

February 21, 2021

CONTACT INFO

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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

NJ Lifeline
1-800-273TALK
Teen Crisis Text Hotline
Text 741741

Emergency Meals

emergencymeals@stjosephsparish.com

Fr. Hank

FHilton@loyola.edu

PARISH COMMUNITY OF

Saint Joseph

HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

Priests

Prophets

Kings



February 21, 2021

For live streaming or for viewing an archived Mass simply go to the parish web and click away.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

MASS INTENTIONS are combined as follows:

4:45 Mass will combine 4:45, 7:15 & 6:00 intentions.. 9:30 will combine 9:30 & 11:30 intentions..

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

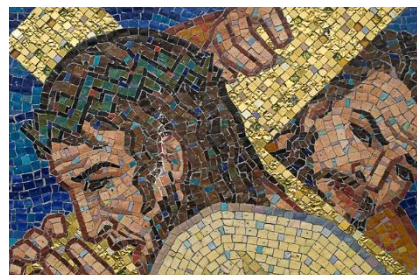
- Mon. 8:35AM Marge Demsky
R/B Bernie Demsky
- Tue. 8:35AM Wesley Goldstone
R/B Dad & Elisa
8:35AM Donna Lochow
R/B George & Dottie Lukazik
8:35AM Gerard Salvatore
R/B Donna & Tom Greco
- .Wed. 8:35AM Vincent Cucchiaro
R/B Carmela & Dan Maresca
- Thu.. 8:35AM Hank Diodati
R/B Paul & Patty Toste
- Fri. 8:35AM Joe Gallagher
R/B John Conklin
8:35AM Robert Baranowski
R/B MaryAnn & Bobby Baranowski
- Sat. 4:45PM Fred Matuszkiewicz
R/B Donna Komar & Family
4:45PM Deacon George (Skip) LaPolice
R/B Terri & Peter Macor
4:45PM People of Our Parish
- Sun. 9:30AM Jeffrey Wirzman
R/B Robert & Emilia Gecik
9:30AM David Jerzewski
R/B Susan Wund
9:30AM Marty Green
R/B Dorothy Gearon
9:30AM Mathai Joseph Orapankal
R/B Fr Hank Hilton

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Romans 8:31b-34
Mark 9:2-10

Fireside Psalms

Thursday, February 25
Psalm 45 (forty-five)



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays in Lent in Church

9:15 AM Traditional Stations

7:00PM Scriptural Stations in back of our Church

We will also livestream and post the Stations online, but those details are not yet available.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH ON YOUR COMPUTER VIA EMAIL

The series will guide you through spiritual reflection on the Stations of the Cross with themes relating to St. Joseph. Presented by Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University. A reflection will be delivered each weekday delivered via e-mail.

The series will run Monday, March 1, through Friday, March 19, the feast of St. Joseph. If you would like to subscribe, please visit the Lenten Series registration page at: www.shu.edu/lentenseries



LITTLE BLACK LENTEN BOOKS

Most of them have found their way into your holy hands. Still, a few dozen more are looking for a home. They will be available after the indoor Masses and after the Communion Services. If you come to Mass, take one on your way out. If you come to a Communion Service, stay in your parking space at the dismissal and someone will bring you one. And once you get it – consider the truth that hundreds of your fellow parishioners are tapping into the same inspiration at the same time. Beautiful stuff.

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This Moment in Prayer, Service and Community

Dear All, Christ's Peace!

Saint Paul says it beautifully in Philippians: "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." He then suggests that, if we contemplate beauty, then "The God of peace will be with you."

As strange as it sounds – especially for this slightly type-A, line-disliking guy – the lines and traffic backups of recent days have been a beautiful thing to contemplate. See below.

This Moment in Prayer

The Ash Wednesday Lines – You turned out in inspiring numbers – for a pandemic Ash Wednesday with ashes applied with Q-tips. We came very close to capacity at each liturgy. Special thanks to those who participated in the 10:00 service. You waited patiently as we jockeyed the overflow parking into place on the west side and you waited patiently again as you let them leave ahead of the rest. Extra thanks and blessings for all who participated in the 7:00 curbside prayers. No one was more surprised than I to see the line stretch from the church, out the driveway, down Yorktown and over Colonial almost to Amwell. I misjudged that one. Yet, each of you was gracious and patient when you received your ashes. Our volunteers outdid themselves that day. Completely. You are solid gold. The lines were beautiful to behold because of the faith that underlies them. God bless you.

Prayer to Saint Joseph – Thanks to all who suggested Saint Joseph prayers for the parish to adopt. The work is in progress. Stay tuned for more information about this. We will pray our prayer – whichever one it turns out to be – at every Mass from March 19 through May 1, our two big a Joseph feasts.

Six of Seven Sacraments — The snow days have slightly clogged final publication of our spring

sacrament calendar. Basically, we will have First Penance in March, First Communions in April, and Confirmations in June. And, God bless the brides and grooms, we have 11 weddings scheduled for the remainder of this year. Baptisms are, as always, basically on hold until Easter. Confessions continue on Saturday mornings – although huge snow heaps now fill the regular confession spot. Who could have imagined – a confessional full of snow! Sacrament of the Sick – the earlier the better and always before surgery. Just call or email.

Youth Group Rosary — on Sunday the youth group will be saying the rosary together and offering up intentions for the people of the parish. After the praying, they will "party like it's 2021"...socially distant...with chicken and sides from TLG.

This Moment in Service

The Food Bank Lines – Three moments in recent days provided views of short lines at the drop-off van. We had moments when one car was unloading contributions while one or more was waiting to unload their donations. What holy lines. Thanks to all of you who keep helping our neighbors.

This Moment in Community

The Meatball Lines – You were terrific to turn out as you did, last Friday, for the meatballs and the pasta pickup. In good years, you order a total of 225 dinners. This year, you ordered just over 300. Additional orders for the famous meatballs brought the grand total to 850 meatballs. Forget tennis elbow and carpal tunnel. Several of our Knights are currently laid up with meatball elbow and meatball wrists. Dreadful! Still, they press on. The Knights did a bang-up job, and the food was delicious. As it was our first time doing an all-take-out dinner, and since the demand was so impressive, the evening provided some good opportunities for improvement, especially in the traffic flow. We will be in even better shape for the March 26 take-out crab fest. Meanwhile, know that it was a grace, albeit a challenging one, to see the line of cars ready for the first pick up. God bless everyone involved.

Sunday's Celebration of Marriage – Thanks to all who participated in Sunday's (fully subscribed) celebration of marriage. It was a truly excellent event. Greatest thanks to the folks who planned it and thanks to all who implemented the excellent plans – the phalanx of ushers, the squads of Eucharistic Ministers, the dozens of members of the Youth Group who provided invaluable logistical

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support, and the one, triune God who created and sustained those beautiful marriages. Extra thanks to the many who took time to thank the helpers and the members of the organizing committee.

Parish Safety – Just before the pandemic hit, our Parish Safety Committee (PSC) was taking shape. They generously and quickly pivoted to safety management and, now that we are all pretty used to the precautions, they can direct their attention to other safety concerns. Thanks to these folks and the members of the Tech Committee (of Buildings and Grounds) for arranging the security cameras. They obtained an impressive government grant and are now ready to select a vendor. Committee members have also arranged to have our entire physical plant electronically mapped so that rescue squads and others can see, before they arrive, where their help is needed. Thanks too to the PSC members – joined by many people from the ushers, sacristans, music ministries, and staff – who took an hour this morning to learn how to administer Narcan.

Snow Bills – In case you were wondering . . . Yes, the snow-plowing bill is applying some sizable screws to our financial thumbs. Between the winter of 2014/15 and last winter, our yearly snowplow bill averaged \$9,900. So far this year, we have spent \$27,000. That was before the snowfall that started yesterday and ended today. Word is circulating that the chancery might let us have a second collection to help with these bills. Stay tuned for more information.

Our Tent – The tent is scheduled to be reinstalled on April 15, right after Easter. Many have asked if we plan to keep the tent. The answer is yes. Through the generosity of a very kind parish family, we now own the tent. The question is, how do we factor it into the parish's future? Again, stay tuned.

With greatest gratitude for the lines you have recently formed and the inspiration you provide – and the beauty you allow me to contemplate – and with thanks for all you do and are in all seasons,

Father Hank

IN MEMORIAM

Gus Cuoco, Jr., 70, father of parishioner Samantha Sladky, died on February 14.

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



HEALING PRAYER

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, February 21
March 7 & 21**

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#.



1000 BOTTLES OF SOAP

To Help the Feeding Hands Food Pantry, Raritan

Our goal is to provide 1,000 bottles of laundry soap and 1,000 bottles of dish soap. Thanks to our Knights for organizing this project and for clarifying the guidelines:

- Every bottle of dish soap should contain 32 or fewer ounces.
- Every bottle of laundry soap should supply 32 loads of laundry (usually 50 or 60 oz. bottles).
- Make your contribution between Sunday, March 7 and Good Friday, April 2
- Put your contributions in the specially marked bins in the church van
- If the van is out delivering food, leave the bottles in the bin on the bench by the door
- Send up a prayer for the recipients when you buy the soap, when you drop it off, or both.

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SAGES WALK March 19, 2 PM

Walkers and hikers will gather for our first walk around our parish campus and to plan our future adventures. Wear your sneakers and meet in the tent area for a quick overview.

If you have not already registered, please call or email AnnaMaria at 908-874-3141 x 240, aealbuto@stjosephsparish.com. If you are interested in joining the group, share some of your favorite places to walk and hike, and let her know if you are willing to guide the group to your favorite place.



CRAB-CAKES, Friday, March 26

Friday of Palm Sunday weekend will be when we discover if local crab cakes can compare to the best from Baltimore. Either way, the contest will be delicious. Mark your calendar!

METUCHEN CURSILLO

Sunday, February 27, 8:45AM-12:30PM

Mary Mother of God, Hillsborough

A LA Lenten Day of Reflection on how to personally experience the Word of God with your entire self

ALL ARE WELCOME.

To register for in-person or via livestream please RSVP by 2/20/21

Online at <http://metcursillo.org/events-encounter.htm>



DIOCESAN LENTEN PROGRAMS Virtual on Zoom

Register for any or all by visiting: www.diometuchen.org/evangelization

WOMEN'S LENTEN GROUP

All women are invited to join in a virtual Lenten spirituality group **beginning on Sunday, February 21 on Zoom**. The group will meet each Sunday of Lent at 2:30 p.m. using the Ascension Press "Lenten Companion" book. For more details or to join, please contact Cristina D'Averso-Collins, Director of Family Life, at cdaverso@diometuchen.org.

MEDITATING TOGETHER IN LENT

Join Allan Caballero, Director of Evangelization, and Megan Vanslot, Director of Youth Evangelization, in a virtual Lenten meditation group **beginning on Tuesday, February 23**. The group will meet on Zoom each Tuesday of Lent at 7:00 p.m. using "The Tears of Christ," a book from the Augustine Institute. Register and receive a free book. Space is limited. For more info email acaballero@diometuchen.org.

LIVING LENT AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

Join Rev. Timothy Christy, Vicar General of the Diocese of Metuchen, for a talk and reflection on our journey during these 40 days of Lent. Through this talk, to be held virtually on **Thursday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom**, you will be invited to follow Jesus into the desert – in a spiritual sense. This spiritual journey takes people away from the commotion of the world to a quiet place where we can hear God and be purified and prepared by Him for Easter and the mission He is calling us to. The journey involves temptations, prayer, fasting and almsgiving, but also, freedom and grace through detachment.

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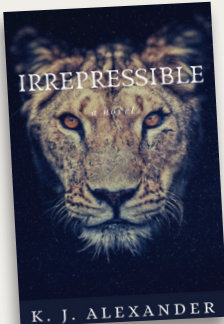


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