

St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Pastor: Reverend Mark A. Kreder
Weekend Associate: Rev. Robert LaFerrera
Pastoral Associate: Deacon James Gillespie
Deacon James Campbell
Deacon Frederick C. Ebenau, Sr.
Deacon Donald Gries
Religious Education: Ellen Noble
Trustees: Jean Glynn, William Anderson
Director of Sacred Music: Angela Petti
Sacristan: Carol Lewandowski

PARISH OFFICE: 732-270-3980
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 732-270-3797

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.

MASSES For The Week



SUNDAY, January 14

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00am John Bergin
9:30am The Cornier Family (living)
Rosemary Pirrera (living)
11:30am John Palumbo
Richard Coveleski
Natalia Gaspar

MONDAY, January 15

Weekday; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

8:00am People of the Parish

TUESDAY, January 16

Weekday

8:00am Vincent Beeh
Roxann Esposito
Barbara Holland

WEDNESDAY, January 17

St. Anthony, Abbot

8:00am Arnold Horvath
Matthew Cornier
Michael A. Cosenza, Jr.

THURSDAY, January 18

Weekday; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

8:00am Lee Rubino
Mary Doris Flynn
Rev. Mark A. Kreder (living)

SATURDAY, January 20

Weekday; St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr;

St. Sebastian, Martyr; BVM

5:00pm Celine & Peter Brent (living)
Joseph Kroener

SUNDAY, January 21

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Word of God Sunday; Ecumenical Sunday

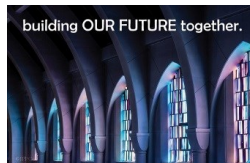
8:00am John McGuire (living)
9:30am Charles Tighe
Bob Finley
Edward Kube
11:30am James Toal
Cosmo and baby DiBrizzi

*Please Note our Parish Offices will be closed on
Monday, January 15th
in observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday*



Come Back to the Truth

**You can listen to
DCM on all your
mobile devices simply
by downloading the
FREE Domestic Church Mobile App**



Weekly Offerings

Collections are vital to our existence as a Parish. If your circumstances permit, please consider donating to the parish at this time. I am thankful and grateful for your continued financial support to help us meet our weekly and monthly expenses. Many mail their contributions in and continue to do so. Here are some ways for you to help your parish: ☐ Place your offering in the receptacles at the doors as you enter or leave church. ☐ Mail in your envelopes weekly/monthly. ☐ Have your bank send us weekly/monthly check automatically from your checking account made out to Saint Justin Church with your envelope number on the check to get proper credit. Thank you for giving the above some consideration to help support your parish financially, and know it is greatly appreciated! Fr. Mark

PARISH OFFICE: 732-270-3980

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 732-270-3797

ST. VINCENT DePaul SOCIETY: 732-929-1119

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stjustin.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:

St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

**St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Collection
3rd Sunday of the month. Food Collection basket is
located in the narthex by the parish hall.**

MASS SCHEDULE:

WEEKEND: Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:00PM

Sunday: 8:00AM; 9:30AM; 11:30am

WEEKDAY: Monday-Thursday: 8:00AM

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.

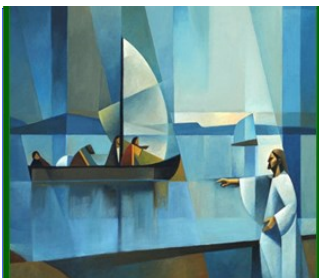
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confession will be Saturdays from 3:30pm to 4:00pm. Outside the door of the church on the side of the Religious Education Building. Kindly knock on the door, remain outside for Confession. Please arrive at 3:30.

Adult O.C.I.A. program: Contact Parish Office

Children O.C.I.A. program: Contact Religious Education

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
2nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time - B
January 14, 2024

VOCATIONS & THE EUCHARIST. I hope you know by now that we are in the last part of the

USA's Bishops' three-year National Eucharistic Revival which reaches its climax at this summer's 5-day **Congress**, July 17-21 in Indianapolis, Indiana. While the main goal is to reawaken, reaffirm and renew our belief in our **Lord's Real Presence** in the **Eucharist** and our celebration and reception of this great **Sacrament**, it is also a call for more **Priestly Vocations**, without which we cannot have **Eucharist**! And since **Priestly Vocations** are fostered in good **Catholic** homes and schools, we must also pray for an increase in **Vocations** to the **Sacrament of Matrimony** and the **Religious Life**.

IS IT I, LORD? Perhaps it is **Divine Providence** that today's **Gospel** is the call of the first four **Apostles: Peter** and his brother **Andrew, James** and his brother **John** - and our **First Reading** is the inspiration behind a hymn 'instrumental' in my hearing and answering **God's call** to **Priesthood**: "**Here I Am, Lord.**" The first time I heard Dan Schutte's classic hymn, composed in 1981, was at a **Day of Recollection** for those who felt 'called' by **God** to a **Church Ministry**. The refrain's haunting question "**Is it I, Lord?**" kept echoing in my mind and struck a 'chord' in my heart as I kept wondering: why would **God** want me, with all my quirks and weaknesses, sins and failings, to be a **Priest**? Could I fulfill the demands of **Ordination** and, some day, of a **Pastor**?

After years of discernment and prayer, several years in seminary formation, pastoral experiences in parishes and hospitals, I felt ready to accept the call to **Priesthood**, I have not regretted it even once after all these years. Now, with many years - even two decades of priestly service under my belt, I am more convinced than ever that we need to trust that when we sense **God's call** to offer ourselves for a ministry, we need to go for it! For the more we open ourselves up to the many ways **God** confirms that call, the easier it is to discern or prayerfully consider if **God's call** is for real.

What I just wrote goes for every **Vocation**: to **Holy Orders** as a **Diocesan Priest** like me, who promises obedience to their **Bishop** and his

successors and to remaining celibate or unmarried; **Religious Life** as an **Order Priest**, who makes vows of poverty, chastity and to living in community; a **Brother** or **Sister**; a **Lay Minister**; or to **Holy Matrimony**, a **relationship** or **friendship**; a **career** or **occupation**. And even if we discern that **God** is NOT calling to a particular future, it is never a waste of time - for through our life experiences - the good and the not-so-good, **God** always teaches us something. Which brings me back to the initial title of this article: **Vocations and the Eucharist**.

By being faithful to the Sunday Mass **obligation**, we open ourselves to the treasure trove the **Church** offers us through **The Liturgy of the Word**. Week after week we hear story after story of men and women, young and old, greatly gifted and terribly sinful - who accepted **God's call** to be a **Prophet** or **Apostle, Minister** or **Leader, Preacher** or **Role Model**. We hear of their difficult struggles to overcome their fears, as our **Blessed Mother** did, who asked the **Angel**: "**How can this be?**" [Luke 1:34a] when asked to be the **Virgin Mother** of **God's Son**. We hear of **Saint Joseph's** initial desire to call it quits when his betrothed was found with child. Today's **First Reading** told of the future **Prophet Samuel's** consternation as he heard **God calling** him in the night. Who has not, in response to **God's call** to a ministry, echoed **Saint Peter's** humble words, "**Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.**" [Luke 5:8b] The list goes on and on ...

However, the **Bread of Life** then comes so He can enter into us to affirm and assure us, to grace and gift us, to strengthen and support us. The hymns and canticles we sing unite us, not only in voice, but in purpose and intent. The array of various ministers at **holy Mass**, both **Ordained** and **Lay**, show the diversity of **Christ's Body**, the **Church**. It also reminds us of all of the encouragement and assistance we can offer to each other as we strive to hear and answer **God's call**. It was, is not, nor ever will be **God's** intention that we go it alone; we are called to be a **Eucharistic Community**, united in the **Lord**.

Are we brave enough to ask, "**Is it I, Lord?**" Are we willing to say, "**I will go, Lord, if you lead me?**" By receiving **Jesus** in **Holy Communion** more often and more worthily, we will be certain and properly fortified to answer ... in the affirmative!

In Christ,

Father Mark

Rev. Mark A. Kreder, Pastor

*To everything there is a season and a time to
every purpose under heaven* (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

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

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

... "and a time to be born to feternal Life..."

Maria Anceschi; Dan Laing

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, Michael Griffing, Audrey Hughes, Ian Krong
Alexandria Del'Romero Hughes, Walter Reed, Antoni Jedra,
Charles Jones, Tyler Brandon Sansone, Trevor Smida,
Nick Roma, Kevin Kreder, Henry Sohl, Nick Panzara
Christopher Sylvester, , Greg Hermack, Morgan Hermack
John DiMicelli, Seamus Righter, Joey Colosimo,
Kieran Murphy, Michael Anthony DeAnni, Jordan Thomas,
Jason Paino, Christopher Wright, Gage Maguire,
Brett Turners; Mikey Fanelli, Sean Doherty, Nicholas Pfeifer
Joseph Paparazzo, Jr., Peter Herbert, Jake Jackson,

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

Readings for the Week – January 14, 2024

Monday, January 15, 2024 1 Sm 15:16-23 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1 Sm 16:1-13 Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28 Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 Mk 3:1-6

Thursday, January 18, 2024 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13 Mk 3:7-12

Friday, January 19, 2024 1 Sm 24:3-21 Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11 Mk 3:13-19

Saturday, January 20, 2024 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Ps 80:2-3, 5-7 Mk 3:20-21

Sunday, January 21, 2024 Jon 3:1-5, 10 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Cor 7:29-31 Mk 1:14-20



**Share the Warmth
Blanket/Toiletries**

**The St. Vincent
DePaul Society
is sponsoring a
Blanket Drive**

**(new or gently used
twin, full, queen size & sleeping bags as well as
new toiletries) after all Masses on the weekend of
January 27 and January 28.**

**Please bring your items to St. Justin's
Conference Room.**

**All donations will be distributed locally.
Thank you for your support as always.**



January Reminders

January 14th Sacrament of First Reconciliation
4:00PM

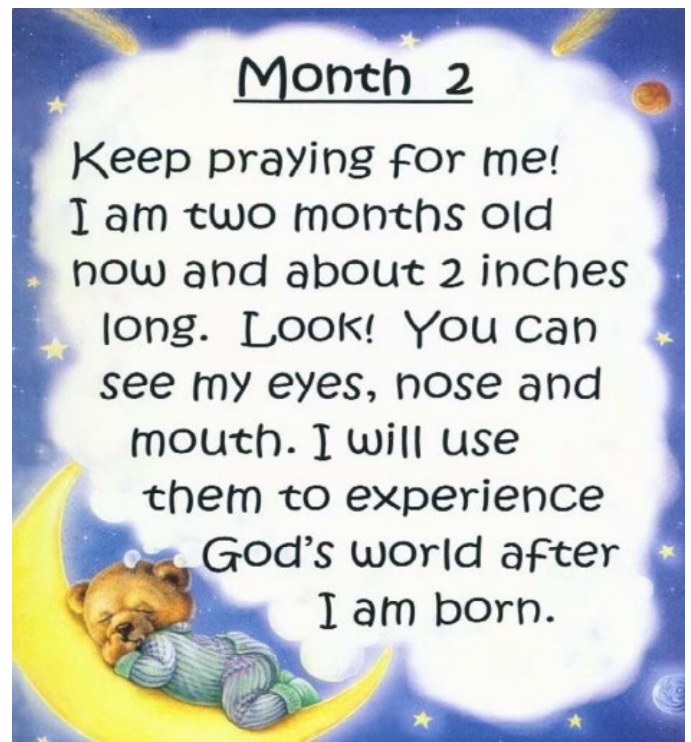
January 15th No Classes are in session

January 29th Confirmation Students Retreat –
6:00PM in the Parish Hall—

**All candidates who are presently in Confirmation Prep
II must attend this retreat accompanied by a parent/
guardian or another designated adult.**

**On January 14th, students presently in their second
year of sacramental preparation will receive their
Sacrament of First Reconciliation. We thank our
families for allowing us to assist you in your role as the
primary educator of your child. We also thank our
parish religious catechetical volunteers, our clergy,
staff and music ministry who helped to create a
beautiful experience. Most of all we congratulate the
children for all their effort and hard work preparing
for this special day and may the joy that comes from
knowing God's forgiveness always remain with them.**

Spiritual Adoption Program



(graphic courtesy of NJ Knights of Columbus)

Spiritual Adoption Prayer

**"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg
you to spare the life of [baby's name] the unborn baby
that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of
abortion."**

- Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

MINISTRY MEETINGS



ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

The Altar-Rosary Society is a group of women dedicated to Blessed Mother and to helping our Parish. Praying the Rosary. Loving Jesus thru Mary is an important part of our lives. Come pray a rosary, enjoy friendship & fellowship with women who have a devotion to Blessed Mother in common. **Our Next Meeting is on January 24th at 6:30pm Parish Hall.** For further Info contact Pat 732-608-0745
New Members Always Welcome!



BAPTISMAL WORKSHOPS in the Religious Ed Building.

Next Baptismal Workshop
7:00 pm Wednesday, February 7th
Pre-registration required call the parish office at 732-270-3980

BEREAVEMENT GROUP will be meeting on **Monday, February 12th 7:00 pm in St. Justin's Conference Room.** Anyone who has lost a loved one please come join us in prayer & sharing. For further information contact: Laurie: 732-929-9094

MEN'S FAITH GROUP Join other Men from the Parish for prayer, discussions and brotherhood as we live out, learn and share our Catholic Faith. **Next Meeting Dates: Mondays, January 15th & February 5th 7:00 pm St. Justin's Conference Room**

Shawl Ministry

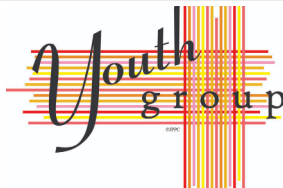
Do you like to knit or crochet? Come join our group! We are in need of some talented hands to make lap blankets and more! **Next Meeting Date: Thursday, February 8th 1:00-3:00pm, St. Justin's Conference Room** New Members Always Welcome

For more info contact: JoAnne at 732-270-9258

YOUTH GROUP

St. Justin Youth Group Ministry invites all Grade 7 through 12 youth to become part of the "Youth Group." The Youth Group generally meets twice a month on Sunday evenings. Come join our community service group who share our faith while doing fun activities. Join us for a combination of continuing formation in our Catholic faith with opportunities to put our faith into practice through service. **Being involved in this group is a great way to deepen your faith and develop friendships with others who share your Catholic beliefs.** For further info or questions contact Deacon Fred at (732) 270-3980 ext. 331

Next Youth Group Meetings: Sundays Jan. 21st & Feb. 11th 6:00pm in the Conference Room



IS GOD CALLING YOU? The Society of St. Vincent de Paul monthly meeting is **Monday January 22nd, 7:00pm in St. Justin's Conference Room** All are welcome who are interested in joining us and helping to fulfill God's plan that we pray together, and assist our poor neighbors in need. Please consider donating to this charitable cause. The green offering envelopes are available on the narthex walls for this purpose. If you have any questions, kindly leave a message on our Help-Line at 732-929-1119.

Thank you.

Mt 6:8 "What does the Lord require of you but to act justly, love mercy & walk humbly with your God"



ADULT OCIA NEWS (formerly RCIA)

Classes have begun! You are invited to join! 9:00am to 10:00am in St. Justin's Conference Room

ARE YOU SOMEONE, OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO.....

- *Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- *Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation & Eucharist?

Through our preparation and formation process, the **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)**, is always ready to accept those inquiring into becoming fully initiated Catholic Christians.

You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For further information on the OCIA program contact: for Adults the Parish Office (for Children the Religious Education Office)

CATHOLICS CAN ALWAYS COME HOME

Diocesan Youth Conference

ON PURPOSE

DYC Saturday Feb. 3rd 2024

Red Bank Catholic HS
Red Bank, NJ

8-12th grade teens invited!

Adv. Registration \$25
Walk-in Registration \$35

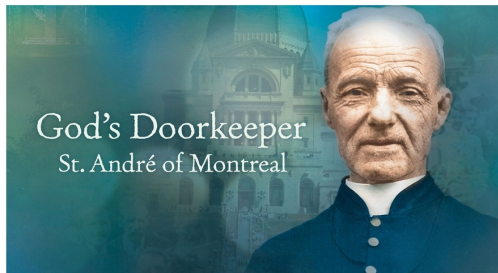
www.dotyouth.org/dyc

"The Diocesan Youth Conference is a gathering for ALL teens in the 8 - 12th grades of the Diocese of Trenton. It is an exciting day filled with great music, powerful talks, fun service projects and more! Most importantly it is a chance to connect with other Catholics, teens beyond your parish or school and grow in your faith!.."

For further info and to register visit:
DYC Promo 2024 - Diocese of Trenton - Lawrenceville, NJ

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 14, 2024



God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



The Bible Collection - Genesis

Experience the epic tale of creation in this Christian anthology that details the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, and Noah and the Ark.



Padre Pio: Between Heaven and Earth

Based on the historical records and the personal testimony of his fellow friars, this is the amazing true story of the life of the famous stigmatic monk, St. Padre Pio, a contemporary saint who died in 1968. Blessed with incredible spiritual gifts, including healing, bi-location, reading of souls, and the stigmatic wounds, Padre Pio was a powerful witness for Christ, and a great spiritual guide to countless souls for over fifty years.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

FORMED a free gift from our parish to you. Sign up today! **1)** Visit Formed.org; **2)** Select: Signup as a Parishioner; **3)** Type in St. Justin (select from drop down box); **4)** put in your name & email; **5)** Hit Sign up, ENJOY!