

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

December 31, 2023 /The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



THE HOLY FAMILY

“For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.”

- Lk 2:30-31



*The child grew and became strong,
filled with wisdom; and the favor of
God was upon him.*

Luke 2:40

**THE HOLY FAMILY
OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 30

8:00 AM People of the Parish	
4:00 PM † Kaitlyn Peterson	Aunt Lydia Mooty
† Rosanne Steets	Fran & Dave Ebert
5:30 PM Special Intention	
† Anne DiGenova	Dianne Fichter
7:00 PM † Justine & Jim Weeden	

Sunday, December 31

7:00 AM † Rosa Alba Stranieri	
8:30 AM † Gus Mazzola	Marylou & Jim Pacelli
Special Intention: Koffi Aya Marie-Louise	
10:00 AM † Michael Noel	Friend
† William Delehanty	Luci, Ed & Elisa Perez
12:00 PM † Charles Newbury	Anthony Lucarelli
4:00 PM † Kathryn Fromer	Bruce & Joan Fromer
7:00 PM Special Intention: Fr. John Butler	Lin & Mike
People of the Parish	

Monday, January 1

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause	Friends of Sylvia Marsico
† Marie Valderine Carole Raphael	Jean Marc Lilavois
11:00 AM † Edward Sullivan	Friend

Tuesday, January 2

8:00 AM † Neil Patrick Naughton	Rene & Jack Brignola
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Wednesday, January 3

8:00 AM † Samuel Pecora	
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Thursday, January 4

8:00 AM † Ralph Apicelli	Sam & Ann Apicelli
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Friday, January 5

8:00 AM † Clarice Viggiano	Viggiano Family
† Mark Russo	Mom
Special Intention: Brothers & Sisters	Linda Heaning

Saturday, January 6

8:00 AM † Conrad Russo	Wife
4:00 PM † William Gilligan	Loving Family
† Victoria Arvanitis Jenks	Mary, Sam & Cyril Arvanitis
5:30 PM † Margaret & Sunner Shaw	Fichter Family
† Gary Fichter	Fichter Family
7:00 PM People of the Parish	

Sunday, January 7

7:00 AM † Peter Falvo	
8:30 AM † Agnes Ryan	Wanda Siciliano
8:45 AM (At St. Jerome's Church): Health and Blessings: Children of Our Parish and Our Catechists	
10:00 AM † Robert Stachelek	Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Nagy
† Richard Stephens	Leslie DeSimone & Family
12:00 PM † Roberta Cornell	Kelly Family
4:00 PM People of the Parish	
7:00 PM † Carol Reasoner	Carr Family

The Blessed Mother, the St. Joseph, and the Center Sanctuary Candles will be lit this week for the Pro-Life Cause and for Peace throughout the World.



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Mass Times on
Monday, January 1, 2024
New Year's Day



Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m. (followed by Confessions until 9:00 a.m.) and 11:00 a.m. (no scheduled Confessions after the 11:00 a.m. Mass).

There will be no 7:00 p.m. Mass on Monday, January 1, 2024 and no scheduled Confessions that night.

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, is not a holy day of obligation in 2024 in the United States.

On Sunday, December 31, 2023 we will follow our usual Sunday Mass schedule and usual Sunday Confessions schedule.

There will be a Holy Hour for Vocations from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the Thursday evening that precedes First Friday. *The next Holy Hour for Vocations will be on January 4.* The Holy Hour will include Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, and Confessions. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. Please join with us in praying for vocations!



First Friday Mass *In English* at 12:15 P.M. and Eucharistic Adoration on January 5



First Friday Mass *in English* will be celebrated on January 5 at 12:15 p.m. Confessions will be heard after that Mass until 1:15 p.m. And First Friday Mass will also be celebrated (in English) at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, January 5 followed by Confessions until 6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration will take place throughout the afternoon on Friday, January 5 from the conclusion of the 12:15 English Mass until Benediction at 5:15 p.m. All are welcome.

O Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, you are the refuge of sinners, the health of the sick, and the comfort of the afflicted. You know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings. By your appearance at the Grotto of Lourdes you made it a privileged sanctuary where your favors are given to people streaming to it from the whole world. Over the years countless sufferers have obtained the cure for their infirmities - whether of soul, mind, or body. Therefore I come to you with limitless confidence to implore your motherly intercession. Obtain, O loving Mother, the grant of my requests.

Through gratitude for Your favors, I will endeavor to imitate Your virtues, that I may one day share in Your glory. Amen.





SAVE THE DATE MARCH FOR LIFE 2024 WASHINGTON, D.C.



The Annual National March for Life is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024 in Washington, DC. Please save the date. More detailed plans and further information will be announced in the January 7th bulletin and on the parish website regarding our parish's participation in this event including chartered bus transportation.

St. Michael's will be partnering with St. Luke's Church of Toms River, Our Lady of Hope Parish (St. Jerome's, West Long Branch and St. Mary's, Deal) and with Christ the King Parish (Star of the Sea and Holy Trinity) on a four-parish bus collaboration. The bus will be departing from either St. Michael's parking lot or St. Jerome's parking lot at approximately 6:30 a.m. following a 6:00 a.m. Mass at either St. Michael's Church or St. Jerome's Church. For additional information and to sign-up for the bus, please contact Kathryn Perez at (732) 581-9735 or prolifejp@aol.com.

Please pray for an end to abortion; for competent and compassionate care for pregnant women and new mothers in need; and for conversion, reconciliation, and healing.

Also, please note that NJ Right to Life's "Rally for Life" in Trenton will no longer take place in January, but will be moved to September 26, 2024.

"The Little Blue Book"

Advent and Christmas Season 2023-2024

These books contain six-minute reflections on the Sunday Gospels of Liturgical Year A. If you would like a free copy, they are available in the back of the church.

2024 parish calendars are now available in the back of the church. Please feel free to take one after Mass.



Thank you to the Woolley-Boglioli Funeral Home for this donation of the parish calendars!

2024 Mass Book

We kindly ask that when you come to the office for scheduling, please bring a written list including the names and dates of your requests and your name and phone number. The stipend for Masses is \$10.00 per Mass.



Standing Together for Life – Mass for Life; Lunch & Seminar

On Friday January 19, 2024, the faithful of the Diocese of Trenton will come together in prayer and solidarity to proclaim the sanctity of all human life!

All are invited to an 11:00 a.m. Mass for Life celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., in St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, 61 Georgia Rd., Freehold. No registration is needed for the Mass, seating is first come first served. Mass will be livestreamed on [Youtube.com/trentondioecese](https://www.youtube.com/trentondioecese).

The Mass will be followed by a Lunch & Seminar in the Co-Cathedral's Dentici Hall. A panel of local expert speakers will offer practical, actionable ideas and resources to take back to parishes where they can be immediately applied to build a culture of life in a spirit of inter-ministry collaboration and radical solidarity with vulnerable pregnant women and families. Advanced registration to attend the Lunch & Seminar is required by January 10, 2024.

Full details for the day's events, including a registration link for the Lunch & Seminar can be found at: dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life. Questions, contact Belem Perez at 609-403-7133 or bpe-rez@dioceseoftrenton.org



Friday, January 19, 2024

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold

Lunch & Seminar 12:30-3:30 p.m.

FEATURING 5 EXPERT PANELISTS



JAMES J. KING
Executive Director, New Jersey Catholic Conference, the non-partisan public policy voice for the Catholic Church in New Jersey



SUSAN LOUGHERY
Associate Executive Director, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton



DR. LINDA DIX
President, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Moorestown; Diocesan Chairperson, Holy Innocents Society



ENZA CERAMI
Licensed social worker and professional Catholic speaker on God's plan for sexuality and His call to authentic love



JENNIFER MAHER
Speaker and contributor for diocesan Family Life initiatives; M.S. in Mental Health Counseling, embracing her Catholic Faith and an integrative approach

 FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER:
dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR LUNCH & SEMINAR



**FRIDAY
JANUARY 19, 2024**

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold

Mass for Life

11:00 a.m.

CELEBRATED BY
Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.

All are Welcome

Lunch & Seminar

12:30-3:30 p.m.

FEATURING
5 Expert Panelists

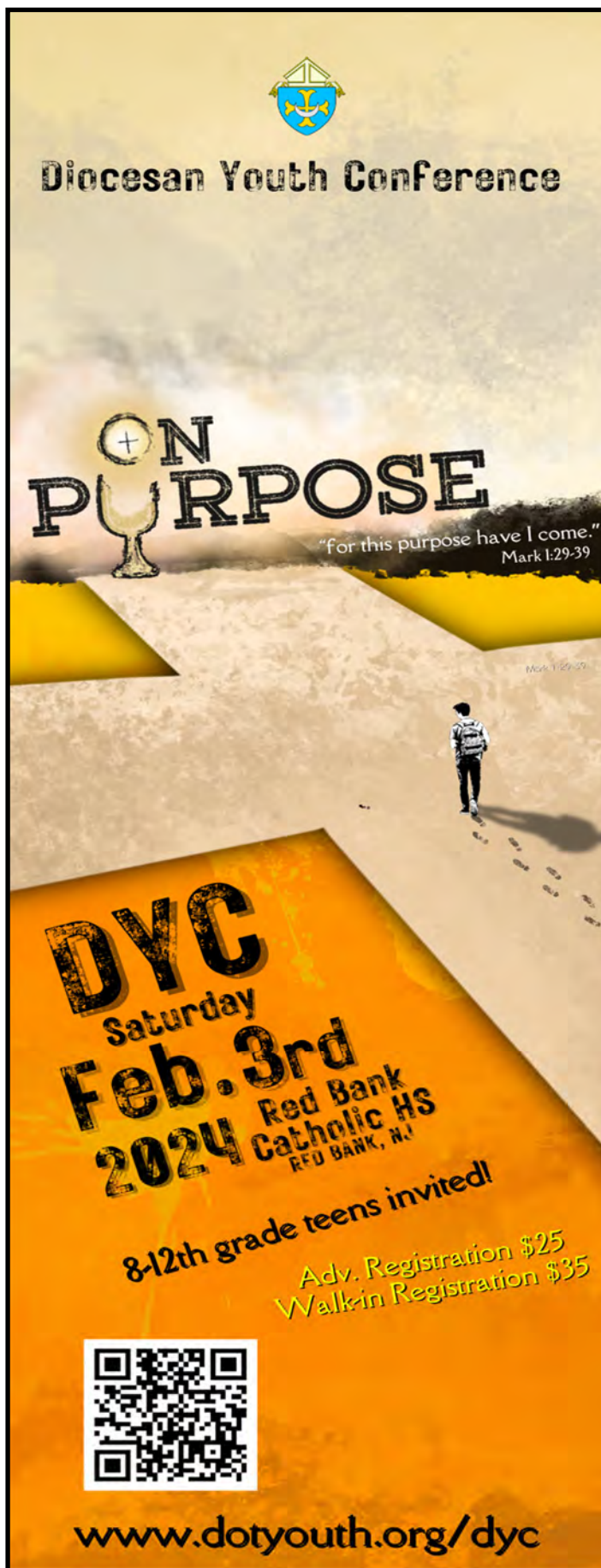
Advanced Registration Required

 For full information about the day's events, visit:
dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life

Communion Visits; Confession Visits; Anointing of the Sick



Please keep in mind that the parish priest and our lay Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are available and eager to bring Communion to parishioners who are in the hospital (nursing homes, assisted living facilities, rehab centers, and hospices, too) and to parishioners who are at home but unable to get to church. Please contact Mary Valan at the parish office or Dotty O'Hara at (908)310-6497 to make arrangements. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities **generally do not notify the parish office** regarding their Catholic patients who desire to receive Sacraments. And so it falls to the patient herself/himself or to a family member or friend to contact the parish office to make the request. The parish priest will also very gladly make a hospital visit or home visit to hear a Confession and/or administer the Sacrament of the Sick ("Anointing of the Sick") in addition to bringing Holy Communion. Please remember to contact the parish office or Dotty to make these arrangements. Thank you.




Diocesan Youth Conference

ON PURPOSE
"for this purpose have I come."
Mark 1:29-39

DYC
Saturday
Feb. 3rd
Red Bank
2024 Catholic HS
RED BANK, NJ

8-12th grade teens invited!

Adv. Registration \$25
Walk-in Registration \$35



www.dotyouth.org/dyc

Weekend Collection & Attendance

Thank You!

Saturday, December 23, 2023

4:00 PM Mass	\$2,640.00	243 people
5:30 PM Mass	\$1,648.00	108 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$1,683.00	114 people

Sunday, December 24, 2023

7:00 AM Mass	\$2,439.00	86 people
8:30 AM Mass	\$1,832.00	103 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$929.00	73 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$717.00	58 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the December 24 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: **\$2,371.00**

This Week's Total: \$14,259.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$16,314.00

Christmas 2023 Collection

The tallying of the Christmas collection is a work in progress at this time since cash and checks earmarked for Christmas continue to come in through the mail and drop-offs at the parish office. We'll publish the amount of the Christmas collection and attendance in the Sunday bulletin in the next few weeks, promptly after we close the books on the counting process. Thank you for your faithful stewardship and financial support of the parish.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closed on January 1 and 2. The Parish office will reopen on Wednesday, January 3 at 8:30 a.m.

PARISH COUNSELING SERVICES

A joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton and Catholic Charities provides licensed professionals for short term counseling (up to six sessions) to parishioners dealing with difficult issues, for example, job-stress, family concerns, and bereavement. Contact your pastor or parish priest (732-222-8080) for additional information and referral. The fee is \$90 per session, but, if needed, financial assistance is available through the Diocese of Trenton Parish Counseling Services.

ON THE CALENDAR AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



New Year's Day and Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (not a holy day of obligation in 2024)	Monday, January 1, 2024
Holy Hour for Vocations	Thursday, January 4, 2024 7:00 p.m.
First Friday	Friday, January 5, 2024 (12:15 Mass in English, Eucharistic Adoration 12:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., Mass in English at 5:30 p.m., Confessions 12:45 to 1:15 and 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.)
Epiphany of the Lord	Sunday, January 7, 2024
Baptism Class	Saturday, January 13, 2024 11:00 a.m.
March for Life and Rally for Life in Washington, DC	Friday, January 19, 2024
St. Michael's Parish Mass for Life	Friday, January 19, 2024 8:00 a.m.
Diocese of Trenton Mass for Life	Friday, January 19, 2024 (See Page 5 for details)
New Jersey March for Life	Thursday, September 26, 2024



The next Baptism preparation class for parents is scheduled for Saturday, 13 at 11:00 a.m. in the Lower Church. Please call the parish office to register in advance.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Ronald Lubischer r/o Joyce Lubischer

YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 2024

† Susan Whitman r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

APRIL 2024

† Rita N. Cittadino r/o Christopher M. Cittadino and Children

SEPTEMBER 2024

† Ralph and Eleanor Siciliano r/o The Boeckman Family

† Connie and Tony Criesi r/o Lin Criesi

† Dick Nolan r/o Lin Criesi

DAILY MASS

Mon – Sat: 8:00 AM | Mon: 7:00 PM

First Friday 12:15 PM in Latin in Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec. In English in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov. And 5:30 PM (on First Friday) in English in all months.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM

RECONCILIATION

Monday through Saturday: after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 9:00 a.m.

Monday Night: after the 7:00 p.m. Mass until 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: after the 7:00 a.m. Mass until 8:00 a.m.; 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

First Fridays: after the 12:15 p.m. Mass until 1:15 p.m. After the 5:30 Mass until 6:30 p.m.

MARRIAGES

Couples who wish to marry at the parish should contact the Parish Office for a Marriage Request Form, and for further information. The bride or groom, or their parents/grandparents must be registered parishioners for at least eighteen months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements. There is a twelve month timeline for wedding preparations.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms take place generally on Sundays at 1:15 PM. Other days/times can also be arranged. Parents must be registered parishioners, and can call the Parish Office for information and scheduling.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

To enroll your child for our Religious Education classes, please contact Kevin Connelly, ext. 2 at the Catholic Center.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Butler, Pastor

Thomas Randazzo, Business Manager

Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed.

Mary Valan, Parish Secretary

Emily Carroll, Assistant Parish Secretary

Lauren Walters, Acting Music Director

Larry Swenson, Maintenance Coordinator

PARISH OFFICE

800 Ocean Avenue | Long Branch, NJ 07740

Ph: (732) 222-8080 | Fx: (732) 870-1174

www.stmichaelnj.com

Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (closed 12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m. for lunch)

Answering service phone coverage at all other times.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

16 Beechwood Avenue | West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Ph: (732) 483-0360 | Fx: (732) 795-3262

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

732-483-0360 ext. 1