

We are **Church of the Presentation**,  
a welcoming Catholic community leading people  
into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ  
through **Word, Worship, and Outreach.**

**April 6, 2025 / Fifth Sunday of Lent**



## Palm Sunday

(Next weekend, April 12-13)



- + Weather permitting, our Palm Sunday Masses will begin at the front of the church with a procession of palms.
- + Easter Lilies, Hydrangeas, Hyacinths, & Palm Crosses for sale after all Masses.

**Stations of the Cross, Monday, April 7, 7pm**



**Labyrinth Walk on Good Friday  
Meeting Jesus at the Foot of the Cross**

After the 9am Prayer Service

**Youth Ministry's Living Stations of the Cross**  
on Good Friday at 7:30pm.



## Pardon & Peace

**Tuesday, April 15, 7:00pm**



*This Communal Service will conclude with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will have extra priests available for Confession.*

Weather permitting, all families are welcome to join us on the great lawn for an **Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday, April 19**, at 10am. We'll have two hunts, one for ages 0-3, and one for kids ages 4 & up. **Bring your Easter baskets!**



## Easter Sharing

- † Take a slip or two from the **"Sharing Board"** located in the Narthex. **Items due back by Palm Sunday.**
- † Contributing **supermarket gift cards**; please bring them to the gift box in the Narthex.
- † **Tuesday, April 15**, at 10:00am: Sorting, packing, assembling food & carving hams (*RSVP to 201-327-1313 ext. 844. You **WILL NOT** get a call back.*)
- † **Holy Saturday morning, April 19**: Delivering food to three of our soup kitchens (*RSVP to 201-327-1313 ext. 871 & you **WILL** get a confirmation call back.*)
- † **Easter Sunday, April 20** at 7:30am: Serving meals in our Bronx soup kitchen. (*RSVP to 201-327-1313 ext. 871 & you **WILL** get a confirmation call back.*)

## THE TRIDUUM - A Three Day Celebration

### Holy Thursday, April 17

Morning Prayer, 9:00am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:30pm  
(followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00pm)

### Holy Saturday, April 19

Morning Prayer, 9:00am  
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00am  
Easter Vigil Mass, 7:30pm

### Good Friday, April 18

Morning Prayer, 9:00am  
Labyrinth Walk, 9:45am (after Morning Prayer)  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3:00pm  
Youth Ministry Living Stations, 7:30pm

### Easter Sunday Masses, April 20

8:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am, & 1:00pm

*There is no 6:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday.*

## Foundations in Faith

This is a series of seven lectures on the basic tenets & expressions of our faith. Join us for any or all of the sessions! Please sign up on the [parish website](#).

The next session is: **Thursday, April 10**  
9:30-11:30am or 7:30-9pm in the Community Rm.

### Praying the Psalms

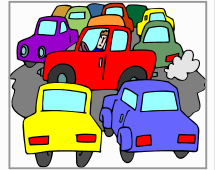
by Melanie Cheplic & Natasha Gonzalez

Upcoming sessions (see our website for details):

- + Embrace Your Spiritual Gifts - April 24
- + Synodality & the Synod - May 1

## Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday Parking Help Needed!

Men & women high school age or older - we need you! If you can help, please contact Barry Ervin at 201-819-0891 (cell).



## GRAND CAMP IS COMING!

**For Grandparents & their Grandchildren**  
(who are entering Grades K-4 in Sept.)

**"Celebrating God's Greatness!"**

**Tuesday-Thursday, August 12-14**

9:30am-noon (but we encourage you to begin each day with 9am daily Mass)

Join us for this special summer Bible Camp. Enjoy great quality time together and make special memories!

Fees: \$50 per pair / \$10 per extra child  
Register on the [parish website](#).

Registration deadline is June 30 but don't delay! Limited space available.

Questions? Email Patty at  
[pdodwell@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:pdodwell@churchofpresentation.org)

## "Play-'n-Worship"

**Our Sunday School for ages 3 through Kindergarten** during 10am Mass in the Gathering Room.



Parents, you can now have a more meaningful worship experience with fewer interruptions, while your children learn about our faith in a fun environment with games, crafts & songs.

**Parent(s) must to sign their children in and out of the program, sign-in time starts at 9:45am.**

Questions? Email Catzel [catzel@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:catzel@churchofpresentation.org)

## Youth Ministry Happenings

[churchofpresentation.org/youthministry](http://churchofpresentation.org/youthministry)

**YM Gathering - April 6 after 6:30pm Mass.** *The parent meeting is at the same time the teens are gathering..*

**Parent Meeting:** All parents are welcome to attend!! Join us!

**April 6:** Reg Grant & Dr. Gautam Bhasin will be speaking on "Longevity."

**IGNITE is back!** Are you looking to grow in your relationship with the Lord with a deeper "youth group" connection? Join us on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm in the Antioch Rm. Come once, often, or weekly!

## Alzheimer's & Dementia Support

Our **Support Group** is virtual on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:30pm-8pm. The group will meet next on **April 30**. Facilitated by Debby Montone, RN, Certified Dementia Practitioner, & Certified Dementia Support Group Facilitator from the Greater NJ Alzheimer's Assn. To receive the Zoom link, email Michele at [mbaron@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)



### SPECIAL PROGRAM ON THURS., APRIL 10

*10am in the Jerusalem Room or via Zoom*

Debby Montone will be hosting a program for caregivers on **Having Difficult Conversations**. You may attend in person or join via Zoom. Please RSVP to Michele at [mbaron@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org) or ext. 847 & let her know whether you'll be attending in person or via Zoom. She'll send you the Zoom link.

## FROM THE PASTOR

This week's gospel and last week's about the prodigal son remind us that it's always a good idea to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. If you missed Reconciliation Day, you'll have another opportunity on Tuesday evening during Holy Week (April 15), at the conclusion of our Pardon & Peace service (which begins at 7:00pm). It's always a large celebration and we'll have outside priests to help us with Confession that evening.

Our Elect celebrate the **Third Scrutiny** at the 10am Mass today. Please consider writing our Elect and Candidates a note of support as they continue their journey to the Easter Vigil to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with us.

Monday evening (7pm) is our last **Stations of the Cross** before our Youth Ministry's Living Stations on Good Friday.

On Thursday at 9:30am or 7:30pm, our Foundations in Faith program will feature **Praying the Psalms** with Melanie Cheplic & Natasha Gonzalez.

Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday**. Weather permitting, we'll begin Mass outside in the front of the church with a procession of palms. Also, take a moment next weekend after Mass to support our Youth Ministry's mission outreach by buying your **Easter flowers and palm crosses**.

Only 320 households have supported **2025 Annual Appeal** so far. If we meet our \$196,624 goal by June 30, the parish will benefit greatly. We need your help to reach the finish line!

Fr. Bob

The **CAREER MANAGEMENT GROUP's** next session is on **Monday, April 14 at 7:30pm in the Jerusalem Rm.** The topic is **Career Q&A: Bring Your Career & Job Search Questions**.

Our experienced volunteers are there to provide:

- ♦ Support with networking and contacts, resumes, interviews, job-related social media, AI tools, etc.
- ♦ One-on-one follow-up time for assistance.

**All are welcome!** If you **wish to join** our Career Management network, or have questions at any time, just email [presentation.cmm@gmail.com](mailto:presentation.cmm@gmail.com) with your name and a brief introduction and we will be happy to assist.

If you are experienced in this field and would like to contribute some time to work **with us as a volunteer**, please contact us at our email address listed above and let us know. Help is always appreciated!

## IT'S A CELEBRATION!!!

**Save the date for the celebration of Fr. Bob's retirement & 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination on Sunday, June 1 at the 11:30 mass, with a picnic reception (free of charge) on the back lawn to follow. We'll have food, a beer/wine tent, and live music by our favorite band, Group Therapy!**

**Volunteers needed to help with the picnic.**

**Visit the [parish website](#) to RSVP for the Mass &/or picnic (by May 9 please), & to sign up to volunteer!**



### Notes to our Elect & Candidates

We invite our parish community to write notes of affirmation, hope, prayer or support as they anticipate celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil (**by Holy Thurs. please**). **The box for your notes is in the Narthex.**

**Charles August, Linda Babcock, Benjamin Brady, Layla Crosby, Bradley Gutman, Molly Kalb, Tiffany Maher, Kiley Mont, Deborah Montone, Margaret Osei, Chloe Quinn, Lucas Ruocco, Danielle Schnapp, Peter Schnapp**

## the 2025 Annual Appeal

In addition to supporting the Catholic Church's mission in our Archdiocese, reaching this year's goal of \$196,624 will also result in a benefit to Presentation. If we meet our goal by June 30, our assessments to the Archdiocese will be lowered and we'll receive a rebate which greatly helps our annual budget. We have a donation link on our [parish website](#).



### EASTER BULLETIN DEADLINE

**The deadline for both the April 13 & April 20 bulletins is Tuesday, April 8.**



### Green Thumb Ministry-Tuesdays at 8am

Help us maintain the outside grounds of the church, i.e. by gardening, weeding etc. Bring whatever basic garden tools you may have. Come when you can. No commitment necessary. We meet in the parking lot opposite Mary's Grotto. Questions? Email Michele Baron at [mbaron@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)

### Order of Christian Initiation Inquiry Gatherings

This is for those interested in learning about the Catholic faith, or those wishing to convert to Catholicism &/or those interested in receiving Sacraments they have "missed." Call Diane Carr at ext. 831 for more info.



### "Keeping in Balance" A Walking With Purpose Women's 9-Week Scripture Study

Join us on:

Tuesday mornings, April 29 through June 24  
9:30am-11:30am in the Gathering Rooms.

Visit the [parish website](#)  
for more information & to register.

### Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

Our Wedding Anniversary Celebration held here at the parish for those celebrating one of the "fives" in 2025 is **Saturday, June 7**. Registration forms are available in the Narthex & may be downloaded & printed from the [parish website](#). Deadline to sign up is May 18.



### 5, 25 & 50-Year Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral Basilica in Newark

All couples who will be celebrating **5, 25 & 50 years** of Christian marriage in **2025** are invited to participate in an anniversary mass celebrated by Cardinal Tobin on **Sunday, June 1 at 3:00pm**.

**RSVP FOR THE NEWARK MASS by May 8**

to Nancy at ext. 839 or [nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



### Clearing a Path

God our Father,  
you are our protector and our comfort.  
You have done great things for us:  
you make a way  
amid hopelessness  
and despite our sinfulness.  
Your forgiveness knows no bounds,

and though we weep now,  
we know we will soon rejoice.  
Help us announce your praise,  
relinquish our judgment of others,  
and live with our sights set on  
pursuing you.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**  
**Boundless Mercy**

*Today's readings: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11.* A crowd begins to gather to hear Jesus teach in the temple. The scribes and the Pharisees bring forth a woman who had been caught in adultery. After forcing her to stand in the middle of the crowd, they test Jesus, asking what the woman's punishment should be. The law states that she should be stoned for her sin.

Jesus writes on the ground, and John leaves it to our imagination as to what his words might be. Though Jesus' written words are not revealed, the Gospel records him as saying, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." He bends down again and writes on the ground a second time. Then people leave, per-

haps humbled in the realization that they are sinners and do not have the ability to judge someone else for their sins. Have you condemned or judged another for their wrongdoing? Imagine what Jesus might write on the ground in front of you to encourage you to grow in mercy.

After the woman has been humiliated and brought to the center of a crowd (a crowd well aware of the punishment for her actions), Jesus tells her that she is not condemned. Imagine the shock and relief this woman likely felt. This Sunday, as you listen to the Gospel being proclaimed, bask in God's boundless mercy. Allow yourself to join this woman as she experiences God's unconditional love. How can you let this inspire you to be better and "not sin any more"?





## Monday & Wednesday Yoga Classes

at 9:30am. Wear loose clothing, and bring a mat, towel & water. Donations welcome.

### Women's Morning Group:

#### Thursdays at 7:30am via Zoom

All women are invited to join us every Thursday morning at 7:30am for an hour. Weekly attendance not required, but you are most welcome! Email Kathleen at [kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org) for the Zoom link. Let's share the gift of faith together!

## Presentation Seniors

**Tuesday, May 13** - Back to the second Tuesday of the month. Our program is Ellis Island: "**Island of Hope, Island of Tears.**" Historian Mario Medici will discuss the island's earliest days up to the present day, reliving some of our immigrants' experiences and stories along with their fears and disappointments.

Thursday, April 24 trip: "**Dreamgirls**" at the White Plains Performing Arts Center and lunch at Chazz Palminteri's Restaurant. Cost \$130.00. Call Lorraine 631-259-1391 for reservations.

Wednesday, May 14 trip: "**Swing**", the Tony-nominated musical at the Hunterdon Playhouse. Enjoy the music & dancing of the big bands era & a full menu of luncheon choices including a roomful of desserts. Cost \$99. Tickets available, call Barbara Salmieri 978-335-2233.



## Our Compost Bins Are Open!

Our compost bins are located next to the parish garden. Composting is a way of returning to the land what has come from the land.

### The following are compostable:

- ◆ all fresh fruits and vegetables
- ◆ coffee grinds (paper filters are also OK)
- ◆ egg shells and nutshells
- ◆ grass clippings from un-pesticide-treated grass (no bags please)
- ◆ paper towels
- ◆ leaves of any kind (fresh green, Fall brown, and even leaves from gutters)
- ◆ flowers (fresh, dried, or dead)
- ◆ saw dust and wood ash
- ◆ chopped twigs and chopped branches only

Please **NO** fats, oil, dairy or meat scraps; large branches, lumber, or invasive weeds.

## Paschal Candle Memorials

One of the most powerful symbols of the Easter Season is the Paschal Candle, symbolizing the risen Christ, the Light of the World. The Paschal Candle remains near the altar during the entire Easter Season, and is present for every Baptism, Confirmation and Funeral Liturgy. Each offering in memory of a loved one is \$150. Contact Kathleen Martorano at ext. 835 if interested.



## Easter Memorial Flowers



We invite you to contribute an offering for Easter flowers in memory of a deceased loved one. Please fill out this form and return it to the Parish Office with your contribution. **Please write "Easter Flowers" on the outside of your envelope.**

**Please print clearly.**

In Memory of:

Your Name:

Email (phone no. if no email)

Donation: \$20. \_\_\_ \$30. \_\_\_ \$40 \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_

## LGBTQ Ministry

LGBTQ Ministry is a welcoming fellowship embracing the dignity and diversity of all Catholics by fostering a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and his people, through Word, Worship and Outreach.

For more information or to get involved, please contact [LGBTQ@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:LGBTQ@churchofpresentation.org)



## Eucharistic Exposition

Come anytime on Wednesdays from noon-6pm to spend time with our Lord in the Nazareth Room.



**Church of the Presentation** 271 West Saddle River Rd., Upper Saddle River NJ 07458

**Phone:** 201-327-1313 **Fax:** 201-760-2570

**Website:** [www.churchofpresentation.org](http://www.churchofpresentation.org)

**Information Desk:** Sun. 9am-12:45pm in the Narthex

**Mass Schedule:** See "Mass Intentions" on this pg.

**Summer Office Hrs:** (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 9:30am-4pm Mon-Thu

**"Non-Summer" Office Hrs:** 9:30am-5pm Mon-Thu. | 9:30am-4pm Fri.

**Confession:** Mon-Sat after 9am Mass, Sat 3:30pm-4:45pm, or by appt.

**Email Addresses:** Except as otherwise noted, all of our email addresses end with: [@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:@churchofpresentation.org)

**Rev. Bob Stagg, Pastor** ext. 820 [bstagg@](mailto:bstagg@churchofpresentation.org)

Fr. Bob's asst.: Melanie Cheplic ext. 827 [mcheplic@](mailto:mcheplic@churchofpresentation.org)

**Rev. Richard Francesco** ext. 829 [rfrancesco@](mailto:rfrancesco@churchofpresentation.org)

**Pastoral Council** [pastoralcouncil@](mailto:pastoralcouncil@churchofpresentation.org)

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**Bob Rooney (Accounting, Finance, Plant Management)**

ext. 818 [brooney@](mailto:brooney@churchofpresentation.org)

**Catzel LaVecchia (Lifelong Learning, Junior High,**

**Play-n-Worship)** ext. 828 [catzel@](mailto:catzel@churchofpresentation.org)

**Craig Johnson (Youth Ministry, Confirmation)** ext. 819

[cjohnson@](mailto:cjohnson@churchofpresentation.org)

**Diane Carr (OCIA, Catholic Faith Inquiry)** ext. 831 [dcarr@](mailto:dcarr@churchofpresentation.org)

**Kathleen Costello (Family Faith Formation)** ext. 840 [kcostello@](mailto:kcostello@churchofpresentation.org)

**Kathleen Martorano (Parish Registration, Facebook, Protecting**

**God's Children, LGBTQ Ministry)** ext. 835 [kmartorano@](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org)

**Liz Cosentino (Bulletin, Parish Website)** [LizC@](mailto:LizC@churchofpresentation.org)

**Marilou Tenazas (Livestreaming & Tech Support, Family**

**Faith Formation, FFF Website)** ext. 815 [mtenazas@](mailto:mtenazas@churchofpresentation.org)

**Maureen Murphy (Outreach)** ext. 844 [mmurphy@](mailto:mmurphy@churchofpresentation.org)

**Michele Baron (Meeting Room Reservations, Scheduling,**

**Volunteering)** ext. 847 [mbaron@](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)

**Nancy Mierswa (Baptisms, Weddings, Worship)** ext. 839

[nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

**Natasha Gonzalez (Music)** ext. 813 [NGonzalez@](mailto:NGonzalez@churchofpresentation.org)

**Patty Dodwell (First Eucharist, Family Faith Formation)**

ext. 832 [pdodwell@](mailto:pdodwell@churchofpresentation.org)

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**Altar Server Training:** Nancy Mierswa, ext. 839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

**Bereavement Support:** ext. 872

**Bulletin Advertising:** Bon Venture Services 800-364-0684

**Celiac Communion:** Nancy Mierswa ext. 839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

**Communion Calls:** Kyle Lippman ext. 879 [pastoralcare@](mailto:pastoralcare@churchofpresentation.org)

**Emergencies (hospital/funeral)** ext. 899

**Envelopes (Parish)** Kathleen Martorano ext. 835 [kmartorano@](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org)

**Funerals:** ext. 899

**Knights of Columbus:** [www.kofc6033.org](http://www.kofc6033.org) [kofc6033@](mailto:kofc6033@churchofpresentation.org)

**Meeting Room Setups:** Cesar da Gama ext. 823

**Prayer Tree Ministry:** [prayertree@](mailto:prayertree@churchofpresentation.org)

## This Week's Mass Intentions

*Bread & Wine: Maria Caso, by the Women's Journey Team*

*Sanctuary Light: Monica Lynch, by Barbara Vida*

### MONDAY, APRIL 7

9:00am Michael Lombard, by David Lombard

### TUESDAY, APRIL 8

9:00am Frank Pollaro, by Gary Schimenti

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

9:00am Kermit Hoffman, Jr., by Jeanette Hoffman & Jim Monks

### THURSDAY, APRIL 10

9:00am Dennis Foley, by Barbara Foley & family

### FRIDAY, APRIL 11

9:00am Sergio Gagliardi, by Maria & Vito Cuocci

### SATURDAY, APRIL 12

9:00am Annette Pizzuto, by Barbara & Kevin Booth

5:00pm Grace Magrino, by Pete & Clare Finlay

Mary Ann Barone-Chapman, by Ginny DePalma

Bob Waring, by Arline Parkes

Tom Parkes, by Arline Parkes

Caroline & Ed Day, by the Mathews Family

Larry Dunbar, by the McCluskey Family

### PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13

8:00am Mary McNeila Lynch, by Mary McCarrick

10:00am Frank Latargia, by Carol Latargia

11:30am Henry Kolokowsky, by Pat Kolokowsky

Ignacy Hrehorowicz, by his daughters

Emily Ginter, by the Prunk Family

Kelvin Briones, by Agnes, Mark, & AJ

Leo Rogers, by Pat & Ronnie Brunnock

Marsha Bartolotto, by Joanne Garramone & family

6:30pm Wayne Haring, by Dennis Avon & Lisa Setticas

**We also pray for the following ill:** Pat Brunnock, Jared Bochicchio, Tom Napolitano, Justin Spillane, Carol Latargia Blake, Holly Holland, Patricia Lamoriello, Mary Lou Murphy, Patricia Carey, Danny Lauber, Michael Donovan, Jamie Brown, Althea Gardner, Thomasina Uzzi, Richard & Monica Castiglia, Ronald Volino, Keith Brew, Guy & Marion Gaudenzi, Ellen Bellias, Clara Willey, Kimberly Berardino, Christina Grenzer, Birgit "Ana" Borgman, Bernhard Freund, Veronica, Bill Partlan, Mike O'Donnell, Bob DePellegrini, Bobby Vandal, John & Wilma Memmuran & family, Christopher Noel Hanna, Cornelius Hanna, Doreen D., Frances Gerbino, Doug Quackenbush, Kathie McKinless, Charlie Aiello, Joyce Somers, Robert Doidge, Helga Scholton, Lucy Schneider, Jose Ruiz, Evelyn Roberts, Michael Keane, Phil Kipnis, Jose Ruiz, Elizabeth Van Nostrand, Charlie Musumeci, Jerry Crean, Margaret Taylor, Marie Egan, Phyllis Clark, Graham N., Lisa White, Joe & Judy Schneider, Baby River Budesca, Marianne & Bill Hurley, Francis J. Neeson Jr., Rosemary Fuhrman, Patti Murray, Louis D'Amico, Ethan Benjamin Berkowitz, Marie Hiles, Michael Roger, Jon Rapkin, Steven Chakonis, Cathy Mostyn, Kevin Flood, Dirk & Donna Kinney, Mary Anne Nardini, Cathy Mueller, Susanne Knoepfle, Virginia Kondrat, Anne Downs, Seth Gopin, Adrienne Stephens, Karin Elliott, Frank Cirillo, John Nazzaro, Marie Kaspar, Cheyanne Emmons, Gloria Zoda, Bill Brown, Scott M. Koenig, Mary Goldberg, Thomas Doorhy, Sab Caponi, Rosemary Tocci

**and recently deceased:** Anamaria Vidaic (wife of Jack & mother of Luke & Isabella),

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To request prayers **in the bulletin** for the ill or recently deceased, email [LizC@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:LizC@churchofpresentation.org). The name is not kept on the list indefinitely. If the ill person still needs prayers after their name is removed, feel free to email Liz to have their name printed again in the bulletin.

For **mass cards & mass intentions for the deceased**, call or visit the parish front office, or visit the Information Desk in the narthex on Sunday mornings.

Weekdays after 9am Mass, all are welcome to stay in the church to pray the Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet.

*We ask that you prayerfully consider using electronic donations through Faith Direct. Visit [membership.faithdirect.net/NJ854](http://membership.faithdirect.net/NJ854) or the parish website to enroll or make a one-time donation. Thank you for your support!*



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