



Church of the

SACRED HEART

A Faith Community in the Roman Catholic Tradition Since 1905

PARISH CENTER & MAILING ADDRESS

200 RANDOLPH AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

PHONE: 908-756-0633 FAX: 908-757-5655

ONLINE: <http://www.churchofthesacredheart.net>

The Parish Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8AM - 4PM, Friday from 8AM - 2PM. Please schedule other times by appointment.

SACRED HEART CHURCH IS LOCATED AT 149 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE

PARISH STAFF

908-756-0633

PASTOR x125

REV. JOHN P. ALVARADO

IN RESIDENCE x126

REV. JAMES E. DE FILLIPPS

DEACONS

D. GREGORY CARUSO x145

D. WAYNE OTLOWSKI x141

DIRECTOR SACRED MUSIC x139

DANIEL MAHONEY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION x143

LOUISE TIMKO

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR x140

PAUL A. LORANCE

PARISH FINANCES x114

JIM BUFIS

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR x110

LISA THOMPSON

PARISH LIFE COORDINATOR x142

RALPH A. QUAGLIA

STAFF ASSISTANT x118

SR. NADINE BOYLE, RSM

SACRISTAN

MARIE DOLINSKI

HOLY REDEEMER CEMETERY

LYNDA YELENOVSKY

908-822-5892

We welcome all to join us for worship and invite you to become an active member of our parish family.

Sacred Heart Church is open every day as a quiet refuge for prayer and reflection from 6:00AM until 4:30PM.

■ MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: 5:00PM – Saturday Vigil; Sunday – 9:00AM, 11:30AM

Daily: 9:00AM – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
7:00PM – Monday

Holy Day: 6:30AM, 9:00AM, 7:00PM

■ EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday: 6:00-7:00 PM

■ MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Monday: 6:45PM with Benediction and **Saturday:** following 9:00AM Mass

■ BAPTISM

The sacrament is celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of every month at 1:00PM with the exception of the Season of Lent.

■ RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 - 11:30AM *and* at other times by appointment.

■ MARRIAGE

In conjunction with the policy of Marriage Preparation set forth by the bishops of New Jersey, couples should begin the process one year in advance of the planned date of marriage. Arrangements should be made with the Church before any other plans are set. All details and information will be gladly provided upon calling the Parish Office.

■ MISSION STATEMENT

The Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, South Plainfield, NJ was established in 1905. We are a diverse community striving to foster spiritual growth and Catholic identity through liturgy, sacraments, service, education and our shared faith in God. We are committed to being an instrument of love, healing and hope by ministering to the needs of our parishioners & the larger community, while celebrating the Christ present in each of us.



MASSES

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

5:00 PM MILDRED ABRUZZESE, Req. by Loving Husband Guido

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION, APRIL 9

9:00 AM ANNIV. JOHN WASKIEWICZ, Req. by Family
11:15AM **Procession with Palms**
11:30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK, APRIL 10

9:00 AM ANTONIO MONTUORI, Req. by Wife & Family
6:00 PM NO Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary
6:45 PM NO Miraculous Medal Novena, Benediction
7:30 PM **CHRISM MASS - ST. FRANCIS CATHEDRAL**

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, APRIL 11

9:00 AM HELEN M. KAY, Req. by Family

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, APRIL 12

9:00 AM JOSEPH VENITELLI, Req. by Mom & Dad

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13

9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER

✠ The Sacred Triduum Begins ✠

7:30 PM **EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**
11:30PM CLOSING NIGHT PRAYER



GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14

9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER
12 Noon *Ecumenical Service of "The Seven Last Words of Christ, St. Stephen Lutheran Church - Noon to 3:00PM"*
2:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS
3:00PM **LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**
7:00 PM ROSARY- SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15

9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER
12 Noon BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD
8:00 PM **THE SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL**
PEOPLE OF THE PARISH



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

6:30 AM Ecumenical Sunrise Service - Spring Lake Park Gazebo
9:00 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11:30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH



The palm branch that you receive today is the invitation you hold that requires your RSVP. Jesus is inviting us all to walk with Him and each other this Holy Week. Bring your family and friends and join the procession of life and faith. The prayer schedule is here in the bulletin and posted in church and on our parish website.



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

April 9-16

4/9 - Mt 21: 1-11/Is 50: 4-7/Phil 2: 6-11/Mt 26: 14-27:66
4/10 - Is 42: 1-7/Jn 12: 1-11
4/11 - Is 49: 1-6/Jn 13: 21-33, 36-38
4/12 - Is 50: 4-9a/Mt 26: 14-25
4/13 - Ex 12: 1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11: 23-26/Jn 13: 1-15
4/14 - Is 52: 13-53: 12/Heb 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9/Jn 18: 1-19: 42
4/15 - Readings as in Lectionary
4/16 - Acts 10: 34a, 37-43/Col 3: 1-4/Jn 20: 1-9



► The daily Scripture references are printed here. If you find it helpful and have internet access, you can find the complete **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS** at <http://www.usccb.org/nab/>.

WE OFFER OUR PRAYER

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially: Pauline Gillick, Dot Rotola, Michael Durning, Danielle Pepin, Prudence Capparelli, Anne Nagy, Eileen Walker, Daniel Hedden, Robert Larsen Jr., Brody Kasnowski, Georgie Martinkovic, Joan Sacko, Kevin Jones, Raul Rodriguez, Alyssa Ricciardi, Margaret Nichuck, Tina Bernauer, Thomas Buttery, Cathy Gary, Cheryl O'Brien, Hank Loeffler, Thomas Heim, Peter Romano, Patricia Lacasale, Margaret Smith, William Blair, Albertina Aguilar, Ed Curtin, Arthur Tinana, Ann Marie Lauten, Elizabeth Vargo, Edward Owsik, Barbara Calderoney, Roland Parker, Viola Pratt, Celeste Ginder, Neil Towey, George Castagno, Rev. Charles Mingle, Nancy Stillman-Pender, Elizabeth Koznowicz.

FOR THOSE IN HOSPITALS & NURSING HOMES, especially: Bert Gartland, Lorraine Kick, Chuck Pender, Wilma Zielinski, Bill Keenan.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, especially: Chuck Pender, and the Faithful Departed of Sacred Heart Parish & their families who mourn their loss.

VIRGIN MARY CANDLE

burns in memory of

MILDRED ABRUZZESE

Requested by Mario & Maureen Abbruzzese

SACRED HEART CANDLE

burns in memory of

MOMMY APING

Requested by Family



SANCTUARY CANDLE

burns in memory of

ANTONIO MONTUORI

Requested by Wife Family

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE: APRIL 15-16

8:00 PM - Z. Policarpio, O. Markus, M. Brignol, H. Brignol, J. Makoski

9:00 AM - A. Ortega, L. & F. Flannery, C. Butrico

11:30 AM - D. Faustini, A. Walker, S. Sequeira



We welcome everyone, especially those who are visiting and may be new to Sacred Heart Parish.

GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

We are a tithing parish & give thanks for God's gifts.

TITHING OR DONATION: CHURCH SUPPORT

Whether you are tithing or donating, however you choose to monetarily support the Church, we need your contributions. Thank you for your financial assistance.

Week Ending **APRIL 2, 2017**

	2017	2016
Envelopes:	\$ 11,695.00	\$ 12,173.55
Loose:	\$ 2,569.00	\$ 1,198.00
On-line Giving:	\$ 3,002.00	\$ 3,421.00
Totals:	\$ 17,266.00	\$ 16,792.55

► **Major Repairs & Renovations to Date – \$119,813**

PASTOR'S COMMENT: "Today we begin Holy Week. It is Jesus who calls us to walk with Him, to see, hear and feel in our time what His disciples experienced in their time. Are we willing to take this time for yourself and your family to journey with Jesus. It is a call to love and be loved, to mercy and to reconciliation. Embrace the Cross. It is the only true way to experience something of the Resurrection every day. Jesus shares His heart us. Are we open to receiving the gift?" — *Fr. John*

SCRIPTURE: "The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness."

— *2 Corinthians 9:10*

CHRISTIAN COMMENT: "Gratitude is the heart's memory', says an old French proverb. By tithing we are expressing our gratitude to God for all He has done for us and continues to provide for us. The mercies of the Lord are infinite and our gratitude to the Lord should be without end as well. My gratitude to you who tithe is also without end." — *Rev. Charles Mangano, Curé of Ars, Merrick, NY*



2017 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Ambassadors for Christ

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: **Diocese of Metuchen, Bishop's Annual Appeal, P.O. Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000** or give online at www.diometuchen.org/BAA.

PLEGGED TO DATE: \$89,979 - GOAL: \$89,000

Thank you to the 368 parishioners who have pledged BEYOND our BAA goal. We have 2,208 families in our parish. This is the opportunity when 50¢ on every dollar returns to Sacred Heart Parish. **MAKE THE DIFFERENCE & GIVE!** No gift is too small.

THE PARISH CENTER WILL BE CLOSED April 13, 14 & 17. We reopen Tuesday, April 18.

LET'S NOT FORGET ... THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS



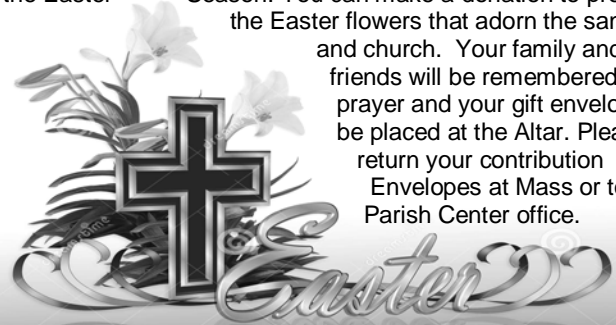
Today, Palm Sunday, we are asked to support the fund for our retired diocesan priests. This collection is exclusively for the benefit of our 26 retired priests, as well as for our active priests upon their retirement. May your generosity to this collection reflect your gratitude and love for our retired priests who have been dedicated and faithful to their priesthood over the years. Let's not forget.

FOR THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 15-16

The first collection will be the Regular Weekly collection. The second collection will be the Easter offering. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES

Remember your loved ones, living and deceased throughout the Easter Season. You can make a donation to provide the Easter flowers that adorn the sanctuary and church. Your family and friends will be remembered in prayer and your gift envelope will be placed at the Altar. Please return your contribution Envelopes at Mass or to the Parish Center office.



MONTHLY ANALYSIS FOR MAR. 2017

Weekly Collections	\$ 47,003.00
On-Line Giving	11,315.00
Gifts	345.00
Offerings (Funerals/Weddings)	6,171.00
Religious Education Fees 2015-16	52,065.00
National/Missionary Diocesan Appeals	1,249.00
Major Renovations & Repairs	4,405.00
Other	595.00
Total Income	\$123,148.00

Salaries	\$ 37,548.00
Benefits	5,848.00
Social Security (FICA)-Employer	2,445.00
Utilities	9,726.00
Repairs & Maintenance	5,856.00
Administrative Costs	3,498.00
Religious Education Expenses	214.00
Diocesan Assessment	12,000.00
Shared Facility Costs (Holy Savior Acad.)	2,268.00
National/Missionary Diocesan Appeals	1,643.00
Holy Savior Academy Assessment	4,400.00
Reserve for Property/Casualty/Auto Ins.	30,000.00
Reserve for Lay Pension Plan	5,000.00
Total Expenses	\$ 120,446.00

► Income Higher Than Expenses \$ 2,702.00

PRAYER CIRCLE: The Prayer Circle will gather on Tuesday, April 11, at 7PM, in the Parish Center Chapel.

WE PRAY FOR ALL SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Especially for our parishioners



Army Captain Cheryl Hoh, Pharm D
Spc. Erik Sienkiewicz - US Army / Iraq
Psc. Amanda Marie Morales - US Navy
Marine Corp. Troy A. Benson/ Japan
Pvt. Alterreek Booker - US Army/KY
Sgt. Zackeriah Romasz - US Marine Corp.
Spc. Bryan Gutschall - US Army/Afghanistan
Spc. Nick Okoszko/US Army/ No. Carolina
LCdr. Edward Quaranta/ US Reserves
Lt. Col. Dirk H. Smith/US Army, Washington, DC
LCpl. Quinn Cochrane/US Marines, No. Carolina
Pvt. Edward C. Forsthoffer/US Army



May we work for Justice as we pray for Peace.

Visit our diocesan website at diometuchen.org,
click [Offices & Ministries](#),

then click [Military and Veteran Families](#) and see

THE APOSTOLATE FOR MILITARY & VETERAN FAMILIES



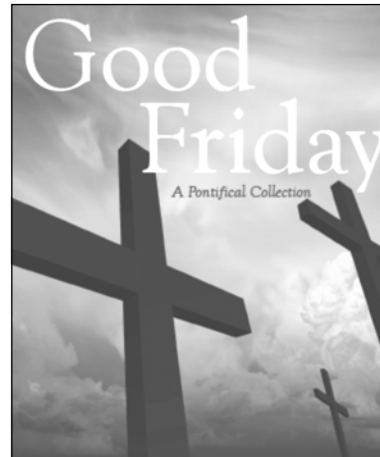
Wedding Banns

First Time: Joseph Wilkowski & Una Morgan

"I really only love God as much as the person I love the least." — Dorothy Day

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Christians around the world are united in a special way during Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Our hearts, minds and prayers are also especially aware of the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. When you donate on Good Friday, you are supporting Christians in the Holy Land. Franciscans and others in the Holy Land are housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting pastoral ministry. The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy Father. Please be as generous as your abundance allows.



Pope Francis asks you to be generous.

Support Christians in the Holy Land

An annual collection uniting Christians around the World.

For more information about the Good Friday Collection or the work of the Holy Land Franciscans, visit: MyFranciscan.org/good-friday.

FRANCISCAN MONASTERY OF THE HOLY LAND

1400 Quincy Street NE, Washington, DC 20017
MyFranciscan.org | 202-526-6800

The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society invites you to pray the Rosary with them on the first Sunday of each month one half hour before all Masses.



PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Any new family who has moved into the parish area and adult children 18 years of age and older, **are invited to register as a parishioner.** The definition of an active parishioner is: *One registered, attending Mass weekly and contributing to the support to the church.* **There is a (3) month minimum registration requirement before registering for a baptism or requesting letters of eligibility/sponsorship.**

DO YOU USE THE PARISH WEBSITE?

See <http://www.ChurchoftheSacredHeart.net>

VISIT THE DIOCESAN WEBSITE AT

www.diometuchen.org

► And don't forget to "like" us on **FACEBOOK**

The Church of the Sacred

Heart, and to "follow" us on **TWITTER**



Respect for Life

"Abortion is the most lucrative part of Planned Parenthood's operations. They really want to increase the number of abortions so they can increase their income." — *Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood clinic director.*

SACRED HEART SOCIAL CONCERNS

Easter Baskets

Can you believe it, Easter is just around the corner?

Sacred Heart Social Concerns has begun working on their Easter Baskets for those in need in our Parish Community.

Presently we assist approximately 25-31 families per month. **We are In need of fresh or canned hams, glaze, potatoes (boxed or canned), desserts, coffee, canned fruit, and biscuits.**



Hams may be dropped off at the Parish Center during business hours. All other non-perishable food can be placed in the bins at all the doors of the Church. Your generosity has enabled us to continue providing assistance to those in need and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

If you know of families requiring our assistance, please have them call 908-756-0633 x112, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 9:00AM-11:00AM.

Thank you again and may God bless you for your continued support to those in need from our parish.

Email: socialconcerns@churchofthesacredheart.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Louise Timko, Director
908-756-0633 x143



For more information please visit our web page
www.churchofthesacredheart.net
or send us an email:

religiouseducation@churchofthesacredheart.net

Everyone hears the Sunday Scripture readings proclaimed, but do we take time to think about their meaning in our lives?

► QUESTION OF THE WEEK – April 9

Are you a Christian consumer or a disciple? Do you think mainly in terms of what you need or what you can give? Do you understand your spirituality as looking for a great customer service experience from God or do you want something more challenging that demands commitment (like the cross)?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - SAVE THE DATE

Summer Session 2017 will be held **July 10-21**, Monday thru Friday, 8:30AM to Noon. Registration for Summer Session has begun. Details and the registration form are on the parish website.

Do you enjoy working with children? Can you share your faith? Volunteer teachers are needed for Summer Session 2017, July 10-21, 8:30AM-Noon. We need teachers for grades 5, 7 & 8. Please call Louise Timko 908-756-0633, x143 or religiouseducation@churchofthesacredheart.net.



Holy Savior Academy

THE MIDDLEBROOK DEANERY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Where academic excellence & Christ's presence come together

149 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE, P.O. BOX 1179
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

908-822-5890 — HOLYSAVIORACADEMY.COM

MRS. CAROL WOODBURN, PRINCIPAL

Holy Savior Academy is still accepting enrollment applications enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year.

Call now and schedule a tour!

CAMPUS MINISTRY CLOTHING DRIVE FUNDRAISER

Saint Joseph High School Campus Ministry is having a used clothing drive on Friday & Saturday, April 28 & 29. Items may be dropped off outside the *Cor Jesu* Chapel, 145 Plainfield Avenue, Metuchen.



**TO ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN, PLEASE CONTACT
BON VENTURE SERVICES, 1-800-883-4343.**

HOLY REDEEMER CEMETERY



Serving the funeral and burial needs of our Catholic Community with respect & dignity since 1919.

OWNED & OPERATED BY THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

1734 CLINTON AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

908-822-5892

Website: www.holyredeemercemetery.net
Email: shcemetery@comcast.net

Graves, Mausoleum Crypts & Cremation Niches

Inquire about brass military insignia and photoceramic features.

LYNDA YELENOVSKY, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

◆ CEMETERY HOURS ◆

8:00AM - 4:30PM (SEPT 16 - APRIL 14)

8:00AM - 7:00PM (APRIL 15 - SEPT 15)

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



Would you or someone you know like to complete your Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation? We attend 9:00AM Sunday Mass and meet for a session afterward. Please contact Louise Timko 908-756-0633 x143 or via email: ltimko@churchofthesacredheart.net.

BAPTISM/SPONSORSHIP CLASS - Parents and godparents are required to attend one session before the child's baptism date can be confirmed. Sessions are held on **the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:00PM** in the Parish Center - 3rd floor. (Adults only - please, no infants or children.) Registration is required. Contact Sr. Nadine 908-756-0633 x118 to register for the class or with any questions.

PARISH BOOK CLUB - Join our parish book club! Tuesdays throughout Lent at 1:00-2:00PM in the Annex (no stairs!). The meeting will include a light lunch of soup and bread. Please RSVP to Louise Timko at 908-756-0633 ext.143. We will discuss "Resisting Happiness" by Matthew Kelly, which was distributed parish-wide at Christmas.



IN GOD'S IMAGE: CATHOLIC FAITH SHARING FOR LGBT PERSONS & THEIR FAMILIES - *In God's Image*, the Gay and Lesbian Faith Sharing Group at Sacred Heart Church, meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM in the Parish Annex (behind the school). **Our next gatherings will be on April 12 & May 10.** For information call 908-822-5895, OR contact Fr. John at 908-756-0633 x125 OR email: sacredheartigi@gmail.com. And look for the IGI icon on the parish website. All are invited to view and share the video presentation at OwningOurFaith.com.

THIS IS OUR FAITH

LENTEN BOOK

"Resisting Happiness"

CONCLUSION

CHAPTER 33: Made for Mission — Why are you here? On earth? In South Plainfield? At Sacred Heart? In your family? Are you an accident or here just by chance? *Kelly reminds us that "you were made for mission."* **Key point:** You cannot be happy focused on yourself. You were made for mission. It's deep within you. Only by serving others in a meaningful way do we truly discover the happiness we yearn for so unrelentingly.

Action step: What mission do you think God is calling you to now in your life? Just write down his invitation to you today as you can best discern it."



CHAPTER 34: When God Looks at a Resume — The only thing God asks of you is your availability. **Key Point:** Make yourself 100% available to God and incredible things will happen. **Action Step:** Pray this Prayer of Transformation every day for nine days."

Prayer of Transformation: "Loving Father, I come to you today to make myself 100% available to you. I lay everything I have and everything I am at your feet. Take what you want to take, and give what you want to give. Command me in all things. I will do whatever you ask me to do. Transform me and transform my life, so that I may become the-very-best-version-of - myself and lead others to you with my life and my love! Amen."

CHAPTER 35: Don't Let the Critics Win — Kelly tells us "Be watchful. Be on guard against the critics. Resistance will use them to discourage you, or at the very least distract you. Press on with what matters most. Perseverance is the antidote for the resistance put forth by critics. It is a great virtue..." "When you are discouraged or caught-up in procrastination, simply do the tiniest thing to move whatever you are working on forward."

CHAPTER 36: Blessed and Grateful — Kelly reminds us "Gratitude should always be our first response for all the blessings in our lives. Our second response should be to live a life worthy of the blessings we have received...Gratitude keeps us young. It anchors us to the present moment. It reminds us of what matters most and what matters least, and fills us with the resolve to carry on the great mission God has entrusted to us."

CHAPTER 37: Never Get Discouraged — In this last chapter Kelly summarizes his purpose in writing *Resisting Happiness*. He says "I set out with a simple goal for this book: to give resistance a name and help you to recognize it during the moments of the day. All great stories have a villain and a hero. Resistance is the villain and you are the hero. Simply naming resistance causes it to lose much of its power over us. Sometimes that is all you have to do, because once you name resistance in a certain situation, you recognize it for what it is, and act to break through it. Resistance hates action...**When you do break through resistance, celebrate that, and then press on to live the life God imagined for you before the beginning of time.. And if you ever feel discouraged or defeated, remember this: Every moment is a chance to start anew, a chance to turn it all around.**"

SACRISTAN TRAINEE

Are you a detail-oriented person with a love for our Catholic Liturgy? We are looking for a responsible individual with the time, flexibility and commitment to learn the procedures of setting-up and follow-up for daily and weekend Masses, para-liturgies, caring for the sacred vessels, working with parish staff and groups in the scheduled use of the church and sanctuary for the celebration of the sacraments and more. If you are interested and want to know more, please contact Fr. John at 908-756-0633 x125.

PAPAL QUOTE AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

THEME 6: Care for God's Creation: We show our respect for the Creator by our *stewardship of creation*. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

"Many of those who possess more resources and economic or political power seem mostly to be concerned with masking the problems or concealing their symptoms, simply making efforts to reduce some of the negative impacts of climate change. However, many of these symptoms indicate that such effects will continue to worsen if we continue with current models of production and consumption. There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced, for example, substituting for fossil fuels and developing sources of renewable energy. Worldwide there is minimal access to clean and renewable energy. There is still a need to develop adequate storage technologies. Some countries have made considerable progress, although it is far from constituting a significant proportion. Investments have also been made in means of production and transportation which consume less energy and require fewer raw materials, as well as in methods of construction and renovating buildings which improve their energy efficiency. But these good practices are still far from widespread." #26, ENCYCLICAL LETTER, *Laudato Si, On Care For Our Common Home*, Pope Francis I, May 24, 2015.



Journeys for the Heart & Soul

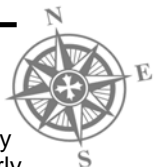
SACRED HEART
TRAVELERS



CANYON COUNTRY -- OCTOBER 19-27, 2017

THE SACRED HEART TRAVELERS —

Venture into the Heart and Spirit of America's Great West -- Journey with Rev. John P. Alvarado to **CANYON COUNTRY featuring Arizona & Utah**, October 19-27, 2017. Experience the majestic beauty of God's Creation, the tribal lands, national parks, early Catholic missions, cities and towns of the old & new West ... history, culture, nature, church, and food that all make for a great trip that concludes with a 2-day stay in Las Vegas. There are no international flights necessary for this trip. Book now and save. For full details, itinerary, pricing and registration, visit our parish website: ChurchoftheSacredHeart.net and click on the Travel Link.



HOLY SATURDAY

Blessing of Easter Food

Those with Eastern European backgrounds — Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Hungary, Ukraine, the Balkans and other countries with Slavic tradition — might be familiar with the blessing of Easter foods. The food baskets are brought to Eastern Catholic and Orthodox churches on Holy Saturday, at noontime. The foods in these baskets are rich in Easter symbolism and serve to do more than whet one's appetite after the long season of Lenten fasting.

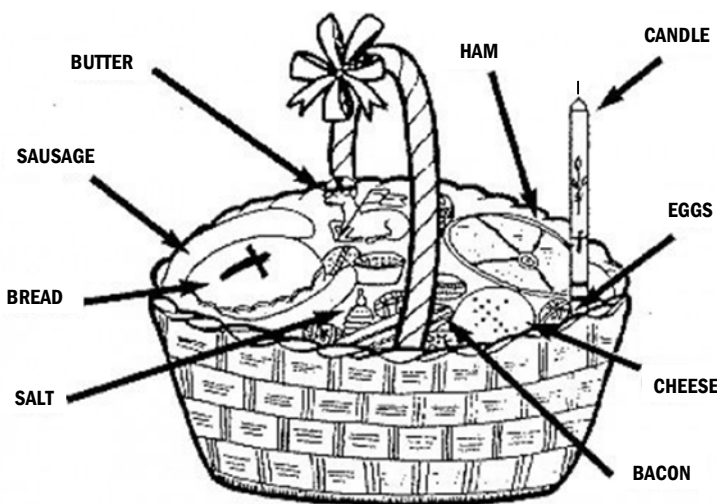
EGGS: Of course there are eggs — a traditional symbol of resurrection and new life, which some Eastern Catholic and Orthodox church traditions date back to St. Mary Magdalene. The rest of us are probably familiar with *pysanky* eggs from the Ukraine. These geometrically decorated eggs in bright colors with folk art images serve to remind those who see them of Easter. A Russian fable is credited with the saying that an Easter egg given to another person in love will never spoil. In Poland, families traditionally gather around the Easter table to share pieces of blessed Easter eggs. Also, prior to the 1960s, eggs were not allowed during Lent, so having them again at Easter was a special joy.

BUTTER: Another luxury that was forbidden during Lent was butter. The Easter food basket's butter is often shaped like a lamb — to remind us of the sacrificed Lamb of God. The butter may also be decorated with the Easter banner of white with a red cross or with cloves in the shape of a cross.

BREAD: Various breads are used to symbolize Christ, "the bread of life." The breads, varying from regular, fresh-baked loaves to round sweet breads filled with oranges and raisins, fill food baskets. Braided bread is also seen.

MEAT: While ham, which is smoked or salted and keeps well cold, is the most popular meat — as it is for most Easter dinner menus, there are other meats for the Easter food baskets. These include lamb — with its Christ connotations — veal and bacon, the later symbolizing God's rich mercy. It is also noted that pork — ham or bacon — is forbidden in the Old Testament, so eating it now symbolizes that all things are made new in Christ.

SAUSAGE: While sausage is also a form of meat, it is the links of the sausages that offer the symbolism here. Called *kielbasa* in Polish, their resemblance to a chain or a rope reminds us that Christ "broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave" as is sung at the Easter Vigil.



Topping off the food basket for Easter are **WINE** (for joy), **HORSERADISH** (a reminder of the bitter herbs of Passover), **SALT** (a symbol of hospitality in some countries and a reminder that we are "the salt of the earth") and **CHEESE** (usually farmer's cheese).

There is often also a **CANDLE** — unlit — in the basket to remind us that **Christ is our light**.

However, our Easter food basket is not yet complete. It is often **adorned with boxwood** — an evergreen bush popular in Eastern Europe — **and dried flowers**.

Covering the basket is a CLOTH that is meant to symbolize the burial cloth that wrapped Jesus' body in the tomb. These cloths are often richly embroidered with symbols of the resurrection and are passed down from one generation to the next.

When Easter food baskets are brought to church — on Holy Saturday at noontime — they may be blessed individually or in a group. The baskets are sprinkled with holy water by the priest or deacon and a prayer of blessing is said.

Then, of course, it's back home to get ready for the big dinner (or brunch) on Easter.

SOURCES: Kasten, Patricia. "The Blessing of Easter Basket Foods" What treats and staples do you put in your family's Easter basket? *The Compass, Newspaper of the Diocese of Green Bay Wisconsin Diocese*, April 19, 2014



HOLY WEEK 2017

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD — April 8, Saturday

Vigil: 5:00PM, April 9, Sunday: 9:00 & 11:30AM (11:15AM - Palm Procession)

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK —

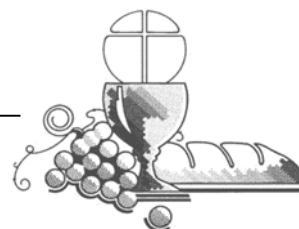
April 10, Mass: 9:00AM; † **Chrism Mass at St. Francis Cathedral: 7:30PM**

(No Eucharistic adoration or evening Mass at Sacred Heart)



TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK — April 11 and April 12,

Mass: 9:00AM



THE SACRED TRIDUUM

✦ **HOLY THURSDAY**, April 13 — Morning Prayer - 9:00AM;

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - 7:30PM; Night Prayer - 11:30PM

✦ **GOOD FRIDAY**, April 14 — Morning Prayer - 9:00AM; Ecumenical Service of "The Seven Last Words of Christ," St. Stephen Lutheran Church - 12Noon-3:00PM; Stations of the Cross - 2:00PM

THE PASSION OF THE LORD - 3:00PM; Rosary-Sorrowful Mysteries - 7:00PM

✦ **HOLY SATURDAY**, April 15 — Morning Prayer - 9:00AM; Easter Food Blessing - 12Noon
EASTER VIGIL — Mass: 8:00PM

EASTER SUNDAY — THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

April 16 — Masses: 9:00AM & 11:30 AM;

Ecumenical Sunrise Service - 6:30AM at Spring Lake Park



St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen

CHRISM MASS

MONDAY, APRIL 10 - 7:30 PM

On Monday, April 10, 2017 Bishop James F. Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Diocese. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils which each parish receives for the rites of anointing. Saint Ambrose [340-397] began this custom— which we now call the Chrism Mass — in his Cathedral in Milan. These Holy Oils, which are used to sanctify the Faithful, have been channels of holiness for centuries! The **OIL OF CATECHUMENS** is used to anoint infants and adults before their Baptism; the **OIL OF THE SICK** is used on the forehead and hands of the infirm in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and **SACRED CHRISM** is used to anoint the head of the newly baptized, the foreheads of confirmandi, the hands of a priest at his ordination, the head

of a bishop at his ordination, and the altar and walls of new churches. At the Mass, all priests make a **Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service**, recommitting themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry to God and His People; the Bishop and all Priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are strongly encouraged to join in the ancient, grace-filled **Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen at 7:30 PM**. The Diocese of Metuchen will provide a live broadcast of the Chrism Mass Monday, April 10. On that day, you may access the live stream of the Mass via the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi website, <http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/>. Click on "Watch us Live! Online streaming."

► Please note that our Sacred Heart Parish daily Mass on Monday, April 10, will be celebrated at 9:00AM. There will be no evening Mass.



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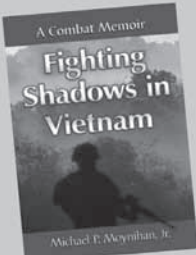


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