

# ST. JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

OVER A CENTURY OF CATHOLIC PRESENCE

MARCH 21, 2021

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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF **LENT**

*Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,  
it remains just a grain of wheat;  
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.*

*John 12:24*

**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

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**MARCH 21, 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**

**Friday - 6:30 PM (during Lent)**

**Saturday - 8:30 AM**

Daily Masses are held in the Church.

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

**CONFESSIONS** - Saturday mornings, from 11:00 a.m. until noon, in the Church; and during Lent, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

***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! We present our first edition of our Parish Newsletter with copies available this weekend and a printed sample on our website. This will be a quarterly publication highlighting information on our Parish groups and activities that at times we hear about but do not know too much of their efforts. There is an article with some thoughts from our Parish Food Pantry Coordinator, Jerry McHale; and comments from our School Principal, Joanne McKnight, keeping us informed about the Catholic Education ministry within our Parish. May this newsletter help us to grow in sharing the life of our faith and our Parish.

Please consult the times and days of our Holy Week schedule for March 28, Palm Sunday through April 4, Easter Sunday, printed in the bulletin. Due to the continuing regulations, we are adapting some of the traditional services out of an abundance of caution and discretion.

Thank you to all who made our Parish Feast Day Raffle of St. Joseph's Day a success and a very special moment. Your participation and enthusiasm for our fundraisers is most encouraging. We will publish the winners in an upcoming bulletin.

God Bless you all!  
**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**

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

**MAILING ADDRESS**

**Parish**

7 Locust Street  
Carteret, NJ 07008

**School**

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.

**WEBSITE:** [www.stjosephparishfamily.com](http://www.stjosephparishfamily.com)

**EMAIL:** [www.stjosephchurch@sjps.net](mailto:www.stjosephchurch@sjps.net)

## SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading ~ Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Reading ~ Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel ~ John 12:20-33

### The New Covenant

Today's first reading is an enormously important passage, not only in the history of the Jewish people, but also for us as disciples of Jesus, who see in it a foreshadowing of the Christian dispensation. The prophet announces that God has chosen to forgive the people, and that as a sign of divine forgiveness a new covenant will be established. Contrasting the new covenant with the one made with Moses on Mount Sinai, Jeremiah says that the new covenant will be written on the people's hearts rather than on tablets of stone. No longer will the community's tradition be the sole bearer of the covenant; henceforth, God will speak directly and personally to each individual, forgiving sin and calling for a return to God in faithfulness. No longer will mere outward compliance with the dictates of the Law suffice; henceforth, God asks for an obedience that springs from the depths of one's heart.

Precisely that kind of obedience is highlighted in today's second reading, where the author of the Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant Whose obedience has made Him the source of salvation for all who, in turn, obey Him.

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### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11  
**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30  
**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42  
**Thursday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38  
**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42  
**Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56  
**Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

**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.

*God, hold our Troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.*

**"For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under Heaven. . ."**  
**a time to heal...** for those in our Parish who are ill and especially for Anthony LaMotta, Charles Alongi, Angelina Virola, Ted Szczesny, Alice Benson, Josie Gibbs



You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. You are called to work and pray against abortion. -**Saint John Paul II**, New York, 1995

### Prayer for the Protection of Human Life

*Heavenly Father, with confidence and firm trust we come to You in our great need. We thank You for answering this prayer even before we ask, because we know that it is Your Holy Will. Remove from our world the scourge of abortion. Change the minds and melt the hearts of all who promote this evil, or who seek abortion as a remedy. Make us willing to make the sacrifice of prayer and penance necessary to obtain this grace from You. Heavenly Father, we ask You this, through the intercession of Mary, and in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

For those unable to attend Mass due to the pandemic, 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 Avenue, Carteret.



**Weekly OFFERING**  
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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 at [www.stjosephparishfamily.com](http://www.stjosephparishfamily.com)

<b>March 14</b>	5:00 p.m.	\$932
	8:00 a.m.	\$265
	10:30 a.m.	\$846
	1:30 p.m.	\$724
	Online Giving	\$267
	By Mail	<u>\$1079</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4113</b>

*Bear one another's burdens, and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. -Galatians 6:2*

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2021

#### **MONDAY ~ March 29**

*Daily Mass: 8:00 AM*

#### **TUESDAY ~ March 30**

*Daily Mass: 8:00 AM*

11:00 AM - *Chrism Mass* for the Priests of the Diocese at the Cathedral of St. Francis, Metuchen

#### **WEDNESDAY ~ March 31**

*No Morning Mass*

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM - *Confessions*

6:30 PM - *Mass*

*Confessions* - Immediately following the 6:30 PM Mass

#### **HOLY THURSDAY ~ April 1**

7:30 PM - *Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper*

#### **GOOD FRIDAY ~ April 2**

12 Noon - *Living Stations of the Cross*

*Presented from front steps of Church in Spanish*

3:00 PM - *Celebration of the Lord's Passion*

#### **HOLY SATURDAY ~ April 3**

12 Noon - *Blessing of Food*, Church Hall

8:00 PM - *Solemn Easter Vigil Ceremonies and Mass*

#### **EASTER SUNDAY ~ April 4**

*Mass Schedule:*

8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, and 1:30 PM Spanish Mass

### SPECIAL REMINDER

**Please note:** Ushers will be present for our upcoming Palm Sunday Masses - 5:00 p.m., Saturday, and 10:30 a.m., Sunday, as well as our Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass in order to assist in utilizing our available seating within the pews. Thank you for your support in filling in our capacity while observing social distancing during these most popular moments.

### ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL REGISTRATION ~ 2021-2022

Visit [www.stjosephparishfamily.com](http://www.stjosephparishfamily.com) to take a **Virtual Tour of our School** and see all the exciting things we have to offer your student. For more information or to register, call the School Office at 732-541-7111. Registration Packets are also available online.

### CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE

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> **All Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by March 31.** Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families needing assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer should contact their school.

### Diocesan Mass Honoring our Seniors

You are invited to join Bishop James F. Checchio as he celebrates a *Mass to Honor our Seniors* on **March 25**, at 5:00 p.m., at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen. Seating is limited, so registration is required. To register, visit: [www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation](http://www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation). The Mass will also be livestreamed.

### Statement on Covid-19 Vaccine Reception From Catholic Moral Theologians

Morally speaking, the analysis of the licitness of using a vaccine produced using the cell line of the Human Embryo Kidney strain (HEK293) in its manufacture or testing depends on the answer to two questions: *Do any of the vaccines make more use than others of the mortal remains of unborn children from whom the cell lines were derived?* The answer is no; as a matter of scientific fact, no fetal "body parts" are present in these immortal cell lines. The immortal cell lines are artifacts—biological products that have been modified and reproduced many times over, and they do not retain the natural function of the tissue from which they were derived. They are not "body parts" in any meaningful or morally relevant sense. *Does the production and use of any of the vaccines contribute to, cooperate with, or promote any abortion?* Again, the answer is no, for the abortions from which cell lines such as HEK293 were derived happened decades ago, and no further fetal tissue is used or needed for the maintenance of these lines.

The scholars note that vigorous condemnation of the apparently elective abortion that led to the derivation of the HEK293 cell line is in order because it involved the unjust taking of a human life. At the same time, the HEK293 cell line and those like it "do not contain the remains of any human being and so its use does not show disrespect for human remains," they state.

### 2021 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

#### **Transformed by Christ Body and Blood - Sent on Mission to Light a Fire in the Heart of the Church**

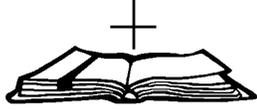
By now you have received a letter from Bishop Checchio inviting your participation in the 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The diocesan ministries supported by the Appeal directly impact many of the parishioners here in St. Joseph Parish. Your gift provides formation opportunities for our catechists, youth, and young adults. In the coming days, you will be receiving a letter from Msgr. Gordon encouraging your participation. To learn more about the impact of your gift, view the Appeal video by going to <https://diometuchen.org/BAA> or scan the QR code.



DONATE NOW

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** gives you the tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. Attend via Zoom for 8 sessions, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday and Wednesday evenings, April 11 to May 4. To register, call Tom or Ruth DeFalco at 732-904-9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org)

## Mass Intentions



<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>March 20</b>
5:00 PM	Virginia Taglieri
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>March 21</b>
8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish
10:30 AM	Bill Lenahan
1:30 PM	Antonia Pena
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>March 22</b>
8:00 AM	Vocations to the Priesthood
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>March 23</b>
8:00 AM	Martha and Joseph Orapankal
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>March 24</b>
8:00 AM	Rosemarie Fellrati
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>March 25</b>
8:00 AM	The protection of all human life
11:30 AM	<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
7:00 PM	Expectant Mothers <i>Mass of Blessing for Expectant Mothers</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>March 26</b>
8:00 AM	Nancy Carrzza
11:30 AM	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
6:30 PM	Paul Baczkoczky
7:15 PM	<i>Spanish Stations of the Cross</i>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>March 27</b>
8:30 AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish
5:00 PM	Hank Heintjes
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>March 28</b>
8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish
10:30 AM	Patricia O'Donnell
1:30 PM	Jose Ferrer

### PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to you God entrusted His only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

**Eucharistic Adoration**, closing with Benediction, is held each Thursday, from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., in the Church. Prayer and meditation before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to spend some special time with Him. You can ask Him for graces for yourself or for loved ones, reflect on His Word, or just keep Him company!

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<b>Sunday:</b>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<i>St. Turibius of Mogrovejo</i>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>
<b>Friday:</b>	<i>Abstinence</i>

**Lenten Enrichment Evening Prayer**  
**This Sunday, March 21 - 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**  
Msgr. John Gordon will speak on fitting worship.

### LENTEN PRAYER

*Lord, during this Lenten Season, nourish me with Your Word of life and make me one with You in love and prayer. Let me walk more readily in Your ways. Guide me in Your gentle mercy. Amen.*

**During LENT. . .**

**Mass** will be celebrated in the Church *Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m.; Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. in Spanish; Friday evening at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday at 8:30 a.m.*

**Eucharistic Adoration** - *Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., closing with Benediction.*

**Stations of the Cross** - *Fridays at 11:30 a.m. in English and at 7:15 p.m. in Spanish.*

### LENTEN OBLIGATIONS

The days of fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. From the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until the celebration of the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday, the Easter fast should be observed so that, with uplifted and welcoming hearts, we may be ready to celebrate the joys of the Resurrection. This ancient tradition is encouraged.

The obligation to fast applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. To fast in the Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal during the day so as to experience hunger. The obligation of abstinence affects all Catholics who have reached the age of 14. Abstinence in the Catholic tradition means to abstain from meat. The obligation of fast and abstinence, as a whole, is a serious obligation. While failure to observe any penitential day in itself may not be considered serious, the failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of them without good cause, would be considered a grave matter. Those unable to abstain on any given Friday of Lent are asked to perform some other penitential act, or to abstain on another day.

### PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

*Loving and Generous God, it is You Who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the love and service of our Church as we experience it today. Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice. Bless the Church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons and lay ministers. Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. We ask this through our Lord. Amen.*