

# The Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina

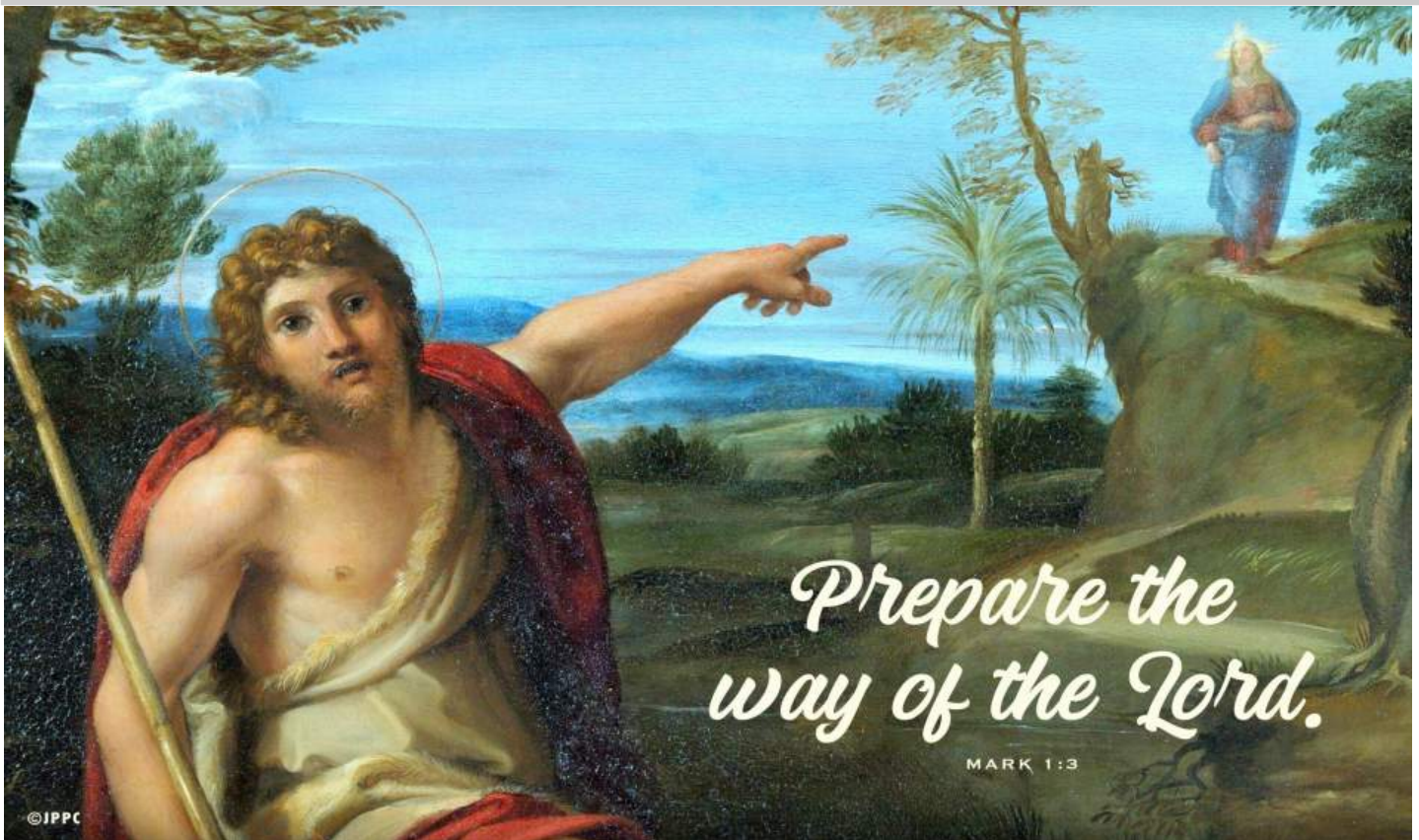
103 Washington Avenue, Lavallette, NJ 08735

Phone: 732-793-7291 Fax: 732-793-8204

Web: www.stpioparish.com E-mail: office@stpioparish.com

**December 10, 2023**

**Second Sunday of Advent**



## **Our Parish is Served by:**

Rev. Fr. Joseph Hlubik, Pastor

Rev. Fr. Joy Chacko, Parochial Vicar

## **Assisting Priests:**

Rev. Monsignor Phil Franceschini

## **Pastoral and Support Staff:**

Marta Barkhausen, Business Manager  
Finance, Facilities & Wedding Coordinator,  
x322

John Paglione, Director of Liturgy, Lay  
Ministries & Catechesis 732-899-1398, x5

Joyce Kobylarz, Ministries Coordinator  
973-714-6797

Caroline Woodrow, Director of Music, x315

## **Parish Secretaries:**

Connie Barraco x316

Laura Bierster x321

Pat Kevish x301

Office Hours: Mon. - Wed., 9am - 2pm

## **Mass Schedule**

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am Chapel

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00pm Church

Sunday: 7:30 (no music), 9:00 & 10:30am Church

**Confession:** Saturday 3 - 3:30pm or by appointment



**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

**8:30am** For Our Parish Families & Their Loved Ones, both Living & Deceased

**Vigil**

**4:00pm** Rev. Fr. Michael Bakaisa r/b Antonette Daniels  
**4:00pm** Kathleen Minneci r/b Family

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

**7:30am** For the People of the Parish

**9:00am** Juanito Rohan r/b Sabrina Wujek

**10:30am** Bill Smith r/b Joyce Ciano  
**10:30am** Jillian Ludwig r/b Vincent & Joann Marino

**Monday, December 11, 2023**

**8:30am** Evelyn Dawson r/b Tom & Maryann Sinnott

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023**

**8:30am** Msgr. Frederick Valentino r/b St. Pio's Staff

**After Mass** **Miraculous Medal Novena**

**Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

**8:30am** Deacon John Hanna & Jill Rager r/b Donna  
**8:30am** Jillian Ludwig r/b Faith Sharing Group

**Thursday, December 14, 2023**

**8:30am** Special Intentions r/b Laura & Greg

**After 8:30am Mass** **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

**Friday, December 15, 2023**

**8:30am** Intentions for Anthony Etzold r/b Etzold Family

**After Mass** **Adoration & Benediction - 20 min.**

**Saturday, December 16, 2023**

**8:30am** For Our Parish Families & Their Loved Ones, both Living & Deceased

**Vigil**

**4:00pm** Joan Dygon r/b Dygon Family  
**4:00pm** Florence Facchina r/b Gary & Gerry Adams

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

**7:30am** For the People of the Parish

**9:00am** Gerald Peden r/b Ferdinando Forcellati  
**9:00am** Robert & Florence Tynski r/b Son  
**9:00am** Maria Borrello r/b Neil & Michele Bickford

**10:30am** Bill Smith r/b Greg & Mary Buontempo

**Healing:**

Fr. Douglas Freer, The Filippini Religious Teachers in Rome, Albania & Ethiopia, Nick Lettas, Mary Anne Grandinetti, Mary Buontempo, Pat McCourt, Maureen Burrell, Baby Landon Wierks, Ginny & Emil Stefanacci, Jim Tavormina, Mike Rodriguez, Nicholas Meola, Joe Romano, Alan Kurinovich, Tommy Traina, Eddie McCrabb, Gina Kwornik, Joseph Winchock, Antonette Daniels, Janet Daniels, Vince Covello, Kathy Connelly, Michael Garcia, Eileen Carroll, Judi Pecoraro, Amina Gaban, Peter Barkhausen, Kathy Diffley, for all who have received Prayer Blankets & for All the Sick of the Parish

*(Names will remain on the healing prayer list for 4 weeks; please call the parish office if you wish to extend).*



**Our Heroes:** All our parishioners and friends who are serving in the Military, as well as our Police, Firefighters, First Responders, and all who are put in harm's way for our protection,



especially:

Capt. Tyler Urban, U.S. Marine Corps.  
(deployed)

Lance Cpl. Jack Balwierczak,  
U.S. Marine Corps.

Private 1st Class Jason Rodriguez, U. S. Army



## 7 STEPS TO MAKING THIS YOUR BEST ADVENT EVER

By Caroline Perkins for Churchpop



By taking the time to prepare for the Advent season, we can experience this time of hopeful anticipation in a meaningful way. Planning is the key when it comes to liturgical living. According to the USCCB **“The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s Birth on Christmas”** Furthermore, participating fully in the Advent season Can help make the Christmas season more special.

**Here are seven ways to make this your best Advent ever:**

1. **Go to Confession:** confession is always a good idea. Confession *before* the liturgical season of Advent seems like a no-brainer! Visit Our Lord in the sacrament of Confession. This allows a clean slate as you begin this period of growing in your faith.
2. **Embrace Advent Traditions:** Traditions like the Advent wreath, Advent calendar, Jesses Tree, and more are full of symbolism! They offer routine reminders of the true meaning of Christmas and provide space for special prayer and devotion.
3. **Consider the Works of Mercy:** Plan on participating in one or more corporal or spiritual works of mercy this season. There are many opportunities at your parish or community this time of year. St. Teresa of Calcutta gives some perspective on what this may look like in our lives; **“Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the action that we do. (...) I want you to find the poor here, right in your own home first. And begin love there.”**
4. **Reconcile with Others:** Tis the season to practice forgiveness and compassion.
5. **Pray the Saint Andrew Christmas Novena:** This powerful novena is unlike any other! It began on November 30th and ends on Christmas Day.
6. **Celebrate Liturgical Feasts:** There are so many special feast days during the Advent season. Many of them have their own traditions and ways to grow closer to Christ during the festivities.

**Here is a glimpse of the feast day calendar for Advent:**

**December 6-Saint Nicholas**

**December 8-Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**December 12-Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**December 13-Saint Lucy**

7. **Be Realistic:** Set yourself up for success by being realistic about your liturgical living goals this year. Sometimes, our season of life may call for some adjustments, which is okay!

**Ultimately, the Lord just wants room in your heart! Have a blessed Advent!**



Thank You for your Support!!

Contributions Weekend 12/3/23	This Past Week	Same week Last Year
At Church	\$4,894	\$5,794
Online	\$1,164	\$ 964
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,058</b>	<b>\$6,758</b>



Please consider giving Online with our safe, secure Parish Giving program. It is very easy to sign up, just scan the QR code (use the camera on your phone) or visit the parish website.

Contributions Weekend	Past Week	Same Week 2022
<b>TOTALS ONLY</b>		
11/12/23	\$ 6,760	\$ 6,522
11/19/23	\$ 6,556	\$ 6,322
11/26/23	\$ 5,628	\$ 6,016



### The Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 23 4:00pm Vigil  
 Sunday, December 24 7:30, 9:00, & 10:30 am  
 Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve 4:00 pm Vigil  
 Monday, December 25 Christmas Day 9:00 & 10:30 am  
 Saturday, December 30 4:00pm Vigil  
 Sunday, December 31 7:30, 9:00, & 10:30 am  
 Monday, January 1, 2024 New Years Day 8:30am  
 (In the Chapel)  
 (Not a Holy Day of Obligation)

## GOD OF LOVE AND LIFE FATHER, SON and HOLY SPIRIT



“The present heavens and earth have been reserved by the same word for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the godless.” 2 Peter 3:7

There are those, due to their trying to justify their sinful and immoral life style, that will insinuate that nothing has changed in a thousand years and God is no longer guiding history.

They do so at their own peril. Those of us who are faithful to the word of God and support life and a virtuous life style, know we must remain vigilant and ready.

*Do you know bleeding from chemical abortions can lead to life-threatening hemorrhaging.*

**Listen to the Word, Be Virtuous, Support Life**



St. Pio Parish welcomes

**Anita Connell**

into its faith community.

### Oplatki Wafers Available

The family-centered tradition of sharing Oplatki before the Christmas Eve meal is a wonderful celebration of love and forgiveness that has its origins in Poland. Family members and guests each break a piece of the wafer and share it with the next person at the table along with an expression of love, blessing and sometimes, forgiveness. In America, it is often referred to as “Christmas Wafers.” Each package includes 3 white wafers, 1 pink wafer and pamphlet with prayers and an explanation of this Christmas tradition. If you’d like to have some, please call the parish office for a Christmas Wafer pack.



### Join Us For A Healing Mass With Healing Prayers - All Are Welcome

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 14, Noon  
**WHERE:** St. Pio of Pietrelcina Church  
 1100 Grand Central Ave.  
 (Rt. 35N) Lavallette  
**WHO:** Celebrant Fr. Joe  
**CONTACT:** [DawnRusinko@yahoo.com](mailto:DawnRusinko@yahoo.com)  
 for more information

The Knights of Columbus Council 8415 invite all parishioners and their families to a

# Breakfast with Santa

and a **50/50 RAFFLE**

**Sunday, December 10**  
9 a.m. until noon

**Saint Catharine of Siena Church Hall**  
50 E Street, Seaside Park

Each child in attendance will be entered into a free raffle for one girl's and one boy's bicycle and helmet!

**\$10 Adults**  
**Kids 5 & under free**

*Pay at the door*

**The Holy Name Society**  
**of the**  
**Parish of St. Pio**  
Presents  
**New Years Eve Gala**



Featuring  
**Off-R-Rockerz**

Sunday, December 31, 2023  
Doors Open at 8:00pm  
Music & Dancing from 9:00pm - 12:30am  
St. Pio Parish Hall  
Rt. 35N. & Philadelphia Ave.  
Lavallette, NJ  
\$25. pp Includes: Party Favors, Coffee, Dessert,  
Soda & Water  
Checks made out to: St. Pio Holy Name Society  
BYO - Food & Drink

For Further Information & Tickets Call:

Gary 908-672-6710  
John 732-259-3577  
Tom 732-995-0044

# STANDING TOGETHER FOR Life

**SAVE the DATE**

**FRIDAY**  
**JANUARY 19, 2024**

**Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold**

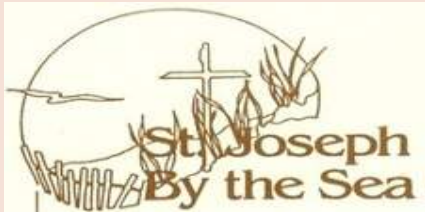
<p><i>Mass for Life</i></p> <p>11:00 a.m.</p> <p>CELEBRATED BY <b>Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.</b></p> <p>All are invited to the Mass for Life</p>	<p><i>Lunch &amp; Seminar</i></p> <p>12:30-3:30 p.m.</p> <p>FEATURING <b>4 Expert Panelists</b></p> <p>Advanced registration required for lunch &amp; seminar</p> <p>REGISTRATION TO OPEN MID-OCTOBER</p>
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To get started with Online Giving, log on to: [www.stpioparish.com](http://www.stpioparish.com) and click on the Parish Giving Logo then follow the easy registration steps.

Parish Giving offers secure flexible online giving for our parishioners who would like to make their donations online using a credit card or bank transfer. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan the budget. Check out the website listed for benefits and details.

**CURRENT BROCHURE CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE – [www.sjbsea.org](http://www.sjbsea.org)**



**February 14, 2024 – ASH WEDNESDAY RETREAT** - Ever wish you could receive more out of Lent? Explore the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and alms giving as we carve out our Lenten plans. Lunch and Eucharistic Liturgy with distribution of ashes included. Arrival: 9:00 a.m./Departure: 2:30 p.m. (Presenter: Janice Santanello, M.Th., CLEM, CSG, CPC) Cost: \$60

**March 19, 2024 – HONORING ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER** - In honor of our patron St. Joseph, the staff cordially invites you to join us at Eucharistic Liturgy as we celebrate this special day. We will pray for peace and healing for ourselves and for our world. Please call to register by March 15. **SPACE WILL BE LIMITED TO 40 PEOPLE.** Refreshments and Blessed Bread after the program. Arrival: 10:30 a.m. Mass: 11:00 a.m./Departure: 1:00 p.m. (Presenters: Staff) Donation

**April 19-21, 2024 - RESTORE AND RENEW** - Relax and renew at the beautiful St. Joseph by the Sea retreat house at the Jersey shore. The weekend is the ideal getaway from a busy life. The program consists of daily gentle yoga, mediation, walks on the beach, fellowship and breath work. You will leave refreshed and better prepared to share your best self with your family and community. Massage therapy will be available. Eucharistic Liturgy included. No Supper on Friday. Arrival: 5:00-6:00 p.m./Departure: 10:30 a.m. (Presenter: Avita Kennedy, RYT) Cost: \$375

**April 26-28, 2024 - SPENDING TIME WITH MARY** - We all have busy lives. Come and set aside the distractions and spend the weekend with Mary, our Mother. She will guide us to renew and transform our faith life to trust, as she trusts, to serve, as she serves. Mary is our greatest example to learn how to respond to God's call with love, gratitude, and faith. Eucharistic Liturgy included. No Supper on Friday. Arrival: 6:00-6:30 p.m./Departure: 11:00 a.m. (Presenter: Ellen Murphy, CSD, AS & Kathy Rivera, RN) Cost: \$400

**May 3-5, 2024 - THE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES OF THE TWELVE STEPS** - Women working a Twelve-Step recovery program are invited to seek the spiritual freedom needed to go about making decisions in our daily lives. This weekend will include spiritual practices and prayer exercises to aid in making life's choices with clarity and confidence. St. Ignatian of Loyola's approach to decision making and discernment will be interwoven with the spiritual principles of the Twelve Steps. Eucharistic Liturgy included. No Supper on Friday. Arrival: 5:00-6:00 p.m./Departure: 1:00 p.m. (Presenter: Maryallyn Black, MPH, M.Ed.) Cost: \$400

Please call St. Joseph by the Sea at 732-892-8494 to register or for additional information.



The Altar Bread and Wine, for the month of December, have been donated in loving memory of **Maureen Quinn**, requested by Francis Quinn.

**Study Theology at Georgian Court University!**

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### **"The Twelve Days of Christmas"**

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written during the sixteenth century by a couple of Jesuits who were playing a dangerous game. During the sixteenth century in England anything Catholic was prohibited and punishable by imprisonment or death. The Catholic faith was forced underground. There was a need to encourage the faith and spread it to the next generation. So these Jesuits taught the faith in code. The code was our song. It sounds harmless to us, but let's look at it more closely.

The **twelve days of Christmas**, as everybody knows, is the period from the Nativity celebration to the Epiphany.

**"My true love gave to me"** is God speaking to the anonymous Catholic.

**Twelve Drummers** drumming are the *twelve beliefs* outlined in the Apostles Creed.

The **eleven pipers** piping are the eleven apostles - Judas having left, who piped the faith in an unbroken tradition.

The **ten lords** a leaping are the Ten Commandments. The **nine ladies** dancing are the nine choirs of angels.

The **eight maids** a milking are the eight beatitudes.

The **seven swans** a swimming are of course, the seven sacraments.

The **six geese** a laying are the six precepts of the Church.

The **five gold rings** are the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Gospel.

The **four calling birds** are the four Gospels that *sing* the Good News.

The **three French hens** are the three gifts of the Magi.

The **two turtle doves** are the Old and the New Testaments.

**And finally of course the partridge in the pear tree is the resplendent Christ reigning from the cross.**

*Our Parish Ministries & Organizations - we invite you to call and join in!*

Committee/Organization	Contact	Phone Number	Email
Adult Altar Servers	Joyce Kobylarz	973-714-6797	jkoby2@aol.com
Altar Linen Laundry	Adele Merkle	732-830-5242	merkles@verizon.net
Collection Counters	Joe Kobylarz/Rich Traverso	973-747-4599	objoekoby@aol.com
Communion for Homebound	Dianne Hayden Theresa Coleman	732-575-0222 732-830-3168	dkhay5@aol.com theresahgts@aol.com
Faith Sharing	Maureen Zebrowski	732-259-1578	mzeb@aol.com
Holy Name Society	Tom Leonard	732-995-0044	thomasleonard62@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus	Alex Barletta, GK	908-578-5095	barlettaa@verizon.net
Ladies Auxiliary to the KofC	Joyce Kobylarz	973-714-6797	jkoby2@aol.com
Lavallette Seniors	James Peeney	732-793-4675	JDPeeney@msn.com
Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers	Joyce Kobylarz	973-714-6797	jkoby2@aol.com
Parish Nurses	Joan Blanchfield	201-362-4148	blanchrn139@gmail.com
Pro-Life	Georgina Vastola	732-742-3986	gmvastola@optimum.net
Raffle Committee	Jack McCormack	732-830-4787	jack17mac@verizon.net
Religious Education & R.C.I.A.	John Paglione	732-899-1398 x5	pages711@gmail.com
Rosary Altar Society	Joan Blanchfield	732-854-1276	blanchrn139@gmail.com
Ushers	Chris Grandinetti	908-910-6214	chris.grandinetti@gmail.com
Wedding Ministry	Joyce Kobylarz	973-714-6797	jkoby2@aol.com
Hall Rental	Marta Barkhausen	732-793-7291	marta@stpioparish.com

HOLY NAME SOCIETY	Meeting	Monday	March 4	5:30pm
ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY	Meeting	Monday	March 4	1:00pm
FAITH SHARING	Meeting	Wednesdays	in December	9:00am
K of C 8415	Meeting	1st Tuesday of Month	January 2	7:00pm
	Meeting	3rd Tuesday of Month	December 20	6:30pm
K of C Ladies Auxiliary	Meeting	Monday	March 25	1:00pm
LAVALLETTE SENIORS				
RIGHT TO LIFE GROUP	2nd Thursday of the month at Sacred Heart, Msgr. Casey Hall			3:30pm
FLAME OF LOVE ROSARY	Recited on Tuesdays at 8am in the Chapel			

62 Cedar Grove Rd.  
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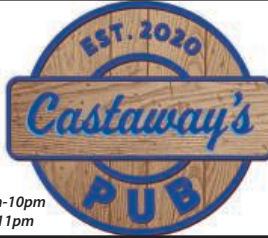
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Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.



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## IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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