

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
11:00 AM—Bilingual

Weekdays
Monday through Friday
9:00 AM
No Tuesday Mass

Holy Days
7:00 PM Vigil, 9:00 AM, 7:00 PM

Confessions
Saturday
3:30-4:00 PM in church

Office Hours
Monday through Thursday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Friday
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM



Parish Office

127 Church Street, Glassboro
Phone: 856-881-2753
Fax: 856-881-9697
E-mail: parishoffice@stbridgetup.org
Website: www.StBridgetUP.org

Newman House Catholic Campus Ministry
Rowan University
1 Redmond Ave., Glassboro
Phone: 856-881-2554

St. Michael the Archangel Regional School
51 W. North St., Clayton
Phone: 856-881-0067

Franciscan Missionary Sisters Convent
212 Ellis St., Glassboro
Phone: 856-881-4604

Parish Staff

Pastor	Rev. John A. Rossi
Deacon	Samuel Soto
Campus Minister	Rebekah Hardy
PREP CRE	Mary, Mother of Mercy Shannon Cassidy 856-881-0909
Business Manager	Renee Mirenda
Admin. Assistant	Maryann Friedberg
Secretaries	Kathleen Capitanio Kathie Graham
Music Director	Florence Murtha
Maintenance	Charlie Graham

Mass Intentions Prayers & Sacraments

Saturday December 18

4:30 PM Edith & Harry Francis r/b family

Sunday December 19

9:00 AM John Silvestri r/b wife Evelyn & family
11:00 AM Vincent Stango
r/b wife Sandy & daughter Andrea
Gina Giumarello r/b Kathy McEvoy
Anna Romalino r/b Anthony & Mary Barca
Antonio Reyes r/b Alejandro Reyes

Monday December 20

9:00 AM Frank Argenzio r/b daughters

Tuesday December 21

9:00 AM **No Mass**

Wednesday December 22

9:00 AM For the People of Our Parish

Thursday December 23

9:00 AM Anna, Lucy, Samuel, Alfred, Michael & Joseph
Catalano r/b Richard & Grace Wheeler

Friday December 24 Christmas Vigil

4:00 PM For Our Parishioners
11:00 PM For Our Parishioners

Saturday December 25 Christmas Day

10:30 AM For Our Parishioners
No 4:30 PM Mass

Sunday December 26

9:00 AM Sr. M. Erica Marini
r/b the Franciscan Missionary Sisters
11:00 AM Lorenzi & James Viola
r/b daughter Angie Rowson & family
Gina Giumarello r/b Karen Casey
Eileen Payne r/b Jim Henley & family
For the Special Intentions of Janice Back
r/b the Franciscan Missionary Sisters



PRAYER LIST

Lynda Bancroft, JoAnne Carothers,
Maria Genovese, Louis Hill, Greg Joannides,
toddler Sloane Heart, Sr. Janice Novak,
Sam Raffa, Julia Rivera, Kathleen Santelli and
toddler Jackson Thummel

Please call the parish office at 856-881-2753 to
have your name put on the prayer list. Thank You.

If you wish, you may receive the Sacrament of
Anointing of the Sick. Contact the parish office at 856-
881-2753 to make an appointment with the priest.

We pray for the safety and the Lord's protection of
our men and women in the military, especially Colonel
Eric Baus; Anthony R. Brown, Jr., USANG; Matthew
Lisa, USAF; Ensign William Stephens, USCG; Sean
Patrick Stailey, USN and Luke Wible, USMC.

PRAYER CHAIN: Do you or someone you know
need the blessing of prayer? That's why the St. Bridget
Prayer Chain is here for you. Please contact Annadora
Shiple, Coordinator, at 856-589-0334, and prayers will
begin for you.

ATTENTION VETERANS!

Having problems? Need help?

The NJ Veterans Helpline might be your answer. This is
a 24-hour service manned by veterans who counsel
callers and direct them to a wide range of services.
Call 1-866-838-7654.

Poor Box

Please consider dropping a food gift card or cash in
the poor box in back of the church. As always, thank you
for your generosity.

Sanctuary Candle

This week the Sanctuary Candle burns
In Memory of Edith & Harry Francis
r/b family

Pray the St. Andrew Christmas Novena!

This is a very powerful novena that is recited 15 times a day from the Feast of St. Andrew-November
30th until Christmas Eve- December 24th

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin
Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouch safe, I beseech Thee, O my
God, to, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of
His blessed Mother. Amen.

Dear Parishioners,

At the first Christmas, the angels praised God, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to people of good will." The shepherds came and humbly adored the newborn King. In his Gospel, after recounting all these beautiful memories he probably heard firsthand while interviewing our Blessed Mother, St. Luke tells us: "Mary treasured all of these things and reflected on them in her heart" (2:19).

We too need to pause and treasure the gift of Christmas in our hearts. It is the Gift of God's Love come down to earth in the Flesh. He came as an infant, grew to manhood, died and rose for our salvation. He founded one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church – a family – where His presence continues in both Word and Sacrament. Let's treasure and reflect on the gift of Christ and the faith we share in Him as members of the Church.

Be careful, in the "hustle and bustle" of the season, not to miss what is most important! Take some time for yourself in silent prayer, perhaps looking at a Nativity scene, and really reflect what Christmas means for your life!

As your pastor, I treasure the gift of you and the dedication, sacrifices, and hard work you have shown to make this parish what it is. In particular, I thank those who serve in the various ministries and organizations. On behalf of the Staff at Our St. Bridget, I wish each of you a blessed Christmas and happy New Year! Please be assured of my prayers for your intentions at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

In the Peace, Joy, and Love of the Christ Child,

Fr. John



Did you miss our Parish Penance Service and extended Saturday confessions during Advent?

There are other opportunities for Confession before Christmas at neighboring churches:

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
(500 Greentree Rd., Glassboro)
Tuesday, December 21—7:00 PM



Our Lady of Peace-St. Mary Church
(32 Carroll Ave., Williamstown)
Monday, December 20
6:00-7:00 PM
Tuesday, December 21
6:00-7:00 PM
Wednesday, December 22
3:30-4:30 PM & 6:00-6:30 PM
Thursday, December 23
6:00-7:00 PM

We need your help!!!

On Thursday, December 23, the Christmas flowers will be delivered at 9:30 AM. If anyone is willing to help unload the truck and place them inside the church, we would truly appreciate your help.



Christmas Flowers

There are Christmas flower envelopes in back of the church. This money donated will be able to decorate the altar with flowers through the winter. Place the names of those to be remembered on the envelope and they will be placed on the altar through the Christmas season. Please fill one out and drop it in the collection basket. Thank you!!



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Reading I **Mi 5:1-4a**

Thus says the LORD:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel.

He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19**

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us.

R.

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R.

May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

R.

Reading II **Heb 10:5-10**

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'"

First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Alleluia **Lk 1:38**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

R.

Gospel **Lk 1:39-45**

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does

this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

GOSPEL MEDITATION

St. Augustine tells us that a "Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps." As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life's necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world's ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn't God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world's ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God's vessel so that God's greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God's fix for the world's difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God's instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.



IV Domingo de Adviento

Primera Lectura **Miq 5, 1-4a**

Esto dice el Señor:

“De ti, Belén de Efrata, pequeña entre las aldeas de Judá, de ti saldrá el jefe de Israel, cuyos rígenes se remontan a tiempos pasados, a los días más antiguos. Por eso, el Señor abandonará a Israel, mientras no dé a luz la que ha de dar a luz. Entonces el resto de sus hermanos se unirá a los hijos de Israel. Él se levantará para pastorear a su pueblo con la fuerza y la majestad del Señor, su Dios. Ellos habitarán tranquilos, porque la grandeza del que ha de nacer llenará la tierra y él mismo será la paz”.

Salmo Responsorial

Salmo 79, 2ac y 3b. 15-16. 18-19

R. Señor, muéstranos tu favor y sálvanos.

Escúchanos, pastor de Israel; tú que estás rodeado de querubines, manifiéstate; despierta tu poder y ven a salvarnos. R.

Señor, Dios de los ejércitos, vuelve tus ojos, mira tu viña y visítala; protege la cepa plantada por tu mano, el renuevo que tú mismo cultivaste. R.

Que tu diestra defienda al que elegiste, al hombre que has fortalecido. Ya no nos alejaremos de ti; consérvanos la vida y alabaremos tu poder. R.

Segunda Lectura **Heb 10, 5-10**

Hermanos: Al entrar al mundo, Cristo dijo, conforme al salmo: No quisiste víctimas ni ofrendas; en cambio, me has dado un cuerpo. No te agradaron los holocaustos ni los sacrificios por el pecado; entonces dije –porque a mí se refiere la Escritura–: “Aquí estoy, Dios mío; vengo para hacer tu voluntad”.

Comienza por decir: “No quisiste víctimas ni ofrendas, no te agradaron los holocaustos ni los sacrificios por el pecado –siendo así que eso es lo que pedía la ley–; y luego añade: “Aquí estoy, Dios mío; vengo para hacer tu voluntad”.

Con esto, Cristo suprime los antiguos sacrificios, para establecer el nuevo. Y en virtud de esta voluntad, todos quedamos santificados por la ofrenda del cuerpo de Jesucristo, hecha una vez por todas.

Aclamación antes del Evangelio **Lc 1, 38**

R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Yo soy la esclava del Señor; cúmplase en mí lo que me has dicho. R. Aleluya.

Evangelio **Lc 1, 39-45**

En aquellos días, María se encaminó presurosa a un pueblo de las montañas de Judea y, entrando en la casa de Zacarías, saludó a Isabel. En cuanto ésta oyó el saludo de María, la creatura saltó en su seno.

Entonces Isabel quedó llena del Espíritu Santo y, levantando la voz, exclamó: “¡Bendita tú entre las mujeres y bendito el fruto de tu vientre! ¿Quién soy yo, para que la madre de mi Señor venga a verme? Apenas llegó tu saludo a mis oídos, el niño saltó de gozo en mi seno. Dichosa tú, que has creído, porque se cumplirá cuanto te fue anunciado de parte del Señor”.

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO

Tomar decisiones siempre es difícil; por muy simples que sean, lleva su tiempo de discernimiento. Hoy, la Liturgia se centra en María, y el Evangelio nos dice que: “*Por entonces María tomó su decisión y se fue, sin más demora, a una ciudad ubicada en los cerros de Judá*” (Lucas 1:39). Hacer la voluntad de Dios, como lo hizo la Madre del Señor, no fue cosa fácil. Al pronunciar su “sí”, trajo consecuencias de fidelidad y servicio. “*¿Cuáles eran sus pensamientos durante los meses de espera?*” La respuesta proviene del pasaje de la visita de María a su pariente anciana, Isabel. “*Entró en casa de Zacarías y saludó a Isabel*”. María estaba feliz por su maternidad, y a su vez, Isabel saludó a María diciendo: “*¿Cómo he merecido yo que venga a mí la madre de mi Señor?*” (Papa Francisco 12-23-2018).

Un diálogo de amor, entre estas dos mujeres, estalla en las montañas de Judea por el Mesías esperado. María acudió con prontitud, no con ansiedad, sino actuando como una verdadera discípula a su corta edad. La visita de María a su pariente Isabel debe ser un ejemplo vivo para prepararnos a vivir una Navidad de dinamismo, fe y servicio hacia el más necesitado. Un encuentro de alegría auténtica, que manifieste la compasión y la ternura de Dios hacia los que nos rodean a través de nosotros. ¿Cuántos miembros de la familia sufren por falta de una visita, de un saludo? A tan solo unos días del nacimiento del Salvador, es el momento oportuno para las obras de caridad. ¡No pierdas la oportunidad! Camina presuroso al encuentro del Señor.



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24

Christmas Caroling by Children- 3:30 PM

Vigil - 4:00 PM

11:00 PM Solemn Mass (bilingual)

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25 10:30 AM

Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 26

9:00 and 11:00 AM

No 4:30 PM Vigil Mass

Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 26

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM (Bilingual)

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

Mother of God

(not a Holy Day of Obligation)

New Year's Day

Saturday, January 1 4:30 PM

Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM (Bilingual)

Samaritan Center Do Not Bring Food to Church

Food and donations for the Samaritan Center should be taken directly to the Center at 123 High Street E. in Glassboro. You can drop off food on Mondays and Thursdays from 12 Noon to 3:00 PM. Please **DO NOT** bring the food to the church.

Also, if anyone would like to volunteer at the Samaritan Center, you may call Stacy at 856-863-9030.



Look at the Candy Cane



What do you see?

Stripes that
are red

Like the blood
shed for me

White is for my Savior

Who's sinless and pure!

"J" is for Jesus My Lord, that's for
sure!

Turn it around

And a staff you will see

Jesus my shepherd

Was born for Me!

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St. Bridget University Parish
Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish
Catholic Campus Ministry

Contact for further info:

Kay Alibetti
bellanonna3@gmail.com

Linda Cossabone
lcossabone@gmail.com



Music

O Come, Divine Messiah

Venez Divin Messie Text: Abbe Simon Joseph Pellegrin;
Music: Trad. France Carol. 16th cent.

1. O Come, Divine Messiah; the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

Refrain: Dear Savior haste! Come, come to the earth. Dispel the night show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah; the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.

2. O Christ, whom nations sigh for, whom priest and prophet long foretold, come break the captive's fetters, redeem the long-lost fold



O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Veni, Veni Emmanuel

Music: Chant Mode I; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890

1. O Come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

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Stewardship Calling

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (LUKE 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Or, do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we, **as stewards**, are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.



*Ministers
of the Eucharist*

Attention Eucharistic Ministers

Are you retired? Or have free time in your day? We are in need of a Eucharistic Minister to make home visits to give communion to homebound parishioners. If you are interested, please call the parish office at 856-881-2753.

*"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart?
Mark the season of Advent by living and serving the others with God's own love an concern."*

Mother Teresa

Knights of Columbus



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