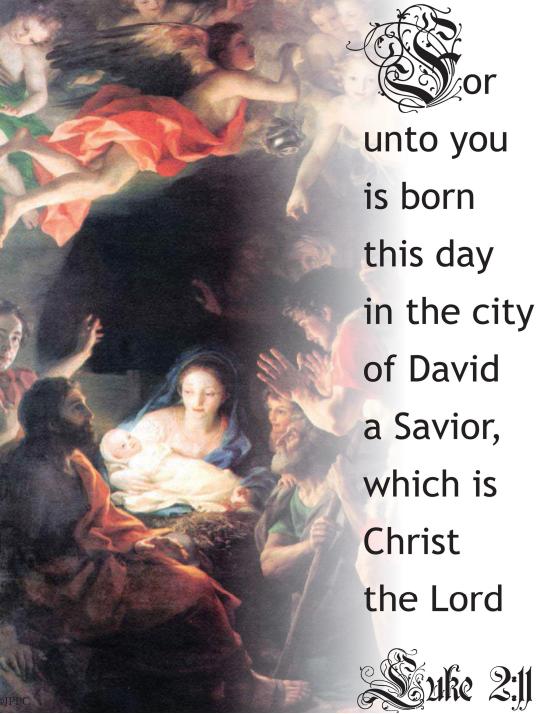


4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas 24-25 December 2023

To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are friendless and need friendship; to all who are discouraged and need hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; and to whomsoever will,

THIS PARISH OPENS WIDE HER DOORS IN THE NAME OF JESUS THE LORD!

Ihureh of the Assumption Roman Catholic Parish ERECTED A.D. MCMVII



MASS INTENTIONS						
ANTICIPATED MASS FOR SUNDAY						
5:00 PM	Katerine Torello					
	Family					
SUNDAY	December 24 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT					
8:00 AM	Vincenzo & Laureta Tripicchio					
	Love, Sal					
10:30 AM	People of the Parish					
12:00 PM	NO MASS					
	Christmas Eve					
4:00 PM	Michael Casa					
	Love, Helen & family					
11:30 PM	Rosemary Peterson					
	DeIorio family					
MONDAY	December 25 Nativity of the Lord					
8:00 AM	Maria Tripicchio					
	Love, Sal					
10:30 AM	People of the Parish					
12:00 PM	Rosemary Peterson					
	Knights of Columbus, #3240					
TUESDAY	December 26 Stephen, first martyr					
8:00 AM	Adelina Pasquale Cosentino					
	Love, Sal					
WEDNESD	AY December 27 John, apostle					
8:00 AM	Michael Kudlach, 18th Anniversary†					
	Love, Virginia, Jenny & Jackie					
	Y December 28 Holy Innocents, martyrs					
8:00 AM	Matthew Conroy					
	Love, Mom & Dad					
FRIDAY D	December 29					
8:00 AM	In thanksgiving of good health					
	for Anderson & Shanice Fernandes					
SATURDA	Y December 30					
8:00 AM	Mary Ann Rustia					
	Roberta Kilgallen					
	ANTICIPATED MASS FOR SUNDAY					
5:00 PM	Millicent Infuso					
	Judy Rorro & Joanne Vallone					
SUNDAY	December 31 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JMJ					
8:00 AM	People of the Parish					
10:30 AM	Dosamary Potorson					
10.30 AM	Rosemary Peterson Carl & Antia Hokanson					
12.00 DM						
12:00 PM	John & Mary Swedish					

COME, PRAY WITH US

Adoration and St. Anthony Novena -

Children

Tuesday Evenings at 7:00 PM

Holy Rosary - First Sundays at 10:00 AM in the church **Perpetual Novena of St. Jude** - after the Saturday 8 AM Mass

MEETINGS							
Finance Council	Feb 12	7:00	UPH				
Pastoral Council	Jan 08	7:00	UPH				
Rosary Society	TBA	7:00	LPH				
Knights of Columbus	Dec 20	8:00	Loreti Hall				

Prayer List: To have someone placed on or removed from the sick list please call the Rectory. We invite you to clip out this section each Sunday. Perhaps you could put it near a prayer book, in your Bible, or in your pocket or purse. It is a good thing when we pray with and for one another. Thank you and God bless you!

Our Parish Community prays for the sick:

Patrick Ahern Jr., Sophia Alfano, Altagracia Alvarez, Kathy Barz, Fred Boyne, Brendan, Joe Caponegro, Ken Castenon, Kay Downey, Ronald Fellner, Carol Fellner Nasta, Dorothy Ford, Charles Frank, John Garofalo, Lynn Gehrmann, Linda Geiger, Fran Getchies, Harold Gibson, Bonnie Greer, Cynthia Ingman, Thomas Ingman, A.M.J., Michael Lacey, Nancy Lanfrank, Chris Lettieri, Stella LoPiccolo, Christine Marino, Janet Marino, Christine Mattingly, Chantell McDonald, Eleanor Morehouse, Artie Muller, Tanina Naccarato, Monica Quigley O'Brien, Margie Ortizio, Lily Rita Procopio, Sabrina Romani, Antonio Spano, Gabrielle Spano, Debra Szajko, Tony Wargacki

Please pray for our Faithful departed & their loved ones



Prayer for Our Troops

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Special Memorial Donations

Special Donations—call the office to make donations for Hosts & Wine for Mass, Candles, Sanctuary Light or Tabernacle flowers. Special Donation envelopes are at the doors of the church.

Bread for Mass given
In THANKSGIVING FOR THE
HELP OF ST. ANTHONY
req. by Theresa & Joe Cicalese

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday (Vigil) Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-29 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25 **Sunday (Night)** Is 9:1-6 Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14

Monday (Dawn) Is 62:11-12 Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12 Ti 3:4-7 Lk 2:15-20 Monday (Day) Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18 Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:1a and 2-8 **Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 Mt 2:13-18 **Friday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Lk 2:22-35 **Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Lk 2:36-40

Sunday, December 31, 2023 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22,

9-40

For readings go to: www.usccb.org/bible/
readings/ or scan this >>>>

The Great Contradiction

Tis a season to be jolly, better yet, Tis the season to be holy.

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse, and The Lamb lies down with the lion. (see Is 11:6)

"Rudolph, with your nose so bright Won't you guide my sleigh tonight?" For as the star came to shine so bright

At his mother's breast, the Child guides us every night (see Mt 2:9).

See the blazing yule before us,

See in a manger the blazing light
before us;
the infant swaddled for the nations (see Lk 2:12-32).

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum, on my drum?

The angels did play for him:
Glory to God in the highest.
(Lk 2:14)

All I want for Christmas is you; You, baby.

For truly, all we need for Christmas is You, THE Baby. Blessed is the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus! (Lk 1:42)

I, Fr. Paul, wish you a joyous Christmas, And a Blessed New Year A.D. MMXXIV **Advent & Christmas Schedule**

Confessions: Mon – Thurs from 7:30 AM - 7:50 AM

Saturdays: 7:30 AM-7:50 AM & 4-4:30 PM

December 24: 4th Sunday of Advent:

Masses 8 AM & 10:30 AM;

NO 12 noon Mass!

December 24:

Christmas Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM with Children's choir Christmas Mass at Night (aka midnight Mass): 11:30 PM

Musical Prelude at 11:00 PM

December 25:

Christmas Mass at Dawn: 8:00 AM

Christmas Mass during the Day: 10:30 AM and 12 noon

hat is the meaning of Christmas? Why the gatherings? Why the gifts? Why the office parties even before it's Christmas? Why the trees and wreaths? Simply put, we easily forget that God is in love with us.

Jesus said, "God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son, that whoever believes in him may not die but have eternal life" (John3:16). In these few words we come to understand the mystery of Christmas – the celebration of the birth of Jesus in a small village called Bethlehem (Hose of Bread) of Judea as a real sign of his love. When someone says, "I am in love with you," we have three possible responses. One: I don't love you. Two: maybe I can love you, but I have to work it out, or not yet. And three: I am in love with you, too. So, when we are in love with God who loves us first, things begin to change. We love what and who God loves. Also, we want what God wants. It is true that we will do most everything and anything God wants in order to show our love in him. St. Francis of Assisi was often found naked rolling in the rose bushes, enduring the pain, so as not to falter in loving him (e.g anger, lust, envy, pride, etc.).

Also, God says we must love our neighbor as ourselves. It is true that we do fall in love with others, but not in God. We cannot see Him for it is only by faith that we know him. So why do we fall in love with God? It is because God has loved us first (evidenced by our creation, redemption, forgiveness, and his death on the cross for our sake) and knowing this, we can now be in love Him.

God, "I am in love with you, because you have been in love with me first." For many years now I have prayed daily a chaplet of love. Using my rosary beads, I pray:

Have mercy on me a sinner. Have mercy on me a great sinner. (As I beat my chest.) Teach me to love [insert the name of one/many you may have anger, or lust, or envy, or hatred for, etc] as you love him/her/them. Then on each bead I say, "Jesus, I love you, for you have loved me first." I conclude with the same words I began with: Have mercy on me a sinner. Have mercy on me a great sinner. Teach me to love as you love him/her/them.

Bon Natali, Fr. Paul

Save your Children from "adult" websites. Protect your chastity, now!

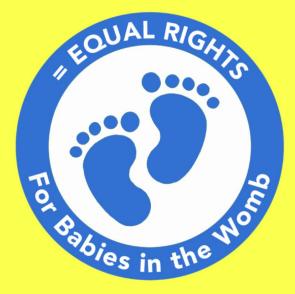
Go to <u>Freefiltering.org</u> and learn how to block those unwanted sites from your eyes. Protect your virtue, guard your children's innocence.

It really works by blocking sites in your Wi-Fi server. Act now before your children stumble upon one more pornographic site or one more "social media" site promoting the LGBTQ+ propaganda.

STEWARDSHIP

Last Sunday's Collection: TBA

You can make a difference!



Get a 20/20 Car Magnet

Call: 973-497-4500
BabyFeetMagnet@gmail.com

Prayer for Holy Innocents

We remember today, O God,
the slaughter of the holy innocents
of Bethlehem by King Herod.
Receive, we pray,
into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims;
and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants
and establish your rule of justice, love and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

Qualified Charitable Distributions Save on Taxes!

God, for ever and ever. Amen.

If you are retired and are taking distributions from your traditional IRA, these distributions are considered to be <u>taxable income</u> according to the IRS and you will owe taxes on the total amount you withdraw. <u>However</u>, you can reduce your taxable income by making a charitable distribution directly from your IRA to our parish. For example, if you are taking a \$1,000 distribution and you wish to make a \$500 donation, and you are in the 20% tax bracket, your tax liability will be reduced by \$100. To learn more about this tax saving opportunity contact your financial adviser / institution.

Charitable Gift Annuities

Making a significant gift to your parish can increase your bottom line! By making a gift for a charitable gift annuity, you receive an income tax deduction and annuity payments for life. Plus, part of each payment is tax-free. Learn more about this wonderful opportunity by contacting Theresa Lynch, Planned Giving Manager, Archdiocese of Newark at (973) 497-4042 or by email at Theresa.lynch@rcan.org.

Mary's Grotto

As fellow parishioners were searching for places to purchase religious items many years ago, members of the Rosary Society decided to set up shop and use the basement of the School of Religion building to set up a site allowing parishioners to purchase these items. Mary's Grotto – as they named it – is a place where you can purchase bibles, rosary beads, statues of saints and numerous other religious items. They also offer items for holidays, such as Easter and Christmas and sacraments, as well – baptism, first holy communion, confirmation and marriage. The ladies are always willing to order an item for you if it is not available in the store. Mary's Grotto is open from 8:15 to 1:15 every Sunday – hours are limited during the winter months after Christmas and during the summer, but you can always make an appointment to visit and make a purchase.

	Communion Ministers				
	December 2023				
5:00 PM	Nancy Malta	John Mattingly			
8:00 AM	Marge Denci	Maryann Mansueto			
10:30 AM	Lisa Crosta Bella Degbe	James Kompany Joan Trapp			
12:00 PM	Maureen Rebimbas	Brenda A Prescott			
	Dec 24/25	Dec 30/31			
	<u>Lectors</u>				
5:00 PM	Leona Seufert	Leona Seufert			
8:00 AM	Tom DiMaio	John Ballantyne			
10:30 AM	Sebastian Saavedra	Sebastian Saavedra			
12:00 PM	NO MASS	Debbie Kachnowski			
	ALTAR SERVERS				
5:00 PM					
8:00 AM	Loretta Raczynski	Carol Ballantyne			
10:30 AM	Alaina Quintella	Giovanni Scipioni			
12:00 PM	NO MASS	William Casaine Emily Casaine			



STITCHES

If you like to crochet or knit, consider joining our Stitches group. We meet the second Wednesday of each month in the Lower Parish Hall and work on projects for those in need.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, from 1-3pm.



My Dear Parishioners,

It gives me great joy to share with you that our parish now has a subscription to **FORMED**, an online platform faith over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. **FORMED** has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus. **Best of all, this material is free to you.**

Our parish will be using the material on **FORMED** to support our ministries and provide continuing education for staff members and parishioners, as well as outreach for our sick and homebound members. Much of FORMED's content is available in both English and Spanish.

You have easy access to all of the material on **FORMED** to support your own faith journey and that of your family members. Are you hesitant to return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation after a long absence? Watch *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession*.

Would you like to be more confident in answering your teenagers' questions about the validity of the Gospels? Watch *Lectio: The Case for Jesus*.

Do you search for a reliable source of Catholic teaching on current issues? Tune in each week to *The Augustine Institute Show with Dr. Tim Gray*.

Have you despaired of finding good movies that your family can enjoy together on a Friday night? Start with *Mother Teresa*, the story of the selfless saint who brought hope and love to the poorest of the poor.

You can enjoy **FORMED** on your computer or on your television with an inexpensive Roku device or Apple TV. You can even listen on your phone as you commute to work or do chores.

My hope and prayer is that the content on **FORMED** will enrich, deepen, and inspire your faith. Please pray for our benefactors who have made a **FORMED** subscription a reality for our parish. Please pray for the people at the Augustine Institute who create this wonderful and much-needed Catholic content for our people.

May the good Lord bless you and all of your loved ones!

Fr. Paul

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- 1. Go to https://signup.formed.org/
- 2. Enter our parish's zip code
- 3. Enter your name and your email address

FORMED

That's it! You're in. Now you can get the free **FORMED** app for your phone by searching *FORMED Catholic* in your app store.

"Roselle Catholic High School would love to have your son or daughter become part of our community! For any questions about our program or admission process, please contact Mishell Arizaga, ma-

<u>rizaga@rosellecatholic.org</u> or 908-445-7900. Have a blessed day!"

ADVENT SANDWICH MAKING

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT
TO DO DURING ADVENT?
WHY NOT TRY MAKING SANDWICHES FOR THOSE IN
NEED AT ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER IN
ELIZABETH

HERE IS HOW IT WORKS:

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING BETWEEN 6:30 AND 7:00 PM THERE IS A VOLUNTEER AT THE ANNEX (THE TWO GARAGES FACING COOLIDGE PLACE) COLLECTING SANDWICHES THAT WILL BE DELIVERED TO ST. JOSEPH'S.

GUIDELINES FOR SANDWICHES:

SANDWICHES CAN BE MADE WITH MEAT (2 SLICES) AND CHEESE (1 SLICE) OR PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY. NOTHING WITH MAYO, CONDIMENTS, LETTUCE, OR TOMATO.

SANDWICHES MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED IN PLASTIC SANDWICH BAGS (NO ALUMINUM FOIL) AND INSERTED BACK IN THE BREAD BAG.

ONE LOAF OF BREAD TYPICALLY IS ENOUGH FOR 10 SANDWICHES

YOU MUST MARK THE OUTSIDE OF THE BREAD BAG WITH THE TYPE OF SANDWICH AND THE DATE THAT IT WAS MADE. (EXAMPLE: PBJ 2/15 OR HAM & CHEESE 2/22)

GOD BLESS, DEACON DAVE

WANTED: COMMUNION MINISTERS & READERS

Readers for Mass: please consider this ministry. As a reader you proclaim the word of God during the celebration of Holy Mass.

Communion Ministers: please consider the awesome ministry of assisting Father in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and perhaps to the home bound.

Please call Father at 908-245-1107 and let him know you would like to be considered for either of these ministries.



Knight's Corner The Knights of Columbus (Council #3240) of the

The Knights of Columbus (Council #3240) of the Church of the Assumption would like to invite any interested men, that wish to learn more about the Knights of Columbus to fill out one of the

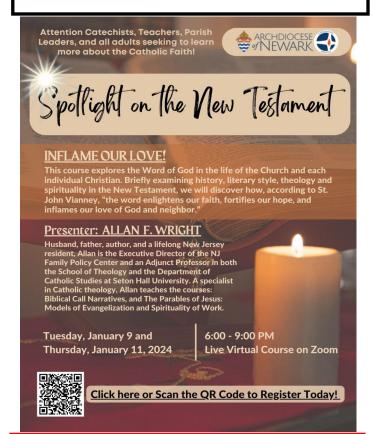
cards located in the front of the Church and place it in the collection basket. Or go to

https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html



to apply. Please be sure to "like" our Facebook page: Knights of Columbus - Msgr. Loreti Council #3240

Answer the call.
Become a
Knight of Columbus
Proposer # 3240
kofc.org/join



PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

Call 973-313-6190 or speak to one of the Priests. or contact Fr. Gino dela Rama at eugenio.delarama@rcan.org

Religious Life for Women and Men

Contact Sr. Patricia M. Wormann, O.P at Sr.Patricia.WormannO.P@rcan.org or call 973-497-4368

Sanctity of Life

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

The Church can also be a place to heal. We are called to "be merciful like the Father." So many are suffering from the effects of abortion. Where can they heal? Where can they feel safe and loved?

The Archdiocese of Newark Respect Life Office hosts Rachel's Vineyard retreats to heal the wounds from abortion.

Contact the Respect Life Office for retreats by calling 973-497-4350, or e-mail:
Cheryl.riley@rcan.org

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." (Psalm 147:3)

Baby Bottle Boomerang Fundraising Event Supporting Raphael's Life House

The KOC will be handing out baby bottles in the narthex of the church at all of the Masses on Dec. 30-31 & Jan. 6-7. Filled bottles will be collected in the narthex of the church at all of the Masses on Jan. 20-21 & Jan. 27-28. The Knights want to thank you for your continued support of this event that has such a significant impact on these vulnerably mothers and their babies.

Thank you, Knights of Columbus #3240

Please Donate Your Books

Located at the Assumption School of Religion

Your donation raises funds for our Parish.

Hardcover, paperback, & textbooks are all welcome!

All books must have an ISBN barcode on the cover. No encyclopedias, library reference, magazines, or water damaged books. Ouestions? Contact:

www.NewLegacyBooks.com



Ethics Point

To help ensure that we provide an environment that strengthens our Church, safeguards vital resources entrusted to us, and upholds the highest standards, the Archdiocese has implementing **EthicsPoint**, an independent reporting system that allows anyone to report concerns regarding financial misconduct or violations of conduct*.

A person reporting concerns can identify himself or remain anonymous.

To make a report: call (844) 675-7687 to speak with an EthicsPoint-trained specialist or go to:

EthicsPoint - Archdiocese of Newark

https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/58668/index.html

* It is important to note that any person who wishes to report an incident of sexual abuse should contact the Office of the Protection of the Faithful immediately by calling 973-497-4254.

How to Report Abuse

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual abuse/physical abuse of minors by members of the clergy, religious, lay staff, and volunteers of the Archdiocese. Anyone with knowledge of a act of sexual/physical abuse of a minor is encouraged to inform the Archdiocese immediately; so that we can take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Complaints should be reported to the Archdiocese of Newark by calling (201) 407-3256.

Also, in Union County, the Prosecutors' office may be reached at 908-527-4500

ADDICTION TREATMENT REFERRAL PROGRAM for persons suffering from acute addiction

Within 48 hours of receipt of referral, NJRC will provide linkage to and commencement of addiction treatment services to referred persons. These services will include but are not limited to linkages for intake, the creation of a personalized long-term treatment plan, detoxification, ambulatory withdrawal management, induction on Suboxone or buprenorphine or the initiation of Vivitrol, residential treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, and/or induction of Medication Assisted Treatment, as needed and appropriate. Where appropriate, court-involved persons and justice-involved veterans will also be enrolled and referred to NJRC's Orientation and additional wrap-around services, including job training and employment, mental health and medical care, transportation, and license restoration services.

To connect yourself or a loved one to addiction treatment or for any questions, please contact NJRC Chief Operating Officer Robert Carter at 732-948-5880 or rearter@njreentry.org.

A Prayer to St. John the Evangelist, for a Ardent Love to Jesus and Mary

O Glorious Saint John, you were so loved by Jesus that you merited to rest your head upon his chest, and to be left in his place as a son to Mary. Obtain for us an ardent love for Jesus and Mary. Let me be united with them now on earth and forever after in heaven.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Church of the Assumption 113 Coolidge Place Roselle Park, NJ 07204

TELEPHONE

908-245-1107

CONTACT

Fr. Paul J Prevosto

EMAIL: Fr.Prevosto@proton.me

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