

The Roman Catholic Community of Saint Joseph

16 East Somerset Street, Raritan, NJ 08869

We, the Catholic Community of St. Joseph, are committed to follow Jesus Christ. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we strive to be good stewards in our lives. We pray for peace, forgiveness, and for one another as Christ loves us!

Baptisms

Baptisms are usually held on Saturday mornings any-time throughout the year (**with the exception of the Lenten Season**). Parents must be registered parishioners and complete a Baptismal Preparation class. It is required that godparents are no less than 16 years of age and have completed the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. If the godparents are a married couple, they need to have been married by the Catholic Church. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange for the class and the date of Baptism.

Sponsor Certificates

Sponsors (Godparents) for Baptism and Confirmation are required to verify their eligibility. They must be fully initiated Catholic who actively practice their faith and are in good standing with the Church. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you are considering becoming Catholic, or desire to complete your sacraments, please contact the Parish Office for more information about RCIA.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the rectory and let us know when a member of your family is in the hospital so a priest can arrange to visit them. Make sure you contact the Pastoral Care Office in the hospital so the Chaplain can bring you communion daily. **In the event of an emergency please call 908 392-7962 anytime of the day or night.**

Marriages

Please call the office to meet with the Pastor as soon as you become engaged and before any preparations are made. Arrangements should be made one year in advance. Couples preparing for marriage must attend required Pre-Cana sessions within the Diocese along with F.O.C.C.U.S. and sessions with your Parish Priest or Deacon.



Under the Pastoral Care of the Priests and brothers of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

Rev. Kevin P. Kelly, C.O.Administrator
James Piccolo.....Parish Office Manager
Anthony Nardino.....Director of Music & Liturgy

Masses

Saturday.....4:00 pm
Sunday.....10:00 pm
Holy Days.....Vigil: 7:30 pm
.....on the Holy Day 8:00 am

Daily Masses

St. Joseph's: Monday & Friday.....8:00 am
St Ann: Monday & First Fridays.....7:00 pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.....7:00 am
Saturday.....9:00 am
Holy Trinity: Tuesday & Friday.....7:00 pm
Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday-Friday.....12:15 pm

Confessions

Saturday.....3:00 –3:30 pm
or by appointment.

Parish Office

Hours.....Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Phone/Fax908 725-0163/908 725-2333
Email.....parishoffice@sjraritan.org
Fr. Kevin Email.....frkevin@sjraritan.org
Website.....www.sjraritan.org
www.sjraritan.com

**Our Church is open Monday through Friday
8:00 am to 12:45 pm for
prayer and quiet time in prayer with our Lord.**

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 9, 2021

A Note from the Administrator...

“To be a good person is a noble inspiration, but for a Christian it is a very poor and limited goal, when we are faced with a much bigger, more divine and perfect goal: TO BE SAINTS! Do you want to be good? Great! Do you want to be a saint? Prepare yourself for the test.” -Fr. Emmanuelle Cueto Ramos

As many of you know, Fr. Emmanuelle was a priest born in Mexico that recently died from cancer (at the age of 31). Fr. Emmanuelle had been serving as a priest for 2 years and 11 months. Within that short period of time, he preached and taught the Gospel with zeal, joy, and life! During his bout with cancer, he continued to bear God’s grace in all his encounters and activities. Fr. Emmanuelle was very popular with young people who followed his videos by the millions. He ended each video with his most well-known phrase: “No dejes de sonreír!” which translated means: “Don’t Stop Smiling!” Even when he had become blind from the tumors in his brain, Fr. Emmanuelle never lost that smile; he never lost his grace. He kept his soul focused on the eternal promise of God made known to him in Christ- Crucified and Risen!

On Saturday, March 27, 2021 (on the eve of Holy Week), Fr. Emmanuelle passed after a life filled with both struggles and undeniable grace. He lived his own sayings well: He was not simply a “good person” but one who desired to grow in holiness and was put to the test! Without question, Fr. Emmanuelle rose to the occasion enamored by the love of God.

This young and beautiful priest has been one of the most influential people in my own life as a priest and as a Christian. I pray to respond more and more like him in those moments of difficulty and trial. There is no doubt, the goal of the Christian life is to become a saint; we should have no remorse or hesitation in this goal. All of us have our struggles, our personal history, our qualities, and our defects *but we have also been elevated by the divine grace of God that we have each received at Baptism.* Let us pray for one another to grow in holiness as we strive to reflect the love of God in our daily lives. And as Fr. Emmanuelle says: “Don’t Stop Smiling!” Have a blessed and grace-filled week!

Fr. Kevin

WEEKLY PRAYER**Sunday’s Readings****First Reading:**

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.” (Acts 10:34-35)

Psalm:

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (Ps 98) Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. (1 Jn 4:7)

Gospel:

“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (Jn 15:12-13)

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

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 9, 2021

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20 *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/

Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or

4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/ Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

Love One Another
John 15:17

HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY



**FOR THE WEEK OF
MAY 9, 2021**

Monday, May 10, 2021

8:00 am + Maryann Skay
+ Deceased friends

Priest of the Day – Rev. Lukasz Drozak, CSsR

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Priest of the Day– Rev. Marion Drozd

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Priest of the Day– Rev. Anthony Dukru

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Priest of the Day– Rev. Pawel Dziatkiewicz, SDB

Friday, May 14, 2021

8:00 am + Dorothy Gerlach
+ Susan Passarella

Priest of the Day – Rev. Dario Endiape

Saturday, May 15, 2021

4:00 pm Vigil of the 7th Sunday of Easter
+ Ann Marie Gill

Priest of the Day – Rev. Martin Espinoza

Sunday, May 16, 2021

The 7th Sunday of Easter

10:00 am + People of the Parish

Priest of the Day – Rev. Mhonchan Ezung

Please pray for vocations to the Priesthood for our Diocese, and also for Religious Priests, Brothers and Sisters.

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament this week is in memory of: + **Jennie Oraschin & Lucie McCann**

Blessed Virgin Mary

The Candle burning before the Blessed Virgin Mary this week is in memory of: + **Margaret Salek**

St. Joseph

The Candle burning before St. Joseph this week is in memory of: + **Krachun & Gall Families**

Paschal Candle-2020

In Memory of John M. Bauer



OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 9, 2021

Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter;

Sunday: Mother's Day

Monday: St. Damien de Veuster, Priest

Tuesday:

Wednesday: Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr

Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord [holy day in some U.S. dioceses]; Our Lady of Fatima

Friday: St. Matthias, Apostle

Saturday: St. Isidore; Armed Forces Day

Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of

Easter; World Communications Day

OUR PARISH PRAYER LIST. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Bill Bizub | Frank Krevis |
| Edna Carter | Antonia LaCorte |
| Joseph Carter | Ralph Lombardi |
| Jane Chiesa | Steve & Geri Max |
| Joan Chopay | Francis M. Mishak, Sr. |
| Jerome Costanzo | Betty Phelan |
| Elizabeth Anne Dwyer | Natasha Polinko |
| Randy Fisher | Michael Roehrich |
| Arthur & Maryann Gosenski | Jack & Mary Sullivan |
| Gary Johnson | Michael Velcheck |
| Donna Kelly | Richard Wisniewski |
| Roseanne Kielar | Al Walulik |
| Robert J. Kolibas | Fr. John Morley |
| Jerry Kovac | |

OUR WEEKLY OFFERING

Weekend of May 1 & 2, 2021

Offertory.....	\$1,896.00
Parish Utilities.....	\$586.00
Insurance & Assessment.....	\$96.00
Catholic Relief Services.....	\$46.00

Online Giving

Offertory.....	\$175.00
Insurance & Assessment.....	\$30.00
Catholic Relief Services.....	\$10.00

St Joseph's offers Online Giving thru ParishSoft; an easy option for donating to the Sunday Collection. It's simple! Just visit <https://stjosephrاران.weconnect.com> and follow the easy registration instructions.

2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal

To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$ 11,910.00 and payments totaling \$ 10,972.50 from 53 parishioners. This represents 47.6% of your \$ 25,000.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts.

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" - JOHN 15:12-13

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, St. Joseph's will be welcoming the

Spanish Community to our parish.

Two Masses will be added at

8:00 am, and 12:00 pm.

All are invited to attend.

Bienvenidos a San José

one body, one Spirit in Christ

GOSPEL MEDITATION -
May 9, 2021
Sixth Sunday of Easter

“Remain in my love,” and, “I call you friends,” are powerful words that are found in John’s Gospel. Most of us probably have them committed to memory or have at least heard them proclaimed dozens of times. They are words that can easily become trite and quickly glossed over without fully pondering and digesting their profound beauty. When we take the time to immerse ourselves in them, they can radically change our lives and our relationships. They can open up new doors of adventure and hold countless possibilities for meaning. The essence of love and friendship are things that can easily be taken for granted. They have always been there and are a significant part of our lives. Many would say that they could not live without love and friendship, and they put a great deal of care into preserving, deepening and sustaining them. Love and friendship share a mutual relationship with each other that deserves more reflection.

Where does love come from? We can consider relationships that have not succeeded and conclude that they were somehow due to our “failures in love.” In doing so, we assume that human beings are the ones responsible for love, its success and also its failure. While our weakness, emotional composition and sinfulness can easily impact our ability to love, its origin is not human. God is love. God is love’s author and origin. When we love, it is God who loves in and through us. It is because of this divine closeness that Jesus is able to call us friends! It is not because of anything we have done but simply because of who we are. Realizing and contemplating this awesome reality becomes a game changer across the board. It gives us reason to clear the table of anything that can adversely affect the way we love so that we can open the door for its author to shine forth.

Coming upon this truth is what leads folks like St. Francis of Assisi to leave that which is comfortable and worldly and live a radical life. They relate with the love of God that radiates in and through all living things and appreciate their sacredness. It was having an intimate experience of God’s love and friendship that propelled St. Francis and others to embrace simplicity, act nonviolently, pursue humility, love enemies, care for the earth and open up avenues for true justice. Understanding this profound truth will also help us find peaceful solutions to world’s problems, restore relationships with our sisters and brothers, bring the grace of loving stewardship to creation and heal many wounds. Once we begin to see how wonderfully holy all of life really is, we discover joy. We lose our need for fear, develop a fierce fortitude, act prudently and seek justice. There is great power in love because it comes from God. It will never fail. It also enjoys the company of two other friends who are eager to become our friends as well: faith and hope. These are just as important to have and to share.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK -

First Reading:

In the home of the Gentile-believer, Cornelius, Peter revealed one of the most significant insights from the early Church: “In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.” Where do you see this message of unity needed today?

Second Reading:

John saw love at the very core of God’s divine identity. In fact, for John, “God is love.” For this reason, believers are called to love one another. How do you keep this virtue paramount in your life?

Gospel:

During his farewell discourse, Jesus refers to his disciples as his “friends.” How often do you think of Jesus as your “friend?”

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Diocesan Pentecost Vigil

May 22, beginning at 5 pm

Seeking to be renewed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, the Diocese of Metuchen will again host a Pentecost Vigil, which will be held in person this year on Saturday, May 22 at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen. The evening will begin with a 5 p.m. Vigil Mass, which will be celebrated by Bishop James F. Checchio. All are invited to attend in person, though the Vigil Mass will also be livestreamed for those unable to be physically present. Following the Mass, all will be invited to remain in the Cathedral for prayer, worship and confession. There will also be an opportunity to hear many talks and witnesses throughout the evening. While the Pentecost Vigil will go from 5 p.m. until midnight, participants are welcome to come and leave at any time or to stay for the entire event. More information and the full schedule can be found by visiting:

www.lightingheartsonfire.org.

Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, NJ, will be offering an exciting slate of academic and athletic summer programs for girls who are entering the fifth through eighth grade. Enrichment courses will focus on STEM, science, math, Python coding, art and more! The Athletics Camp is designed for all levels of players. Contact Joanne Cadigan-Peters at (908) 757-0108 or jcadigan@mountsaintmary.org Register Online at: <https://www.mountsaintmary.org/admissions/summer-academy>

The Joy of Love & Family Conference

The Diocese of Metuchen, in collaboration with the other four Roman Catholic Arch/Dioceses in New Jersey, will sponsor The Joy of Love & Family, a conference series in celebration of the Year of the Family as declared by Pope Francis. Beginning in June, the series of free talks will premiere over six months, covering topics for every stage of family life. More information, including the full speaker line up and talk titles, will be available in the coming weeks, so stay tuned to the diocesan social media pages diocesemetuchen.org for updates and visit www.lightingheartsonfire.org to sign up to receive notifications.

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP- Choosing to Love One Another

Love one another. The greatest commandment, the simplest commandment — and if you’ve ever loved anyone, you know it’s also the hardest.

I’m man enough to admit it. I’ve seen one or two of those cheesy Hallmark movies that are especially popular around the holidays. Boy meets Girl. Boy and Girl encounter a catastrophic roadblock to their relationship — they’re coaches of rival high school volleyball teams, or he runs a dog kennel and she works at a feline rescue, so it could never, ever work out, right? But sprinkle a little movie magic over the whole situation and Boy and Girl find what Hallmark tells us is true love. I could make a list of all the things that are inaccurate about these movies, and something I would put right near the top — maybe even above the sometimes-unbelievable storylines — is the idea that love is a feeling.

See, I’m not sure if it’s accurate to call these movies love stories. Attraction stories, sure. But if you’ve ever forgiven someone who’s hurt you, nursed a dying parent, gotten up for an infant’s night feeding or let your kid have the last piece of cake, you know that real love is a verb. It’s something you do. And it is almost always a choice.

Love one another. How often do we hear this? How often do we think about what it really means? How often do we take a moment to consider the action Jesus is asking us to take and the choice he is asking us to make?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Mass for the Feast of St. Philip Neri
Wednesday, May 26 at 6:00 pm

The Church of the Holy Trinity
60 Maple Street
Bridgewater

Join the Congregation of the Oratory
of St. Philip Neri as they celebrate
the feast of their founder:
St. Philip Neri-
The Patron Saint of Joy!

Following the Mass we will have an
outdoor dinner catered by the
wonderful AMA Pizza.

Please come hungry!
All are invited to attend

Please Note:

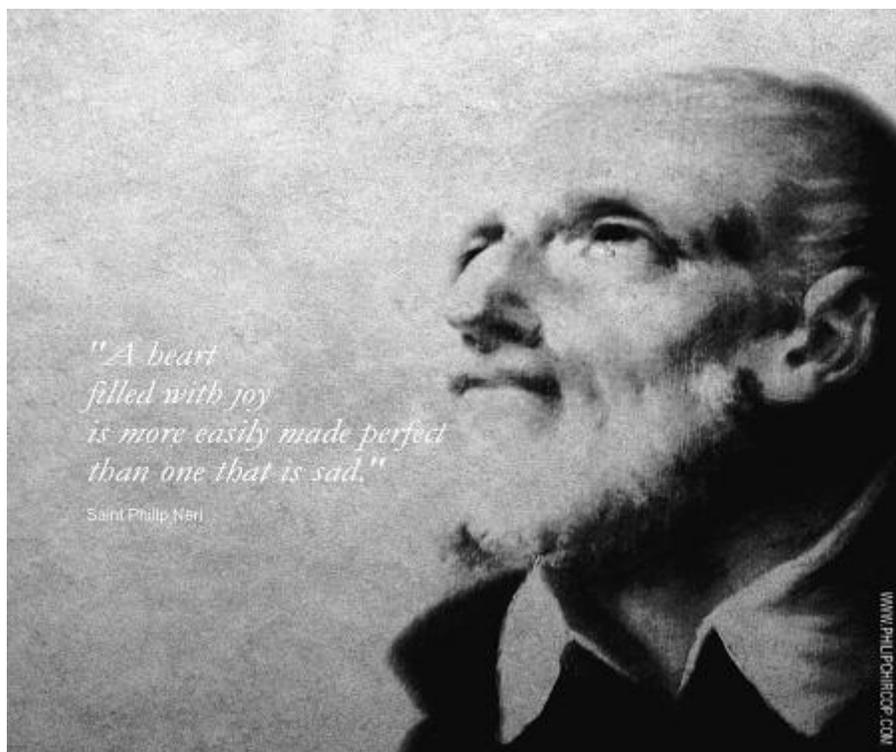
The Ascension of Lord
(Ascension Thursday)

Thursday, May 13 has been transferred by
the Catholic Bishops of NJ to
the 7th Sunday of Easter



A Novena for Life
honoring the Feast of the Visitation

On May 31st, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast commemorates the Blessed Mother’s visit to her cousin Elizabeth and the encounter of Jesus and St. John the Baptist while in the wombs of their mothers. Join us in praying "A Novena for Life" from May 22-30.



**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

Question:

What is the difference between a “Saint” and a “Blessed”?

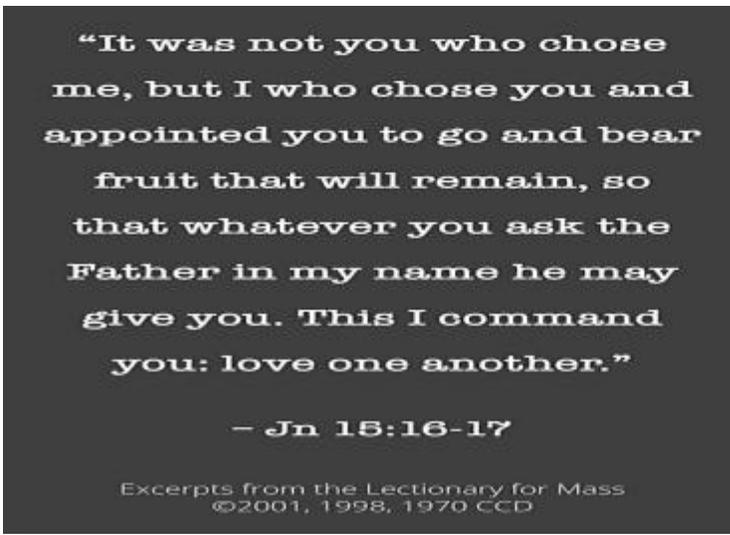
Answer:

The process of proclaiming someone as a saint in the Catholic Church has evolved over the course of many centuries. In the beginning, those honored as saints were almost exclusively biblical figures or martyrs. However, after the legalization of Christianity in the fourth century, new holy women and men came to be honored as saints, and this was often done by popular acclaim or by the local bishop or abbot. It was Pope Gregory IX (who was pope from 1227 to 1241) who officially proclaimed that only the pope had the authority to add someone to the official list (the “canon”) of saints. This is the meaning of the word “canonization.” Today, the saint-making process includes several steps, including detailed studies of the person’s life and a recognition that they died as a martyr or lived a life of “heroic virtue.” Once someone is recognized as a martyr or if a miracle is attributed to their intercession, they will be beatified and honored as “Blessed.” This means that they can be celebrated by Catholics in a particular country or region or by the members of certain religious community. If another miracle occurs and is approved, then the “Blessed” is canonized and honored with the title “Saint,” meaning that they are now officially recognized as a universal model of holiness and an intercessor. ©LPi



LIVE THE LITURGY

God is love. These three simple words deserve a great deal of attention. They have the power to transform our relationship with God from something that is static and distant to one that is personal and real. We all know the power of love and how important it is to completing all of the human and divine circuits of our lives. But we do not often consider the awesome fact that it is given to us as a gift and is not simply part and parcel of the human package. God is the author of love and love itself. When we truly love another human being, it is really God being God in and through us. The love to which we are called and the love of which the Gospel speaks is a selfless love that seeks the wellbeing of not only our significant others but of all of our brothers and sisters. This love, which is of God, is a love that will endure all things and bring immeasurable joy when experienced. It is the most sincere form of friendship. ©LPi



6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



KIDS CORNER

Find the heart that matches.



READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

I would be really happy, if only I was ? rich ? popular ? better looking ? the boss. Those selfish wishes sound great, but they cannot give you true happiness inside. In today's Gospel, Jesus shares the three secrets to his complete happiness: (1) Jesus obeyed God; (2) Jesus knew God loved him; (3) Jesus loved other people enough to die for them. Wow. Jesus was completely happy, but he was not selfish at all. In fact, Jesus told his friends if they followed his loving example, they could be completely happy too. Follow Jesus to be filled with happiness from the inside out.

PRAYER

God, on my own I am selfish. Thank you for loving me. Help me to obey you. Help me to love other people as much as Jesus does.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Read John 15:9-17 with your family. God loves you, and he wants you to be completely happy, but you need to let go of your selfishness. You can obey God and love others by sharing your time with them. You can show your love for God by sharing your money with others, too.





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NJ Lic. No. 2817

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED



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