

July 9 - 10, 2022: Sharing our Faith in Jesus!

I hope you all enjoyed a great Fourth of July. I can't tell you about mine, since I had to write this article before it happened! That happens when holidays fall in such a way that affects the Bulletin Company's schedule.

That being the case, I want to use this week's column to speak about something very important. The recent visit of the missionary priest who spoke at most of our Masses a few weeks ago made me think about the importance of sharing our faith in Jesus with the children of our parish. Our parish offers several ways to help families do this.

First and foremost is our parish school. In their daily Religion class, students in Saints Philip and James School not only learn about their faith, but also prepare for their First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Concerning Confirmation, one of my greatest pleasures in my 13 years in this parish has been teaching our 8th graders once a week to prepare them for that Sacrament.

In addition to studying their religion, our school students experience many aspects of our Faith. They participate in both school wide and class Masses throughout the year and have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament monthly. Monthly Confession, weekly Stations of the Cross during Lent, and regular Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament all help the students not only learn about, but truly practice their faith.

Our parish also offers two different CCD programs for students who attend public school. Traditional CCD is offered every Tuesday from 4 – 5 PM at our school from late September until early May. In addition to their weekly class, these students go to Confession in Advent and Lent. For the past several years, Deacon Rob and I have taught the 8th grade CCD Confirmation classes – something I have enjoyed very much.

Because not everyone can make it on Tuesdays at 4, we also offer an On-Line CCD Program that can be done at home. We first offered this during the pandemic, and it was quite popular at the time. With that largely behind us, most people seem to prefer the Traditional Tuesday Classes once more. But we still offer the on-line option for those who really need it.

Children in all these programs are prepared for First Communion and Confirmation. Indeed, any parish children who attend public school must attend one of our CCD programs in order to receive these sacraments in our parish. Making sure that your children (or grandchildren) attend CCD (or Catholic School) is one of the most important ways that we can share our Faith with them.

Please feel free to call the parish office (908-454-0112) if you have any questions about Religious Education in our parish. They will be happy to help you get your children involved!

I want to wrap up my remarks about CCD and Religious Education with a very special thank you to Mrs. Jo Ann Scott, who has led the CCD Program in our parish for many, many years. Mrs. Scott also led the Vacation Bible School for many years – writing most of the material herself. Watching the puppet shows she authored, and watching the young children enjoy and learn from those wonderful shows, will always be a great memory for me.

Mrs. Scott is one of the people who really made me feel welcome when I arrived at St. Philip and St. James years ago. She was always friendly and reassuring, and was happy to try to implement anything I asked her to include in our religious education programs. Her wealth of experience, gained over so many years of teaching our faith, was a resource upon which I was happy to draw.

Perhaps my favorite memory of Mrs. Scott was seeing her beaming the day that Fr. Matt Marinelli – a 'graduate' of her CCD program – was ordained to the priesthood a few years ago.

If you know Mrs. Scott, and most of you do, please take a moment to thank her for all she has done for the children of our parish and community. While she will continue to be involved with our program, the day-to-day leadership of the CCD Program will be taken on by Escarlen Duran. Escarlen has been our parish Confirmation Coordinator the past few years. She has worked closely with Mrs. Scott to learn what it takes to share our faith in Jesus with our children.

Please say a Hail Mary for me today, and every day. You are always in my daily prayers.

Have a great week!

Fr. John

[WELCOME TO THE FAMILY](#)

Last weekend we welcomed into the Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism, Steffany Betzabeth Silva Jacinto daughter of Mr. Faustino Silva Francisco and Zuly Jacinto Gonzalez.

[DIOCESE OF METUCHEN 40TH ANNIVERSARY PILGRIMAGE](#)

Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Diocese of Metuchen, will be held on Sat., September 24th. Cost is \$25. All checks should be made payable to St. Philip & St. James, and seats can be reserved by phoning Camille at 908-319-2719. More details will follow.

[BLUE ARMY PRAYER CELL](#)

Our Lady of Fatima appeared to three shepherd children in Portugal in 1917 with messages of hope and warning. The world at that time was reeling from the havoc of WWI. Our Lady warned of another war even more monstrous than when she appeared, should her messages go unheeded. For the most part, they were not; the result was World War II. In 1979, our parish allowed for the establishment of the Blue Army prayer cell. It has been meeting weekly since then, except for the respite of two years owing to the Covid-19 pandemic. On June 19th of this year, the Blue Army prayer cell has been reinstated.

Considering the dire straits enveloping our nation and the world, it is imperative now that we pray for the ending of this maelstrom of evil. Please come and pray with us since our Lady of Fatima has provided one of the keys to unlock the graces needed to bring this about. Your attendance and voice would be most welcome. The Blue Army prayer cell meets weekly from 7-8pm on Thursdays in the Chapel. Our major weapon in this fight is the Rosary. Thank you, St. Philip & St. James Blue Army Prayer Cell.

WARREN COUNCIL COLUMBIETTE #474

We are looking for new members for the Warren Council Columbiettes #474. Our goal is to support the Knights of Columbus #474, raise funds to help support local charities. If you are interested in joining the Columbiettes please contact Nancy Ensley at 908-200-6763 or by email at Ensleynancy8@aol.com or Carol Kucheruck at 908-319-2296.

HELP NEEDED

Bus drivers are needed for St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Starting salary is \$30.00 an hour. For more information or if interested, please call Mark Fiore at 732-549-1108 Ext. 602.

THE OVER 50'S CLUB

The Over 50's Club will be meeting for our annual picnic at Flynn's on Wednesday, July 13th. All members and guests are invited to attend. The club will not be having a meeting in August. Any questions, please contact President, Dolly Loiacono at 908-454-1067.

NJ DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Please be advised that DCA will be opening the SRAP waiting list. SRAP is a state funded program that provides housing subsidies on behalf of very low-income NJ residents, for decent, safe and sanitary housing. Persons applying must meet all applicable SRAP income and eligibility requirements. A total of 4,000 households will be selected through a lottery system to be added to the waiting lists. You must be eighteen (18) years of age or older to apply, or be an emancipated minor. Only one (1) SRAP pre-application per household will be accepted. Please note that only NJ residents are eligible to apply for SRAP assistance. A NJ resident is defined as someone whose primary residence is in NJ and who is present in NJ for at least six months prior to applying for SRAP assistance. SRAP pre-applications can be submitted ONLINE with the use of a personal computer, laptop, smart phone, or tablet by going on-line at <https://WaitlistCheck.com/NJ559>. No pre-application will be accepted at the Agency. The open enrollment period is Monday, July 11, 2022, 9:00am to Friday, July 22, 2022 at 5:00pm Eastern time. Please go to <https://nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/srap.html> for additional information.

THRIVE: FLOURISHING IN DIFFICULT TIMES

A weekend retreat at St. Francis Retreat House, Easton, will be presented by Jeanne Hunt July 29 to 31, with humor and wisdom, Jeanne offers 4 principles to help discover still waters when we need them most. Arrival is on Friday between 4 and 5:00pm; departure is after lunch on Sunday. Cost is \$270 in-person; \$80 for virtual. Please call 610-258-3053 ext. 10 or at stfrancisretreathouse.org.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

"Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'" Luke 10:37

This was Jesus' command at the end of the Good Samaritan story. Did you know that the Samaritans and Jews despised each other? The moral of the story is to love our neighbor. That means loving someone you may not know, or someone that looks different than you, or someone that has different beliefs than you, or someone that you don't like. All without expecting anything in return.



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Follow us at: [facebook.com/sspjschool](https://www.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.

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.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Sts. Philip & James School is currently looking to fill two positions. We are hiring an after school care moderator Monday – Friday 2:30-5:30pm. We are also looking for a day custodian. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Mrs. Kucinski at Kucinski.donna@spsj.org.

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.

4 – DAY WALKING PILGRIMAGE

Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Great Meadows, NJ will host a spiritual 4-day Walking Pilgrimage on August 4th – 7th, 2022 from our church in NJ to Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine in Doylestown, PA. Walkers range from infants to people well into their 70's. You may join our spiritual trip any day of the journey and for as many days as you wish. Register by mail before July 24th for the discounted prices or visit our website for churches in your area that also offer discounted prices. For more info call 908-637-4269 or www.walkingpilgrimage.us.

Mass Schedule

July 16th 4:30pm Fr. Pat

July 17th 7am Fr. Pat
9am Fr. Gilbert
11am Fr. John
1pm Fr. Gilbert
5:30pm Fr. John

SCAPULAR INVESTITURE

On July 16, 1251, the Blessed Virgin appeared to St. Simon Stock giving him a scapular saying “RECEIVE, MY BELOVED SON, THIS SCAPULAR, WHOSOEVER DIES WEARING THIS SCAPULAR SHALL NOT SUFFER ETERNAL FIRE...IT SHALL BE A SIGN OF SALVATION, A PROTECTION IN DANAGER AND A PLEDGE OF PEACE. The Scapular Investiture will take place July 16th after the 4:30pm Mass.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

June 26, 2022: \$9,160.77
Food for the Needy: \$260.00
SPSJ School: \$45.00
Assumption: \$10.00
Father’s Day: \$45.00
McCauley Hall: \$1,538.00
Mission Appeal: \$3,578.00

May Online Contributions: \$14,475.30
Parish Capital Campaign
Total Pledged as of 6/3/22: \$1,555,401.55
Total Collected as of 6/3/22: \$1,490,100.90

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

BUS TRIPS

Annual NY Feast of San Gennaro bus trip plus Chelsea Market & High Line Park on Wednesday, September 21st. St. Jude National Shrine & Baltimore Inner Harbor bus trip on Friday, October 21st. Contact Camille at 908-319-2719 for details

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the Warren County’s Right of Life’s booth at Warren County Farmer’s Fair Sat., 7/30 – Sat., 8/6/22 for a few hours or whatever time possible to cover the booth. This year, due to circumstances and vacation planning, we are trying EARLIER to set up a schedule. Please call 973-876-3580 or 908-300-2605.

PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE

Pilgrim Virgin Statue Visitation is to encourage the family to pray together, especially the rosary. Two members of the Legion of Mary will bring the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to your home and pray the rosary with you and leave the statue for one to two weeks along with reading material. Contact the church office at 908-454-0112 ext. 404 to schedule your visit.

WARREN COUNTY HUNGER COALITION

Come shop for FREE fresh produce and collect seasonal recipes. This will be held on July 23, from 10:00am – 12:00pm in the parking lot of Mercy Hall. Please bring your own bag.

46th ANNUAL LEBANESE HERITAGE DAYS

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church will hold their 46th Annual Lebanese Heritage Days celebration on Saturday, August 6th from 5:00pm to Midnight and on Sunday August 7th, from 11:00am to 10:00pm. There will be a variety of Middle Eastern foods, dance troupes, and entertainment. Admission is free. Lebanese Heritage Days will be held rain or shine.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

July 16th and 17th		
July 16th		
4:30pm	Acolyte	Chisomaga Acholonu
	Lector	Mary O’Sullivan
	Minister	Thomas Casey
	Minister	Margie Markus
	Server	Chiazam Odimma
	Server	Chiezimuzo Odimma
July 17th		
7:00am	Acolyte	Dominic Russo
	Lector	Lucas Anmolisingh
	Server	Brett Bruckman
	Server	Anthony Stefano
9:00am	Acolyte	Paxton Payran
	Lector	Rosemary Carnali
	Minister	Eileen Catali
	Minister	Ann Coyle
	Server	Owen Case
	Server	Zackary Payran
11:00am	Acolyte	Peter Diaz
	Lector	Christy Krouse
	Minister	Karen Juliano
	Minister	Carol Bevilacqua
	Server	Thomas Diaz
	Server	Nicholas Diaz
1:00pm	Lector	Gladys Jaurides
	Minister	Francisco Jaurides, Jr.
	Minister	Magnolia Mateo
	Server	Miguel Quzhpi-Garcia
	Server	Jackie Quzhpi-Garcia.
5:30pm	Acolyte	
	Lector	Susan Gerhardt
	Server	
	Server	

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous gift to Catholic Relief Services. Your recent donation of \$1,452.59 received on June 16, 2022 provides vital support to CRS. Your contribution is essential to our efforts to alleviate human suffering & ease *the* burdens of overwhelming poverty overseas.

RECEPTION FOR FR. JOHN

We will be holding a reception for Fr. John on Sunday, July 31st, after the 9am Mass.

LEGION OF MARY LIBRARY

July is the month of The Precious Blood. 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.

+ **MASSES FOR THE WEEK** +

SUNDAY, July 10th Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 – Helen Barbary by Scott & Colleen Surdovol
9:00 – Carmine & Mary Angelozzi by Grandchildren
11:00 – William F. Hanisek by Jane Hanisek
1:00 (SP) – For the People of the Parish
5:30pm – Rosemarie & Edward Shakal by Family

MONDAY, July 11th St. Benedict

6:45 – Msgr. Michael Corona by Roger & Frances DiVittorio
8:00 – Mass Association Mass
12:10pm – Bud Lilly by John Mains

TUESDAY, July 12th

6:45 – Paul Leone, Sr. (A) by Judy Leone
8:00 – Bernice Stetler by Richarad & Kathleen Hoag
12:10pm – Peter Loreti by Betty Scalzo
7:00pm – Luis Garcia by Family

WEDNESDAY, July 13th St. Henry

6:45 – Msgr. Terry Lawler by Roger & Frances DiVittorio
8:00 – Mary DeNicuola by Daughter
12:10pm – Donna Fleming by Bob & Dee Ellwood

THURSDAY, July 14th St. Kateri Tekakwitha

6:45 – *Sp. Int. Ann Foose by Camille Rapinesi
8:00 – Jeanie Bolcar
12:10pm – Peggy Markle by Vance Opdyke

FRIDAY, July 15th, St. Bonaventure

6:45 – Frank Rapinesi by Millie Michaels
8:00 – Virgin of Carmen by Rosmira
12:10pm – Millie Piperata by Tom Casey

SATURDAY, July 16th Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:00am – Georgette Dennis by Ginnie Zecchino
4:30pm – Teresa Lilly by Family

SUNDAY, July 17th Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 – Helen Barbary by George McBride
9:00 – Michael Robles by McQuade Family
11:00 – Cathy Steigerwalt by Denise Elliot
1:00 (SP) – For the People of the Parish
5:30pm – Bridget E. Moran by Dee & Bob Ellwood

NURSING HOME TEAMS
All care Centers – No services will be held

+ **MASS ASSOCIATION INTENTIONS** +
Monday, July 11th

Thomas Smith Sr., by the Trembler Family
Frank Rapinesi by Martha Richline
Thomas Smith, Sr. by Ann Flynn
Vencenza Cicale by Dave, Patty & Anita
Mary Melick by Helen Giammarinaro
Harold Curry by JoAnn Scott
Oscar Romero by Bob & Dee Ellwood
JoAnn Harrison by Catholic Daughters
Josephine DeMonti by Catholic Daughters
JoAnn Harrison by Eucharistic Adorers
Thomas Smith by Eucharistic Adorers
Richard & Glenda Lawler by Diedo Family
James Diedo by Family
Kimberly Pisarek by Diedo Family
Roy Sowley by Natalie Barbella
Audrey Sequeira by Ed & Tina Socci
Elizabeth Boudaheer by Boudaheer Family
John Barbella by Michael Johnson
Angelo Leonardo by Michael Johnson
Mary Jarrell by Ken Jarrell
Juliana Oller by Lagrimas Family
Marco Fidel by Delgado Family

BE A WITNESS TO YOUR STUDENT

Lead by Example

One of the most powerful ways to pass on the faith is to live it. Young people today are really watching adults in how they live out their faith. They are not likely to follow you as a teacher until they experience you as a witness.

Here are some things you can do to help guide your teen as they transition from high school to college and being to develop their own faith.

- Invite them to spend time in adoration with you.
- Go to mass.
- Take them to confession.
- Answer the hard questions (Don't worry, if you don't know the answer, get back to them. We aren't expected to know everything).
- Sign them up for our Newman Connection program.

Our high school outreach program has everything you need to ensure your graduates and parents are equipped for college campus ministry. We have partnered with your diocese to bring this program to your ministry and help ensure your students stay connected to the faith while away in college. Go to info@newmanministry.com for more information.

IMMIGRATION SERVICES PROGRAM

Immigration Services Program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen provides Immigration Services at a low, flat-rate cost for individuals and families. Please call for more information or to make an appointment: 732-324-8200. The main office is located at 319 Maple Street, Perth Amboy, NJ; other offices are in New Brunswick and Phillipsburg.