

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish

ST. MARY
45 Crosswicks Street
Bordentown, N.J. 08505

REV. MARTIN O'REILLY, Pastor
REV. CESAR R. ANSON, Parochial Vicar
REV. JOHN GARRETT, Weekend Assistant

HOLY ASSUMPTION
1290 Hornberger Avenue
Roebling, N.J. 08554



Deacon
Gary T. Richardson

Parish Office: 609-298-0261
Fax: 609-298-7178
Email: info@mmtcp.org

Retired Deacons
Lawrence W. Finn Thomas F. Shea



Parish Emergency # 609-203-5617 (Please Use for Emergencies Outside of Normal Business Hours)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SIT DOWN AND CALCULATE THE COST.

— LUKE 14:28 —

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Readings for the Week of
September 7, 2025

Sunday

Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6,
12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10,
12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Monday

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/
Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16,
18-23 or 1:18-23

Tuesday

Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/
Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday

Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3,
10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday

Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2,
3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38

Friday:

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-
2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday

1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2,
3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday

Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2,
34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11
/Jn 3:13-17



PARISH INFORMATION

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: Holy Assumption—**4:00 PM**
St. Mary—**5:30 PM**
Sunday: Holy Assumption—**8:00 AM**
St. Mary—**10:00 AM and 11:30 AM**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Holy Assumption—Saturday - **3:00-3:45 PM**
St. Mary—Saturday - **4:30-5:15 PM**
(Also by Appointment)

WEEKDAY MASS: MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Holy Assumption—Roebbling **9:30 AM (Tues., Wed., & Fri.)**
St. Mary—Bordentown **12:30 PM (Mon.-Fri.)**
Holy Days: See Mass Schedule in Bulletin for Mass Times

BAPTISMS: Contact Debbie Ullmer-Phillips at the Parish Office, Ext. 110. Baptisms are celebrated on the **1st & 3rd Sundays** of the month at **1:00 PM at St. Mary Church** and the **4th Saturday** of the month at **2:00 PM at Holy Assumption**. Please call the Parish Office to register, provide the required documents, and schedule a Baptism Prep Class.

MARRIAGES: Contact Debbie Ullmer-Phillips at the Parish Office, Ext. 110. Arrangements are to be made at least 1 year in advance.

SICK CALLS/COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Arrangements for Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion for those confined to the home are to be made by contacting the Parish Office. Urgent calls any time during the day, contact the Parish Office, after hours, use the emergency line 609-203-5617.

HOURS FOR PRAYER

- St. Mary Church, Bordentown, is open daily from 7:00 AM to 6:30 PM. (Use Chapel entrance through the side door.)
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel of Saints, Wednesdays from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. (Use Chapel entrance through the side door.)
- Holy Hour every Wednesday at 7:00 PM, St. Mary (Main Church), Bordentown.

PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome new parishioners to the parish, and we ask them to register as soon as possible. If you are not registered, we are not able to issue letters for sponsorship for the Sacraments or character references to schools or for employment. If you move from the parish please notify the rectory.

Wish to join us? Please complete the New Parishioner Contact Form found on the parish website: mmotcp.org, under the ABOUT US Tab, "How to Join Us"

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-3:00pm
Friday, 9:00am-12:00 noon



PARISH MINISTRIES & SUPPORT AGENCIES

Alcoholics Anonymous

Mick Delre—609-864-6787

Altar Linen Ministry

Rose Troyanovich (HA) - charo.troyanovich@att.net
Helene Shea (SM) - hdshea@icloud.com

Altar Servers

Paula Bisson - altarservers@mmotcp.org

Bereavement Ministry

Joseph Whitty - bereavement@mmotcp.org

Catholic Charities (Diocese of Trenton)

1-800-360-7711

Church Ushers

Dominick Cipriano—609-634-2482 (HA)
Frank Scharibone—609-298-1898 (SM)

Dignity of Life

Heni Scharibone - dignityoflife@mmotcp.org

Food Pantry

Sue Oros—609-499-0022 (HA)
Mike Novalis (SM)
foodpantry@mmotcp.org

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Sean Alphonse - salphonse@mmotcp.org

Music Ministry

Jesús Alfonso Gonzalez & Tina Fernandes, Coordinators
musicdept@mmotcp.org

OCIA

Nick Chilelli - OCIA@mmotcp.org

TEEN OCIA

Pat Baylog - pbaylog@mmotcp.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Margaret Rizzo—609-298-1414

Welcome Ministry

Anne Egan - welcometoourparish@mmotcp.org

MEETINGS & EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Sep 8

6:30pm RE Volunteers Meeting—SM School
7:30pm KofC—Parish Office, Upstairs

Sep 10

6:00pm OLG Meeting—Parish Office, Upstairs

Sep 11

2:00pm Welcome Ministry—Parish Office, Upstairs



Office Staff

Fr. Martin O'Reilly, Pastor.....**ext. 116**
frmoreilly@mmotcp.org
 Fr. Cesar Anson, Parochial Vicar.....**ext. 110**
revanson@mmotcp.org
 Margaret Zola, Business Manager & CRE.....**ext. 118**
mzola@mmotcp.org
 Patty Baylog, Parish Pastoral Coordinator.....**ext. 115**
pbaylog@mmotcp.org
 Cathy Alphonse, Accounts Payable/Receivable**ext. 111**
calphonse@mmotcp.org

Jesús Alfonso Gonzalez, Music Coordinator.....**ext..132**
musicdept@mmotcp.org
 Tina Fernandes, Music Coordinator.....**ext..132**
musicdept@mmotcp.org
 Roy Kerstetter, Maintenance.....**ext. 125**
rkerstetter@mmotcp.org
 Tim Hoyt, Maintenance.....**ext. 125**
 Carol Schulz, Bulletin Coord. & RE Assistant.....**ext. 117**
cschulz@mmotcp.org
 Debbie Ulmer-Phillips, Parish Secretary.....**ext. 110**
dulmer-phillips@mmotcp.org
 Sean Alphonse, Administrative Assistant.....**ext. 125**
salphonse@mmotcp.org

ST. MARY



HOLY ASSUMPTION

Monday, Sep 8—12:30pm

Irene Donnelly (A) rb/Dave & Stephanie Salewski
 Mark Laurenti rb/Michael & Valerie Mancuso

Tuesday, Sep 9—12:30pm

John Koenig rb/David & JoAnn Foulks
 Karl Macon rb/JoAnn & Dennis Bezek

Wednesday, Sep 10—12:30pm

John Koenig rb/David & JoAnn Foulks
 Cenen Santiago rb/Susan Cadiz & Family

Thursday, Sep 11—12:30pm

Karl Macon rb/Marie Thompson
 Beth Bell rb/Marie Thompson

Friday, Sep 12—12:30pm

Beth Bell rb/Anne & Pete Egan
 Mary Lou Arcamone rb/Marie Thompson

Saturday, Sep 13

5:30 pm Celebrant: Fr. Garrett

Kenneth Volcskai rb/Chris Wilson
 George Downey rb/Pat Downey

Sunday, Sep 14

10:00 am Celebrant: Fr. Martin

Bill Demas rb/Edmund Pajarillo
 Tom Murphy rb/The Family

11:30 am Celebrant: Fr. Martin

Bill Rosso rb/Penny Bruthers
 Geraldine Brodowski rb/Deacon Tom & Helene Shea

Tuesday, Sep 9—9:30am

Joyce Hatala rb/Harry & MaryAnn Warner & Family

Wednesday, Sep 10—9:30am

Frank & Eleanor Conroy rb/Dan & Karen Hegarty

Friday, Sep 12—9:30am

John Jakim rb/Helen & Richard Popso

Saturday, Sep 13

4:00 pm Celebrant: Fr. Anson

Beth Bell rb/Theresa & Jack Sweeney
 George & Arlene Bezek rb/Henry Janiszewski & Family

Sunday, Sep 14

8:00 am Celebrant: Fr. Gallagher

Ralph D. Foulks rb/David & JoAnn Foulks
 James Cryan rb/His Son

Offertory Gifts

If you have booked a Mass for a loved one and would like to bring up the offertory gifts, please inform an usher before mass begins.

LOW-GLUTEN HOST: Low-gluten hosts are available for those who have difficulties with Celiac Disease and other similar disorders. Please approach the priest or an usher 15 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass to be directed as to how you can receive safely.

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF OTHERS AND REMEMBER
 TO TURN YOUR CELL PHONE OFF OR SWITCH TO
 SILENT MODE BEFORE MASS BEGINS.
 THANK YOU!



**St. Mary – Ramp Access
 (Off Crosswicks Street)**

**Holy Assumption
 Elevator Access
 (Main Parking Lot)**

Dear Friends in Christ,

I hope you had a wonderful summer and got the opportunity to rest some and recharge the batteries. We are so blessed in this part of the world that the Fall season can be a very beautiful time of the year. The temperature is a little cooler but beautiful. The Fall colors can be amazing, but the danger can be that we can take it all for granted. Not only can we take the beauty of creation for granted, but we can take the beauty of others and ourselves for granted. Actually, we very often don't see or realize how beautiful we are. We very often allow others to dictate to us how we should see ourselves. If the people around us are kind, positive people, then there is a good chance we may have a positive image of ourselves. But if the people around us are critical, judgmental, and negative, then there is also a good chance we may have a negative image of ourselves. So, it is important that we begin each day consciously reminding ourselves that we are created in God's image and likeness. If we believe that God is all good, and God is our creator, then, we are good.



Let us surround ourselves, where possible, with people who are a positive influence, people who use words that build up not tear down. Let us also be that person that is a positive influence, the person that speaks kindly to and about others. As St. Paul states in Ephesians 4:29-5:2, **"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."**

Happy Birthday to our Blessed Mother

Monday, September 8, we celebrate the birthday of Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother. Let us take a moment on Monday to wish her a very happy birthday and thank her for love and intercession in our daily lives. Let us pray the prayer that best describes Mary:

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Have a blessed and holy week.

Fr. Martin

GRANDPARENTS DAY—SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Heavenly Father, we lift up our grandparents to you today. We thank you for the love and guidance they have given to us, for the stories they have shared, and for the wisdom they have imparted. We ask that you bless them with good health, joy, and peace. May they feel your loving presence in their lives and know that they are cherished and loved. Amen.



goodbye, august
hello, september

OFFICE
HOURS

To best serve our parish family, the office will continue to be closed at noon on Friday for the remainder of the year. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

MONDAY—THURSDAY: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

FRIDAY: 9:00 AM—12:00 NOON





For the Sick...

Nichole Lynn Cochran,
Edward Gernhardt, Michael
Nuzzi, John & Amy Oldham
and Baby J.T. Oldham, Robert

Sobon, Kelly Sobon, Neil Jantos, John Oros, Sean
Wenke, Louise, Ken Cunningham, Sean C., Arlene Chaty,
Joyce Ingling, Virginia Counard, Lillian Garcia, Jeff
Suplicki, Stephanie Tistan, Teddi Millerline, Daryl Bell,
Norman T., Margaret P., Sandy DeLorenzo, Claudia
Fratinardo, Gil Lugossy, Cathy McKelvey, Barbara
Weinczyk, Stephanie Salewski, Michael Kremper, Jason
Root, Gayelle Labissiere, Melissa S., Walter Schleher,
Shirley A. Hamilton, Karalyn Dunphy, Patrick Musto,
Susanne Hallas, Kelly Ann, Rebekah Henderson, Margie
Wagerik, David Bemiss, Richard Langan, Jr., Carlos
Jayme, and all the sick of the parish.

Please Pray for Our Deceased



*Fame Dileo
Mary Paglione
Kathleen Penrose
Henry Tutek
Elizabeth Wargo*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Chapel of Saints
Wednesday—1:00pm to 7:00pm**



HOLY HOUR

ST. MARY CHURCH—WEDNESDAYS—7:00PM
ROSARY, NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE
MIRACULOUS MEDAL, BENEDICTION

**2025
THE POPE'S
PRAYER
INTENTIONS**

September For Our Relationship with All of Creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint
Francis, we might experience our
interdependence with all
creatures who are loved by God
and worthy of love and
respect.

OFFERING

AN ACT OF WORSHIP

August 24, 2025

Weekly

\$ 18,698

Misc. Other Contributions

2,394

\$ 21,092

August 31, 2025

Weekly

\$ 16,056

Misc. Other Contributions

1,857

\$ 17,913

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT.

Upcoming Donation Designations

Sep 7 Weekly

Building Maintenance: Keeping our places of worship
warm, dry and comfortable.

Sep 14 Weekly

Catholic University: The Collection for The Catholic
University of America underwrites scholarships to assist
financially deserving students in completing their education
at CUA in over 50 disciplines.

Sep 21 Weekly

St. Vincent DePaul: Helps the poor and needy in our local
communities.

Sep 28 Weekly

All Souls: For the intentions of our beloved dead.

Oct 7 Weekly

Building Maintenance: Keeping our places of worship
warm, dry and comfortable.

CONSIDER ON-LINE GIVING

To Sign Up go to www.mmotcp.org, scroll down to the
On-Line Giving Block, and follow the instructions.

2025 Annual Catholic Appeal Progress

While we have reached our monetary goal,
13 additional new donors are still needed to
receive the maximum benefit back to the parish
from the Diocese. We greatly appreciate your
continued generosity.

SCAM ALERT: Scammers are targeting parishioners once again,
asking them to buy gift cards, scratch off the numbers, and send
them. Please do not respond to these requests—they are fraudu-
lent. If you're unsure about any message, contact the Parish Office
directly. **You would never be asked to send gift cards or money
through an email or text at any time!**



MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH FOOD PANTRY

FOOD PANTRY

Our Holy Assumption site is closed for repairs. All HA patrons are encouraged to utilize St. Mary's during this time.

Donations are to be dropped off during pantry hours only. Please do not donate expired items. Thank you!

St. Mary's Pantry Hours
 M-W-F (2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
 Tuesday (6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)
 Thursday (9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.)



In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ."

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? We encourage anyone interested in our Society to come visit with us at one of our meetings (held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 in the upstairs room of the Parish Center). Learn what we do, ask questions of us, and experience the Holy Spirit guiding us as we strive to help others who are in need in our community. All are welcome.

IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES NEEDS ASSISTANCE, CALL OUR CONFIDENTIAL HELPLINE AT 609-298-1414.



Retrouvaille
 ... a lifeline for Marriages

REDISCOVER THE LOVE
 IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of October 3 - 5 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or send an email to retrodelvalley@gmail.com. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR NEW PARISIONERS TO
 MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH PARISH**

MEET & GREET - AUGUST 2025





.....Religious Education News.....

September 13.....Welcome Back RE Mass 5:30pm & Ice Cream Social following

September 21.....First Sunday RE Classes 8:45-10:15am

September 23.....First Tuesday RE Classes 6:00-7:15pm

October 6.....First Monday Monthly RE Classes 6:00-7:30pm

2025-2026 RE REGISTRATION

Registration Packets:

- 1) At the entrance doors of Holy Assumption
- 2) In the book rack near the main doors of St. Mary
- 3) On our Parish Website

WELCOME BACK RE MASS & CELEBRATION

We invite all of our Religious Education families to join us for our **Welcome Back RE Mass** on **Saturday, September 13th at 5:30 PM** in **St. Mary Church**. After Mass, stay and enjoy a **wonderful Ice Cream Social**—because who doesn't love ice cream with all the fixings?

This is a great opportunity to meet the amazing volunteers who will be serving our students throughout the RE year. We are filled with joy as we welcome back our returning students and families—and we extend a special welcome to the new families joining us this year.

If you have a special talent you'd like to share or perform during the evening, please contact Mrs. Zola at mzola@mmotcp.org. We can't wait to celebrate the start of this blessed new year with you!

2025-2026 CATECHISTS

Sunday Weekly

- ✦ 1st Grade – Mr. Jose, Mr. Lulu, Mrs. Cartwright, and Tina Janis
- ✦ 2nd Grade – Mr. Gramlich
- ✦ 3rd Grade – Mrs. Nagle
- ✦ 4th Grade – Mrs. Langan
- ✦ 5th Grade – Mrs. Jarvie
- ✦ 6th Grade – Mr. and Mrs. Hutman
- ✦ 7th Grade – Mrs. Bisson
- ✦ 8th Grade— Mrs. Wachenheim and
Mrs. Ryan Kirchoff-Ross

Monday Monthly

- ✦ 3rd Grade – Mrs. Taylor
- ✦ 4th Grade – Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Mangus
- ✦ 5th Grade – Mr. Floyd
- ✦ 6th Grade—Mrs. Schulz

Tuesday Weekly

- ✦ 1st Grade – Mrs. Zukowski
- ✦ 2nd Grade – Mrs. Brown
- ✦ 3rd Grade – Mrs. Crawford
- ✦ 4th Grade – Mr. Hernandez
- ✦ 5th Grade – Mrs. Zola, but actively seeking a
full-time volunteer
- ✦ 6th Grade – Mr. Horan
- ✦ 7th Grade – Mrs. Cammarata
- ✦ 8th Grade—Mrs. Evan

Phone #: 609-291-8281

M. Zola x118, Email: mzola@mmotcp.org

C. Schulz x117, Email: cschulz@mmotcp.org

Promise to Protect: To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children, call your local law enforcement agency or Child Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at: abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org



Another glass of wine, just one more episode on Netflix, a little more scrolling on Instagram women are numbing out at ever-increasing

rates. What is it about our lives that makes us feel so overwhelmed? What might change if we figured out how to build lives that we like?

Walking with Purpose (WWP) may be the answer you are looking for but didn't realize it. It is a unique Bible Study Program for women of all ages. At the heart of the program, we seek to elevate our knowledge of God and to deepen our relationship with Jesus.

WWP is more than a women's Bible study. It is a faith community that supports, encourages, and challenges one another. It is a safe place where you will discover authentic friendships and meaningful discussions as your heart is transformed by the Word of God. It is everything you need to get back to living a life that you love.

This season, we will be studying the book entitled "Grounded in Hope". This study is based on the book of Hebrews, and will help you encounter Jesus in such a powerful, comforting, and stabilizing way that He can become your lifeline.

The following are the dates, times, and locations for the Bible Study Program: (The cost for the book is \$20.)

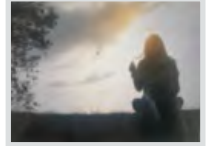
Sundays (starting September 28th)
St. Mary's Parish Center, Upper Meeting Room
45 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown, NJ
9:30am

Tuesdays (starting September 30th)
Holy Assumption Church, Lower Level
1290 Hornberger Avenue, Roebling, NJ
6:30pm

Registration forms can be found at the church entrances at both St. Mary's Church and Holy Assumption Church. You may also register at the time of the first session.

Welcome back to community!

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Bereavement Ministry Program



Our Ministry is modelled on the Renew International's. **Grieving the Death of a Loved One.**

We offer a welcoming and safe place for everyone who joins us, one where there is no specific timeline for your grief. We offer an environment that is free of judgement and where each person's grief can be witnessed with enormous love, support, empathy, and validation from a community of grievers who share that common experience of loss with you.

Each session of our Program incorporates prayer, scripture readings, beautiful healing music, and reflections that can help you tap into your feelings and what you are experiencing in your own journey of grief. In many ways, when we share our story of grief with one another, we find the path to acceptance and potentially even new meaning in our lives.

FALL 2025 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Our program, presented by trained and Certified Bereavement Facilitator is a six-session program with fellowship on the seventh week. Our sessions will be held every Wednesday beginning September 17th through October 29th. Afternoon and Evening sessions are planned. Afternoon sessions will be held from 2:00—3:30 and evening sessions will be held from 6:30—8:00pm. Meetings will be held at St. Mary's School, 45 Crosswicks St., Bordentown NJ 08505.

- 9/17 Session 1: The Search for Acceptance: Beginning the Journey
- 9/24 Session 2: Bumps Along the Way: The Emotional Journey
- 10/1 Session 3: Is This the Right Road: Adjusting the Journey
- 10/8 Session 4: The Search for Meaning: The Spiritual Journey
- 10/15 Session 5: The Search for Connectedness: The Continuing Journey
- 10/22 Session 6: The Search for Reconciliation: Does the Journey End?
- 10/29 Session 7: Fellowship

All course materials are provided; you only need to bring yourself. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, we hope you will consider joining us. If you would like to attend any of our sessions, please contact the Parish Office by calling (609) 298-0261 or e-mail bereavement@mmotcp.org and a Bereavement Facilitator will be in touch with you. There is no need to do this alone! Please register no later than September 10th.



Inspiration for the Week

Today, Jesus tells us the cost of true discipleship — and it turns out, it's everything. We must reject the world in order to love God. What attachments are holding us back from the relationship we could have — we *should* have — with our Lord?



The Dignity of Life Ministry is a part of a powerful movement that uplifts, supports and defends the inherent worth of every individual from conception to natural death.

We stand firm in our commitment to affirm the sanctity of life at all stages. Whether advocating for the unborn, the elderly, or those living with disabilities, this ministry focuses on human dignity ensuring that every person is treated with respect and love.

We are trying to shape a compassionate community by participating in pro-life activities such as praying "40 Days for Life" September 24th thru November 2nd. We will be joining with the Altar/ Rosary Society in praying for unborn children on the Feast of the Rosary (October 11th at Holy Assumption) and planning a Respect Life Mass (October 18th at St. Mary's). We attend the state Mass and March for Life (September 25th at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption). We attended the Bishop's Mass for life and Life Expo (January 24).

We practice faith in action by reaching out to our homebound parishioners and our Diocese seminarians. We touch base with those recently bereaved to see if there is anything that our parish community can do to help.

As a part of the Burlington County Diocesan Respect Life Committee, we share information and pool resources with other parishes.

If you would like information about our ministry, or would like to join any of these activities, please email dignityof-life@mmtocp.org



SEVEN BENEFITS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Deeper relationship with God: Spending time in Eucharistic Adoration provides an opportunity to cultivate a deeper and more intimate relationship with God, particularly through focusing on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.



Spiritual growth and strength: Adoration can foster spiritual growth, leading to increased awareness of God's love, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and a greater understanding of faith. It can also strengthen one's resolve against temptation and lead to a more virtuous life.

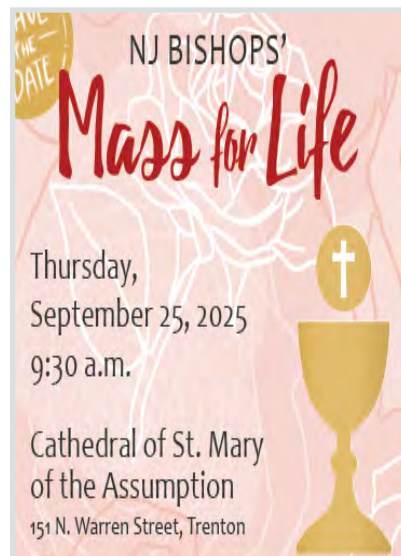
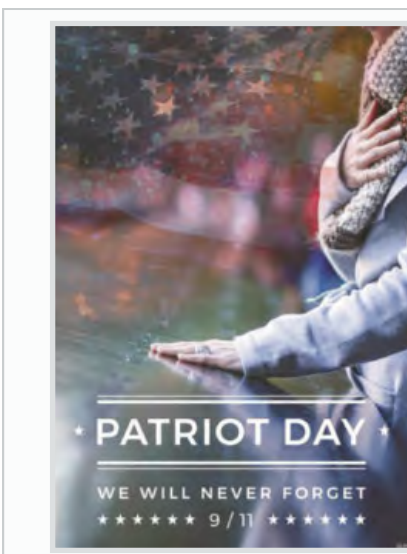
Peace and rest: Spending time in silent adoration can bring a sense of inner peace and rest, and may even be associated with a "relaxation response" in the body.

Guidance and clarity: In the quiet presence of the Blessed Sacrament, individuals may experience clearer guidance and a renewed sense of purpose and direction in their lives.

Healing and consolation: Adoration can be a source of healing, both spiritual and potentially physical, offering solace and strength in times of suffering and sorrow.

Intercessory prayer: Adoration offers a powerful opportunity to pray for others, for the needs of the Church and the world, and to offer intentions before the Eucharistic Lord.

Strengthening of families and communities: Adoration is believed to have a positive impact on families, strengthening spiritual life and fostering a deeper sense of community within parishes and communities.



Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House
84 Walnford Road • Allentown, NJ 08501
609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

ST. EDITH STEIN – A SPIRITUAL PORTRAIT

6 Wednesdays: 7:00 – 8:15 PM 9/24, 10/22, 11/19, 12/17, 1/14, 2/18

As you travel on our own spiritual journey, you are invited at this time to journey for a short time with St. Edith Stein, also known as St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. In our reading and discussions of the book, *St. Edith Stein – A Spiritual Portrait* by Dianne M. Traflet, there is a lot we can learn from Edith's spiritual journey from devout Jew, to atheist, to philosopher, to feminist, to convert to the Catholic faith, and finally a victim of an Auschwitz gas chamber. These sessions will be beneficial for both beginners as well as those advanced in their spiritual faith. Donation: \$100

THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS SPRINKLED WITH THE SONG OF SONGS—9 Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 PM

9/16, 10/14, 11/11, 12/9, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12

Open yourself to receive the grace and deep love of God by praying *The Spiritual Exercises* through the lens of the Song of Songs. *Awakening Love* by Gregory Cleveland, OMV will be our resource for daily prayer, readings & reflections. Donation: \$175

PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES: WHERE IS GOD IN MY LIFE?

(Zoom Only) 9 Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:00 PM

9/10, 10/8, 11/12, 12/10, 1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/15, 5/13

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609-760-6637

Legion of Mary

Kathleen Fetch - lom@mmotcp.org

Secular Franciscan Order

Maria Schultes - FranciscanorderHA@mmotcp.org

Word of Life Prayer Group

Ginny Olsen—609-947-3336



Recitation of the Rosary

St. Mary Church:

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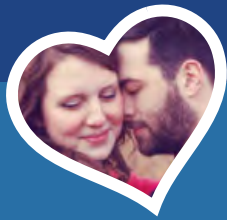
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