

CONTACT INFO

Phone: 908-874-3141

Fax: 908-874-7040

www.stjosephsparish.com

Fr. Hank

FatherHank@sjmillstone.com

34 Yorktown Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844-5139

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

Monday-Friday 8:35 AM

(Wednesday is an Enhanced-precautions mass-6' spacing and masks are encouraged.)

Outdoor Communion Service:

Wednesday 10:00 AM

(This service is held outdoors. Attendees remain in their car and tune into FM 88.7.)

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:45 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM

(Enhanced-precautions mass-6' spacing and masks are encouraged.)

9:30 AM

11:30 AM

(This mass is outside under the tent/attendees may remain in their vehicle as well.)

Confessions:

Until further notice, Confessions are by Appointment only. Typically, Saturday morning between 10am - 12pm. Other times are possible. Email Fr. Hank at fatherhank@sjmillstone.com for an appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick

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

Non-Emergency-Please email FatherHank@sjmillstone.com

EMERGENCIES

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline—732-516-0911

Suicide Prevention

NJ Lifeline—1-800-273TALK

Teen Crisis Text Hotline—Text 741741

Emergency Meals

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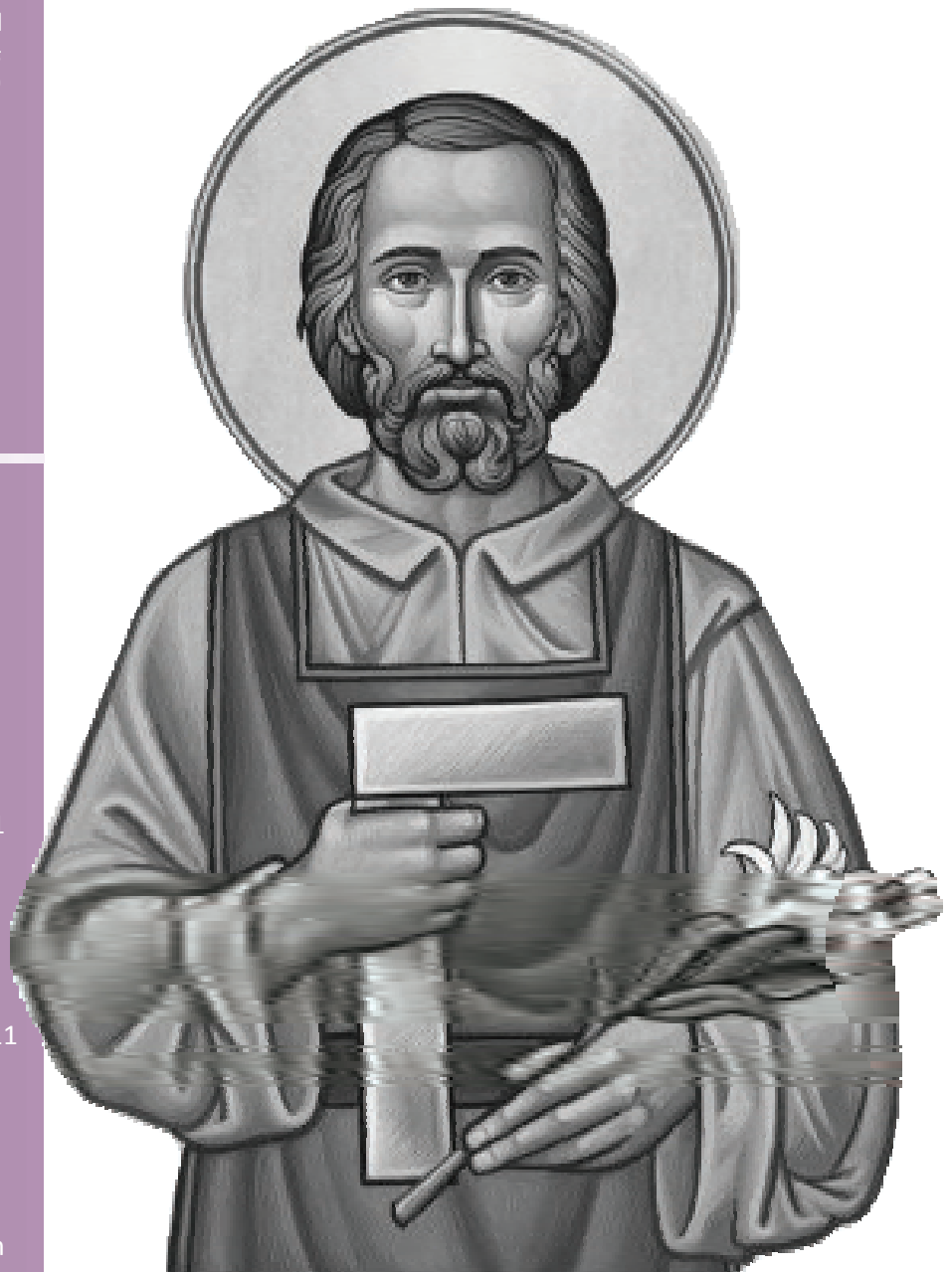
Saint Joseph

HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

Priests

Prophets

Kings



November 28, 2021

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon. 8:35 AM John T. Fischer
R/B Doris Dunderf
- Tue. 8:35 AM Ann Jawidzik
R/B Mary & Jeff Lawler
- 8:35AM George Henry Becker, Jr.
R/B Becker Girls
- 8:35AM Richard A. Hallbauer
R/B Hilton Family
- Wed. 8:35AM Tony Manzella & Margaret Cepela
R/B Alice Manzella & Family
- Thu. 8:35AM Jane Ann Lawlor
R/B Garr Stephenson
- Fri. 8:35AM Loretta Witt.
R/B Witt Family
- 8:35AM Jack Burns
R/B Mackiw Family
- Sat. 4:45AM Arthur & Patricia West
R/B Houle Family
- 4:45PM People of the Parish
- Sun. 8:00 AM T.J. Pope
R/B Pat & Bob Matzek
- Sun. 9:30AM Jeffrey Cullaton
R/B Mom & Charles Bond
- 9:30AM Carol & Bob Conlin
R/B Barbara Dorr
- 9:30AM Mary Jane Gottlick
R/B Laura Iarkowski & Family
- Sun. 11:30AM Dorothy Staubach
R/B Robin Shaw & Family

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 Luke 3:1-6

Behind the Scenes of This Week's Readings

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, is the beginning of the new Liturgical Calendar. Advent is taken from the Latin word *adventus* (coming), a translation of the Greek *parousia* (second coming). Most likely its observance began in the 4th century when the Church began to celebrate Christ's birth. It was observed as a time of penance, similar to Lent. It has lasted as long as five weeks and as short as 3 days a week. Most importantly, its early history focused on preparing for the Second Coming of Christ. Not until much later was a remembrance of Christ's birth added to the observance of Advent. Today Advent is four weeks long and celebrates both the remembrance of Christ's birth and the preparation for his Second Coming. To everyone's liking, it is not as penitential as Lent. — Dorothy Gearon



Dear All, Christ's peace!

God continues to bless our parish in countless and powerful ways. Our very dedicated Parish Council is one of those blessings. In the world of Parish Councils, they are exceptional.

The Council's recent discussions and discernment have identified three major priorities for our parish to pursue this year: providing even better care for families experiencing the death of a beloved member, engaging young families in new and improved programs, and getting more people back to Mass.

Our shared effort to bring more people back to Mass requires us to obtain more and better information about those who have returned and those who have not yet done so. This survey can provide that information. Whether you have come back to regular Mass attendance or have not yet done so, please complete this survey. We would be grateful if every member of your household who has been confirmed completes the survey. The more information we have, the better we can cooperate with God's hopes.

Thank you in advance for taking the few minutes to Answer these questions.

With gratitude and blessings,

Fr. Hank

MASS INTENTIONS

To arrange Mass intentions for 2022, come to the Parish Office **through Friday, December 3, at any of the following times:**

Sunday – 9 to 11 AM

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:-
9 to 11 AM, 1 to 3 PM, and 5 to 7 PM.

Friday – 9 to 11 AM.

November 28, 2021



CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES

Thanks in advance for helping. Last year, the pandemic got in the way of collecting donations for the Christmas flowers. This year, we have some catching up to do. The envelopes will be available from this weekend until New Years on the Moses Table and can be dropped in the collection baskets.



THANK YOU!

St. Joseph Advent Giving Tree Ministry wishes to thank all our wonderful parishioners for their incredible generosity and continued support for both the gift card program for local agencies and the program for the children in the Dunlow area of Appalachia. A report of your generosity will be shared in the coming weeks. God Bless You!



CHRISTMAS MASSES

This is the schedule of the times of Christmas masses as of November 19. More details and any changes will be posted each week. Please continue to check for any changes in this schedule .
Thank You.

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|
| Christmas Eve – | | |
| 4:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 10:00 PM |
| Christmas Day – | | |
| 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |

NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME AND ORIENTATION

The new parishioner welcome and orientation sessions are a great thing for those who have registered but not yet participated in a New Parishioner Welcome Session. If you missed the session, please watch for the dates of our future sessions.



SAGES ACTIVITIES

Picnic Luncheons

Our outdoor picnics will resume in the Spring.. Activities have now moved indoors..

Drums Alive – Exercise Class:

Thursdays, through December 9, at 10 AM. No reservations required.

Winter Monday Fundays began on November 15 from 1:30- 3:30 PM in Parish Hall. Various activities including movies, poker, board games and mah-jong, etc.

Christmas Crafts – December 6– with Corks Plus, poker, mahjong, board games and other Christmas fun.

General Information: To learn more about SAGES and all options for our over-55 parishioners, visit our website at SAGES Senior Ministry <http://sjmillstone.com/sages>

For more info contact

AnnaMaria at 908-874-2141 e3xt 240 or arealbuto@stjosephsparish.com

IN MEMORIAM

Anthony Gubitosi, brother of parishioner Guy (Agnes), died on November 12.

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

November 28, 2021



LECTIO DIVINA SCRIPTURE SHARING

You are invited to share scripture with a small group of people on Monday mornings 11-11:30AM. We reflect and share on the Gospel of that day. It is an investment of only one-half hour of your time, and we can assure you that the fruits of that one-half hour will be abundant.

Make a commitment for just one Monday, and if you like it, come back the next Monday. Start your week with prayer, community, and hope. We look forward to sharing this time with you!

Bring your bible with you!

Learn more about how to join this meeting by visiting: diometuchen.org/onechurchtogether



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BULLETIN DEADLINE

We are back on schedule with paper bulletins. 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. Full page announcements must be submitted at least 3 weeks in advance and although we try our best, they are subject to space restrictions. Contact Dorothy at stjoebulletin@yahoo.com. Thank You.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Diocese of Metuchen is seeking a Communications Specialist to join the diocesan Office of Communications and Public Relations.

The Communications Specialist is entrusted with telling the story of the mission of the Catholic Church and the works regularly being carried out in Her name in the four counties of the Diocese of Metuchen: Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren.

Reporting to the Director of Communications, the Communications Specialist is committed to advancing the mission of the Church; making known the good works happening in the Diocese; and promoting the services and programs it provides in all areas throughout the Diocese.

To learn more or to apply, please visit: diometuchen.org/communications-specialist

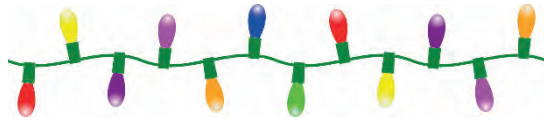


DIOCESAN FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM

As we celebrate the Year "Amoris Laetitia Family," the diocesan Office of Communications and Public Relations is compiling a digital family photo album. We invite you to share a photo of your family – a photo of your domestic church by which our local Church of Metuchen is constantly enriched. Please consider sharing your family's photo with us by sending your photo to communications@diometuchen.org, so we can together bear witness to the love of God through our "family of families."

November 28, 2021

O HOLY NIGHTS!



GRAND LIGHTING

Sunday, November 28, 5 PM

200 Christmas Trees, 50,000 lights, music, fun.



TAILGATE CAROLING

Sunday, December 5, 5 PM

Music, tailgate decorating contest, Tik Tok. Warm yourself by the fire drums.



SHEPHERD'S PATH

Sunday, December 12, 5 PM

Test Your Knowledge; Stroll the path and encounter our young shepherds.



LIVE NATIVITY

Sunday, December 19, 4 PM

Drive thru' and experience the true meaning of Christmas. **Registration Required.** The big finale presented by the youth group starts at 4:00 PM (so people who don't drive at night can visit). **Sign-up times will be required** and refreshments will flow.

All evenings will feature Christmas cookies and the World's Best St. Joe Cocoa.

Sunday, Nov 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Light up the night

In an unusual conjoining of celebrations, we begin the season of Advent today as our Jewish friends begin the eight-day festival of lights known as Chanukah tonight. It's intriguing to reflect on how Advent too is an extended celebration of moving from the darkness of history into the light of Christ's coming. Light remains a symbol of spiritual illumination, abandoning the gloom of ignorance for knowledge and the shadow of foolishness for wisdom. As we string holiday lights and decorate with sparkling ornaments, let's consciously choose against error's dark deceptions and ally ourselves with the light of truth.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 (3). *"Be vigilant at all times . . . to stand before the Son of Man."*

Monday, Nov 29, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Have yourself an evergreen Advent

The origins of the Advent wreath are unclear. Like many holiday traditions, they may be pre-Christian, and like many of today's Christmas traditions, Advent wreaths were popularized by Germans, who brought them to the United States. No matter where they came from or how they differ, Advent wreaths are rich in symbolism. The candles are lit as a sign of hope to dispel the darkness. The evergreen, wrapped in a circle, signifies continuous life. The prickly leaves of holly are like the crown of thorns. Pinecones symbolize resurrection. If you don't already have one, consider making one as a craft project this Advent, and add elements that have symbolic meaning for you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11 (175). *"Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed."*

Tuesday, Nov 30, 2021

FEAST OF ANDREW, APOSTLE

Can you follow directions?

Sometimes what we appreciate about saints comes from other saints. Such is the case with Saint Andrew and his brother, Simon Peter, of whom Saint Gregory the Great said: "At a single command" from Jesus, they "leaving their nets followed the Redeemer. Up to that time, they had not seen him perform any miracles. They had heard nothing from him concerning a reward of eternal joy." All Jesus had to do was ask them to follow. This Advent, listen for what Jesus may be asking of you; pray for the trust that Andrew had, to simply follow.

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22 (684). *"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Wednesday, Dec 01, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Guess who is on the way?

On this Wednesday of the First Week of Advent, we look forward to the second coming of Christ. *Advent* comes from the Latin word for *arriving*. We have all experienced brokenness and hopelessness in our lives. You may know and cross paths with someone yearning for Jesus' healing power and awareness of his presence in their life. Has your mind, heart, body, and spirit been hungry for spiritual nourishment? Have you been healed by

Jesus? Do you want to share that same healing experience with others? Consider simple ways that you can share with a hurting friend the Good News that Jesus is on the way!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). *"I do not want to send them away hungry."*

Thursday, Dec 02, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Seek to unite, not divide

It's human nature to see the good in our own habits, ways, and traditions, but at the same time, Pope Francis has encouraged Christians to acknowledge the validity of other spiritual paths to God. The Holy Father's focus on what unites humanity spiritually is an important lesson for a world community that depends more than ever on cooperation. As you begin Advent, look for ways that you are united spiritually with people who are part of your life, no matter what their faith tradition is.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of heaven."*

Friday, Dec 03, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Creation celebrates diversity

"If you embrace diversity, but ignore disability, you're doing it wrong." This popular phrase on social media reflects the venerable tradition of Catholic social teaching. On this Day of Persons with Disabilities, remember that in following Jesus, we are committed to promoting and protecting the dignity of all humans. At times, we as church have led the way in this, and other times we have fallen short. Nevertheless, it is fundamental to our faith. Why? Because we believe that each person is made in the image of God. Imagine that: In you—with all your strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and unique traits—we see an image of God. What does that do within you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"And their eyes were opened."*

Saturday, Dec 04, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

The embodiment of faith

John Damascene, priest, monk, and poet, was an early defender of the use of religious icons—images of the sacred—at a time in the early Middle Ages when a movement to strip religious life and worship of all images—called *iconoclasm*—had a following. Thanks to John's vision—perhaps rooted in his sense of the power of the poetic to move people—religious icons are cherished, especially in the Eastern church but also throughout the Catholic world. Our faith is an embodied faith, an incarnated faith. Wear it proudly!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). *"Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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