

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

Serving Closter and Alpine † All are Welcome!



ST. MARY PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We the family of St. Mary of Closter, fervently believe in the fatherhood of God whom we come to know through the Lord Jesus Christ. We dedicate ourselves to the promotion of the spiritual and temporal welfare of our parish and our community. To this end, we direct our prayers to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit through Mary the Blessed Mother and Patroness of our parish family.



PARISH STAFF AND CONTACTS

Pastor: Rev. Joseph Scarangella, K.H.S
fatherjoe@stmarycloster.org

Weekend Associate:
Rev. Ranees Anbukumar Rayappan, S.M.A.

Permanent Deacon: Deacon James P. Tobin
jimtobin1@aol.com

Director of Music: Louis Scarpa
music@stmarycloster.org

Director of Stewardship: Louis Scarpa

Director of Religious Education: Gail Ferraiolo
gferraiolo@stmarycloster.org

Parish Secretary: Grace Ditzel
gditzel@stmarycloster.org

Business Admin./Parish Bookkeeper/

Local Safe Environment Coordinator:
Canice Cristofolletti • *ccristofolletti@stmarycloster.org*

Religious Education Secretary:
Maria Matos • *reled@stmarycloster.org*

Parish Trustees: Pamela Derfus and John Hernandez
and assisted by the Pastoral Advisory Board and Financial Council

WE INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

Saturday (Anticipated Sunday Mass)-----5:00 PM

Sunday-----7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 12:00 PM

First Sunday of July through Labor Day Weekend ----- 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Weekdays (Monday through Saturday)-----8:00 AM

Holy Days & Civic Holidays----- As announced the Sunday before

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday-----4:15 - 4:45 PM
or call for an appointment

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday - 8:30 - 9:30 AM and as scheduled.

Holy Hour: Thursday, 7:30 PM - Church

Marian Devotions: Miraculous Medal Novena and Recitation of the Rosary: Saturdays after 8:00 AM Mass.

Information regarding Sacraments, Parish Ministries and Care of the Sick & Homebound can be found on our website. To arrange baptisms or weddings call Father or the parish office.



Please like us on Facebook: facebook.com/stmarycloster

PARISH OFFICES

Kindly notify the Rectory Office if you change your address or move from our parish community. Please see our website for Parish Calendar and more information about Sacraments and Parish Life.

RECTORY:
20 Legion Place, Closter, New Jersey 07624
201-768-7565 • Parish Website: stmarycloster.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
(Closed for lunch between 12 Noon & 1:00 PM)

CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
20 Legion Place, Closter, New Jersey 07624
201-767-8247 • reled@stmarycloster.org

CENTER HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM *and by appointment*

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 –

Jer. 1: 4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor. 12: 31-13: 13 or 13: 4-13; Lk. 4: 21-30

5:00 PM Augie Zarski / req. by the Mangano Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 –

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jer. 1: 4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor. 12: 31-13: 13 or 13: 4-13; Lk. 4: 21-30

7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

9:30 AM Nella Bogacyz

req. by Michael, Patricia and Thomas Berrian

12:00 PM Ivan Zahija / req. by the Milovcic Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – WEEKDAY

Heb. 11: 32-40; Mk. 5: 1-20

8:00 AM Francisca and Julio Landrito

req. by Roy and Espie Landrito

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5 –

ST. AGATHA, VIRGIN AND MARTYR

Heb. 12: 1-4; Mk. 5: 21-43

8:00 AM Roseanne Gibbons

req. by the Milovcic Family

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 –

ST. PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS; MARTYRS

Heb. 13: 4-7, 11-15; Mk. 6: 1-6

8:00 AM August Zarski / req. by the Connor Family

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 – WEEKDAY

Heb. 12: 18-19, 21-24; Mk. 6: 7-13

8:00 AM Sam Vecchio / req. by the Vecchio Family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – ST. JEROME EMILIANI;

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, VIRGIN

Heb. 13: 1-8; Mk. 6: 14-29

8:00 AM David Nadasdi / req. by James Byrne & Family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – WEEKDAY

Heb. 13: 15-17, 20-21; Mk. 6: 30-34

8:00 AM Valentin Ramos / req. by Mr. & Mrs. Aduna

5:00 PM Jelisava Matejcic / req. by the Milovic Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10 –

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is. 6: 1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor. 15: 1-11 or 15: 3-8, 11; Lk. 5: 1-11

7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

9:30 AM Nella Bogacyz

req. by Mary Berrian

12:00 PM Augie Zarski / req. by Joan Westervelt



THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Altar Bread – In memory of Barbara Westervelt,
req. by Joan Westervelt.

Altar Wine – In memory of Barbara Westervelt,
req. by Joan Westervelt.

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – Special intention.

Sanctuary Candle – In memory of Barbara Westervelt,
req. by Joan Westervelt.

From the Director of Music

Do you ever wonder why we sing certain hymns (songs)?

In preparing the music for the Liturgy, the readings and psalm are read and contemplated to consider the best ways to help the congregation acclaim their faith through music.

The hymns at Mass, such as at communion or gathering, are based upon the season, the readings of the day, the congregation repertoire, cultural considerations, church traditions, the liturgical action the hymn may accompany (when we receive communion we want to sing about the Eucharist), the instruments upon which the music will be played (an organ or a string quartet), the folks in the pews (is it a retreat setting, a seminary, solely young children, a general parish mass?).

The Church embraces many styles of music. At St. Mary's we sing a cross-section of styles since that seems to work well. Yes, we occasionally sing Latin chant, so that we make a connection to our Catholic heritage, experience the spirituality of chant, and to foster unity within the Church through music and language.

The music selected must also be well-written from a music theory perspective. Quality composing means the music makes sense and is singable. Poorly written music is poorly sung.

The text must also have integrity and express what we believe as Catholics. We would never sing a text that says: "I receive a symbol of Christ", but rather "I received the Body of Christ." We don't sing "God is watching us from a distance," rather we sing "God is *here* with us." You get the point.

New music is introduced in a measured way. At St. Mary's, we take a look at about four new hymns a year. There is always going to be a song that someone may know well or not know, like or not like. Sing anyway and always. It doesn't matter the quality of one's voice—God gave us the voice and we want you to sing. We're all called to sing at Mass so that we are enriched as individuals and as a parish, all in praise of God. Sing to the Lord, no matter what.

– Louis Scarpa

We Pray for the Sick

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



PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Alfred Letizia

Sharing God's Blessings Appeal

This weekend is the start of the 2019 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal of the Archdiocese of Newark, to which St. Mary's belongs. This campaign provides the necessary resources to sustain Archdiocesan programs and ministries. The appeal provides funding for such ministries as Campus Ministry, family life programs, parish assistance, the seminaries, Catholic Charities and more. The goal for each parish is based on 9% of parish collections for the year. This year, St. Mary's goal is \$32,378. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you for any help you can provide. No gift is too great or too small. If you choose to donate online, please visit www.rcan.org/sharing,

Religious Education –

Reminder: Religious Education

This Sunday, **February 3rd**, classes will be dismissed a little early at 11:15 AM so teachers will be able to attend a meeting. We will be looking ahead to Lent and Easter and planning materials and special activities for our classes.

First Holy Communion

Children in our second grade class will be attending the 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday, **February 10th** as a group. They are learning about Liturgy of the Eucharist in class. Sunday they will be putting what they have learned into practice. This is a good opportunity to remember your own First Communion. Please, join us to celebrate this special year for the children.

Confirmation News

Confirmation Candidates met this past Sunday to finish out their January classes. Their topic covered basic Christology and different types of prayer. They experienced a guided reflection, in the capable hands of Catechist Pam Derfus, that combined both topics

They have a service opportunity **February 2nd** and **3rd** with "Souper Bowl Sunday". Please, remember to bring canned soup to Mass which will be collected for local food needs. Their next class session will be **February 10th**.

Scrip Orders

We will be placing an order for Scrip Gift Cards Monday morning, **February 4th**. Scrip cards which are prepaid cards that are used like cash are available for many different stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, etc. The Church of St. Mary receives a certain percentage of each card purchased (2% to 15% or more depending on the card) and doesn't cost you anything extra. Please have your orders to us no later than 10:00 AM Monday. Info can be found in the vestibules or contact John Hernandez at jah21344@aol.com or 201-768-8871 or Grace Ditzel at gditzel@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565 for further information.

Hackensack Walk-In Dinner On Wednesday, February 6th.

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, FEBRUARY 6th**. 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 FEBRUARY 6th.

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!!

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Weekly offerings of: Altar Bread, Altar Wine, Blessed Virgin Mary Candle and Sanctuary Candle are available throughout 2019.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

Feb. 3:

Confirmation Students collecting soup at all Masses
9:30 AM – LWC
10:30 AM – 11:50 AM – Religious Education – Grades K – 6
11:15 AM – Parish Choir meet
12:00 PM – Parish Choir at Mass

Feb. 4:

Scrip Orders being placed
No – Prayer Shawl Ministry
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Deepening the Journey – Parish Life Room

Feb. 5:

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM – Religious Education – Grades 6 – 7
7:30 PM – Parish Choir Rehearsal – Church

Feb. 6:

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament – Church
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Morning Scripture Study – Parish Life Room
12:30 PM – 3:00 PM – Drop off Food for Hackensack Walk-in Dinner – Fr. Roger Troy Hall
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Evening Scripture Study – Conference Room

Feb. 7:

7:30 PM – Marian / Eucharistic Holy Hour

Feb. 9:

4:15 – 4:45 PM – Reconciliation

Feb. 10:

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
12:30 PM – 4:30 PM – Third Order Lay Carmelites Meeting – Fr. Roger Hall

Upcoming St. Mary's Social Happenings: Join the Team

The Parish is planning a volunteer party, a St. Patrick's Day party and a Fish Fry! Details will follow. Would you like to be on a team to help with these parties: planning, communication, environment, worker bee? Do you have a knack for hospitality and want to enhance community at St. Mary's? Then be in touch with Lou Scarpa at ministry@stmarycloster.org.

Save the Dates

March 5th – Mardi Gras Appreciation for volunteers; **Date TBD** – St. Patrick's Day Party; **March 30th** – Fish Fry; more information coming soon.

Year End Contribution / Donation Statements

2018 Year End Contribution/Donation Statements were mailed out last week to all those who requested one. If you did not receive one and still need it please contact our Parish Secretary, Grace Ditzel at gditzel@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565 and we will send it to you.

Year end statements to all who donated to St. Mary's via Parish Giving will be e-mailed directly from PG. This is just a record of online contributions made through PG. This statement does not account for contributions made by check or envelope to St. Mary's.

Food Pantry

We no longer have a food pantry. **Please do not leave** bags of food in the vestibules. You are welcome to bring them down to the Closter food pantry located on the ground floor level of Borough Hall at 295 Closter Dock Road.

Parish Registry

Like all non-profits, St. Mary's must keep her database updated. We will be reaching out to those on the parish registry who are currently receiving offering envelopes but do not use them or who do not support the parish via egiving or bank draft. The letter will be an opportunity to reach out to folks and invite them to worship with us, to become engaged in the parish's life, ask if they have moved on, etc. Regular stewardship support of St Mary's is one of the main ways the administration can determine if a person is engaged in the parish's life, a parishioner. St. Mary's is mailing hundreds of offertory envelopes to non-users, this is not a best practice and use of YOUR offerings. Donations of cash cannot be tracked. *Even if one cannot afford to place anything into the envelope, we ask that the envelope, even if empty, be placed in the offertory.* We also must know the demographics to better minister and administer. May God prosper St. Mary's mission in 2019!

Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Student Scholarship Applications

For the 12th consecutive year, student scholarships are being offered through the Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Trust. Applications are now being accepted from parish 7th and 8th grade students attending a Catholic grammar school (primary consideration), as well as Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors attending a Catholic high school (secondary consideration) and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the parish office. Applications are due **March 31st** with decisions to be made by April 21st.

Discover the Joy of being a Hospice Volunteer

If you have a warm heart, a listening ear, and the gift of compassion, you can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member. VNA Health Group is inviting individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers to join our team in Bergen County.

There are many rewards and opportunities available to hospice volunteers through home visitation, companionship, administrative support, or any complimentary therapies. We are also seeking volunteers interested in providing support calls to our patients and family members from our offices in Englewood. Training will be provided by members of the Hospice team.

Please call Ruth Sorbanelli at 201-510-6426 or email your contact information: ruth.sorbanelli@vnahg.org.

2019 Women's Day of Reflection / Catholic Men's Conference

The dates for the 2019 Women's Day of Reflection is on Saturday, **March 9th** and the Catholic Men's Conference is on Saturday, **March 16th**. Both events will be held at Seton Hall University, have English and Spanish tracks and include Breakfast and Lunch. Registration fee is \$25.00. Time of events is 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Some of the advantages of attending these events are:

- Listen to speakers who inspire us to learn, love and live our faith better
- Times of prayer and worship
 - Holy Mass
 - Holy Hour
 - Adoration Chapel
- Availability of confession
- Meet and fellowship with like-minded Catholics
- Help others to experience the faith
- Learn about ministries of the Archdiocese
- Catholic gifts and books for sale

More information can be found soon at

www.rcan.org/womenscommission or www.NJCatholicMen.org.

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 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.

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