

St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

SUNDAY, May 21, 2023
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



Our Parish Family extends their congratulations to Deacon Donald Gries on his Ordination

Pastor: Reverend Mark A. Kreder

Weekend Associate: Rev. Robert Laferrera

Deacons: James Campbell; James Gillespie

Frederick C. Ebena, 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: 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, May 21

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Mother's Day Novena |
| 9:30am | Frankie Puorro |
| | Joseph Krupinski (living) |
| | Michael Voris (living) |
| 11:30am | Joan & Dan Sullivan |
| | Francis Xavier Duddy & family |
| | William Morrocco |

TUESDAY, May 23

Easter Weekday; St. Rita of Cascia, Religious Mother's Day Novena

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 8:00am | Mother's Day Novena |
|--------|---------------------|

WEDNESDAY, May 24

Easter Weekday

- | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Jane Mozolak |
| | Mr. Anthony Pierrie |
| | Arango Grandchildren (living) |

THURSDAY, May 25

Easter Weekday; St. Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory II, Pope;

St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin

- | | |
|--------|-----------------------|
| 8:00am | Zita Oberti |
| | Frank Nersita |
| | Barbara & Bob Kesaday |
| | Antonio Llamas |

Saturday, May 27

Easter Weekday;

St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 5:00pm | Jadwiga Klobukowska |
| | Dorothy Wilson |
| | Marie & Ed O'Rourke |

SUNDAY, May 28

PENTECOST SUNDAY

- | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Pasquale & Adelina Cosentino |
| | Joseph Krupinski (living) |
| | Mary Daly |
| 9:30am | Tom & Mary Garatina |
| | Jack O'Connor |
| | Marilyn Bird |
| 11:30am | James & Lorraine Wehman (living) |
| | Charles Berzansky |
| | Chris Albanese |
| | Christine Niles (living) |



**EASTER UN-DECORATING
and Pentecost Decorating**

Wednesday May 24th at 12:30pm

Volunteers needed to help.

**Sign up thru the website,
www.stjustin.org, or call the parish
office and leave your name &
number.**



The Altar Bread,

*which will become the Body of Christ
at the Masses celebrated during
the week is in Loving Memory of*

Joan & Dan Sullivan

*requested by Shaun & Katrina Sullivan
& family*

Paschal Candle

*This year's Paschal Candle has been
generously donated in loving memory of*

Joan McGuire

requested by John McGuire



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

**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**

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 R.C.I.A. program: Contact Parish Office
Children R.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
The Ascension
of the Lord - A
May 21, 2023

TENSION BETWEEN STATE & CHURCH OR POPES AND OTHERS IS FAR FROM NEW!

Which Holy Father wrote these words: "... with all my powers I have tried to see that the holy Church, the bride of God, our lady and mother, might return to the beauty which is rightly hers and remain free, chaste and catholic. But, because this so greatly displeases our ancient foe, he has armed his minions against us so that they might overturn all our efforts. What he has been unable to do from [antiquity] he now does against us and particularly against the Apostolic See. Do not be surprised that, as the time goes on, he will fight all the harder to wipe out the Christian religion." Was it **Pope Saint John Paul II** speaking of Communists? **Pope Benedict** of Nazis? **Pope Francis** of atheists? It was written almost a millennia ago by the man the **Church** honors on **May 25: Pope Saint Gregory VII**. After praying the **Collect** for the **holy Mass** offered in his memory, we will explain his importance to us who are waging the same battles he once waged.

Saint Gregory VII, Pope - Collect

Give to your Church, we pray, O Lord,
that spirit of fortitude and zeal for justice
which you made to shine forth
in Pope Saint Gregory the Seventh,
so that, rejecting evil, she may be free
to carry out in charity whatever is right.
Through our Lord Jesus ... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A MAN WHO DID NOT WANT TO BE POPE. Born between 1020 and 1025 in Italy, he was baptized **Hildebrand**; his father was probably a carpenter and his mother's name is unknown. His uncle was an **Abbot** of a **Monastery** in **Rome**, which is where he was educated and entered **Religious Life** as a **Monk**. He served as a **Chaplain** to his mentor who had a 17-month-long, turbulent reign as **Pope Gregory VI**. In 1046, he went into exile with the **Pope** when he resigned as the **147th Successor of Saint Peter**. After the **Pope's** death in 1047, **Hildebrand** returned to the solitude of monastic life - but not for very long!

In 1049, **Pope Leo IX**, the **EIGHTH Pope** in 10 years [we live in calmer times!], made him **Abbot** of a **Monastery** in dire need of structural and administrative reconstruction. He served **Pope Leo** as an advisor, and was among his possible successors, which he did not want. However, in 1073, after **FOUR** more **Popes**, he was elected and took the name **Pope Gregory VII** to honor the **Pope** who he had served as a **Chaplain**.

Like most of his immediate predecessors and successors, he faced a **Church** in utter turmoil, the biggest woes being: scandalous corruption among the clergy; a painful schism that split the **Church** in two; and the interference of civil rulers who wanted to choose the **Church's** clergy and control its properties. Sounds awfully familiar, doesn't it! Which is why some say the **Church** MUST be divinely instituted and led by the **Holy Spirit** - otherwise, she would have crashed countless times over our 2,000-year history.

Despite widespread opposition, **Pope Gregory VII** promulgated many reforms and policies to correct all abuses. One of the most famous spats was with the **German Emperor Henry IV**, who sought to depose the **Pope** who threatened him with excommunication; eventually he carried it out. As the image above depicts, the **Emperor** repented, sought forgiveness and readmission to the **Sacraments** from the **Pope** himself. Casting down his royal robes and crown, he performed the penances the **Pope** prescribed. However, he rebelled again and again, was excommunicated each time, and eventually forced **Pope Gregory** to flee from **Rome**, but he never gave up the papacy! He died in exile on May 25, 1085, and was canonized by **Pope Benedict XIII** in 1728.

Many, including me, wonder why **Bishops** do not excommunicate public authorities who claim to be **Catholic** but allow - or even promote - policies and practices that violate **Catholic Teaching**. Yet as history shows: excommunication is often ineffectual or it backfires. Besides, each one of us must stand before the **Judgment Seat of Christ** - **personally** - to defend what we do or fail to do in this life. May **Pope Saint Gregory VII** intercede for all of us, and help us all become truly more **Catholic** in word and deed ... before it is too late!

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..."

**Kylie Rose Cicero, Hailey Jo Nowak
Raffaela Marra Taranto**

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

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

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

And for our President

and Leaders of our Country.

Readings for the Week of May 21, 2023

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39

Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23



Our priests and deacons will be celebrating the anniversary of their ordinations in the months of May & December. Please keep them in your prayers and thank them for answering God's call to serve Him and His Church and for their service to our parish

<u>Name</u>	<u>Anniversary Date</u>	<u>Years Ordained</u>
Father Mark Kreder	May 17, 2003	20
Father Bob Laferrera	Dec. 10, 1988	34
Deacon Fred Ebenau	May 14, 2005	18
Deacon James Campbell	May 13, 2006	17
Deacon James Gillespie	May 14, 2011	12
Deacon Don Gries	May 20, 2023	Ordained

Religious Education

Happy Summer!

Our classes have ended for the year and on behalf of our pastor, Father Mark, our clergy and staff we wish to thank the many volunteers who made this year possible. This program does not succeed without your help. We also thank our parents/guardians who are the first educators of the faith for their cooperation and support. Thank you all for sharing our Catholic faith with the children of this parish and joining them on this journey as witnesses for Jesus Christ. Finally, we wish to thank our children and may you have a happy and safe summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Religious Education Program 2023-24

Re-Registration Form for Returning Students

Students currently enrolled in our program should have received their re-registration form via the United States Postal Service. We ask that you return your registration form as soon as possible, especially if your child will be attending Grades 1,3, and 4-6 as these grades provide a choice of day. Forms may be returned via the mail or dropped off at the parish office, please see times below. Please note that there is a black box outside the front doors to the parish office if you need to drop off information during off hours.

Registration Form for those New to the Program

Students enrolling in our program for the first time may register in person at the parish office Monday-Thursday, 9:00AM to Noon and 1:15pm to 4:00PM. We ask that a family registration be filled out prior to registering for religious education. A parish registration form is available on our website www.stjustin.org. Please click the link titled, Registration Form For New Parishioners, and print and complete the form. You may drop off your family registration form to the parish office. Forms for religious education registration are available only at the parish office. We ask that you please provide your child's Baptismal certificate if your child was not baptized in our parish. If your child is transferring into our program, we ask that a transfer be requested from the parish where your child previously attended.



**Save the Date!! Back by Popular Demand, on June 19th,
The Multigenerational Orchestra,
"Planting our Musical Roots"
7:00pm (doors open 6:30pm)**

Under the direction of Susan Degoey, the group is comprised of around 50 musicians who all volunteer their time and talents to the group. Featured soloist, Emily Piccola on flute (senior at HS East) **Come and enjoy this wonderful evening, Enjoy tunes from Les Mis, 007, and Lord of the Dance. Free Will Offering** (Donations used to help defray the orchestra costs and a large portion is donated by the orchestra to local food banks)

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. Info contact Pat 732-608-0745 or Barbara 732-232-3733. Next meeting Wed. May 24th, 6:30pm

BEREAVEMENT GROUP will be meeting on Monday, June 12 2023 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

SENIORS CLUB Last Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 20th doors open 11:00am in the parish hall.

*The St. Justin Senior Group will have its last luncheon June 20th. The group will be disbanding and the luncheon will be our last meeting. Thank you for all who attended monthly and tried to keep it going, however, the numbers were fewer and fewer. God Bless You All



BAPTISMAL WORKSHOPS
in the Religious Ed Building.
Next Baptismal Workshop
Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Pre-registration required call the parish office at 732-270-3980

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! For more info contact: JoAnne at 732-270-9258—Next meeting date: Thursday, June 15 7:00pm (note time change) St. Justin's Conference Room. New Members Always Welcome.

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. In the Conference Room. Next Meeting Dates: MONDAY June 5th St. Justin's Conference Room



St. Justin's Adult Choir —Do you feel God is calling you to this ministry? Lend us your voice and become a part of the choir. No experience necessary, just a love of singing for the Lord. Call Angela 201-681-4219 for info.

Trip to Sight and Sound Theatre for Dec 14th Christmas Show
The Trip includes: Sight and Sound Theatre Christmas Show and Lunch at Shady Maple Cost \$ 180.00
for info call Barbara 732-232-3733. Flyers in the narthex



IS GOD CALLING YOU? The Society of St. Vincent de Paul monthly meeting is Monday May 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.

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

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 Meeting: Sunday June 4, 6:00pm in the Conference Room



RCIA NEWS—

Our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) classes have begun. We meet at 9:00am on Sunday mornings in St. Justin's Conference Room. For further info contact the Parish Office *Catholics Can Always Come Home*



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

Dear Parish Family, in lieu of small gifts for Mother's Day & Father's Day given at Masses, our parish has made donations to Birthright and Good Counsel Homes to help those in need.



Congratulations and Welcome Deacon Donald Gries

On Saturday, May 20th, Bishop David O'Connell ordained two men to the transitional diaconate and ten men to the permanent diaconate at the Mother Church of our Diocese, St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral in Trenton. . Ordination to the transitional diaconate are men who will eventually be ordained to the priesthood. As men who are committed to

becoming priests, transitional deacons make a promise of celibacy.

One of the many fruits of the Second Vatican Council was the restoration of the permanent diaconate, which had its origins in the early Church and was suspended for over four hundred years. At the time of the second Vatican Council, there was a great deal of discussion about a restoration of the permanent diaconate. There were several reasons. First of all, there were pastoral reasons: deacons as married men could help to alleviate the concurrent decline in priestly vocations. Second, there was a desire to enrich the Church with the traditional fullness of all three ranks of the sacrament of Holy Orders, which are: Bishop, Priest and Deacon, and third, there was a recognition that many men were already carrying out diaconal ministries and it would be appropriate to strengthen their service by sacramental grace, thus making their ministry all the more effective and fruitful.

Our parish is presently blessed with three deacons. Their ministry of Word, sacrament, and service is truly a blessing to our parish and builds up the Body of Christ and gives expression to what Pope Benedict XVI called "the ordering of charity" in the life of the Church.

Whenever a person is ordained, he is to serve the diocesan Church. Deacons are no different in this regard: they are assigned by the bishop to ministries for which the bishop perceives a great need, and for which the deacon may have special gifts or talents. Most often, this will be within a parish setting, just as most priests serve in a parish. Once assigned to the parish, the deacon and any other clergy assigned to the parish, minister under the immediate supervision of the pastor.

Today, I am pleased to announce that Deacon Donald Gries has been assigned to minister in our parish.

All ordained ministers in the Church are called to functions of word, sacrament, and charity, but bishops, priests and deacons exercise these functions in various ways. As ministers of Word, deacons proclaim the Gospel, preach, and teach in the name of the Church. As ministers of sacrament, deacons baptize, lead the faithful in prayer, witness marriages, and conduct wake and funeral services. As ministers of charity, deacons are leaders in identifying the needs of others, then marshalling the Church's resources to meet those needs. But no matter what specific functions a deacon performs, they flow from his sacramental identity. In other words, it is not only what a deacon does, but who a deacon is, that is important.

I will ask Deacon Don, which most people will call him, to write a self-introduction for those who do not know him. Please join me in congratulating him, his wife Debbie who serves as the director of our RCIA Program, his children Kyle and Danielle, his mother Elizabeth, as well as his grandchildren and all other family members.

Our 11:30 am Mass today will be a Mass of Thanksgiving in which Deacon Don will assist as a deacon for the first time and will preach.

Please keep Deacon Don and all our deacons and their spouses and families in your prayer. We are grateful for those who serve us now and for those who have served in the past.

Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the generosity of countless men throughout the world who give their lives to the service of your Church as permanent deacons; especially our deacons here at St. Justin the Martyr Parish. We also remember with gratitude the often hidden, but very important, supportive role of their spouses and families.

We pray that you continue to send your Holy Spirit upon our deacons that they might truly be ministers of Word, sacrament, and service, living icons of Christ Your Son.

By their example and their service, may they inspire and sustain us in loving service on behalf of justice and peace throughout the world. We ask all this through our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen

Father Mark



PRAY THE ROSARY PARTICIPATE IN THE PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM

On May 1st our parish began The Parish Rosary Program. Each week parishioners are requested to either fill in the quick form on the website, or drop in the basket in the narthex a slip of paper with the number of rosaries they prayed the previous week. (First name or initials & rosaries prayed only) Weekly, year-to date totals will be printed in the church bulletin. The program will run thru October 2023
(Month of the Holy Rosary) This week: 135 Rosaries: To Date: 312 Rosaries

Thank you for your rosaries! God bless you and your families

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