

The Parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina

103 Washington Avenue, Lavallette, NJ 08735

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

November 27, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

STAY AWAKE!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

MATTHEW 24:42



©IPPC

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saturday

November 26

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

4:00pm Vigil Michael Loper r/b Nancy & Jim Loper
Szaro & Zaidel r/b Loretta

Sunday

November 27

8:30am For the People of the Parish
Stanley Mauzer & Family r/b B.T.G.
10:30am Stan Gawel r/b Gawel Family
Maureen Quinn r/b Gerri Mechler

Monday

November 28

8:30am Rita Feeney r/b Joan Davie
Maureen Quinn
r/b Tom & Mary Sinnott

Tuesday

November 29

8:30am Josephine Hlubik Hastings
r/b Staff of St. Pio's Parish
Maggie Smith
r/b K of C Ladies Auxiliary

After Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena

Wednesday

November 30

8:30am Deacon John Hanna r/b Kathy Diffley
Maggie Smith r/b Joe & Joyce Kobylarz

Thursday

December 1

8:30am **Kathy & Ray Minneci**
r/b Minneci Family
Maggie Smith r/b Michenfelder Family

After Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday

December 2

8:30am Josephine Hastings r/b Mary Shaffer
Carol Forke r/b Michenfelder Family

After Mass

Adoration & Benediction - 20 min.

Saturday

December 3

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

4:00pm Vigil

Ed Camacho r/b Margo Camacho
Annette Kurinovich r/b Mary Marra

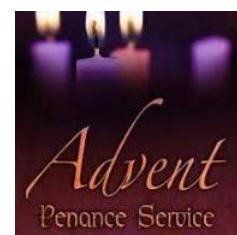
PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

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.



We are beginning to prepare for the Birth of Our Lord.

Please join us for the **Penance Service** that will take place on Thursday, December 1st in the Church from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

Mass Intentions Continued.....

Sunday
8:30am

December 4
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.

Pride and Humility

By Thomas A. Tarrants-C.S.Lewis Institute — continued from last week

Pride also affects religious people. Few people today seem to be aware of the danger of spiritual pride, but spiritual leaders throughout the history of the church have always seen it as a great plague and tool of the devil. Even in times of revival, it is a danger. Commenting on the revival in Northampton, Massachusetts, in 1737, Jonathan Edwards said:

The first and worst cause of errors that abound in our day and age is spiritual pride. This is the main door by which the devil comes into the hearts of those who are zealous for the advancement of Christ. It is the chief inlet of smoke from the bottomless pit to darken the mind and mislead the judgment. Pride is the main handle by which he has hold of Christian persons and the chief source of all the mischief that he introduces to clog and hinder a work of God. Spiritual pride is the main spring or at least the main support of all other errors. Until this disease is cured, medicines are applied in vain to heal all other diseases.³

An instructive lesson on religious pride from the New Testament is found in the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9–14). It is aimed at those “who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt.” It addresses spiritual pride, an especially subtle and dangerous temptation of religious people and leaders, which has been very much in evidence in recent years.

The well-known story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector can help us recognize our own spiritual pride. It tells of a much-despised tax collector and a self-righteous Pharisee who went up to the temple to pray. The Pharisee proceeds to commend himself to God because of his careful observance of the law and to look down with scornful contempt on the sinful tax collector. “God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.” Notice in his prayer that his focus is not really on God at all but on how good he is and how bad others are. Here is pride wrapped in the cloak of religion and giving it a bad name. The tax collector is so painfully aware of his sins and unworthiness before God that he cannot even lift his eyes as he stands in the back of the temple, far from the altar. Pounding his breast in sorrowful contrition over his sins, he can manage only the desperate plea, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” In the Greek text, it actually reads “*the sinner*.” His focus is very much on his own sins, not the sins of others, and especially on his need for God’s mercy. In a surprising reversal of expectation, Jesus says that God answered the tax collector’s prayer, not the Pharisee’s. Then he concludes with his main point: “everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Another lesson on religious pride strikes even closer to home for true believers. If we are inclined to say to ourselves, “Lord, I thank you that I am not like that proud Pharisee,” we should bear in mind that the apostles themselves were infected with pride and disputed with one another about who was the greatest (Luke 22:24–27). Sadly self-promotion, in pursuit of reputation, influence, and “success,” is evident in some ministry leaders even today. But if the apostles had to struggle with it, who are we to think ourselves exempt?

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pride and Humility (continued from previous page)

It would be easy to conclude that pride is the special problem of those who are rich, powerful, successful, famous, or self-righteous. But that is wrong. It takes many shapes and forms and affects all of us to some degree. The widespread, chronic preoccupation with self in American culture, for example, is rooted in pride and can give rise to or intensify our emotional problems. As a famous Harvard psychologist observed,

Any neurotic is living a life which in some respects is extreme in its self-centeredness... the region of his misery represents a complete preoccupation with himself. The very nature of the neurotic disorder is tied to pride. If the sufferer is hypersensitive, resentful, captious, he may be indicating a fear that he will not appear to advantage in competitive situations where he wants to show his worth. If he is chronically indecisive, he is showing fear that he may do the wrong thing and be discredited. If he is over-scrupulous and self-critical, he may be endeavoring to show how praiseworthy he really is. Thus, most neuroses, are, from the point of view of religion, mixed with the sin of pride.⁴

Much more could be said about pride, but space fails. If your pride causes you to exalt yourself, you are painting a target on your back and inviting God to open fire. And he will.

Next week-Humility



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!



November 27, 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

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. 20, 2022	This Past Week	Same week Last Year
At Church	N/A due to	\$4,422
Online	Early	\$1,611
Total	Printing	\$6,033



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. 13, 2022	This Past Week	Same week Last Year
At Church	\$4,501	\$4,317
Online	\$2,021	\$1,256
Total	\$6,522	\$5,573



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!

FIRST 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

"Let us throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly . . ." Romans 13: 12-13

Today's society is immersed in darkness. All about us is licentiousness, perversion, evil of all sorts, abortion and murder. Satan and the other evil spirits are running wild having found willing accomplices. We are truly engaged in Spiritual Combat.

Fight on the side of Our Lord. Walk in His light and in His love.

Be Pro-Life

Respect Life Committee at SHRCBH@comcast.net

The Altar Bread and Wine, for the month of November, have been donated in loving memory of **Michael Buontempo** requested by Greg and Mary.



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.

"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



November 27, 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.***

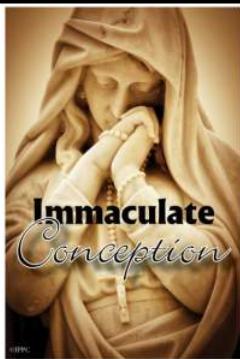
This year we continue to give gifts to Madonna House Inc, founded by Rebecca Blonski, located in Neptune, NJ. It is dedicated to serve infants, children and women by providing clothing, juvenile furnishings, toys, infant formula, diapers, small household items and other life necessities to impoverished 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 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



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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On November 10th the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary hosted over 50 women from St Junipero Serra, St Pio's, and Sacred Heart parishes in St Pio's Chapel for The Women's Day of Reflection, a program of prayer, music and petitions. Their speaker was Fr. Kevin Ashe. The morning concluded with a full course luncheon prepared by women from the Ladies Auxiliary.



November 27, 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 last day to purchase tickets is Monday,
November 28th.*

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

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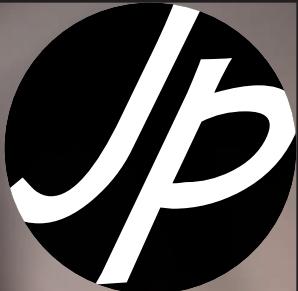
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reach our goal of raising 1 Million dollars.

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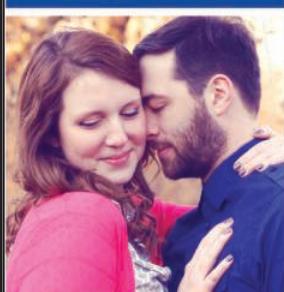
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