



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

FEBRUARY 21, 2021 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 & 11 a.m.

Daily Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Wed.
& Thursday: 8 a.m.

Confession

Saturday: 4 to 4:45 p.m.
& by appointment. Call
the Parish Office.

Adoration

Holy Hour for Life, third
Thursday of each month.

First Friday of the month
from 3 pm to 7 pm
followed by Benediction
& Mass.

Check the bulletin for
more details.

Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Thur. 10 am to 4 pm

Parish Registration: Call
the Parish Office to register
or pick up a registration form
in the Church vestibule or
visit our website to join.

Mailing Address: 59 Main
St. High Bridge, NJ 08829

Office: 908-638-6211

Fax: 908-638-5802

Email: parishoffice@sjchb.org

Website: www.sjchb.org

Parish App: WeConnect

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



**“Your ways, O Lord,
are love and truth to those
who keep Your covenant.”**

Parish Staff

Reverend James A. Kyryczak

Deacon Tom McGovern

Deacon Steve Fortier

Parish Secretary: Mary Jean Fiore ext.1

Faith Formation: Shari Schultz ext.3

Director of Sacred Music: Al Cresci

Parish Bookkeeper: Arlene De Falco ext.4

Sacraments

Baptism:

The Sacrament of Baptism is
celebrated on Sundays. Please
call the Parish Office to make
arrangements.

Ministry To the Homebound, Sick & Dying:

Please contact the Parish
Office to arrange for Holy
Communion and/or Sacrament
of the Anointing of the Sick as
well as Last Rites for the
dying.

Faith Formation:

Religious Education will now
take place on-line due to the
recent pandemic. For more
information please visit our
website or contact Shari
Schultz.

Matrimony:

In accordance with Diocesan
Policy, arrangements for a
wedding should be made at
least one year in advance. To
allow ample time for preparation.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): This is the process of welcoming & forming adults who have a desire to learn more about the Catholic Faith. This is a conversion process. If interested call the Parish Office.

Sponsorship:

To act as Godparent for
Baptism or sponsor for
Confirmation, the sponsor
must be a baptized Catholic,
receive communion,
confirmed, and live a morally
good life; and if married, done
so within Church law.

Daily Mass Intentions LS=live-stream

Saturday/Sunday, February 20/21

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

- 5:00 PM People of St. Joseph Parish
9:30 AM † Mary Pedula (LS)
11:00 AM The Children of St. Joseph Parish

Monday, February 22, 2021

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

- 8:00 AM (L) Joseph John & Family

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

St. Polycarp

- 8:00 AM Open Intention

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

- 8:00 AM Open Intention

Thursday, February 25, 2021

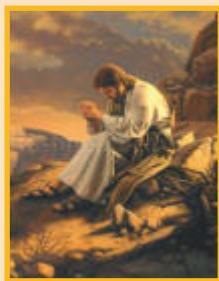
- 8:00 AM Open Intention

Saturday/Sunday, February 27/28

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- 5:00 PM People of St. Joseph Parish
9:30 AM † Jerry Barry (LS)
11:00 AM † Kay Bugger

"And He was in the desert for 40 days and 40 nights." ~Mark 1:13

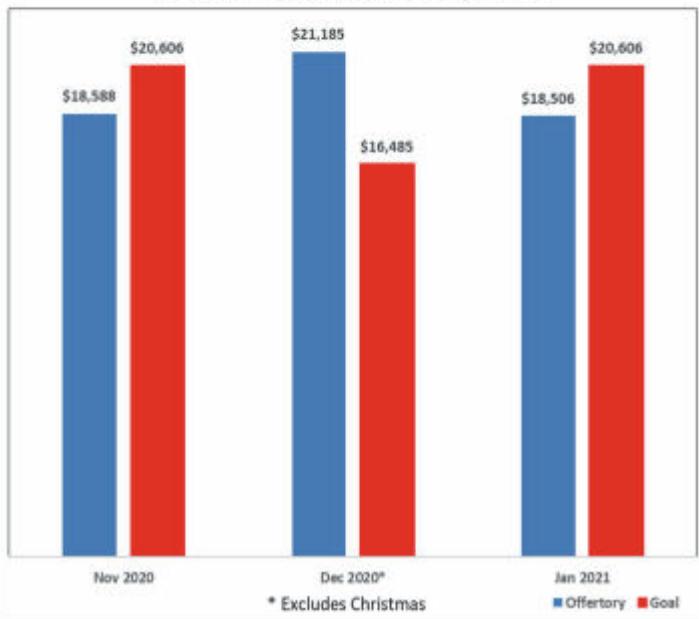


Seeing Jesus tempted, in today's Gospel, helps us to understand His full humanity. God made Jesus suffer so that we could relate to Him. Each of us struggles with temptation daily, and it is standard to often feel alone in that battle. In this passage, the "wilderness" and "beasts" are representations of the chaos and obstacles that get in our way through life.

The ability to turn to Scripture and see Jesus facing the same difficulties is a comforting reminder that we are not alone in our struggles. In Jesus' example, in fact, we find that the wilderness is not a place to be feared, but one of great hope! It is a place of revelation and of intimacy. In our darkest moments, when we are alone and most in need of God, He appears to us. Yes, Jesus was by Himself among beasts, exhausted from battling Satan's temptations, but at the same time "...the angels ministered to Him." God was on His side!

Jesus remained in a dark place, confronting His temptations vulnerably, in the fullness of His humanity, for 40 days. So, too, do we begin that journey now. Angels ministered to Jesus throughout this battle. We, too, are reminded that we are never alone in our struggles. God reaches out to us in intimacy, yearning to create, heal and nourish His personal relationship with each of us, especially within our darkest moments. After 40 days of restless confrontation, Jesus returned to Galilee, proclaiming the Good News to all who would hear it: "**Repent, and believe in the Gospel.**" We pay heed to this advice when participating intentionally in the Lenten Season, and as we work on ourselves, we experience intimacy with God in the wilderness. Our hearts will be transformed in a way which sends us off in proclamation – firm in both our faith and our desire to share it! (thetorchproject.com)

Offertory vs. Goal: Nov 2020 - Jan 2021



PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Weekend of February 13/14 \$ 3,036-

Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Saturday, & Sunday, February 20/21

- * Food for Families Collection

Monday—Thursday

- * Daily Mass, 8 am, Church

Tuesday, February 23

- * Bible Study, 7:30 pm, Live-Streamed on Facebook

Friday, February 26

- * Stations of the Cross, 7 pm, Church (LS)

We fast from judging others, but feast on patience.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

All are welcome to donate flowers for the sanctuary of our Church. They can be donated in honor of a deceased loved one, or someone living, for a birthday or special intention. Please call the Parish Office for more information at 908-638-6211.



The flowers in front of the Blessed Virgin Mary Statue are dedicated in loving memory of:

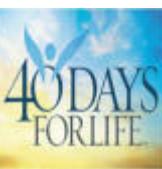
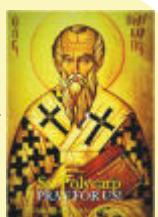
Michele Henning

Requested by:

The Krawchuck Family

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Great martyr Saint Polycarp of Smyrna, we ask you to pray for those who are in need of prayers. **We pray for:** Cathy Bush, William Honachefsky Sr, Vincent Scarponi, Greg, Alan Schultz, Maria, Mark Mueller, Joseph, Josephine Parmese, Donald Tomko, Nate Strunk, Frank Kyrczak, Frank Kyrczak Jr., Gerianne & The Lepore Family.



Please join Catholics & Christians throughout the world who will be praying from now until March 28th during the **40 Days for Life Campaign**. Offer time to peacefully pray & fast in your own home for **LIFE**. Please pledge to pray, asking for God's protection on **all human life from conception until natural death**. For more information, contact Jenn English at amjadopt@comcast.net or visit 40daysforlife.com.

February 21: Day #5 May the truth of the final judgment shape our thoughts, priorities and choices here on earth.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS

To request your year-end contributions letter, please complete the information below and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the office. You can also request via email at arlenedefalco@sjchb.org or at our website at www.sjchb.org, look in the MENU for the "End of Year Contribution" tab.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Looking for a safe and secure way to contribute to St. Joseph Church? Well look no further. Visit sjchb.weshareonline.org You won't have to worry writing a check anymore. You can set up reoccurring payments and chose which collection you would like to donate to. If you need help, please contact the Parish Office! Once again, thank you so very much for your support it means the world to our Parish.



MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone deceased or living, please contact the Parish Office. The fee is \$10 and a Mass card can be given to you if needed.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly to proclaim the Real Presence of Our Lord,

Jesus Christ in the Tabernacle.



This week the flame is dedicated to:

The sick of our Parish



Every Friday at 7 pm during Lent. Stations of the Cross will be live-streamed on our Facebook page.

Are you staying focused on God this Lent?

- ◆ Commit to your Lenten promise by writing it and posting it on your bathroom mirror or refrigerator.
- ◆ Fast not only from eating but from selfishness, anger, screen time, greed, foul language or unhealthy decisions.
- ◆ Attend Daily Mass.
- ◆ Say 40 Prayers for 40 People in 40 Days.
- ◆ Spend time reading the Bible.
- ◆ Send a "Letter of Gratitude" to someone special every week!
- ◆ Come to Stations of the Cross.
- ◆ Make a good confession.

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 pm 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 prepared for Easter. **Register by visiting www.diometuchen.org/evangelization.**



A very special thank you goes out to those who help sanitize our Church after each Mass. Your hard work is greatly appreciated and may God bless you!!

We fast from idle gossip, but feast on purposeful silence.

An advertisement for a medical alert system. It features a close-up of a person's hand holding a small, white, rectangular device with a circular button and a small green LED light at the top. The background is white. To the right of the device, the text "PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE" and "MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM" is displayed in a serif font. Below this, a large red price tag shows "\$29.95/MO" in white, with "BILLED QUARTERLY" written underneath in a smaller white font. To the right of the price is a red circular badge containing the text "PLUS SPECIAL OFFER". At the bottom of the ad, a red banner contains the phone number "CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772" and the website "WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM". In the bottom left corner, there is a small logo for "USA TODAY" with the text "24-7 MEDALARM" below it.

A composite image featuring a portrait of real estate agent Amy DeVita on the left, and her contact information and the Vikki Healey Properties logo on the right.

The image features the Naughright-Scarpone Funeral Home logo on the left, which includes a gold-colored crest with a stylized 'S' and floral elements. To the right of the logo, the company name 'NAUGHRIGHT-SCARPONI' is written in large, bold, serif capital letters, with 'FUNERAL HOME, INC.' in a slightly smaller font below it. To the right of the company name is a vertical line, followed by the phone number '908-638-6242' and website 'www.scarponifuneralhomes.com' in white text. Further to the right is another vertical line, followed by the address '66 MAIN ST, HIGH BRIDGE, NJ 08829' in white text. Below the company name and address is a small portrait of a man, identified as Vincent Scarpone, Owner-Manager. Below his portrait is the text 'Vincent Scarpone, Owner-Manager, NJ Lic. No. 3334'. To the right of the portrait is another small portrait of a woman, identified as Tara Scarpone - Danniballe, Funeral Director. Below her portrait is the text 'Tara Scarpone - Danniballe, Funeral Director, NJ Lic. No. 4981'. At the bottom left, there is a separate section for the 'LEBANON LOCATION' with the text 'Scarpone-Bright Funeral Home | 26 Main St, Lebanon, NJ 08833'. On the far right, there is a small image of a building, likely the funeral home's physical location.

Stephen J. O'Connor & ASSOCIATES
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Chris Knoll, Owner/Manager
NJ Lic. No. 4460

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