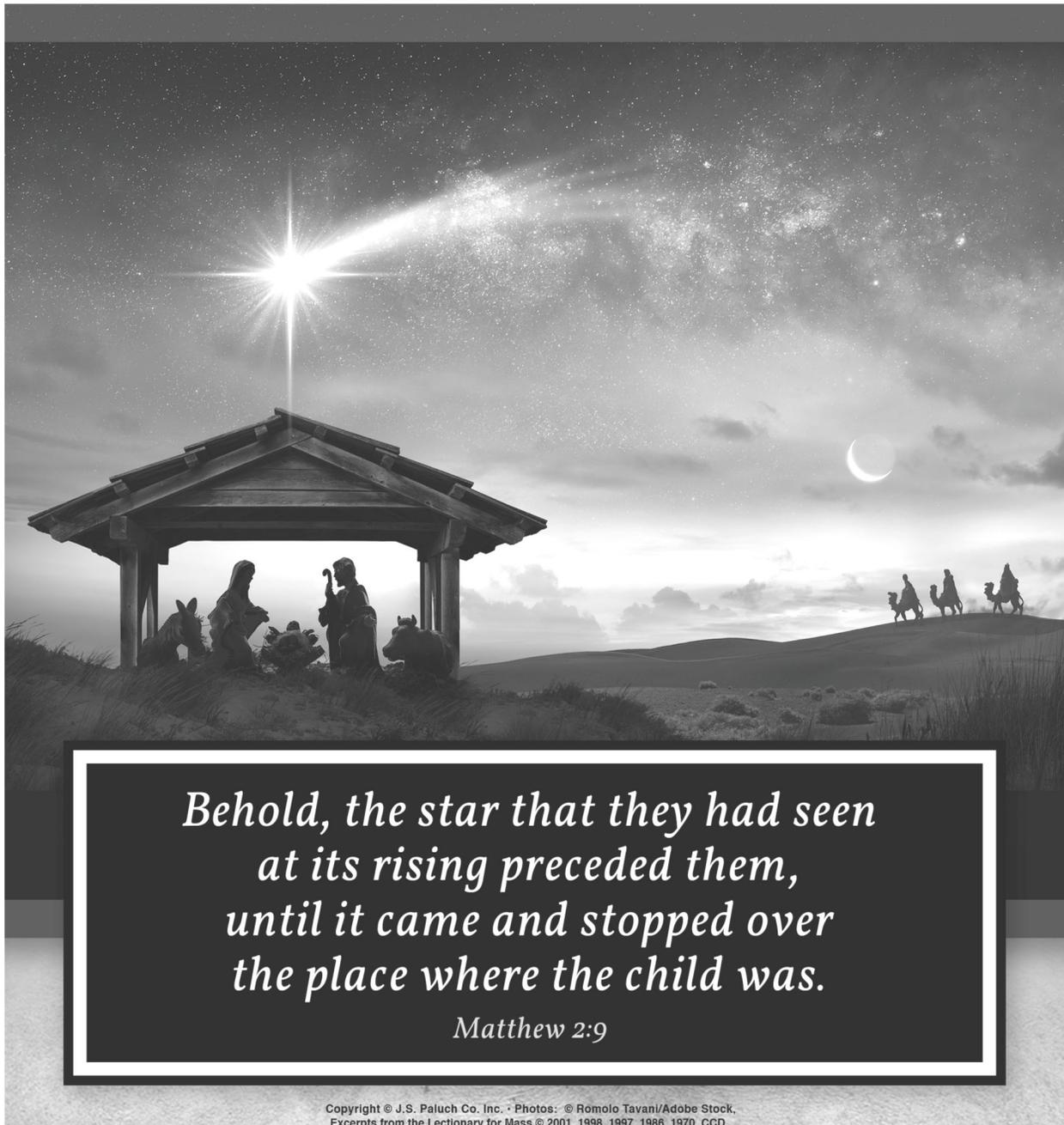


ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 3, 2021



*Behold, the star that they had seen
at its rising preceded them,
until it came and stopped over
the place where the child was.*

Matthew 2:9

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Rev. Msgr. John B. Gordon - Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Pafnouti Wassef - Parochial Vicar
Rev. Sean G. Winters - In Residence
Deacon Ramon Torres - Hispanic Ministry

Deacon George Kimball - Permanent Deacon
Ms. Joanne McKnight - Principal
Mrs. Marcelle Doherty - Director of Religious Education/Pastoral Assistant
Dr. Thomas Juneau - Director of Music

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 3, 2021

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday - 5:00 PM, Vigil

**Sunday - 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM and a
1:30 PM Spanish Mass**

For those unable to attend Mass a video of the Mass can be viewed on our Parish website.

DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday - 8:00 AM

Thursday - 7:00 PM, Spanish Mass

Saturday - 8:30 AM

Daily Masses are held in the Church Chapel.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - Thursdays, from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., in the Church Chapel.

CONFESSIONS - Saturday mornings, from 11:00 a.m. until noon, in the Church Chapel.

For your safety, all those attending any services in the Church must wear a mask. All social distancing and sanitizing guidelines will be followed.

WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

Greetings in the Lord! May 2021 be filled with strength and promise as we welcome the feast of Epiphany. As you might have heard, our Holy Father, Pope Francis declared this Church year to be dedicated to the patronage of St. Joseph. This coincides with the 150th anniversary of the promulgation by Pope Pius IX of St. Joseph as the universal patron of the Church.

Our Parish has located a St. Joseph image within the sanctuary together with the Holy Father's prayer for this year. Each daily Mass we celebrate will include a recitation of the prayer under Joseph's patronage.

Our Christmas season continues til January 10 at the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. As we reenter into Ordinary Time in January, we will begin our four parish outreaches of 1) inviting occasional parishioners' reflections/memories of past Parish moments either in person at Mass or published in our bulletin for our *History Corner Column*; 2) as well, initiating weekly family faith-sharing with *Home Evangelization Themes* together with a relic of a saint; 3) also, support for our dedicated commitment of the Parish Food Pantry, St. Vincent de Paul Society Ministry and our new *Adopt a Family Charity*; and 4) finally, coordination of our Lector, Eucharistic Ministers, Usher, and Cantor Ministries with ongoing formation.

May God bless us as we chart our faith-filled response to His mercy and goodness as our Savior, the Light to the Nations!

Msgr. John

SACRAMENTS

Baptism (English): The second Saturday of the month at 1:00 PM.

Baptism (Spanish): The first Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m.

Please arrange for the obligatory preparation session by calling the Parish Office.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The Holy Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick are available to the sick and shut-ins upon request.

First Penance, First Eucharist, Confirmation: Children are expected to receive a Catholic upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to receive ongoing Religious Education in the years preceding the reception of these sacraments.

Matrimony: To allow ample time for preparation, please contact the Parish Office at least one year before the intended wedding date.

Holy Orders or Religious Life: If you are considering serving God as a Priest, Deacon or Religious, you may contact your Parish Priest or Deacon; or phone the Office of Vocations at 732-562-2457 for additional information.

MASS SCHEDULE

5:00 PM (*Saturday evening Vigil Mass*)

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

1:30 PM - Spanish Mass

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM

Saturday: 8:30 AM

Thursday: 7:00 PM - Spanish Mass

St. Peregrine Mass for the Sick

Second Thursday of the month - 7:00 PM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 11:00 AM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

MAILING ADDRESS

Parish	School
7 Locust Street Carteret, NJ 07008	865 Roosevelt Avenue Carteret, NJ 07008

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Parish Office	732-541-8946
Parish Office Fax	732-541-0500
Religious Education	732-969-8767
St. Joseph School	732-541-7111
St. Vincent de Paul Society	732-541-8946 x108

PARISH SERVICES

Parish Registration: New parishioners are welcome. Please call the Parish Office to register. Please notify us if you move.

R.C.I.A.: Adults inquiring about the Catholic Church with a desire to become Catholic are invited to call the Parish Office for information about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Parish Organizations: Adult Choir, Children's Choir, Ministry to the Sick & Elderly, RCIA Team, Food Pantry, Hispanic Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Home School Association, Athletic Association, and Catechetical Instruction.

Sponsorship: To act as a Godparent for Baptism or sponsor for Confirmation, the sponsor must be a baptized Catholic, Confirmed, received Communion, and live a morally good life; if married, done so within Church law. Ordinarily the sponsor must be at least 14 years old.

PARISH WEBSITE

www.stjosephparishfamily.com

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading ~ Isaiah 60: 1-6

Second Reading ~ Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6

Gospel ~ Matthew 2: 1-12

Promise Fulfilled

Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3: 22-4: 6; Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4: 7-10; Mk 6: 34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4: 11-18; Mk 6: 45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4: 19-5: 4; Lk 4: 14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5: 5-13; Lk 5: 12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5: 14-21; Jn 3: 22-30
Sunday: Is 42: 1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11



SACRIFICIAL GIVING

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THANK YOU to all those who have so generously given and continue to give to our Parish, during this difficult

time. Your weekly contributions are of great importance in helping us meet our financial obligations. Please continue your donations to our Church, as your means allow, by mailing in your Church Envelopes, dropping them in the Parish Office mail slot, or through Online Giving. To participate in Online Giving, visit our Parish website and click on *Donate Now*. It's that simple.

With each gift show a cheerful countenance, and give with a spirit of joy. -Sirach 35:8

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January

Human fraternity – May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord
Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Tuesday: St. John Neumann
Wednesday: St. André Bessette
Thursday: St. Raymond of Penyafort

FOR THE PROTECTION OF OUR TROOPS

Lord, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the men and women who serve our Country, and for the sacrifices their families make so that we can all enjoy the blessing of freedom. We praise You for calling them to help protect us, and for giving them the courage and ability to do their jobs well. Guide their choices and their actions, Lord. Help them to see You working in their daily lives. Surround them with Your mighty angels; protect them in Your mercy; cover them with Your grace. Guard their hearts while they are far from loved ones, and bless them with moments to cherish when they are together. May they look to You for the strength and peace that only You can give. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Remember in your prayers the members of our Armed Services, especially: *Taylor Setar*, daughter of Greg and Terry Setar; *Thomas Rapp*, grandson of Jeanette Miller; *Justin Lurker*, grandson of Helen Lurker; *Robert Michnowicz*, nephew of Helen Lurker; *Justin Molarz*, grandson of Susan Molarz; *Andrew Weaver*, grandson of Joanne Halkovich; *Darren T. Dreboty*, son-in-law of Jacqueline Eak; *James Molnar*, grandson of Alice Benson; *Elizabeth Brito* and *Lisa Marie Brito*, daughters of Ivette Brito; *Raymond Torres*, son of Deacon and Mrs. Ramon Torres; *Laura Roe*, daughter of Louis and Maria Pena.

“For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under Heaven. . .”

a time to heal... for the sick of our Parish and especially for Anthony LaMotta, Charles Alongi, Angelina Virola
a time to die... Dorothy Coughlin

PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I have a part in a great work. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling.

–Cardinal John Henry Newman

If You Are Discerning a Call to the Priesthood, you are invited to contact the Diocese of Metuchen Office of Vocations at vocations@diometuchen.org or by calling 732-562-2457.

The Parish Office is now located at 7 Locust Street (the Rectory address). Parking is available behind the Church in the Locust Street parking lot.

**DRIVE-UP RECEPTION OF THE
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Due to the current pandemic, many of our parishioners have been unable to receive the Eucharist sacramentally for many months. For those unable to attend Mass, we are offering *Drive-up Reception of the Sacrament of Holy Communion*, on **Thursdays, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., in the parking lot of St. Joseph School, 865 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret.**

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* on this issue to develop resources and monitor the bill. Visit *NJ Catholic Conference's Reproductive Freedom Act* resource page: <https://njcatholic.org/reproductive-freedom-act>. Please check this website frequently for updates. Also, make sure to sign up on the above website to receive action alerts.

Contact human.life.and.dignity@diometuchen.org for more information.

Do you know someone who would like to learn more about the Catholic Church?

Invite them to an **RCIA Inquiry Session**. Invited are: all who are unbaptized, baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but has never received BOTH sacraments of Confirmation AND Eucharist. No commitment is expected – just inquiries about the Catholic faith! For additional information, please reach out to our Religious Education Office at 732-969-8767.

**Catholic School 2021-2022 Tuition Assistance
Online Application Process**

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) no later than March 31, 2021. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application, or need access to a computer to apply, should contact their school.

Religious Awards for Catholic Girl Scouts

Since there will not be an annual *Gathering Day for Girl Scouts* in person this year, the Catholic Girl Scout Committee has designed a series of virtual meetings so that Girl Scouts can continue to make progress toward their Religious Awards, including: Juniors - I Live My Faith; Cadettes - Marian Medal; Seniors and ambassadors - Spirit Alive. If you are interested in participating, please email domgirlscouts@gmail.com and provide the following information: Name, Parish, Girl Scout level, Religious Award of interest and whether you have started to work on the award. Someone will get back to you.

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** gives you the tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. Attend from the comfort of your home, via Zoom, for eight evening sessions on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, **January 20 to February 14**. Call Tony & Linda Massimo at 302-220-9833 for an application and information, or visit www.wwme-delmar.org

Because of pandemic restrictions, this year the **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi Choir Christmas Concert** is now available virtually. Gather your loved ones and tune in to watch as the handbell choir, trumpet, horn and cello, as well as several vocal soloists, bring their musical gifts and the joy of Christmas to you right in the comfort of your own home. To view the concert, visit www.diometuchen.org or www.stfranciscathedral.org. The concert is also available on the Diocese of Metuchen's social media pages: @diocesemetuchen and on the St. Francis Cathedral Concerts Facebook page.

CRISIS COUNSELING SERVICES

For those affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Through a statewide partnership, *Catholic Charities of New Jersey* is providing crisis counseling to those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you or anyone you know needs to speak with someone, call: 732-204-6510. This program is a Crisis Counseling Program (CCP) brought to you by NJ Hope and Healing, Catholic Charities Community Services in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Disaster and Terrorism Branch, through a FEMA grant.

Mother Seton Virtual Gala

Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, will hold their **2020 Alumnae Fundraising Gala** on **January 22**, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. Alumnae, family, and friends are invited to visit online for the 2020 Awards and Silent Auction. For more information, visit their website at www.msrgala.org or sign up at REGISTERNOW@MSRGALA.ORG. There is no charge to participate in this event.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY	January 2
5:00 PM	Hughes Family
SUNDAY	January 3
8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish
10:30 AM	Maria O'Donnell
1:30 PM	Sr. Maria Tamayo
MONDAY	January 4
8:00 AM	Mr. and Mrs. Onofrio Alongi
TUESDAY	January 5
8:00 AM	Corcoran Family
WEDNESDAY	January 6
8:00 AM	Mr. and Mrs. Victor Servello
THURSDAY	Januray 7
8:00 AM	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tomchak
11:30 AM	<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
7:00 PM	Vocations to the Priesthood - <i>Spanish Mass</i>
FRIDAY	January 8
8:00 AM	Lena Marinelli
SATURDAY	January 9
8:30 AM	Souls in purgatory
5:00 PM	Giuseppantonio DiMartino
SUNDAY	January 10
8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Church
10:30 AM	Helen Kitz
1:30 PM	Estevan Soria Vicuna and Justina Picon de Soria

CANDLE INTENTIONS

FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3-9

The Saint Joseph Church Sanctuary Lamp burns for the souls in purgatory.

The Pieta Lamp burns for the innocent unborn.

The Saint Joseph Lamp burns for an increase in vocations to consecrated life.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held each Thursday, from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., in the Church Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration is the practice of placing the consecrated bread or host on the altar so that the faithful may join in prayer and worship before the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Praying before the Eucharist can be a time of reflection, adoration, and growth in true love for God and others. The Eucharist (which means "thanksgiving") draws us closer to God, nourishes our own life and spirituality, and impels us to be witnesses of God's love in the world through our words and actions.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

All Kings Shall Pay Him Homage,
All Nations Shall Serve Him. -Psalm 72:11



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EPIPHANY PRAYER

Dear Jesus, as You led the Three Kings to You by the light of a star, please draw us ever closer to You by the light of Faith. Help us to desire You as ardently as they did. Give us the grace to overcome all the obstacles that keep us far from You. May we, like them, have something to give You when we appear before You. Mary, Our Mother, help us to know Your Son. Amen.



"Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this... Precisely because this involves the internal consistency of our message about the value of the human person, the Church cannot be expected to change her position on this question... It is not 'progressive' to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life..." -Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* #213-214

PRAYER FOR THE CHILD IN THE WOMB

Lord Jesus, You are the Source and Lover of Life. Reawaken in us respect for every human life. Help us to see in each child the marvelous work of our Creator. Open our hearts to welcome every child as a unique and wonderful gift.

Guide the work of doctors, nurses, and midwives. May the life of a mother and her baby in the womb be equally cherished and respected.

Help those who make our laws to uphold the uniqueness and sacredness of every human life, from the first moment of conception until natural death. Give us wisdom and generosity to build a society that cares for all.

Together with Mary, Your Mother, in whose womb You took on our human nature, help us to choose life in every decision we make. We ask this in the joyful hope of eternal life with You, and in the communion of the Blessed Trinity. Amen.