



Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish

Parish Office: 500 Greentree Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028
Phone: 856-881-0909 Fax: 856-881-5457 E-mail: parishoffice@mary-mom.com

Welcome Bishop Sullivan! We're blessed to have you celebrate this Holy Day with us at 4PM!



Serving Our Parish

Rev. William Kelly,
Pastor

Rev. Joseph Adamson,
Retired

Msgr. James Tracy,
Retired

Deacon John Luko

Deacon Kevin Laughlin
Deacon Anthony Petillo

Meryl Cerana,
Pastoral Associate /
Business Administrator

Barbara King,
Parish Secretary

Christa Sangataldo,
Administrative
Assistant

Michelle Vidal,
Media Coordinator

Shannon Cassidy,
Program Coordinator
and "Good Shepherd"
Coordinator (Ages 3-6)

Stephanie Grossman,
"ECHO" Coordinator
(Grades 1- 5)

Jillian Hensley,
Youth Ministry Coordinator
(Grades 6 - 12)

Tim Dempster,
Whole Family
Catechesis Coordinator

Jeffrey Kremer,
UND Apprentice

Ed DeLuise,
Music Director;
Adult Choir Director

From Father Bill...

I must admit, I love watching Hallmark Christmas movies. I know, I know, they can be sappy and romantic, but they also do teach great lessons and in several that I watched, the Christmas lesson taught was one of "forgiveness."

A few weeks back I watched the Elf on the Shelf movie with my great niece Lia. She is 4 years of age and with her 2 year-old twin siblings Julian and Eva, are full of the wonder and awe of the Christmas season. In the Elf on the Shelf Movie, there is a song that has these words in it..."Christmas is a time for forgiveness ... that is why we all believe in Christmas."

Hallmark and even the Elf on the shelf...one of Santa's helpers ... knows the real & true meaning of Christmas. Even Santa knows WHO Christmas is all about! We've seen Santa kneeling at the manger and even bowing to Jesus. In fact, I have even seen the Elf on the Shelf kneeling at the manger before Jesus.

There is a Christmas Card that I receive almost every year from one friend or another with this prose by Roy Lessin:

If our greatest need had been information,
God would have sent us an educator.

If our greatest need had been technology,
God would have sent us a scientist.

If our greatest need had been money,
God would have sent us an economist.

If our greatest need had been pleasure,
God would have sent us an entertainer.

**BUT, OUR GREATEST NEED WAS FOR FORGIVENESS,
SO GOD SENT US A SAVIOR.**

My friends, Jesus was born for our forgiveness...Christmas and Easter go together. We are called to extend that forgiveness to another. By doing that, we might bring life to another, as Jesus brought and continues to bring life to us.

I, as your pastor, as well as Fr. Joe, Msgr. Tracy, the deacons, the parish staff, the parish pastoral council, all the parish ministries, and all the parishioners of Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish wish you and your loved ones, a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas! Rejoice!

It is the festival of our Savior's birth, the day we celebrate that salvation has dawned upon the world. Christ is born, and we rejoice that He has come among us in the flesh, our God made visible in an infant child who would one day give up His life for us. This is the heart of the Christmas mystery: that Christ is born for us today.

Join us as we journey through the year. Find nourishment and fulfillment in your spiritual life in the Mass and through the many opportunities to grow in your relationship with our Lord, offered here in our parish. Come and be fed by the Church. We are closest to Jesus, our Savior, our Redeemer, our friend when we encounter Him in the Eucharist. He gives Himself to each of us at every Mass. It is in the Eucharist that we find the true life of our faith and feel the genuine satisfaction of our hunger.

"I PROCLAIM TO YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY: TODAY A SAVIOR IS BORN FOR US, CHRIST THE LORD." - LUKE 2:10-11



"YOU ARE TO NAME HIM JESUS, BECAUSE HE WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS." - MATTHEW 1:21

A Faith Formation Journey...God's greatest desire for each of us is that we live in relationship to Him. All relationships take time and desire to build and to grow. Our relationship with God – our journey of faith – takes a lifetime. It is never complete. It is never finished. In our parish community, the journey begun with Baptism is aided by a variety of programs. Each help us to be witnesses to the Gospel, and bring Christ to all that we encounter. The world needs people of faith in order to flourish and to promote the common good.



Some of the many opportunities to grow in your relationship with Christ here at Mary, Mother of Mercy include: Adoration (Thursday's from 4pm - Midnight in Holy Family Chapel, Our Lady of Lourdes Church), Bible studies, Faith Festivals, Faith Formation for Children & Youth, participating in monthly Novenas, RCIA, praying the Rosary (before daily Masses in Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church), and using the parish subscription to formed.org.

Additional opportunities for families and youth include:

- * Middle School Youth Ministry, providing youth in grades 6-8 opportunities to strengthen their relationship with Jesus, and enjoy fellowship with their peers through social events and community service projects.
- * High School Ministry, providing opportunities for high school teens to deepen their relationship with Christ, grow in discipleship, build community among peers, and serve their community through social events, service projects and faith-filled experiences.
- * Family Prayer Workshop

Family Prayer Workshop

- Have you tried to teach your children why their faith matters, but feel like they just don't get it?
- Do you feel like your family is so busy running around that you don't spend enough quality time together?
- Have you ever wanted to pray as a family, but don't know how to start?

Consider joining us for the Nazareth Workshop - a once-monthly, 1 hour prayer group geared towards the whole family! All ages and members of the family are welcome: parents, teenagers, school-aged children and younger, as well as grandparents. Meetings will be held in Mercy Hall, from 9 - 10:30AM. Breakfast will be provided.

Led by a professional team of volunteers and ministerial staff, this prayer group will focus on providing *practical prayer resources to families*, to develop your own prayer practices in the home.

Each session will include:

- Brief lesson on a unique prayer tradition that can be used in the home.
- Interactive discussion with other families.
- A period of separate instruction for children and adults.
- Opportunity to practice that prayer with your family.

Meeting dates: January 27, February 17, March 24, April 28, May 12

Contact Jeffrey Kremer at jwkremer.62@gmail.com for more.



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS!

Upcoming:

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1, 2019

Mass Times:

Vigil, December 31:

7PM, Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Solemnity: 9AM, Our Lady,
Queen of Peace Church

March for Life - a Pro-Life Trip

January 18, 2019

Ash Wednesday

March 6, 2019



2019 Holy Days of Obligation:

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, January 1

Ascension of Our Lord Jesus

Thursday, May 30

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, August 15

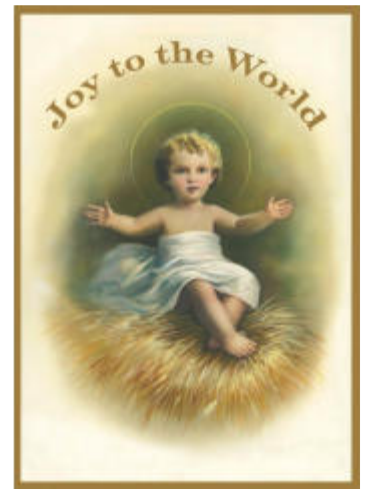
Solemnity of All Saints

Friday, November 1

Christmas

Wednesday, December 25

All Sundays of the Year



Pro-Life March 2019 - additional information

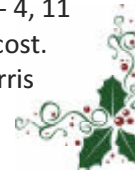
Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish is hosting the 2019 March for Life on **Friday, January 18**. The \$35 cost includes a round trip on a deluxe motor coach and free snacks on board. The rosary will be prayed at 7:30AM in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, followed by boarding the bus at 8AM sharp in the church parking lot. The bus will depart at 8:15AM and should return to the parking lot at about 7:30PM. Reservations will be accepted in the parish office. Note: No seats will be saved without payment. Questions? Contact Kevin Cassidy (cassidy39@verizon.net) or the Parish Office.

Understanding Grief - Winter Session

The Winter Session of "Understanding Grief" will meet on Mondays, for 8 weeks, in Our Lady's Hall in Pitman, from 7 - 8:30PM on the following dates:

January - *15 (Tues. due to conflict), 21, 28, February - 4, 11, 25, March - 4, 11

Anyone suffering the loss of a loved one is welcome to attend. There is no cost. Refreshments are provided. For more information, please contact Dolly Harris (589-4237) or Deacon John Luko (629-2183).



"HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD. ALL THINGS CAME TO BE THROUGH HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM NOTHING CAME TO BE. WHAT CAME TO BE THROUGH HIM WAS LIFE, AND THIS LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF THE HUMAN RACE;

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT."

JOHN 1:2-4

We are please to give you a **free** subscription to formed.org.

The Best Catholic Content. All In One Place.

Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, and a great selection of popular ebooks - all just a click away! Adults and kids alike are sure to find content that entertains, enriches, and informs - all accessible via computer, tablet, and smartphone.

[Visit our parish website to register for FORMED.](#)

[Registration, as well as the content found on FORMED are FREE!](#)

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[Get Formed on-the-go for your smartphone and tablet!](#)

Catholic Strong

The Catholic Strong Campaign was designed to support the development of needed initiatives that help local Catholic communities continue to grow, strengthen and welcome new members into their parishes. Unlike most diocesan-wide campaigns of this nature, the Catholic Strong campaign returns 70% of the funds raised directly back to the parish. Our parish goal is 1,125,500; and the money that we will receive back will be used for needed capital improvements to our parish facilities, as well as supporting parish ministries, evangelization, and faith formation.

As you consider a gift to this campaign, and perhaps even more importantly, as you discuss it with your family and friends, remember that this campaign is for you and our parish. To learn more about the Catholic Strong campaign speak with Fr. Bill, a member of our parish's campaign volunteer team, or visit southjerseycatholicstrong.org.



GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE TO THOSE ON WHOM HIS FAVOR RESTS.

MASS SCHEDULE AND WORSHIP SITES

Saturday: 5:00PM Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Sunday: 8:00AM Our Lady of Lourdes Church
9:30AM Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church
11:00AM Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Daily: Monday - Saturday: 9:00AM
Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

500 Greentree Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church

161 Pitman Avenue, Pitman, NJ 08071

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Full information about all sacraments and sponsor requirements can be found on our website, www.Mary-mom.com, or by calling the Parish Office at 881-0909.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered on Saturdays from 9:30 - 10:00AM at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church; 3:15 - 4:15PM at Our Lady of Lourdes Church; and by appointment.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available when someone is facing surgery or serious illness. Call the Parish Office during regular business hours to arrange. In an emergency, please call the Parish Office (881-0909) to request a priest to visit. [After regular Office Hours, call 589-0824.]

Parishioners who are homebound due to age or illness, and are unable to attend Mass, can contact the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process for adults interested in becoming Catholic as well as adults who would like to complete the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). Contact the Parish Office for information.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Sunday: Closed
Monday - Thursday: 10AM until 5PM
Friday: 10AM until 3PM
Saturday: Closed



LET US OFFER TO HIM
OUR LIVES,
OUR HEARTS,
OUR PRAISE...

*Jesus -
No Greater Gift.
No Greater Love.*

All Are Welcome!

Our warmest welcome to all joining us for this celebration! We are happy that you're here. If you're new to our parish or returning after an absence, know that we would like to share our lives with you, and invite you to share your life with us. Join us each week so we can worship God together!

PARISH REGISTRATION:

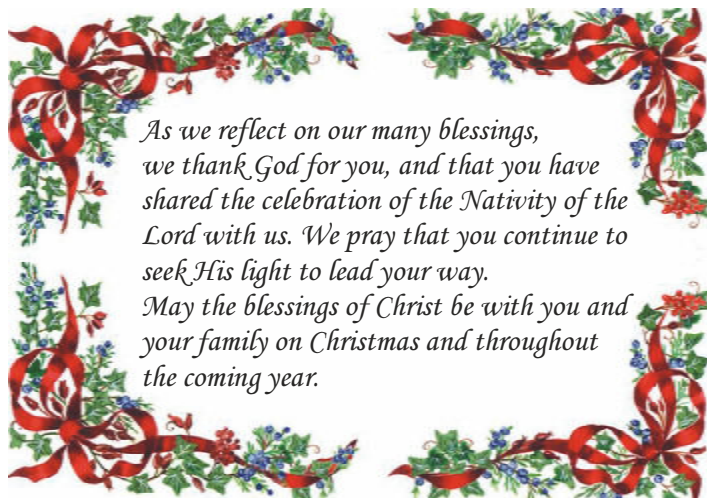
New members are asked to register with the Parish. New parishioners are welcome, and may register in person at the Parish Office, or by filling out a *Registration Form* (available on our website as well as inside the entrances of our churches), and placing it in any collection basket.

Visit our website:

www.Mary-mom.com

Find us, Like us, Follow us on Facebook:

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish



*As we reflect on our many blessings,
we thank God for you, and that you have
shared the celebration of the Nativity of the
Lord with us. We pray that you continue to
seek His light to lead your way.
May the blessings of Christ be with you and
your family on Christmas and throughout
the coming year.*

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL, JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT! O COME, LET US ADORE HIM!