

# St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



# Lenten preparation

## *Prayer for Lent:*

*God of goodness and mercy hear my prayer as I begin this Lenten journey with you.  
Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul, noticing the times I turn  
away from you. Guide me as I humbly seek to repent and return to your love .  
May humility guide my efforts to be reconciled with you and live forever in your  
abundant grace.*

*Transform me this Lent, heavenly Father. Give me the strength to commit myself to grow  
closer to you each day. Amen.*

**Pastor:** Reverend Mark A. Kreder  
**Parochial Vicar:** Reverend Daniel Price  
**Deacons:** James Campbell; James Gillespie  
Frederick C. Ebenau, Sr.;  
**Pastoral Associate:** Deacon James Gillespie  
**Religious Education:** Ellen Noble  
**Trustees:** Jean Glynn, William Anderson  
**Director of Sacred Music:** Angela Petti  
**Sacristan:** Carol Lewandowski

## **PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday ~ Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon and  
1:15 PM to 4:00 PM; Friday 9:00AM-12:00 Noon**

**REGISTRATION:** All are welcome! Sponsorship  
letters for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation or  
Matrimony will only be issued to registered  
parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office to  
register and please also notify the Parish Office of a  
change of address or if you plan to move from the  
parish so that we may keep our records updated



## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, February 23**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

7:30am Lech Bakowski  
Louis D. Laureti  
9:00am Mary Ferragamo  
Carmela Snyder  
10:30am Robert Muraczewski  
Christina Johnson  
12Noon Carol Curcio Mertz  
Joan Sullivan

**MONDAY, February 24**

**Weekday**

8:30am Edward Curtis  
Anne Floria (living)

**TUESDAY, February 25**

**Weekday**

8:30am Steve Yaremazak  
Debra Collura Bourne

**WEDNESDAY, February 26**

**Ash Wednesday**

7:00am People of the Parish  
8:30am Fred & Clare Schmid  
Peter Pravata  
12Noon James Kennedy  
Salvatore Pirrera  
4:30pm Prayer Service  
7:00pm Jean Horn  
Stanley & Lottie Karkut

**THURSDAY, February 27**

**Thursday after Ash Wednesday**

8:30am Arlene Brady  
Debra Stephens

**FRIDAY, February 28**

**Friday after Ash Wednesday**

8:30am Kurt Alan Horensky  
Harry Rallis, Jr.

**SATURDAY, February 29**

**Saturday after Ash Wednesday**

9:30am People of the Parish  
5:00pm Carl & Hilda Stelz  
Stanislaus E. Gorski

**SUNDAY, March 1**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

7:30am Louie Grote  
Daniel A. D'Andrea  
9:00am Rudy Perez  
Carmela Snyder  
10:30am Bill Geddes  
Rhonda Cardoza  
12Noon Nancy McDevitt (living)  
Nelson McDevitt



**The Altar Bread,**  
which will become the Body of Christ  
at the Masses celebrated  
during the week is being offered  
In Loving Memory of

**Joan Sullivan**

requested by office staff

## The Sanctuary Candle

which burns near the Tabernacle  
in Church, the reminder of the Lord's  
Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist,  
is offered in Health Blessings for

**Marlene & Frank Varga (living)**

requested by daughter, Linda



## MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION:

Every third weekend of the month.

**PARISH OFFICE: 732-270-3980**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 732-270-3797**  
**PARISH WEBSITE: [www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org)**

**MASS SCHEDULE:** Saturday Vigil: 5:00PM  
Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM, 12:00Noon  
Monday-Friday: 8:30AM; Saturday: 9:30am  
**Holy Days:** Announced

**BAPTISM:** Parents are required to attend a  
Baptism Preparation Session. Godparents/Sponsors are  
invited and strongly encouraged to attend. Please call the  
Parish Office as early as possible to make arrangements.

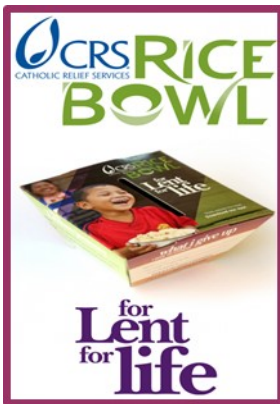
**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**  
Saturdays: At 3:30PM

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Adult R.C.I.A. program: Contact Parish Office  
Children R.C.I.A. program: Contact Religious Ed.

**MARRIAGE:** The Sacrament of Marriage requires a  
time of spiritual preparation. According to the  
Common Policy adopted by the Bishops of New  
Jersey, this preparation requires attendance at a  
marriage preparation program (Pre-Cana) as well as  
sessions with the parish deacon or priest. Therefore,  
couples should make arrangements at the Parish Office one  
year before the planned wedding date and before finalizing  
any social plans.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The goal of Saint Justin the  
Martyr Parish is that each member grow in the Grace  
through Jesus Christ, and in so doing cooperate with the  
Holy Spirit in giving glory to God, in experiencing the  
salvation of their soul, and in building up the  
Body of Christ.



## From the Pastor

7th Sunday  
in Ordinary Time - A  
February 23, 2020  
[Last Sunday Before Lent]

**PRAY; FAST; GIVE ALMS.** Throughout *Lent*, which we enter into this week on *Ash Wednesday*, we will be urged to keep the three traditional *Lenten* pious practices of *Prayer, Fasting* and *Almsgiving*. The motto

for this year's *Operation Rice Bowl* almsgiving campaign '*For Lent for Life*' suggests: the disciplines we strive to undertake in *Lent* - should - and can - give life!

By becoming more devoted to personal and communal prayer, the life of the God to whom we pray can be awakened in us, strengthened in us, and brought closer to perfection in us. So, **PRAY!** By practicing acts of self-denial, we can gain more self-control. So, **FAST!** And by giving of ourselves to others, we become more like Christ, who gave Himself completely to - and for - us. So, **GIVE ALMS!** On the weekends before and after Ash Wednesday we offer thoughts on the two sets of Mass orations [A & B] for use in *Time of Famine or for Those Suffering Hunger*. Here are reflections on the Mass orations for set A.

### **Collect: In Time of Famine/Those Suffering Hunger - A**

O God, who, being both good and almighty, provide for all creatures, give us, we pray, an effective love for our brothers and sisters who suffer hunger, so that famine may be banished and that they may have strength to serve you with free and untroubled hearts. Through our Lord Jesus ... for ever and ever. Amen.

**BANISH FAMINE.** Isn't it interesting, if not ironic, that - for centuries - the Catholic Church had strict dietary disciplines: every Friday had to be meatless; the eve of every Solemnity and major Feast was a 'fast' day: we could only eat one modest meal and two smaller ones not equal to the modest meal; and the use of *Lenten mite boxes, poor boxes* and other means to help the needy were so prevalent. But now, secular society promotes regular meatless meals, smaller portions, and diets - and many celebrities support organizations that seek to end hunger or famine. In this case, the Church DOES need to get with the times - which is a RARE role reversal!

### **Prayer Over the Offerings - Famine/Hunger - A**

Look, O Lord, on the oblation we present to you, from among your wonderful gifts, so that the offering which signifies abundance of divine life and unity in charity may impel us to share all things justly and to care for one another as brothers and sisters. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**WHY DOES GOD COME TO US AS FOOD?** Of the many ways *Jesus* could have chosen to remain with us, He chose to do so most profoundly in *bread* and *wine*, in the *Eucharistic Food* and *Drink* that is His Real Presence 'par excellence.' He did this mainly to fulfill ancient prophecies: He is the *Manna from Heaven*; the *Bread of Angels*; the *Passover Meat*; the *Sacrificial Lamb*; the *Rock* that gushed water in the desert, etc. But we believe He also did this to remind us to feed others with ourselves as He feeds us with Himself. By that we mean: we must become 'bread for the hungry,' 'the wine of compassion,' 'bread broken,' and 'cup outpoured' that quenches all human need. This *Lent*, how will we help end hunger and thirst? By sharing our resources? By using our voice and influence, our hands and head, doing all we can do to help the needy?

### **Prayer after Communion - Famine/Hunger - A**

O God, almighty Father, we humbly ask you that the living Bread, which has come down from heaven, may give us strength to relieve our brothers and sisters in their need. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**MAKE US LIVING BREAD.** As already noted, we must allow ourselves to become the source of what others need, the answer to others' prayers, and the presence of Jesus in our world. Are we up for the *Lenten* challenge? Remember to pick up an *Operation Rice Bowl* mite box when you come to church to receive blessed ashes this *Ash Wednesday*. Keep it in a prominent place so you are prodded - each day - to do something for the poor and needy. May our personal and communal efforts to *Pray, Fast* and *Give Alms* lead us to an Easter of unending joy! *Alleluia! Alleluia!* [and one last time before we 'fast' from this most joyous word] ...

**ALLELUIA!**

In Christ,

*Father Mark*



## Readings for the Week of February 16, 2020

**Monday:** Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk 9:14-29  
**Tuesday:** Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23;  
 Mk 9:30-37  
**Wednesday:** Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14, 17;  
 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
**Thursday:** Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Lk 9:22-25  
**Friday:** Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15  
**Saturday:** Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32  
**Sunday:** Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17;  
 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11 37

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2020

**THIS WEEKEND!** "God gives where he finds empty hands" (St. Augustine)...So should we



**Attention Confirmation Student Parents:**

**The date to volunteer for the Simon Soup Kitchen is Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 4:45 to 7:00pm.**

**Simon's Soup Kitchen is located at 100 Grant Ave., Seaside Heights. Any parent wishing to participate may leave their name and number at the parish Office: 732-270-3980**



**St. Patrick/St. Joseph Luncheon Celebration Sunday, March 22, 2020**

**Time: 1:30 pm until 5:30 pm Where: Parish Hall**

**Featuring: WILLIE LYNCH IRISH BAND**

**COME ENJOY: GREAT COMPANY- DELICIOUS FOOD—BRILLIANT IRISH MUSIC ADULTS- \$25.00—AGES 13-17 —\$15.00 12 & UNDER (FREE)**

Menu: Corned Beef & Cabbage;  
 Boiled Potatoes, Carrots  
 Chicken Francaise, Cheese Ravioli,  
 House Salad/Dressing  
 Semolina Dinner Rolls/Butter  
 Applesauce, Mustard, Parmigiano Cheese  
 Sheet Cake & Homemade Desserts  
 Coffee, Tea, Soda, Milk, Water  
 (Catered by Capone's Restaurant)



**Tickets go on sale beginning Sat., Feb. 29th after all Masses, and will be available at the Parish Office during regular business hours after 3/2/2020. For further info call the parish office at 732-270-3980**

*\*Cause: Social Concerns*



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### Confirmation Paperwork

All paperwork for the Sacrament of Confirmation is due February 24<sup>th</sup>. If you have not returned your paperwork please contact our office immediately at (732) 270-3797.

### Calendar Reminders

#### February

February 22<sup>nd</sup>

**MARDI GRAS CANCELLED**

February 26<sup>th</sup>

No Classes – Ash Wednesday

#### March

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Grades 4-6 NO CLASSES**

**ONLY Grade 2/Sacrament Prep CLASSES IN SESSION MASS/BANNER MAKING – PARENT AND STUDENT**

March 16-19

Non-perishable food collection for Saint Joseph's Table

March 20<sup>th</sup>

Religious Education Stations of the Cross 6:00pm

Presented by Confirmation Prep I and II



### St. Justin's 2nd Annual Lenten Stations\* & Family Supper

As we prepare ourselves for Christ's Resurrection, let us journey with Jesus Christ at the Stations of the Cross.

Please join us for Soup and Salad

**on Friday, February 28, 2020,**

**following the 6:00pm \* Stations of the Cross.**

Pre-registration is required so we can ensure we have enough soup and salad for all who attend. Please return registration forms to the parish office by Monday, February 24, 2020. Flyers are available in the narthex and downloadable from our parish website:

[www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org), under News/Events.

Mark Your Calendars!

### PARISH MISSION

given by

**THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE RENEWAL MARCH 1 THRU MARCH 4**



The Friars will be speaking at

All Masses on Sunday, March 1st!

The retreat will be held each day from Sunday March 1st thru Wednesday March 4th.

**Come be refreshed & renewed**

*To everything there is a season and a time to  
every purpose under heaven*

Ecclesiastes 3:11

*"...a time to be born..."*

Emily Rose Giaconia, Mackenzie Francis O'Neil,  
Landon Nicholas Johnson

*"...a time to love..."*

*...and a time to be born to eternal life..."*

*Those who have died in the Service of our Country.*

*"...and a time for peace in all the world..."*

*pray for our servicemen and women at home and abroad,*

Cody Fisher, Jason Howie, Daniel Robert Costello, Mark  
Caruso, Rick DiSanti, A.J. Elbert, Ryan Buckley, Eric P. Fenske,  
Louis Graffeo, Michael Griffing, Alexandria Del'Romero Hughes,  
Audrey Hughes, Antoni Jedra, Charles Jones, Ian Krong,  
Walter Reed, Tyler Brandon Sansone, Trevor Smida,  
Christopher Sylvester, Nick Roma, Nick Panzara, Greg Hermack,  
John DiMicelli, John M. Budenas, Robert Tront,  
Joey Colosimo, Michael Anthony DeAnni, Kieran Murphy,  
Colin Berrios, Kevin Kreder, Christopher Wright, Jordan Thomas

*And for our President and elected leaders of our Country.*

### **ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE-February 26th**

**Masses:**

**7:00am; 8:30am; 12Noon;  
7:00pm**

**4:30pm Prayer Service**



### **Lenten Evening Schedule**

**Wednesday, March 4th Parish Mission**  
**Wednesday, March 11th, 6:30pm (Mass)**  
**Wednesday, March 18th, 6:30pm (Mass)**  
**Wednesday, March 25th, 6:30pm (Mass)**

**Our Parish Penance Service**  
**Friday, April 3rd at 7:00pm**

### **ATTENTION ALL MINISTERS OF LITURGY**

*There are sign-up sheets posted in the Sacristy, for  
Ash Wednesday Masses & the 4:30pm prayer  
service on February 26, 2020 for anyone who serves at  
Mass as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist,  
Lector, Usher, or Altar Server.*



### **Stations of the Cross**

Will be held at our parish at 6:00pm  
On the following Fridays:

2/28—Altar Rosary Society  
3/6—Men's Faith & Women's Faith  
3/13—Holy Innocents  
3/20—Religious Education  
3/27—Our Deacons  
4/10—Youth Group Living Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm



### **LENTEN GUIDELINES**

*Dear Sisters and Brothers  
in Christ,*

During the days and weeks of  
penance that lie ahead ---  
from **Ash Wednesday, February  
26** until **Holy Thursday, April 9,  
2020** the Catholic Church  
throughout the world commemo-

rates the penitential season of Lent. The model Jesus gave  
us for "these forty days" was his own experience in the  
desert and the temptations that followed him there where  
he encountered Satan face-to-face. And yet, Jesus, there  
in the desert --- alone, fasting and in intense prayer --- beat  
back the devil and triumphed over temptation, as strong  
and as unrelenting as it was throughout those forty days.

We enter the desert of Lent like Jesus, led by the Holy  
Spirit, to face our devils, our temptations head on. But we  
are not alone. The Lord Jesus Christ is with us. And so,  
too, is the Church, the entire community of faith observing  
Lent. Here is what the Catholic Church in the United  
States requires of us as baptized Catholics:

The days of FAST (only one full meal) and ABSTINENCE  
(no meat) are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No  
dispensations are granted on these solemn days except for  
reason of sickness or those provided in canon law below.

All other Fridays of Lent are days of ABSTINENCE (no  
meat).

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to FAST  
(only one full meal) as above. From the age of 14, people  
are also obliged to ABSTAIN (no meat: this obligation  
prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or  
condiments of any kind, even though made from animal  
fat).

The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence  
is a serious one for Catholics. Failure to observe one  
penitential day in itself is not considered a serious sin. It  
is the failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a  
substantial number of penitential days, that must be  
considered serious.

The obligation, the privilege really, of receiving the  
Eucharist at least once a year --- often called "Easter duty"  
--- for those in the state of grace should still be fulfilled  
during the period from the First Sunday of Lent, February  
29-March 1 to Trinity Sunday, June 7-8. However, the  
Church's law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at  
another time during the year when there is a just cause.

I want to encourage Catholics to go to Confession and to  
make use of the sacrifices and traditions that have always  
been part of our Lenten practices in the Church.

We do, indeed, fast and pray with the Lord Jesus and with  
our fellow Catholics. May this Lent be a time of penance  
leading to grace and joy for us all at Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M.*  
*Bishop of Trenton*



## PARISH MINISTRY MEETINGS

### ST. JUSTIN'S BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Next meetings: **Mondays, Feb. 24th & March 9th**  
7:30pm in St. Justin's Conference Room, Anyone who has lost a loved one, please come join us in prayer & sharing

### ST. JUSTIN'S TEEN YOUTH GROUP

Next Meetings: **Sundays March 1 & March 8, 2020**  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in St. Justin's Conference Room.

Open to all students in Grades 8th - 12th.

Info: see Deacon Fred Ebenau

### ST. JUSTIN'S SHAWL MINISTRY

Next Meeting—**Thursday, March 12, 7:00pm**, (Note day change) St. Justin's Conference Room. If you like to knit or crochet, or would like to learn, please join us.

Please call Fran: 848-241-3976 or 732-492-0329

### ST. JUSTIN'S SENIORS

Next Meeting: **March 17 2020 St. Patrick Luncheon** in the parish hall. free for paid up members. All others will be at a cost of \$7.50. Enjoy chips, corned beef sandwich, cole slaw, pickle & a drink. Let us know if you are coming so we can get a up to date count by March 10th. Please bring a non perishable item for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We begin at 11:30, with coffee and a pastry. Further info contact: Barbara 732-929-0298/732-232-3733

### ST. JUSTIN'S ALTAR-ROSARY SOCIETY

Next meeting **March 25, 6:30pm Mass in the church**, followed by meeting in the parish hall. Further info: Call the parish office: 732-270-3980



MEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

### **MEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND**

**Loyola Jesuit Center,  
Morristown, NJ  
March 20-22**

Please join men from our parish family for a retreat at Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown, NJ. Loyola is a tranquil place where you can slow down, be quiet and still with God, and experience His deep peace. The weekend also includes preached talks on the theme "The Sermon on the Mount" daily Mass, Reconciliation, a Healing Mass, outdoor Stations of the Cross, Rosary, and generous amounts of free time for personal prayer. **Free will Offering** For further information or to register, contact Deacon Jim 732-270-443

**4th Annual Pancake Breakfast After All Masses This Sunday, February 23** Hosted by The Men's Faith Group & Women's Faith Group (in conjunction with Altar Rosary Society) enjoy pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice.



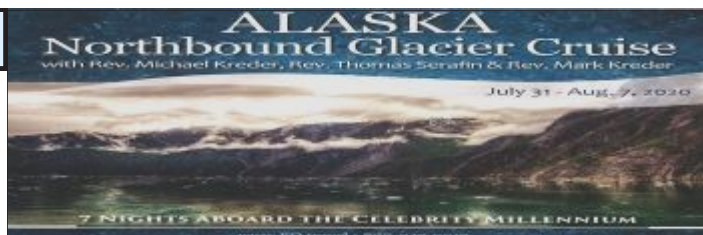
**BUS TRIP TO Golden Nugget Casino**  
Benefiting Altar Rosary Society

**Tuesday, March 3, 2020**

**\$30 Tickets, Receive \$25 in Slot Play,  
\$5 Food Voucher**

**Bus Pickup St. Justin's Parking Lot at  
10.45am Return approx. 7:30pm**

For info/questions call Maryann: 908-578-4664 or  
Kim: 732-664-2311 (Must be over 21 & have valid ID)



**WITH REV. MARK KREDER, REV. MICHAEL KREDER, & REV. THOMAS SERAFIN**  
Parish Alaska Northbound Glacier Cruise  
7 Nights Aboard the Celebrity Millennium  
**July 31, 2020 to August 7, 2020**

Mass will be celebrated each day, receive Jesus in the Eucharist and enjoy the beauty and grandeur created by God! Brochures are also available in the Narthex and downloadable from our website You can also Register on-line from the link on our parish website: [www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org)

## LENTEN REFLECTIONS

**formed.org/lent**  
free access to FORMED videos

To Sign Up for FORMED A FREE GIFT to you from your parish, visit our website: [www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org) today!

### *Rachel's Vineyard Retreat*

*As a pro-life people, our hearts ache for the millions of babies lost to abortion.* If an abortion is impacting you, remember that God loves you, just as much as He loves your child. If you would like to experience a weekend of God's love and mercy for yourself, please contact Judy Warkiewicz at 732-536-6871. All inquiries are strictly confidential. The next Rachel's Vineyard retreats are:

**February 28, 2020 – March 1, 2020 and  
August 28, 2020 – August 30, 2020**

**Attention Men! Join other Catholic men from across the Diocese of Trenton at the 23rd Annual Men's Conference Sat, February 29, at Saint Mary, Mother of God Parish in Middletown, NJ. Theme "Discipleship: The Greatest Adventure." Time: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Cost is \$30 per person in advance (\$35 at the door); \$15 for students. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more info or to register online: [www.catholicmenforjesuschrist.org](http://www.catholicmenforjesuschrist.org).**



For info on events happening in our cohort parishes, visit our website [www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org) click the **RCCTR** tab —