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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 30, 2022

*Faith, hope, and love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.
— 1 Corinthians 13:13*

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

8:30AM +Barbara Lanner r/o Daughter Dawn
5:00PM +John & Loretta Kaczanowski
r/o Ciro & Nancy

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00AM +Fr. Jasionowski
r/o St. Mary's Altar Rosary Society
11:00AM +Kazimierz Losiewicz
r/o Daughter and family

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

St. John Bosco, Priest and Religious Founder

8:30AM God's Blessings for Jozef Kupczak
on his 75th Birthday r/o Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

8:30AM Yefchak Family r/o Ken Yefchak

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

The Presentation of the Lord

8:30AM +For Our Parishioners

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3 –St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop

8:30AM +Theresa Kosinski
r/o Nicolo & Domenica Accreditato

FIRST FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:30AM +Emily Nadbielny
r/o St Mary's Altar Rosary Society

FIRST SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

8:30AM +Bernard Graebener r/o Family
5:00PM +Lynn Paladino
r/o Dumandan & Cashman Families

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:00AM +Ted Gluch
r/o John & Margie Todaro
11:00AM +Wladyslawa & Jozef Chudzik
r/o Daughter Joanna Kupczak
and family

First Reading - God appoints Jeremiah as prophet to the nations.

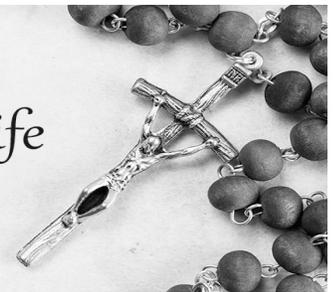
Second Reading - Love with its many facets is the most important of the virtues.

Gospel - When Jesus claims his salvific mission is for all people, not just the Jews, he is expelled by the enraged members of the Nazarean synagogue.

Reflection

Prophets are people who see deeply. Israel's prophets are possessed of God's vision for the world. The first reading tells of the call of the prophet Jeremiah, who is in many ways like Jesus; both have a difficult mission yet carry with them a sense of God's power and protection. The second reading gives some insight to the source of power of God's people. Paul sings of the virtue of love, the kind that possessed Jesus and Jeremiah. Paul says that we too are capable of this kind of steadfast, inexhaustible love that outlasts all. The God who is the author of this love is the same God who is Jeremiah's strength and the same God whom Jesus proclaims as a saving God.

World Day for
Consecrated Life



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Pope's Universal Intention: Catechists

For true human fraternity.

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe
Visits our families**



Please invite the picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe into your home for a one week visit. To sign up, please call Theresa Rudnicki-Jones at 908-526-7687.

PARISHIONERS PRAYER LIST

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING:

Wanda Czarcinski, Joanne Felegi, Michael Gacek, Barbara Mendel, Deborah Vance.

HOMEBOUND: Patricia D'Allesandro, Lorraine Deleski, Richard Freligh, Rose Guido, Millie Della Peruta, Ann Pchola, Nora Specian, Florence Suk, Madeline Wojciechowski.

NOTE: Please call the Parish Office (732) 356-0358 with the names of homebound, nursing home / assisted living or hospitalized parishioners.

HOSPITALIZED: Lester Bowser, Michael Sikora

**Weekend Offering
January 16, 2022**

5:00 pm - \$ 241.00 11:00 am - \$ 747.00

9:00 am - \$ 1,150.00 Mail - \$ 615.00

Total - \$ 2,753.00

**Valentine's Day is
Every Day**



No reason why Valentine's Day should be just one day each year. Why not give your spouse a gift that lasts every day?

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held February 4 - 6.

Please apply ASAP as space is limited. Phone 1-732-904-9636 for application and information (Tom & Ruth DeFalco). Visit us at: www.wwme.org for more information.

Lector Schedule - January 29-30, 2022

Saturday, January 29

5:00 pm Lector Joe Pizzo

Sunday, January 30

9:00 am Lector Martha Ptaszynski

11:00 am Lector Elzbieta Ozog-Osewska

**First Saturday Devotions
February 5, 2021**

In honor of the Blessed Mother's request to Sr. Lucia, who she appeared to at Fatima, St. Mary of Czestochowa offers the opportunity to partake in the devotion of the Five First Saturdays.

On the first Saturday of each month, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered at 8:30 am, followed by the recitation of the rosary and 15 minutes of quiet meditation on the mysteries. The intention of this devotion is to make reparation for the offenses and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Confession, which is a requirement, may be made within 8 days prior or after the first Saturday.

The promise to those who console the Virgin Mary through this devotion is the assistance at the hour of death with the graces necessary for their salvation. The Blessed Mother also promised that this devotion will result in the salvation of souls and peace in the world.



Our Monthly Food Drive will take place next weekend, February 5 - 6.

SHIP has finally re-opened and is in dire need to re-stock its shelves with non-perishable items and personal items (toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.) Please be as generous as you are able to those who need help.

***The Rosary Rally in the Chapel on the Second Saturday of the month will not take place on-
February 12***

Contribution Statements

If you would like to receive a statement of your 2021 Church Contributions for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and return it in the collection basket.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ENVELOPE # _____

You must fill out this form to receive a statement. Contribution statements will not be sent out automatically.

Thank you for your cooperation.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

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January 20, 2022

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we begin a new calendar year, we always make time to recognize our Catholic schools. Unfortunately, again this year we are challenged to celebrate Catholic Schools Week (January 30 – February 5, 2022) in the midst of rising COVID numbers and the disruption that has resulted. But, as always, our schools will rise to the challenge. I was very proud that our schools were able to offer in-person education last year to those families that wanted to have their children in school. In addition, for those families that preferred to have their students remain at home, a very successful virtual learning opportunity existed in every school. It was a great blessing to be able to serve our families, and I am so grateful to the pastors, principals and teachers that made it happen. The students were most cooperative too. Without a doubt, being able to keep our schools open during that challenging time was certainly a blessing.

While we all had hoped that this school year would be a bit easier, that has not proven to be the case. Once again, our schools have adapted to the needs of the school community. They are providing virtual learning to those that must quarantine, being attentive to health and safety requirements, and enjoying as many school activities as possible. There are school Masses celebrated, plays being performed, school clubs have resumed and outreach to others remains a hallmark of a Catholic school.

In my recent Pastoral Letter on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Diocese of Metuchen, I asked that we embrace three priorities that will enable us to answer the Lord's call even more effectively: increased prayer, works of mercy and vocations. During this anniversary year, I am looking forward to learning how these priorities will be met in the schools. There are many liturgical celebrations during the year in every school, Masses, Eucharistic Adoration, special devotions, and daily prayer.

This year, there will be an increased focus on prayer, the quiet time that our students need to be with God. The campus ministry programs at our high schools have many good activities taking place. Recently, given the number of young priests we have ordained, we are blessed to again have some young priests assigned full time to our high schools as Directors of Catholic Identity and as teachers, who I hope and pray are able to foster the prayer lives of our students and faculties. Our schools are such an important part of our evangelization efforts, as they assist our students in not only learning about Jesus and the Church but in deepening their friendship with Him. I hear from our school parents how grateful they are as our schools not only offer a great education for their children but also enable our families to live Gospel values proudly at a time when that is becoming more and more challenging.

I am always so impressed, too, by the outreach and acts of mercy that our school communities do within their school and parish, but also for others. From Appalachia to Haiti and beyond, students and their families are encouraged to reach out and act in the name of Jesus. This year, I am asking that our students, just like everyone else in the diocese, perform 40 acts of mercy in honor of our anniversary year. So often when students participate in outreach of any kind, the entire family becomes involved, and that is such a blessing.

The third priority we are embracing during this anniversary year is the need for vocations. We must constantly pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. It is difficult in today's noisy and fast paced world to create a culture that allows young men and women to be able to even hear God's call. Our Catholic schools must be such places. I was delighted to hear that each of our schools has "adopted" one of our seminarians. In some schools, the seminarian has visited, either virtually or in person, to discuss his spiritual journey and vocation with the students. It is good to know that there are so many prayers coming from our students in support of our seminarians and praying for more young men and women to answer God's call to serve as priests and religious.

As a product of Catholic schools, I know what a blessing they are, and am so grateful to my parents for having always sent me to Catholic schools. I was not as aware then of all the significant sacrifices people make for our Catholic schools but have certainly learned that, so I want to thank all those who make our schools possible. We here in the Diocese of Metuchen are blessed by the leadership of Ellen Ayoub who serves as our Secretary for Schools. Her love of our Lord and His Church is evident, and she knows well the value of what our schools do. We are grateful for her dedication to our school families. I am grateful, too, for all our religious sisters and brothers who have taught with our dedicated lay teachers, our principals, administrators and staff and I truly appreciate all the dedicated supporters of our schools.

I am very thankful that quite a few of our pastors have told me that in these past two years more people are choosing to send their children to our Catholic schools. I know from my own experience and from what I see, they will not regret it.

While I have the great privilege of learning about our school communities through by visits to them, even now as we are being more careful, I invite you to visit the Office of Catholic Schools' website to learn more about our wonderful schools. Check our social media, too, to see what is happening in the schools.

So, as we journey into a new year, please join me in praying for our youth as well as our schools and all who make them possible. Know of my love and prayers for you always and may all of you have a Blessed 2022.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen