FEBRUARY 25, 2024

CONTACT INFO

Phone: 908-874-3141 Web: https://sjmillstone.com

Fr. Hank: fatherhank@sjmillstone.com

Address: 34 Yorktown Road Hillsborough, NJ 08844

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil		4:45 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM, 9:30 AM	, 11:30 AM
Monday-Frida	ay	8:35 AM
Holyday Vigil		7:00 PM
Holyday	8:35 AM	& 5:00 PM

Our church has seven seating sections. Every Mass has two social distance sections. One of those sections requires masks.

EUCHARIST OUTDOORS

Summer Sundays 11:30 AM is out doors.

Non-Summer Sunday 11:30 AM Mass has an in -car option. Congregants park in the designated area, listen to Mass on the parish radio station, and receive Communion in the car.

Wednesday 10:00 AM 20 minutes Communion Service in the parking lot, sometimes led by lay minister.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday Mornings Drive-up Confessions are offered every Saturday morning, typically between 10:00 and 11:00 AM. Always check the "This Week" email to learn if the time has been changed to accommodate funerals or baptisms.

By Appointment Email Father Hank for an appointment if you cannot come on Saturday.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

After Mass - Individuals - If you have surgery or a serious diagnosis, please request anointing after Mass.

After Mass - Group - There is a group anointing every month after one Mass. Call the office for information.

In Emergency- Please call 908-874-3141 and press 1 for a priest.

Hospital - Contact the hospital chaplain as soon as possible.

Home or Nursing Home - Call Fr Hank at 908-874-3141 and press 1. Emergency - Call Fr Hank at 908-874-3141 and press 1.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS Please see information pamphlets in the Gathering Space

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please see information pamphlets in the Gathering Space

VARIA

Suicide Prevention Hotline - Call 1-800-273-TALK Teen Crisis Text Hotline - Text 741741

PARISH COMMUNITY OF

Saint Joseph

HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

Priests

Prophets





February 25, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK Monday, February 26 – Sunday, March 3

8:00AM The rosary is prayed before Mass. Open to all. You are always welcome to join us.

	MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
Mon.	8:35AM Brendan Glennon
	R/B Sean Glennon
	8:35AM Lindsey Marie Mastrian
	R/B Janice & Steve Maikisch
	& the Heck Family
Tue.	8:35AM Robert Baranowski, Sr.
	R/B Mary Ann & Bobby Baranowski
	8:35AM Chet Trechock
	R/B Joni & Dave Schlesinger
Wed,	8:35AM Joan Rapp
	R/B Ann Harris & Family
	8:35AM William Fiorelli
	R/B Claire Fiorelli
	8:35AM Toni Sullivan
	R/B Nancy Sullivan-Klein
Thu.	8:35AM Joseph Vaeth
	R/B Jayne Schuller
	8:35AM Giacomo & Grace Tobia Families
	(Living)
	R/B Maryellen Tobia
Fri.	8:35AM John Zimmer
	R/B Jerry & AnnaMarie Lunemann
	8:35AM Robert Peters
	R/B Dawn Bondar
Sat.	4:45PM Dorothy Muller
	R/B Debbie Muller
	4:45PM Anne Murphy
	R/B Bobbie & John Murphy
	4:45PM Rose Marie Alpaugh
	R/B Donna Komar & Family
Sun.	8:00AM James Koehr
	R/B Louis & Sarah Colucci
	8:00AM People of the Parish
	9:30AM Deceased Members of Panzera Family
	R/B Carl & Connie Panzera
	9:30AM Joe Manuelli
	R/B Gubitosi Family
	9:30AM Chet Trechock
	R/B Barbara Dorr
	11:30AM Jacob Li Zeng & Maria Wei Huang
	R/B Brian & Elizabeth Williams
	11:30AM Marie Caminiti
	R/B Monticello Family
	11:30AM Teng Ma & Lan Zhu
	R/B Brian & Elizabeth Williams

WEDNESDAY HOLY HOUR

after 8:35AM Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament On the Main Altar of the Church.



Second Sunday of Lent



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays in Lent in Church

9:05 AM, immediately after Daily Mass And at 7:00 PM

The Stations are a devotion intended to help us follow Jesus on his way to Calvary. By accompanying him on the Way of the Cross, we see ourselves mirrored in him, gain his courageous patience, & learn to trust God who is with us no matter what we have to go through. Please join us in this ancient prayer of the Church

PARISH LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE Tuesday, February 27, at 7:00 PM

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Exodus 17:3-7 Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 John 4:5-42



LITTLE BLACK LENTEN BOOKS

.:Back by popular demand and as good as ever!

It is now Round Two. You can take a second book – for your home or loved ones. Enjoy.

ALSO – if you take Communion to a homebound parishioner, please take one for that person as well. .

This Week in Prayer, Service & Community Dear All, Christ's Peace!

Lent has sprung and spring is almost here. I hope your Lent is off to a good start and will be blessed. This year, our Lenten responses to God unfold in a season of Eucharistic Renewal. That makes a difference.

LENT in THE YEAR OF EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL Our church's inspired designers provided one place for Mass and another for a tabernacle. In keeping with the year of Eucharistic Renewal, this seems a good season to facilitate connections between parishioners and our Lord's Eucharistic presence. It seems especially appropriate to help our young people, who might never visit our Blessed Sacrament Chapel, to recognize, understand, and appreciate the Blessed Sacrament. It also seems a good season to address the Eucharistic hungers of the less young. Hence, as of Ash Wednesday night, the Blessed Sacrament is in the church, between the altar and the cross. This has generated some FAQs. Is the change permanent? - The current plan is to keep the small tabernacle in the church for Lent and the Easter season and then remove it. If lots and lots of people find the new arrangement problematic, I will remove the tabernacle before Pentecost. If lots and lots of parishioners want to make the situation permanent, we will talk.

Does this change our use of the church? – No. We rarely use the church for secular events. If the occasion arises, we will remove the Blessed Sacrament for the occasion.

Does this change how I enter and leave church? – For sure. It is appropriate to genuflect when entering and leaving, either as you enter church or when you enter your pew. This is a very good lesson for parents to share with children. It provides some great teaching opportunities.

Does this change how we receive Communion? No. For Communion, the celebrant will take two or three ciboria out of the tabernacle and then put them back. Nothing else changes.

The reason for the tabernacle is simple: to enrich our connection with Jesus in this Eucharistic year.

This topic surfaces another renewal subject, the moment of consecration. Some like bells. Others prefer radical silence. Long before I arrived, radical silence became the parish goal. I congratulate you for the progress we have recently made in this direction. Many parishioners have observed that we become intensely silent at the consecration. Good for you. Our next step in this direction will be to still the occasional walker. The ushers will more and more ask people to stay at the door for the consecration and return to their seats when it is finished. Mostly, it is just a few youngsters returning from the restrooms. It is another good learning moment.

Great thanks and continued blessings for your Lent,

GREAT NEWS! Introducing PRAYER PARTNERS

As of March 10th, what is formerly the Healing Ministry will become a new ministry called "Prayer Partners". A transition from strictly healing prayer to general intercessory prayers. You are encouraged to bring anything that you pray for to the team, for "wherever two or more are gathered in my name there I am." The team will also pray that God's blessings of love, healing, comfort, and consolation will be yours. Prayer partners, as before with Healing ,will be available the second weekend of the month after mass.



HOME, an organization made up of area churches, provides temporary housing for homeless families. Our parish has a long history with this organization, and we currently collaborate with the Millstone Reformed Church when they house families at their church. The Reformed Church is hosting HOME families the week of March 3. If you can help with any part of the effort (i.e., making meals, evening hosting, or overnight hosting), please email Tina Androulakis at <u>tina@androulakis.com</u>.

"This Week"

Are you receiving 'This Week," the e-letter that Father Hank sends out every Friday? It is the best way to stay current on timely parish news, especially when it comes to late-breaking announcements or big news for the upcoming weekend. Simply sign up and it will appear in your email each Friday. Go to our parish homepage at www.sjmillstone.com

and sign up and start receiving updates.

IN GOD'S IMAGE

In God's Image, the Catholic Faith Sharing Group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people at Church of the Sacred Heart, South Plainfield, meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM. Our next meeting is March 13 and will be both in person and online. Please email for more information. The group is open to LGBTQ adults, 18 and over, and their families. All are welcome for faith sharing, prayer, conversation and support. For more information, contact Fr John at 908 291 1194 or the group may be reached via email at sacredheartigi@gmail.com

February 25, 2024



SAGES ACTIVITIES

For more information or to register for events contact AnnaMaria at <u>arealbuto@sjmilltone.com</u> or 908-864-0334.

Monday Funday with *The Chosen* – Join us February 26 at 12:00 for lunch, poker and the hit series, *The Chosen*. We will begin with Season 1: episodes 1 and

2. This series shares an authentic look at Jesus' revolutionary life and teachings. To register, contact AnnaMaria

St. Patrick's Day Party - Mark your calendar and celebrate with us on Monday, March 18. Details to follow. **Exercise** – We meet every Thursday at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. Healthy Bones will continue until March 21. No class on Holy Thursday. Drums Alive will begin on April 4.

Tuesday Topic – Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 12 at 2:00pm for a great talk on Auto Insurance. **Trip to Sight & Sound Theater** - Our trip on May 22 to see "Daniel" is sold out. If you would like to be added to the wait list please contact AnnaMaria

Trip to San Alfonso Retreat House - Mark your calendars for Monday, September 30. We look forward to this prayerful day in Long Branch. The retreat theme is "The Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Heart." More details to follow.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL STAY WITH US, LORD: (Week #5) Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission "Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports a number of diocesan ministries dedicated to faith formation. Through *Discipleship Formation for Children* and our *Catholic schools*, *Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Campus Ministry at Rutgers* and the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*, we are reaching out to children, teens, young adults and older adults new to our Catholic Church. These ministries help people of all ages grow in their knowledge and practice of the faith, experience a meaningful sense of service to the community, and come to a deeper understanding of their call to discipleship. Please prayerfully consider a gift today.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please send info for the bulletin no later than Friday, 8 days prior to the weekend you want the article to appear, directly to Dorothy at <u>stjoebulletin@yahoo.com</u> Thank You



CHARITY - With your support, the Millstone Valley Knights of Columbus can impact the lives of countless individuals in need across our community and throughout the region.

UNITY – None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Millstone Valley Knights of Columbus all know that – together – we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually.

FAITH - Our goal is to help men, their families and our parish grow closer to Christ. Through our programs and resources, we provide opportunities to live and spread the Catholic faith.

Are you looking for that missing piece that could help satisfy your desire to serve the community? Do you know someone who could benefit from what we can offer?

Visit our website to learn more.

Upcoming Events

Recruiting Weekend - Mar 2nd & 3rd Fish Fry – March 8th

Contact: Peter Ciccotelli, Grand Knight Email: kofc11415@gmail.com

Thoughts From God's Garden

Sr. Gabriela of the Incarnation, O.C.D.

What We Give Up ... Is Made Holy

Giving up something for Lent is a solidly established custom. It is seen as a good spiritual practice that detaches us from something that we cherish to help us focus on Jesus. We give up something we like to focus on the one we love.

But the phrase "to give up" doesn't just mean doing without. It also means, quite literally, to give upward, to hand something up to God, and to hand something up to God is to make it holy, for God sanctifies everything He touches.

So when we have given up chocolate or coffee or our cellphone or the internet or whatever it is that we have sacrificed for Lent, it might be surprising to realize that when God gives it back to us it has become holy, for that is what it means to sacrifice: *sacrum facere*, to "make something holy".

Visit our Monastery at www.flemingtoncarmel.org

February 25, 2024



Hillsborough Band Parents Association Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 10 AM - Noon Front Entrance, Hillsborough High School, Raider Blvd.

We need clothing - usable and wearable for all seasons, all ages, all sizes including shoes. No items are shredded. We need accessories - pocketbooks, hats, scarves, gloves, ties, backpacks.

We need home goods - blankets, sheets, bedspreads, pillows, comforters, tablecloths, curtains, towels. We need soft toys (2 feet or smaller) - stuffed animals, rag dolls, beanie babies.

We need bicycles - all sizes in working order. Please NO books, VCR tapes, DVDs, large outdoor toys, hard toys, board games, or puzzles.

Proceeds will be used to enhance all aspects of our Band and Guard program and will provide our students with opportunities to learn musicianship, teamwork and leadership. Donations are welcome and may be tax deductible. Receipts are available upon request. Questions, contact Paula Obenauer, <u>pcobenauer@gmail.com</u>, (908) 230-2398.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2024-2025 TUITION ASSISTANCE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <u>https://online.factsmgt.com/aid</u>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than **March 31**, **2024.** Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

Weekly Collection Report for January

January 2021	\$17,503
January 2022	\$22,434
January 2023	\$22,099
January 2024	\$20,927

January 2024 Goal \$22,200 % of Goal 94%



Friday, March 8 4:30PM –8:00PM

Adults:\$15 Seniors:(65+):\$12 Children:(5-12):\$7 Children under 5:FREE Takeout:\$13 **No Reservations Required!**

IRISH STEP-DANCING PERFORMANCES 5:30 PM & 7:00 PM

MENU

Tilapia -Butter and Lemon Cod -Breaded Fried Fried Clams Popcorn Shrimp Fish Sticks Macaroni & Cheese Mozzarella Sticks **Rice Pilaf French Fries Onion Rings** Vegetable Medley Coleslaw Garden Salad Dinner Rolls Iced Tea, Lemonade Coffee, HotTea Cake



Invest time each week to expand your vocabulary and deepen your faith.

25 February 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Agnus Dei \äg-nus-'dā\

Latin term for "Lamb of God." A title given to Jesus by John the Baptist (John 1:29); the litany sung or said by the assembly at Mass before Communion ("**Lamb of God**, you take away the sins of the world . . .") introduced into the Roman Rite in the seventh century by Pope Sixtus; an image of a lamb often with a halo and a banner and cross used as a symbol of Christ; a wax disc sacramental.

Pronunciation: https://tinyurl.com/Take5-agnus-dei

CONTEXT

Either sin is with you, lying on your shoulders, or it is lying on Christ, the **Lamb of God** [Agnus Dei]. Now if it is lying on your back, you are lost; but if it is resting on Christ, you are free, and you will be saved. Choose what you want. —*Martin Luther*

The address to the **Lamb of God** does not refer to Christ simply, but rather to Christ present in the Eucharist as a sacrificial offering.

-Joseph A. Jungmann, S.J., The Mass of the Roman Rite

WHY IT MATTERS

The Passover lamb is the symbol of God's people passing over from slavery and death to freedom and life (Exodus 12). A "lamb led to slaughter" is Isaiah's prophesy of God's faithful servant (Isaiah 53:70). The victorious Lamb in Revelation is the light of God's holy city (Revelation 21:9-22:5). With all of salvation history as its backdrop, the **Agnus Dei** epitomizes the sacrifice of Jesus who achieves our freedom from sin and death. "It is love to the end," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction (616).

RELATED WORDS

Sacrifice | Paschal Lamb | Expiation | Fraction

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What is the meaning of the Transfiguration?

Gospel Greek deliberately avoids the term *metamorphosis* in this account, an attempt to sever any "pagan" comparison. The brilliance of Jesus' face; the enveloping cloud, and Peter's suggestion of pitching tents evokes significant encounters Moses had with the Holy Presence. The simultaneous appearance of Moses and Elijah, representatives of Law and Prophecy, reinforce these anchors to the Hebrew story.

So what's it doing in the New Testament? Scholars offer three possibilities. One is that this event is the Gospel of Mark's misplaced Resurrection story. The second idea is that this story is a theological reflection of the first-generation church: a symbolic way of reconstructing what Jesus means to them. The third theory is that the Transfiguration is a private vision of Peter in which the truth about Jesus "came together" for him and shaped his understanding of the Second Coming before or even well after Easter. What's our final takeaway? Saint Paul declares that we will all be transfigured if we keep our sights trained on Christ.

—Alice Camille, from Questions Catholics Ask http://tinyurl.c om/QCA-transfiguration

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (FEBRUARY 25)

For the love of God

One of the deepest spiritual longings is to know ourselves as the beloved of God. Maya Angelou, in her memoir *Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now*, recalls being asked by her teacher to read a section from a book that ended with the words, "God loves me." He instructed her to say the passage again and again. Eventually it dawned on her there might be truth in those words. "I suddenly began to cry at the grandness of it all," she writes. "I knew that if God loved me, then I could do wonderful things."

READINGS: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10 (26 https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/0225 24.cfm). "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

FAITH IN ACTION

Make a Lenten practice of repeating "God loves me," and share the Good News of God's love with others.

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