February 14, 2021

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Redemptorists CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH

PARISH OFFICE

SACRED HEART - WORSHIP SITE

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He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." - Mk 1:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Stanislaw Slaby, C.Ss.R., Pastor Rev. Marcin Gacek, C.Ss.R., Associate Pastor Deacon William Stefany Deacon Thomas Giacobbe Ann Straszewski, *Office Business Manager* Maribeth Thomaszfski, *Cemetery Business Manager* Charlotte Snow, *Director of Religious Education*

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sacred Heart Worship Site

SATURDAY 8:30 - 9:00 AM (Our Lady of Czestochowa Chapel)

SATURDAY 4:00 - 4:45 PM

CONFESSION

(English & Polish)

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY 6:30 - 7:00 PM

SATURDAY 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM 4:00 - 4:50 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30AM to 3:00PM. Office closed on Thursdays. Saturdays and Evenings: By Appointment.

FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 15 (Poniedziałek)

SH - 8:00AM †Anna, Stanislawa & Jozef Bayer r/o Anna Kleszcz

SH - 11:00AM Health of Ryan McKee r/o mother & family

Tuesday, February 16 (Wtorek)

SH - 8:00AM †Wladyslaw, Aniela, Edward & Helen Korzeniowski r/o estate
SH - 11:00AM †Rosemarie Fellrath r/o son
SH - 11:30AM OLPH Novena in English

Ash Wednesday, February 17 (Środa) Dav of Fast & Abstinance

- SH 8:00AM †Czeslaw Lupinski r/o daughter, Danuta Zalewski & family
- SH 11:00AM †Anthony Franzoso r/o Cebula Family
- SH 11:30AM Exposition and Rosary
- SH 6:00PM (E) +Jean Ketusky r/o son, Joe & family
- SH 7:10PM OLPH Novena in Polish
- SH 7:30PM (P) †Zofia & Julian Sadej, Maria & Edward Partyka, Aniela & Piotr Sieczkowski r/o family

Thursday, February 18 (Czwartek)

- SH 8:00AM †Aniela, Wladyslaw, Helen & Edward Korzeniowski r/o estate
- SH 11:00AM †Connie Pepe r/o husband, Jerry

Friday, February 19 (Piątek)

- SH 11:00AM †Dorothy Kraycirik r/o daughter, Lori Barone & son, Matthew Menkowski
- SH 11:30AM Divine Mercy Devotions
- SH 4:30PM Stations of the Cross in English
- **SH** 6:30PM Stations of the Cross in Polish
- SH 7:00PM +Stanislaw Zdeb r/o family

Saturday, February 20 (Sobota)

- SH 8.00AM +Ilona Widerynski r/o Kania Family
- SH 11:00AM +Henry Petrone r/o family
- SH 5:00PM †Jane Borowski r/o family

1st Sunday of Lent, February 21 (Niedziela)

- SH 7:00 AM †Julian Maziarz r/o daughter
- SH 9:00 AM †Living & Deceased Members of the Altar Rosary Society †Betty Cowen r/o Trksak Family
- SH 11:30 AM †Deceased Members of the Zmartych & Galacki Families r/o corki z rodzina
- SH 5:00PM Gorzkie Żale
- SH 5:45PM †Jozef Malinowski r/o Marian & Maria Puzio



A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean."

- Mk 1:40-41

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Church, as a voice of the Gospel, proclaims the sacredness of all human life. Everyone created by God is fashioned in God's image and has Divine DNA at the center of their soul. God never leaves what God creates but always remains intimately bound to what he has given form. Everyone has a place and because they have received the gift of Divine Blessing, nobody deserves to feel inferior, unworthy, unwanted, unclean or marginalized. Even the most broken of souls has a place. We, the Body of Christ, have the privilege and responsibility to give voice to the voiceless. The cries of the little one in his or her mother's womb are just as sacred as the cries of one who is homeless and hungry. The migrant deserves our attention as much as the forgotten elderly and even the prisoner, with a heart hardened by anger and resentment, deserves respect and dignity.

The Gospel of Life is often hard to swallow, and we would rather keep those we consider unclean, different or unfixable in a place by themselves. It is hard to see them with us, but they deserve to be. There is far too much violence in this world and the result of that violence is the assault on human life. Many are forced to leave the place they call home in search of safer ground, finding few if any along the way who will help them. How different today's Gospel story would be if Jesus gave in to what was politically correct at that time. The leper would have been turned away and a soul, already beaten down by disease and fear, would have experienced an even deeper wound. Jesus wouldn't have captured much attention from anyone, nor would he have mirrored the Father's compassion and love.

Where do we stand with all of this? Do we at least understand that God's vision is often in conflict with the vision put forth in our world and even the one we advance ourselves? There is no doubt that it is incredibly challenging to find a place for everyone at the table. This challenge is compounded when the systems of operation and structure that are so ingrained in us affirm power and privilege rather than inclusivity and justice. Everything really goes askew when the powerful begin to control who is entitled to wholeness and inclusion, and greed becomes a driving force. Prejudice and entitlement raise their ugly heads and we find ourselves with quite a mess. It's time to admit that things have been a mess for a very long time. The mess needs to be healed, not by erasing it but by allowing God to touch it and make it whole. We need to bring God back to the center of life where God belongs. There are no easy solutions to the world's dilemmas. But, knowing that wholeness, healing, and dignity are worthy pursuits, we can more confidently labor to achieve God's vision.



TODAY, FEBRUARY 14

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.

Monday, February 15

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DUE TO THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY. In case of an emergency, please call 908-725-0072.

GUITAR LESSONS FOR CHILDREN – Sacred Heart auditorium – 3:30 – 6PM. A small fee will be due.

NEXT WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 20 & 21

THE SECOND COLLECTION taken up after Holy Communion will be for the Catholic Spirit. Please be generous.

Ogłoszenia Parafialne

NIEDZIELA, 14 LUTY

Światowy dzień Małżeństwa jest wezwaniem do odnowy więzi między sobą i z Chrystusem, a dla społeczeństwa podkreśleniem niezastąpionej roli, jaką spełniają mężowie i żony poprzez swoją wierność, miłość, ofiarność i radość.

Poniedziałek, 15 luty

BIURO PARAFIALNE będzie zamknięte z racji na Święto Państwowe: Presidents' Day. W razie nagłego wypadku prosimy dzwonić na parafialny numer.

LEKCJE GITARY - godz. 15.30; próba polskiej scholii dziecięcej - godz. 18.00.

NIEDZIELA, 21 LUTY

DRUGA SKŁADKA ZEBRANA po komunii świętej będzie przeznaczona na prenumeratę gazety Catholic Spirit. Prosimy o ofiarność.

The Christ the Redeemer collection for the weekend of February 7, 2021

	-	
Offertory	\$	3,828.00
Mail-Ins	\$	10,997.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$	860.00
On-line Giving	\$	2,901.00
Children's Donations	<u>\$</u>	1.00
Total	\$	18,587.00

Thank you for your generosity and support. May God bless you. Fr. Stan

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, "Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?"

OUR CHILDREN'S GIFTS TO CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH My Good Deed was when I:

cleaned the pews.



Ashes will be distributed at the following Masses.

Alex

Posypanie głów popiołem będzie podczas każdej Mszy św. w Środę Popielcową.



7:00AM 11:00AM 6:00PM

Polish 8:00AM 7:30PM

How to Observe Lent

Lent is a time to prepare for the joy and the promise of the Easter celebration. Today, as in the past, the message of Lent is one of joyous hope. Lent offers a new beginning. Through inner change and penance, true freedom and a new life are made possible.

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL is based on True sorrow for sins. You must acknowledge your

sins and resolve to turn back to God. Recall how Christ suffered for your sins.

Seek forgiveness for your sins and take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Pray for help to amend your life.

Spiritual growth. Strive to advance toward holiness. Acknowledge your total reliance on God. Cultivate Christian virtues. Reflect on the real meaning of the baptismal commitment.

Fulfill this pledge of faith in your everyday life. Try to be a reflection of God's goodness.

Penance. Penance encourages spiritual growth. It is really a return to God, a conversion of mind and heart. Do penance to renew your life as a Christian.

Follow or adapt traditional Lenten practices such as fasting and self-denial.

Develop a joyful approach to Lent. Devotions will be more successful if you are:

Positive – Lent teaches us that there is joy in the darkest moments.

Responsible – Decide on your own plan for Lent in accordance with Church practices.

Open – Be willing to admit sinfulness and the need for change.

Loving – Fill your life with love for God and other people.

Choose Lenten practices that are best suited to your needs and hopes, and that unite you with your parish's observances.

TRADITIONAL LENTEN PRACTICES

Penitential practices help people turn to God. Many have evolved through the Church's history. Some are still part of Church law; but most are now left to personal choice. Plan your Lent. Use or adapt some of the following suggestions to meet your own spiritual needs.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

encourage spiritual maturity

Meaning – Fasting means limiting the number of daily meals (unless impractical for medical reasons). Abstinence means not eating certain foods. **Purpose** – These penances will help you to develop self-discipline, to achieve spiritual purification and to find forgiveness for sins. Sacrifice cheerfully, in the right spirit – not to show off will power or personal accomplishment. **Church Law** – Fasting and abstinence are required on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All other Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.

Some suggestions -

Fast an extra day or 2 each week and donate the money

saved to a food relief organization.

Try to make simpler and more healthful meals.

Examine your life for wasteful habits; start to change them.

Abstain from material excesses in any way you can.

Self-Denial

Should benefit others in some way

Forms – Self-denial may take many forms; for example, foregoing an important pleasure or limiting personal desires. Self-denial should be done for a good cause, not for its own sake. **Purpose** – This penance will help to make us more Christ-like. It will teach self-control (needed to meet goals) and dependence on God rather than on self.

Some suggestions -

Devote time to help your parish or people in your community.

Make time for reading the Bible or for increasing your knowledge of Church history or customs.

Teach children to be less materialistic – show them how to use time and money for the greatest good.

GOOD DEEDS AND ALMSGIVING

Involve giving of the self to serve others' needs **Forms** – Good works and charity can be: comforting or counseling someone; giving gifts of money, food, etc.; lending time and help. **Purpose** – These actions help to develop and perfect the love that Jesus asks of His followers. Generosity can be an expression of your gratitude to Jesus for all He has given. **Some suggestions** –

Give to one of the many charities that aid the needy throughout the world.

- Volunteer to teach a religious education class. Serve on parish councils or on special Church committees.
- Help out your neighbors. Give food and clothes to people in need. Visit the sick, the elderly, the lonely.
- Brighten others' lives by bringing love to your daily work and obligations. Try to be kinder, more cooperative and cheerful.



DZOOM ON A LENTEN JOURNEY WITH DEACON TOM

Journey with me every Monday through the 5 weeks of Lent on Zoom.

Our journey has two purposes:

FIRST, connect your personal life with our faith to bring you to the glory of Easter.

SECOND, enrich your journey by learning how other parishioners are traveling this journey.

OUR JOURNEY BEGINS AT 7 PM MONDAY: FEBRUARY 22ND MARCH 1ST, 8TH, 15TH, AND 22ND

ARE YOU'RE READY TO BEGIN?

Please send us an email and cell number to: parish@CTRmanville.com and we will send you access code to the Zoom meeting



You can listen to our broadcast from the church on 93.5 FM (within a 2 mile radius.

Download the Parish App...

Now is the perfect time to download the parish app to keep abreast of everything that's going on during this crisis. To download:

iPhone UsersText: ParishApp1 to 555888 Android Users Text: ParishApp2 to 555888

To learn more visit our website.

Catholic Charities Diocese of Metuchen

Please consider supporting our local poverty relief services by donating gently used clothing, shoes, household items and small appliances to Catholic Charities-Diocese of Metuchen. Clearly marked donation boxes are available in more than 30 locations throughout our fourcounty diocese. For a complete list of drop-off locations, visit http://www.ccdom.org/how-youcan-help/clothing-donation-drop-boxes.

If you have an item that is too big to fit in a donation box, call 877-343-3651 to arrange for a free pick up at your home.

Give Online

Consider using ConnectNow Giving during this health crisis. Go to our website and use the "Quick Give" feature to give a one-time gift without creating a login, and you'll see a list of our special funds from which you can choose to contribute. Or you can create a login and set up a recurring donation.

Pomimo kryzysu związanego Ζ prosimy koronawirusem wsparcie 0 finansowe dla parafii. Zachecamy do korzystania z zakładki Online Giving na stronie internetowej parafii. Transakcje czynione za pomocą Online Giving sa bezpieczne. Dziekujemy za wsparcie i zrozumienie.

Readings for the Week of February 14, 2021

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45 Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13 **Tuesday:** Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25 Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/ Mt 9:14-15 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/ Lk 5:27-32 Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/ 1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15 The daily Scripture references are printed here. If you find it helpful and have internet access, you can find the complete Daily Scripture Readings at http://

Weekly Vocation Prayer Schedule

www.usccb.org/nab/.



Thank you for your continued support of Caritas. The Caritas Team collects food **every week** at the church. Desperately

needed items: Spaghetti Sauce, Soup, Cereal, Macaroni and Cheese, Dried Potato Mixes, Rice, Canned Meat-Ham, Tuna, Chicken, Canned Fruit, Peanut Butter and Jelly. The Caritas Team also collect monetary donations and on-line through our church website.

For the month of February donations of paper products such as toilet paper and paper towels as well as cleaning products like laundry detergent would be very helpful.

This would be an enormous help as people don't normally think of these items when donating to a Food Bank. These can be dropped off at Sacred Heart Church or the parish office.

Thank you for your anticipated support.



The next Holy Name Society Meeting will be held on **March 1st** in the St. John Neumann Center at 6PM.



The Knights of Columbus Saint Jude Council # 6573



Council Meetings and Social Gatherings: Held monthly on 1st and 3rd Tuesday, respectively at 7:00 pm; Saint John Neumann Center at Christ the Redeemer Parish, Manville N.J. Catholic men 18+ who are not fellow knights but may have an interest to join are invited to the social events. For more information visit <u>https://www.kofc.org/en/join/join-theknights.html</u>

CLOTHING DRIVE - Cancelled until further notice!

Bible Study: Bible study is every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and is currently covering Galatians. All are welcome to join the discussion.

We always have updates on our Facebook Page - <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> kofc6573biblestudy/



The next Altar Rosary Society Mass will be said on **February 21st** at 10:00AM.

The next **FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS** to Our Lady of Fatima will take place on **March 6th**.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EX-PLAINED

Question: In today's digital world, do we really need to be face-to-face with a priest to confess our sins? Would Facetime or Zoom ever be allowed?

Answer:

The question of whether or not Catholics can celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation virtually (via social media, by phone, or in some other way) is a question that has actually been around for several years. The recent COVID-19 pandemic brought the question back in a new way, especially as many parishes were forced to introduce a sort of "social distanced" confession, with the sacrament being celebrated outdoors.

In reflecting on this question, however, there are a couple points that we want to keep in mind. First, as the Code of Canon Law observes in different places, the faithful have a right to the sacraments of the Church and the Church's ministers have a responsibility to make them accessible. At the same time, however, we always have to be sure that we respect the nature of the sacraments themselves.

Although modern forms of technology and communication can help us in our work of evangelization catechesis, the Pontifical Council for Social Communication has reminded us that, "Virtual reality is no substitute for the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, the sacramental reality of the other sacraments, and shared worship in a flesh and blood human community. There are no sacraments on the internet" (The Church and the Internet, no. 9).

Although our encounters with others on the internet and via social media can be considered "real" in one sense, in the sacraments we encounter Christ in a personal and ecclesial way. It is never just a private experience but is always grounded in the life of the Church and this means that it must truly be personal, including the contact between the confessor and the penitent. While the convenience or ease of online celebrations might be appealing for many reasons, at heart, we always want to keep in mind the fullness of the Church's tradition and the meaning of the sacraments.

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Everybody has a place at the table, and nobody deserves to feel inferior, unworthy, unwanted, or marginalized. It is not part of God's vision. Jesus came to heal, make things whole, set things right, and restore relationships. No one is to feel unwelcome or alienated from the community. Whether we like it or not, this message is at the core of the Gospel. It makes a lot of sense when you think about it. Perhaps this is why people kept coming from everywhere to listen to Jesus speak and to be in his presence. He made perfect sense. Most of us have no issue buying into this vision. We run into trouble, however, when we fall into the trap of privilege and power. We diverge from God's vision when the powerful begin to control who is entitled to wholeness and inclusion, and greed becomes a driving force. Prejudice and entitlement have no place in the kingdom of God, and even the most needy and hurting among us are worthy of the compassion Jesus desires to offer. There are no easy solutions to the world's dilemmas. But one thing is for certain, no one can be singled out, excluded or mistreated. Everyone matters.



SHIP Part-Time Employment Position – Effective Immediately

Samaritan Homeless Interim Program of Somerville seeks to hire a Part Time Driver for our Mobile Soup Kitchen. The driver must have a valid CDL license. Work hours would be Monday-Friday from approximately 4pm to 7pm. Hours are negotiable. Salary would start at \$20.00 an hour. This part time job may be temporary going to permanent. There is information about our Mobile Soup Kitchen – Disaster Unit on our web site at ship908.com . Please call Tom O'Leary, SHIP Director at (908) 393-9545 or email at ship908@optonline.net for additional information or to apply. God hear my plea!



We ask you for your prayers for the health of those in need, especially: Edwina Andreyko, Toni Antonelli, Evelyn Appenzeller, Cheryl

Argento, John Bartley, Thelma Bartus, Jean Batula, Harold Bok, Shawn Brickley, Denise Buanano, Lorraine Burkoski, Marylou & Jason Cebula, Chester Cejnowski, Luke Chartowich, Palo Cizmar, Pat Cobo, Allison Collins, Kaiden Crothwer, Bill and Denise Davidson. Dolores DeFazio. Marge Demski. Marv Evancho, Bernice Fatto, Maureen Femiano, Lou Fischer, Kathryn, Debbie, Madison & Michael Fisne, Valerie Frank, Nancy Franklin, Karter Fridlund, Marian Gano, Helen Gazo, Helen Gilmore, Dorothy Gluch, Robert Goffredo, Christopher Gregor, Dolores Hart, Frank Honkisz, Maryann Hughes, Marge Iarkowski, Maria Inglot, Raul Jaime, Joseph Jaworsky, Kim Jenkins, Dennis Koslowski, Ed Kawalchuk, Theresa Kraska, Wiktoria Lach, Rita Lagasse, Ken Lake, Janice Lalley, Donna Lawler, Ann Marie Lazor-Shapiro, Judy Lentzsch, Antoinette Leotti, Chevenne Liccardi, Rachel Lukacs, Nadine Mack, Jerry Mamola, Helen Michno, Quaid Mobus, Alexander Monto, Ed Nawracaj, Mai Nguyen, Hunter Norz, Ned Panfile, Barbara Pankowski, Robert & John Parlier, Barbara Perone, Steven Pirello, Mary Poltarek, Elijah Paul Prater, Joseph G. & Mark Pschar, Carolyn Puia, Steve Quintana, Chelsea Rivard, Laura Rodaman, Marie Rogusky, Sylvia Rubito, Jerry Russell, Jr., Dolores Serra, Michael Sheehan, Irene Shelcusky, Pat Sherwood, Holli Skrapits, Eric Slaight, Celia Smith, Charlotte Snow, Victoria Soika, Albert Stanski, Michelle Tranter, David Urban, Frances Viola, Irena Walczak, Ramona Walsh, Mark Waugh, Cindy Weigel, Cathy Wildgust, Raymond Wisniewski, Barbara Wrigil, Rose Zakszewski, Michael Zamorsky, Margaret & Mark Zujkowski, Maria Zurawiecki and Regina Zydalis.

God of all consolation give life and health to our sisters and brothers for whom we pray in your Holy Name. Amen.



Our Men and Women in the Service

Please pray for all of our men and women serving in the Armed forces, especially

> SPC Christopher Elsen PFC Joshua Hussey Major James A. Jablonski Jr. Master Sergeant Kimberly Kaminski USAF Airman Michael Edward Kassick III IstLieutenant John Limyansky USAF First Sergeant Jeff Morella USMC SR Jerry Lee Rogalski Commander Peter G. Rybski, Jr. PFC Steven Ubry Staff Sergeant Lindsay Zaccardi USAF

Let us know if you have a family member who is serving in the military and we will acknowledge them in our weekly bulletin. Please share the good news with us when one of the above soldiers returns home!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Unfailing Goodness of God

I have always wondered why Jesus told the cleansed leper not to publicize how he had been healed by the Son of God. It's not that I can't understand why Jesus would want to keep the matter quiet — after all, he knew that as soon as people heard, he would be mobbed with requests for healings, and his movements restricted.

What gets me is the fact that Jesus simply must have realized the leper would not listen to him. Why give someone a command you know they will ignore? It's a complicated question, and when I reflect on it, I can't help but connect it to another equally complicated question: why does God, all-good and all-knowing, allow bad things to happen?

Yes, God is all-good and all-knowing. So when He gives us free will, He knows what we will do with it. However, He is also all-powerful. He can and will bring good from any situation, any tragedy, or even any instance where someone ignores Him.

Was it a sin for this leper to do other than what Jesus had said? That's a heavy question for a Sunday morning! But it's plain to see that, even though this man ignored Jesus' command, God still used his actions. How many were brought to Christ because of the news spread by this leper!

As someone trying to live out a stewardship way of life, what is God requesting of you right now?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Please visit our parish website:

www.ctrmanville.com

up-to-date information, schedules, church bulletins, pictures from parish events and much more...

Be sure to check out our video reflections on the Sunday Readings each week. This week Mary Lou Cebula will be presenting the reflections and next week Suzanne Runyon will be the presenter. Have parish newsletter delivered to your email. Sign up for our newsletter on the website.

Sts. Cyril & Methodius



These brothers by birth became brothers in mission. Cyril and Methodius were born to a Greek diplomat in the 800s. The two brothers served in local governmental posts before each withdrew to a monastery. Their lives changed when the political leader-

ship in Eastern Europe — what is now Ukraine — requested priests who spoke the native Slavic languages. Cyril and Methodius had proven themselves as able administrators and holy men, so they were sent as missionaries. First, Cyril invented an alphabet. This became the foundation for what is now used today and is still called the Cyrillic alphabet! Next, the brothers translated the Gospels, the Psalms, and other liturgical books into the native language of the people. Their work spread across Eastern Europe. God indeed raises up saints for their times! Coming or Going?

On the way home from the Ash Wednesday service, a young boy asked his mother, "Is it true that we are made of dust?"

"Yes, darling."

"And do we go back to dust again when we die?"

"Yes, dear."

"Wow!" said the boy. "When I said my prayers last night and looked under the bed, I found someone who is either coming or going!"

Walking with Moms in Need A Year of Service

Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be "islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference." Everyone in our parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need. Join this nationwide effort from March 25, 2020 to March 25, 2021. For more information please visit www.walkingwithmoms.com

We are very pleased to introduce you to the Saint Peter's Gianna Center located in New Brunswick, NJ.

The Center is dedicated to offering truly prolife women's health care, including infertility services, general gynecologic care, and more. All services are provided in accordance with the US Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services.

Please visit http://www.saintpetershcs.com/GiannaCenter/ or contact us at 732-565-5490 for more information.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Metuchen is offering Counseling and Wellness Services. If you or someone you know needs counseling or is impacted by addiction, we can help. Individ- ual and family therapy for children and adults is available. For an appointment, call (800) 655-9491.	24 Hour Prayer Line Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a 24 hour prayer line for those who desire prayer for special needs. If you, a family member or friend would like to be remembered in prayer for a temporary or permanent illness, please call us and leave a detailed message at (732) 765-6431 or send an email to our of- fice: catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com
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