

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



317 FIRST STREET · DUNELLEN · NEW JERSEY 08812



Christmas 2023

Dear St. John's Family,

Merry Christmas to you! Christmas this year is a double blessing because we will celebrate the liturgies of the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the Christmas Vigil Masses back-to-back.



But as I wish you Merry Christmas, I know we are still in Advent which is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and the healing graces Our Lord gives us. Advent can also be a hectic time filled with many demands on our time and resources. Family, shopping, parties and events can consume us and our calendars.

Amidst all that, please remember that this season is about preparation to make room for Jesus in our hearts and in our lives. I hope you were able to take advantage of our Advent reconciliation with the three priests that were available this past Saturday December 16. If you missed that opportunity, please don't worry. There is still time next Saturday from 4 to 4:45 pm. You also know that I am available any other time by appointment and most of you have my direct number at which to reach me. You can also make the appointment using my parish number whose messages I check frequently.

I also welcome those who seek some peace and spiritual renewal to adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which takes place in the Chapel on Thursday from 8:30 am until Benediction at 4:00 pm.

Thank you again for all that you do for St. John's. I am very proud to be part of this great spiritual family of Dunellen.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Alphonsus Kariuki

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil.....5:00 p.m.; **Sunday**.....8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., Noon (Spanish)

Monday-Friday...8:00 a.m. (*Chapel*)

Tuesday....7:00 p.m. (Spanish); Second **Sunday of each month**...3:30 (Kiswahili)

Holydays.....8:00 a.m., Noon & 7:00 p.m. (*Church*)

PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; closed on Friday. Evenings by appointment only

Telephone: 732-968-2621; **E-mail:** stjev@verizon.net; **Web:** www.stjohnsdunellen.org

Office of Faith Formation: 732-968-2621, ext. 13; stjohnpcl@gmail.com

For Pastoral Emergencies, please call: 732-968-2621, ext. 12

PARISH REGISTRATION: All families and individuals within the canonical bound areas of St. John the Evangelist are invited to register by contacting the Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel and on the first Friday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Chapel. You are invited to visit as your schedule permits. If you wish to be a regularly scheduled adorer, please contact the Parish Office. During Lent, Adoration takes place on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Sacrament of Baptism: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the First and Third Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Baptisms will not be performed during Lent. An instructional Infant Baptism Class is required for parents having their child baptized and is recommended for godparents. For more information and to register for Pre-baptism class, please call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Common Policy among the Dioceses in New Jersey recommends preparing for your wedding at least one year in advance. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday from 4:00-4:45 p.m. in the Reconciliation Room of the Church or by appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick: Please contact the Parish Office if you are homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion.

Sponsor Eligibility: Godparents/Sponsor eligibility certificates are available for registered parishioners by calling the Parish Office. Godparents/Sponsors must be practicing Catholics who have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist and, if married, are in a marriage recognized by the Church.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation is available for registered parish families with children in Grades 1-8. As the Primary Catechists of their children, parents are prepared and supported to lead their children in faith at home. Meetings are twice a month, one for parents only to prepare for monthly activity lessons and one for parents and children to grow in community. Sacramental reception years (2nd and 8th grade) have additional Sunday meetings to prepare for receiving First Reconciliation/Holy Communion and Confirmation. To register or for more information, please call the Office of Faith Formation.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays of Advent:
December 9 - 4:00 to 4:45 pm
December 16 - 11:00 am to Noon and 4:00 to 4:45 pm

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

Sunday, December 24, 2023
8:30 AM
10:30 AM
12 NOON - SPANISH MASS

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY ~ CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24, 2023
4:00 PM
6:00 PM - SPANISH MASS
10:00 PM

NATIVITY OF THE LORD ~ CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 AM
10:30 AM
12 NOON - SPANISH MASS

MASSES DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON:

Sunday, December 31, 2023
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
Regular Mass Schedule

Sunday, January 7, 2024
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Regular Mass Schedule

Monday, January 8, 2024
BAPTISM OF THE LORD
After this feast we start the ordinary time of the year

MASS INTENTIONS



Third Sunday
of Advent

Monday, December 18

8:00 a.m. Herb Maritz
by John & Jeanne Fitzgerald

Tuesday, December 19

8:00 a.m. Dot Maritz
by John & Jeanne Fitzgerald
7:00 p.m. Parishioners of St. John's

Wednesday, December 20

8:00 a.m. Kurt Demmerle
by John & Jeanne Fitzgerald

Thursday, December 21

8:00 a.m. John McCann
by Carey, Joseph & Michael

Friday, December 22

8:00 a.m. Special Intention by Lina Giordano

Saturday, December 23

5:00 p.m. 50th Wedding Anniversary of Anthony
& Sharyn Szulczewski by Sculczewski
family

Sunday, December 24

8:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's
10:30 a.m. John McCann by Hummel family
Noon Parroquianos de la Iglesia
4:00 p.m. Gordon Harmon by family
6:00 p.m. Pablo Class Otero by cousin Maribel
10:00 p.m. Rosa T. Chavez by Esposo y familia

Please pray for the sick members of our parish:

Louis Capozzi
Cathy Sloomaker
MaryAnn Briones
Joan Rabouin



Padrinos de Bautismo Y Confirmacion:

La ley eclesiástica manda que los padrinos para el bautismo y confirmación, deben ser católicos confirmados y activos en la parroquia, o sea que asistan a la misa dominical, ayudan al mantenimiento de la Iglesia, este casado/y por la Iglesia; si es soltero/a no debe estar en unión libre. Debe vivir una vida de acuerdo con las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Solo Podemos entregar cartas a parroquianos que viven de acuerdo con estas normas.

Bautismos:

Los Bautismos en español son celebrados en el segundo domingo del mes a la 1:15 PM. No se celebran bautismos durante la Cuaresma. Para hacer arreglos para los bautismos en español, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Si la secretaria no puede contestar en ese momento, le puede dejar un mensaje con su número de teléfono para llamarle luego.

Formacion Religiosa—Catecismo:

Si usted es nuevo en la parroquia y quiere inscribir a su niño/a en las clases de catecismo, por favor comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.

RICA:

Adultos que deseen convertirse a la religión católica o que necesiten recibir Primera Comunión y o Confirmación, deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina de la parroquia para el Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de adultos

Matrimonios:

Los arreglos para la fecha de casamiento se deben hacer un año por anticipado, antes de hacer los arreglos sociales. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.

Ministerio de Visitar a Los Enfermos:

Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Si es una emergencia (en peligro de muerte) después de horas de oficina, llamar al número 732-968-2621, ex. 12.

Confesiones en Espanol:

El padre está dispuesto después de la misa dominical. Por favor, comuníquese con él.

Círculo de Oración: todos los jueves se comensara a las 6:45 pm con el Santo Rosario en la Capilla. El último jueves del mes hay una Hora Santa a las 7:00pm.

**Sacrificial Offerings 2023
Sunday, December 10**

Regular Collection: \$4,798.48
Online Giving: \$ 498.75

Bills Paid this Week: \$11,287.00

Online Giving

Have you tried our new Parish online giving system? There are three ways to give through Tithe.ly:

- *Through our website
- *through our Facebook page
- *using the Tithe.ly mobile giving App

When giving Tithe.ly you can donate by credit/debit card or bank transfer. You can also select "reoccurring gift" to automate your regular weekly offering so that it is donated automatically on a schedule that you choose. As with any automated service there is a small transaction fee for the church. You have the option to select "cover the fee" to make this transaction fee a part of your tax deductible gift. If you need assistance setting up a gift or learning how to use Tithe.ly email stjohnpcl@gmail.com

Give the Gift of Faith

Churches are dependent upon the generosity of others to fulfill their mission of spreading the Good News as mandated by Christ on the day of his Ascension. To perpetuate our church's mission in our area, please consider putting St. John the Evangelist Church in your will.

Adopt a Priest Program

Have you prayed for your Priest today? To adopt a Priest or for more information, please call Maureen Shea 732-968-0136 or 732-770-0502 cell.

Programa Adopta a un Sacerdote

¿Has orado por tu sacerdote hoy? Para adoptar un sacerdote o para obtener más información, llame a Maureen Shea al 732-968-0136 o al celular 732-770-0502.



Christmas Memorials

You are invited to make a memorial donation for the Christmas season. Your donation will help provide flowers and decorations for the church. To participate you may pick up a form at the exits of the Church or simply write down your name, phone number, and the name of the person or persons you wish to memorialize and send it to the Parish Center by **Sunday, 12/17**.

**Christmas
Decoration
Schedule**



Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, which makes our decoration schedule tighter than usual. We can use help to get the church decorated:

Sunday: 12/24 - after the Spanish Mass from about **1 p.m.-3 p.m.** we will decorate the church.

All are welcome- we will need many hands to get the church decorated quickly!



**Prayers for
Our Service Members**

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

- U.S. Navy Reserve Lt. Michael Bartilotti**
- U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney**
- U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Ed Sella**
- U.S. Marine Mer. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak**
- U.S. Army Pfc. Sean Parente**
- U.S. Marine LCpl. Dante Parente**
- U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Casey Wenzel**
- U.S. Army Spec. 4 Timothy Francisco**
- U.S. Marine LCpl. Stephen Wright**
- U.S. Navy IT2 Kenneth Millman III**
- U.S. Navy HM3 Rosemary Plunkett**
- U.S. Marine LCpl. Dylan Kolakowski**
- U.S. Air Force, 2nd Lt. Michael Nielsen**

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

Parish Ministry & Contacts

Activities & Fund Raising Committee:

Parish Office (732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Altar Rosary Society: Fran Furino

(732) 968-2621

Altar Servers: (732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Art & Environment Committee: Kate Guzzi,

(732) 968-2621;

Catholic Daughters of the Americas:

Nina DiQuollo (732) 968-2621

Eucharistic Adoration: Maureen Shea

(732) 968-2621

Extra ordinary Ministers of Holy

Communion: Martha Pizzigoni; (732) 968-2621

Faith Formation & Catechists: Alice Fogarty,

PCL (732) 968-2621, x13; stjohnpcl@gmail.com

Finance Committee: John Fitzgerald

Golf Outing Committee: Parish Office

(732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Homebound Ministry: Jon Fourre, (732) 968-

2621

Hospitality Committee: Kate Guzzi

(732) 968-2621

Knights of Columbus Council 2544:

Tom Bafutto (732) 968-2621

Marriage Encounter: Eugene & Theresa Porras

(732) 968-2621

Money Counters: Jeff Marren, (732) 968-2621

Music Ministry: Cecilia Macalalad, (732) 968-2621

Readers: Martha Pizzigoni; (732) 968-2621

Social Concerns Ministry: Mary Lou Chingery

(732) 968-2621

Spanish Charismatic Prayer Group:

Martha Sanabria (732) 968-2621

Guadalupe Group: Ana Alpizar (732) 968-2621

Tricky Tray Committee: Parish Office

(732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Ushers: Mike Sciametta (732)968-2621



**Eucharistic
Revival**

**National Eucharistic Congress
– Tickets/Travel Packages**

Available (Coming Soon)!

I apologize for the delay, but we recently found out that the NEC will not be provided shuttle service or transportation for general attendees. The good news is that various travel agencies are offering this service. We are currently working through this issue and hope to begin selling tickets/travel packages to anyone interested in attending the National Eucharistic Congress in the next few weeks. Participants will be able to choose a “Land Only” option, which will include shuttle service, for about \$1,424.00. We are also pleased to announce that we are in the process of securing round trip tickets to and from Indianapolis (including shuttle service). We hope to publicize these options in the next few weeks. In the meantime, I would encourage anyone interested in attending the Congress to please fill out the NEC Interest Form on our website (<https://diometuchen.org/nec2024>), as we will be offering these tickets/travel packages on a first come, first serve basis.

**National Eucharistic Pilgrimage -
Important Update**

The Diocese of Metuchen was recently notified that the perpetual pilgrims will be traveling through the diocese this **May 27-28, 2024**. The pilgrims will be arriving on the early evening of May 27 and departing on the early evening of May 28. More information will be forthcoming, but the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is hoping that the perpetual pilgrims, young adult Catholics (19 to 29 years old), will be able to rely on the biblical hospitality of local hosts, including lay families, parishes, religious orders, schools, and shrines along the way. There will be twelve young adults (including two seminarians) and one or two ordained chaplain(s) on every route. The four pilgrimage processions will ultimately converge in Indianapolis on July 16, 2024, to participate in the National Eucharistic Congress. Adam Carlisle, Secretary for Evangelization and Communication, will be helping to organize our diocese’s involvement. If anyone is interested in assisting with this important event, please feel free to contact him: acarlisle@diometuchen.org.



2023 – 2024 FAITH FORMATION

Family of Faith

January 1, 2024 HOLY DAY – SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

- 1/7 10:30AM Youth Mass**
11:30AM to 1PM Confirmation class
- 1/8 6:30PM to 8PM Parent meeting**
2nd Year First Holy Communion class
1st Year Confirmation
- 1/9 6:30PM to 8PM Parent meeting**
2nd Year First Holy Communion class
1st Year Confirmation
Parent meeting in Spanish 6:30pm to 8pm
- 1/21 11:30AM to 1PM Confirmation class**
- 1/22 6:30 1st Holy Communion Retreat**
- 1/28 Community Meeting – 9am to 10 am, lesson 6 and 7**

Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility letter:
Due January 2024
It is up to the Sponsor to get the eligibility letter from the Parish office where the sponsor is Registered.

Confirmation dates to Know:
Confirmation rehearsal is Monday, 4/22, 7pm
Confirmation is Thursday, 4/25, at 5:00 pm.
Place: St Mary's Stony Hill

2nd Year First Holy Communion class --
January 8th and 9th, 6:30PM to 8PM
First Holy Communion Retreat for Children and parents.

1st Year Confirmation Class -- January 8th and 9th, 6:30PM to 8PM
Bring Decision Point book, notebook

MASS SIGN-IN—Please sign in during weekend mass. Sign-in sheet is in rear of church. If your name does not appear please write it on lines provided.

Familia de Fe

1 de enero de 2024 DÍA SANTO – SOLEMNIDAD DE MARÍA MADRE DE DIOS

- 1/7 10:30AM Misa Juvenil**
11:30AM a 1PM Clase de Confirmación
- 1/8 6:30PM a 8PM Reunión de padres**
Clase de Primera Comunión de 2º año
1er año de Confirmación
- 1/9 6:30PM a 8PM Reunión de padres**
Clase de
Primera Comunión de 2º año
Confirmación de 1er año
Reunión de padres en español 6:30pm a 8pm
- 1/21 11:30AM a 1PM Clase de confirmación**
- 1/22 6:30 1ª Comunión Retiro**
- 1/28 Reunión Comunitaria – 9am a 10 am, lección 6 y 7**

Carta de elegibilidad del patrocinador de confirmación:

Vencimiento en enero de 2024
Depende del patrocinador obtener la carta de elegibilidad de la oficina parroquial donde está registrado el patrocinador.

Fechas de confirmación para conocer

El ensayo de confirmación es el lunes 22 de abril a las 7 p.m.
La confirmación es el jueves 25 de abril a las 5:00 p.m. Lugar: St Mary's Stony Hill

Clase de Primera Comunión de 2º año - 8 y 9 de enero, 6:30PM a 8PM
Retiro de Primera Comunión para niños y padres.

Clase de Confirmación de 1er Año - 8 y 9 de enero, 6:30PM a 8PM
Traiga el libro de Decision Point, el cuaderno

REGISTRO MASIVO: regístrese durante la misa del fin de semana. Hoja de registro en la parte trasera de la iglesia. Si su nombre no aparece, por favor escríbalo en las líneas proporcionadas.

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wreathscrossamerica.org

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 #1. Call Me (I'll handle the other 9)
Barbara Seif, Realtor
 Cell: 732-236-4781
 bseif@erarealty.com
 Office: 732-529-0308

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bpolanco@bonventure.net

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 Jack Cochrane, Director, NJ License #5376

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