

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

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



Our Parish is Served by:

Rev. Fr. Joseph Hlubik, Pastor

Rev. Fr. Joy Chacko, Parochial Vicar

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

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 23, 2024

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

Vigil

4:00pm †William F. Daniels r/b Antonette Daniels
†Leo Paul Barry r/b Barry Family

Sunday, March 24, 2024

7:30am For the People of the Parish

9:00am †Andy, Peggy & Jimmy Lavin r/b Lavin Family
†Dawn Staples r/b Frank Petranich

10:30am †Leo P. Barry r/b Barry Family
†Marjorie Lipari r/b Gary & Gerry Adams

Monday, March 25, 2024

8:30am †Frank Penrose r/b Lavallette Bowling League
†Greg Buontempo r/b Connie Barraco

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

8:30am †Greg Buontempo r/b Holy Name Society

After Mass **Miraculous Medal Novena**

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

8:30am †Lucretia A. Hamilton r/b Tom Hamilton

Thursday, March 28, 2024

7:00pm **Holy Thursday** **Mass of the Last Supper**
For All Priests, Living & Deceased

After Mass until 10pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, March 29, 2024

3:00pm **Good Friday** **Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion**

Saturday, March 30, 2024

7:00pm **Holy Saturday Easter Vigil**
For the People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

Sunday, March 31, 2024

7:30am For the People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

9:00am For the People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

10:30am For the People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

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., Judi Pecoraro, Lil Cremins, Maegan Higham, Vincent Tavormina, Noreen McLeveala, Ann O'Neill, Ritchie Casale, Jr., Bill Daniels, Mary Finn, Scott Moran, Cindy Leone, Sr. Dolores Bianchi, 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, Ginny Mielnicki, Greg Buontempo, Karen Caufield, Carol Muller

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 (deployed)



Why Did Jesus Need To Die For Our Sins?



This is a puzzle that is hard to understand for everyone. There have been several theories of this throughout the Western Christian Era. Below I will try to very briefly state the understanding I have come to over my lifetime. I hope it helps you in some little way.

The whole idea of salvation in Western Christianity is often summarized by the phrase “Jesus died for our sins.” It is a simple phrase, but is a loaded statement. It is not only about the death of Jesus, but his whole life: from conception in His mother’s womb, to His ministry, including His death and resurrection.

The Orthodox Church understands this as a process called “Theosis”, which means our coming to share in the life of God, the Trinity. One of my favorite saints, Catherine of Sienna, +1380, writing of her mystical Dialogues with God the Father, who says to her: *“Do you know daughter, who you are and who I am? If you know these two things you have beatitude in your grasp. You are she who is not, I AM HE WHO IS.”* This image calls us to a life grounded in profound humility before God. Only God lives forever.

I certainly did not understand this phrase at first. As I have thought of this expression quite a lot, its’ meaning to me became clearer. We as God’s creatures are imperfect and subject to death and future non-existence, like all creatures of the material world. In the book of Genesis in the Bible, we see that creation is good. We are made through God’s goodness, but we are made imperfect. However, we are made to grow into the perfection of Love and Truth. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is the fullness of Life.

However sin entered the world when humanity disobeyed God . The Greek language uses the word “hamartia”, which means missing the mark. The best image of this for me, is an arrow that misses the bullseye of the target. We see this in the story of Adam and Eve and the Fall of Man from Paradise. We were created as God meant us to be in the beginning, as we were made in God’s image.

This is God’s gift to humanity. God has given humanity free will. This requires us to make decisions and use the gift of free-will. We can either accept the gift or not. When we accept the gift we grow in holiness, and grow in God’s likeness. When we disobey, we fall away or miss the mark, and that is what sin does. A life of rejection God is what leads to Hell. A life of holiness leads us to a fuller share in God’s life, that is what heaven is. We understand that God is Truth and Love.

The second important aspect of the life of Jesus, is that we share in His life together, not alone. We understand that Jesus is 100% God and 100% human. Jesus’ life and death were about self-sacrificial love. This means that we focus on the needs of those around us and in our world. In the case of Jesus, we see that Jesus was totally obedient to God (His Father and ours - through baptism). It involves making life on earth together better, by our words, works, prayers and sufferings.

The sins of others caused Jesus to suffer the full brunt of what sin can do in our world. Just as we are united to God through Jesus, we also share in the consequences of our sins. Despite the sinfulness of others, He continued to trust and remain obedient to the Father. The death of Jesus was not the end of the story. His Resurrection was God’s answer. Love is stronger than death. Through His resurrection we now share in God’s gift of everlasting life!

Fr. Joe

Thank You for your Support!!

Contributions Weekend	This Past Week 3/17/24	Same Week Last Year 3/19/23
At Church	\$6,448	\$4,270
Online	\$2,230	\$1,356
Total	\$8,678	\$5,626



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**

“Crucify Him” Mark 15:13

Jesus was born to destroy the works of the devil, to preach the gospel and to vanquish sin and death. By carrying and dying on that cross and rising on the third day He defeated evil and offers life to those who repent and believe.

We too must take up our own cross, as a share in His cross. We must live and preach the gospel. We must pray for repentance within our own lives, the lives of our families, church and country. Expect to be mocked scorned and persecuted. Nonetheless the fight against evil must go on. We must help those in darkness to find light.

Do you know that the angels and saints are powerful assistants in the fight against the evil one’s temptations.

**Fight Evil, Preach the Gospel,
Lead Others to Eternal Life**

Respect Life Committee at SHRCBH@comcast.net

COURAGE

A reflection for March 24, Palm Sunday

Compassionate, loving, humble, holy, generous, faithful, forgiving, obedient, innocent. These are some of the adjectives that can be used to describe Jesus.

In light of the account of the Passion that is proclaimed on Palm Sunday, there is another adjective that can be added to that list: courageous. The courage of Jesus is apparent throughout Mark’s account of the Lord’s suffering and death.

During the Last Supper, Jesus permitted Judas to remain at the table even though he knew what Judas was about to do. Jesus had the courage to allow that disciple’s act of treachery to advance.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed that “the hour might pass him by” and he might escape what was coming. But Jesus added that he was ready to endure whatever was in accord with God’s will. He then courageously confronted the mob that came to arrest him. Jesus did not run away in fear like his disciples. When he was questioned by the members of the Sanhedrin, Jesus unflinchingly remained silent as they hurled their false accusations against him. When directly asked, “Are you the Christ, the son of the Blessed One?” Jesus courageously responded, “I am,” even though he knew that response would lead to his being accused of blasphemy.

When Jesus was brought before Pilate, he demonstrated that same courage and boldness. When Pilate asked, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “You say so,” even though that reply made him a threat to the power of Rome. When Jesus was mocked as “King of the Jews” by the soldiers of Pilate, Jesus courageously endured their taunts and derision. When he was brought to the place of crucifixion, Jesus refused the wine drugged with myrrh given him by the soldiers. He bravely suffered the pain of crucifixion without his senses being dulled.

As his life drained away on the cross, Jesus was reviled by his executioners, the chief priests, the spectators, and even by those crucified along with him. In his final moments, Jesus endured the pain of feeling abandoned by God. “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” The courage shown by Jesus during his last moments led the Roman centurion supervising the crucifixion to say, “Truly this man was the Son of God.” The courage displayed by Jesus during his passion was the result of his absolute faith and trust in God. Jesus knew that God the Father was with him even in his suffering. We need to grow in our relationship with God so that with faith and trust in him, we can imitate that courage of Jesus. Courageous Christians are especially needed in our day, for we live in a society that is increasingly hostile to Gospel, dismisses the relevance of Jesus, and labels believers as misguided bigots. The courage shown by Jesus during his Passion challenges us to be courageous in living out our faith.

**Tom Iwanowski from *LookingToSunday.com*
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Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., and the Diocese of Trenton invite law enforcement personnel of all faiths who live or serve in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean Counties to the

22nd Annual Blue Mass & Luncheon

The Diocese of Trenton's
Celebration of Law Enforcement
Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 10:30 am
St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral
61 Georgia Rd., Freehold



Luncheon donation: \$20 per law enforcement officer. No charge for immediate families.

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RETREATS

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



The 2024 Annual Appeal gives us the opportunity to see how the ACA impacts, enriches & touches the lives of people within the four counties of our diocese.

We are called right now, to give to the ACA and show our gratitude to God by sharing what God has given to us!

Parish rebates is a direct benefit to our parish. We receive 15% of our goal and then 50% of everything over.

We thank those that already have donated for 2024. We just reached 25% toward our parish goal of \$41,000.

Please reflect prayerfully on what you can give. As always, thank you for your support!



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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.



The Lavallette Seniors will meet Thursday, March 21st in the parish hall. Lunch will be served. The speaker will be from the Ocean County Historical Society.

SAVE THE DATE

Doctor James Turro

Will be ordained to the Permanent Deaconate for the Diocese of Trenton and our Parishes on Saturday, May 18, 2024.

His first Mass of Thanksgiving will be at Sacred Heart Church in Bay Head Sunday, May 19, 2024 at the 10:30am Mass.

Plan to join us for the Mass and a Reception immediately following in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall.

More Details to come....



Volunteers are needed for the Washing of the Feet at the 7:00pm Mass on Holy Thursday, March 28th. Please help us to imitate Christ's humility. Call Joyce at 973-714-6797 for further information.

Knights of Columbus Council 8415 & the Ladies Auxiliary

Pancake Breakfast

PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24 **8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM**

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Route 35N & Washington Ave., Lavallette

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Pay at the door

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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.



PLEASE NOTE.....

The Rosary that is prayed before the 8:30am Mass in the Chapel, Mondays through Saturdays, will begin at 8am. This will provide enough time to recite the complete Rosary before Mass begins. Thank you.




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	Volunteer Needed	Please Call the Office	
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	April 8	5:30pm
ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY	Meeting	Monday	April 8	1:00pm
FAITH SHARING	Meeting	Wednesdays	in March	9:00am
K of C 8415	Meeting	1st Tuesday of Month	April 2	7:00pm
	Meeting	3rd Tuesday of Month	April 16	6:30pm
K of C Ladies Auxiliary	Meeting	Monday	March 25	1:00pm
LAVALLETTE SENIORS	Meeting	Thursday	April 18	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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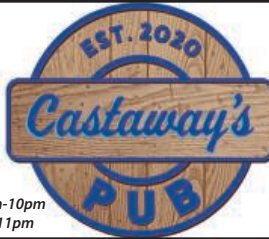
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