

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

February 4, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Everyone
is **looking**
for you.

MARK 1:37

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. Tues. Wed. 9am - 2pm

Mass Schedule

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am Chapel

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00pm Church

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

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



Saturday, February 3, 2024

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

Vigil

4:00pm Mary Fehrle r/b Daughters & Family
Mary Fehrle r/b Daughters & Family

Sunday, February 4, 2024

7:30am For the People of the Parish
Richard Romelle r/b Richie & Ann Casella

9:00am Bernadette Flaherty r/b Jean Flaherty

10:30am Ronald Haley r/b Chris Grandinetti

Monday, February 5, 2024

8:30am James F. Hannon r/b Tom & MaryAnn Sinnott

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

8:30am William Connors r/b Niece

After Mass **Miraculous Medal Novena**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

8:30am Michael Donovan r/b John & Christine Misko

Thursday, February 8, 2024

8:30am Tyler Rusinko r/b Mary Jane Petillo

After Mass **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

Friday, February 9, 2024

8:30am James Higgins r/b Family

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

Saturday, February 10, 2024

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

Vigil

4:00pm Fr. Emmitt Carroll r/b Antonette Daniels
Intentions for Diane Simmons r/b St. Pio Parish

Sunday, February 11, 2024

7:30am For the People of the Parish
For the Intentions of Nick & Roman
r/b Laura & Greg Bierster

9:00am Harry Martyn r/b Ducsak Family
Andrew Capasso r/b Penney Family

10:30am Robert & Florence Tynski r/b Son

Healing:

Fr. Douglas Freer, Nick Lettas, Mary Anne Grandinetti, Mary Buontempo, Pat McCourt, Maureen Burrell, Baby Landon Wierks, Ginny & Emil Stefanacci, Nicholas Meola, Joe Romano, Alan Kurinovich, Eddie McCrabb, Joseph Winchock, Antonette Daniels, Janet Daniels, Vince Covello, Amina Gavan, Pam McClellan, Maegan Higham, Karen Caufield, Jeff McBride, Fr. Joe Hlubik, Gina Kwortnik, Eileen Carroll, Michael Garcia, Alex Barletta, Jr., Ann O'Neill, Greg Thomas, 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: Arline Daley, Peter Barkhausen, Tyler Rusinko, Andrew Capasso

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

Capt. Calvin Smith, U. S. Army (deployed)

Lt. Col. Wesley Dixon, U. S. Air Force



Continued from last week's bulletin.....



LIFE: WORTH DEFENDING, WORTH CELEBRATING

Since our greatest dignity lies in being icons of Jesus, we have reason to celebrate the gift of life even in the midst of suffering. Trials do not diminish the image of God in us. The splendor of Christ often shines most brilliantly in those who walk the Way of the Cross. The lives of the saints are proof enough of this.

Christian celebration is not Martha Stewart-style celebration. It is not always pretty. Christians celebrate a Babe lying on a bed of straw, a Head crowned with thorns, and an empty tomb. We can find Jesus in every person, and this is worthy of celebration.

Every person desires to be celebrated. Children are unabashed in this desire, calling out from the playground to parents and strangers alike, “Look at me! Look what I can do!” As we grow, we tend to conceal this longing. Yet, in the age of social media, you need not look far to see we do not grow out of it. And that is a good thing. God put this desire in our hearts because he longs to fulfill it. We are made to be looked upon with love and delight by the Father.

“He loves you for you,” our founder, Cardinal John O’Connor, used to remind people. “Not for your talents, not for your potential, not for any money you may have, not for your educational experience, he loves you for you.” It can be hard to believe this, especially in the face of our own sins and woundedness. One of the great privileges we have, as Sisters of Life, is to accompany those who are suffering after the experience of abortion. Jesus longs to pour out his mercy on them. I will never forget the first time I helped in our Hope & Healing mission. I had the great joy of baking a birthday cake for one of the women we were accompanying. After her abortion, she had stopped celebrating her own birthday. Through the journey of healing, the Lord revealed to her that, in spite of her past, she was worthy of celebration. We want every person to know this.

There is more to the pro-life movement than fighting against abortion, as important and essential as that is. We cringe when we are labeled, simply, “anti-abortion,” and we insist on calling ourselves, instead, “pro-life.” Instead of being only against something, we are also and more fundamentally for something ... or, rather, someone. We believe every person is precious, unrepeatable and irreplaceable.

Is a festival for life out of place? Not at all. The theme of “Life Fest” is “Because Love Is the Answer.” Over the years, that initial summons — do something about abortion — has been transformed, for me, into a summons that is infinitely more simple and infinitely more demanding: Love! Love the unborn. Love their mothers. Love the poor, the sick, the elderly. Love every person. The tragedy of abortion will one day end, but the task of love is eternal.

Sister Charity S/V was raised in Orillia, ON, Canada, and graduated from Carleton University in Ottawa, ON with a degree in journalism. She entered the Sisters of Life in 2016, and professed first vows on August 4, 2019. Sister Charity currently lives at Sacred Heart Convent in New York City, and serves as the Assistant Director of the Respect Life Office for the Archdiocese of New York.

Unexpected Quotations -A Reflection for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Most churches have outdoor signs that display the Mass schedule and sometimes include a biblical quotation. Imagine seeing a church sign that displays the following scripture quote: “Is not man’s life on earth a drudgery?” Or another sign with the words “I have been assigned months of misery” or “I shall not see happiness again.”

We might wonder why a parish would choose to put such words on its signage. Yet those are among the words that were chosen by the Church to be proclaimed at Mass today.

These quotes are from the first Reading from the Book of Job. Job expresses how he feels after enduring unbearable sufferings. Despite his righteousness and fidelity to God, everything went wrong in Job’s life. His children died, he lost all his wealth, property, and social status and was afflicted by horrible physical ailments as well as scorned by his wife and thought a sinner by his friends due to the evils set upon him. For Job, life had become a drudgery and misery. He felt abandoned by God who seemed to ignore his prayers of pleadings.

Though we will not endure all the suffering that came upon Job our lives do have their periods of drudgery, sickness, worry, and anxiety. We may endure the loss of employment, the end of a relationship, or the death of loved one. We have moments when happiness and God seem far away. In addition, we live in a world filled with misery war, violence, suffering, turmoil, polarization and distrust. We feel beaten down like Job.

Despite his pain & suffering, Job did not lose faith in God. In the end Job was healed and rewarded for his faithfulness. God eventually made all things right. “Thus the Lord blessed the later days of Job more than his earlier ones” (Job 42:12). Certainly, Job would have preferred that God acted immediately as happened in this week’s Gospel. When Jesus entered the home of Peter and Andrew, he was told Peter’s mother-in-law was suffering from a fever. Jesus immediately responded, “He approached, grasped her hand and helped her up. Then the fever left her” God acts when and how He chooses.

We might not be attracted by church signs about drudgery, misery, and unhappiness. But as we learn from Job and from human experience, suffering is part of life. It comes at one time or another to everyone, even the innocent. Certainly, the cross of Jesus is proof of that. *From LookingToSunday.com*

Thank You for your Support!!

Contributions Weekend	This Past Week 1/28/24	Same Week Last Year 1/29 /23
At Church	\$5,326	\$4,053
Online	\$1,105	\$1,055
Total	\$6,431	\$5,108



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.

MONTH FOUR DEVELOPING BABY

Well, your little baby now weighs 6 ounces. She has fingernails and eyelashes. She has her own unique fingerprints which all remain unchanged until she dies. Her taste buds are working. Her sense of hearing is present at 14 weeks. There are no major bodily developments anymore. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well formed internally and externally. All she needs now is time to gain weight and to grow strong.



Lenten Bible Study

When: Thursdays; Feb. 15, 22, 29, March 7,14, & 21
Time: 9:30-11 am
Where: St. Pio Parish Hall, 103 Washington Ave
Who: All are welcome
What: **Discovering who you are in Christ**-We are all called to holiness, but what does that mean? It's not what you think. This book offers you a weapon of truth so that you can stand in your identity as a child of God. It gives personal examples and practical suggestions that motivate and inspire, while convinces attainable transformation.
Cost: \$12
 To Register: send a check made out to St. Pio's Church to Dawn Rusinko 103 Washington Ave Lavallette NJ 08735
 For more info please contact dawnrusinko@yahoo.com

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



“He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and drove out many demons.” Mark 1:34

Our Lord demonstrated His power over evil in many ways; raising the dead, curing the sick and casting out demons. His miracles and His gospel message are all about His coming to defeat the powers of evil and to vanquish sin and death.

We as Catholic Christians are called to be more than sideline observers. We too are expected to help in the defeat of evil. How about starting with abortion?

Do you know that Planned Parenthood got \$1.8 billion of your tax dollars to fund its abortion business. (Government Accountability Office)

Support Life, Seek the Truth, Vote Life

Respect Life Committee at SHRCBH@comcast.net



A donation was made for the Altar Bread and Wine for the month of February in loving memory of **Michael Buontempo**, requested by Greg and Mary.

Sacred Heart's Holy Name Monthly 50/50 Club



is open to all parishioners and visitors. The monthly drawing is held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. \$60.00 gives you (12) chances to win. Make your check payable to Sacred Heart 200 Club and return to the parish office.

Catholic Charities News

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton and Recycle-America have joined forces to provide a new service. Now, some one will come to your door to collect your clothing and shoes. All items will be donated to those in need in our local community. Pickups in Monmouth County are made on Wednesdays. To schedule a pickup, please call 609-906-0004 or email racworld2015@gmail.com. Please call or email three days prior to pick up day. Catholic Charities provides assistance with food, housing, drug addiction, domestic violence, and immigration services. If you know a parishioner needing help, please contact us at www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org or call 800-360-7711.

Padre Pio Prayer Anthology

Prayer #56:

Focus Point: God's greatest Commandment is to love! Show your love for God and for your neighbor - it is a beautiful commandment coming directly from God's heart to ours! In a world filled with love, kindness and generosity, there are also many occurrences of hate, disrespect and selfishness. As we try hard to live by God's commandment in our personal lives, we must also try our best to influence others to do the same. Converting the hearts of evil doers is a monumental task! Yet we must try through prayer, through acts of kindness toward those we know and those we have never met, and by offering support to our church and to social programs that build motivation and opportunity for living moral lives. As Fr Joe has stated, "The gospel calls us to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Reach out to show kindness, especially to those in despair."

Prayer for Following God's Greatest Commandment: Dear Lord, Thank you for my many gifts, most especially for the gift of Your love and unfailing support in difficult moments. Knowing that You are always there for me brings me the greatest comfort I could ever imagine. Help me to show my gratitude and love for You by bringing love to others. Help me to seek out those in need and lend a helping hand. Help me to courageously try to help others that I have never met, not just in my community, but in my country and in other parts of the world. Help me to be more self-less, understanding, kind and loving. Remind me to pray not just for my own needs, but for the needs of Your world. Bless me with motivation, determination and opportunity. Amen



Saturday, February 3rd is the Feast of St. Blaise. We will offer the Blessing of the Throats after each Mass on both Saturday and Sunday.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY FEBRUARY SOCIAL

Join us on Monday, February 5th, at 1:00pm in the Chapel to pray the Rosary which will be followed by refreshments and a social in the parish hall.



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Number Attending: _____ Amount: _____

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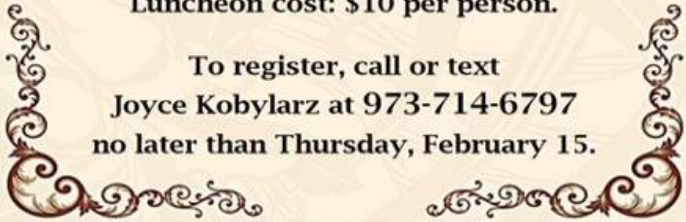
**STATIONS
SOUP & SALAD**

Ladies & Gentlemen:

You are invited to join the
K of C Ladies Auxiliary
on Tuesday, February 20th
at 11:30 a.m. in St. Pio's Chapel
for a simple and prayerful reading of the
Stations of the Cross
followed by a soup and salad luncheon.

Luncheon cost: \$10 per person.

To register, call or text
Joyce Kobylarz at 973-714-6797
no later than Thursday, February 15.




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Project Child Find was established by the New Jersey Department of Education through I.D.E.A., Part B funds from the U.S. Department of Education



The **Knights of Columbus, Council 8415**, provides a container in the vestibule of the Church for the collection of used eyeglasses.


Listen to Stations WNSW 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 relevanradio.com and download the APP to your phone or computer and take your Catholic faith with you wherever you go! Bless you, *Father Joe*

St. Francis Food Pantry in Seaside Heights is opened on Wednesdays from 10am until 12 noon. 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 or you can call Paul Sandy at 732-606-3656. He would be happy to do a pick up. The food pantry is grateful for the support that has been given over the years. Thank you!

**PROMISE TO PROTECT
PLEDGE TO HEAL
SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND
YOUTH PROTECTION**



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and The Diocese of Trenton are committed to the initiatives outlined in the U. S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the report and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

The Diocese has in place a Victim's Assistance Coordinator, who is available to obtain support for your needs and help you make a formal complaint of abuse.

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 an report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1 -888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org

The Diocese encourages anyone with an allegation to also report that abuse to their local law enforcement Agency. The Diocese reports all allegations received to the appropriate county prosecutor's office.

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 theresahtgs@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	pags711@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 February	9:00am
K of C 8415	Meeting	1st Tuesday of Month	February 6	7:00pm
	Meeting	3rd Tuesday of Month	February 20	6:30pm
K of C Ladies Auxiliary	Meeting	Monday	March 25	1:00pm
LAVALLETTE SENIORS	Meeting	Thursday	February 15	12:30pm
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		




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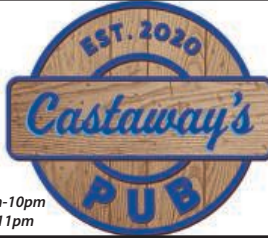
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