FEBRUARY 4, 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 Vigi		4:45 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM, 9:30 AM	l, 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 4, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK Monday, February 5 – Sunday, February 11 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 Kevin McLaughlin R/B Bryan DeLisi 8:35AM Paul Mahajan R/B Lisa Cusack 8:35AM Joseph Yuhas Tue. R/B Palma Pucci 8:35AM MaryAnn Plisco **R/B** Goodman Family 8:35AM Barbara A. Ur Wed. **R/B Carol & James Torntore** 8:35AM Father Frank O'Connor, SJ R/B Fr. Hank Hilton Thu. 8:35AM Kathy Straub **R/B Sara Horwitz** Fri. 8:35AM Angela Putvinski R/B George Putvinski 8:35AM Pat Bancroft R/B Erin Lydon 4:45PM James Schmidt Sat. **R/B Lisa Stevens & Family** 4:45PM Ray Villanueva R/B Rachelle Hanna 4:45PM Fred Matuszkiewicz R/B Donna Komar & Family 8:00AM People of the Parish Sun. 9:30AM Edward Szezpanski **R/B Barbara Dorr** 9:30AM Joseph Cavanagh **R/B John Cavanagh** 9:30AM Mary & Abraham McCluskey R/B Debra Miller 11:30AM All Married Parishioners (World Marriage Day)

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 Mark 1:40-45

Lent begins in ten days. Ash Wednesday. February 14

Watch for more information about Distribution of Ashes And the Little Black Books

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-Law



Healing Prayer – Next Weekend February 10 & 11

Immediately after 4:45PM, 9:30AM & 11:30AM Masses For more Information: contact Ann Smith at 908-285-6481. All conversations and prayer requests are confidential



Celebration of Marriage Mass Sunday, February 11, 2024 at the 11:30 mass with light refreshments afterwards

Love Endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:7 Please join us as we celebrate the sacrament of marriage and bless all the married couples in our parish. See the parish website for RSVP or signup after mass.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

If you have registered in the last 6 months or plan to register soon, please join us for our New Parishioner Welcome on Sunday, February 4 in the Hospitality Room right after the 11:30 mass (approx. 12:30). Come and meet your fellow parishioners, enjoy a lite lunch, listen to a brief information session, and find ways to become an integral member of our parish community. Future date: May 5, 2024

IN PRAISE OF YOUR INSPIRED CONSISTENCY (As Priests, Prophets, and Queens/Kings)

Maybe every pastor feels the same way. Maybe not. But I know how I feel about your consistency. The awareness sometimes clobbers me and, when it does, I again feel like the luckiest duck in the lake.

Your inspired consistency was very apparent on recent Tuesdays when the Holy C.H.O.W! crew (backed up by an amazing kitchen crew) braved the truly rotten weather – a deep freeze one week, a torrential rain the next – so that our food-insecure neighbors would not have a hungry night.

It is apparent when I bump into the folks who gather and launder the altar linens and when I run into the folks who water the church plants. It is apparent at funerals when, regardless of convenience, members of our Lazarus Ministry ensure that funerals are prayerful and beautiful. It is apparent when I check in on our homebound and they praise their Eucharistic visitors who show up every week. It is apparent each Wednesday when volunteers provide the outdoor Communion service. It is apparent every time I stop into a CCD class led by very selfless and reliable teachers. It is apparent right now as I smell the results of the Knights' cooking.

And is it ever apparent when I stand in front of church before Masses and marvel at what it probably took to get some people there – group efforts to transport people with infirmities, big parental efforts to find the little kids' church shoes and patient parental efforts to wait for the big kids to stumble down to the car.

The list goes on and on and on and on. Chances are good that you are on it. You do it in prayer, in service, and in building up the community. What congregation is as good as you? If you find one, LMK.

Fr. Hank

"What was your confirmation name?

Check out the saint posters at the Gathering Space bulletin boards. They are the saints that our confirmation students are choosing this year. Let the confirmation student know if that saint was also yours & please pray for them. Fill out a form to let students know you support them. Even if your saint is not listed, you can still participate...see the form for details. (N.B., Each poster has a number on it. Be sure to include the poster's number when you submit your form. Thanks! Blessings for all you do to share your faith!

In Memoriam

Mary Lynn De Vito, 80, wife of Stephen, died on January 23.

Please pray for her eternal rest and for all who mourn her death.



SAGES ACTIVITIES

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

Tuesday Topic, February 6 at 2:00 John Rossi will give a presentation on Scams targeted at seniors. Specifically, he will discuss Financial Fraud: how to identify it and stay safe.

Valentine's Party: Monday, February 12 at 12:00. Join us for a hot lunch, line dancing, poker and card making for the homebound.

Exercise: Salsa continues until February 8. Healthy Bones begins February 15 with Lorraine. No registration needed.

Trip to Sight and Sound Theater: We have tickets to see "DANIEL" on May 22 at 11:00 am and then have lunch at Bird-in-Hand in Lancaster, PAj. Tickets go on sale at the Sages Valentine party. Scholarships are available.

Homebound Gifts – Our next gift will go out for Valentine's Day. If you are homebound and would like the parish to reach out six times a year or you know someone who could use a little TLC, please reach out to AnnaMaria at 908-864-0334.

Average Weekly Collection Report for December

December 2020	\$25,615
December 2021	\$24,825
December 2022	\$27,109
December 2023	\$24,643
December 2023 G	oal \$22,200
% of Goal	111%

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal (week #2) STAY WITH US, LORD: Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

By giving to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we are opening our hearts to those living on the fringes of society and help to attend to their physical, spiritual and emotional needs. The basic necessities of food and shelter provided by **Catholic Charities**, as well as the counseling services the agency offers to those struggling with addictions and other hardships of life can only continue with your help. Please prayerfully consider a gift today.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS BY EMAIL

Monica is all geared up to send out your 2023 contribution statement. We have discovered in recent years that things go exceptionally well when Monica sends those statements via email. If you have already signed up for e-delivery, great. If you want to sign up now, eat – email Monica at <u>mmcdevitt@sjmillstone.com</u>. She will need your name, address and envelope number. (If you cannot recall your envelope number, no sweat. Monica can find it.) You can also leave Monica a message at 908-864-0979. If you prefer, you may also receive your statement as a hard copy in the surface mail.

Choices Matter A Critical Life Issues Conference Saturday, March 16, 2024

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Human Life and Dignity presents "Choices Matter – A Critical Life Issues Conference which will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway on Saturday, March 16, 2024. An Opening Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James Checchio at 9:00 AM and the conference will begin at 10:00 AM and end at 3:30 pm. This year's topics/expert speakers are:

- Jim Towey Author and advisor and personal friend of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
- Kevin Dunn An award-winning filmmaker and pro-life speaker
- Evie West Ex-gang member, Teen Mom & Author "Revolving Choices: Playing Roulette with Life"

General registration is \$35 and student registration is \$15. The conference features Eucharistic Adoration, exhibits and more. The fee includes lunch and handouts. To register visit: https://www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter. Everyone is welcome! For questions or for more information please email amarshall@diometuchen.org. Seating is limited.

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.



KNIGHTS' KORNER www.kofc11415.org

The Millstone Valley Knights of Columbus Council was established 30 years ago. We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. As Knights, we share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first. We are proud to be an integral part of the St. Joseph Parish Community.

Are you interested in becoming a Knight with our Council? Visit our website to learn more today. Also check out our new Facebook page by scanning the QR Code below.



<u>KofC Upcoming Events</u> Recruiting Weekends – Feb 17/18 & Mar 2/3 Fish Fry – March 8

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

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 stjoebulletin@yahoo.com Thank You

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 https://online.factsmgt.com/aid. 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.

Words of Wisdom

The following is a translation of a sign posted in a church in France:

"When you enter this church, it may be possible that you hear 'the call of God.' However, it is unlikely He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him, If you want to see Him, send him a text while driving."



CHRFISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS - PART 4

In Memory of Carol Jorgensen from John D. Jorgensen Joseph Ahern from Diane Ahern Jessee G. Harris from Ann Harris Deceased members of the larkowski and Tomko Families from Marge larkowski Deceased members of the Wagner/D'Angelo families from Joanne D'Angelo Deceased members of the Quinn & Gagliardi Families from Pat & Joanne Gagliardi

FLOWER OFFERINGS WITHOUT MEMORIALS

From Barbara Paterno From James Ribnicky From Mr. & Mrs. James Castro From Kenneth & Michele Giacobbe From John & Cynthia Klepich From Dennis & Denise Sitarik From Mr. John JoPresti Jr. The Goie Family The Kelly Family **Urma Marie Francois** From Helen Dolan From Rodnell Workmann From Charles & Melissa Gengler From Rosie Yacone Anonymous From Frank & Cathy Caragher From William Herterich From J. Kowalski From John Seber From Donna & Richard Whitsitt From Carol Tyukody



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

04 February 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

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Evangelization \i-van-jə-lə-'zā-shən\

The act of preaching or proclaiming the gospel; how the Good News of Christ's coming is delivered to the ends of the earth. **Evangelizing** begins with the witness of an authentic Christian life. This witness involves humility, detachment from wealth, faith, hope, and charity. In this way one becomes a credible proclaimer of the joy found in Jesus.

Pronunciation: https://tinyurl.com/Take5-evangelization

CONTEXT

An **evangelizer** must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!

-Pope Francis, Evangelii gaudium

The person who has been **evangelized** goes on to **evangelize** others. Here lies the test of truth, the touchstone of **evangelization**: it is unthinkable that a person should accept the Word and give himself to the kingdom without becoming a person who bears witness to it and proclaims it in his turn.

-Pope Paul VI, Evangelii nuntiandi

To teach in order to lead others to faith is the task of every preacher and of each believer. —Saint Thomas Aquinas

WHY IT MATTERS

Jesus is the first **evangelizer** when he proclaims the coming of God's reign. Delivering the Good News of what God has done for us is, in fact, the entire mission of the church.

All people have a right to receive the gospel, and all Christians have a duty to proclaim it. This is not an obligation, says Pope Francis in *Evangelii gaudium*, but a joy as we "point to a horizon of beauty" for all.

RELATED WORDS

Gospel | Evangelii gaudium | Preaching

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What's the difference between catechesis and evangelization?

Catechesis is basically religious education. Rooted in the Greek word for "echo," its intent is to nurture the Christian life through imitation in word and deed. **Evangelization** also has Greek origins and means "proclaiming good news." That good news of God's reign is contained in the gospel. Just as catechesis doesn't mean memorizing rote facts about faith, **evangelization** isn't the same as shouting scripture verses to passersby. We can think of **evangelization** as creating the spark that ignites the fire, and catechesis as the work of tending the flame once it's established.... When the two work hand in hand, **evangelization** and catechesis can make us saints by bringing us to faith and then to holiness, inch by inch.

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

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (FEBRUARY 4)

Our everything

The Second Vatican Council said the church is "missionary by its very nature"—in other words, mission, these days also called "**evangelization**," is more than just another thing the church does: It is part of everything the church does. What is mission? It's not only the sending of missionaries to foreign countries. Most simply, **evangelization** is bringing to others the Good News to which Jesus witnessed. It means seeing the face of Christ in everyone, especially the poor and outcast.

READINGS: Job 7:1-4; 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39 (74 https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/020424.cfm). *"Let us go to preach . . . For this purpose have I come."*

FAITH IN ACTION

We can all be missionaries and **evangelizers** by showing compassion, spreading goodness, transforming, forgiving, loving, serving, preaching, teaching, and healing.

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