

# St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025**

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Blessed are you who are  
poor, for the kingdom of  
God is yours.

**Luke 6:20**



© JPPC

## Readings for the Week February 16, 2025

### Monday, February 17, 2025

Gen 4:1-15, 25 Ps 50:1+8, 16bc-17,  
20-21 Mk 8:11-13

### Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Gen 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10 Ps 29:1a+2,  
3ac-4, 3b+9c-10 Mk 8:14-21

### Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Gen 8:6-13, 20-22 Ps 116:12-13, 14  
-15, 18-19 Mk 8:22-26

### Thursday, February 20, 2025

Gen 9:1-13 Ps 102:16-18, 19-21,  
29+22-23 Mk 8:27-33

### Friday, February 21, 2025

Gen 11:1-9 Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-  
15 Mk 8:34 – 9:1

### Saturday, February 22, 2025

1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Mt  
16:13-19

### Sunday, February 23, 2025

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 Ps  
103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 1 Cor  
15:45-49 Lk 6:27-38

**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: Susan Keogh, Peter Gudzak**  
**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.**



# Mass Intentions

**SUNDAY, February 16**

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00am James Rooney  
Kevin Carroll  
Barbara Rowe

9:30am Veronica Hauser  
Eileen Buckley (living)  
Norman Vaz

11:30am Ann Marie & William Neveroski  
Frank Panza  
Joseph Puerari

**MONDAY, February 17**

**The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order;  
Presidents' Day**

8:00am Communion Prayer Service

**TUESDAY, February 18**

**Weekday**

8:00am Diane Sperduto Conroy  
Stanley Gorski  
Ann Florio (living)

**WEDNESDAY, February 19**

**Weekday**

8:00am Betty Sweeney & family (living)  
Sonia Silvasie  
Donna Strano (living)

**THURSDAY, February 20**

**Weekday**

8:00am Arango family (living)  
Anne Fleming  
Edith Cullen (living)

**SATURDAY, February 22**

**The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

5:00pm Peter & Theresa Caprara  
Judith Nerbetski  
Patricia Little

**SUNDAY, February 23**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00am Deacon James Gillespie (living)  
Kevin Carroll  
Thomas Young

9:30am Richard Jarocki (living)  
Michael McDonald (living)  
Louis Laureti, Jr.

11:30am Carol Curcio Mertz  
Lorenzo Petrucci  
Joan Sullivan



*The Flowers Adorning the  
Altar are*

*In Loving Memory of*

*Joell Lanfrank*

*requested by mom & dad*

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

*Joell Lanfrank*

*requested by mom & dad*



*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 Loving Memory of*

*Joell Lanfrank*

*requested by mom & dad*



**PARISH OFFICE: 732-270-3980**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 732-270-3797**  
**ST. VINCENT DePaul SOCIETY: 732-929-1119**

**PARISH WEBSITE: [www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org)**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK:  
[St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/St.JustintheMartyrRomanCatholicChurch)**

***St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Collection 3rd***

***Sunday of the month. Food Collection basket is  
located in the narthex by the parish hall.***

***Please utilize the green envelopes found in each pew for  
monetary donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society.***

## **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:** Confessions are from 3:30pm to 4:00pm. Outside the door of the church on the side of the Religious Ed 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-Can) 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  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in  
Ordinary Time - C  
February 16, 2025

**ARTISTS.** As said in previous articles on this Jubilee Year [which are available on our parish website], we will devote

columns to each of the 'special Jubilee Days' we will mark throughout this Holy Year. This weekend is the 'Jubilee Day for Artists.' Each artist, in his or her own field, reflect the **Ultimate Artist: God our Creator.** Among them are poets, writers, painters, sculptors, architects, actors, craftsmen and, perhaps above all, musicians. I say that because no one asks for a special statue or icon at a **Wedding, Funeral** or other Rite. Sometimes, particular **Scripture** passages are chosen, but **beloved hymns** are **regularly requested.** For sacred music combines both art and words, and in most hymns, art and **God's word.**

**THE POWER OF ART.** Human beings seem to be the only creature that creates beauty simply for beauty's sake. Beehives, birds' nests, spiders' webs and the like are magnificent to behold, but they are crafted, if not solely made, for utilitarian purposes. To our knowledge, no animal sits back to reflect on the beauty of its creation as we human beings do. For like **God our Creator,** we admire harmony and order, structure and beauty and the 'inner spiritual reality' of physical things. And since the human person is the highpoint of **God's Creation,** what we create ranks higher than what any other creature creates after **God.**

**JESUS IS THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD.** In our Church's history, some have censured the use of created things to help us better know and understand the **God** we cannot see. Those who hold to this heresy are called 'Iconoclasts,' Greek for 'image-destroyers.' Citing the **Commandment** forbidding graven images, they denounce statues, icons, paintings and other depictions of **God.** However, as **Saint Paul** wrote: "[Jesus] is the image of the invisible **God,** the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible." [Colossians 1:15] So, as long as we are not worshipping the images themselves, but who or what the image represents, and do not treat them like magic charms or good-luck pieces, we can use sacred images to worship the **God** we cannot see.

**SACRED ART AND RELIGION.** I already noted the inspirational power music has on us, above and beyond all other forms of art. Yet, as we recently saw, Paris' post-fire, renovated **Notre Dame Cathedral** has set records for the number of visitors since its reopening. Many people stood in a long line at the 1964-65 NY World's Fair to see **Michelangelo's 'Pieta'** as many still do at its home in **Saint Peter Basilica.** I believe most people's image of the **Last Supper** is the one depicted by **Leonardo da Vinci.** And, in **Christian art,** one of the most frequent subjects is the **Annunciation,** perhaps because our **Blessed Mother** is the **second** greatest of all people [her **Son** is Number 1!] since she was conceived without sin. And, since no one knows what **Angels** look like, artists have free rein when creating angelic images. Anyway ... these are just a few examples of how art and religion deeply influence each other.

**ART ENHANCES THE INCARNATION.** When **Jesus** took on flesh, He wedded heaven and earth. As His mission spread to the ends of the earth, to all nations and peoples, each 'blended' our **Catholic** [which means **Universal**] **Faith** to their culture. We see this in images of **Madonna and Child** in which they are depicted in local garments, various ethnic characteristics and skin colors. **Nativity Scenes, Rosaries, Crosses and Crucifixes** are crafted from Island coconut shells, African ivory, Black Forest wood, glacier ice, etc. For **Christ** came for **all peoples** in **all places** in **all times** ... and our art bears witness to that fact.

**ART INSTILLS HOPE IN US.** All recent **Popes,** in their addresses to artists, commend them for raising human spirits through their 'ministry.' By lifting our minds and hearts from the ordinary to the sublime, we are raised up to a new hope. Or, as **Pope Francis** told a group of artists gathered in 2023 in another site of sacred images, the **Sistine Chapel,** "You are sharers in **God's dream!**" No wonder that for centuries, the **Catholic Church** was the greatest patron, promoter and supporter of the **Arts** [and **Sciences, too!**] On this **Jubilee for Artists,** may all the faithful join with all artists for a renewed encounter with **Jesus Christ** as pilgrims of hope on the "way of beauty."

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..."*

Isabella Mae Brinzo  
*...a time to love..."*

*... "and a time to be born to Eternal Life..."*

Teresa Kelly, Mary McHugh, Georgette Carannante

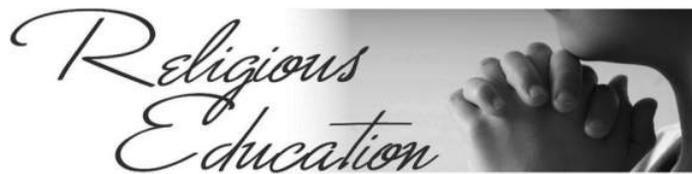
*Those who have died in the Service of our Country.*

*"...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, Henry Sohl, Nick Panzara, Kieran Murphy Christopher Sylvester, Greg Hermack, Morgan Hermack John DiMicelli, Seamus Righter, Joey Colosimo, Jordan Thomas, Jason Paino, Christopher Wright, Gage Maguire, Brett Turners; Mikey Fanelli, Sean Doherty, Nicholas Pfeifer, Joseph Paparazzo, Jr., Peter Herbert, Jake Jackson, Cristien Osorio, Paul Honan, Frank Aklus

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



### CONFIRMATION CPII STUDENTS

All required paperwork for the Sacrament of Confirmation is now overdue. Please bring your paperwork to the parish office immediately, thank you.

### FEBRUARY REMINDERS

February 17th NO CLASSES IN SESSION



**Save the Date!**  
**Tuesday, March 11, 2025**  
**7:00pm**  
**Colleen Kelly Raynor**  
**will be presenting**

**"HOPE"**  
**A LENTEN RETREAT FOR**  
**THE PARISH**

**"Colleen is a dynamic speaker that engages her audience and gets them involved in the retreat. She strives to create an experience that allows Jesus to touch the hearts of each person in the room through her words."**  
**More info to follow**

**Please note Parish Offices**  
**will be closed on**  
**Monday, February 17th, for the**  
**President's Day Holiday**



### **Blood Pressure Screening**

*Volunteer RNs will be available at*  
*St. Justin's conference room after Masses*  
***This weekend Sat. & Sun., Feb 15th & 16th.***

***There will be a basket in the Narthex***  
***the weekend of February 22/23 for the***  
***Collection of Palms***  
***from last year. These palms will be burned at***  
***the Mardi Gras celebration and used for***  
***ashes on Ash Wednesday. Kindly remove all rubber***  
***bands, stables etc. before bringing in.***



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

### **Share the Warmth Blanket/ Toiletries Drive**

**The St. Vincent DePaul Society** would like to thank all of our parishioners for a very successful blanket/toiletries drive.



The response was overwhelming and we greatly appreciate your generosity!

### **The items were distributed locally to:**

- St. Vincent de Paul
- The American Legion
- Brick Renal Center
- Christ Episcopal Church
- Mission in Asbury Park
- Harbor House
- House of Hope
- TruVine Tom's River
- Grandmother's Cupboard
- Just Believe
- Jersey Shore Women's Center
- St. Luke's food pantry
- Special Needs home

All locations received new and used blankets as well as a supply of toiletries. ***Thank you for your support.***

***"As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live." St. John Paul II***

## MINISTRY MEETINGS



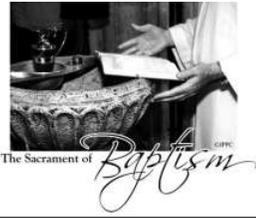
### ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

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. We recite a Rosary in church, followed by the meeting in the parish hall.  
 For further Info contact Pat: 732-608-0745  
**Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, Feb. 26th. 6:30pm**  
 New Members Always Welcome!



### Is God Calling you to Help

**Those In Need?** The mission of the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is to feed, clothe, house and heal individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn for help. Thanks to St. Vincent de Paul, our neighbors have received assistance with rent or mortgage payments that prevented them from being homeless, we have given respite to homeless people with a few nights in a motel to maintain their dignity with a shower, a warm place to sleep and a hot meal, we have made sure our seniors and families with children have kept the lights on, kept heat on in the winter months and provided food to fill empty pantries. Please consider donating by using the green envelopes in the narthex, or call Joanne and leave a message on our Help-Line at 732-929-1119. **Thank you.**



### BAPTISMAL WORKSHOPS in the Religious Ed Building.

**Next Baptismal Workshop**  
**7:00 pm Wednesday, April 2**  
 Pre-registration required call the parish office at 732-270-3980

### BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Anyone who has lost a loved one please come join us in prayer & sharing

**Next meeting date: Monday, March. 10th 7:00pm in St. Justin's Conference Room.**

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 Date:

**Monday, March 3, 2025** Meetings are at 7:00 pm St. Justin's Conference Room.  
 New Members Always Welcome

**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, Mar. 13th, 1:00pm, St. Justin's Conference Room.** For more info contact: JoAnne at 732-270-9258



**HOLY NAME SOCIETY**  
 St. Justin's has established the **Holy Name Society** at the parish. Our mission is to share the love and holy name of Jesus with our parish and community at large. In addition, the society promotes personal sanctification and holiness of its members by assisting other parish ministries and performing Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.



All men of the parish community are invited to join.

**Next Meeting Date: Monday, March. 10th 7:00pm Religious Education Building**



### ST. JUSTIN'S 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 see Deacon Fred after Mass, or call the parish office at 732-270-3980 **Next Meeting: Sundays, Feb. 23 & March 9, 6:00pm in the Conference Room**

**The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a Shop Rite Card Program. after all Masses Before going shopping you can purchase your Shop Rite gift cards in \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, & \$100 denominations.**

**5% of all proceeds go towards supporting our Parish.**  
 Please support this worthy cause

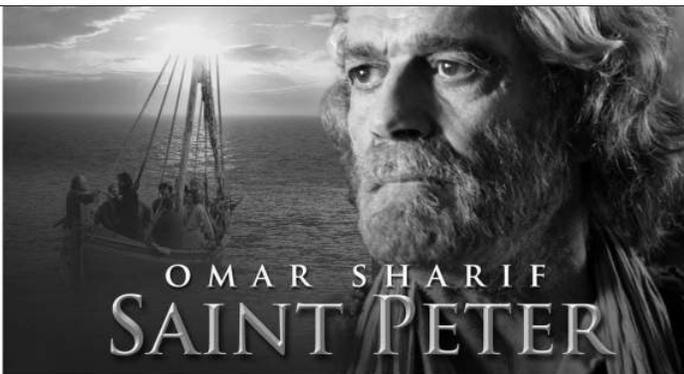
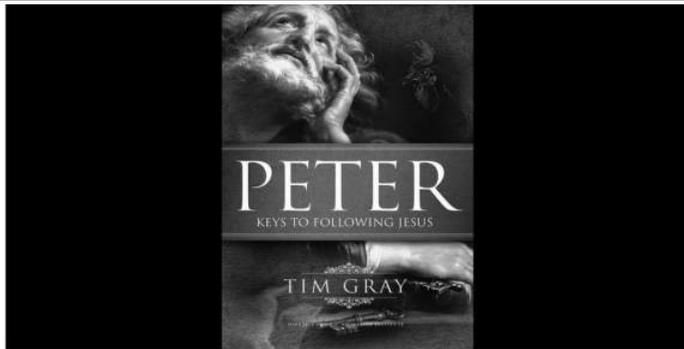
# St. Joseph Celebration & St. Patrick's Day Party

**Save the Date!**  
**Sunday, March 2, 2025,**  
**2:00-6:00pm**  
**St. Patrick & St. Joseph Luncheon Celebration**  
*Featuring:*  
**THE WILLIE LYNCH IRISH BAND** □  
 \$35.00 for Adults      Ages: 13-17 \$15.00  
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*Menu: Corned Beef & Cabbage, Chicken Francaise  
 Boiled Potatoes, Carrots, Penne Vodka  
 House Salad w/Dressing, Semolina Bread/Butter  
 Applesauce/Mustard/Parmigiana Cheese  
 Sheet Cake & Homemade Desserts  
 Coffee, Tea, Soda, Milk, Water  
 (Catered by Capone's Restaurant)*

*Tickets on sale after all Masses the month of February  
 & in the Parish Office. Monday-Thursday  
 Proceeds to benefit St. Justin's St. Vincent de Paul Society  
**Flyers are in the narthex***

Diocese of Trenton has a resource for anyone who is considering a call to the priesthood! The website [www.godiscallingyou.com](http://www.godiscallingyou.com) provides practical answers to the questions you may have in discerning a call to the priesthood.



**Attention Men!**  
 Join other Catholic men from across the Diocese of Trenton at the **28th Annual Men's Conference**  
**Saturday, February 22,**

at St. Mary Mother of God Church in Middletown.  
 The theme of this year's conference is "Solidarity: A Time to Unite." The day runs from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm and will feature Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop David O'Connell; Speakers include Elvis Grbac, a 2001 Pro Bowl quarterback with the Chiefs and Super Bowl XXIX champion with the 49ers, Elvis played 9 seasons in the NFL with San Francisco (1994-96), Kansas City (1997-2000) and Baltimore (2001; author of nine books, apologist and speaker for Catholic Answers, and adjunct professor at Holy Apostles College, Trent Horn specializes in teaching Catholics to graciously and persuasively engage those who disagree with them; and Matthew Arnold, an international speaker, author, and former New Age participant who converted to Catholicism in 1996, Arnold speaks internationally on a variety of topics, including devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and has hosted radio programs for EWTN and the Radio Maria Network, including Reasons for Faith LIVE and Scripture Matters LIVE with Dr. Scott Hahn. Cost is \$60 per person; \$20 for students. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information or to register online go to [www.catholicmenforjesuschrist.org](http://www.catholicmenforjesuschrist.org). To register by mail, send the name(s) of each person registering, your check, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Catholic Men for Jesus Christ P.O. Box 266, Clarksburg, NJ 08510



## Peter: Keys to Following Jesus by Tim Gray

Renowned scholar Dr. Tim Gray masterfully guides you through the tumultuous and inspiring life of Peter—from his call to discipleship to his eventual martyrdom in Rome. Using Sacred Scripture and tradition, Dr. Gray highlights important lessons from Peter's life.

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## Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.

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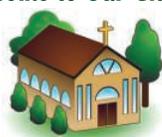
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**Marva Allen-Campbell**  
**732-534-1842**  
**mallen-campbell@jppc.net**  




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