OUR LADY OF PEACE September 22, 2024 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Saturday: 5:15 P.M. Sunday: 8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. Weekday Mass Monday - Saturday 8:00A.M.

Last Tuesday of the Month 7:00 P.M.

SACRAMENT OF

PENANCE

Saturday:

11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

4:00 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.

GPS: 620 Amboy Ave, Edison, NJ 08837 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 69, Fords, NJ 08863 Email us: mail@olpfords.org Visit us at: www.olpfords.org Parish Office: 26 Maple Ave. Edison, NJ 08837 Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm Phone: 732-738-7940

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 28/29, 2024

5:15 p.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Balog,

Karen Senatore

Reader: Bill Herring

Altar Server: Anna & Veronica Delgado

8:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Martin Verendia, Tom Bednar, Roseanne Brady

Reader: Alyssa Dantes

10:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Benjamin Praval

MaryAnn Fazioli, Mary Prumos

Reader: Knights of Columbus **Altar Server:** Joshua Baptista

12:00 Noon

Eucharistic Ministers: Lorraine O'Prandy,

Frank Heelan, Kathleen Kazary

Reader: Jim Padden

Altar Server: Sienna Santos

Bus Trip NJ State Mass & March For Life in Trenton – Thursday, September 26, 2024



The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Human Life and Dignity will be running a bus trip to the NJ State

Mass for Life and March for Life in Trenton on Thursday, September 26, 2024. Bus seats are \$20 per person. Passengers will board the bus at the Diocesan Center in Piscataway at 7:45 AM and then attend the 9:30 AM Mass at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. After Mass it is a short walk to the 11:00 AM Rally at the State House Annex which will be followed by a 1 mile walk through Trenton beginning at 12:00 Noon. The bus will depart Trenton at 1:15 PM to bring everyone back to the Diocesan Center. If you have any questions and/or would like to reserve a bus

www.diometuchen.org/humanlifeanddignity or email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543.

seat please visit

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK September 22, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am

- + Maria Juana Lugo from Daughter Maria 10:00 am
- + Robert Rapach from Joe & Alicia Rapach 12:00 Noon
 - + Michael Brady from Family

September 23, Monday St. Pius

8:00 am

+ For our Parishioners from Our Pastor

September 24, Tuesday Weekday

8:00 am

- + David & Joseph Ferlicchi from Emil 7:00 pm
 - + John Tucker III from Luis Ramos

September 25, Wednesday Weekday

8:00 am

+ Tony Colantuono from The Dekonski Family

September 26, Thursday Weekday

8:00 am

+ Mary Lou Koppin from Frank

September 27, Friday St. Vincent de Paul

8:00 am

+ Gerard Kennedy from The Kennedy Family

September 28, Saturday Weekday

8:00 am

- + Carole Fackina from The Devane Family 5:15 pm
 - + Deceased Members of the Langan Families from Lois and Paul

September 29, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am

- + In Gratitude of God from Virginia 10:00 am
 - + Knights of Columbus 12:00 Noon
- + Johanna Misura from The Aube Family

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY ~ September 22 1:00 pm Baptism ~ Church

MONDAY ~ September 23 8:30 am Novena ~ Church

TUESDAY ~ September 24 7:00pm Parish Mass ~ Church

WEDNESDAY ~ September 25 7:00pm Knights Installation Mass ~ Church 8:00 pm Knight Social Mtg. ~ Parish Hall

4:30pm Religious Ed. ~ Parish Center 7:00pm Religious Ed. ~ Parish Center

THURSDAY ~ September 26 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal ~ Church

FRIDAY ~ September 27 7:00pm Knights Line Dancing ~ Parish Hall

> SATURDAY ~ September 28 11:00 am Confession ~ Church 4:00 pm Confession ~ Church

SUNDAY ~ September 29
No Activities

2025 Mass Book

The Mass book is now open for 2025.





Candle
In Memory of
Raymond Tibok
From
Lesch Family





Bread & Wine

In memory of **Mary Lou Koppin** From **Frank**

Please pray for the Sick

Eunice McLaughlin, Raymond Miller,
Danielle Maglies, Francis Lee,
Dotty Karnowski, Anna Verrico,
Anthony Sclafani, Rolando Rey
Christine Mary Brown, Donna Ferrara,
Lonie Ebarle, Julia Forsythe, Joanne M.,
Maria Lavid, Teddy Sabo, Lisa Sabo, Norma Nebus, Nancy
Gaid, Joan Trainor, Harriet Gockel,

Please pray for the Dearly Departed

Peter Rutkowski. Renata Wisnik

Richard Bava, Anthony, DeBernardo,
Donald Korneski, Marie Prego,
Kyle Gerba, Andrew Benscko
Joseph Schweikert, John Russo,
AnnaMae Plavic, Peter E. Battoglia,
Claire Dunn, Harriet Youngs, Peter Battoglia,
Philip Gouveia, MaryLou Zec, Manuel Castillo,
Dorothy Reo, Elaine Zoppi,
Raymond Tibok, Frances Brown, John Matyi,
Jack Brewster

Silver & Gold & 5 Year Wedding Anniversary Celebration

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 125th or 50th or 5th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, October 20, I 12024 at 3:00 PM. This year the Silver and I IGold Anniversary Prayer Service will I linclude couples celebrating 5 years of marriage. Registration is required. Please register online at: www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-goldanniversary-celebration. If you are unable I to access, please contact the Family Life! at 732-562-1543 Office I amarshall@diometuchen.org. Registration will close on October 11, 2024. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion.

Donations of Gratitude may be made lonline

https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration or calling 732-562-1543.

Parochial Ministry

Rev. Matthew R. Paratore, S.T.L., J.C.L., Pastor Rev. James G. Tucker, Parochial Vicar Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I., (In Res.) Deacon John A. Raychel

Parish Services

Rev. John J. Zec, Ph.D., Music Director
Candida Gonzalez, Coordinator of Religious Ed
Lourdes Hnath, Organist

Parish Staff

Walter Springer, Business Administrator Norma Izzo, Bookkeeping Assistant Dawn Aube, Religious Education Secretary

> <u>Trustees</u> Joan C. Deyak Paul B. Coleman

STEWARDSHIP

September 15, 2024
Weekly Collection..........\$ 4,585.00
Online Collection.........\$ 2,400.50
Mail In Collection........\$ 1,205.00
Repairs & Maintenance..\$ 1,128.00

Total.....\$ 9,318.50

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for remembering your parish with your Stewardship of Treasure when you are away on vacation or when weather prohibits your attendance at Mass. Your continued financial support is essential and much appreciated by our parish community.

REGISTRO PARROQUIAL

Para permitirnos servirle mejor, todos los feligreses deben registrarse en la oficina parroquial. Si usted es un nuevo feligrés, o un feligrés actual que se mudó o cambió de número de teléfono, por favor contacte a la Oficina Parroquial.

Los miembros de la familia de 23 años o más deben registrarse por separado como individuos, incluso si continúan viviendo con sus padres. Debe ser un feligrés registrado para ser un Patrocinador de Confirmación o un Padrino.

REQUISITOS PARA SER PADRINO/PATROCINADOR DE CONFIRMACIÓN Debe ser un feligrés ACTIVO, REGISTRADO por un mínimo de seis meses que asista a misa semanalmente y contribuya al apoyo de la Iglesia, de acuerdo con los medios de uno.

Debe haber recibido todos los sacramentos de iniciación. Si está casado, debe estar en un matrimoni reconocido como válido por la Iglesia Católica.

Debe vivir una vida cristiana consistente con el papel de padrino o patrocinador de confirmación

REGISTRATION

To enable us to better serve you, all parishioners should register at the Parish Office. If you are a new parishioner, or a current parishioner who has moved or changed phone numbers, please contact the Parish Office.

Family members 23 years or older should register separately as individuals even if continuing to live with their parents. You must be a registered parishioner to be a Confirmation Sponsor or a Godparent.

GODPARENT/CONFIRMATION SPONSOR REQUIREMENTS

Must be an ACTIVE, REGISTERED parishioner for a minimum of six months, who attends Mass weekly, and contributes to the support of the Church, in accordance with one's means.

Must have received all the Sacraments of Initiation.

If married, must be in a marriage recognized as valid by the Catholic Church.

Must live a Christian life consistent with the role of godparent or sponsor.



Coping When Your Spouse Dies by Laz Medard

Coping When Your Spouse Dies helps readers realize that, while you can't bring back a spouse who died, you can face your grief in a series of stages which lead toward personal healing. The author advises

those trying to cope with a loss not to bury their feelings, but rather to go through the pain of death and look toward the new life God has provided.

PARISH ORGANIZATION & MINISTRIES

ALTAR-ROSARY SOCIETY: 1st Sunday of the month. Contact Angela Chundak at 732-221-0977

BAPTISM PREPARATION: 2nd Tuesday of January, April, July, & October.

Contact the Parish Office. (Must Register, no Walk-Ins)

BLUE ARMY DEVOTIONS: Tuesday at 7:00pm

COLUMBIETTES #9199: 2nd Thursday at 7:00pm

HOLY NAME SOCIETY: 2nd Sunday of the month. Contact Alan Nygard 732-986-3199.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #9199: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8:00pm

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday at 8:30am

PRE-CANA MINISTRY: 2nd Saturday of March & 3rd Saturday Of October. Contact the Parish Office.

FOCCUS: Contact Parish Office.

R.C.I.A.: All persons seeking instruction or more information about membership in the Roman Catholic Church are invited to call the parish office.

ROSARY: 1st Sunday of every month at 9:30am sharp before the 10:00am Mass and 1st Saturday of the Month following 8:00am Mass.

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY: meets as scheduled

Blood Drive

Our Lady Of Peace Social Concerns Ministry

Sunday, October 6, 2024 8:30 am—1:30pm Parish Center Gymnasium, 25 Franklin Ave, Edison

Appointments strongly recommended

You may use the phone number below, go to donors.vitalant.org (using blood drive code: XOLPCE) or the QR code and link to the right to schedule your appointment!

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Surviving Divorce Fall 2024

Surviving Divorce – For men and women seeking healing from separation or divorce. This 8-week program, while based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce.

Meetings will be held on Wednesdays 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM beginning October 2, 2024 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ. For more information or to register contact Rachelle Hanna at rachelle.hanna@gmail.com.

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Friend,

During the time of the Coronavirus, we are realizing that God never liked to have anything to do with those who prayed the "easy" way. Let us think of Moses, he was not a "weak" dialogue partner either, from the very first day of his vocation.

When God called him, Moses was in human terms a "failure". The Book of Exodus depicts him in the land of Midian as a fugitive. As a young man he had felt compassion for his people, and had aligned himself in defense of the oppressed. But he soon discovered that, despite his good intentions, it was not justice, but violence that came from his hands. His dreams of glory shattered, Moses was no longer a promising official, destined to rise rapidly in his career, but rather one who gambled away opportunities, and now grazed a flock that was not even his own. And it was precisely in the silence of the desert of Midian that God summoned Moses to the revelation of the burning bush: "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God" (Ex 3:6).

Moses opposes God who speaks, who invites him to take care of the people of Israel once more with his fears and his objections: he is not worthy of that mission, he does not know the name of God, he will not be believed by the Israelites, he has a stammering tongue... so many other objections. The word that appears most frequently on Moses's lips, in every prayer he addresses to God, is the question: "Why?" Why have you sent me? Why do you want to free this people? Why? There is even a dramatic passage in the Pentateuch, where God reproaches Moses for his lack of trust, a lack that will prevent him from entering the promised land (cf. *Nm* 20:12).

With these fears, with this heart that often falters, how can Moses pray? Rather, Moses appears human like us. And this happens to us too: when we have doubts, how can we pray? It is not easy for us to pray. And it is because of his weakness, as well as his strength, that we are impressed. Entrusted by God to transmit the Law to his people, founder of divine worship, mediator of the highest mysteries, he will not for this reason cease to maintain close bonds of solidarity with his people, especially in the hour of temptation and sin. He was always attached to his people. Moses never forgets his people. And this is the greatness of pastors: not forgetting the people, not forgetting one's roots. And just as Paul says to his beloved young Bishop Timothy: "Remember your mother and your grandmother, your roots, your people". Moses is so friendly with God that he can speak with Him face to face (see *Ex* 33:11); and he will remain so friendly with other people that he feels mercy for their sins, for their temptations, for the sudden nostalgia that the exiles feel for the past, recalling when they were in Egypt.

Moses does not reject God, but nor does he reject his people. He is faithful to his flesh and blood, he is faithful to God's voice. Moses is not therefore an authoritarian and despotic leader; the Book of Numbers defines him rather as "a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth" (*Nm* 12:3). Despite his privileged status, Moses never ceased to belong to the numbers of the poor in spirit who live by trusting in God as the viaticum of their journey. He is a man of his people.

Thus, the way of praying most proper to Moses is through *intercession* (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2574). His faith in God is completely at one with his sense of fatherhood towards his people. Scripture habitually depicts him with his hands outstretched towards God, as if to form a bridge between heaven and earth with his own person. Even in the most difficult moments, even on the day when the people repudiate God and him as a guide and make themselves a golden calf, Moses does not feel like putting his people aside. They are my people. They are your people. They are my people. He does not reject either God or his people. And he says to God: "Ah, this people has committed a grave sin in making a god of gold for themselves! Now if you would only forgive their sin! But if you will not" - if you do not forgive this sin - "then blot me out of the book that you have written" (*Ex* 32:31-32). Moses does not barter his people. He is the bridge, the one intercessor. Both of them, the people and God, and he is in the middle. He does not sell out his people to advance his career. He does not climb the ladder, he is an intercessor: for his people, for his flesh and blood, for his history, for his people and for the God who called him. He is the bridge. What a beautiful example for all pastors who must be "bridges". This is why they are called *pontifex*, bridges. Pastors are the bridges between the people, to whom they belong, and God, to whom they belong by vocation. This is what Moses is. "If you would only forgive their sin! But if you will not, then blot me out of the book that you have written. I do not want to get ahead at the expense of my people".

And this is the prayer that true believers cultivate in their spiritual life. Even if they experience the shortcomings of people and their distance from God, in prayer they do not condemn them, they do not reject them. The intercessory attitude is proper to the saints who, in imitation of Jesus, are "bridges" between God and His people. Moses, in this sense, was the first great prophet of Jesus, our advocate and intercessor (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2577). And today, too, Jesus is the *pontifex*, He is the bridge between us and the Father. And Jesus intercedes for us, He shows the Father the wounds that are the price of our salvation, and He intercedes. And Moses is the figure of Jesus who today prays for us, intercedes for us.

Moses urges us to pray with the same ardor as Jesus, to intercede for the world, to remember that despite all its frailties, it still belongs to God. Everyone belongs to God. The worst sinners, the wickedest people, the most corrupt leaders, they are children of God, and Jesus feels this and intercedes for everyone. And the world lives and thrives thanks to the blessing of the righteous, to the prayer for mercy, this prayer for mercy that the saint, the righteous, the intercessor, the priest, the bishop, the Pope, the layperson, any baptized person incessantly raises up for humanity, in every place and time in history. Let us think of Moses, the intercessor. And when we want to condemn someone and we become angry inside ... to get angry is good it can be healthy - while to condemn does no good, let us intercede for him or her; this will help us a lot.

Never stop praying always so as to never lose heart.

Father Matthew

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