

The Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina

103 Washington Avenue, Lavallette, NJ 08735
Phone: 732-793-7291 Fax: 732-793-8204

December 4, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Our Parish is Served by:

Rev. Fr. Joseph Hlubik, Pastor, x302

Rev. Fr. Joy Chacko, Parochial Vicar, x361

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 Sacred 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: 8:30 and 10:30am Church

Holy Day of Obligation (Vigil): 6:00pm Chapel
Holy Day of Obligation: 8:30am Chapel

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT


Saturday
December 3

8:30am For our Parish Families & Their Loved Ones, Living and Deceased

4:00pm Vigil Ed Camacho r/b Margo Camacho
Annette Kurinovich r/b Mary Marra

Sunday
December 4

8:30am For the People of the Parish
For the Intention of
David & Rita Breznak r/b B.T.G.
10:30am Bernard "Buddy" Neugebauer
r/b Diane & Caitlin DeBenedictis
For the Intention of Angela Breznak & Family r/b B.T.G.

Monday
December 5

8:30am Jill Rager r/b Mary Shaffer
Robert Hayden r/b Mary & Tom Moore

Tuesday
December 6

8:30am Josephine Hastings r/b Mary Shaffer
James Oberschmidt
r/b Mary & Tom Moore

After Mass
Miraculous Medal Novena
Wednesday
December 7

8:30am Maureen Galloway r/b Mike Galloway
Ed Roach r/b Tom & Mary Sinnott

6:00pm Vigil Chapel

For the People of the Parish Living and Deceased

Thursday
December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
8:30am Chapel Peter Bowman r/b Mary & Tom Moore
Mary Alice Coghlan
r/b Mary & Tom Moore

After Mass
Divine Mercy Chaplet
December 9

Friday 8:30am Kathleen Minneci r/b Minneci Family
Carol Meyer r/b Mike Galloway

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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, Gina Palmieri, Maureen Zebrowski, Mike Rodriguez, Nicholas Meola, David Vetere, 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).

Deceased: Helen Byrne, Kathleen Pardalos, Jack Howell, Margaret Delaney

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.


Mass Intentions Continued.....
Saturday
December 10

8:30am For our Parish Families & Their Loved Ones, Living & Deceased
Victor Ranchetti r/b Adele

4:00pm Vigil

Fr. Michael Bakaisa
r/b Antonette Daniels
Leonard Stickno r/b Family

Sunday
December 11

8:30am For the People of the Parish
For the intention of Barbara & Joseph Guza & Family r/b B.T.G.

10:30am

Timothy Howell
r/b The Horohoe Family
Uncle John & Aunt Ann Rusnak
r/b B.T.G.

Pride and Humility By Thomas A. Tarrants-C.S.Lewis Institute (*last in a series*) HUMILITY

Pride is a universal human problem. Everyone suffers from it to some degree. When we have exalted ourselves in pride, God does not want to punish us and bring us low but rather to forgive and restore us. He says again and again in Scripture, humble yourselves, and I will exalt you. This gives us hope and encouragement. God takes pleasure in our efforts to humble ourselves, and he loves to bless and exalt the humble. For just as pride is the root of all sin, so “humility is the root, mother, nurse, foundation, and bond of all virtue,” as John Chrysostom once remarked. Admittedly, humility and the humbling of oneself is out of fashion in today’s world and seems unappealing to most of us. However, as Jonathan Edwards said, “We must view humility as one of the most essential things that characterizes true Christianity.” Our perspective on humility can be radically changed if we will ponder and meditate on the greatest example of humility in history: Jesus Christ. By the very act of leaving heaven, coming to earth, and taking the form of man, he demonstrated an unfathomable humbling of himself. Throughout his life on earth, Jesus demonstrated a spirit of profound humility, saying that he came “not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matt. 20:28). On his last night with the disciples, he took a towel and basin and washed their dirty feet (John 13:1–11), instructing them to follow his example of servanthood with one another (John 13:12–17). Andrew Murray captures it well, “Christ is the humility of God embodied in human nature; the Eternal Love humbling itself, clothing itself in the garb of meekness and gentleness, to win and serve and save us.

The apostle Paul may well have been thinking of this very scene in the Upper Room when he urged the believers in Philippi: *Have this mind among yourselves which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross (Phil. 2:5–8).*

Paul is here encouraging ordinary believers in a local church, who apparently have some measure of sinful pride in their hearts and relationships, to reflect on and adopt the attitude and actions of Jesus their Lord and follow his example of humility. The consequences of such an attitude may give us pause. Humbling ourselves could be costly in the workplace, in the community, or in other ways. However, that is a shortsighted, worldly perspective. For the passage continues: *Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Phil. 2:9–11).*

How do we gain the mind of Christ and humble ourselves? To put on the mind of Christ, we will need to make a firm decision to ponder, understand, and adopt Jesus’ way of thinking; his values and attitudes must become ours. His strong emphasis on humility and meekness and his example of it must take hold of our thinking, our desires and our conduct. We must admire his humility and want it for ourselves. For this to happen, we need to earnestly and regularly pray for the Holy Spirit to change our hearts, for it is impossible to do it in our own strength. We will also need to understand what Jesus meant when he called men and women to humble themselves. We discover that from the Greek word Jesus and the apostles used, tapeinos, which conveys the idea of having a right view of ourselves before God and others. If pride is an exalted sense of who we are in relation to God and others, humility is having a realistic sense of who we are before God and others. We must not think too highly (or too lowly) of ourselves. Rather, we must be honest and realistic about who and what we are.

This lies behind Paul’s thinking when he tells the Romans, “*For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment*” (Rom. 12:3). He then proceeds to instruct the believers in how to use the spiritual gifts God has imparted to them to serve one another (Rom. 12:4–8). In other words, humility is having a right view of ourselves in relation to God and others and acting accordingly. Truly, humility is our greatest friend. It increases our hunger for God’s word and opens our hearts to his Spirit. It leads to intimacy with God, who knows the proud from afar, but dwells with him “who is of a contrite and lowly spirit” (Isa. 57:15). It imparts the aroma of Christ to all whom we encounter. It is a sign of greatness in the kingdom of God (Luke 22:24–27).



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



If you would like to lift your spirits and learn a little more about your faith and well-being think about attending the **St Pio Parish Faith Sharing Group**. They meet once a week on Wednesdays after morning Mass and spend about one hour discussing the readings for the next Sunday and what they mean to us personally. Men and women both are welcome. Please contact Maureen Zebrowski if you are interested or would like more information.



We welcome the newest members of St. Pio Parish, the

**Caso Family
Jared, Deanna, Carmine and Giada**

into its faith community.



We welcome

Victoria Adele Daigle

into the faith community of St. Pio's Parish.

Victoria was baptized on Sunday, November 20th. Congratulations to the Daigle family.

HELP NEEDED

Retired priest living in Lavallette with his own car needs a driver for shopping, errands and appointments. Biweekly house cleaning is also needed. If you are able to assist with either of the above, please call Chris Anderson at 973-975-6523 or Joyce Kobylarz at 973-714-6797. Thank you!



St. Francis Food Pantry in Seaside Heights is opened on Wednesdays from 10am until 12 noon. The demand for donations is great. Please consider bringing some food items with you when you attend Mass each Sunday. Donations may be left in the bin in the narthex of the Church. If you would like to donate items, and you are unable to carry the packages to Mass, please call Paul Sandy at 732-606-3656. He would be happy to stop by your home to do a pick up. The food pantry is grateful for the support that has been given over the years and hopefully you will continue to support your neighbors who are in need.

Thank you!



PARISH INFORMATION

Anointing of the Sick - This sacrament is for those facing serious illness or surgery, and for those of advanced years. If you or a family member is planning to enter the hospital, please see one of the priests following Mass to receive this sacrament or call the parish office for an appointment.

Baptisms and Marriages

Please visit St. Pio's web site for information and call the parish office to schedule. www.stpioparish.com

Receiving Communion:

- Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand. Those wishing to receive Communion on the tongue should wait until the end of the Communion distribution and receive from the Priest.
- Only Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion with a valid Sacred Heart/St. Pio ID card can receive Communion in a Pyx to take to the sick and home-bound. For anyone that is not a Eucharistic Minister and is requesting a Host needs to see the Priest before or after Mass. Hosts will not be distributed during Mass.
- If you need a low gluten Host, please go to the Communion line in the front on the pulpit side, and ask the Eucharistic Minister.

Thank You for your Support!!

Contributions Weekend of Nov. 27, 2022	This Past Week	Same week Last Year
At Church	\$4,965	\$4,001
Online	\$1,051	\$1,286
Total	\$6,016	\$5,287



*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.*



Sponsorship Certificates Letters of Eligibility

Godparents and sponsors, together with the parents must be willing to help the baptized grow in love for Christ and neighbor. By word and example, the godparents will encourage the candidate to live the Christian life and fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it. (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 872-874).

A sponsor must:

- be at least 16 years of age.
- have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist & Confirmation.
- if married, must have been married in the Catholic Church.
- attend Mass faithfully participating in the life and support of the Church, receiving the Eucharist, and leading a life according to the teachings of the Church.
- be registered at the Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina for at least six (6) months prior to the request.

Please note, if you received all your sacraments at St. Pio of Pietrelcina years ago but now live elsewhere, you are a member of the parish in whose territory you reside. This is where the sponsor certificate must be obtained.

****Children of parishioners over 21 years of age should register independently.****

Contributions Weekend of Nov. 20, 2022	This Past Week	Same week Last Year
At Church	\$4,971	\$4,422
Online	\$1,351	\$1,611
Total	\$6,322	\$6,033



The **Rosary Altar Society** is sponsoring their annual drive for our military from now through January, 2023. A container is provided in the parish center entrance and in the vestibule of the Church for all your gifts. You can bring your donations to the parish center Mondays through Wednesdays between 9am and 2pm and before and after all weekend Masses at the Church. Your gifts will be delivered overseas in time for Valentine's Day. A list of gifts is attached to each container for your convenience. Some, i.e., can be: paperback books, toiletries, puzzles, gloves, socks, packaged tea, nuts, tuna, pens, Valentine cards, and batteries. Thank you for your generosity!

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Clothing Drive



What's in your closet?

The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary invites all parishioners to join us in our winter clothing drive to benefit the homeless in the Toms River area. We are now looking for clean WINTER clothing for men, women and children. So clean out your closets and call Angie (908-705-1483) or Joyce (732-830-3467) for details on how to donate. Thank you!



GOD OF LOVE AND LIFE FATHER, SON and HOLY SPIRIT

“Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
Matthew 3:2

Every age thinks they are close to the world's end and our age is no exception. Certainly the signs are all there that the end may be close. Nonetheless, we will all have our individual end of the world.

Repent during Advent. Prepare to meet the Lord. Be faithful in our daily lives to the word of God and do His will. Support life from conception to natural death and battle against abortion, child mutilation and the teaching of perversion to our youth.

BE and ACT PRO-LIFE!



The Altar Bread and Wine, for the month of December, have been donated in loving memory of **William B. Lyons** requested by the Lyons Family.

NEW EYES for the NEEDY

The **Knights of Columbus, Council 8415**, provides a container in the vestibule of the Church for the collection of used eyeglasses. They are sent to the Lyons Club. The eyeglasses are tested and sorted by volunteers for use by medical missions and hospitals in the Caribbean, Central and South America, Africa, Asia and Central Europe as well as by American veterans. Please remember to drop your old eyeglasses in the container. Thank you.



“Cookies & Carols”



Spend a relaxing Sunday afternoon with the K of C Ladies Auxiliary! Enjoy complimentary crackers and cheese (BRING YOUR OWN WINE!), while you learn about the origin of Christmas and some interesting stories behind our popular Christmas carols. Join in singing some cheerful Christmas songs, then enjoy complimentary decaf coffee and holiday cookies!

Date: December 11th - 2pm - St Pio's Hall

NO COST - FREE WILL OFFERING ONLY



The Knights of Columbus
will have the
“Keep Christ in Christmas”
magnets available
after all weekend Masses for
\$5.00 each.

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1430 AM or WWJZ 640AM



I encourage you all to listen to relevant radio. Their mission is to bring Christ to the world through the media. Relevant radio provides interactive Catholic programming 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week. You can also visit the website at relevantradio.com and download the APP to your phone or computer and take your Catholic faith with you wherever you go! To download the free Relevant Radio app on your smartphone or tablet, search ‘Relevant Radio’ in the Apple App Store, Google Play Store and Amazon.com. Or add the Skill to your Amazon ALEXA – all you need to do is say “Alexa, enable the Relevant Radio Skill,” or visit the Skills section of your Alexa Smartphone App and search for Relevant Radio. Bless you, Father Joe

December 4, 2022

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Pio of Pietrelcina,



This is the last weekend for the Christmas Giving Tree, **December 3 and 4, 2022**. The gifts will be sorted and delivered in time for Christmas.

Our Christmas tree is by the Altar with tags designated to either girls or boys and their age. Feel free to take a tag or two after Mass and when you can, put your special donation under the tree. Or, you can bring your gift up to the Parish office, Monday-Wednesday 9am-2pm. **Please do not wrap the gifts! NO NEED TO TAKE A TAG, feel free to give a donation of your choice. The age group is 0-17 years old, gift cards are also appreciated.**

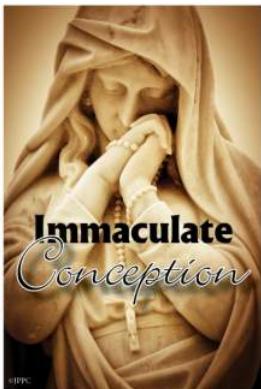
A very special thank you to Kathy Diffley for your partnership with this project. To our new friend and volunteer, Cathie Castagnola, thank you for your spirit and for helping us. To Chris Grandinetti and all of our Ushers for making sure our gifts were secure, to Pat & Bill Kevish for taking the gifts over to our Parish every Saturday at 4pm, Greg Bierster, my husband and helping hand and to Connie Barraco for this beautiful ad in the bulletin.

Mostly, thank you and God Bless each and every one of you for your generous donations. Wishing you a very happy and healthy Advent season.

Giving Tree Chairladies: Laura: 917-693-5147 and Kathy 908-451-8687

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 office for a Christmas Wafer pack.



**The Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation
December 8, 2022**

**Vigil Mass December 7th - 6:00pm in the Chapel
Thursday, December 8th - 8:30am in the Chapel**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Padre Pio Prayer Anthology

Our first parish prayer anthology will include many types of prayers. We will begin our collection with prayers that you can use to develop a relationship with God that is more personal and intimate.

Prayer #42:

Focus Point: Some people feel that they are especially “blessed” by God. Maybe they are just luckier in life than others. Regardless of which way you look at it, most of us would agree that we are certainly fortunate to have so many comforts in life beyond the basic necessities. Our hearts go out to those born into poverty, disease and homelessness. Many have no source of comfort. Many are without knowledge of our loving God, the source of all comfort. Having just celebrated Thanksgiving, we are filled with feelings of love for our family, and genuine gratitude for opportunities that have provided us a comfortable life. We show our gratitude by embracing the corporal works of mercy, especially during the holiday season. As Fr Joe reminds us, “The core of our faith is sacrificial living and sacrificial loving. This is what God is about. This is what Jesus is about. In charity we do the best we can in our daily lives to help those less fortunate. Pray hard that we will be inspired by the Lord to achieve this for our world!”

Prayer for Having an Attitude of Gratitude and Acting On It

Dear Lord, Thank You for the comforts of life that I was born into. Thank you for providing opportunities for me to earn a living and provide for myself and my family. Thank you for the gift of my parents who brought me up to believe in You and who nourished my Catholic faith, so that I may feel Your love, comfort and support. Help me to feel a strong and motivating sense of genuine gratitude. Help me to feel a sense of responsibility for my fellow man, and an urgent desire to help those less fortunate. Please inspire me with an idea of how I can help those in need both physically and spiritually. Gift me with Your grace that I might stick with it and continue to do my part to better mankind. And may my attitude of gratitude bring me immense joy, and a deeper, more loving relationship with You all the days of my life. Amen.

Closing thoughts: Tell Jesus what is in your heart. Thank Him for your gifts and most of all, thank Him for loving you with His Most Sacred Heart!

IRA Charitable Rollover

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Due to an increased standard deduction, many individuals and couples will no longer be able to claim itemized deductions. However, a tax-free IRA charitable rollover offers the following benefit to individuals age 70 1/2 or older:

- The ability to direct a current, outright IRA gift, up to \$100,000, to our church, or other qualified charities
- Satisfaction of the required minimum distribution without increasing taxable income
- No loss of a charitable contribution itemized deduction
- Ability to direct your gift to any area of our parish operations

For more information, please contact:

Marta Barkhausen, Business Manager
732-793-7291 x322 or marta@stpioparish.com

PROMISE TO PROTECT- PLEDGE TO HEAL

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org. The diocese reports allegations of abuse to the law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation should provide information to law enforcement authorities.

December 4, 2022



*Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina
Christmas Luncheon
Monday, December 5, 2022
12 noon to 4:00 pm
Lobster Shanty
Point Pleasant Beach, NJ*

ADVENT RETREAT DAY

All are welcome to our Medjugorje Advent retreat day, Wednesday, December 7th, 9 -11am in the upper Kolbe Hall, St. Peter's Church, 406 Forman Ave., Point Pleasant. Fr. Joseph Brennan will be the guest speaker. Please RSVP if you are going to attend and if you can bring a snack to share. For further information contact dawnrusinko@yahoo.com



The Holy Name Society of the Parish of St. Pio

Presents

New Years Eve Gala

Featuring

Off-R-RockerZ

Saturday. December 31, 2022

Doors Open: 8:00pm

Music and Dancing: 9:00pm - 12:30am

St Pio Parish Hall
Rt. 35 No. & Philadelphia Ave.
Lavallette, NJ
\$25.00 PP

Includes: Party Favors, Coffee, Dessert, Soda and Water
Checks Made Out To: St . Pio Holy Name Society
BYO - Food and Drink

For Further Information and Tickets Call:

Gary	908-672-6710
Bill	732-250-2151
John	732-259-3577
Tom	732-995-0044



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	Bill Haight	201-334-6686	beachbum09@optonline.net
Knights of Columbus	Donald Almasy, GK	732-407-3226	throssell@verizon.net
Ladies Auxiliary to the KofC	Joyce Kobylarz	973-714-6797	jkoby2@aol.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	pags711@gmail.com
Rosary Altar Society	Joan Blanchfield	732-854-1276	blanchrn139@gmail.com
Wedding Ministry	Joyce Kobylarz	973-714-6797	jkoby2@aol.com
Ushers	Chris Grandinetti	908-910-6214	chris.grandinetti@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF ORGANIZATIONS

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

K of C LADIES AUXILIARY

<u>FAITH SHARING</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>December 7, 2022</u>	<u>9:00am</u>
<u>KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 8415</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>December 6, 2022</u>	<u>7:00pm</u>
<u>KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 8415</u>	<u>Social</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>December 14, 2022</u>	<u>6:30pm</u>
<u>PARISH Christmas Party</u>		<u>Monday</u>	<u>December 5, 2022</u>	<u>12 Noon</u>

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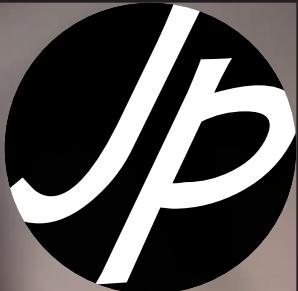
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Please join us by making a difference and help us
reach our goal of raising 1 Million dollars.

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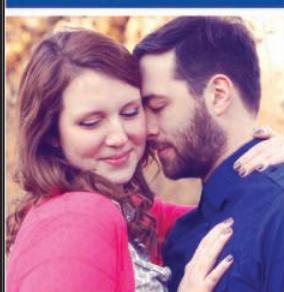
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