facebook.com/stmarycloster).



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