Holy Spirit Church

984 Suburban Road Union, New Jersey 07083

Rev. Armand Mantia
Pastor

Rev. Jarek Zaniewski
Parochial Vicar

Rev. William Morris
Weekend Assistant

Rev. John Gordon
In Residence

Deacon Kurt C. Landeck
Pastoral Ministry

Ms. Catherine Drake
Director of Religious Education and RCIA

Youth Minister

Mr. John Ondrey,
The Spirit Singers
The Ministry of Music

Mr. James Sondey
Parish Pastoral Council Coordinator

Mrs. Patricia Wiggins
Mr. Stephen Anton
Trustees

Parish Office - (908) 687-3327 **Fax - (908) 687-1312**

Religious Education Office - (908) 964-7533

E-Mail - holyspiritchurch@comcast.net **www.holyspiritunion.org**

We Gather to Celebrate

Saturday: 8:30am, 5:30pm
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00am & 12:00 Noon
This schedule will remain until further notice.

Weekdays: Monday thru Friday:
8:30am

Holy Days: As announced

Reconciliation

Saturday 11:30-12 Noon and 4:30 to 5:00pm.

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the second Sunday of each month. A Preparation Program is required for first time parents. New parents should register for the Baptism as soon as possible after the child's birth by contacting the Parish Office.

Matrimony

According to the policy of the Archdiocese of Newark arrangements for weddings should be made at least one year in advance. Please contact the priest whom you wish to officiate at your wedding, by calling the Parish Office.

Novena

In honor of Our Lady and St. Jude: Monday, (September—June) immediately after 8:30 Mass.

Parish Membership

Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register at the Parish Office. If you move , please let us know. Certificates of Eligibility (Godparent/ Sponsor certificate) will only be given to registered parishioners.

Pray for ...

Mike Scholz
Bob Summers
Maxwell Alexander
Betty Engle
Leslie Nigro
Christopher Gruno
Linda Pradke
John Pradke
Zeny DeLos Angeles
Maureen Hughes
Stephanie Barrett
Mary Lynn
Christine Domenick
Carol Wiedbrauk
Thomas Ronan
Bruce Gaeta
Joann Melillo
Salvatore Apuzzio
Felipe Saboder
Judy Scarillo
Anna Sosnicky

To have someone included, please call the office.

From Fr. Armand:

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is another of those days which has a very special name. According to an ancient tradition of the church, today is referred to as "Laetare Sunday." Along with the Third Sunday of Advent, today it is permissible for the priest to use rose colored vestments, and for the liturgy itself to be a bit more festive than the other Lenten Sundays.

The celebration of Laetare Sunday serves a twofold purpose. First it gives a small glimpse of the joy to come as the celebration of Easter draws near. It is a small relaxation of the stringent discipline of Lent to remind us of what all our prayer, fasting and almsgiving is leading us to.

Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, it also serves as the "two minute warning" that Lent is quickly running out. If we have not yet done anything to observe the sacred season, or if we are still conscious of sin that has been unconfessed or unrepented, what are we waiting for? Time is running out and Easter will be here before you know it. The time for action is now, because there are very few tomorrows left in Lent.

I also remind you that the **2021 Sharing God's Blessing Appeal** is well underway in the Archdiocese. We need everyones participation to help us reach our parish goal of $60,000. Appeal materials and pledge envelopes have been mailed to everyones home. If you did not get one, more are available at the church doors, or just call the office.

In order to keep everyone safe, you may mail your pledge envelope directly to the Archdiocese, or even fill it out online, following the instructions found in the material. Of course, you may also return it directly to us as well.

Please watch the recent video I put on the website for more information about this years appeal, and why it is so very important for it be successful.

Stay safe and stay well,
Fr. Armand

CYO/Youth Ministry News
cyounion@aol.com

Information regarding the resumption of CYO will be posted here as soon as it becomes available.

We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Journey with Christ this Lenten season!

After so many positive responses to our Advent program, **The Women's Retreat Team** invites all to join us on a virtual Lenten Retreat entitled **"Walk in His Way"** for the 40 days of Lent.

The material is accessible on the Holy Spirit website (www.holyspiritunion.org) and also on the church Facebook page.

The choice of sources includes access to daily scripture readings from print and online sources, various versions of the Stations of the Cross, an 8 week Ignatian Retreat, reflections and reflection questions, meditations, music, and a suggested outreach.

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Stations of the Cross

With the beginning of the holy season of Lent, you are reminded that the Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday evening at 7:00pm in the church.
This devotion will continue until and including Good Friday, April 2, 2021 This is a very traditional Lenten devotion, and a wonderful way to observe the season with your entire family.

All, young and old, are invited to attend each week.

For those who prefer to pray at home, a virtual form may be found on the parish website: www.holyspiritunion.org

This is available 24/7 for your convenience.

Patriotic Rosary
And
Mass for Our Country

Thursday, April 8th, 2021

Rosary begins at 7pm
Mass begins at 7:30 pm

Celebrated by Fr. John Gordon
Director of the Office of Evangelization
Archdiocese of Newark

No registration required, but social distancing will be observed.

Mass Intentions for the week

SATURDAY MARCH 13th
8:30 Gustave Haluska req. by Barbara
5:30 Lou Radler req. by Maureen Ogonowski

SUNDAY MARCH 14th
8:00 Sam Fierro Jr. req. by David
10:00 James Moran req. by Frank and Eleanor Budney
Susan DiSotto req. by Leda D'Egedio
12:00 William Dunn req. by Ann-Margaret Shannon

MONDAY MARCH 15th
7:30 The People of the Parish
8:30 Eleanor Saemann and Lillian Arnold req. by Judy and Al Arnold

TUESDAY MARCH 16th
7:30 Kristen Severino req. by Maureen Ogonowski
8:30 Eriberto Pineda Sr. req. by Cecilia Munoz

WEDNESDAY MARCH 17th
7:30 Louis McLoughlin req. by James and Maureen Johnston
8:30 Maria Marabuto req. by Family

THURSDAY MARCH 18th
8:30 Brendan Redington req. by Joe Roughneen and Family

FRIDAY MARCH 19th
8:30 Mary Kovach req. by Eleanor Kovach

SATURDAY MARCH 20th
8:30 Marie Armstrong req. by The Arminio Family
5:30 Katherine, Patsy and Joseph Marino req. by The Lambiase Family

SUNDAY MARCH 21st
8:00 Tess Kost req. by Rosary Society
10:00 Edward Garthwaite req. by Ed and Joan Garthwaite
Robert Armstrong req. by the Arminio Family
12:00 Gladys Ralston req. by The Girls

Please note that all 7:30am intentions are being fulfilled at a concelebrated 8:30 am Mass until further notice.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY AA Spirit of Recovery - Drexler Hall 7:15 pm

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

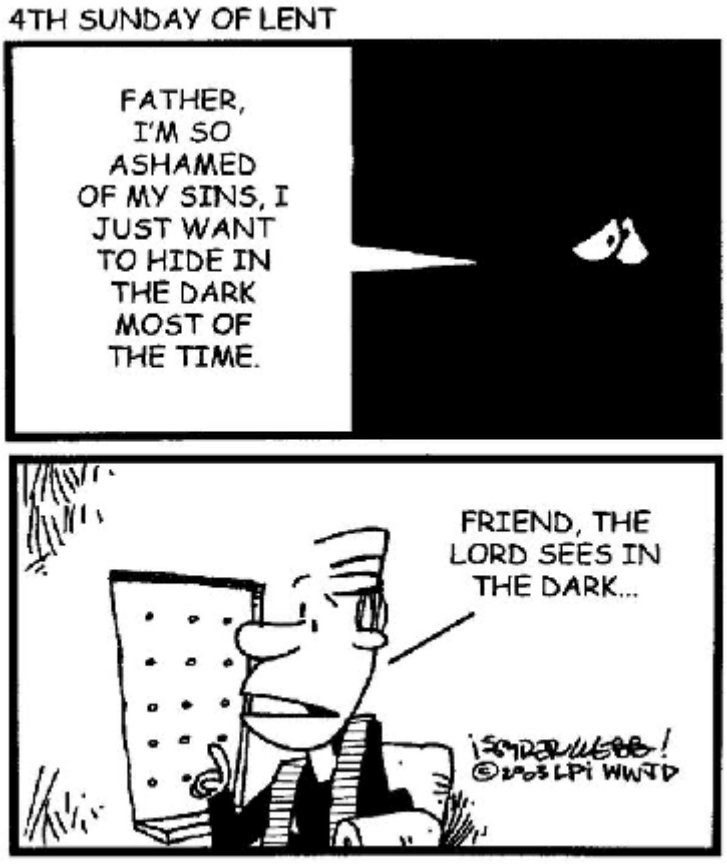
FRIDAY Stations of the Cross 7pm- Church

SATURDAY

SUNDAY AA Spirit of Recovery- Drexler Hall 7:15 pm

Memorials

The **Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week in memory of **Michael J. Barbone, Sr**. at the request of **His Children**



The ***Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)*** is "a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful." The length of time of the process varies according to individual need, experience, readiness and commitment. If you, or someone you know is interested in more information, please call Cathy Drake at the **O**ffice of **R**eligious **E**ducation at (908) 964-7533.

~~~also~~~

If you are not a Catholic, but attracted to the Catholic Church, or a Catholic needing to complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist or Confirmation), this is a time set aside for asking questions and exploring God's call in an informal setting. There are no commitments or obligations required, only questions answered and information shared. Again, call Cathy Drake at (908) 964-7533.

Respect Life: The Respect Life Ministry (www.holyspiritunion.org/RespectLife) has been updated to include information for dealing with many life issues – healing from abortion, dealing with infertility, dealing with terminal illness, adoption, crisis pregnancy, ethics, and end of life issues. Information is also available on the Respect Life Table in the entrance to the church.

Crisis Pregnancy Help: Any woman who is pregnant and in need of assistance should never feel that abortion is her only option. Personal and confidential assistance is available at the following numbers.

Archdiocesan Respect Life Office: 1-973-497-4350
Several Sources Foundation: 1-201-818-9033

Post Abortion Healing for men and women. If interested, call the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office 1-973-497-4350. All calls are strictly confidential. Information of Rachel's Vineyard Retreat can be found at**: www.rachelsvineyard.org**

2020 Contribution Statements

If you are in need of your annual contribution statement for tax purposes, which we will gladly provide for you.

Because of Covid restrictions on office visits, we ask that you please call well in advance so that we can have things prepared for you. Please do not just show up at the door on your way to your accountant; we may not be able to assist you without notice.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Help Wanted!

For many years, the altar linens we use at each Mass have been laundered and prepared by a dedicated and under-heralded group of devoted ladies. These volunteers make sure that we have ample and clean supplies which then allow a dignified and elegant celebration of the Mass.

Due to the present circumstances, a few more helpers would be very welcome. If anyone would be willing and interested in assisting this group, your help would be greatly appreciated. Your commitment would be for a few hours once every 6 or 7 weeks according to a schedule, and training will be gladly provided. You would be doing a great service to your parish.

If you would like to volunteer, or if you want more information, please call the parish office, and we will put you in touch with the person who coordinates the group. Thank you for your consideration.

WE NEED YOU!

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On behalf of the entire Holy Spirit family, I wish to take a moment and publicly thank Fr. Bill for his years of service to us.

As some of you already know, Fr. Bill has again decided to retire from public ministry among us. Yes, we have heard that before! But this time, he is serious about it. The impact, problems and restrictions of the past year have truly taken a toll on him, both physically and emotionally. Additionally, he finds it increasingly difficult to climb the stairs to his rooms safely. Therefore, he has decided that it is time for he and Hudson (his dog) to return back to their own one-level home in Whiting, NJ.

During his time with us, Fr. Bill has given generously of himself in the service of our parish. He has always served us willingly, gladly and with an open heart. His laugh, smile and good humor have gone a long way in helping each of us deal with the ongoing issues of our world.

Personally, he has always been a wise counsel and trusted friend who has helped me behind the scenes on many occasions, and I am grateful to him.

Given the present restrictions, we are not able to offer him a more formal farewell, and I am sorry for that, he certainly deserves it.

Please continue to keep him in your prayers, and I know he will remember each of us. If Fr. Bill's track record is any indication, he will probably be making "special guest appearances" from time to time.

Until then, we all wish him many happy years of well deserved rest. We will miss him, he is certainly one of a kind!

Rev. William T. Morris
100A Sunrise Court
Whiting, NJ 08759

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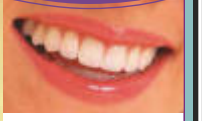

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