

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

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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, MARCH 16 –

Gn. 15: 5-12, 17-18; Phil. 3: 17-4: 1 or 3: 20- 4: 1; Lk. 9: 28b-36

5:00 PM Mary Cully / req. by the Torre Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 17 – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn. 15: 5-12, 17-18; Phil. 3: 17-4: 1 or 3: 20- 4: 1; Lk. 9: 28b-36

7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased

9:30 AM Liddy/Keavin Families
req. by the Liddy Family

12:00 PM Juergen D. Kleine
req. by the Kleine-Micholetto Families

MONDAY, MARCH 18 – ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM,
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Dn. 9: 4b-10; Lk. 6: 36-38

8:00 AM Patrick Corrigan
req. by Deadre Corrigan and Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 19 –

ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
2 Sm. 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom. 4: 13, 16-18,22; Mt. 1: 16, 18-21, 24a or Lk. 2: 41-51a

8:00 AM Joseph Sr., Josephine and Joseph Jr.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

Jer. 18: 18-20; Mt. 20: 17-28

8:00 AM Jason Gibbs / req. by Camille Cantarella

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

Jer. 17: 5-10; Lk. 16: 19-31

8:00 AM Anne and Walter Brady / req. by Dennis Brady

FRIDAY, MARCH 22 – LENTEN WEEKDAY

Gn. 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt. 21: 33-43, 45-46

8:00 AM August Zarski / req. by Thom & Grace Calabro

SATURDAY, MARCH 23 –

ST. TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, BISHOP

Mi. 7: 14-15, 18-20; Lk. 15: 1-3, 11-32

8:00 AM Nella Bogaczyk / req. by Espie & Roy Landrito

5:00 PM Patrick Corrigan / req. by Mary Corrigan

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Ex. 3: 1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor. 10: 1-6, 10-12; Lk. 13: 1-9

7:30 AM Patrick Corrigan / req. by Knights of Columbus
Queen of Peace Council 3679

9:30 AM Carol Gordon / req. by Ray and Wally Barker

12:00 PM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased



THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Altar Bread – In memory of Dolores Collier,
req. by the Byrne Family.

Altar Wine – In memory of Dolores Collier,
req. by the Adult Choir.

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – In memory of
Dolores Collier, req. by Thom & Grace Calabro.

Sanctuary Candle – Special Intentions.

From the Director of Religious Education

Entering the Cloud

In previewing today's readings, one line jumped out at me, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." In reflecting further on the Gospel reading, I started to think about the disciples as they heard the voice and did not fully understand what was happening to Jesus or themselves.

We have all been caught in a fog at one time. It is particularly difficult when driving at night and you cannot see what is on the road ahead. We would likely experience a sense of helplessness and perhaps fear as the disciples who "became frightened as they entered the cloud."

I remember a time when a cloud had settled over the landscape in the daytime. Visibility was limited but it did not elicit the same level of fear, the light allowing a better sense of control. Still there was an uncomfortable feeling; we seem often to be seeking the security of our own control.

The expression of "being in a fog" is used to refer to a state of mind when we are feeling confused or out of control. A decision needs to be made or a task needs to be dealt with and completed which we are not ready to face.

I find myself struggling at times with a decision, the pressures of a deadline, or even the unknown future. This can evoke the same feelings of anxiety, fear, and helplessness. Hopefully, the next time I am enveloped in this kind of "cloud" I will remember the words, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." And I will know that I do not need to be the one in control.

Gail

We Pray for the Sick

George Abad, Irene Abad, Roger Austria,
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



Paschal Candle

If anyone is interested in donating the Paschal Candle in memory of someone please contact the rectory for more information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Lent at St. Mary

The children in the Religious Education Program are all focused on Lenten activities. All of the classes at the right age will be participating in a short Reconciliation Prayer Service followed by individual confessions. Age groups will go in turns during a few class sessions giving Fr. Joe an opportunity to speak to the children about this important sacrament.

We are also using the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl activity to help children remember the less fortunate. Classes view a short video with an age appropriate story of a country chosen from around the world. One of the stories in this year's video is of a sixteen year old girl who has been taking care of her three younger siblings since the death of her parents when she was twelve. Civil violence in her home country forced them to flee to Uganda where the family continues to live a hard but safer life. CRS has helped this family by replacing their refugee camp shelter with a small house. View this and other stories by going to crsricebowl.org. Contribute through the Rice Bowls available at the church doors.

The Jr. High Program will be having a special presentation on Tuesday, March 26th about Lent, the events of Holy Week, and Easter. Ed Craviolo, a presenter well known in both Paterson and Newark Dioceses, will be leading us in this informative experience as we prepare to celebrate Easter.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

Mar. 17 – Sunday:

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
 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM – St. Patrick's Day Dinner Party – Fr. Roger Troy Hall

Mar. 18 – Monday:

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

Mar. 19 – Tuesday:

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

Mar. 20 – Wednesday:

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
 4:00 PM – Stations of the Cross – Church
 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Evening Scripture Study – Conference Room
 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Men's Cornerstone – Parish Life Room

Mar. 21 – Thursday:

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Youth Group Meeting – Fr. Roger Troy Hall
 7:30 PM – Marian / Eucharistic Holy Hour

Mar. 23 – Saturday:

4:15 PM – 4:45 PM – Reconciliation

Mar. 24 – Sunday:

9:30 AM – 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

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are held every Wednesday during Lent at 4:00 PM in the Church.

Children's Choir

Rehearsal **April 6th** and **13th**, 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM in Church. Easter Sunday, gather at 8:45 AM and sing at the 9:30 AM Mass. April 28th, Easter II, gather at 8:45 AM and sing at the 9:30 AM Mass. Send a message to Mr. Scarpa at ministry@stmarycloster.org.



FISH FRY

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If anyone would like to bring a Baked Good for the Fish Fry please call Vicky Maiorino at 201-767-1698.

Knights of Columbus Annual Memorial Mass & Communion Breakfast

Sunday, **March 31st**, Mass at 9:30 AM at Church of St. Mary followed by buffet breakfast at 11:00 AM at Madeleine's Petit Paris, 416 Tappan Road, Northvale. Advance paid reservations are required by Wednesday, March 20th. For more information and cost see the flyers on the bulletin boards in the vestibules. For table reservations and tickets contact Ken Chamberlain at 201-768-7839 or John Hernandez at 201-768-8871 or e-mail jah21344@aol.com.



Theology & Biology

The theology of the Pascal Mystery— the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ— is explored from two contrasting points of view: theology and biology.

Reflection by Mr. Bill Deegan
Monday, March 25th, 7:00 PM
All are Welcome
St. Mary's

2019 Medicare-Medicaid Workshop

Bergen County Executive James J. Tedesco III and the Board of Chosen Freeholders cordially invite you to this workshop. Do you provide care for a loved one or need to understand the new Medicare rules? Then this workshop is for you. Wednesday, **March 27th** at 6:00 PM at the Bergen County Health Care Center, 35 Piermont Road, Rockleigh, NJ, 201-750-8312. Presented by Benjamin D. Eckman, Esq.

Keep Up on Parish and Community Announcements

The parish sends an informative weekly email blast with pertinent spiritual, social and community announcements. Send St. Mary's your email address today and be added to the blast. You can opt out at any time. Send an e to gditzel@stmarycloster.org to be kept in the loop. Cheers!

Thank You to St. Mary's

On behalf of the Food and Assistance Board of Closter and all the families we serve, I would like to thank St. Mary's Church for your support in 2018. The following donations were made by your Church throughout the year:

- 27 Holiday Meal Bags and paper baskets at Easter (March 2018)
- 20 Bags of Assorted Food Items (November 2018)
- 4 \$25.00 Shop-Rite Gift Cards (November 2018)
- 25+ Candy Cane Reindeers (December 2018).

We would also like to thank Maria Matos and Pam Derfus who worked with the youth groups and coordinated the food collections. We are so grateful to have the ongoing support of St. Mary's as we work to assist those neighbors in our community who need it most. Your congregation has been very generous to us over the years and we very much appreciate all that you do on our behalf. – Sincerely, Annette Vasiloff, Chairperson

Sharing God's Blessings

The Annual Appeal directly supports various ministries and programs throughout the Archdiocese of Newark, such as our evangelization efforts, Catholic education, Catholic Charities, youth and young adult ministry, and many other ministries. Your participation in this campaign is vitally important. If you have not yet made a pledge to the 2019 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal, there is still time. Just complete a pledge envelope and drop it in the collection basket, or bring it to the parish office. If you have already made a contribution, thank you for your generous gift.

Christian Marriage Anniversary Liturgies

Every couple in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage during 2019 is invited to celebrate this anniversary liturgy with Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Fifty years on Sunday, **April 28th** at 3:00 PM and five years and twenty-five years on Sunday, **June 2nd** at 3:00 PM. Please call the rectory to register. The **deadline** for June 2nd is Monday, **May 20th** and the deadline for April 28th is Monday, **April 15th**.

Communion Dresses / Suits Needed

The First Communion Day of our child is a very special occasion – a day to be celebrated and always remembered! Please help to make another child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any Communion dresses, veils, suits, jackets, shirts, and shoes.

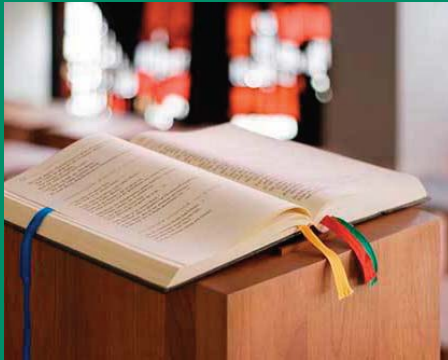
Please bring all articles, clean, on hangers, and covered in plastic, to St. John the Baptist Church Parish Center, Hillsdale by **March 28th** or call Kathy at 201-666-4185. Monetary donations will also be accepted. If you or anyone that you know may need an outfit, please contact Kathy. Thank you!

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.

LITURGY

A WORK OF THE PEOPLE



WORD

"Liturgy" means "work of the people." The Mass is a liturgy. While the priest acts in the person of Christ as the celebrant at Mass, offering sacrifice on behalf of the people, the people also do the "work."

Celebrating the Mass requires our *effort* in doing the personal and spiritual work in preparing for Mass and calls for our physical and mental presence. Spectators we are not, but "participants" in every way: speaking the prayers, singing, listening, processing, kneeling, standing, sitting, blessing ourselves, bowing, genuflecting, receiving the Eucharist, greeting each other and offering our tithe. We use our hearts, minds, and bodies in worship at Mass...Catholics are "full on" at Mass!

In Lenten, we "lay low" so to clear our hearts and minds in personal and communal introspection. We examine our lives in light of God's call to relationship *with Him and one another*.



EUCCHARIST

Scripture tells us to pray and offer alms at this time. Almsgiving involves giving to others as an act of virtue, either materially or in the sense of providing capabilities such as supporting the parish which in turn ministers to others. Almsgiving never leaves us exhausted, because God returns to us all that we need to go on.

The Mass will also "lay low" in Lent. We no longer sing or recite the exuberant hymn of praise "Glory to God". We wait until Holy Thursday to sing this *with the angels* once we have prepared ourselves to praise God fully after "laying low."

We sing the Penitential Act, using the chant "Kyrie Eleison," which is Greek for "Lord, have mercy." When the Mass was celebrated in Latin until the 1960's, this Greek text was included due to the fact that in early Christian Rome, the mass was prayed in Greek before the use of Latin. The Church has been singing this text in Greek for more than 1500 years!



PARTICIPATION

We chant the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) in Latin, the universal language of the Church. Vatican II did *not* abolish the use of Latin as it can serve as a sign of our unity with Catholics throughout the world.

Finally, the instruments will no longer play exuberant postludes and preludes and silence will find place.

We also see purple vestments and altar cloths. Lent purples differ from the purples of Advent. Red-toned purples belong to Lent and are considered penitential in nature. They are called "Roman purples" and refer to the imperial color. Red tones also symbolize the Lord's passion. When we see these colors, they are visual reminder to self and communal examination of conscience, almsgiving and prayer and penitence.

The Mass will guide us on the journey, so long as we do the work.

-Louis Scarpa, Director of Music

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