

# The Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina

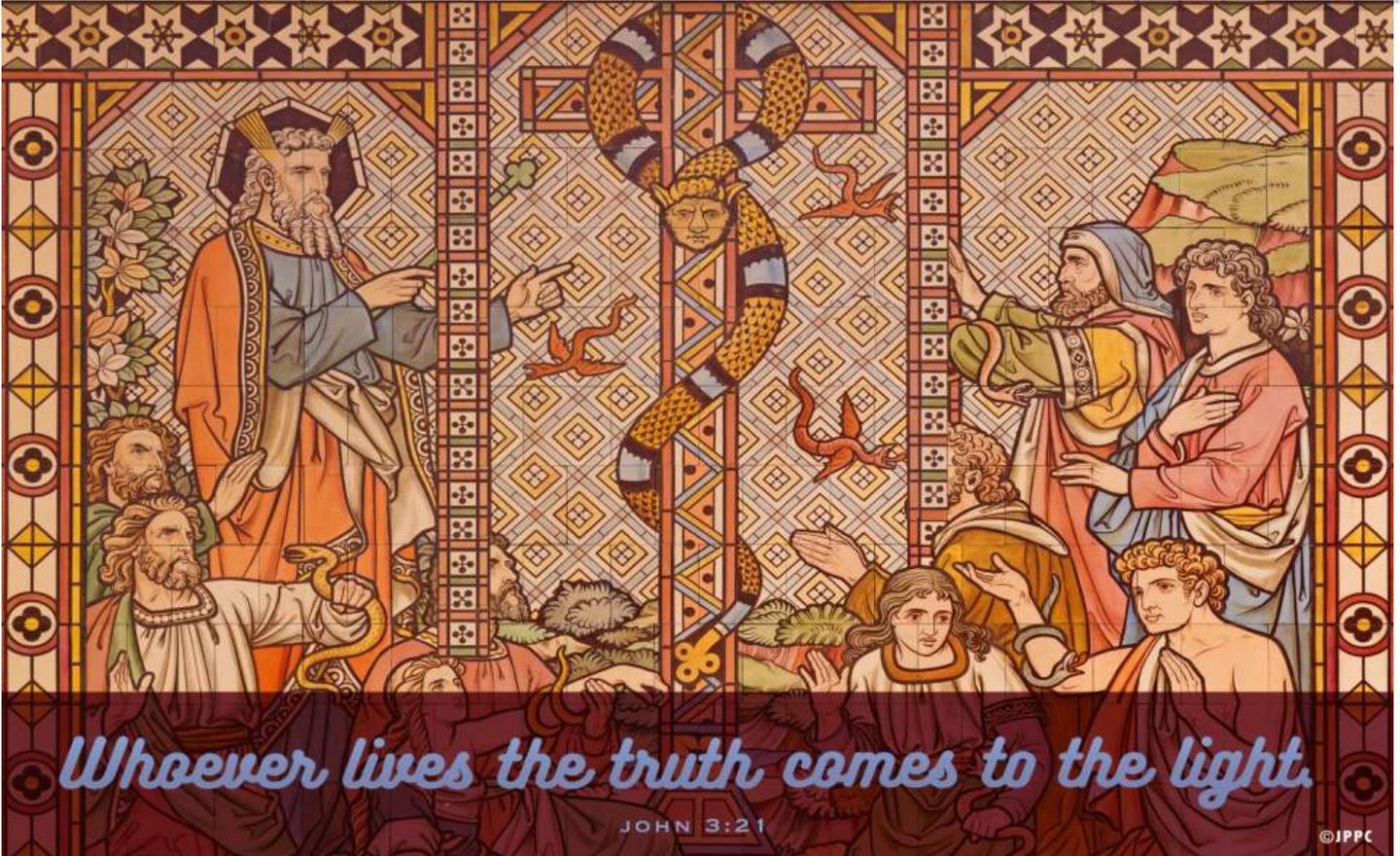
103 Washington Avenue, Lavallette, NJ 08735

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

Web: [www.stpioparish.com](http://www.stpioparish.com) E-mail: [office@stpioparish.com](mailto:office@stpioparish.com)

**March 10, 2024**

**Laetare Sunday**



## **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, March 9, 2024**

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

**Vigil**

**4:00pm** World Peace

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

**7:30am** For the People of the Parish  
Denise Kelly O'Brien r/b Chris & Don

**9:00am** Vinny Marrone r/b Family

**10:30am** Maureen Gillmore r/b Therese Warren  
Mary Beth Langan r/b Konopka Family

**Monday, March 11, 2024**

**8:30am** Pauline N. Cataline r/b Alex Barletta

**Tuesday, March 12, 2024**

**8:30am** Daniel Dugan r/b Family

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

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

**8:30am** Mark English r/b Geer Family  
Edward Parada r/b Linda Miksza

**Thursday, March 14, 2024**

**8:30am** Michael Galloway r/b Bert & Mary Brady

**After Mass** **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

**Friday, March 15, 2024**

**8:30am** Jacqueline Symanek  
r/b Raymond & Catherine Fiorica

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

**Saturday, March 16, 2024**

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

**Vigil**

**4:00pm** Mary Fehrle r/b Daughter & Family  
Joseph Murphy r/b Daughter

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**

**7:30am** For the People of the Parish  
Patrick J. Glynn r/b Laura & Greg Bierster

**9:00am** Ginny Mielnicki r/b Fr. Joy Chacko

**10:30am** For the Intentions of Frank Grandinetti  
r/b Ursula Marcianti  
Mary Fehrle r/b Daughters & Family

**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, Pam McClellan, Fr. Joe Hlubik, Gina Kwortnik, Eileen Carroll, Michael Garcia, Alex Barletta, Jr., Betty Saloom, Pam McCoean, Judi Pecoraro, Lil Cremins, Maegan Higham, Vincent Tavormina, Noreen McLeveala, Ann O'Neill, Ritchie Casale, Jr., Bill Daniels, Mary Finn, 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, Maureen Gillmore, Robert Charowsky

**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.

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



## INVESTED IN US!

### *A reflection for March 10, The Fourth Sunday of Lent*

Shark Tank is a very popular television program. During each episode, aspiring entrepreneurs enter the “tank” to stand before a panel of famous, financially successful investors referred to as “sharks”.

The entrepreneurs tell the sharks about a product or service they have developed. They then offer the sharks an opportunity to invest a certain amount of money for a share in the company they formed to market that product or service.

The sharks evaluate the potential of each entrepreneur’s company to become a financial success. They then decide to accept, modify, or reject the proposed offer.

Entrepreneurs who succeed in getting one or more of the sharks to invest receive financial backing and validation of the product or service they have created.

Those budding capitalists also gain something else: they receive affirmation from highly successful people that they merit an investment.

This Sunday’s readings are about people whom God finds deserving of an investment.

In our First Reading (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23), we hear about the Chosen People who had turned away from God. Their sinfulness had led to the destruction of Jerusalem and their being sent into exile in Babylon. But in his mercy, God did not abandon them. Instead, God continued to invest in them, he continued to show them love and mercy. God prompted King Cyrus to allow the Jewish people to return home and to rebuild the Temple.

Then in our Gospel (John 3:14-21), we hear of the greatest investment that God ever made in the people he created.

As Saint John tells us, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.”

God’s love led him to invest his Son in us so that we might be saved from sin and brought into a new and everlasting relationship with him.

Then in our Second Reading (Ephesians 2:4-10), Saint Paul emphasizes the action of God on our behalf. Paul tells us that we are freed from the hold of sin not through our efforts but because of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ. As Paul says, “by grace you have been saved . . . and this is not from you, it is the gift of God.”

Obviously, God sees our potential to become good and holy people. If he did not, why would God have invested his mercy, his love, and his Son in us?

As we know from watching Shark Tank, investors only put their resources where they see a good opportunity for success.

*Tom Iwanowski from LookingToSunday.com Used with permission.*

## In Memory of Ginny Mielnicki

Ginny Mielnicki, our parish secretary at Sacred Heart, died unexpectedly this past Monday, March 4th at 11:44 am at Jersey Shore Hospital. She had woken in the middle of the night with a horrible headache, and soon after, collapsed on the floor. Tony her husband called for an ambulance immediately, and she was taken to Jersey Shore Hospital. She had a brain aneurysm that had burst. Ginny’s husband Anthony, and her sons Anthony and Taylor and her daughter Alexandra are in deep grieving and shock at her sudden affliction and death. Allison’s daughter Brooke (2yrs old) was a treasured joy who brought much happiness to G-G Grandmom Ginny. Ginny was a deeply religious and prayerful person. She had a host of saints and angels she relied on for help. She was also a pro-life person, not just in regard to babies in the womb, but to all life. As a matter of fact, she would not even swat a fly. She loved animals, especially their dog Tara and cats Max and Dio. She cared for my pets also, and this past year my dog Loki. He looked forward to her coming to the rectory every morning, as she would greet him, often with some kind of treat. She loved working on the weekly bulletin and our Facebook page. Her husband Tony said that working for the Church were the best and happiest years of her life. Ginny had worked at Sacred Heart since Fr. Michael O’Connor hired her in 2013. He said of her when he heard about her death, “She was always ready to help in any way possible. She will be a big loss to Sacred Heart parish. May she rest in peace.” She has been a faithful worker and friend to all who came to the rectory office. People knew her as being very helpful and a happy person, and many came by just to talk to her and say hello. She will be deeply missed by all. I know that I and all the staff at Sacred Heart and St. Pio’s will miss her deeply. She was a trusted friend. Father Joseph Hlubik, Pastor St. Pio & Sacred Heart Facebook Page Ginny posted 98% of the time to our parish’s Facebook page. She was a master of finding Spiritual and Inspirational quotes and artwork, sometimes several each day. She often posted the Saint of the Day with a line or two about their life. Due to Ginny’s efforts our page has 814 Followers (people who get notified of our posts on a daily basis). Her posts brightened the days of many people and will be sorely missed.



Fr. Joe Hlubik

Thank You for your Support!!

Contributions Weekend	This Past Week 3/03/24	Same Week Last Year 3 /05/23
At Church	\$4,110	\$3,349
Online	\$1,080	\$1,081
Total	\$5,190	\$4,430



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.

The Altar Bread and Wine have been donated in the month of March, for the intentions of **Maegan Higham** requested by her grandmother, Sophie Higham.



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

**“And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.” John 3:19**



Those that prefer darkness, prefer it because they do not believe in the Son of God. Thus they condemn themselves by turning from the light, turning from Jesus and practicing evil.

We see many examples in today’s world. We see evil in the mutilation of children, the attempts to turn our children into perverts, the persecution of the faithful and the lessening the value of life through the murder of innocent victims and pre-born babies.

Catholics must vigorously condemn evil acts yet help the perpetrators to see the light.

*Do you know that twins in Ohio born at 22 weeks (12 & 16 ounces) spent 138 days in NICU but are now home!*

**Listen to the Word, Love the Holy Spirit, Love Life**

**Lent Healing Mass**

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at (noon)

**WHERE:** St. Pio of Pietrelcina Church 1100 Grand Central Ave (Rt 35N) Lavallette

**WHO:** Celebrant Fr. Joy Chacko, prayer teams and music (Mark J.L. Mattheiss) from NJ Campus Graduates/Students of Encounter School of Ministry.

**Come join us for a Mass with healing prayers. All are welcome!**  
**CONTACT: [DawnRusinko@yahoo.com](mailto:DawnRusinko@yahoo.com)** for more information

**Listen to Stations WNSW 1430 AM or WWJZ 640AM**



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St. Pio Parish welcomes the **Laird Family** into its’ faith community.

**Nicolette, Ryan and Liam**

**Route 35N South Mantoloking**



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

**RETREATS**

**March 19, 2024 – HONORING ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER**

**April 19-21, 2024 - RESTORE AND RENEW**

**April 26-28, 2024 - SPENDING TIME WITH MARY**

**May 3-5, 2024 - THE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES OF THE TWELVE STEPS**

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

This week we take up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection** to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters, both here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

**Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton and Recycle-America** have joined forces to provide a new service. Now, someone 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](mailto: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](http://www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org) or call 800-360-7711.

St. Peter the Apostle Church invites you to a LENTEN MISSION



**METANOIA –**  
A Call to  
A Change of Heart!



with Franciscan Friar  
Noel Danielewicz

Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> Prayer Service 7PM  
"called to a change of Heart!"  
Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> Evening Prayer 7PM  
"You gotta wade in the Water!"  
Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> Adoration 7PM  
"Do the Mission of Jesus!"

Bring a Bible, pen and invite a friend!

St. Peter the Apostle Church 406 Forman Ave.  
Point Pleasant Beach, NJ



**Franciscan Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi**  
in the footprints of Francis and Clare  
September 10 - 19, 2024, 10 days

Priar Noel Danielewicz, OFM Conv. - *Spiritual Guide*  
All inclusive cost from Newark: \$3,990 per person, dbl room  
Single room supplement: \$500

**Sisters and brothers,**

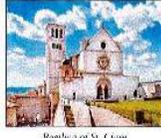
May the Lord give you grace! Journey with us to Rome and Assisi on a pilgrimage of gratitude in the way of Francis & Clare.  
Based in Assisi, we will meet at the homesites of La Verna and Greccio where we celebrate Mass as we visit the sacred sanctuaries. Along the way we will experience the Italian landscape, 13th century art and architecture, the delight of Italian cuisine while being immersed in Gospel spirituality and fraternity.  
This is indeed a blessed moment to walk together as sisters and brothers sharing love for Francis and Clare. This journey is guaranteed to change your life.  
His sandals will travel! Come, Holy Spirit!



St. Peter's Basilica



Greccio



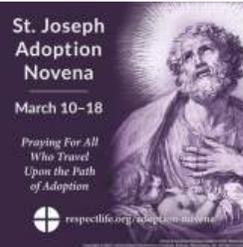
Basilica of St. Clare



Portico della Pace

**PILGRIMAGE PROGRAM**

September 10<sup>th</sup> Fri - Depart for ROME. This evening departure on an overnight flight for Rome with meals on board.  
September 11<sup>th</sup> Sat - ROME - ASSISI. Upon arrival in Rome we will continue by coach to Assisi (120 miles) for a five night stay in the Hotel CRISTALLO. Here we will stay in our private rooms (19).  
September 12<sup>th</sup> Sun - ASSISI. Our first day in Assisi begins with a Mass at the Tomb of St. Francis and a tour of the Basilica of St. Francis. Lunch at a local restaurant and visit the church of St. Mary above the city. The Piazza contains the cathedral of San Rufino. (12, 13)  
September 13<sup>th</sup> Mon - ASSISI. Today we travel to the Basilica of St. Clare and pray at the Chapel of the Crucifix of San Eustachio in the church of Clare. After a delicious lunch we have time to enjoy the scenic shops of the Piazza Santa Chiara. In the afternoon we drive to the church of San Damiano to celebrate Mass and continue on to San Damiano via the tomb of blessed Carlo Acutis. End the day with an evening prayer with the Poor Clares. (14, 15)  
September 14<sup>th</sup> Tue - ASSISI - LA VERNA. Today we head North to La Verna and the Sanctuary of the Stigmatina. Beautifully situated on Mount Verna, we celebrate Mass in the hermitage. After lunch in the Pilgrims Dining Room in the chapel of the Stigmatina and enter the hermitage to admire the views and read the words of Della Porta. (16, 17)  
September 15<sup>th</sup> Wed - ASSISI - BASTIA RIVOTORTO. We start with the Sunday Mass in Rivotorto, a small chapel on the walls of the town of Santa Maria degli Angeli from where the Franciscan movement began. After lunch we return to the town of Rivotorto, the first residence of the Church of Santa Maria degli Angeli. (18, 19)  
September 16<sup>th</sup> Thu - ROME. After breakfast, we will get acquainted with the remains of the St. Peter's Basilica and have Mass in one of the chapels at the Vatican Museums. After lunch we will walk to the Vatican Museums to admire the renowned art and visit the Holy Cross, Chapel of St. Peter in the center of Rome within walking distance to Vatican City. (20, 21)  
September 17<sup>th</sup> Fri - ROME. After breakfast, we will get acquainted with the remains of the St. Peter's Basilica and have Mass in one of the chapels at the Vatican Museums. After lunch we will walk to the Vatican Museums to admire the renowned art and visit the Holy Cross, Chapel of St. Peter in the center of Rome within walking distance to Vatican City. (22, 23)  
September 18<sup>th</sup> Sat - ROME. On our final day in Rome we meet a local guide for a tour of its ancient monuments: the Colosseum, Forum, Piazza Termini, included is the magnificent Basilica of St. John at once where we celebrate Mass. It is here that St. Francis received the Pope's approval of the Franciscan Rule (July of 1223). (24, 25)  
September 19<sup>th</sup> Sun - ROME - USA. After breakfast, depart for the airport and goodbye for our flight home. (26)

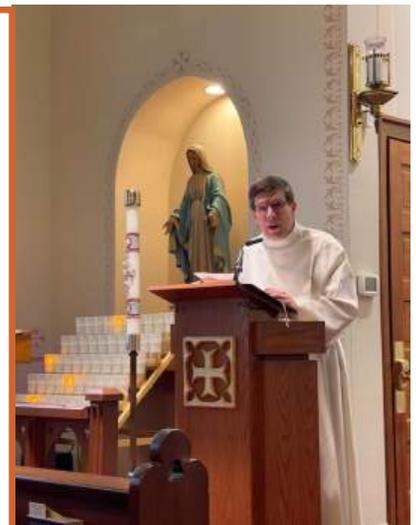


**St. Joseph Adoption Novena**  
March 10 - 18  
March 10 - 18, 2024

Invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, foster father of

Jesus, we pray for all whose life stories include adoption. Each day includes short Scriptural passages and prayers and focuses on a different group of people who are involved in the adoption process. You can download the Novena at [respectlife.org/adoption-novena](http://respectlife.org/adoption-novena)

Our Deaconate Candidate, Dr. James Turro, will be at our parish to assist us. We welcome him and look forward to his ordination as a Deacon in May of this year.



**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](mailto: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.

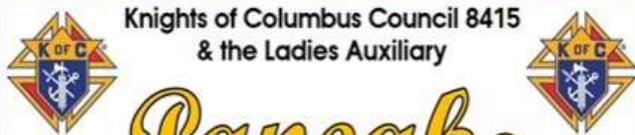
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For more information, please contact:  
Marta Barkhausen, Business Manager  
732-793-7291 x322 or [marta@stpioparish.com](mailto:marta@stpioparish.com)

New parish volunteers are always needed and welcome on a weekly and/or monthly schedule. If you can help in any way big or small, please call Joyce at 973-714-679.



Knights of Columbus Council 8415  
& the Ladies Auxiliary

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Breakfast**

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MARCH 24**



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**Knights of  
Columbus**

**HOLY HOUR**

The Knights of Columbus Council 8415 will be holding a Holy Hour every Friday during Lent. Please join us.

**St. Pio Chapel 3:00 - 4:00pm.**

*"And He cometh to his disciples, and findeth them asleep, and He saith to Peter: What? Could you not watch one hour with me?" Matt. 26:40*

*Stations of the Cross* in the Chapel following the 8:30am Mass every Friday during Lent.

**Penance Service, with Confession**

Thursday, March 21 from 4pm in the Church.

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Palm Sunday - March 24 - Sat., 4pm Vigil and Sun. 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30am  
Holy Thursday - March 28 - 7pm  
Good Friday - March 29 - 3pm Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion  
Holy Saturday - March 30 - 7pm Vigil  
Easter Sunday - March 31 - 7:30, 9:00, & 10:30am

*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	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Please Call the Office</b>	
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 Parish Volunteers	Marta Barkhausen Joyce Kobylarz	732-793-7291 973-714-6797	marta@stpioparish.com jkoby2@aol.com

HOLY NAME SOCIETY	Meeting	Monday		5:30pm
ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY	Meeting	Monday		1:00pm
FAITH SHARING	Meeting	Wednesdays	in March	9:00am
K of C 8415	Meeting	1st Tuesday of Month		7:00pm
	Meeting	3rd Tuesday of Month	March 19	6:30pm
K of C Ladies Auxiliary	Meeting	Monday	March 25	1:00pm
LAVALLETTE SENIORS	Meeting	Thursday	March 21	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		



**ST. JOSEPH'S**  
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*Deacon Christopher Buono, Manager*

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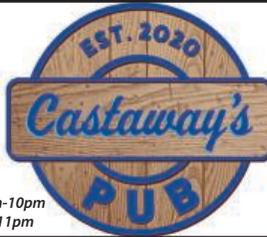
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