

November 29, 2020

CONTACT INFO

Phone: 908-874-3141

Fax: 908-874-7040

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34 Yorktown Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844-5139

PARISH COMMUNITY OF

Saint Joseph

HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

Priests

Prophets

Kings

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

Monday-Saturday 8:35 AM

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:45 PM

Sunday 7:15 AM

9:30 AM

11:30 AM

6:00 PM

Holiday Masses:

Vigil 5:00 PM

Holiday 8:35 AM & 7:00 PM

Confessions:

Saturday 4 - 4:30 PM
or by appointment

EMERGENCIES

Sacrament of Anointing

Call 908-874-3141

and press 1 for a priest.

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline

732-516-0911

Suicide Prevention

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1-800-273TALK

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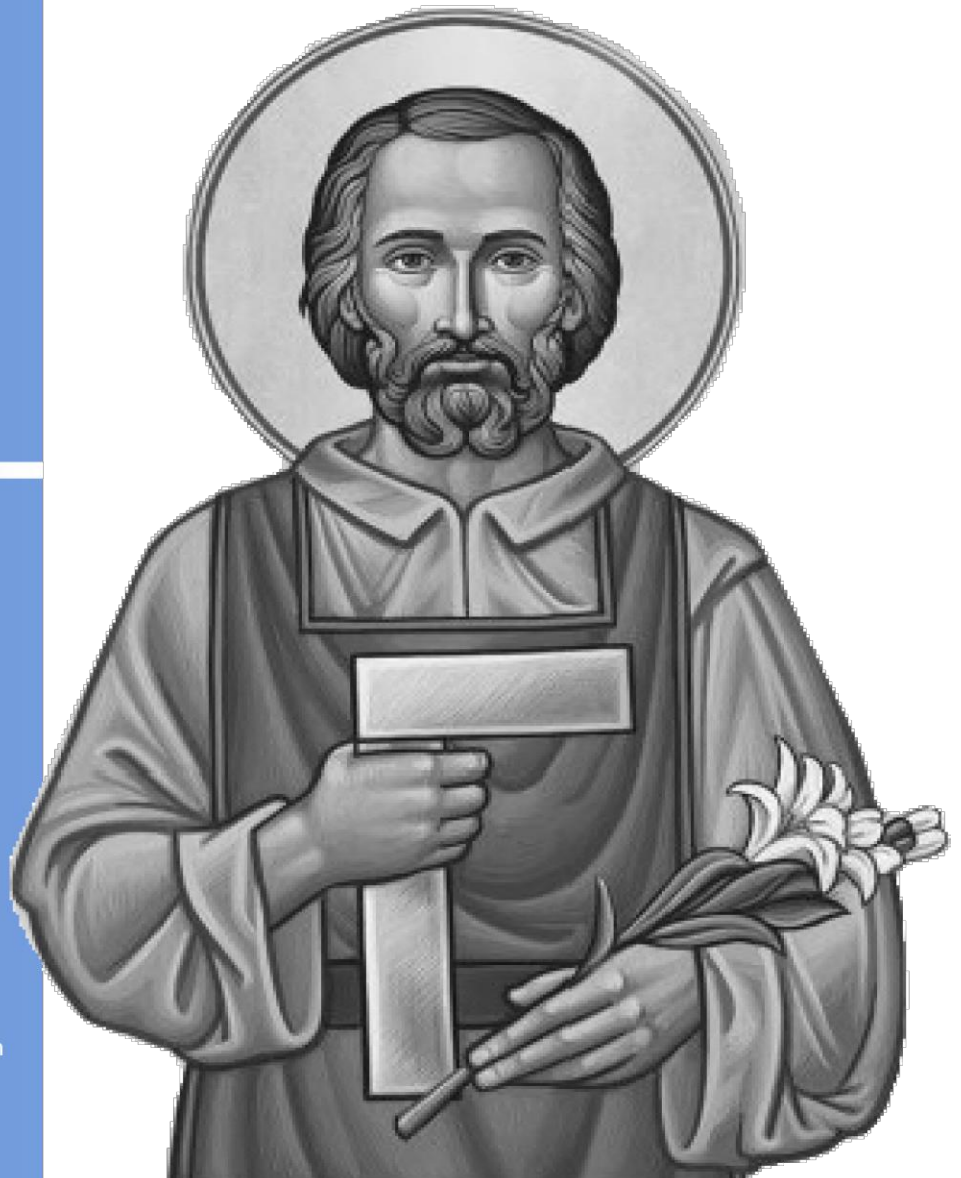
Text 741741

Emergency Meals

emergencymeals@stjosephsparish.com

Fr. Hank

FHilton@loyola.edu



November 29, 2020

Weekend Masses are at 4:45PM on Saturday and Sunday at 9:30AM. Simply go to the parish web page and click away – for live streaming or for viewing an archived Mass.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

MASS INTENTIONS – Mass intentions are combined as follows:

4:45 Mass will combine the 4:45, 7:15 & 6:00 intentions..

9:30 will combine the 9:30 & 11:30 intentions..

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon. 8:35AM Maryann Ragan
R/B Valone Family
- Tue. 8:35AM Robert Ferretti Sr.
R/B Margie & Lou Kolomatis
- 8:35AM Elvira Andrade
R/B Candido Taylor
- 8:35AM Theresa McDonald
R/B James & Roseanne McDonald
- Wed. 8:35AM John Obenauer
R/B Cusack Family
- Thu.. 8:35AM Marie McQuade
R/B Viola Family
- Fri. 8:35AM Elena Lugo
R/B Mario Lugo
- 8:35AM Tony Manzella & Marge Cepela
R/B Alice Manzella & Family
- Sat. 4:45PM Art & Pat West
R/B Houle Family
- 4:45PM Mary Joan Gottlick
R/B larkowski Family
- 4:45PM Inge Galajda
R/B Helga Braungard
- Sun. 9:30AM Carol & Robert Conlin
R/B Barbara & Bill Dorr
- 9:30AM Jeanette D. Lennox
R/B Fr Hank & Staff
- 9:30AM Al Wund
R/B Sandy Viola & Family
- 930AM Giuseppe Bocchieri
R/B Silvana Dudajek & Family

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

THURSDAY'S FIRESIDE PSALM

Thursday, December 3

Psalm 36 (thirty-six).



This Moment in Prayer, Service and Community

Dear All: Christ's Peace!

This week's abbreviated letter includes just a few reminders:

"Oh, Holy Nights" – Our communal observance of Advent begins this Sunday. We will be having two sessions. The early one begins at 4:30. The later one starts at 6:30. Both open with evening prayer. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** (See more details on next page.)

Healing Prayer – There will be (online) healing prayer this Sunday after the 9:30 Mass.

Christmas Tree Installation – Thanks to all who volunteered for either the 9:00 or the noon session this Saturday

One of my big evening prayers this Thanksgiving was that this holiday's jumble will, for each of us, heighten our appreciation of the lights that this pandemic could never overcome. His lights shine in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome them. And, thank God, it never will.

May your holiday be an adventurous one with many greatly graced, first-time experiences. May the gatherings, virtual or actual, be heartwarming, and may whatever time you have alone be a time of consolation.

Know that I continue to be exceedingly grateful for the privilege and the grace of being your pastor.

With all best blessings

Father Hank

November 29, 2020



“Oh, Holy Nights”

Dear Parishioners,

The response to the “101 Trees of Light” project has been extremely robust. I am once again amazed but not terribly surprised.

The very strong response to the project presents us with a question we are fortunate to face: given the government limit of 150 people at outdoor events, how can we include everyone who wants to participate in “O Holy Nights”?

After entertaining several options, the staff and I have decided on a three-part solution that promises, we believe, to accommodate the greatest number of people.

First, we will have two sessions every Sunday evening. The early one starts at 4:30. The later one starts at 6:30.

Second, we will use the same sort of registration system that has enabled us to maximize participation at Sunday Masses.

Third, we will illuminate the **trees Friday through Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 9 PM. These evening sessions allow people to enjoy it all even if they cannot exit their vehicles.**

Registration for “O Holy Nights” opens as of the sending of this email, November 25. We will open the registration for the later session only after the early session has been fully subscribed.

Note: If you are volunteering for this event as an usher, parish safety committee, youth ministry, food truck, etc. you do not need to register. Your ministry head will register for you.

With great thanks for your participation in this project and for all you do all year round, during the pandemic and in every season – and with all best blessings,

Fr Hank

SCHEDULE AND RESERVATIONS *“Oh, Holy Nights”*



Sunday, November 29, 4:30 pm
Advent Week 1 - Tree Lighting

Sunday, November 29, 6:30 pm
Advent Week 1 - Tree Lighting

We will open the registration for the later session on the following Sundays only after the early session has been fully subscribed.

Sunday, December 6, 4:30 pm
Advent Week 2 - Prayer Path

Sunday, December 13, 4:30 pm
Advent Week 3 - Caroling

Sunday, December 20, 4:30 pm
Advent Week 4 – Nativity



CHRISTMAS MASSES

MASSES – We will celebrate our Christmas Masses in the parking lot and in church. The parking lot can accommodate 100s of people (who will stay in their cars). The church can accommodate 104.

Christmas Eve –
Mass in the parking lot, 2 pm; Mass in church, 5 pm and 8 pm

Christmas Day –
Mass in the parking lot, 11:30; Mass in church, 9:30

December 21-23 (M-W) –
8:35 am Mass in the church, using the readings of the day.

7:00 pm, using the readings for Christmas midnight (Bethlehem, etc.)

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HEALING PRAYER

Healing Prayer invites anyone who is ill, facing surgery, hurting, anxious, burdened or worried to seek prayer for themselves or others. Jesus working through the minister will bring healing, glory and grace to your soul. God's love guides the ministers as they pray. All sessions are private and confidential.

Healing prayer requests can be not only for yourself but also for family and friends. Requests may cover healing of body, mind and spiritual issues.

Members of our Healing Prayer Ministry have created a virtual option and a phone option which is offered at 10:30AM after the 9:30 Sunday Mass and takes place every other weekend until we are back to normal.

**Sundays, November 29
December 6 & 20**

To participate in the virtual meeting, click on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7692788835> and follow the directions. You can also engage the healing prayer over the phone by calling 1-929-205-6099 and then the ID number key in 769-278-8835#.

If you need healing prayers before the Sunday dates please contact Ann Smith at 908-285-6481 or at

annsmith46@hotmail.com.



ADVENT WREATH MAKING –

In lieu of our annual wreath-making gathering, this year we are offering grab-and-go wreath supplies. So, sign right up and arrange your supplies. Go to our wreath website to order your supplies, which you can pick up on November 29, right after the Grand Lighting of our 101 trees. Each kit costs \$10, and contains candles, greens, florist wire, colored balls, ribbon, and pinecones. You can choose from two color schemes –

(i) blue and silver or (ii) red, gold, and green. You can also order metal rings if you need one. Questions? contact Linda Mackiw at lmackiw@stjosephsparish.com or 908-874-3141 x227.

ADVENT VIDEO REFLECTION SERIES

"Journeying with Our 'Mother of Advent' Throughout the World,"

Sponsored by Immaculate Conception Seminary

The series will focus on titles of Mary, helping you to spiritually journey through the Advent season as you celebrate diverse cultures.

Faculty and seminarians will offer three-minute reflections from the beginning of Advent on Sunday, November 29, through Christmas Eve, all delivered via a daily e-mail.

Join us we explore the titles of our Blessed Mother, including Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Kibeho, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Our Lady of Fatima and Our Lady of Sorrows, among many others.

If you would like to subscribe, please visit the Advent Series registration page:

<https://www.shu.edu/adventseries>

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen

IMMIGRATION SERVICES PROGRAM CITIZENSHIP DAY

Are you interested in applying for your U.S. Citizenship and meet one of the following requirements:

**Have been a lawful permanent resident of the United States for at least 5 years?

**OR Have been a lawful permanent resident of the United States for at least 3 years and obtained residency through a U.S. citizen spouse?

Call 732-324-8200 to schedule an initial consultation. **SPACE IS LIMITED.**

Initial consultations will establish eligibility and provide a document checklist.

**Appointments are available in
Perth Amboy or New Brunswick
December 15**

November 29, 2020

AROUND OUR PARISH

Confessions – Parking Lot: Saturday morning by appointment with Fr Hank. Easily arranged.

Communion Services – Every Wednesday at 10 and Sunday at 11:30 – For the foreseeable future, we will offer Communion Services at these two times. **For now, reservations are required.** We might drop that practice in a few weeks. Everyone stays in their cars. There is no contact with other parishioners. The day's gospel and the rest of the sound come through your car's FM radio. Ministers bring Communion to your car. NB – This weekend we switch from facing south toward the trailer to facing north toward our newly renovated prairie schooner (to be named soon). Thanks for always cooperating with our traffic folk. The service takes 15-20 minutes. Distribution of Communion takes another ten.

BECCA'S FRIENDS - For information about joining the group, contact Janet Pescinski at: jpescinski@gmail.com.

REACHING ISOLATED PEOPLE – Please let me know if you are aware of any parishioner, former parishioner or would-be parishioner who is feeling isolated. We want to reach out to all of them. "Let no one walk alone" – especially at this time of year.

IHNSC RAFFLE Benefits Homeless Families

Be the difference to a family struggling with housing and food insecurity. Tickets are on sale now for the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County's annual fundraiser.

The Holiday Calendar Raffle draws seven winners each week in November and December 2020, and January 2021.

All tickets are reentered for each weekly drawing, giving ticket holders multiple chances to win! Each day of the three-month period has a designated value of \$30 to \$100. Winners will receive a check in the mail after each drawing.

Tickets are \$10 and are available by calling 908-704-1920 or emailing Karen@ihnsc.org. You may also stop by the office, 98 West End Avenue in Somerville, during regular business hours, or learn more at our website www.ihnsc.org



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Monday, December 7 at 5:30 PM

Tuesday, December 8: 8:30 AM & 7:30 PM

On this feast we honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and we ponder the blessedness bestowed upon her as the Mother of God. We recognize Mary as full of grace, the model of motherhood, humble, willing to do whatever God asks of her. We also ponder how we are blessed through Mary, for in giving herself to be the mother of Jesus, Mary becomes the mother of us all.

From the Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Child and Youth Protection:.

The findings of the investigation into the Diocese of Metuchen's files regarding McCarrick and other information about the measures in place to combat abuse in the diocese, can be found here:

diometuchen.org/healing.

Anyone who has been harmed in any way, by any member of clergy, employee or volunteer of the Catholic Church, is encouraged to notify law enforcement by calling 1-877 NJ ABUSE and is also urged to reach out to the Diocese of Metuchen's Director of Child and Youth Protection at (908) 930-4558..

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Stepping Forward in Faith: Grace in Action

Through your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal you help those in our diocese whose needs are the greatest — the poor, the homeless, and those struggling with illness or grief.

Among other needed pastoral ministries, your gift also supports the formation of seminarians and enhances the work of campus ministry through the Catholic Center at Rutgers University.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal is a way to combine our resources to accomplish great things. Each person of our Diocese is invited to join us as we journey together with confidence and a renewed spirit, under the guidance of Our Virgin Mother of Guadalupe.

The many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen would not be possible without a generous contribution from every household. Please be as generous as your means allow.

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