

# The Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina

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

November 20, 2022

**Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**



## **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

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



**November 20, 2022**

## **Pride and Humility**

**By Thomas A. Tarrants-C.S.Lewis Institute (continued from last week)**

Finally, weakened by unbelief, enticed by pride, and ensnared by self-deception, she opted for autonomy and disobeyed God's command. In just a few deft moves, the devil was able to use pride to bring about Eve's downfall and plunge the human race into spiritual ruin. This ancient but all-too-familiar process confronts each of us daily: "Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death" (James 1:14–15).

From this point on in the Bible, we see the outworking of pride and unbelief in the affairs of individuals, families, nations, and cultures. As people lose or suppress the knowledge of God, spiritual darkness grows and a psychological inversion occurs: in their thinking God becomes smaller and they become larger. The center of gravity in their mental lives shifts from God to themselves. They become the center of their world, and God is conveniently moved to the periphery, either through denial of his existence or distortion of his character. Self-importance and godless self-confidence grow stronger. The cycle that follows is familiar: people exalt themselves against God and over others. Pride increases, arrogant and/or abusive behavior ensues, and people suffer.

On a national level, this is writ large in the history of Israel and surrounding nations, especially in the indictments delivered by the prophets of the eighth and sixth centuries BC. Blinded by power and the unprecedented affluence of the eighth century, prideful leaders in Israel embraced a corrupted view of God, trusted in their own wisdom and power, oppressed their people, ignored his call to repent, and thereby invited his judgment, which fell with disastrous results.

There are also many biblical examples of pride and its consequences in the lives of individuals, and they offer valuable lessons for our own lives. Often their stories are self-contained in one chapter and make for easy reading. One of the more notable examples from the Old Testament is that of Uzziah, who was a believer. When he became king of Judah at age sixteen, he set his heart to seek God and put himself under the spiritual mentorship of Zechariah. And "as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper" (2 Chron. 26:5). As a result, he acquired wealth and also became politically and militarily powerful. Then things changed. "His fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong. But when he was strong, he grew proud, to his destruction" (26:15–16).

# Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## Pride and Humility

continued from previous page.....

What happened? There are hints in the text that at some point on the road to the top, he stopped seeking the Lord and the spiritual mentoring of Zechariah. This suggests a lessening dependence on God and a growing reliance upon himself and his own strength and wisdom. History shows at every point how easy it is for pride to increase as we become stronger, more successful, more prosperous, and more recognized in our endeavors. In fact, anything, real or imagined, that elevates us above others can be a platform for pride. Ironically, this is true even when these things come as a result of God's blessings.

As a result of all his blessings, Uzziah, rather than humbling himself in thanksgiving to God, began to think more highly of himself than he should have and developed an exaggerated sense of his own importance and abilities. This pride of heart led to presumption before God and brought very serious consequences upon him, illustrating the biblical warnings that pride leads to disgrace (Prov. 11:2) and that "pride goes before destruction" (Prov. 16:18). I encourage you to read and meditate on Uzziah's full story in 2 Chronicles 26. The stories of Haman (Esther 3-7) and Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4) also offer valuable insights into pride and are well worth reading.

This is evident today in the dangerous pride in some political and business leaders in the West. We have only to look around us at the current state of political life in America to see examples. Pride and arrogance are obvious in many political leaders, whether liberal or conservative, making matters much worse than they need to be. Or, consider the business and financial catastrophes we have experienced in recent years. A thoughtful article in the Wall Street Journal after the WorldCom and Enron debacles attributed them to "pride, greed and lack of accountability." The recent financial crisis in America is yet another example of the same thing. Clearly pride is very dangerous and can produce widespread suffering in society when people in leadership and are corrupted by it.





November 20, 2022

**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](http://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 homebound. 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.

**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.\*\***

Thank You for your Support!!

Contributions Weekend of Nov. 13, 2022	This Past Week	Same week Last Year
At Church	\$4,501	\$4,317
Online	N/A	\$1,256
Total	N/A	\$5,573



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 **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!

## Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



*Fr. Joe, Fr. Joy and all the staff at St. Pio's wish our parish families a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving. Let us lift our hearts and minds to God and thank Him for all the blessings He has given us.*

## "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



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

**"Amen, I say unto you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:43**

Our Lord Jesus Christ is all about life. Even after the Agony in the Garden, the Scourging at the Pillar, the Crowning of Thorns, Carrying the Cross and being Crucified He turns to the penitent thief and gives him eternal life.

Today we are Our Lord's people of light, love and life. We must be an example to a jeering world that Jesus offers eternal life and happiness to those who embrace Him and are penitent.

### Be Pro-Life!

Respect Life Committee at [SHRCBH@comcast.net](mailto:SHRCBH@comcast.net)



**Simon's Soup Kitchen will once again hold a special Thanksgiving Day dinner distribution on Thursday, November 24th from 2:00pm to 3:00pm at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Center 168 Grant Ave., Seaside Heights, NJ 08751. Anyone in need of a hot meal is welcome to attend.**

The Altar Bread and Wine for the month of November have been donated in loving memory of

**Michael Buontempo**  
requested by Greg and Mary.



November 20, 2022

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Pio of Pietrelcina,



St. Pio has kicked off its 2022 Annual Christmas Giving Tree Campaign. Yes, it seems a bit early to think of Christmas, but not too early to think of others in need of clothing, diapers, toys, and even food. What you have done every year with your generous gift giving has allowed a child to *Believe in the Magic of Christmas*.

This year we continue to give gifts to Madonna House Inc, founded by Rebecca Blonski, located in Neptune, NJ. It is dedicated to serve infants, children and women by providing clothing, juvenile furnishings, toys, infant formula, diapers, small household items and other life necessities to impoverished and needy families – FREE OF CHARGE. Rebecca is forever grateful for the generosity of our Parish. We will also give to The Downey Side Adoption Agency. Dawn Rusinko, the Director is also grateful for your donations. Their focus is on adoptions for a distinct group of children: older children (7-17), children of color, physically and emotionally challenged children and sibling groups.

All of you have been so very kind to our Parish this year. St. Pio's parishioners and friends are thoughtful and generous. We continue to help those who really need us, *not just during Christmas*. However, it is that time again, and we are once again asking for your help.

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.*** The last weekend for giving will be December 3 and 4, 2022 so the gifts can be sorted and delivered in time for Christmas.

Thank you, thank you, thank you and God Bless each and every one of you. Wishing you a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

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



## Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2022  
**HERE COME THE HOLIDAYS!**

The Ladies Auxiliary  
of the Knights of Columbus  
Is happy to present:



**PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT**

5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, November 30

St. Pio's Parish Center  
Route 35N & Washington Ave.  
Lavallette

**\$12**  
per person includes

- salad
- pizza
- soft drinks  
(you may BYOB)
- coffee & dessert
- and a Hallmark  
Hall of Fame movie

All parishioners & their  
guests are welcome!

RSVP to  
Maribeth Hess  
at 201-988-5516  
no later than  
Sunday, November 27

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!

**Clothing Drive**  
  
**What's in your closet?**

Please join us for **Mass**  
**Thanksgiving Day**  
November 24th.  
It will be celebrated at **8:30am**  
in the **Chapel.**





**November 20, 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*

*Door Prizes - Entertainment - Cash Bar*

*\$35. per person payable to St. Pio Rosary Altar Society*

*Entrée Choices: Apricot Chicken, Pork Tenderloin, and Broiled Seafood Combo*

*Tickets: Debbie McCormack, 732-830-4787 or  
Gerry Adams, 908-803-6262*



**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 Meeting Monday November 28, 2022 1:00pm

FAITH SHARING Meeting Wednesday November 23, 2022 9:00am

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 8415

PARISH Christmas Party Monday December 5, 2022 12 Noon

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