

October 30, 2022

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Redemptorists

# CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH

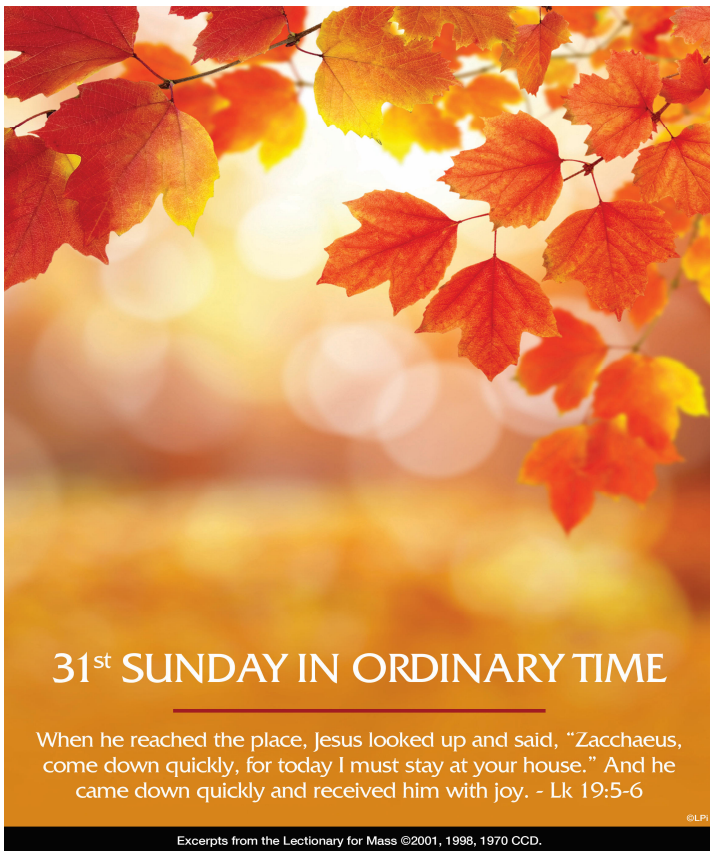
PARISH OFFICE ■ PO Box 924, MANVILLE, NJ 08835 ■ PHONE: (908) 725-0072 ■ WWW.CTRMANVILLE.COM

SACRED HEART - WORSHIP SITE  
98 SOUTH 2ND AVE., MANVILLE

CHRIST THE KING - WORSHIP SITE  
211 LOUIS STREET, MANVILLE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
99 NORTH 13TH AVE., MANVILLE  
(908) 429-7849

SACRED HEART CEMETERY  
1096 MILLSTONE RIVER RD.  
HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP



## 31<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. - Lk 19:5-6

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Stanislaw Slaby, C.Ss.R., *Pastor*

Rev. Piotr Grzeskiewicz 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 thru Thursday 9:30AM to 3:00PM.

Office closed on Fridays. Saturdays and Evenings: By Appointment.



# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

## Monday, October 31 (Poniedziałek)

8:00AM †Piotr Kleszcz r/o Elzbieta Niedbala  
11:00AM †Rick Straszewski r/o family  
11:30AM Recitation of the Holy Rosary in English  
5:30PM (E) †Andrew R. Vinchur r/o family

## Tuesday, November 1 (Wtorek) - All Saints Day

### Holy Day of Obligation

8:00AM †Stanislawa Niedzialek r/o Grabowski Family  
11:00AM †Richard Gruszewski r/o Bogusia  
11:30AM OLPH Novena in English  
5:30PM (E) †Ned Panfile r/o wife & children  
7:00PM (P) †Julian & Katarzyna Maziarz r/o family

## Wednesday, November 2 (Środa) All Souls' Day

11:00AM †Jerry Seigler r/o family  
11:30AM Exposition and Rosary  
7:00PM OLPH Novena in Polish

## Thursday, November 3 (Czwartek) - Martin de Porres

8:00AM †Robert Lach r/o family  
11:00AM †Czeslawa Binicki r/o Tracy & family

## Friday, November 4 (Piątek) - Charles Borromeo

11:00AM †Jean-Michel Gougerot r/o Chet & Ni Makowski  
7:00PM †Memorial Mass

## Saturday, November 5 (Sobota)

8:00AM †Richard Gruszewski r/o Klara Konopka  
11:00AM †Stefan & Franciszka Musiel r/o family  
5:00PM †Memorial Mass

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 6 (Niedziela)

7:00AM †Stefan & Janina Suchy r/o Wieslaw Woznicki  
9:00AM For the People of Parish  
†Roger Papuga r/o wife, children & grandchildren  
†John Bednarczyk r/o family  
†Lucy Mazareski r/o Scarpantonio Family  
†Peter Zurawiecki r/o Tabbitt Family  
†Maria Dabek r/o Ramirez Family  
†Michael & Czeslawa Gnap r/o family  
†Parents & Grandparents r/o Le Nguyen & family  
11:30AM †Jozef Walczak r/o family

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the repose of the soul of **Frank Fiduk** at the request of the Adult English Choir.



*Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." - Lk 19:8*

## 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Barry had a life sentence in prison for doing unthinkable crimes. He would often remark to the chaplain that he was an atheist and could not bring himself to believe in any "god." When the chaplain asked why, Barry quickly retorted that the book of Genesis speaks of God creating everything and feeling very good about it. God's creation of people and things is beautiful. Barry continued, "If there is a God who creates something and likes what He makes and that God is good, then how could He have created someone as evil as me?" The chaplain fell silent as tears welled up in his eyes. "God loves you too, Barry. The stuff that you did is another matter. God puts His image and likeness in each one of us, in our souls. How can God not love himself?" God cannot despise or hate anything or anyone. He made you. Life hurt you. He is always about unconditional love and mercy. Barry found a glimmer of hope that day and was touched by love.

Zacchaeus met love incarnate in Jesus. He knew there was something special about him, and he had to see Jesus for himself. Realizing and knowing God's unconditional, penetrating love is a game-changer. Sinners don't repulse Jesus, he wants to eat with them! We can often find ourselves conflicted about how God sees us. We want to believe that He loves us, but other tapes playing in our heads convince us that this cannot be true. We carry our sins around like heavy sacks weighing on our shoulders. We are crippled.

God's divine blessing lives in each of our souls. It is our essential goodness, a free gift given to us by God. The beginnings of salvation's blessings are discovered when we begin to understand who God is, who we are, and how we are to act relative to our brothers and sisters. We become more focused and courageous, eager to gather up all of the fragments of our lives and become whole. Zacchaeus, after meeting Jesus, finally knew who he was. He saw his sins and his potential for goodness as a blest child of God. When we allow God to meet us and touch us in such a profound way, we find what our selfishness has lost. We are on the road to salvation.

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*To be a community of love, a family that joyfully proclaims and bears witness to the Gospel, and which serves the poor and one another.*

# This Week

## TODAY, OCTOBER 30

**ALL SOULS DAY DEVOTIONS** at our cemetery – 3 PM –weather permitting. Please follow the instructions of those directing traffic. In case of inclement weather, services will be held in Sacred Heart Church.

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

**GUITAR CLASSES FOR CHILDREN** - 5:15PM followed by Children's Polish Choir at 6PM.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** - Christ the King School - 5:30 - 6:45PM. Grades 1-4 will meet at the church for Mass. Adoration will stop at 5:00PM and resume at 6:30PM.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

**POTATO CLEANING FOR PIEROGI MAKING** – 10:00AM in the auditorium.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

**PIEROGI MAKING & PACKAGING**—10:00AM in the auditorium.

**ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE** – 7:30PM in Sacred Heart Church.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS** to Our Lady of Fatima - 11:30AM.

*Fall BACK* **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS – BE SURE TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR BEFORE RETIRING.**

## NEXT WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 5 & 6

**THE SECOND COLLECTION** taken up after Holy Communion will be for the Archdiocese for Military Services. Please be generous.

## Ogłoszenia Parafialne

### NIEDZALA, 30 PAŹDZIERNIK

**NABOŻEŃSTWO W INTENCJI WSZYSTKICH ZMARŁYCH** odbędzie się o godzinie 3pm na parafialnym cmentarzu. Prosimy o poruszanie się po cmentarzu zgodnie ze znakami tam umieszczonymi. W razie

złych warunków atmosferycznych, nabożeństwo odbędzie się w kościele.

### PONIEDZIAŁEK, 31 PAŹDZIERNIK

**LEKCJE GITARY** - godz. 15.15; próba polskiej scholii dziecięcej - godz. 18.00.

### WTOREK, 1 LISTOPAD

**KATECHEZA** – Christ the King School – 5:30-6:45PM. Msza św. dla klas od 1 do 4. Przerwa w adoracji od 17:00 do 18:30. Zakończenie adoracji o 21:00

### SOBOTA, 5 LISTOPAD

**UWAGA!!! ZMIANA CZAU NA ZIMOWY !! W NOCY Z SOBOTY NA NIEDZIELĘ COFAMY ZEGARKI O GODZINĘ.**

### NIEDZALA, 6 LISTOPAD

**DRUGA SKŁADKA**, po Komunii świętej, będzie przeznaczona na Archdiocese for Military Services. Prosimy o ofiarność!

## NEW PARISHIONERS NOWI PARAFIANIE

If you are new to the parish, and would like to become a parishioner, please take the time to register at the Parish Office. Daily office hours are noted in the parish bulletin. If needed, evening appointments are available. We look forward to hearing from you.

Wszystkich uczęszczających regularnie na msze św. do naszego kościoła prosimy o zapisanie się do naszej parafii. Należy przyjść do biura w godz. otwarcia lub umówić się na spotkanie wieczorem. Rejestracja w parafii konieczna jest do wydawania wszelkich dokumentów i zaświadczeń, a także do chrztu, ślubu i pogrzebu. Zapraszamy!

## MINISTRY TO THE HOSPITALIZED AND HOMEBOUND

Please notify the Parish Office if you or someone you know is ill in the hospital or homebound. It is your responsibility to let us know about these parishioners in order for us to provide an adequate spiritual ministry.

## DUSZPASTERSTWO LUDZI CHORYCH

Jeśli ktoś z Waszych bliskich jest już dłuższy czas lub ciężko chory w domu lub szpitalu, to kapłan chętnie przyjedzie, aby porozmawiać z nim i udzielić mu sakramentów pojednania, namaszczenia chorych i Komunii Świętej. Kontakt - biuro parafialne.

## Readings for the Week of October 30, 2022

**Sunday:** Wis 11:22—12:2/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14/2 Thes 1:11—2:2/Lk 19:1-10

**Monday:** Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:12-14

**Tuesday:** Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

**Wednesday:** Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-21/Mt 11:25-30

**Thursday:** Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Lk 15:1-10

**Friday:** Phil 3:17—4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/ Lk 16:1-8

**Saturday:** Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/ Lk 16:9-15

**Next Sunday:** 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15 15b/2 Thes 2:16—3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

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://www.usccb.org/nab/>.



An All Souls Day envelope has been included in your monthly packet which was mailed to you. Please return the envelope, with the names of your deceased family and friends clearly printed, to the office. If you would like names to be read on a certain date, please indicate that date on the envelope. The November prayers for the deceased schedule is as follows:

✦ IN ENGLISH:

• **Saturday**

- 4:30 PM – Divine Mercy chaplet and prayers for the deceased
- 5:00 PM – Memorial Mass for the intention of our deceased family members and friends

✦ IN POLISH:

• **Wednesday & Friday**

- 6 :30 PM – „Wpominki”
- 7:00 PM – Memorial Mass

## The Christ the Redeemer collection for the weekend of October 23, 2022

Offertory	\$ 4,300.00
Mail-Ins	\$ 2,411.00
Children's Donations	\$ 15.00
On-line Giving	\$ 2,018.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,744.00</b>

**World Mission Sunday** \$ 1,579.00

Thank you for your generosity and support. May God bless you. r. tan

*“But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over.’”* LUKE 19:8

We are all called to gratefully give back to the Lord in proportion to the gifts we have been given. This means everyone isn't called to give the same amount, but everyone is called to give equal sacrifice. Open your heart and talk to God about how you use your money. How is God calling you to be more generous with your financial resources and possessions?

### OUR CHILDREN'S GIFTS TO CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH

My Good Deed was when I:

cleaned up after taking out the dog. Ingrid

*Don't forget to put your first & last name and grade on your envelope.*

**We have kielbasa for sale (\$15 per ring) in the parish office during regular business hours.**

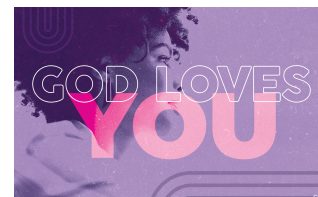
*Please visit our parish website:*

**[www.ctrmanville.com](http://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 Katarzyna Ryba will be the presenter.**

**Have parish newsletter delivered to your email. Sign up for our newsletter on the website.**





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, Andrew Bartushak, Jean Batula, Elizabeth Bednarczyk, Pat Bohar, Harold Bok, Shawn Brickley, Denise Buanano, Lorraine Burkoski, Marylou & Jason Cebula, Luke Chartowich, Palo Cizmar, Allison Collins, Kaiden Crothwer, Bill and Denise Davidson, Dolores DeFazio, Marge Demski, Mary Evancho, Malcolm Ferraira, Maureen Femiano, Lou Fischer, Kathryn, Debbie, Madison & Michael Fisme, Valerie Frank, Nancy Franklin, Karter Fridlund, Marian Gano, Helen Gazo, Helen Gilmore, Christopher Gregor, Frank Honkisz, Maryann Hughes, Marge Iarkowski, Maria Ingot, Raul Jaime, Lucy Jankowski-McClure, Waclaw & Stanley Jasinski, Kim Jenkins, Dennis Koslowski, Ann Marie Kotch, Theresa Kraska, Wiktoria Lach, Rita Lagasse, Ken Lake, Janice Lalley, Donna Lawler, Ann Marie Lazor-Shapiro, Judy Lentzsch, Antoinette Leotti, Cheyenne Liccardi, Rachel Lukacs, Jerry Mamola, Dottie Mesaris, Veronika Mleczo, Quaid Mobus, Alexander Monto, Ed Nawracaj, Mai Nguyen, Joyce Nipps, Hunter Norz, James O'Reilly Jr., Brian, Robert & John Parlier, Irene Pastula, Andrzej & Wanda Paszuda, Barbara Perone, Frank Piccano, Steven Pirello, Joseph G. & Mark Pschar, Carolyn Puia, Ava & Steve Quintana, Marcelle Reed, Laura Rodaman, Marie Rogusky, Virginia & Jerry Russell, Jr., Cindi Shandor, Michael Sheehan, Pat Sherwood, Eric Slaughter, Charlotte Snow, Albert Stanski, Deacon Bill Stefany, Steve Szabo, Gertrude Szczecina, Michelle Tranter, Helen Turiano, David Urban, Frances & Barry Viola, Irena Walczak, Ramona Walsh, Mark Waugh, Cindy Weigel, Cathy Wildgust, Raymond Wisniewski, Veronika Wolenski, Brett Wood, 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*

*Airman Thomas Caswell*

*SPC Christopher Elsen*

*PFC Joshua Hussey*

*Lieutenant Colonel James A. Jablonski Jr.*

*Master Sergeant Kimberly Kaminski USAF*

*Airman Michael Edward Kassick III*

*Master Sergeant Michael John Lamonica USAF*

*Captain John Limyansky USAF*

*First Sergeant Jeff Morella USMC*

*Jason Pikula USAF*

*SR Jerry Lee Rogalski*

*Commander Peter G. Rybski, Jr.*

*PFC Steven Ubry*

*Technical 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!

## The Knights of Columbus Saint Jude Council # 6573



**Council Meeting:** Council Meetings are held monthly on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm; Saint John Neumann Center

**Recruiting:** Catholic men 18+ are invited to reach out to Chester Makowski ([chester.makowski@gmail.com](mailto:chester.makowski@gmail.com)) or

approach any of the brother knights.

**Bible Study:** Prayerful study and discussion of the book Ecclesiastes will take place on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.. All sessions will take place at the Saint John Neumann Center. The study of the word of God is critical in our modern age. All are welcome to join.

**Clothing Drive** - November 12<sup>th</sup> - 9AM - 12 noon - St. John Neumann Center.

Facebook updates provided at <https://www.facebook.com/kofc6573biblestudy/>



The next **ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY MASS** will be said on **November 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM - 8:30AM** Rosary.

The next **FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS** to Our Lady of Fatima will take place on **November 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30PM.**

**Holiday Bake Sale - November 19-20** - church vestibule.

### Weekly Vocation Prayer Schedule

Sunday: Neil Christie  
Monday: Frank Picciano  
Tuesday: Dolores Finlan & Tom Amato  
Wednesday: Angelica R. L. Ocaso  
Thursday: Cassie Badella  
Friday: Terry Tardy  
Saturday: Lee Rawaic



**Thank you for your continued support of Caritas. The Caritas Team collects food every week at the church. WE ARE IN NEED OF EVERYTHING**

**especially paper towels and toilet paper!!! The Caritas Team also collect monetary donations and on-line through our church website.**

**Thank you for your anticipated support.**

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

### Priesthood

#### Question:

If someone is interested in becoming a priest, how does he go about it?

#### Answer:

Discerning a vocation can happen in any number of ways. It might come as a surprise to the person called or to family or friends. Sometimes it is a gradual process, and other times it is as quick and bright as lightning. Regardless of how it starts, a vocation to the priesthood or religious life requires a process of discerning, testing, and preparing. The best place to begin would be with lots of prayer, receiving the sacraments, and attending daily Mass whenever possible. Then talk to your pastor or a priest you know and trust. Your diocese may have a vocation director who can provide you with guidance and information. The Serra Club is also a great resource for information and contacts to help you discern if indeed God is calling you.

Remember that many young Catholic men have considered the priesthood. Some are ordained and others realize this is not their calling. However, we are all called to be of service to others as we practice our faith. These are extraordinary times in which we live, and they require an extraordinary witness to faith and to God's presence in the world. Our work, our ministry as Catholics, is to be the body of Christ with and for others. The Church needs priests. If God calls you to ordained service in the church, He will provide the grace, direction, and support you need. Just listen and respond with all your heart, mind, and soul.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help with the gift store. Ideally we would like to open before and after weekday and Sunday Masses. If you would be interested in helping please call the parish office.

## IMPORTANT

The Mass book for the first half of 2023 (January through June) is now open. Masses will be taken during regular office hours.

Księga Intencji Mszalnych na kolejne półrocze jest otwarta. Msze Św. można zamawiać w biurze parafialnym.

### LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God does not set things in motion or create something and then step back to attend to other matters. When God creates, God remains connected. God's continued and constant presence is necessary for everything we see to exist. Without God, life as we know it would cease. God's imperishable spirit is in all things! Being the author of love, God cannot despise or hate Himself. Therefore, God cannot despise or hate anything or anyone. How can God be repulsed by the image of Himself reflected in a human soul? Jesus goes to the homes of sinners. His very presence there is enough to change even the most conflicted and self-serving of hearts. The soul who realizes its utter dependency upon God is a soul who knows salvation. The beginnings of salvation's blessings are discovered when we understand who God is, who we are, and how we are to act relative to our brothers and sisters. We find what our selfishness lost.



*We welcome the following newly registered members to our Parish Family: Steve Perun; Ewelina Lebida & her children, Julia & Damian; Chrystian & Justyna Rodak & their children, Jacob, Lily & Frank; Jeyo & Christine Martinez & their children, Carter & Ioxi; Szymon & Marta Sadowski & their son, Filip; Nickolas & Jillian Pirog; and Joao & Angelika Rembimbas*



*We ask you to remember in your prayers the following parishioners who have died: Marietta Cahill, Mary Poltarak, Ethel Gargiulo & Halina Glinka. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*



## **Your Presence Is Requested:**

**The CTR Parish Food Pantry  
will be dedicated to honor three people  
whose priority has been to feed the hungry!**

**John and Magdalena Daus**

**&**

**In memory of Barbara Demchak**

**Date: Sunday - November 13  
Stewardship Sunday**

**Time: Following 9:00 a.m. Mass**

**Place: St. John Neumann Center  
Refreshments will be served!**

**Please bring a non-perishable food item in their honor!**



Manville Area  
 Knight Of Columbus  
 Saint Jude Council # 6573



**Will Be Collecting Before All Weekend Masses  
 For the Month of November  
 Or Daily At The Parish Office**



# Hats \* Gloves \* Scarfs \* Coats

Boy's / Girl's / Women's / Men's.... Any size

New ~ Slightly Used ~ or Cash Donations Accepted



# SHARE THE

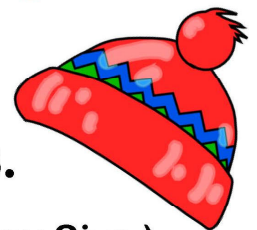


# WARMTH



# WEEKENDS !!

Donations Will Be Used Locally  
 for our Caritas Program / Families.



( Caritas is always in need of NEW Socks & Underwear / Any Size )

For Additional Information or Have Any Questions

Chairman: Ed Komoroski (908) 432-3688



CHRIST THE REDEEMER  
ANNUAL PARISH  
FALL DANCE

WITH DJ TOMSKY

NOVEMBER 19, 2022

7:00 PM - 2:00 AM

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL  
99 N 13<sup>TH</sup> AVE., MANVILLE, NJ

DINNER BUFFET, BYOB, 50/50, GIFT RAFFLE

**TICKET \$80**

PARISH OFFICE & AFTER MASS

POLISH SCHOOL 99 North 13th Ave., Manville, NJ

HALINKA POLISH DELI 438 Rt. 206 S., Suite 4, Hillsborough, NJ

B&L DELI 221 N 10th Ave, Manville, NJ

LAMPOL TRAVEL 312 S Main St, Manville, NJ

**TABLE RESERVATION: MAREK (973)207-3286**

*MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER • ALL SALES FINAL • NO RETURNS • TABLE RESERVATION REQUIRED  
ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL BENEFIT CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH*

## **FUNERAL PLANNING/PROTOCOL**

### **FUNERAL PLANNING DECLARATION**

While no one likes to think of his or her death, I encourage you to reflect on the beauty and meaning of the Catholic funeral and let your loved ones know your desires. You cannot be sure what the situation will be in the future, nor where your family members will be in terms of their faith. Thus, it is critical to express your desires in a written document of Funeral Planning Declaration, which specifies your funeral wishes. Just as a will directs the allocation of your assets as you want, the Funeral Planning Declaration document specifies your desired funeral arrangements. The Funeral Planning Declaration is separate from a will, power of attorney or similar documents and can be revised or destroyed if you have a change of heart. Our parish office staff can assist in the preparation of this document and keep it in your parish file. Keep in mind a funeral should respect who a person is; a person's faith tradition is an essential component of who one is and the hope we have as Christians.

### **CATHOLIC FUNERAL MASS PROTOCOL**

The first thing to be done if you know a death is imminent, immediately call the priest so he can hear your or your loved one's last confession, administer the anointing, and give Communion. Do not confuse this with the Anointing of the sick. Anointing of the sick is a special anointing given to the sick not in imminent danger of death. A funeral home should be contacted first following the death of a loved one. The funeral home serves as the competent intermediary to assist the bereaved with many of the required decisions.

During a Catholic funeral Mass, several elements of protocol should be followed:

- **First and Second Mass Readings** - Family members/friends are discouraged from doing any of these readings because it is such an emotionally-charged time for them.
- **Words of Remembrance and Eulogies** should be said at the vigil service or at the gathering following the graveside service.
- The **Music** at a funeral Mass should be liturgically appropriate. The organist/cantor will assist in selecting appropriate songs. Popular Christian music which is inappropriate at Mass can be used at the funeral home or other gathering.

**Cremation** – The funeral directors should outline the order of the church's preference as follows:

- a vigil, rosary, wake or prayer service may be held the day before the funeral Mass at the funeral home;
- the deceased is brought to church for the celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial prior to cremation;
- after Mass the deceased is transported to the cremation facility;
- burial of the cremains in a consecrated cemetery.
- If for some reason cremation occurs prior to the Mass, the cremains urn is brought to church for the celebration of the Mass followed by burial.

Please note: Cremains must be sealed, usually in an urn. They are treated with the same respect as a body in a casket and blessed by the priest. They must be buried or sealed in a mausoleum – NOT on your mantle or spread around.

**Memorial Mass** – If either the above options or the body is not available due to justifying circumstances, a memorial Mass can be held for the deceased.

**Unbaptized/Stillborn Child** – The Church's funeral rites may be celebrated for a child who died before baptism as well as stillborn/fetus whose parents intended to have the child baptized. The decision/procedure for the interment is decided by the parents and pastor.

**Organ Transplants and Donations of Bodies for Medical Science** – "Organ donation after death is a noble and meritorious act to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, n.2296). Likewise, the donation of bodies is legitimate. However, in keeping with Christian respect for the body, there should be reasonable assurance that the remains will be disposed of in a reverent manner upon completion of the research.