

The Parish Community of St. Gabriel the Archangel SADDLE RIVER

Waldwick · Ho-Ho-Kus · Ridgewood

88 East Saddle River Road

Saddle River, NJ 07458

327-5663 — 327-7881 — Fax 327-7063

Parish Website: www.stgabrielsr.org

Email: office@stgabrielsr.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Frank G. Del Prete, Pastor, ext. 303

Rev. Martin Rooney, Weekend Assistant

Sr. Esther Falzone, S.C.C., Pastoral Associate, ext. 305

Luis Alfredo Lozano - Seminarian

Maureen Straut, Office Administrator, ext. 301

Ellen Walsh Higgins, Administrative Assistant, ext. 306

Joseph P. Scorese, Director of Music

Stacie Yao, Associate Director of Music/Parish Organist

Tom Pagano, Youth Minister

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Patricia Pula, M.A.R.E., Director, ext. 304

Safe Environment Coordinator

PARISH SCHOOL

St. John's Academy

Hillsdale Avenue, Hillsdale, N.J. 07642 • 664-6364

Principal—Mrs. Elizabeth Viola

MASSES:

Weekdays: 9:00 AM (including Saturday) — (Summer)

Monday and Friday: 9:00 AM

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 6:30AM and 9:00 AM — (Winter)

Saturday Evening: 5:00 PM

Sundays: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM and 6:00PM (Sept. - May)

Holy Days: Please see bulletin for schedule

PENANCE:

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 PM. At the Parish anytime by appointment. Communal Celebration of Penance periodically throughout the year.

BAPTISMS:

Our parish family rejoices in the birth of your children. To prepare for baptism, parents are expected to attend one preparation meeting. Godparents who are not members of St. Gabriel's must provide a Sponsor Certification, from the parish which they attend, attesting to their eligibility to serve as Godparent. Please call the parish office for the schedule of preparation meetings and Baptism celebration.

MARRIAGES:

Our parish is honored to host your marriage celebration. In order to accomplish all of the necessary preparations, arrangements should be made with one of the parish priests at least one year in advance. Pre-Cana and God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage classes can be arranged through the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark at www.rcan.org.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

For those of advanced age and those seriously ill, contact the parish office. Holy Communion will be brought to the home of any person permanently or temporarily homebound. Please contact the parish office.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

Please register at the parish office. This is a wise way of acquiring a sense of belonging to our Parish Community. If you move or change your address, please notify the parish office.

From the Pastor

Today's Gospel story of the prodigal son is a favorite of many. We can identify with all the major figures and their criss-cross of emotions. The father's initial grief over his young son's greed is turned to relief at his return. The son's grief over his loss of fortune, family, and friends is turned to delirious joy at the sight of his father.

We understand the eldest son's bewilderment over his father's generosity. For the older son, virtue seems not to be its own reward. For all his honorable toil and loyalty, there seems to be no celebration. The father, however, is prodigal in his forgiveness and mercy. He expects the same generosity from his older son. He wants all to rejoice when the lost one is found.

This is a Sunday for rejoicing. It's time to pause, consider, and encourage one another. We are the prodigal children heading home. We are the elder siblings waiting with the eager Father, who scans the horizon. In Christ Jesus we are reconciled to the Father and one another. In his death and resurrection we have passed over. We are a new creation. In this we rejoice.

Peace,
Fr. Frank

Save The Date

Women's Cornerstone Retreat
Friday, October 21 and Saturday, October 22, 2016

COMING HOME
WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE 2016
GIFTED WITH GODS PEACE & GRACE



COMMUNION DRESSES /SUITS NEEDED

The First Communion Day of our child is a very special occasion – a day to be celebrated and always remembered. Please help to make another child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any Communion dresses, suits, head pieces or shoes. Please bring all articles, clean on hangers, and covered in plastic to St. John the Baptist Church Parish Center by March 24th or call Kathy at (201) 666-4185. Monetary donations will also be accepted. If you or anyone you know may need an outfit, please contact Kathy. Thank you

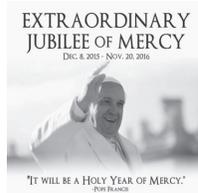
**OUR PARISH COMMUNITY
PRAYS FOR:**

Our sick and homebound:

Jane Ball, Jean Cohen, Josephine D'Elia,
Baby James Jack D'Agostino, Helen DeLorenzo
Ada Fields, Meg Gallagher, Baby Grace Gilbert
Tony Galante, Lauren Harpster Hines,
Mary Noone, Lou Perrin, Joan Snow
Richard Straut, Nicole Trotta

YEAR OF MERCY

Excerpts from Pope Francis' letter on the Year of Mercy



As we can see in Sacred Scripture, mercy is a key word that indicates God's action towards us. He does not limit himself merely to affirming his love, but makes it visible and tangible. Love, after all, can never be just an abstraction. By its very nature, it indicates something concrete: intentions, attitudes, and behaviors that are shown in daily living. The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us. He feels responsible; that is, he desires our wellbeing and he wants to see us happy, full of joy, and peaceful. This is the path which the merciful love of Christians must also travel. As the Father loves, so do his children. Just as he is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other.

THANK YOU FROM BIRTHRIGHT

Thanks very much to all the members of Saint Gabriel's Parish and Respect Life Ministry for your generosity to Birthright of Bergen County. We were thrilled to receive your donation of cartons of diapers, baby care items and baby clothes. Your very kind gift will help us tremendously as we assist an increasing number of clients this year. Your generosity helps Birthright to continue the care we have been providing for pregnant women, their unborn babies and families in Bergen County for over thirty years. As you know, we are here to support and aid young women in a crisis pregnancy to choose "Life" for their children. Your gift makes this possible. We receive hundreds of calls and visits every year for assistance and referrals. Birthright volunteers provide services, which include pregnancy tests, medical care, guidance, financial assistance, referrals for housing or shelter if necessary, adoption, day care, maternity and baby clothing, baby furniture, plus other necessities. This support is designed to provide the means for women who call or visit our office to have whatever help they need during their pregnancy and after. As you know Birthright's mission is to guard the right of every pregnant woman to give birth ...and the right of every child to be born. To fulfill this mission, we continue to rely on your prayerful and financial support. The women and babies of Birthright thank you for your generosity!

Mary Pat Phillips and Barbara Boe
Co-Directors

THE WEEK AHEAD AT ST. GABRIEL'S

**AA Meetings Monday thru Saturday
7 AM Parish Center**

Sunday, March 6, 2016

Monthly food collection St. Michael's
7:00 PM—Youth Group Meeting

Monday, March 7, 2016

7:30 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, March 10, 2016

1:00 PM—Bereavement Group
6:30 PM—KidsChoir Rehearsal
7:30 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 11, 2016

7:00 PM—Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 13, 2016

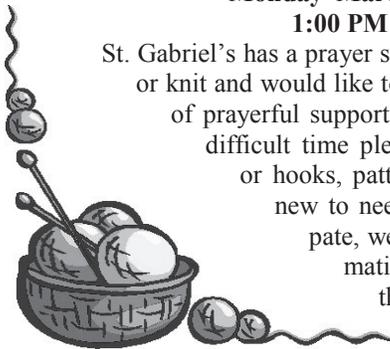
Monthly food collection St. Michael's
7:00 PM—Youth Group Meeting

PRAYER SHAWL MEETING

Monday March 14, 2106

1:00 PM to 2 PM

St. Gabriel's has a prayer shawl ministry. If you crochet or knit and would like to help us offer a tangible sign of prayerful support to someone going through a difficult time please bring your yarn, needles or hooks, pattern and join us! . If you are new to needlework and want to participate, we'll help you learn. For information, please contact Sister Esther at 201-3275663 ext 305 .



THE APOSTLES' CREED

You may have noticed last Sunday that we used the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed. The origins of the Apostles' Creed are believed to predate the Nicene Creed. It is universally recognized by many Christians as a shared statement of our faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Apostles' Creed may be used at any Sunday Mass, but the church particularly recommends its use during Lent and Easter Time. Why? Because the words of this ancient Creed have been used for centuries as the basis of our baptismal promises, and the seasons of Lent and Easter put a strong focus on baptism. During Lent we prepare those who will be baptized at Easter while readying ourselves to renew our commitment to Christ which was first made at our own baptisms and prepare us to renew our promises this Easter.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The amount of the collection for February 28 was \$12,569.75. God Bless you and your family for your continued support.

SAINT JOHN'S ACADEMY NEWS



Can you spell E-X-C-E-L-L-E-N-T?

Our middle school spelling bee participants were just that! Congratulations to all who

participated and to our winners:

1st place – Niki Bayati, grade 3

2nd place – Brant Vicini, grade 5

3rd place – Josie Gallina, grade 4



Our Tricky Tray 50/50 is well under-way. Parishioners in all of our co-sponsoring parishes should have received a 50/50 booklet. Please consider purchasing a chance or a book to support our school. The winner might be YOU! Contact Annemarie Pastena at annemarie.pastena@gmail.com for additional tickets.

2016 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1) The days of both Fast and Abstinence during lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2) The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially" or as a whole is a serious obligation.

3) The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

4) The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 14, 2016, to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, May 22, 2016.

*Canon 920,1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion a least once a year.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS



Youth Group: During the school year the Youth Group meets every Sunday night in the Kavin Center from 7:00-8:30pm. All high school teenagers are welcome to join us. Meetings are structured yet informal, and they usually consist of a discussion topic, group dynamics, prayer, and socializing. Feel free to bring a friend along with you. Whether you've been involved in our program before or not, you are always welcome to attend our meetings. Refreshments are served.

MARCH 6, 2016

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, March 5, 2016

9:00 AM M. Statton Evens
5:00 PM Dr. Carole Jones

SUNDAY, March 6, 2016

8:00 AM Joseph Rivelli
10:00 AM Carmen Pascale
11:30 AM Kathleen Hillman
6:00 PM Phyllis Marella

MONDAY, March 7, 2016

9:00 AM Alan Post

TUESDAY, March 8, 2016

6:30 AM For the People of the Parish
9:00 AM Ann Small

WEDNESDAY, March 9, 2016

6:30 AM Kyle Wehrum
9:00 AM Damien & Andrea Manning and
Family Living Intention

THURSDAY, March 10, 2016

6:30 AM Joan Testa
9:00 AM Danielle Salmon and
Family - Living Intention

FRIDAY, March 11, 2016

9:00 AM Steven Salmon and
Family - Living Intention

SATURDAY, March 12, 2016

9:00 AM Edward Holiat
5:00 PM Mary Monroe

SUNDAY, March 13, 2016

8:00 AM Franco Siracusa
10:00 AM Joseph Feudi
11:30 AM Franco Siracusa
6:00 PM Ellie Kesel

 **IN LOVING
REMEMBRANCE**

The Sanctuary Lamp at the Blessed Sacrament will be lighted during the week of March 6 for Carol Richin as requested by Joe and Carol Lamela.