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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, Pastoral Assoc. Dr. Melody Chen, Director of Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Amanda Perfetti, M.Ed, M.S.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Please see Archdiocese of Newark website for information on Catholic Schools at rcan.org.

St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church

88 EAST SADDLE RIVER ROAD
SADDLE RIVER, NJ 07458
(201) 327-5663 — (201) 327-7881
WWW.STGABRIELSR.ORG
EMAIL: OFFICE@STGABRIELSR.ORG
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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. 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

Both Isaiah and Peter had the task of comforting and encouraging their communities during times of exile. The Israelites were in geographic exile from Israel; to them this was, in effect, the same as being in exile from their God. The early Christians, following the Resurrection, expected an immediate return of Christ in glory; they, too, felt in "exile" as the delay of the Second Coming grew longer and longer. All four of scripture's authors today, Isaiah, the psalmist, Peter, and Mark, hasten to help us see things in God's terms, not ours. They want us to know that we can never truly be exiled from God, or from God-among-us, since we know that when the faithful are gathered, Christ has come into their midst. Instead, we are encouraged today to do what we can from our end to shorten the time of our exile: to repent of our sins, to return our lives to the Lord, to live as people who seek the coming day of the Lord, when "kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss."

Peace and stay safe, Fr. Frank

THE KNIGHTS CORNER

Once again, the Saint Gabriel community showed its tre-



mendous charity in supporting our annual poinsettia sale. The response was overwhelming. As with all of the Knights' fundraisers, 100% of the proceeds get distributed to local charities. We'd like to acknowledge

Luigi and his staff at **Bel Fiore Greenhouses in Woodcliff Lake** for providing the plants at a discounted rate and for the free delivery service. Please thank them with your patronage this holiday season. Thank you, also, to all the Brother Knights who helped out during the sale.

Our next monthly council meeting will be held on Monday, December 11th, starting with a social gathering at 6:30pm, followed by our business meeting at 7:00pm. We encourage all Brother Knights to attend, especially those we haven't seen in a while.

The Knights of Columbus sponsored coffee social will be held after all Masses on the morning of December 17th. This is a great way for you to meet fellow parishioners. Please join us!

<u>Did you know?</u> The circular shape of the Advent Wreath represents continuous life and the promise of salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus. Like a wedding band, the circle reflects God's unending love and the eternal life he makes possible.

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.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY PRAYS FOR:

Our Newly Baptized: Brody Alexander De Nike

Those recently joined in Matrimony
Patrick Anthony De Paolo & Jacqueline Nicole Ferreri

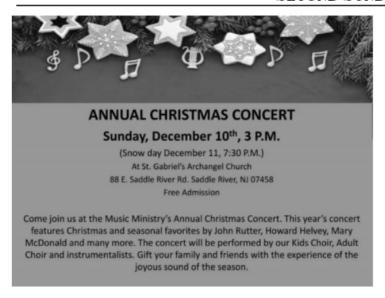
Our sick and homebound:

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





The Knights in putting together 125 Christmas care packages for U.S. Marines serving overseas.



CHRISTMAS TREES AT ST. PAUL'S ABBEY



St. Paul's Abbey, on 289 Route 206, Newton, NJ 07860 one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose 'n' cut. Open 7 days a week from November 26 to December 21, 10 AM to 3:30 PM. Also visit their gift shop with many items that make ideal Christmas gifts, including books, statues, jewelry and more. For additional information visit

www.newtonosb or call (973) 383-2470.

A CHRIST CENTERED CHRISMAS IS A JOYFUL ONE

For Catholics, the weeks leading up to Christmas are a sacred time to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming. For a joy-filled Christmas, try these ideas:

Encourage joyful anticipation. As disciples of Jesus it is our role to help others to believe and hope in the power of God to change the world as He transforms hearts and minds. "But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me" (Micah 7:7). Look for opportunities to share your confidence in His love.

Focus on Prayer: Become an Advent prayer intercessor praying for every soul to come home to God, especially at this time of peace. Ask that He gives everyone the grace to live a new life reflecting glory on the Messiah.

Serve: Pope Frances said during advent, "We are so busy with all the preparations, with gifts and things that pass, but let's ask ourselves what we should do for Jesus and for others! What should we do?" The pope said we should continuously ask God what we should do to contribute to the good of the Church and society. We can do 'something concrete, even if it is small" to help others. He suggested visiting the lonely, the elderly, the sick or someone in need.





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FINANCIAL REPORT

The amount of the collection for December 3 was \$12,253.25. Thank you for your generosity and God bless you and your families.



The Knights were recently joined by other parish members, including nearly twenty students from the CCD program, in putting together 125 Christmas care packages for U.S. Marines serving overseas.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, December 9, 2023

9:00 AM Sally Sinton 5:00 PM Pauline Convey

SUNDAY, December 10, 2023

8:00 AM Joseph Corso 10:00 AM Eleanore Rowe 11:30 AM Joseph Ponticorvo 6:00 PM Gloria Callahan

MONDAY, December 11, 2023

9:00 AM Alfredo N. Sanzari

TUESDAY, December 12, 2023

6:30 AM People of the Parish 9:00 AM Maria Mircovich

WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2023

6:30 AM Margaret Hamilton (Living Intention)

9:00 AM Richard Cancilla

THURSDAY, December 14, 2023

6:30 AM Walsh Family (living & deceased)

9:00 AM Nan Euler

FRIDAY, December 15, 2023

9:00 AM John Cebak

SATURDAY, December 16, 2023

9:00 AM Joseph Giancristofaro 5:00 PM Catherine McDonnell -The Bigley Family

SUNDAY, December 17, 2023

8:00 AM Michael P. Fitton 10:00 AM Christopher Maita 11:30 AM Charles Dudsak 6:00 PM Gloria Callahan

THE IN LOVING

The Altar Bread and Wine consecrated during the week of December 11 is for Peter Marron, Jr. requested by Carol Lee & Herman Crowley.

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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