

THIRD WORLD-WIDE CELEBRATION OF  
*Grandparents and the Elderly*



*God Bless them all!*

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023  
SAINT MARY, MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH  
MIDDLETOWN, NEW JERSEY



**Business Manager**

**HANK PEKARSKY**

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**Weekly collections 7/17/2023**

Weekly collection	\$ 15,287.87
Parish Giving	\$ 5,448.23
E Catholic	\$ 475.00
Ave Maria	\$ 1,758.97
Youth	\$ 90.87
Children	\$ 247.95
Assessments	\$ 179.31
Priest Retirement	\$ 194.74
Mother's day	\$ 14.74
Father's Day	\$ 10.74
Easter	\$ 25.00
Human Development	\$ 9.74

**OFFICE HOURS & INFORMATION**

**PARISH OFFICE**

19 Cherry Tree Farm Rd. 732-671-0071  
 Middletown, NJ 07748 Fax: 732-671-6125

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday to Friday 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
 Saturday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
 Sunday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM  
 (Wednesdays close from 1 pm to 2 pm)  
 (Thursdays close from 9 am to 10 am)

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 pmullen@stmaryes.org



FR. JEFF KEGLEY

FROM THE PASTOR

## JESUS IS LORD!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Pope Francis has instituted a Church-wide celebration of a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. It is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Today, our parish joins the entire Universal Church in honoring our Grandparents and the Elderly of our parish.

Recalling the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple – when the elderly Simeon and Anna encountered the child Jesus and recognized Him as the Messiah – Pope Francis said, “the Holy Spirit even today stirs up thoughts and words of wisdom in the elderly.” The voice of the elderly “is precious,” he said, “because it sings the praises of God and preserves the roots of the peoples.” The elderly, he continued, “remind us that old age is a gift and that grandparents are the link between the different generations, to pass on to the young the experience of life.”

The Holy Father said he instituted the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly because “grandparents are often forgotten, and we forget this wealth of preserving roots and passing on” what the elderly have received. He emphasized the importance of grandparents and grandchildren getting to know one another, because “as the prophet Joel says, grandparents seeing their grandchildren dream,” while “young people, drawing strength from their grandparents, will go forward and prophesy.”

I only had the opportunity to meet one of my grandparents, my paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Mary (Kolodziej) Kegley (pictured on the cover of the bulletin with me as a baby.) She was an amazing witness to our Catholic Faith. My grandmother was born in Germany and baptized in Poland. She had 9 children and 28 grandchildren. As a young child, my family lived with my grandmother for a while. Through the eyes of a child, I saw how much my Grandmother loved Jesus and His Blessed Mother. She was a daily communicant and loved praying the Rosary.

Our parish community will honor our grandparents and elderly at our Masses with a special blessing. Following the Sunday morning Masses there will be a pancake breakfast under the tent. This is a special day for all generations to recognize the cherished place our grandparents and the elderly have in our lives. May God bless them all.

On a side note, in this year of Parish Eucharistic Revival, like my grandmother, parishioners are encouraged to attend daily Mass. Read the words of Saint Peter Jullian Eymard, Apostle of the Eucharist: *“Hear Mass daily; it will prosper the whole day. All your duties will be performed the better for it, and your soul will be stronger to bear its daily cross. The Mass is the most holy act of religion; you can do nothing that can give greater glory to God or be more profitable for your soul than to hear Mass both frequently and devoutly. It is the favorite devotion of the saints.”* Daily Mass is celebrated at 8:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. What a blessing to encounter our Eucharistic Lord daily!

Have a blessed week.

In Jesus and Mary,

Father Jeff Kegley  
Pastor



## Mass Intentions - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Saturday, July 22, 2023

- 5:00 William Dennis r/o Lisa Ligo  
5:00 William Dennis r/o Phyllis Thompson

### Sunday, July 23, 2023

- 8:00 Manuela Camba r/o Mr. & Mrs. Michael Russo  
10:00 Milton Angelo Kurkemelis r/o Brothers of TMIY  
12:00 Helen & Thomas Tarnacki r/o Sister  
5:00 People of the Parish

### Monday, July 24, 2023

- 8:15 Maureen Dolan r/o Mr. & Mrs. William Hibell  
8:15 Agnes McConway r/o Irma Laush  
12:00 Eileen D'Alvia r/o Daughter  
12:00 Dan Kelleher r/o Family

### Tuesday, July 25, 2023

- 8:15 Christopher Brennan & Irene K. Brennan r/o  
Father & Loving Husband  
8:15 Joseph French r/o Steve & Debbie McCarthy  
12:00 Lorraine Lauricella r/o Robert & Anna Lauricella  
12:00 Michael Bonner r/o Ricky & Kathleen Moore

### Wednesday, July 26, 2023

- 8:15 Barbara White r/o Vera & John McDonald  
8:15 Agnes McConway r/o The Duffys  
12:00 James Brennan r/o Richard & Kathleen Moore  
12:00 Maria Schimmenti r/o Giovanni & Aurora  
DiNardo

### Thursday, July 27, 2023

- 8:15 Ann Nancy Papricka r/o Maryann & Bob  
Donovan  
8:15 Special Intentions of Jean Sharp  
12:00 Jack & Margaret Brower r/o Kathleen Falls  
12:00 Barbara Ritter r/o David & Gale Miller

### Friday, July 28, 2023

- 8:15 Michael Kauffmann r/o Tim & Jane Mulhern &  
Family  
8:15 Anna Jean Weisbrot r/o Dominick & Ellen  
Russo  
12:00 Sigrid Birdsall r/o Denise  
12:00 Xavier Cruz r/o Irma Laush

### Saturday, July 29, 2023

- 8:15 Thomas Marchinko r/o The Graham & Stengel  
Families  
8:15 Anna "Jean" Weisbrot r/o The Duffys  
5:00 Richard Fosko r/o Mikey Dunne  
5:00 Salvatore Pantaleo r/o Ellen Poole

### Sunday, July 30, 2023

- 8:00 Kenneth Ryan r/o Sansevere Family  
10:00 Don Drake r/o The Drake Family  
12:00 Marie Leeseemann r/o Wingenfeld Family  
5:00 People of the Parish

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Saint Mary, Mother of God Church

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m.,  
10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

### Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Shrine

Saturday 8:15 a.m.

## SACRAMENTS

### RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 1:00 to 2:00pm & Thursday 3:30 to 4:30pm

**BAPTISM:** Every Sunday 1:30 pm Ceremony

### BAPTISM PREP CLASS:

7 pm every 2nd Thursday of each month, in the  
Bulman Center To register call Ext. 221

**SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE & BAPTISM:** Ext. 222

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(RCIA): [RCIA@stmarychurchnj.org](mailto:RCIA@stmarychurchnj.org)

## Saint Vincent DePaul Society

For assistance call: 732-671-4062  
[svdp.stmarysmiddletown@gmail.com](mailto:svdp.stmarysmiddletown@gmail.com)

## Congratulations to the Newly Baptized

<i>Emma Rose Hoffman</i>	<i>Adelina Mae Sabatino</i>
<i>Kaius Valentino Kontos</i>	<i>Declan Thomas Sabatino</i>
<i>Tula Jane Kontos</i>	<i>Cameron Robert Thornton</i>
<i>Olivia Marie Plesca</i>	<i>Travis John Truglia Jr.</i>

## BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE

Gloria Guerrero                      Stephen Patrick Kelleher

Sunday to Saturday Candles  
July 23, 2023 to July 29, 2023

Saint Mary, Mother of God Sanctuary Candle:  
Olga Brozzon r/o Stella

Adoration Chapel Candles:  
People of the Parish



**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR THE THIRD WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY**

Dear brothers and sisters!

“His mercy is from age to age” (*Lk* 1:50). This is the theme of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and it takes us back to the joyful meeting between the young Mary and her elderly relative Elizabeth (cf. *Lk* 1:39-56). Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth addressed the Mother of God with words that, millennia later, continue to echo in our daily prayer: “Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (v. 42). The Holy Spirit, who had earlier descended upon Mary, prompted her to respond with the *Magnificat*, in which she proclaimed that the Lord’s mercy is from generation to generation. That same Spirit blesses and accompanies every fruitful encounter between different generations: between grandparents and grandchildren, between young and old. God wants young people to bring joy to the hearts of the elderly, as Mary did to Elizabeth, and gain wisdom from their experiences. Yet, above all, the Lord wants us not to abandon the elderly or to push them to the margins of life, as tragically happens all too often in our time.

This year, the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly takes place close to World Youth Day. Both celebrations remind us of the “haste” (cf. v. 39) with which Mary set out to visit Elizabeth. In this way, they invite us to reflect on the bond that unites young and old. The Lord trusts that young people, through their relationships with the elderly, will realize that they are called to cultivate memory and recognize the beauty of being part of a much larger history. Friendship with an older person can help the young to see life not only in terms of the present and realize that not everything depends on them and their abilities. For the elderly, the presence of a young person in their lives can give them hope that their experience will not be lost and that their dreams can find fulfilment. Mary’s visit to Elizabeth and their shared awareness that the Lord’s mercy is from generation to generation remind us that, alone, we cannot move forward, much less save ourselves, and that God’s presence and activity are always part of something greater, the history of a people. Mary herself said this in the *Magnificat*, as she rejoiced in God, who, in fidelity to the promise he had made to Abraham, had worked new and unexpected wonders (cf. vv. 51-55).

To better appreciate God’s way of acting, let us remember that our life is meant to be lived to the full, and that our greatest hopes and dreams are not achieved instantly but through a process of growth and maturation, in dialogue and in relationship with others. Those who focus only on the here and now, on money and possessions, on “having it all now”, are blind to the way God works. His loving plan spans past, present and future; it embraces and connects the generations. It is greater than we are, yet includes each of us and calls us at every moment to *keep pressing forward*. For the young, this means being ready to break free from the fleeting present in which virtual reality can entrap us, preventing us from doing something productive. For the elderly, it means not dwelling on the loss of physical strength and thinking with regret about missed opportunities. Let us all look ahead! And allow ourselves to be shaped by God’s grace, which from generation to generation frees us from inertia and from dwelling on the past!

In the meeting between Mary and Elizabeth, between young and old, God points us towards the future that he is opening up before us. Indeed, Mary’s visit and Elizabeth’s greeting open our eyes to the dawn of salvation: in their embrace, God’s mercy quietly breaks into human history amid abundant joy. I encourage everyone to reflect on that meeting, to picture, like a snapshot, that embrace between the young Mother of God and the elderly mother of Saint John the Baptist, and to frame it in their minds and hearts as a radiant icon.

Next, I would invite you to make a concrete gesture that would include grandparents and the elderly. Let us not abandon them. Their presence in families and communities is a precious one, for it reminds us that we share the same heritage and are part of a people committed to preserving its roots. From the elderly we received the gift of belonging to God’s holy people. The Church, as well as society, needs them, for they entrust to the present the past that is needed to build the future. Let us honor them, neither depriving ourselves of their company nor depriving them of ours. May we never allow the elderly to be cast aside!

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is meant to be a small but precious sign of hope for them and for the whole Church. I renew my invitation to everyone – dioceses, parishes, associations and communities – to celebrate this Day and to make it the occasion of a joyful and renewed encounter between young and old. To you, the young who are preparing to meet in Lisbon or to celebrate World Youth Day in your own countries, I would ask: before you set out on your journey, visit your grandparents or an elderly person who lives alone! Their prayers will protect you and you will carry in your heart the blessing of that encounter. I ask you, the elderly among us, to accompany by your prayers the young people about to celebrate World Youth Day. Those young people are God’s answer to your prayers, the fruits of all that you have sown, the sign that God does not abandon his people, but always rejuvenates them with the creativity of the Holy Spirit.

Dear grandparents, dear elderly brothers and sisters, may the blessing of the embrace between Mary and Elizabeth come upon you and fill your hearts with peace. With great affection, I give you my blessing. And I ask you, please, to pray for me.



**THE WEEKEND OF JULY 7 - 9, FATHER MARK AND MYSELF TRAVELED TO THE FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE WITH LIFE TEEN. IT WAS AN AMAZING WEEKEND FOR OUR TEENS WITH POWERFUL ENCOUNTERS WITH OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.**

**ON BEHALF OF LIFE TEEN, I WANT TO SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT ENABLED LIFE TEEN TO ATTEND THE YOUTH CONFERENCE.**

**ST. MARY LIFE TEEN OFFERED THE HOLY ROSARY IN THANKSGIVING FOR YOU AND I REMEMBERED YOU AND YOUR FAMILY IN THE INTENTION OF THE MASSES I CONCELEBRATED AT THE CONFERENCE.**

**MAY THE LORD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GOODNESS AND GENEROSITY IN ASSISTING US WITH THE LIFE TEEN MISSION OF LEADING TEENS CLOSER TO CHRIST.**

**IN JESUS AND MARY,**

**FATHER JEFF KEGLEY**



# FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY *Steubenville Youth Conference 2023*



# DIVINE MERCY

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

7:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.



EXPOSITION AND  
BENEDICTION OF  
THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT  
DIVINE MERCY  
CHAPLET



VENERATION OF ST.  
FAUSTINA'S RELIC

SAINT MARY, MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH



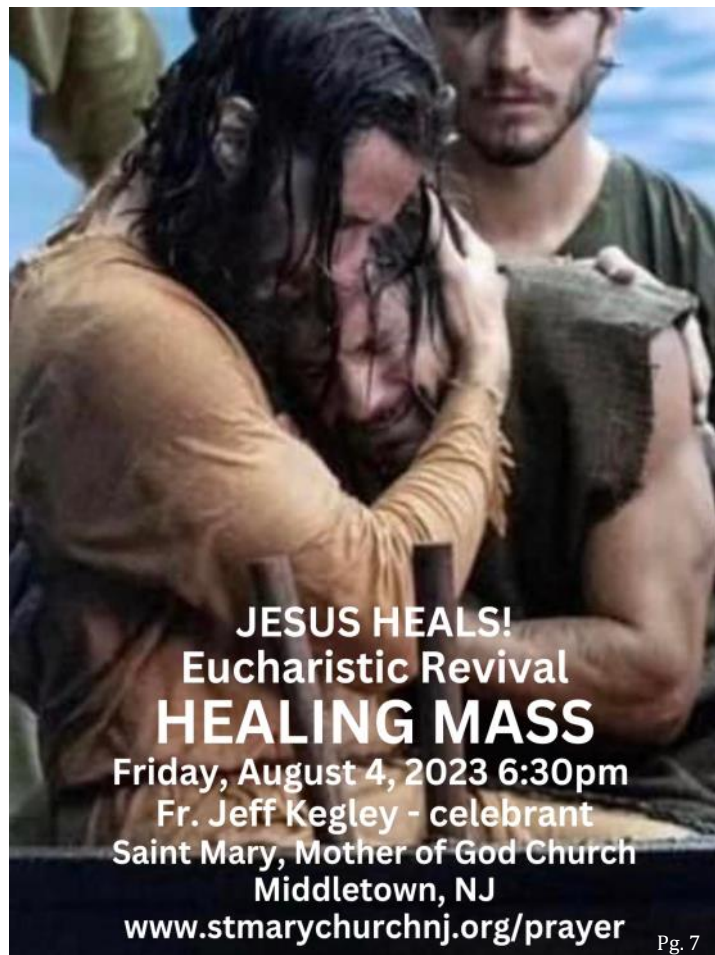
Registration is now open for our Traditional Religious Education Program from 1st to 8th grade. Classes start in September on either Tuesdays from 4:00 pm-5:15 pm or Wednesdays 6:00 pm-7:15 pm.

Please visit our website to download the registration form at <https://stmarychurchnj.org>. You can find the form under Spiritual Growth, Formation, and then Faith Formation.

Registration forms are also located outside the Parish Office window. The **deadline** to register is August 15th. We are also looking for teachers and aides to assist in our programs. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Suzanne Pfirman at 732-671-0071, ext. 241, or Jessica Parks at ext. 240.

## PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

LORD OF THE HARVEST, WE PETITION YOU AS YOU HAVE INSTRUCTED US TO ASK FOR MORE LABORERS TO SERVE IN THE VINEYARD OF YOUR CHURCH. YOU HAVE TOLD US THAT THE HARVEST IS RICH AND LABORERS ARE FEW AND WE EXPERIENCE THIS GREAT NEED IN THE FACE OF THE CHALLENGE OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION. WE ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO INSPIRE YOUNG MEN TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD. HELP ALL OF US TO BE EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENTS TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THOSE WHOM YOU ARE CALLING TO SERVE AND LEAD THE CHURCH IN THE FUTURE. LORD, YOU TOLD THE APOSTLES TO PUT OUT INTO THE DEEP. WE ASK FOR THE GRACE AND COURAGE TO ACCEPT YOUR CALL AS WE PRAY AND WORK FOR AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD. WE ASK THIS IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST, AMEN.



**JESUS HEALS!**  
**Eucharistic Revival**  
**HEALING MASS**  
Friday, August 4, 2023 6:30pm  
Fr. Jeff Kegley - celebrant  
Saint Mary, Mother of God Church  
Middletown, NJ  
[www.stmarychurchnj.org/prayer](http://www.stmarychurchnj.org/prayer)





## Respect Life Ministry

The St. Mary Respect Life Ministry has been a part of the parish of St. Mary, Mother of God Church for years. Our mission is to raise awareness and promote respect for all life, and especially for the lives of those who are most vulnerable - the unborn, elderly and disabled. We do this in accordance with our Catholic faith, through prayer, witness, and action.

Some of our recent activities include a spiritual adoption program, baby bottle campaigns, a pro-life rosary rally, and pro-life holy hours. We participate with others in the March for Life, 40 Days for life, and other regional and national pro-life programs. We support local organizations like Birth Right and Good Counsel.

We hold a monthly meeting, and regular holy hours. To learn more about us go to our website at [stmarynjrespectlife.org](http://stmarynjrespectlife.org) or email: Bill Large - [blarge712@gmail.com](mailto:blarge712@gmail.com)

### Holy Hour

St. Mary's Respect Life ministry invites to join us every second Tuesday from 7 - 8 pm at the St. Mary's Adoration Chapel. Our strongest weapon in this battle is prayer so please join us for exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary for Life, & Stations of the Cross for victims of abortion.

### Respect Life Catholics United for Life

Join the Rosary Vigil for Life every Saturday, 9-10am at Planned Parenthood Abortion Facility, 69 E Newman Springs Rd, Shrewsbury

### Respect Life Donation Bin

**Thank you** for the overwhelming response of donations! Donations needed are of diapers (sizes 4 -6), wipes, and lotions. These donations greatly help the women who have chosen life for their child. Please keep it coming!

## Holy Hour for Life

✠ Exposition and  
Benediction of the  
Blessed Sacrament

✠ Rosary for Life

✠ Stations of the Cross  
for victims of abortion

On December 12, 1531 Our Lady appeared to an Aztec man, St. Juan Diego, and requested that a shrine be built on Tepeyac hill. She gave him the miraculous image of her, seen above. Through her image nine million Aztecs were converted to Christ and abandoned the practice of human sacrifice.

Today Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the pro life movement, as we work to end the practice of human sacrifice through abortion and uphold the dignity of every human life.

**Our strongest weapon in this battle is prayer. Please join us the second Tuesday of each month as we observe a Holy Hour for life.**



Tuesday

June 13<sup>th</sup>

July 11<sup>th</sup>

August 8<sup>th</sup>

7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

St. Mary's Chapel

26 Leonardville Rd,  
New Monmouth, NJ 07748



## Pregnant, Need Help?

You are not alone. Here are some places you can get help in Monmouth Country.

### Birthright of Freehold

41 East Main Street  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
732-462-2888  
800-550-4900

### Birthright of Red Bank

294 Broad Street  
Red Bank, NJ 07701  
732-747-7600  
800-550-4900

### Solutions Pregnancy & Health Center

837 Broad Street  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702  
732-747-5454



# Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

OUR LADY OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT SHRINE  
OPEN - 24/7 26 LEONARDVILLE RD., NEW MONMOUTH, NJ

## Adorers are Needed!

Come experience the peace and joy of an encounter with Jesus!

One more adorer is needed in these hours:

2am Friday

7am Saturday

1 pm Sunday

2am Saturday

10am Sunday

3am Sunday

11am Sunday

3am Friday

11am Wednesday

4am Sunday

1pm Wednesday

4am Friday

1pm Thursday



Sign up here! <http://adorationpro.org/marymiddletown>

## Touch-A-Truck

July 24 6pm – 9pm  
Mater Dei High School Parking Lot  
Cherry-Tree-Farm Road



Fire Trucks – Food Trucks - Games  
Fire Safety Demonstrations



## Fall Program—Mondays

Sept. 18—Dec. 4, 2023

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Shrine

26 Leonardville Rd. , Middletown

Chapel Basement

St. Mary, Mother of God Church in Middletown is pleased to announce its continuing ministry entitled, “Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family”, a healing program being offered for divorced and/or separated Catholics.

If interested, please email: [healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com](mailto:healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com) with your name and contact information, and one of the facilitators will get back in touch with you regarding all the details and will answer any questions you may have.

Visit: <https://www.mylifechangecoach.com/divorceministry> for more information about the program or call/text Michele Coppola Wilson at 201-753-8485.

Thank you for taking the first step toward healing!

## CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS MEETINGS 6:30 - 9 PM CHAPEL LOWER ROOM

CDA is open to women age 18+. Please join us! Pick up a lavender flyer in the narthex or call Janet 732-977-6789 for membership info.

CDA meets the following Wednesdays

### 2023 Dates:

Sep. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13



Pocketbook Bingo

SAVE THE DATE - 10/28/23

Our parish needs your Summer Financial Support - please don't forget us



EWTN founder Mother Angelica had a clever saying to remind viewers to mail their donations in support of her growing network: "Keep us between your gas and electric bill."

During the Summer months please consider making your weekly donations "on-line" to our wonderful parish.

make your on-line donations at [www.stmarychurchnj.org/give](http://www.stmarychurchnj.org/give)

**Saint Michael, the defend us in battle; be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God cast into Hell Satan, and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.**



The Diocese of Trenton's Department of Development is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant to join our small and energetic team. This role primarily involves providing administrative support for the Annual Catholic Appeal and requires a strong focus on gift entry tasks. The position would be in person at the Chancery Office in Lawrenceville, NJ at 15 hours per week. Flexible on hours to be completed 5 days at 3 hours a day a week, or 3 days at 5 hours a day a week.

For more information visit:

<https://dioceseoftrenton.org/news/administrative-assistant-part-time>



**Nocturnal Adoration-Aug. 4, 9 pm to 10 pm**

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Shrine  
26 Leonardville Rd., Middletown, NJ

Women & Men are invited. If you have any questions call Gene Brennan 732-687-3543

## HELP WANTED! HEAD OF MAINTENANCE

**Saint Mary,  
Mother of God  
Church & School**

**More info call:  
Hank Pekarsky  
Business Manager  
732-671-0071  
Ext. 232**



**Full time position**

### St. Mary's Lost and Found

There is a lost & found closet in the Narthex. Parishioners can approach ushers after Mass for lost items.

**Come join us in praying the  
Rosary Monday through Friday  
at 11:30 am in Mary, Mother of  
God Church before the 12 noon**

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Dawn Anderson, Tom Ashe, Isagani Aquino, Carmelita Bautista, Carlo Bautista, Joe Bilotta, Gene Brennan, Angela Brummert, Giovanni Caccamo, Joseph Caccamo, MaryAnn Calamo, Manwella Camba, Colin Casey, Beatrice Catania, James Cavallo, Theresa Cavallo, John Chiarini, Mary Colasurdo, Pamela Collins, Kevin Conley, Emil DeMarco, June DeMarco, Eileen DiPietro, Bruce W. Doorly, Marie Duffy, Mary Ellen Ellis, Dr. Keith English, Lilian Esposito, Brian Flanagan, Tony Frazee, Dennis Gallagher, Barbara Gentilesco, Betty Hanson, Kathleen Hendrick, Donna Horel, Cassandra Huber, Gilda Kenney, Manny Konstantinidis, Mary Large, Anna Lauricella, Lorraine Lauricella, Jackie Lelesi, Mike Levy, Anthony Logaglio, Dawn Massey, Jason Massey, Carol Montella, Kathy Mumm, Allison Murray, Robert Murray, Vincent Mustachio, Mary O'Brien, Mariana Ocampo, Angela Orrego, Robert Patterson, Anthony Pelle, John Petersen, Rosemary Petersen, Kelly Marie Rodden, Francisco Ruffalo, Christa Russo, Betty Sanchez, Amparo Sanchez, Juan Carlos Sanchez, David Sague, Frank Scibetta, Michele Shinko, Tracy Spece, Darleen Striker, Susan & Anthony Tanski, Joan Urgo, Kathleen Vacca, Chris Vaughn, Joan Wehner, Barbara Woezer, Diane Worrell, Anthony Zito, Georgeanne, John, Bonnie

**FOR OUR CHILDREN:** Brianna Orlando, Alexandria Iscaro, Addison Noelle Feirstein, Liam Joseph Kelly, John James Schultz Jr., Jake Wilson, Hunter Morris, Aria Mager, Bianca Grace Russo, Baby Harrison, Skylar Adinolfi

### **PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY**

**Special Ops.** Sgt. Tim Hayes

**U.S. Marines:** Pvt. Connor Winz, Staff Sgt. Michael J. Mangan, Ryan Trachman, Jonathan Alfano, Master Gunnery Sgt. C.T. Gregoire SFC, L/CPL Brian Healey, Lance Corporal Kyle Otterbine, Col. Christopher Cannon

**U.S. Navy:** Sgt. James A. Conklin, Col. Kevin Meisle, ETN3 Eric Borbely, LTJG Daniel Toth, Ensign, Captain Iraq; Lt Christopher Baum, ENS Elizabeth A. Millicker, ENS Victoria Millicker, Luke Zitzner E3CTR

**U.S. Air Force:** 3rd tour Iraq Josh Pershing, Tanay Mahadik deployed over seas

**Army:** 1st Lt. Evan Crowell, Wesley Briggs 2 tours in Iraq, stationed in Egypt, Army Reserve Louis Adamo, Army Ranger Staff Sergeant Craig Kubolka II 7th deployment to the Middle East, West Point Corporal Cadet Robert Manse III, PFC Noah Michalsky

**U.S. Coast Guard:** Greg Charpek, George Martin Jr., H.M Ashley Thompson, James Chinnici, Jonathan Bagnato, Andrew Leroy

**Please call the parish office to add someone to the prayer list. 732-671-0071 ext. 233**

## **THE MOST POWERFUL HEALING PRAYER BY ST. PADRE PIO OF PIETRELCINA**

Heavenly Father, I thank You for loving me. I thank You for sending your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to the world to save & to set me free. I trust in Your power & grace that sustain & restore me.

Loving Father, touch me now with Your healing hands, for I believe that Your will is for me to be well in mind, body, soul & spirit.

Cover me with the most precious blood of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ from the top of my head to the soles of my feet.

Cast anything that should not be in me. Root out any unhealthy & abnormal cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins & rebuild & replenish any damaged areas.

Remove all inflammation & cleanse any infection by the power of Jesus' precious blood.

Let the fire of your healing love pass through my entire body to heal & make new any diseased areas so that my body will function the way You created it to function. Touch also my mind & my emotion, even the deepest recesses of my heart.

Saturate my entire being with Your presence, love, joy & peace & draw me ever closer to You every moment of my life. And Father, fill me with Your Holy Spirit & empower me to do Your works so that my life will bring glory & honor our to Your holy name.

I ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## **Eucharistic Ministry For the Homebound**

Would you like to bring cheer to a homebound person by bringing Jesus to them? The need is great, and we can't do it without you. We are always in need of individuals to bring Communion on Sunday mornings to those who are unable to join us. Please pray about it. *If interested for more info or to sign up, please call Terry Ruane at: 908-461-1712.*

**THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON** is committed to the initiative outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines regarding the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegation involving minors.

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org)

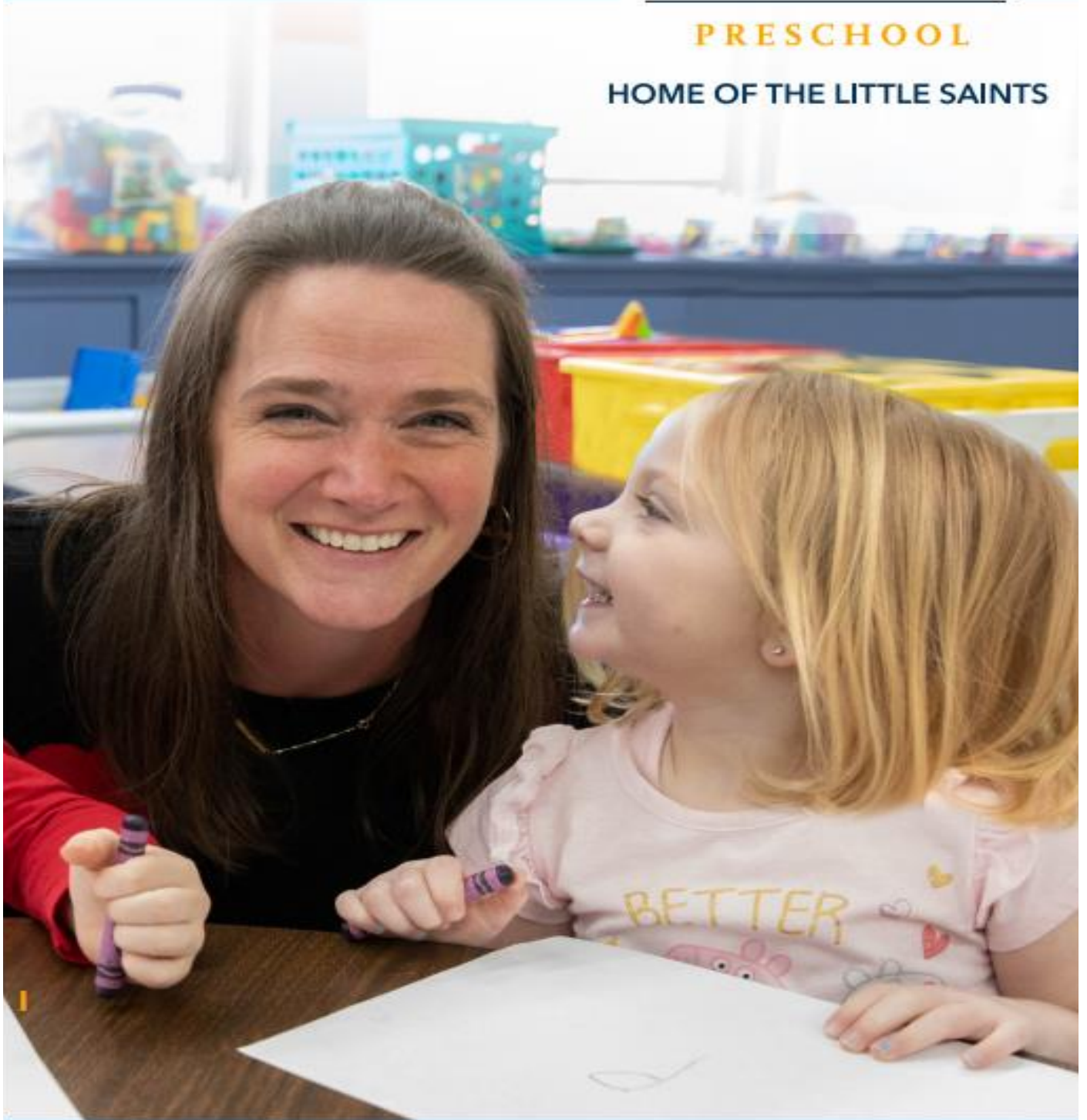
The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.



**SAINT MARY**

**PRESCHOOL**

**HOME OF THE LITTLE SAINTS**



**Grow With Us**

# Grow With Us

**At Saint Mary Preschool, our Little Saints are just beginning a journey of wonder and discovery that sets the foundation for success in school and in life. Here's how your child will grow at Saint Mary—socially, emotionally, academically, and spiritually:**



## **Playing to Learn**

There's a lot more to play than just having fun. Through directed play, Little Saints learn important skills like sharing, patience, empathy, and collaboration.

## **Gaining Confidence**

As children grow, Saint Mary teachers gradually expect more. Little Saints learn to take responsibility for hanging up their coat and cleaning their workspace. In the process, children gain confidence and independence.



## **Growing in Knowledge**

Intentionally designed work stations encourage Little Saints to develop fine motor skills, explore science, math, and the arts, and develop a love of reading—setting the stage for success in the upper grades.

### **Brand New Building**

Little Saints deserve the best. That's why the new Saint Mary Preschool building has been designed with bright classrooms, expanded learning stations, air conditioning, indoor recreational space, onsite meeting space to host family events, and a new, outdoor play area next to the building.



### **Experienced Teachers**

Our teachers are experienced educators who are called by God to be at Saint Mary Preschool. For them, it's not a job—it's a vocation. As a result, our teachers truly love our students and their families.



### **Flexible Programs**

Saint Mary Preschool offers half- and full-day programs to meet the needs of every family. Before- and after-care is also available:

**Tiny Tots**—age 2

**Super Tots**—age 3





*"Saint Mary Preschool teachers are there every step of the way to guide and love our students. The low teacher turnover here makes a big difference—Little Saints feel safe, loved, and supported as they begin to develop confidence and independence. That's a big reason why more families are choosing Saint Mary Preschool."*

*—Ellen Horwath,  
Director of Saint Mary Preschool*

**For more information, please reach out to  
Saint Mary Preschool Director Ellen Horwath at  
[ehorwath@stmaryes.org](mailto:ehorwath@stmaryes.org) or call (732) 671-9198.**





Dear St. Mary, Mother of God Parishioners,

Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish is the most giving and generous parish I have ever been associated with. Its reputation is second to none when we speak about taking care of “our own”. Saint Mary School benefits tremendously from that generosity through the parish subsidy the school receives on an annual basis. As the school’s principal, I cannot put into words how important this school is to me and the families who send their children here. Hence, I am writing this message as an appeal for help.

The last 36 months have been some of the most stressful that I can remember in my 60+ years on this planet with the Covid-19 pandemic’s after-effects still looming large regarding our children and their families. While businesses closed, unemployment skyrocketed, and parents needed to be teacher aides as well as perform their own jobs and take care of their families, we are still dealing with the “fallout” here at SMS. Against all odds, many families have done a tremendous job of enrolling and keeping their children in Saint Mary School over that time. However, there comes a time when very difficult decisions must be made and hopes and dreams are dashed.

Personally, my wife and I were able to send three of our four children through SMS and Mater Dei Prep. This was no easy task, as my third child is disabled and my wife had to give up her career, leaving us to find ways to pay the tuition for my three other children. You see, there was no way I was going to take my children out of Saint Mary School or Mater Dei Prep after they had developed friendships and we had made friends with many of the parents. They were in a “family” setting and I wanted to ensure they remained in that setting. We sacrificed a lot to give them the best Catholic education we could as I worked two, three, sometimes four jobs to make this happen, as many of our current families do. I dare say it has become even more difficult to do this today!

So, that is enough about me and my family. This is not a grab at pity or sympathy. It is a request for help from those of you who value Catholic education as much as I do and want to see families desiring the same for their children to possibly attain it for them. I am asking if those parishioners or organizations can consider sponsoring a child, either through paying all or part of their yearly tuition through our *Ave Maria Fund*. This program will be part of a larger effort to make Saint Mary School affordable for families desiring a Catholic education. This effort will include building an endowment known as the Saint Mary School Education Fund where there will be ample opportunities to support many of the funding needs of the school. In fact, we have just enlisted the assistance of a Director of Advancement, well-versed in endowment building, to assist us in furthering this process. However, with registration for the 2023-2024 school year almost complete, it has become apparent that a few solid, Catholic school families have circumstances that could possibly lead to them withdrawing their children from the school. That is why I am writing this message with a somewhat “heavy heart”.

If you or anyone you know might consider this type of giving, please reach out to me at 732-671-0129 or [cpalmer@stmaries.org](mailto:cpalmer@stmaries.org).

God bless,

***Craig E. Palmer***

Principal-Saint Mary School



***“Academically Excellent, Passionately Catholic”***

538 Church Street  
Middletown, NJ 07748

[www.stmaries.org](http://www.stmaries.org)

Tel: 732-671-0129 Fax: 732-671-2653

