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PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Frank G. Del Prete Pastor, ext. 302

> Rev. Martin Rooney Weekend Assistant

Maureen Straut
Office Administrator, ext. 301

Luis Alfredo Lozano, Pastoral Assoc. Christine Ferreri, PT Pastoral Assoc. Dr. Melody Chen, Director of Music

Jessika Santulli, Youth Minister

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Patricia Pula, M.A.R.E.
Director, ext. 303
Safe Environment Coordinator

PARISH SCHOOL

St. John's Academy, Hillsdale

St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church

88 EAST SADDLE RIVER ROAD

SADDLE RIVER, NJ 07458

(201) 327-5663 — (201) 327-7881 — Fax (201) 327-7063

WWW.STGABRIELSR.ORG

EMAIL: OFFICE@STGABRIELSR.ORG

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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. 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 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 or seriously ill, 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.

From the Pastor

Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message - to each and every believer - that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

Peace and stay safe, Fr. Frank

THE KNIGHTS CORNER



Thanks to the overwhelming support and generosity of the St. Gabriel's community, the 2023 chocolate sale fund raiser was a tremendous success. The Knights were able to raise close to \$1,700 in profit that will be distributed to local charities. These profits include the proceeds of the sale plus nearly \$400 in donations offered during the sale.

The Council truly appreciates all you do to help us help others.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting the next Men's Mass on February 25th at 8:00am. All men of the parish, and guests, are welcome. Mass is followed by light snacks and discussion about issues of the day that affect us as Catholic men.

<u>Did you know?</u> For the second consecutive year, one current member of the Knights purchased all unsold chocolate bars – this year, 48 bars – for donation to the children of St. Michael's parish. His request to remain anonymous teaches us that charity should never be about the giver, but always about the recipient. Well done Brother Knight!

If you are interested in joining the St. Gabriel's Knights of Columbus, contact a current member or send us an email at knights@stgabrielsr.org.

FEBRUARY 22 - ASH WEDNESDAY

Wear ashes today as a sign that you are seeking both forgiveness and eternal life from Christ.

DURING LENT

Start a prayer book and record those for whom you pray or for what you pray. Also keep tract of how God answers your prayers.

Catholics are required to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent as a form of penance.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY PRAYS FOR:

Our sick and homebound:

Salvatore Averso
Daniel Castillo
Dawn Conguisti
Ada Fields
Meg Gallagher
Grace Gilbert
Bill Hamilton
Bob Kleinknecht
Joan Massotti
Bob Re
Nicole Trotta

WHY DO CATHOLICS CALL FAT TUESDAY SHROVE TUESDAY

Commonly known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday has been traditionally spent feasting (especially on pancakes). It is also called Shrove Tuesday, recalling the tradition of going to Confession. The word "shrove" comes from "shrive" - the English word for confessing one's sins and receiving absolution. In fact, there was a custom of churches ringing the shriving bell on this day. The goal was to start Lent with a clean soul and repentant spirit.

LENT LEADS US BACK TO GOD



"For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment:" (Joel 2:13). Lent may be a penitential season, but it is also a wonderful reminder that no

matter how we let sin interfere in our relationship with God, He always wants us back. Gracious and merciful is He.

"Return to me with your whole heart." Throughout the year, sin creeps into our daily lives almost without our noticing. A bad habit such as using bad language or gossiping can keep us from loving God fully. Lent is a time to examine our lives and sweep aside whatever keeps us from giving God our whole heart.

"Rend your hearts, not your garments." God doesn't just want outward acts of repentance. Our Father wants a change of heart. Start with Confession and then practice virtues such as prudence, temperance and fortitude.

"Gather the people, notify the congregation." Become more active in your parish to build it up. Consider attending Mass more often than just once a week.

ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES

We are please to announce that we are once again preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2023. These anniversary liturgies will be held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

> April 16, 2023 - 3 PM - 50 years May 7, 2023 - 3 PM - 5 & 25 years

To register, please contact Maureen Straut in the St. Gabriel's office at 201-327-5663. If you celebrated one of these anniversaries in 2020, 2021 or 2022, and would like to attend one of the masses this year please be sure to indicate this when registering so that the certificate can be completed correctly.

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE



God of love, Our world is wrought with war and violence,

as brother turns on brother, and the innocent awake to gunfire and bombs.

May Your compassion and healing move hearts and bring a new day to Ukraine.

Fortify your children to resist aggression
And instead become instruments of peace.

We ask this in the name of the One who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

Amen

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive your Body and Blood. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. Stay close to me, Jesus, so that I may be close to all our sisters and brothers, especially those who are most in need of your loving care. Amen.

MAKE IT A GOOD DAY

A good day is one spent in God's presence. Start the morning by offering your efforts to God. Throughout the day, look for evidence of his nearness to you as you go about your business. Don't let minor irritants affect your mood. "I don't care to inquire why they cannot believe an earthly body can be in heaven, while the whole earth is suspended on nothing"

St. Augustine, City of God

FINANCIAL REPORT

The amount of the collection for February 12 was \$11,704.50 . Thank you for your continued generosity & God bless you and your families.

2023 ANNUAL APPEAL



The 2023 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese. Our Parish goal is \$75,836. There are two financial benefits to our Parish if we achieve this goal. First, if we reach this goal in cash by June 30th, our Parish is eligible for a 2% assessment reduction on our fiscal obligations to the Archdiocese. Second, all monies pledged over goal as of June 30th, will make us eligible for a 50% rebate, which comes back to our Parish, unassessed, to be used at our own discretion.

Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing or join us for In-Pew Weekend on February 4th-5th.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT IHA

Biology/Environmental Science Teacher



Immaculate Heart Academy seeks a full-time leave replacement Biology/ Environmental Science teacher beginning in April 2023 and will conclude in June 2023, capable of teaching Biology at the CP and honors levels for 9th grade and Environmental Sci-

ence at the CP and AP levels for 11th and 12th grades. Teacher certification and AP experience preferred. Interested candidates should email a cover letter and resume to Mrs. Maureen Layng, Assistant Principal for Academics at employment@ihanj.com

Immaculate Heart Academy is also seeking a Major Gifts Officer for immediate hire. The Major Gifts Officer is a member of IHA's Advancement Team responsible for developing strategies for the identification, cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of donors with special focus on five figure gifts to support IHA's annual and planned giving efforts. This position reports directly to the Director of Development, under the strategic vision of the President of IHA. Interested candidates should send letters of interest and resumes to Mrs. Sarah Hill Frasure '07, Director of Development, at employment@ihanj.com.

HELP US TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOU

The parish uses a communication system called Flocknote to send email and text messages to parishioners. Flocknote has been an important way for us to stay in touch with you during the pandemic. If you have not been receiving emails or texts from the parish and would like to receive them, please call the parish office at (201) 327-5663 to give your contact information.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, February 18, 2023

9:00 AM Gaudenzia Mattessich 5:00 PM Michael H. Houseman

SUNDAY, February 19, 2023

8:00 AM Jim D'Amico 10:00 AM Barbara K. Murray 11:30 AM Barbara K. Murray 6:00 PM Elaine Chester

MONDAY, February 20, 2023

9:00 AM John Surless

TUESDAY, February 21, 2023

6:30 AM People of the Parish 9:00 AM Bill Jergensen

WEDNESDAY, February 22, 2023

6:30 AM For the People of the Parish 9:00 AM For the People of the Parish 4:00 PM Service - Ashes

7:00 PM For the People of the Parish

THURSDAY, February 23, 2023

6:30 AM For the People of the Parish

9:00 AM Mary A. Sanzari

FRIDAY, February 24, 2023

9:00 AM Richard Cancilla

SATURDAY, February 25, 2023

9:00 AM Sonia Sepulveda 5:00 PM Tiffani Loughnane

SUNDAY, February 26, 2023

8:00 AM Alfred & Beverly Nash

10:00 AM David Loman 11:30 AM Ralph Gallucci 6:00 PM Joan Ellen Kisch

THE LOVING REMEMBRANCE

The Sanctuary Lamp at the Blessed Sacrament and the Altar Bread and Wine consecrated during the week are available as memorials for loved ones. To arrange, please contact the parish office at (201) 327-5663.

FREE Pest Control Service

Call John, Kapture Pest Control, at 201-630-8000, mention that you're a parishioner to get your first pest control service free w/ any 12-mo plan (\$229 value).



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