

November 21 - 22, 2020 The King of Charity

Can you believe that Thanksgiving is this Thursday? Time really does fly these days.

Thanksgiving is a good time for us to take stock of the blessings God has given us, and be sure to thank Him. This, of course, is something we should do in our prayers each and every day. We should also remember that we thank God by remembering those who may not enjoy all the blessings that we do, and practicing Christian Charity towards them.

Today (Sunday) is the Solemn Feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe! It is a day to remember that—in addition to everything else He is for us—Jesus Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16). Christ the King Sunday is also a good time to remember that Jesus in very different from the Kings of this world.

One way in which Jesus is a different kind of king is His desire that we practice charity towards one another. He tells us that when we feed the hungry or shelter the homeless—we are feeding and sheltering Him. This Sunday's Gospel makes it clear that Christ the King will hold us accountable for the way we treat the least of His brothers and sisters in this world.

That's one reason we practice the Charity we do! As I explained in last week's bulletin, Food for the Needy and the Giving Tree will be done through donations this year, and I am happy that many have already made donations! Also, I want to remind people that food, especially turkeys, can be dropped off at Catholic Charities at 387 South Main Street. It is best to drop off at their back door, in the alley behind their office, which is clearly marked 387. You could also call ahead at 908-859-5447. This is a good way to practice the kind of charity that is so pleasing to Christ the King!

Remember that Holy Mass will be offered on Thanksgiving Day at 6:45 and 8 AM. While not a Holy Day of Obligation, Thanksgiving is a good day to get to Mass if you can. Doing so is a good way to remember the spiritual roots of this wonderful holiday.

After Mass here in the morning, I will have Thanksgiving Dinner with some of my family at my sister Natalie's home. Our 'crowd' will be smaller than normal – as is prudent these days. But we will have a good time just the same. I'm sure many of you will likewise celebrate Thanksgiving a bit differently this year!

As I write this on Monday morning, the phone is already ringing with people requesting reservations for Christmas Masses. If you intend to come to Mass on Christmas Eve or Day in person this year PLEASE DO NOT WAIT TO CALL! This is one of those times when it is essential for

us to plan ahead, and I thank everyone for their kind cooperation!

Please keep me in your prayers – at least one Hail Mary a day – and be assured of my prayers for you. I keep you in all my Masses and Rosaries each day – and in my quiet prayer time each day. Let's also pray for the sick, those caring for them, and for peace.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Fr. John

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

“Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out.” – Frank A. Clark. Be Nice: *Remember “Food for the Needy” Collection - First Sunday of each month.*

CLEANERS NEED!

We are in need of cleaners for after the **9am** and the **5:30pm** mass please call the church office at 908-454-0112. It only takes about 10 minutes.

LEGION OF MARY LIBRARY

November is the month of the Souls in Purgatory. Legion of Mary Library has a wonderful selection of books & videos for the entire family to choose from. Although the library is currently not opened, please see information on Formed.org where similar resources can be found.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

“Whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me.” Matthew 25:40. Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient; when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's schedule.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS SERVICES

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Metuchen is offering Counseling and Wellness Services. If you or someone you know needs counseling or is impacted by addiction, we can help. Individual and family therapy for children and adults is available. For an appointment, call 800-655-9491.

GIVING TREE

This year, due to the pandemic, the Giving Tree will only be accepting monetary donations. The money will then be converted into gift cards to be distributed to the families in need. Your donations can be placed in the collection basket, in an envelope marked GIVING TREE, or mailed to the church office. All checks should be made payable to St. Philip & St. James Giving Tree. All donations should be at the church by Dec. 7th. Thank you in advance for your kindness and continued support of our children.

THE PROPHECY OF THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH

Dawid our Seminarian heartfully invites you to join in a Biblical Study on The Prophecy of the Birth of the Messiah from the Old Testament. This will be a six week presentation for the preparation of the Christmas Season. It will begin on Thursday November 12, from 7-8:00pm in Mercy Hall. Please call the church office at 908-454-0112 ext. 404 to reserve your seat

CATHOLIC CHARITIES:

This year the Food for the Needy Committee cannot prepare 400 food baskets for the local families in need in Phillipsburg. However, would anyone like to help make a difference for these families? You can by dropping off much needed turkeys at Catholic Charities at 387 South Main Street. They are in need of them along with any other provisions or gift cards for a grocery store. Beginning on Nov. 2nd they will begin giving out the Turkeys. Please help if you can.

ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES BLOOD DRIVE

We need your help! People with the Coronavirus need your blood donations. The Parish Blood Drive will be held on November 29, 2020 from 7:45am – 12:45pm. Please contact the Church Office at 908-454-0112 to register and set-up a time to donate by November 9, 2020. It has been hard to contact people with cell phones. We have your home phone numbers. Remember, the life you save may be your own or someone in your family. Please consider giving blood in November. Thank you, The Blood Drive Committee.

THANK YOU!

The Columbiettes of Warren Council #474 would like to thank all our parishioners for helping our charities by purchasing our jewelry and angel pins last weekend. You are truly generous. God Bless you all! Bev Redondo – President

THANK YOU!

The Knights of Columbus Council #474 would like to thank you for supporting us with our sausage sandwich sale. Also, for purchasing the magnets and Christmas Cards. Thank you so much! Al Redondo - Grand Knight.

IMMIGRATION SERVICES PROGRAM CITIENSHIP DAY

Are you interested in applying for your US Citizenship and meet one of the following requirements: Have been a lawful permanent resident of the United States for at least 5 years or have been a lawful permanent resident of the United States for at least 3 years and obtained residency through a US citizen spouse? Call 732-324-8200 to schedule an initial consultation. Space is limited. Appointments available in Perth Amboy and New Brunswick on Dec. 15th.

CHRIST THE KING

We all find comfort in the thought that God is a loving God, who desires that none should perish, but that all should have everlasting life. Come & see, through the eyes of the Catholic Church, this almighty and merciful God, who breaks the power of evil and makes all things new in His Son, Jesus Christ, the king of the universe. All are invited who are unbaptized, or baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but have never received BOTH sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. No commitments are required. During the pandemic, the RCIA Inquiry sessions might be virtual. For more information please reach out to our parish office.



St. Philip & St. James School
137 Roseberry Street
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 (908) 859-1244 – <http://sspjnj.org/>
Follow us at:
facebook.com/sspjschool

SAINTS UPDATE:

Enrolling now! Saints Philip & James School is rich in tradition and academic excellence. We educate students in Pre-K through grade 8. We offer small, safe class sizes, where your student will receive individual attention. Our classes are taught by dedicated, compassionate, certified teachers. In addition, we are pleased to offer the St. Bernadette Program for students who need additional help in reading and or math. To learn more about the Saints difference, please email Mrs. Kucinski at Kucinski.donna@spsj.org.

WREATH, GRAVE BLANKET SALE

Our wreath sale is officially underway. Available this year are wreaths, grave blankets, cemetery logs, roping and poinsettias. All orders are due by Nov. 24th, and can be picked up on Dec. 10th from 2:00-6:00pm. If you have any questions, please contact Marianne Cicalese at macicalese3@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

MONSIGNOR SHEEHAN SCHOLARSHIP:

Give the gift of a Catholic education! Contributions to the fund are awarded each July to families that otherwise could not afford a Catholic school education. To contribute, simply put your donation in an envelope marked for the scholarship and place it in the collection basket. Do online donation? Consider adding a scholarship fund to your monthly donations.

COMING SOON:

We will once again be selling Calendar Raffles for the spring. These make excellent stocking stuffers, and give you chances to win weekly cash prizes.

CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER

Please consider supporting our school by having a beautifully lit Christmas Tree on our school grounds to celebrate your family or to memorialize a loved one. Trees will be decorated in white lights by our volunteers and will remain on our school grounds for the entire Christmas Season! Please order by or on November 23, 2020. To support the tree fundraiser go to: <https://form.jotform.com/202993014159052>.

MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP

Come & join us for the March for Life on Friday, January 29, 2021. Join the greatest movement for Life! We will be leaving from SPSJ Catholic School located at 137 Roseberry St. at 6:30am, and returning approximately at 9:30pm. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 908-454-9880 & leave your name & phone number.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers are vital to the ministry of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen as they continue to offer assistance and create hope for those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Social Service Center, 387 So. Main St., Phillipsburg is seeking volunteers to be salespersons in the Thrift Store. The main components of the job description include service to customers and sorting and arranging donated items for sale. Help is needed Monday-Friday from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The day and time you are able to serve as a Thrift Store Volunteer are flexible. Safety precautions recommended by New Jersey & the CDC for retail businesses have been implemented for the Thrift Store. Please call 908-859-5447, if you require more information or wish an application.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

For those who are alone or without family, come join us on Thanksgiving at noon for a full Thanksgiving meal in Mercy Hall. Don't be alone on the holidays. Enjoy a good meal with your parish family. It would be helpful to call for reservations at 908-454-9880 & leave your name & phone number. Or just come at the last minute.

COVID-19 SCHOOL-AGE TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR WORKING FAMILIES

Families can now apply for child care tuition assistance to help with care for children who have remote learning schedules due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. To apply go to www.ChildCareNJ.gov and complete the online application. You will need proof of income & a notice or announcement from your child's school of a remote learning schedule. To be Eligible you must be a NJ resident with a school-age child 5-13 years old. Your household income does not exceed \$150,000 (previously up to \$75,000) a year. Your child is attending school with either a part-time or full-time remote learning schedule. For more information visit www.ChildCareNJ.gov.

FORMED...A GREAT WAY TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH!

FORMED is a collection of Catholic Bible studies, talks, movies, and other programs for people who want to learn more about their Catholic Faith. Anyone in our parish can access it by following three simple steps: (1) Google formed.org. (2) Scroll down to where it asks if your parish already subscribes and indicate yes. It will ask you to enter your parish code, which is GMKZ4Q (all capitals). (3) You will then be asked to set up your own account by establishing your own password.

ST. CECILIA 2020 – HONORING THE PASTORAL MUSICIANS

Each year, musicians from around the Diocese of Metuchen come together near the feast of St. Cecilia-patron saint of musicians in praise, thanksgiving, and in celebration of the gift of making liturgical music with one another at the annual St. Cecilia Sing. While unable to gather in person this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Worship in collaboration with the Metuchen Chapter of National Association of Pastoral Musicians wishes to recognize and thank all musicians in the diocese who through their music continue to give glory to God and inspire charity, justice, and evangelization. Please keep all pastoral musicians in your prayers: that in these times they may grow in prayer, patience and hope. For more information about the pastoral musicians in our diocese, please visit: diometuchen.org/NPM.

SAINT PETER'S GIANNA CENTER

We are very pleased to introduce you to the Saint Peter's Gianna Center located in New Brunswick, NJ. The Center is dedicated to offering truly prolife women's health care, including infertility services, general gynecologic care, and more. All services are provided in accordance with the US Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Service. Please visit <http://www.saintpetershcs.com/GiannaCenter/> or contact us at 732-565-5490 for more information.

RETIREMENT COLLECTION FOR DIOCESAN CLERGY

Our retired brothers rely on the generosity of our people to help provide for them after a life of service to our local church of Metuchen. Unfortunately, because of the suspension of Masses due to the COVID pandemic, the annual Retirement Collection for Diocesan Clergy, normally scheduled for Palm Sunday, was not taken this year. This collection for our retired brothers is an important one and, for this reason, has been rescheduled to the weekend of November 28-29, 2020 the First Sunday of Advent. Please be as generous as you can.

THANK YOU TO OUR CHAMPIONS!

The need is great, especially this year. For many, employment has been lost; food security has been lost; financial stability has been lost; and access to safe shelter has been lost. One thing that has not been lost is our passion for our mission. We are working more than ever to provide quality services with dignity and respect to the poor, vulnerable, and all people in need. Did you miss our premiere? We invite you to visit diometuchen.org/champions, to walk with us in our mission and to hear the inspiring stories of courage, creativity, and compassion shown by our Catholic Charities 'heroes' in continuing to provide uninterrupted service to those hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through your prayerful and financial support, you are a Champion for the poor, the hungry, and the marginalized. Our mission could not be carried out and our people could not be served without your support.

Stewardship of Treasure

Nov. 15, 2020: \$7,466.00

All Souls Day: \$90.00

Food for the Needy: \$442.00

SPSJ School: \$981.00

October Online Contributions: \$12,341.50

Parish Capital Campaign

Total Pledged as of 11/6/2020: \$1,524,974.22

Total Collected as of 11/6/2020: \$1,235,362.34

Have you considered online giving? If interested in signing up for online giving, please go to: <https://spsj.churchgiving.com>

NURSING HOME TEAMS

All Care Centers are currently under quarantine. No services will be held.

+ MASSES FOR THE WEEK +

SUNDAY, Nov. 22nd

7:00 - Perine Family by Martha Perine Richline
 9:00 - Robert & Malley Fisher by Deacon Rob & Family
 11:00 – Angelo & Helen Nicolosi by Ann Nicolosi Foose
 1:00 (SP) – For the People of the Parish
 5:30pm – Eugeniusz Niedbala by Marie Chismar

MONDAY, Nov 23rd

6:45 – Mary Bigelli by Family
 8:00 – Antonio Celia by Mary Celia
 12:10 – Paul Lanning by Ann Marie Fleming

TUESDAY, Nov. 24th

6:45 – Sp. Int. Terri Leinenbach by Patti Leinenbach
 8:00 – Anthony J. & Perina O. Cerino by Gloria
 12:10pm – Beverly Kooger by SPSJ School

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 25th

6:45 – Protection for unborn babies & their families by
 Gowey family
 8:00 – Conor Babula by Family
 12:10pm – Bernadette Pavkovic by Paul & Donna
 Kucinski

THURSDAY, Nov. 26th

6:45 – Anna Marie Cervasi by Eucharistic Adoration
 8:00 – Joseph & Teresa Varga by Family

FRIDAY, Nov. 27th

6:45 – Carmella (Dolly) Corcoran by Dr. Gaeton &
 Teresa DeMartino
 8:00 – Mary Louise Rosnagle by Tricia Penyak
 12:10 – Mary Coyle by Rose & Bernie Bladies Jr.

SATURDAY, Nov. 28th

8:00 – Deceased members of Legion of Mary by Legion
 of Mary
 4:30 – Kenneth F. Mondzak, Sr. by Family

SUNDAY, Nov. 29th

7:00 – Ernest Snover by The Volk Family
 9:00 – Deceased members of Emery & Frederick family
 by Bob & Mary Emery Family
 11:00 – Malley Fisher by Bud & Sue Wolf
 1:00 (SP) – For the People of the Parish
 5:30 – William & Elizabeth Witterschein, John & Thomas
 Carroll by Family

+ MASS ASSOCIATION INTENTIONS +

Monday, Nov. 23rd

Walter & Mary Starosciak by Danny & Terri Starosciak
 George & Etelka Iрмаi by Clara Szeplaki
 Bill Murphy by Debbie & Joe Stefano
 Irene LaCaruba by Rose Bladies
 Dale Ende by Bill & Barbara Casey
 Elizabeth Dugan by Cammy, Edward & Michelle Bullock
 Evelyn Kressler by Cammy Bullock
 Barbara Baldo by Ronald Rossini
 Norman Taiana by Mary Lilly
 Noreen Lorenzo by Mary Lilly
 June Mundell by Tom & Fran Bronico
 John Miller by Jack Boyle
 Mark Flynn by Merrie Mulrine
 Enzo Marinello by Tom & Mary Jiorle
 Mary Elizabeth Sweeney Lane by John Christopher Betz

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Nov. 28th – Nov. 29th

Saturday Nov. 28th

4:30pm	Acolyte	Josh Romero
	Lector	Mary O’Sullivan
	Minister	Frances Ludwig

Sunday Nov. 29th

7:00am	Acolyte	Steven Fulse, Jr.
	Lector	Kathy Fulse
	Minister	Patricia Flynn
	Server	Sofia Grimshaw
	Serer	Joey Grimshaw
9:00am	Acolyte	Luciana Perna
	Lector	Henrietta Schupper
	Minister	Kelly Perna
	Server	Kiernan Lopez
	Server	
11:00am	Acolyte	Logan Shoudt
	Lector	Susan Gerhardt
	Minister	Donna Kucinski
	Server	Andrew Sretenovic
5:30pm	Acolyte	Gabriel Adams
	Lector	Aidan Lavigne

Mass Celebrants for Nov. 28th and Nov. 29th

4:30pm – Fr. John
7:00am – Fr. Gilbert
9:00am – Fr. John
11:00am – Fr. Pat
1:00pm – Fr. Gilbert
5:30pm – Fr. Pat