



Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish

Our Lady of Lourdes Church & Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church
500 Greentree Road, Glassboro 161 Pitman Avenue, Pitman

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



Serving Our Parish

Rev. Allain Caparas,
Pastor

Rev. Joseph Adamson,
Retired

Msgr. James Tracy,
Retired

Deacon Kevin Laughlin

Deacon John Luko

Deacon Anthony Petillo

Meryl Cerana,
Pastoral Associate /
Business Administrator

Barbara King,
Parish Secretary

Christa Sangatardo,
Administrative Assistant

Michelle Vidal,
Media Coordinator

Shannon Cassidy,
LLF 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

Ed DeLuise,
Music Coordinator

Cathy Sonnenberg,
Youth Music Director



O COME
all ye faithful

Dear Parish Family,

As we reflect on the past year, the dominant event is without a doubt, the pandemic. It has and continues to affect each and every one of us in unique and profound ways. For most of us, it has forever changed our perception of safety, reality, people, and life.

Yet, despite the pandemic, the one constant denominator—and if I may say, the one thing that can undermine even the emotional and physical strain of the pandemic, is our Catholic faith.

Christmas is a reminder to us that the coming of Christ into human history and into our lives, has forever changed the way we view sickness, death, and evil. Evil—in whatever form it takes, no longer has the last word. Christ does. However intense suffering might be, we know that it is only but temporary, and Christ through His Mercy, Love, and Providence has and continues to conquer it all—even the worst of evils.

The message of Christmas, which culminates in the Cross and Resurrection, is that we find redemption and purpose in our lives by allowing the Lord to enter into our personal story, experiences, and suffering. As Jesus entered our world on that first Christmas 2,000 years ago, He desires nothing more now than our allowing Him to enter into our hearts and souls. My prayer for you this Christmas and in the coming year, is that you will continue to welcome Him into your lives, and in doing so, experience Peace in your hearts—especially the peace that we have all longed for this past year, and that only He can give.

If I may, I ask you to please remember me in your prayers, that I might continue to be an effective and holy pastor to our parish family.

A Blessed Christmas to all, and may God grant us and our world a prosperous and healthy New Year!

Love and Prayers,

Father Allain B. Caparas, Pastor

GLORY TO GOD
IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH
peace,
GOODWILL TOWARD MEN.

READINGS FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - VIGIL MASS (CHRISTMAS EVE)

FIRST READING Is 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch. Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; You shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the LORD. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My Delight," and your land "Espoused." For the LORD delights in you and makes your land His spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

R. (2a) **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant: Forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations.

R. **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

Blessed the people who know the joyful shout; in the light of Your countenance, O LORD, they walk. At Your name they rejoice all the day, and through Your justice they are exalted.

R. **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

He shall say of me, "You are my father, my God, the rock, my savior." Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm.

SECOND READING Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia and entered the synagogue, he stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and exalted the people during their sojourn in the land of Egypt. With uplifted arm He led them out of it. Then He removed Saul and raised up David as king; of him he testified, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after My own heart; he will carry out my every wish.' From this man's descendants God, according to His promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of His feet.'"

GOSPEL Mt 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name Him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

READINGS FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - MASS DURING THE DAY**FIRST READING** 1 Is 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!" Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion. Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD comforts His people, He redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared His holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

R. (3c) **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done wondrous deeds; His right hand has won victory for Him, His holy arm.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

The LORD has made His salvation known: in the sight of the nations He has revealed His justice. He has remembered His kindness and His faithfulness toward the house of Israel.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and melodious song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

SECOND READING Heb 1:1-6

Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, He has spoken to us through the Son, whom He made heir of all things and through whom He created the universe, who is the refulgence of His glory, the very imprint of His being, and who sustains all things by His mighty word. When He had accomplished purification from sins, He took His seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: You are My Son; this day I have begotten you? Or again: I will be a father to Him, and He shall be a son to Me? And again, when He leads the firstborn into the world, He says: Let all the angels of God worship Him.

GOSPEL Jn 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through Him, but the world did not know Him. He came to what was His own, but His own people did not accept Him. But to those who did accept Him He gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

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

MASS SCHEDULE AND WORSHIP SITES

Saturday: 5:00 PM *Our Lady of Lourdes Church*
Sunday: 8:00 AM *Our Lady of Lourdes Church*
9:30 AM *Our Lady Queen of Peace Church*
11:00 AM *Our Lady of Lourdes Church*
Daily: Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri., & Sat.: 9:00 AM
Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church
Wed.: 7:00 PM
Our Lady of Lourdes Church

The Sunday Mass is livestreamed on Facebook at 5:00 PM on Saturday and posted to Mary-Mom.com after 6:00 PM on Saturday.

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 - 10:00 AM at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church; from 3:15 - 4:15 PM 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: 10 AM until 5 PM
Friday: 10 AM until 3 PM
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:

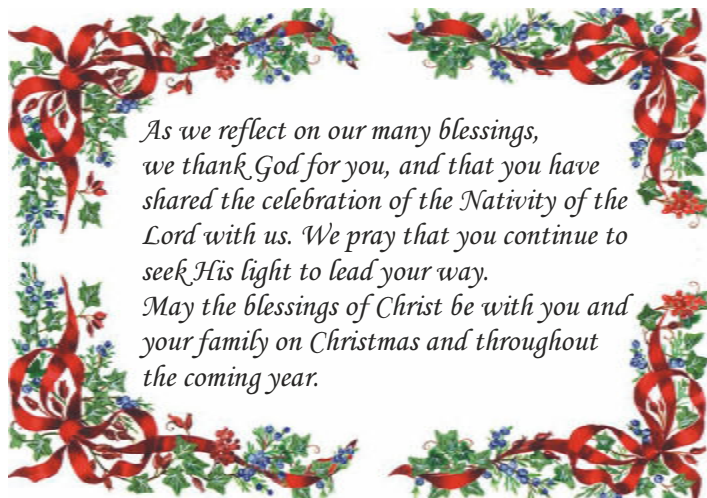
New members are asked to register with the Parish. New parishioners are welcome, and may register in person at the Parish Office, or by filling out a *Registration Form* (available on our website as well as inside the entrances of our churches) and placing it in any collection basket.

Visit our website: www.Mary-mom.com

Find us on Facebook: **Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish**

Find us on Instagram: **marymomparish**

Visit our YouTube channel: **MaryMom NJ**



*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!