

Happy World Marriage Day WHAT IS WORLD MARRIAGE DAY?

World Marriage Day (WMD) honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.

HISTORY - The idea of celebrating marriage began in Baton Rouge, La., in 1981, when couples encouraged the Mayor, the Governor and the Bishop to proclaim St. Valentine's Day as "We Believe in Marriage Day". The event was so successful, the idea was presented to and was adopted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter's National Leadership.

By 1982, 43 Governors officially proclaimed the day and celebrations spread to U.S. military bases in several foreign countries. In 1983, the name was changed to "World Marriage Day", designated to be celebrated each year on the second Sunday in February. In 1993, his Holiness, Pope John Paul II, imparted his Apostolic Blessings on World Marriage Day. WMD celebrations continue to grow and spread to more countries and faith expressions every year.

SYMBOL - Our World Marriage Day Symbol speaks readily of the role and values we proclaim. Husband and wife are symbolically seen as two candle-like figures, reminding us that married love calls us to help enlighten the world. The couple is joined by a heart, focusing on love as the power that fosters unity within the couple and generates the capacity to be life-giving and inspire others to fruitfulness and unity.

THEME - Our Theme for WMD has been permanently adopted as "Love One Another". This phrase is the commandment given us by Jesus in John 15:12. It speaks to us in a simple but challenging way of how our Father wishes us to live. Loving one another is a daily decision, simple but challenging.

**Find much support and information for marriage. All couples should check out the following websites: foryourmarriage.org
marriageuniqueforareason.org**

WOMEN'S LIFE LIVING IN FAITH EVERYDAY

Have you ever felt a need to connect with other Catholic women, but weren't sure how to do it? The women meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, at 7:00PM. Our purpose is to provide an opportunity to encourage one another as we reflect on God's word, and discuss how it impacts our daily lives as we struggle to be faithful to Jesus in our turbulent, changing culture. We are inviting women of all ages, married, single, older and younger.

Celia Bouffidis at cbouffidis@gmail.com

Mary Ho at jjaying22@ptd.net or 908-382-1525



Keep seminarian Timothy Eck II of our parish in your prayers. He is in Rome for studies towards the priesthood for the Metuchen Diocese. The Metuchen Diocese currently has 21 men studying for the priesthood. Please pray for them.



Also keep in your prayers seminarian Samuel Bass who received his sacraments in our parish in 2013. He is in Rome for studies towards the priesthood for the Diocese of Austin, Texas.

Prayer Shawl and Rosary Ministry

Prayer shawls and rosaries are now prepared to be distributed to parishioners. Do you know a parishioner who is in need of a prayer shawl? Please contact Barbara at the parish office for more information at (908) 362-6444.

The new Prayer Shawl and Rosary Ministry is looking for volunteers who would like to crochet or knit a shawl for ailing parishioners. This can be done at the convenience of your own home and according to your own schedule. We are also looking for volunteers who would like to make rosaries to be given along with the shawls. This is a great way to share our faith and to give our fellow parishioners comfort from their parish family. If you would like more information about this volunteer opportunity please contact Jeannette at (908) 887-9993.

How to Report Sexual Abuse

If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and/or by contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hours/7 days a week). For more information on how to report abuse, visit our diocesan website: <https://diometuchen.org/report-a-suspected-abuse>.

Are you suffering after an Abortion?

Help is available!

If you or someone you know is suffering after an abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available! Experience God's merciful love and begin the journey of healing: Call Project Rachel's local toll-free helpline number: 877-877-4300. or visit HopeAfterAbortion.org.

Spanish-speakers may visit EsperanzaPosaborto.org or call Sisters of Life at 866-575-0075 or email: hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org