



ST. GENEVIEVE'S CHURCH

200 MONMOUTH ROAD

ELIZABETH

NEW JERSEY 07208

(908) 351-4444

Rev. Armand Mantia, *Pastor*
Rev. Msgr. Hugh A. O'Donnell,
Rev. George D. Gillen,
Pastors Emeritii
Rev. Miroslaw Kusibab,
Parochial Vicar
Joseph Caporaso, *Deacon*
Donna Pietz
Religious Education Administrator

PHONES:

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E-Mail: stgens@optonline.net
Website: www.stgensrcc.com.

MASSES:

Sundays 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00 Noon
Saturdays 7:00AM, 8AM 5:30 PM
Monday 7:00AM, 8AM - 7:00 PM
Tuesday-Friday 7:00AM, 8AM

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 1:00 PM until all are heard

MARRIAGES:

In accordance with the Common Policy of the Bishops of New Jersey, marriages should be arranged one year in advance of the proposed date. Please call the rectory for more information.

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

May be received by anyone who is ill. Don't delay the sacrament until the person is dying. The strengthening and healing is important to experience when a person can encounter the Lord with conscious faith, and often with the support of family around the bedside. Far from being "scared" by the visit of the priest, the sick person is usually greatly consoled and grateful for your thoughtfulness in calling us. Please don't take it for granted that we know about people who are ill.

BAPTISMS are celebrated the 2nd Sunday of the month. Please call the Rectory for information and to register for a Baptism.

Dear Parishioners,

What? More Church!? This year the calendar seems to be playing a joke on us, Friday, Saturday and now Sunday again. But, if you really think about it, what better way is there to celebrate the birth of Jesus than by coming together to hear His Word, and feasting at His table.

Please remember that unlike what the world would have us believe, the Christmas Season is only just starting, it's not over. For the church, Christmas begins at sundown on December 24 and finally finishes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which is normally the 2nd week of January. Long before then, it will be impossible to hear a Christmas song on the radio, and stores will already be decorated for Valentine's Day. But we know better. Please keep Christmas in you heart and homes all year round. The presence of the Lord in our lives does not stop just because a calendar says so. Just as His love is eternal, so is His presence with us. Merry Christmas!

I would like to offer a sincere "Thank You" to all who remembered the priests and the staff this year with gifts, offerings and good wishes. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Also, a very special word of gratitude to all who make a truly sacrificial offering in the Christmas Collection. God bless you always!



Fr. Armand



FRIDAY, NEW YEARS EVE

Morning Mass—7AM & 8AM

(Vigil) 5:30PM

SATURDAY, NEW YEARS DAY

9:00AM, 12:00 Noon

(Please note—No 5:30PM Mass)



RECENTLY BAPTIZED AT ST. GENEVIEVE'S CHURCH

BENJAMIN ALESSANDRO OTERO

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ALEC MATTHEW HURTADO

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CHRISTOPHER ROMAN SAICO

KARIS JEAN LOY

SPECIAL DONATION FOR WINE & HOSTS

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

ROSOLINO AND JUSTINA TRAINA

FROM: BOB & LYNDA BRAUN



All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

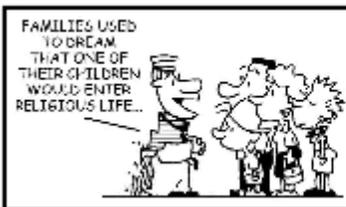
The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

THIS WEEKEND IS OUR RED ENVELOPE MAINTENANCE COLLECTION.
Thank you for your continued support.

HOLY FAMILY



SAINT OF THE WEEK –

St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Question:

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

Mass Intentions for the Week

- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021**
 7:30 Estelle J. Kloss 16th Anniv req. Barbara Ann Kloss
 9:00 Julian & Maria Dorta req. Truncale Family
 10:30 Edward F. Kirk req. Ed & Deb Kirk
 12:00 Janusz Gnielka req. Family
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2021**
 7:00 Santiago Fernandez Gutierrez req. Family
 8:00 Frank Manfredi req. Family
 7pm Rebecca Kessler req. The Ferry Family
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021**
 7:00 Marie & Floyd, Jerry, Dr. Jack & Pick Donahue, Dr. Bob & Jane Messier
 8:00 Joanne Arena req. Pasquale Arena
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2021**
 7:00 Maria Lourdes Fernandez req. Family
 8:00 Ricky Santos and Rubin req. Valerie Marples & Family
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021**
 7:00 Carmen & Josefina Fernandez Readigos req. Family
 8:00 George & Ruth Newell req. Harry Marples & Family
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2021**
 7:00 Raul Garcia req. Bob & Maria Dyke
 8:00 Homer Zamora, Sr. & Amelita req. Family
 5:30pm Ocilia Cabrera 43rd Anniv. req. Her nieces & Family
- SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022**
 9:00 Reggie Woodrow
 12:00 Tom Byrne req. Mary, Michael & Martin Carol Ann Chodan req. Family
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022**
 7:30 Maria Lobo req. Homem Family
 9:00 Julian & Maria Dorta req. Danielle Dorta
 10:30 Angelo Nigro req. Family
 12:00 Luisa Valdes req. Family



Our prayers are with you as you recover ~

Susan Lipke, Tony Brennan, Carol Brink, Elaine Stachowicz, Licinia Dossantos, Maria Joe Godinho, Mary Paul, Herminia Murphy, Michael Perrino, Michael Alexander, Carol Chiari, Brian Da Silva, Mary Bernier, Judith Leonardi, Charlie Poppe, Bernadette Szpond, Lyuba Labunsky, Marty Marino, Scott Sauer Family, Jason Hamilton

Please note—If you wish to add someone to the list—please call the rectory.

SPECIAL DONATION

If you wish to make a special donation for the following items please fill out form and return to the Rectory.

WINE ___ or HOSTS ___ FOR COMMUNION

CANDLES ___ FOR THE ALTAR

The donation may be made for the following:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF _____

IN THANKSGIVING _____

SPECIAL INTENTION _____

NAME _____

LIVE THE LITURGY

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



STOCK UP NOW ON FIREWOOD

Do you need firewood for your backyard chiminea, fireplace or wood-burning stove?. You can get well-seasoned split hardwood logs right here at St. Gen's for half of what you pay in the supermarket. And at the same time, you will be supporting the camping program of Boy Scout Troop 23, including a campership fund that helps send financially-challenged Scouts to summer camp. Help yourself from Webby's Wood Shed, located behind the Rectory near the garages that face Livingston Road. Follow the directions on the envelopes provided to make a donation. Thank you for your support!



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