

December 13, 2020

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www.stjosephsparish.com

34 Yorktown Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844-5139

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

Monday-Saturday 8:35 AM

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:45 PM

Sunday 7:15 AM

9:30 AM

11:30 AM

6:00 PM

Holiday Masses:

Vigil 5:00 PM

Holiday 8:35 AM & 7:00 PM

Confessions:

Saturday 4 - 4:30 PM
or by appointment

EMERGENCIES

Sacrament of Anointing

Call 908-874-3141
and press 1 for a priest.

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline

732-516-0911

Suicide Prevention

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Teen Crisis Text Hotline
Text 741741

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emergencymeals@stjosephsparish.com

Fr. Hank

FHilton@loyola.edu

PARISH COMMUNITY OF

Saint Joseph

HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

Priests

Prophets

Kings



December 13, 2020

Weekend Masses are at 4:45PM on Saturday and Sunday at 9:30AM. Simply go to the parish web page and click away – for live streaming or for viewing an archived Mass.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

MASS INTENTIONS – Mass intentions are combined as follows:

4:45 Mass will combine the 4:45, 7:15 & 6:00 intentions..

9:30 will combine the 9:30 & 11:30 intentions..

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon. 8:35AM Marjorie Layton
R/B Bogado Family
- Tue. 8:35AM Lynne McDonald
R/B James & Roseanne McDonald
- . 8:35AM Bill Dorr
R/B Barbara Dorr
- 8:35AM Leila Azzo
R/B Albert & Selwa Toni
- Wed. 8:35AM Marjorie Layton
R/B Lazarus Ministry
- Thu.. 8:35AM John Patrick Cronin III
R/B Tom & Judy Wisniewski
- Fri. 8:35AM Dan Peters
R/B Maryellen Tobia
- 8:35AM Backus Brothers
R/B James & Roseanne McDonald
- Sat. 4:45PM Susan Kujawski
R/B Kujawski Family
- 4:45PM Richard Mechler
R/B Mechler Family
- 4:45PM People of the Parish
- Sun. 9:30AM Mary Ruffin Hicks
R/B Bogado Family
- 9:30AM Frances Poklemba
R/B Beattie Family
- 9:30AM Andrea S Redona
R/B St Joseph Music Ministry
- 9:30AM Nick Visco
R/B Connie Visco

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

THURSDAY'S FIRESIDE PSALM

Thursday, December 17

Psalm 16 (sixteen)



This Moment in Prayer, Service and Community

Dear All: Christ's Peace!

It is a true consolation to see the cars driving by the lights each night between 4:30 and 10:00. If you have not done so already, drive on by. Also, we will have the Shepherd's Path illuminated from 4:30 until 8:00 Monday through Thursday of next week.

Great thanks to all who weighed in with discerned thoughts about this Sunday's caroling. Your determination to "want what Jesus wants" is more than a little edifying. Thank you for the inspiration.

This Moment in Prayer

The Year of Saint Joseph – What a blessing for us. Pope Francis has declared the Year of Saint Joseph. This announcement will surely influence our upcoming prayers of thanks for the gradual elimination of the pandemic. Read more at

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html>

"O Holy Nights" – This Sunday – Caroling Night

– All is "ready" for Sunday evening. By the time you read this, all the spaces might be booked. But maybe not. A few spaces have become available for the 4:30 caroling, and a few remain for the 6:30. It will be different and excellent and completely safe. Think "Caroling tailgate party" – with safe-spaces between cars. I look forward to seeing you – and to getting to the "St-Jo-co" before you do.

December 13, 2020

“O Holy Nights” – Last Sunday – The Shepherd’s Path – Hats off to all who made last Sunday possible. Thanks to those who built the path, those who ushered and those who prepared the food and the “St.-Jo-co.” Extra thanks to the Youth Group shepherds who made the night fun and memorable. Greatest thanks to all who turned out, braving the cold, to pray and chill with other parishioners. It was excellent.

“O Holy Nights” – Next Sunday – The Live Nativity – Early this week you will receive an email with details about how to register for the drive-by Live Nativity. It will include four bible scenes re-enacted by members of our Youth Group and members of local animal herds. Truly. Plus, the parish radio station now reaches not only to all corners of the parking lot, but also to the back side of the church where the vignettes will be staged. The registration times will be at half-hour intervals between 4:30 and 7:00.

For Which Masses and Communion Services Is Registration Required? –

You DO NOT NEED to register for the following:

Communion Services (10:00 Wednesday and 11:30 Sunday).

4:45 Mass on Saturday

8:35 Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

You DO NEED to register for the following:

All Masses on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day (both inside and outside) and the 7:00 pm Masses on December 21, 22, and 23.

9:30 Sunday Mass (until the pandemic ends)

All “O Holy Nights” events

8:35 Mass on Wednesday

Healing Prayer – There will be Healing Prayer this Sunday (December 13) right after the 9:30 Mass.

You can connect by Zoom at

<https://zoom.us/j/7692788835> For more information please go to <https://www.stjosephsparish.com/healing-prayer> For more information, email Ann Smith at annbsmith46@hotmail.com.

This Moment in Service

Take a Break – So many parishioners – dozens of ministry members and hundreds of contributors – pitched in to make the Advent Giving Tree and the Thanksgiving Food Drive tremendously successful.

How about for a week or three, you consider yourself all caught up on parish-sponsored service? Good for you!

This Moment in Community

Our Volunteers: Profiles in Generosity – Without repeating last week’s entire list, I want, once again, to thank the scores of parish volunteers who are doing great things these weeks. Your kindness is a gift to the direct beneficiaries, to those who love those beneficiaries, and all who sense the world becoming more the way Jesus wants it to be, because of you. For your labors in sprucing up the church and the grounds, your efforts to make “O Holy Nights” excellent, your work with the Youth Group and the CCD students, your extraordinary care for our home-bound and mobility-restricted parishioners, your care for the sick and the grieving, your ways of welcoming new parishioners, the support you provide for those battling addictions, your efforts to keep the church safe during the pandemic, and all the good deeds you do in too many places to count, I borrow a favorite phrase from the Carmelites, “May God Reward you.” You are making this pandemic a period of extraordinary lights in some pretty dense jumbles.

Knights of Columbus – ‘Tis the season to join. This is a very productive and very fun organization. During the pandemic, and on both sides of it, the Knights are the parish’s “go-to-guys.” They get it done for the parish and they have many hearty laughs while doing so. Our chapter is truly exceptional. If you think this might be your season to join, email Bryan DeLisi, the ministry leader, at bdelisi@stjosephsparish.com. Tell him I sent you.

With great thanks for all the input about how to do this Sunday’s “O Holy Nights,” and with all best blessings for you the many ways you live out your baptismal commitments to be persons of prayer, persons who challenge and console others, and persons who build up inspired communities,

Father Hank

IN MEMORIAM

Parishioner, **Diane Peterson, 68**, spouse of Jack, died on December 6, 2020.

Please pray for her eternal rest and for consolation for her family and for all who mourn her death.

December 13, 2020



"Oh, Holy Nights"

This Sunday's "O Holy Night" will, as scheduled, be our night of caroling. Each registered group will get two parking spaces, a car-space and a people-space. The spaces will connect end-to end. If the weather is lousy, you might spend the whole time in your car. (N.B., our parish's FM radio station is now strong enough to deliver the music to the radio of every car in the lot.) If the weather is good, you might spend the entire time outdoors in your people-space. If you want to bring beach chairs, decorate your space, set up a tailgate situation, or bring a reindeer, great! We ask only that you stay in your two spaces. No milling about. No wandering from car to car. Feel free to bellow a greeting to distant singers, but no walking.

Between every pair of assigned spaces, there will be a pair of empty spaces. Think of this as no-man's-land. The space is provided to make sure that there is always ten feet of social distance between parties. It is very important that we honor that social distance.

This configuration means we will have cars in only one-quarter of the spaces. Another quarter will be people-spaces and the other two quarters will be separation spaces. This calls for a bit of extra planning on everyone's part. Please consider the following:

Fill your car with as many people as you can who are in your quarantine bubble. Our strategy requires us to regulate the number of cars rather than number of people.

**If you want to be adjacent to people who are not in your quarantine bubble, caravan with them to church. That way, you will enter the lot together and will be parked next to each other (across the separation spaces). We will not be able to hold adjacent spaces for later arrivals. That would require us to pay the ushers more.

**Go to the restroom before you come to church! Remember, our parking spaces lack facilities! Also, bring a trash bag so you can remove your party trash.

**Refreshments, including the now-famous hot chocolate "St. Joe-co," will be delivered to your parking space. We are currently trying to train last week's shepherds how to roller skate while carrying trays of beverages and wearing elf hats.

**This caroling event will be different and oh-so-excellent – regardless of the weather. Both sessions – the 4:30 and the 6:30 – will provide about 40 minutes of sing along, led by choir members in the hay wagon. It will also be oh-so-safe. The last "O Holy Night," the visit to the live Nativity, December 20, will be fully in-car and excellent.

To register, go to <https://www.stjosephsparish.com/o-holy-nights-advent-2020>



Healing Prayer invites anyone who is ill, facing surgery, hurting, anxious, burdened or worried to seek prayer for themselves or others. Jesus working through the minister will bring healing, glory and grace to your soul. God's love guides the ministers as they pray. All sessions are private & confidential.

Healing prayer requests can be not only for yourself but also for family and friends. Requests may cover healing of body, mind and spiritual issues.

Members of our Healing Prayer Ministry have created a virtual option and a phone option which is offered at 10:30AM after the 9:30 Sunday Mass and takes place every other weekend until we are back to normal.

**Sundays, December 13
January 10 & 24**

To participate in the virtual meeting, click on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7692788835> and follow the directions. You can also engage the healing prayer over the phone by calling 1-929-205-6099 and then the ID number key in 769-278-8835#.

If you need healing prayers before the Sunday dates please contact Ann Smith at 908-285-6481 or at

annsmith46@hotmail.com

December 13, 2020



CHRISTMAS MASSES

MASSES – We will celebrate our Christmas Masses in the parking lot and in church. The parking lot can accommodate 100s of people (who will stay in their cars). The church can accommodate 104.

Christmas Eve –

Mass in the parking lot, 2 pm; Mass in church, 5 pm and 8 pm

Christmas Day –

Mass in the parking lot, 11:30; Mass in church, 9:30

December 21-23 (M-W) –

8:35 am Mass in the church, using the readings of the day.

7:00 pm, using the readings for Christmas midnight (Bethlehem, etc.)

Reservations required for all.



Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Because of pandemic restrictions, this year the Cathedral Christmas Concert will be available virtually throughout the season beginning on Christmas day. Gather your loved ones and tune in to watch as the handbell choir, trumpet, horn and cello, as well as several vocal soloists, bring their musical gifts and the joy of Christmas to you right in the comfort of your own home. To view the concert, visit www.diometuchen.org or www.stfranciscathedral.org. The concert will also be made available on the Diocese of Metuchen's social media pages: @diocesemetuchen and on the St. Francis Cathedral Concerts Facebook page.

From the Diocesan Office of Human Life & Dignity: NEW JERSEY REPRODUCTIVE ACT

On October 8, 2020, The Reproductive Freedom Act (RFA) S3030 was introduced in the New Jersey State Senate and was referred to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. If passed, the RFA would codify into New Jersey law the findings of Roe v. Wade, meaning that abortion would remain legal in New Jersey even if the case were overturned by the Supreme Court. The RFA would also strip safeguards and regulations on the abortion procedure, making New Jersey a more dangerous place for women and their unborn babies. The Assembly companion bill is A4848.

The Diocesan Office of Human Life & Dignity has been working closely with the New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) on this issue to develop resources and monitor the bill. Here is the link to NJ Catholic Conference's updated Reproductive Freedom Act resource page:

<https://njcatholic.org/reproductive-freedom-act>.

Please check this website frequently for updates. Also, please make sure to sign up on the above website to receive action alerts

A webinar has been recorded which focuses on providing an overview of the legislation, an update on the bill's legislative status, and suggestions on action steps people can take at this time. This is something you can use to help educate family, friends and fellow parishioners. You are encouraged to watch it so you can understand the radical nature of this measure. The link is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kshuo78QZdA&feature=youtu.be>

For more information contact:

human.life.and.dignity@diometuchen.org

Thank you!

Advent

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for Gaudete Sunday



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