



PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS

Cookies with Santa, December 14th after 5:00 p.m. Mass and December 15th after 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. Masses in Desmond Hall.

— **Blood Drive**, January 23, 2020, 2:00 -8:00 p.m., Desmond Hall.

WEB PAGE

For updated bulletin information, please go to www.mhr-parish.org.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:00AM -CORBY, LOUISE & RICHARD GRUNDMAN
-r/o The Eldrenkamp & Grundman Families

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00AM -VICTOR O'BRIEN
-r/o Betty & Dale Green

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00AM -JOSE RAMOS
-r/o The Paragas Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00AM -CHRISTINA JOHNSON
-r/o Joe & Jackie Potts

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00AM -ALICE GORRES
-r/o Marie Gorres
5:00PM -VIRGINIA & JACK DE LILLO AND
JENNY & AL IANDOLI
-r/o Laurie & Rick Iandoli

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00AM -WILLIAM DUNDAS, III
-r/o Annette Dundas
10:00AM -ADAM GOMULKA
-r/o Phyllis Gomulka
11:30AM -DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE PELLIGRA
& CALENDRILLO FAMILIES
-r/o Roseann Chrzanowski

TABERNACLE LIGHT



Tabernacle candle in the Church burns this week in loving memory of Joan Zipp r/o Meryl Finkelstein

Tabernacle candle in the Chapel burns this week in loving memory of Stanley Wojnar r/o Ruth Wojnar

PARISH SICK LIST



Rev. Edward J. Struzik, Shannon, Hayley & Brett Lawrence, Jacqueline Braniff, Christina Pulido, Sophie Wojtaszek, Janice Sanborn, Marie Velleneuve, Beth Morris, Renee Burke, Joseph Peabody, Veronica Balmore, Billy Sherwood, Jr., Peter Skujins, Cindy Junquet, Kenneth Kramer, Timothy McGravey, Beatriz Castillo, Dolores Nee, Michael Guariglia, Marieann Poplaski, Lucy Littlefield, Jean Marie Brigandi, Johnny Gibbs, Barbara Celia, Maryann Hughes, Emilie Matlosz, Germaine Raimo, William Armstrong, Fr. Gregory Moore, Sandra Steinberger, Frank Roberts, Fred Morrone, Lenny Gatti, Sumanta Chowdhuri, Nicole E. Montagna, Nico Oneto, Kathleen O'Brien, Alex Berg, Wendy Oates, Robert C. Pederson, Marie Scifo, Patrick Barry, Toni O'Rourke, William Sohor, Robert Pedersen, Robert Conte, Jose Pacheo, Kathleen Lau, Kimberly Perry, Jackson Christian Thomas, Miguel Ley, Marie Ciezka, Betty Pulido, Charley Goldsmith, Louis Martinez, Joel Rivera, Margaret Podolsky, Ida Morales, Mario Buongiovanni, Columbia Emilio, Jerzy Cierkowski, Andrew Gasperchek, Dominic DiFede, Jose Santos, Megan LaFergola, Nora Decker, Adelaide Whelan, Faye Parrilla, Debbie Mangano, Carolyn Smoljan, Karell Christian Bernardo and Anna Schiano.

We ask Almighty God and our Blessed Mother, Mary to comfort and heal the sick. If your loved one recovers and our prayers for them are no longer required, please call the parish office to have their name removed. Thank you.

VOTIVE LIGHTS

IN MEMORY OF

Carmela & Arthur Gizzarelli Mary Spinelli
Rosalie & Frank Moscarello Tony Medina
Dan, Lucy, Joey Joseph L. Esposito

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Guidance for Johnny A Safe Trip for Kristen
Watch Over our Daughter Special Intentions
Strength and Healing for Bill

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5:8) Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING OVERSEAS

Alex Barnhard, U.S. Navy
 Jason Del Duca, U.S. Air Force
 Krystal L. Godowski, U.S. Army

Matthew B. Kaplan, U.S. Army
 Michael Lanzafama, U.S. Army
 Richard A. Lapp, U.S. Navy
 Douglas Leo, U.S. Army
 Robert C. McCann, U.S. Marines
 Jeremy Neff, U.S. Army
 Michael J. Sanzone, U.S. Army
 Mark G. Sieczkowski, U.S. Navy
 Thomas Welch, U.S. Army
 Christopher Putko, U.S. Navy

If you a have a family member who is an active-duty member of the military and wish to have their name added to the Military Prayer list, please call the parish office at 732-566-9334.

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS



Please call the Parish Office to register. **The next Pre-Baptism class will be held Wednesday, February 5, 2020, at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel.**

SPECIAL COLLECTION



This weekend's second collection will be for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. **Please make checks payable to: St. Vincent de Paul Society.** Your generosity helps the Society help others.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY



Mass – 3rd Sunday of every month
 Next Mass – December 15th at 8:00 a.m.
 Meeting following the Mass.

2020 BOX ENVELOPES



Please take a moment after Mass today to pick up your new set of boxed envelopes for 2020. They are located in the Parish Hall. If you can't find your envelopes, please call the parish office.



Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.



STEWARDS OF OUR TREASURE

Weekend of December 7/8, 2019: \$6740
Weekend of December 9/10, 2018: \$7223
Additional Collection for Christmas Flowers: \$ 776
Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious: \$3592

OFFICE STAFF EMAILS



Irma Knox – Parish Secretary
 MHR1987@aol.com

Janet Snyder – Finance Manager
 mhr2012bkr@aol.com

Debbie Dyson – Parish Catechetical Leader
 mhrccd@yahoo.com

Barbara Orsucci – Assistant Religious Education Office
 mhrccd1993@aol.com

COOKIES WITH SANTA



The Holy Name will be having “Cookies with Santa” on December 14th after the 5:00 p.m. and on December 15th after the 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. Masses in Desmond Hall. Have your picture taken with Santa. Donations of cookies will be greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Who: Students grades K-7
When: Christmas Eve Mass – Tuesday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m.

Practices: Wednesdays, **December 11th** and **December 18th**, 5:45 – 6:15 p.m.

Students in grades 2-7 are also invited to participate in the choir.

Contact the Religious Education Office for further details at 732-566-5630.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Our Most Holy Redeemer Conference exists primarily to help those in financial need. This is made possible by the generosity of our parishioners each month; **thank you.**

If you or someone you know needs help, please call 732-566-9334. *Everything is completely confidential.*

St. Lawrence Food Pantry opens on Saturdays, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. and Mondays, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Groceries collected every weekend at Mass.



OPLATEK CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Oplatek Christmas Wafers are a favorite tradition in Europe, particularly in Poland, Slovakia and Lithuania. We have a limited supply available in the parish office for \$1.00 each. Come in and pick up your Oplatek Wafer for your Christmas meal.



Every year, as you may know, our ushers are instructed by the diocese to take an accurate headcount of all men, women and children in attendance at all Masses for the Sundays in November. These figures are requested by our diocese to help keep track of parish demographics.

MOST HOLY REDEEMER PRAYER GROUP



Most Holy Redeemer Prayer Group will meet on Friday, December 27th, in the daily Mass Chapel from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. All parishioners are welcome. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction.

The prayer program includes the Holy Rosary and a Scriptural reading. A short fellowship will follow after the prayers. All are welcome to join us as we gather together. For more information, please contact the parish office.

This year, the total weekly average of parishioners in attendance at Sunday Masses here at Most Holy Redeemer is 700. For the sake of comparison, the total weekly average attendance for 2014 was 790; for 2009, it was 940; in 2004, it was 1,180.

Over the past fifteen years, our weekly average in Mass attendance has decreased by nearly 500 parishioners, or approximately 40%. Of course, there are several contributing factors. Apart from the loss of over 340 parishioners through death since January 2004 (most of whom were regular Mass attendees) we have also seen many households move to other parts of New Jersey or the country. There is also the negative impact the clergy sex-abuse scandal has had, and continues to have, on our church. And we mustn't forget the overall secular climate of our American culture which does not support identification with, let alone participation in, any organized religion.

However, we should not let all this discourage us, because we, the Catholic Church and Most Holy Redeemer Parish, are about more than just numbers. Our bishop has consecrated our diocese anew to our Blessed Lady, and through her intercession, we continue our spiritual journey as witnesses to faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

God is alive and well in our hearts, and our doors always remain open for the return of those who once belonged and the arrival of those the Lord calls anew. May the Lord continue to be our strength, our hope and our joy!

Blessings!
Fr. Chester H. Carina
Pastor



Advent

Third Week of Advent

Lord, you sent prophets to prepare the way for the coming of your Son. Help us to hear their message of great joy which was given for all people; so that at the birthday of your Son, our Redeemer, we may receive Him.



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday, December 20TH

*11:00 a.m. - 12 noon
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25th - Christmas Day

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 31st - New Year's Eve

5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 1, 2019 - New Year's Day

8:00 a.m., and 10:00 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS



Attention Eucharistic Ministers:

The schedule for January, February and March is ready to be developed. If there are any dates during those months on which you will **not** be available, please email Tom Putko at tommy57289@aol.com or call 732-439-0494 no later than December 17th or 18th. Please advise any changes to your telephone number or address at that time.

BAPTISM



We wish to welcome into the family of God and the parish community of Most Holy Redeemer the following children who were baptized on December 8th:

SOPHIA MAUREEN MUNDY

Daughter of David & Kelly

ALEXANDRA MARIE COSTA

Daughter of Anthony Michael & Diana

We pray that their parents will be examples of faith to inspire them to follow the Lord. We, as their family in faith, also accept the responsibility to help these parents in their duty to bring up their children in the practice of the Faith by our prayers and example.

NEW JERSEY CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ACTION ALERT

In May, the New Jersey Legislature introduced a package of bills that would create a New Jersey version of the federal Affordable Care and Patient Protection Act of 2010.

Included in those bills is S3804/A5508, legislation that would eliminate the long-standing exemption in the current state law (P.L. 2005 c.251) that protects religious employers from having to provide health insurance coverage for family planning medications, devices, and procedures, including abortion inducing drugs and sterilizations.

If signed into Law, S3804/A5508 would impact the ability of Catholic Dioceses, Catholic schools, and Catholic Charities Agencies to offer employees comprehensive health benefits without violating fundamental Catholic principles.

The New Jersey Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee will consider S3804/A5508 for a vote on Thursday, December 5, 2019. If S3804/A5508 passes the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee, we anticipate the full Senate to vote on these bills on Monday, December 16.

Please contact your State Senator asking that they protect religious freedom. Please share this with parishioners. Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/Lix9Nm4npAuiQxvI aux g>

Thank you for your continued prayers and support

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



Now that fall is here, why treat BUS yourselves to a Marriage Encounter Weekend?

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held January 24-26.

Please register by January 10, 2020 as space is limited. For more information and registration, call 732-904-9636 or visit us at: www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM



A bereavement support program of five meetings will be on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle in Old Bridge (parish room in the Parish Hall). The meetings will continue on Tuesdays, January 21st, February 11th, February 25th and March 10th. The program is offered as a support for all persons who have recently lost a loved one and are struggling with the mourning process. Registration is required. No walk-ins. For more information, please call Deacon Pat at 732-251-4000, ext. 8218.

TRIP TO THE RALLY FOR LIFE



WHERE: TRENTON, NJ -

WHEN: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

The Diocese of Metuchen;s Office of Human Life and Dignity will be running a bus trip to the Rally for Life in Trenton, NJ on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. The bus ride is free of charge, but since space is limited all passengers must reserve their seats. Passengers will board the bus at the Diocesan Center in Piscataway at 9:30 AM. The Rally at the State House begins at 11:00 AM and ends at 1:00 PM. Passengers will attend a small reception afterwards. The bus will bring everyone back to the Diocesan Center at 3:00 PM. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a seat, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543



Home Companion/Aide for 91 year old woman in her home to help with everyday tasks, Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Light home care involved. Call Jeanne Egan at 917 330-9691.