

CHURCH OF ST. MARY

Serving Closter and Alpine † All are Welcome!



ST. MARY PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We the family of St. Mary of Closter, fervently believe in the fatherhood of God whom we come to know through the Lord Jesus Christ. We dedicate ourselves to the promotion of the spiritual and temporal welfare of our parish and our community. To this end, we direct our prayers to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit through Mary the Blessed Mother and Patroness of our parish family.



PARISH STAFF AND CONTACTS

Pastor: Rev. Joseph Scarangella, K.H.S
fatherjoe@stmarycloster.org

Weekend Associate:

Rev. Ranees Anbukumar Rayappan, S.M.A.

Permanent Deacon: Deacon James P. Tobin
jimtobin1@aol.com

Director of Music: Louis Scarpa
music@stmarycloster.org

Director of Stewardship: Louis Scarpa

Director of Religious Education: Gail Ferraiolo
gferraiolo@stmarycloster.org

Parish Secretary: Grace Ditzel
gditzel@stmarycloster.org

**Business Admin./Parish Bookkeeper/
Local Safe Environment Coordinator:**

Canice Cristofolletti • *ccristofolletti@stmarycloster.org*

Religious Education Secretary:

Maria Matos • *reled@stmarycloster.org*

Parish Trustees: Pamela Derfus and John Hernandez
*and assisted by the Pastoral Advisory Board
and Financial Council*

WE INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

Saturday (Anticipated Sunday Mass)-----5:00 PM

Sunday-----7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 12:00 PM

First Sunday of July through Labor Day Weekend ----- 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Weekdays (Monday through Saturday)-----8:00 AM

Holy Days & Civic Holidays----- As announced the Sunday before

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday-----4:15 - 4:45 PM
or call for an appointment

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday - 8:30 - 9:30 AM and as scheduled.

Holy Hour: Thursday, 7:30 PM - Church

Marian Devotions: Miraculous Medal Novena and Recitation of the Rosary: Saturdays after 8:00 AM Mass.

*Information regarding Sacraments, Parish Ministries and Care
of the Sick & Homebound can be found on our website.
To arrange baptisms or weddings call Father or the parish office.*



Please like us on Facebook: facebook.com/stmarycloster

PARISH OFFICES

Kindly notify the Rectory Office if you change your address or move from our parish community. Please see our website for Parish Calendar and more information about Sacraments and Parish Life.

RECTORY:

20 Legion Place, Closter, New Jersey 07624
201-768-7565 • Parish Website: stmarycloster.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
(Closed for lunch between 12 Noon & 1:00 PM)

CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

20 Legion Place, Closter, New Jersey 07624
201-767-8247 • *reled@stmarycloster.org*

CENTER HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM *and by appointment*

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16 –
Jer. 17: 5-8; 1 Cor. 15: 12, 16-20; Lk. 6: 17, 20-26
 5:00 PM Christine Gavin / req. by Dolores McVey

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 –
 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Jer. 17: 5-8; 1 Cor. 15: 12, 16-20; Lk. 6: 17, 20-26
 7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
 9:30 AM Louise Bishop / req. by Dick and Jane Bishop
 12:00 PM Cazemer Czarkowsky
 req. by the Menezes Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18 – WEEKDAY
Gn. 4: 1-15, 25; Mk. 8: 11-13
 8:00 AM Helen Brautigan / req. by Joan Westervelt

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 – WEEKDAY
Gn. 6: 5-8, 7: 1-5, 10; Mk 8: 14-21
 8:00 AM Mary Ann Ambrosio
 req. by the Maltby Family

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 – WEEKDAY
Gn. 8: 6-13, 20-22; Mk. 8: 22-26
 8:00 AM Michael Kennedy
 req. by Eoin and Clare Kennedy

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21 – ST. PETER DAMIAN,
 BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Gn. 9: 1-13; Mk. 8: 27-33
 8:00 AM Mary McKenna Delaney
 req. by John and Canice Cristofolletti

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22 –
 THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE
1 Pt. 5: 1-4; Mt. 16: 13-19
 8:00 AM Bernie McNamee
 req. by Eoin and Clare Kennedy

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 –
 ST. POLYCARP, BISHOP AND MARTYR
Heb. 11: 1-7; Mk. 9: 2-13
 8:00 AM Martha Rosetta D'Amico
 req. by John and Midas Hernandez
 5:00 PM Paul Milcetic / req. by the Milovic Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 –
 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1 Sm. 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Cor. 15: 45-49; Lk. 6: 27-38
 7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
 9:30 AM Annette Kilgannon
 req. by Chris and Lee Tunison
 12:00 PM Edward Henry Schanars
 req. by the Byrne Family



THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Blessed Virgin Mary Candle – In Thanksgiving.
 Sanctuary Candle – Special intentions.

From the Director of Religious Education

BEATITUDE – Supreme Blessedness

The church no longer encourages us to choose suffering as if it were a virtue. Those of us who have been around for a while know that was not always true. However, we also know that if you wait around long enough some form of hardship is bound to find you. It may be in the form of poor health, depression, hunger, persecution, or mourning a loss. In fact, we may not find ourselves waiting all that long between opportunities.

Times of hardship can be just that, "opportunities". I have always found the times of suffering in my life to also be periods of spiritual growth. We may be called blessed in these times not because of our suffering but because we turn to God in these times with more ardor. When we find ourselves blessed through these experiences, it strengthens our faith, teaches us gratitude, and reminds us where the focus of our life should be.

With lent approaching, the Church encourages us to take the time to look at our lives and find ways to renew our faith as we prepare for the Easter celebration. While we do not face famine, hunger may come in the form of fasting or even through a diet chosen for weight loss by our physicians. Regardless of the size of the cross you will carry, it is important to remember we are blessed when we "trust in the Lord" and like that "tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots" we will have nothing to fear. Even in hardship we can bear fruit through our faith.

Gail

We Pray for the Sick

Irene Abad, Christian Brueck, Fran Caldwell,
 Lee Ann Davito, Lisa Deegan, Desiderio Fernandes,
 Frank Forte, Ed Koch, Sr. Dominic Marie McDonnell,
 Joseph Miele, Carol Munkins, David O'Hanlon,
 John Pagano, Alicia Parent, Joan Pinto,
 Richard Pinto, Samantha

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, **February 23rd** and **24th** the second collection is the Collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

ANNOUNCED SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Weekly offerings of: Altar Bread, Altar Wine, Blessed Virgin Mary Candle and Sanctuary Candle are available throughout 2019.

First Friday Healing Mass

March 1st at 8:00 PM at Church of St. Mary. Rosary at 7:30 PM. Individual prayers for healing after Mass. Father Bill Halbing celebrant.

Family Promise Walk In-Dinner Program – Thank You Volunteers

Thanks again for your continued support of the Walk-in Dinner Program through Family Promise held on February 6th. Thanks to your generosity and kindness, we served over 110 people, who were extremely grateful for the delicious variety of food which you all provided.

Mark Your Calendars! The 2019 Walk-in dates are: **May 29th** and **September 25th**.

Sharing God's Blessings

The Annual Appeal directly supports various ministries and programs throughout the Archdiocese of Newark, such as our evangelization efforts, Catholic education, Catholic Charities, youth and young adult ministry, and many other ministries. Your participation in this campaign is vitally important. If you have not yet made a pledge to the 2019 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal, there is still time. Just complete a pledge envelope and drop it in the collection basket, or bring it to the parish office. If you have already made a contribution, thank you for your generous gift.



Father Joe invites members of ministries and volunteers to the Mardi Gras Appreciation Party on **FAT TUESDAY, March 5th, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM** in St. Mary's Fr. Roger Troy Hall. All those who serve in a ministry or volunteer role are welcome. We especially love to see our students who serve as altar servers and children's choir members, etc., so come with a parent or chaperone to enjoy the fun.

We hope to see you there as we spend some quality time together.

Food and fun!

Please **RSVP** to Grace Ditzel by **MARCH 1st** at the parish office 201-768-7565 or e-mail gditzel@stmarycloster.org.

God bless you and thank you for all that you do to make St. Mary's a community of faith and service.

DOES HOPE STILL MATTER?

In the midst of division, anger, and violence, does our faith still give us hope for the future?

Reflection by

Bishop John Flesey

Wednesday, March 13th, 8:30 AM Mass

Followed by

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction
St. Mary's



Theology & Biology

The theology of the Pascal Mystery—the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ— is explored from two contrasting points of view: theology and biology.

Reflection by **Mr. Bill Deegan**

Monday, March 25th, 7:00 PM

All are Welcome
St. Mary's



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

Feb. 17:

No – LWC
11:15 AM – Flash Mob meet
12:00 PM – Flash Mob at Mass

Feb. 18:

All Parish Offices Closed
No – Prayer Shawl Ministry
No – Deepening the Journey

Feb. 19:

7:30 PM – Parish Choir Rehearsal – Church

Feb. 20:

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament – Church
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Morning Scripture Sturdy – Parish Life Room
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Evening Scripture Study – Conference Room
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM – Men's Cornerstone – Parish Life Room

Feb. 21:

7:30 PM – Marian / Eucharistic Holy Hour

Feb. 23:

4:15 PM – 4:45 PM – Reconciliation

Feb. 24:

No – LWC
11:15 AM – Parish Choir meet
12:00 PM – Parish Choir at Mass

Save the Dates

March 5th – Mardi Gras Appreciation for volunteers; **March 17th** – St. Patrick's Day Party; **March 30th** – Fish Fry.

Upcoming St. Mary's Social Happenings: Join the Team

The Parish is planning a volunteer party, a St. Patrick's Day party and a Fish Fry! Would you like to be on a team to help with these parties: planning, communication, environment, worker bee? Do you have a knack for hospitality and want to enhance community at St. Mary's? Then be in touch with Lou Scarpa ministry@stmarycloster.org.

Fish Fry – Good Food n' Good Fun.

Dine-in or speedy take-out. Fish, chips, salad, mac n' cheeze, soft drinks, dessert. Saturday, **March 30th**, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Fr. Roger Troy Hall, \$15.00 per person. Catered by Tastefully British. Order your tickets, 201-768-7565 or gditzel@stmarycloster.org.

Religious Education News –

Winter Break – Classes Closed

The Sunday program will be closed Sunday, **February 17th** and **24th** due to schools being closed for Winter Break. St. Mary's Tuesday Jr. High Program will be closed **February 19th** for Presidents' Day.

Confirmation

The next Confirmation class will be Sunday, **March 3rd**. We are also planning a special session for Ash Wednesday with the theme being "Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving". We will come together before going to evening mass for a simple supper of soup and bread.

Communion Dresses / Suits Needed

The First Communion Day of our child is a very special occasion – a day to be celebrated and always remembered! Please help to make another child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any Communion dresses, veils, suits, jackets, shirts, and shoes.

Please bring all articles, clean, on hangers, and covered in plastic, to St. John the Baptist Church Parish Center by **March 28th** or call Kathy at 201-666-4185. Monetary donations will also be accepted. If you or anyone that you know may need an outfit, please contact Kathy. Thank you!

Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Student Scholarship Applications

For the 12th consecutive year, student scholarships are being offered through the Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Trust. Applications are now being accepted from parish 7th and 8th grade students attending a Catholic grammar school (primary consideration), as well as Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors attending a Catholic high school (secondary consideration) and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the parish office. Applications are due **March 31st** with decisions to be made by April 21st.

2019 Women's Day of Reflection / Catholic Men's Conference

The dates for the 2019 Women's Day of Reflection is on Saturday, **March 9th** and the Catholic Men's Conference is on Saturday, **March 16th**. Both events will be held at Seton Hall University, have English and Spanish tracks and include Breakfast and Lunch. Registration fee is \$25.00. Time of events is 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Some of the advantages of attending these events are:

- Listen to speakers who inspire us to learn, love and live our faith better
- Times of prayer and worship
 - Holy Mass
 - Holy Hour
 - Adoration Chapel
- Availability of confession
- Meet and fellowship with like-minded Catholics
- Help others to experience the faith
- Learn about ministries of the Archdiocese
- Catholic gifts and books for sale

More information can be found soon at www.rcan.org/womenscommission or www.NJCatholicMen.org.

Christian Marriage Anniversary Liturgies

Every couple in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage during 2019 is invited to celebrate this anniversary liturgy with Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Fifty years on Sunday, **April 28th** at 3:00 PM and five years and twenty-five years on Sunday, **June 2nd** at 3:00 PM. Please call the rectory to register. The **deadline** for June 2nd is Monday, **May 20th** and the deadline for April 28th is Monday, **April 15th**.

Bingo Friday Nights

Church of the Assumption in Emerson has Bingo Friday Nights at the Assumption Early Childhood Center, School Gym and Cafeteria. School address is 35 Jefferson Ave. and the parking lot is located behind the school, off Locust Avenue. Doors open at 6:30 PM, calling starts at 7:30 PM. Refreshments and snacks are available at a nominal cost. For questions contact 201-483-8633 or Assumption's Rectory Office 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at 201-262-1122.



Make a purchase at Metropolitan Plant & Flower Exchange or Metropolitan Farm Valued at \$50 or more and Metropolitan Will donate \$10 to St. Mary's Church in Closter.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH



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