



Blessed Sacrament Church

Martinsville, NJ

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.blessedsacramentnj.org



PHONE NUMBER

Rectory & Parish Office: 732-356-4405

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9 am—4:00 pm

Thursday 9 am—2 pm

Friday & Saturday: By appointment

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 13TH, 2020

SERVED BY

Rev. Brian J. Nolan, D Min

Pastor

fr.brian.j.nolan@gmail.com

Rev. Msgr. Eugene Prus

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Msgr. Robert Medley

Parochial Vicar

msgmedley@blessedsacramentnj.org

Deacon Louis Pizzigoni, III

deaconlou@gmail.com

Denise Metzgar

Parish Secretary/Admin.

dmetzgar@blessedsacramentnj.org

Michael P. Burns

*Director of Adult Faith Formation, Liturgy
and Music*

mburns@blessedsacramentnj.org

Mary K. Foy

Director of Children's Faith Formation

mfoy@blessedsacramentnj.org

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil----- 4:00 pm

Sunday ----- 7:30, 10:00, 12:00

Weekdays

Monday - Friday ----- 9:00 am & 12:10 pm

Saturday ----- 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (*Confession*)

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at the 1:00 pm ceremony. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made one year in advance. Contact the Parish Office for more information.



Mass
Intentions
for
the Week

Monday - December 14

- 9:00 AM + Mary Kubick
r/o Daughter Beverly
- 12:10 PM + Steve Sisolak
r/o The McGovern Family

Tuesday - December 15

- 9:00 AM + Marianna & Pietro Evola
r/o Giuseppa Armetta, Sister
- 12:10 PM + Bill Knox
r/o Eliza Lopes

Wednesday - December 16

- 9:00 AM + Steve Sisolak
r/o Pat and Al Beronio
- 12:10 PM + Dennis Paul Bauer
r/o Cheryl Machusky and Family

Thursday - December 17

- 9:00 AM + Steve Sisolak
r/o Mary Ellen Schleckser
- 12:10 PM + Song Liu
r/o William Liu

Friday - December 18

- 9:00 AM + Kathleen Ring Allegra - Birthday
r/o Mom
- 12:10 PM + Steve Sisolak
r/o Michael Burns and Choir

Saturday - December 19

- 9:00 AM + Geraldine Reilly
r/o Charlie and Annie Reilly
- 4:00 PM + Anna Maria and Ernest Charles
Wille
r/o Sheryl Ann Wille

Sunday - December 20

- 7:30 AM + In Memory of Helen Donnelly &
Raymond Papp
r/o Bob, Dolores and Rory
Billy Woerner and People of
Blessed Sacrament
r/o Charlie and Anne Reilly
- 10:00 AM + Lauren Richmond - 12th
Anniversary
r/o Laurie, Dean and Dana
Richmond
- 12:00 PM + Mildred Basile and Louis Marsico
r/o Tim, Laura and Cameron
Mertz

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, December 14

*Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of
the Church*

Book Club, 10:00 am

Boy Scouts, 7 pm

Tuesday, December 15

Bible Study, 9:45 am

Wednesday, December 16

Adoration, 9:45 am

Confessions, 6:30–8:00pm

Saturday, December 19

Confessions, 11:00 am

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Hour, 5:00 pm



Please pray for the repose of the soul
of

Carole Ann Lamiera

*WEEKLY ADORATION WILL BE ON
WEDNESDAYS AFTER THE 9:00 AM
MASS UNTIL 11:45 AM*



**The Altar Bread and Wine is
Offered for *Tom Fahey***



**The Sanctuary Candle burns
before the Blessed Sacrament
for Catherine O'Brien Szymczak**

Advisory Council Update

“Lay leadership is fundamental to the success of a vibrant parish”

The Pastors Advisory Council (“PAC”) met on Saturday, November 21st, for several hours. We started out discussing the spiritual practices that keep us grounded. Then we discussed a variety of aspects of parish life. One topic was our experience as parishioners. The other was the Sunday experience for those attending in person. Additionally, we worked on a revision of our parish mission statement.

The council acknowledged that COVID had a significant impact on parish life (liturgical, educational, financial, and spiritual). We can find hope in the development and distribution of several vaccines as we look forward to 2021. All of us have reason to feel confident that we are entering a new phase in the pandemic.

We concluded the day with the assignment of subgroups. The subgroups will be co-chaired by two members of the committee. The following subgroups are:

- Administration
- Communications
- Engagement/Parish Life
- Faith Formation
- Liturgy and Worship
- Stewardship of Resources

In the new year, two PAC representatives will meet with current parish organizations and explain the council’s purpose as well as provide an opportunity to answer questions.

I find it thought-provoking to contemplate what will Post-COVID 19 be for us as a parish community. Think how parish life has changed over the past nine months. Parishioners have grown fond of the live streaming of Mass. Will the Children’s Faith Formation Program be a hybrid?

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, time will tell.

Fr. Brian

faith

A Coronavirus Prayer for this Weary Winter

Jesus Christ, Light of the World,

You understand what it is like to feel alone in the midst of great suffering.

Remain with us as we continue to endure the coronavirus pandemic.

Awaken our hearts as we bear witness to the sickness, the sacrifice, even death.

In these dark months we cry, “How long, O Lord?”

Help us to watch and pray for signs of your hope.

When we long for a world returned to normal, inspire us to work toward a world transformed.

When we feel forgotten and lonely, help us to find solidarity through your love.

When we cannot see your face, help us to see you in others, especially the essential workers, first responders and medical professionals who labor tirelessly.

When we feel only sorrow in our souls, help us to know that the joy of the Gospel remains as true now as ever.

When we feel only grief in our hearts, help us to find consolation in knowing that those who are sick or have died are held in your loving embrace.

As we walk through this time of darkness, give us faith that we are headed toward brighter days.

Give light to our eyes. Let us show that light to one another.

Even in winter, when the ground appears barren, it is warmed by the light of your creation; seeds are nourished, and green shoots are pushing up toward the sun.

Jesus Christ be our light.

Written by Kerry Weber, is an executive editor for America: The Jesuit Review

Social Outreach Christmas Appeal

Thank you for the tremendous response to our Thanksgiving appeal. As we enter into the Advent Season, your generosity is requested again.

Christmas brings additional challenges for some of our families and we hope to relieve some burden by providing meals. We have collected enough turkeys for Christmas. If you are able to donate food, please consider items such as frozen lasagna, or a ham. Please have your items dropped off by December 16th.

May the Child Jesus bless you and your family this season.



New Jersey Reproductive Freedom Act: On October 8, 2020, The Reproductive Freedom Act (RFA) S3030 was introduced in the New Jersey State Senate and was referred to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. If passed, the RFA would codify into New Jersey law the findings of Roe v. Wade, meaning that abortion would remain legal in New Jersey even if the case were overturned by the Supreme Court. The RFA would also strip safeguards and regulations on the abortion procedure, making New Jersey a more dangerous place for women and their unborn babies. The Assembly companion bill is A4848.

The Diocesan Office of Human Life & Dignity has been working closely with the New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) on this issue to develop resources and monitor the bill. Here is the link to NJ Catholic Conference's updated Reproductive Freedom Act resource page: <https://njcatholic.org/reproductive-freedom-act>. Please check this website frequently for updates. Also, please make sure to sign up on the above website to receive action alerts

A webinar has been recorded which focuses on providing an overview of the legislation, an update on the bill's legislative status, and suggestions on action steps people can take at this time. This is something you can use to help educate family, friends and fellow parishioners. You are encouraged to watch it so you can understand the radical nature of this measure. The link is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kshuo78QZdA&feature=youtu.be>

For more information contact:
hman.life.and.dignity@diometuchen.org.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

December 13, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

CONFESSION

Confession will be offered on Wednesday, December 16th from 6:30-8:00pm in addition to our normal

Parish Office Holiday Schedule

Wednesday, December 23 from 9am – noon

Office will be closed beginning December 24th and

The **Altar Rosary Group** would like to thank you for your generosity to the Baby Bottle Project. This year we sent funds totaling **\$1,195** to the Pregnancy Aide Center from the people of Blessed Sacrament parish.

PARISH PRAYER BOOK OF INTENTIONS

In our Parish Prayer Book, we pray for the sick, needy, struggling, suffering, etc. Every intention in our hearts! No intention is too big or too small for prayer!



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

O Lord, be present with all those who serve our country. Comfort their spirits with your divine presence. Keep them close to You and grant them strength, wisdom and grace.

Especially those in our parish family,

LCdr Douglas Stahl, Navy

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT—REJOICE!!!

December 13-19, 2020

We are already at the third week of Advent, ready to light that pink (or “rose”) colored candle in our wreath. Why is this candle not purple? We are not at the big day yet. What is going on?

The third candle is pink to remind us that we are “almost there”, to give us hope that our time of waiting and watching is not all for nothing. The third week is traditionally the week of joy. For those of us of a “certain age”, we may remember Advent as a time of fasting, abstinence, and other forms of penance, sort of “Lent Light”. We were to make the stables of our hearts a warm and welcoming place for the Baby Jesus on Christmas. Confessions were often held on Christmas Eve to make sure of this. During that time, the third week of Advent was “time off” from penance and a time to celebrate, at least a little, the imminent coming of the Savior.

Now, there is not such an emphasis on penance during Advent as there was then. Our Orthodox brothers and sisters still hold this tradition of fasting, particularly near Christmas Day, and there are still some cultural traditions as well. Many of us are familiar with the “Seven Fishes” Christmas Eve dinner held in many Italian and Italian American homes to this day.

But all that does not mean we are off the hook completely. We are still called to respect Fridays as a day of penance or spiritual work, just as we are called to do throughout the rest of the year and during Lent. (Code of Canon Law No. 1250 if you are interested in the reference). The focus on Advent now for us is “a period of devout and expectant delight” (no. 39-*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*).

Week Three, with our rose candle and readings that are beginning to move more towards the events leading up to the birth of Jesus, should fill us with joy, especially in this year when joy is in short supply for so many. This joy may not be overwhelming spontaneous shouts of excitement, or even all happy days from now until the 25th, but there is a joy in us. A joy that comes from knowing that our God always is with us, and always loves us, and that we will one day see him face to face. Now that is something to be joyful about!

REJOICE! REJOICE!
EMANUEL SHALL COME TO YOU,

Advent Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, December 20th at 5:00 pm

Join us for a holy hour on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

This holy hour will help prepare our hearts for the coming

