

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.

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 • *cristofolletti@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 - 9:00 AM and as scheduled.

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:
201-767-8247 • *reled@stmarycloster.org*

MASS INTENTIONS

From the Director of Religious Education

SATURDAY, JULY 27 –

Gn. 18: 20-32; Col. 2: 12-14; Lk. 11: 1-13

5:00 PM Charles Michael Lee, Jr.
req. by Roseann Lee and Sons

SUNDAY, JULY 28 –

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gn. 18: 20-32; Col. 2: 12-14; Lk. 11: 1-13

8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
11:00 AM Elmer Greey / req. by St. Mary's Choir

MONDAY, JULY 29 – ST. MARTHA

Ex. 32: 15-24, 30-34; Jn. 11: 19-27 or Lk. 10: 38-42

8:00 AM Geraldeen Solazzo
req. by Norma and Al Evans

TUESDAY, JULY 30 – ST. PETER CHRYSOLOGUS,
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Ex. 33: 7-11, 34: 5b-9, 28; Mt. 13: 36-43

8:00 AM Sharon Tencza
req. by Friends of Patricia Megaras

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31 –

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST

Ex. 34: 29-35; Mt. 13: 44-46

8:00 AM Intentions of Bob and Theresa Medlock

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1 – ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI,
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Ex. 40: 16-21, 34-38; Mt. 13: 47-53

8:00 AM Jim Walsh
req. by John and Midas Hernandez

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2 – ST. EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI,
BISHOP; ST. PETER JULIAN EYMARD, PRIEST

Lv. 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt. 13: 54-58

8:00 AM James Walsh
req. by Nick and Marylee DiSanti

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3 – WEEKDAY

Lv. 25: 1, 8-17; Mt. 14: 1-12

8:00 AM James Walsh
req. by Roger and Peggy Austria
5:00 PM Dora Capellaro / req. by the Buonomo Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 –

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Eccl. 1: 2, 2: 21-23; Col. 3: 1-5, 9-11; Lk. 12: 13-21

8:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
11:00 AM Pete Canino
req. by Mary-Anne and Joe Colucci

Our Faith Rooted in Prayer

“Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you.”

It is through prayer that we come to know God better. Think of an old tree with large gnarled roots. They may not seem pretty and may even suggest a tortured history but they serve to anchor and support the tree. It is our prayer experience that encourages our beliefs and supports our efforts to live our faith as we seek God.

Persistence was one of the several themes in today's Gospel reading. Persistence, as referred to in the Gospel, is often interpreted as, “asking for what you want until you get it.” Persistence does not have to apply only to a petitioning form of prayer or to asking again for the same thing. Persistence in prayer can mean that we pray regularly, at the very least daily.

As Catholics, Mass is our most significant form of prayer. But cleaning house or raking leaves can be a time of prayer if we intention it so. Prayer can be silent or vocal. It can be done alone or in a group. Make use of memorized prayers or use words coming from your heart.

When we ask, remember God knows our needs better than we do. Put your cares in God's hands and trust in the outcome. If you like “petition” as a form of prayer, it is best used to pray for the needs of others.

Whatever your normal routine, try some variation in your usual form of prayer. You may find new depth in your praying. Use persistence in prayer to form a relationship with God that pulls you back again and again, to encounter God as you navigate the day. Spend some of that time in stillness, listening beyond your own voice or thoughts.

- Ask: use words
- Seek: through action and intention
- Knock: it requires only our presence

God is always with us.

Gail

Pray for the Sick

George Abad, Irene Abad, Christian Brueck, Fran Caldwell, Derly Cuervo, 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, **August 3rd** and 4th the second collection is for the Archdiocesan Assessment.

Why the ASSESSMENT COLLECTION?

Each parish of the Archdiocese of Newark (RCAN), to which St. Mary's belongs, is assessed a percentage of regular donations and rental income. Donations to St. Mary, such as the Sunday collection, are assessed at 14%. RCAN uses these assessed funds to operate the chancery and help subsidize charitable works. The ASSESSMENT COLLECTION helps St. Mary's cover some of the monies due to RCAN. Thank you again for supporting St. Mary's and helping RCAN provide assistance beyond our doors.



ANNOUNCED SPECIAL INTENTIONS

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

We are in the process of taking registration for the 2019-2020 school year. As a reminder, children wishing to receive First Holy Communion in the second grade in the Spring of 2021 would need to register for first grade this year. There is a two-year diocesan requirement to receive the Sacrament of First Communion. If you are new to the program please either email Maria Matos at reled@stmarycloster.org or call the office at 201-767-8247 to obtain a registration form. We offer a Kindergarten class for children entering school in September.

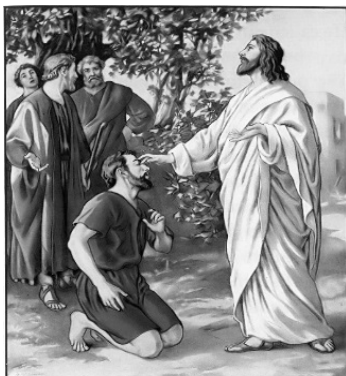
Kindergarten And First Grade Registration Now Being Accepted

Register now to be sure of a spot in our classes. Grade one is required to receive First Holy Communion in second grade, the most typical age for children to receive the sacrament. However, we will prepare children at any age to receive their sacraments. If your child has not received age appropriate sacraments, including Baptism and Confirmation contact the Religious Education Office and ask for Gail.

Confirmation Preparation:

Students entering seventh and eighth grades are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you are in St. Mary's Religious Education Program already, please, return your registration as soon as possible.

Catholic school students are required by the diocese to return to their home parish to be prepared for the sacrament. If you are eligible to receive the sacrament, please, contact us immediately at 201-767-8247 or by emailing us at reled@stmarycloster.org so we can reserve a place for you in our classes.



Healing Mass

Church of the Assumption, 29 Jefferson Avenue, Emerson. Saturday, **August 3rd**. Seating at 11:30 AM – Mass begins at 12:05 PM, which includes sacred musical concert. Bring family, friends, children, and neighbors in need of healing. Be individually prayed over after Mass. Come and receive the healing touch of Jesus. Sunny hearts rosary cenacle – Joyce Anton. For further information, call the Assumption Rectory at 201-262-1122.

Driver Needed

Senior couple in need of a mature driver who can transport them to local doctor appointments. Please call Sanjaya at 201-264-8631.

VNA Health Group Hospice Volunteer Training Class

VNA Health Group's Hospice Team will provide you with training and support to help you bring your gifts of compassion, commitment and companionship to those nearing the end of life.

Training will be provided on the following Wednesdays: **July 31st** – 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM, **August 7th** – 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM and **August 14th** – 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM, VNA Englewood, 15 Engle Street, Suite 301, Englewood.

We are looking for volunteers to bring a supportive presence through home visitation, comfort calls, and administrative support to enhance our patients' care. Please consider sharing your time and talents as part of our Volunteer Hospice Team. **Volunteers must attend all 3 sessions and are encouraged to wait 1 year following the death of a loved one.**

To register, please call Ruth Sorbanelli, Volunteer Coordinator at 201-510-6426.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY PARISH

July 31 – Wednesday:

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament – Church
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Morning Scripture Study – Parish Life Room

August 3 – Saturday:

1:00 PM – Wedding
4:15 PM – 4:45 PM – Reconciliation



Summer Office Hours

Please note that through **August 30th** the Parish

Rectory Office is closed on Fridays. We will be opened Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, closed for lunch 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. If stopping by feel free to call ahead to make sure someone is here.

The Religious Education Office will also be closed Fridays, please call them for appointments.

Ministries Contact information:

Liturgical Ministries – (Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Altar Server, Choir)
– Louis Scarpa – ministry@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565

Homebound Ministry – call the rectory

LWC – call the rectory

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Cathy Thornhill – 201-768-0722

Deepening the Journey – Connie McTigue – mcelvis224@aol.com

Men's Cornerstone – Dave Reeves – reeves_costas@msn.com or 551-206-5284

Women's Cornerstone – call the rectory

Morning Scripture Study – Dave Reeves – reeves_costas@msn.com or 551-206-5284

Evening Scripture Study – call the rectory

Knights of Columbus – John Hernandez – 201-768-8871 or jah21344@aol.com

Saints for Kids: Meet St. Teresa of Calcutta!

LIVED: Anjezë (Agnes) Gonxhe Bojaxhiu was born August 26th, 1910 in Skopje, Macedonia; she joined the Sisters of Loretto in 1928, taking the name Teresa, after St. Thérèse of Lisieux. She died on September 5th, 1997, in Calcutta, India.

MISSION: While on retreat in 1946, God gave her a special mission: "I heard the call to give up all and follow Christ into the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor."

ADVENTURES: In 1948, Sister Teresa left the convent school where she had happily taught history and geography to girls from well-off families for fifteen years. She moved into a nearby slum, and began teaching the children there, writing the alphabet in the dirt.

Over time, her mission grew: Many of her students joined her, and eventually, they formed the Missionaries of Charity.

One day as she and a sister were walking along, they encountered a man lying in the gutter, dirty, covered with sores, and dying. They picked him up and took him to their home, where they washed him, cleaned his wounds, and cared for him. This was the beginning of the Home for the Dying, just one of hundreds of centers that Mother Teresa would found around the world.

Another time, while visiting war-torn Lebanon, she announced that the next day she and her sisters would cross the battle lines in order to rescue orphaned and disabled children on the other side.

"It's impossible," her hosts told her. "You'll be shot!"

Mother Teresa just smiled. "Tomorrow, the fighting will stop. There will be a truce."

"How do you know, Mother?"

"Because the sisters have prayed for it," she said.

The next day, the warring sides declared a cease-fire, and the mission to rescue the children was successful.

Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 in recognition of her work for peace. Her way of peace is not complicated: It starts with prayer, and a smile, and seeing Jesus in each and every person.



Remember St. Mary's While You are Away

The bills still come in despite the "Gone Fishing" sign on the mailbox! St. Mary's summer collections take a significant dip and often those collections are not "made up", leaving your parish in the red. Please consider direct deposit from your bank or use our giving platform, Parishgiving. Visit the parish website to sign-up for Parishgiving or reach out to your bank today! Will you please take 5 minutes and do this today? God bless you for your care of St. Mary's.

Hymn Note: Beautiful Savior

Today's recessional hymn is a hymn that celebrates and appreciates Jesus Christ as the savior of man. This hymn praises Jesus as the "ruler of all nature" illustrating his divine sovereignty over creation as the son of God. The last verse recognizes Christ as first, above and over all nations. We sing, pray it and come live it.

Moving? Change of Address? E-Mail Address

If you are registered in the parish and are moving please let us know. Also, if you have changed your e-mail address or if we don't have one on file for you please let Grace Ditzel know at gditzel@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565, so we can keep our records current. Thank you for your help

Free Ministry To Traveling Catholics

To find nationwide Mass times and locations while traveling or on vacation there is a free ministry. Visit www.Masstimes.org or call 1-858-207-6277 enter the zip code desired location and receive a computer-generated response that gives Church locations and Mass times.

Support Groups

Many who hunger for God's consolation after the loss of a loved one, separation or divorce or other circumstance will find that faith based programs can offer them hope and comfort. A listing of parish support groups are now available on the Family Life Office webpage. Currently, the Archdiocese of Newark has over 60 different types of support groups ministering to an estimate of 1,200 people each year. The types of groups include: general bereavement, bereaved parents, separated & divorced, single parents & same sex attraction. To find a support group near you, please go to: www.rcan.org/about-parish-based-support-groups-0 and select the group type from the menu on the right. To make updates to our list please contact Lauren Egan at 973-497-4327 or Lauren.Egan@rcan.org.

The Grace of Giving

by Allan Caballero

Both the Bible and various religious sources teach us how beautiful it is to give of ourselves to others. However, this gift of the Holy Spirit is more than a good deed; it is a way of life. As disciples of Jesus, we are invited to respond to the call to follow him, imitating him with a humble and grateful heart as the saints did. Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, for example, became a figure known worldwide for her work with the most needy, which was to give of herself, as Christ did on the cross.

The death of Jesus on the cross is a living and eternal gift. Being disciples of Jesus, we find that the true treasure of the Christian is in giving, and not in receiving. "It is more blessed to give than to receive" Acts 20:35. However, we often find that, despite having the intention to give and help, this idea is not always realized. Many of us "think" about giving in the same way we "think" about exercising. We know it would be good to do it and we will feel better once we do it. We would like to, really, we would. But it does not always happen!" (Debbie Nutley).

Following the example and teachings of Jesus and the saints, we see that like them, we are called to serve and not to be served, in order to help our brothers and sisters in need, knowing that our reward is in heaven. Jesus being King, has given himself to the extreme because of his love for us. This has been the greatest act of love and surrender in the history of mankind. One of the treasures of Hispanic Catholicism is the generosity of its people. This generosity and desire to help can be demonstrated in different ways, especially in our parishes:

- **Prayer: for the Parish and Parish Priest**
- **Participation: in the ministries and parish groups.**
- **Generosity: with our treasures and material goods.**

Our Prayer: Prayer is a connection between God and us. God is always waiting for us to speak to him through our personal prayer. Do I dedicate significant time to prayer? When was the last time I prayed for my pastor? Do I teach my children and family the importance of prayer?

Our Participation: As children of God, we have received talents and gifts. At the end of our lives, God will ask us: How did you use your time and gifts? Sharing our time and talents through the participation of different ministries and parish groups is to proclaim Jesus, and be part of his mission to save and preach to all souls. Do you? If not, this is a good opportunity to start doing it. "It's never too late to love." Either one day a week, or one hour a year, all God wants is your help in building his kingdom.

Our Generosity: Our material goods, including money, are gifts that God gives us. He asks us to administer and share generously for the good of our neighbor and brothers in Christ. Helping the Church through a Sunday offering is helping our second home. Do you? Is the offering a simple habit, what is left over, or what I find in my pocket during the Mass? A planned and generous offering gives a feeling of peace, since God does not receive what we have left, but a true offering of love.

Finally, let us remember that God does not gain anything from our generosity. It is the soul that gives that will receive much more. "You will be enriched in every way so that on every occasion you can be generous, and that through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" 2 Corinthians 9:11.

May the grace of God be with you!

God is Still Calling



Many young women experience a distinct, clear, and persistent nudge to live a life of consecrated LOVE. Some say they are unsure of its origin, while others can trace it to a specific time or a particular happening in their lives.

Needless to say, a vocation to consecrated life is challenging, enlivening, and sacrificing. As Sisters of Christian Charity, we focus on unconditional love for each individual person without exception or exclusion. We see the face of Christ in all. We desire to live lives that reflect God's own love for humankind. For us, love is the fulfillment of the whole law.

Come and see!



Sisters of Christian Charity
Sister Bernadette McCauley
Vocation Director
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