



Sacred Heart Church

A Roman Catholic Community

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www.sacredheartlynd.org

SERVED BY:

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Pastor

Rev. Cesar Chen
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201-935-3094

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Linda Durocher
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201-935-0506

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973-497-4000



December 22, 2024

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken
to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." - Lk 1:45

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm(Spanish)
Monday - Friday: 12:00pm in the church
Saturday: 9:00am in the church,
5:00pm in church (Anticipated Mass of Sunday)
Holy Days & Holidays: As announced in Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00pm - 4:45pm
Daily: Upon request following the 12:00pm Mass

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents should contact the parish office to schedule an interview and register for the required baptismal preparation session.

Preparation: in the church at 7:00pm

Sacrament: in the church at 3:00pm
Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 2, Apr. 19 (8:30pm), May 18, Jun. 1

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Common Policy for Marriage in all Catholic parishes of New Jersey requires couples to begin preparation at least one year prior to the planned wedding date. It is advisable to contact the parish office before any other arrangements are made.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick is available for all seriously ill members of our parish family. Please call the parish office.

R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the Church's process to prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please call the parish office.

PARISH REGISTRATION / OFFICE HOURS

We invite all new members of our parish family to register at the Parish Office during regular office hours: 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday - Friday; Saturdays and Sundays Closed.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

It is a major misconception of our faith to think that we come to God alone. God has made us connected to one another. We depend upon other people to find our way to God, and we have a responsibility to help others find their way. If we're going to experience Emmanuel, God-with-Us, we will do so together. We do not travel the journey of faith alone.

The Gospel image of Mary greeting Elizabeth is filled with meaning for us as we begin our celebration of the feast of Christmas. These two women come together so that they can share their questions and their doubts in confidence, so that they can celebrate the wonder and the anticipation which both of them feel. The two women come together in order to affirm one another's faith, to help each other on their way to God.

God comes to His people in unexpected disguises, in strange circumstances, using ordinary people and places. So often we do not recognize His visit, His coming into our lives. We see only the surface, the obvious. We can miss the opportunity to leap for joy at the nearness of our God.

We need to see with the eyes of faith. We need to understand that our God continues to visit us, to announce good news to us in unexpected ways. We want to be able to leap for Joy because we know that He is near us, within us. Like Mary and Elizabeth, we need to trust that His promises to us will be fulfilled.

The simple family visit of Mary and Elizabeth is such a powerful and intimate reminder that if we can believe, we are never alone. Once we accept the miracle of God-made-man, then every facet of human life takes on a new dimension - a Jesus-dimension. Everything is touched by His spirit of love, of peace, of hope.

The Word has been made flesh and we have been remade, lifted up, revived. Our distant, faceless, timeless God has taken a mortal body as His own. He has entered our time and come to our place. He has grown up among us, learned our language, played our games, sang our songs, shared our pain and sorrow, and embraced to the full our human fellowship.

The eternal Word needed to be spoken on our tongue. We needed someone heaven-sent to teach us to dare to call God "Abba, Father." The word "love" had to be translated in terms that the simplest one among us could understand: compassion, mercy, and forgiveness. Jesus gave new meaning to the words "brother", "sister," "neighbor," "prodigal," "Samaritan." He shocked the world of the self-righteous by suggesting that the poor, the lepers, the prostitutes and the tax collectors would be the very first to enter the kingdom of God. He tossed the pearl of forgiveness and hope to adulteresses and thieves. And He added the word "resurrection" to the vocabulary of faith.

The story of the Visitation is both a description and an example of our connectedness to one another. No one of us needs to travel this road alone.



WAITING FOR JESUS

As Christians, we are called to wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord and Savior. In fact, this hope is given expression at every Mass in the Mystery of Faith.

In the holy sacrifice of the Mass, we proclaim the mystery of our faith – God becoming truly man while remaining fully God, who for the sake of His creatures suffered death and rose to new life which He offers to us who believe in Him. We make this proclamation immediately following the consecration of the bread and wine, when we experience in a real and tangible way the incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection. Space and time become irrelevant – we enter into the eternal present of God and are in one sense transported to Bethlehem and Jerusalem where we adore the Lord in the manger with the shepherds, eat in the upper room with the apostles, stand at the foot of the cross with the Blessed Mother and run to the empty tomb with Peter and John. Two of the three formulas for the Mystery of Faith proclaimed in the Mass end with the words, “until you come again.” These words take on an even greater sense of anticipation during Advent when we are focused on the incarnation Christ, not only in a grotto in Bethlehem but also in our hearts.

As we are waiting to meet Jesus in this most profound and intimate way it is good to stop and reflect on the concrete aspects of our lives to honestly see how prepared we are for this meeting. The questions asked in the poem below, if reflected on with sincerity, can help us prepare to receive Jesus Christ whenever He comes.

**Imagine, on Christmas Day your doorbell rings
and when you open the door you find
Jesus Christ has come to visit you**

Would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in?

Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they had been?

Would you hide your CDs and DVDs and put some hymns books out?

Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?

And I wonder ...if the Savior spent a day or two with you,

Would you go right on doing, the things you always do?

Would you go right on saying, the things you always say?

Or would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you go?

Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your closest friends?

Or would you hope they stayed away until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?

Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?

It might be interesting to know, the things that you would do,
If Jesus came at Christmas, to spend some time with you.

SACRED HEART HOME SCHOOL ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY

Friday, January 17th, Sacred Heart School

Doors Open: 6:00PM Raffles Begin 8:15-8:30PM

No Alcoholic Beverages Will Be Allowed

Kitchen Will Be Open

**Ticket includes: one sheet for 1st Level Prizes.
Coffee, Tea & Dessert. Call Patty at 201-803-9580 or
the school at 201-939-4277. Ticket Deadline Jan.
6th. \$20 Donation per person. No one under 18.**

*At Christmas our thoughts naturally turn
to those friends and members of our family
who shared their faith with us and helped
to make each Christmas so special. If you
would like to remember your deceased relatives
or friends by donating Christmas
Flowers and Decorations used to decorate the
Church of the Sacred Heart throughout the
Christmas Season, just fill in the form below
and put it in a plain envelope marked
"CHRISTMAS FLOWERS" and drop it in
the collection or return it to the parish office
at your convenience.*



Christmas Memorial Flowers

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

In Memory of: _____ **Other:\$** _____

\$50

\$35

\$25

\$20

\$15

\$10

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

SICK: Baby Ryan Joseph Lomuscio, Sal Russo, Charles Klimkowsky, Nancy Namoviez, Giovanna Muscara, Al & Joan Viscuso, Lea Pappas, Anita Barcia, Denise Swanteck, Maureen F. Coughlin, John Smith, Julius Single, Dave Tzrepla, Frank Bucu, Sr., Christopher N. Coughlin, Vladimir Pudoff, Isabella Lugo, Tess, Francesco Giacchi, Mario Alongi, Sr., John Scivetti, Ken Stone, Timothy Yushak, Jaxson Rivera, Marilyn Loughran, Luca Ataide, Donald Tetreault, Norma Altreche, Linda Vasquez, Joelle Montillo, Vincent Russo, Nenita A. Jacildone, Anthony Scorre, Fely Czeslowski, Ely Ongoco, Perpetua Aspile, Anne Montillo, Margot O'Hara, Patricia Coughlin, Andrea Globis, Laura MacDonald, Ava Romano, Fr. Anthony Di Stefano, Ruben Arevalo Gacildone, Helen Dowling, Dr. Leticia Luna, Jeanette Knowlton, Martina O'Connell, Michele Gilmore, Milena Giacchi, Freddy Berrios, Maryann Sheridan, Naham, Rudy Rivas, Tania, Jaime Diaz, Romile Diaz, Brian Oppici, Robert Schaefer, Eric Dietz, Marion Dietz, Jamie Brown, John Santelli, Julius Single, Jr., Tina Gentile, John Llewellyn, Joann Di Giovanna, John De Stefano, Sr.

DECEASED: All those from our parish family the Lord has called home

CHURCH BELLS CELEBRATE & COMMEMORATE

The Sacred Heart Church bell rings:



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz

Donated by: Dolores Petrillo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

In Honor of: Joseph & Evelyn Famularo

Donated by: Robert & Mary Hero

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

During the week of December 22nd, the following items used for worship in our sanctuary were donated in the memory of a relative or friend or a special intention.

SANCTUARY LAMP:



In Honor of: Carol-Petrillo Lintz

Donated by: Dolores Petrillo

BREAD & WINE:



In Honor of: Carol-Petrillo Lintz

Donated by: Dolores Petrillo

MASS CANDLES:



In Honor of: Carol-Petrillo Lintz

Donated by: Dolores Petrillo

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday December 8 - \$5,909, Retired Religious - \$2,448

Reminder: We need \$7,900 in the Sunday Collection to cover our budgeted expenses. Thank you

DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Anticipated Sunday Mass

5:00pm Lejda - O'Mara Family

SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Teresa S. Digesere

10:30 am Edward Downey

12:00pm Lucia & Antonio Samarelli & Michele Samarelli

1:30 pm Horacia & Jaime Jimenez

MONDAY - Late Advent Weekday/St. John Kanty, Priest

12:00pm Marcos Urena

TUESDAY - Late Advent Weekday

9:00am Carol Petrillo-Lintz

CHRISTMAS MASSES

TUESDAY - VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

5:00 pm Joseph J. Pavlica, Jr.

Midnight Frank & Anna Navatta

WEDNESDAY - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

7:30 am Catherine & Pat Costello

9:00 am Joseph Di Lascio

10:30 am Anthony Silver, Sr. & Anthony Silver, Jr.

12:00pm Scardino, Pereira & Alongi Families

1:30 pm Natalia Barone & Family (Living)

THURSDAY - St. Stephen, The First Martyr

12:00pm Josephine Chiarella

FRIDAY - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

12:00pm Lorenza & Julian Duran

SATURDAY - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

9:00am Stanley Michna

Anticipated Sunday Mass

5:00pm Robert Callahan

SUNDAY - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

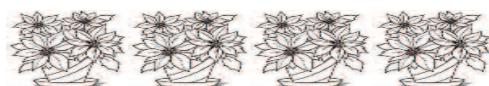
7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Maria Jose Pacheco Kamikawa

10:30 am Victoria Vasquez

12:00pm James M. Cavalcante

1:30 pm Pablo Rodriguez





SAVE THE DATE Special Visitors Coming To Our Parish Sunday, January 5th At 3:00 PM

The Three Kings will stop by our church on their way to adore the Christ Child on Sunday, January 5th at 3:00 PM. All are invited to come and greet them. The children of our parish family are encouraged to write letters to Kings and to give to them when they visit and they will receive a gift from the kings.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 24th

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass

12:00 AM - Midnight Mass

(The Mass at 9:00 AM on December 24th is for the last day of Advent. It IS NOT a Christmas Mass and DOES NOT fulfill the obligation to attend Mass on Christmas)

Wednesday, December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM

10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM (Spanish)



Food Pantry Update

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" Matthew 25:40

Our Parish Family Food Pantry food distribution date for Christmas is December 21st.

We are stocking up the pantry for Christmas and the winter season. Can you help us assist our brothers and sisters struggling with food insecurity to have a merrier Christmas?

If you can donate any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated: Cereal, Fruit, Pasta Sauce, Pasta (including Spaghetti), Potatoes (small packages or canned), Vegetables, Coffee (regular and instant), Peanut Butter, and Jelly, Tuna, Macaroni & Cheese, Beans, Food items can be left near the shrine of the Sacred Heart in the back of the church. Turkeys and hams can be brought to the parish center Mon - Fri 9:00 - 4:00. Please don't leave them in the church.

PARISH OFFICE

CHRISTMAS SEASON HOURS

In observance of Christmas, the parish office will close at 2:00pm on Monday, Dec. 23 and reopen on Friday, Dec. 27 at 9:00am. The priests and staff of Sacred Heart wish you and your family a very Holy and Joy-Filled Christmas!

In observance of the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and the New Years holiday, the parish office will close at 2:00pm Monday, Dec. 30. The office will reopen at 9:00am on Thursday, January 2.