

# St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023  
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The last will be FIRST, and  
the first will be LAST.

MATTHEW 20:16



## Readings for the Week of September 24, 2023

- Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 8:16-18  
Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-5; Lk 8:19-21  
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Tb:13:2, 3-4abefghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6  
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9  
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51  
Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45  
Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32

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, September 24**

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

- |        |                                                                                                              |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Pasquale & Adelina Cosentino<br>Ethan Grossman<br>Frank Bonaccorso<br>Mary Munro<br>William Daniels (living) |
| 9:30am | Joan Babin<br>Johanna Gonzalez<br>Joseph Becht                                                               |
| 11:30  |                                                                                                              |

**MONDAY, September 25**

**Weekday**

- |        |                                                                   |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Grace & Edward Plenzo<br>Greg Laferlita (living)<br>Henry Corsale |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|

**TUESDAY, September 26**

**Weekday; Saints Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs**

- |        |                                                                 |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Sauer Family<br>Steve & Grace Scillieri<br>Anne Floria (living) |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|

**WEDNESDAY, September 27**

**St. Vincent de Paul, Priest**

- |        |                                                                         |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Society of St. Vincent de Paul<br>Beverly Barlow<br>Alexander Caraballo |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**THURSDAY, September 28**

**Weekday; St. Wenceslaus, Martyr;**

**St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, Martyrs**

- |        |                                                                                             |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Beverly Lewis (living)<br>Andrew Ranonis (living)<br>Antoinette & Joseph Scillieri (living) |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Saturday, September 30**

**St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church**

- |        |                                                                   |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5:00pm | Richard Stanton<br>William Neveroski<br>Rosemary Pirrera (living) |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|

**SUNDAY, October 1**

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Respect Life Sunday**

- |        |                                                                                        |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | David Sadis (living)                                                                   |
| 9:30am | Scott Miick<br>Joshua Lavin<br>Henry Corsale<br>Joseph Inserra<br>James Kennedy        |
| 11:30  | Frank Puorro, Mimi Frable Mosca, &<br>Edward Gilliam<br>Anne-Marie & William Neveroski |



## 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



**St. Vincent de Paul 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](http://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.



*The Flowers  
Adorning the Altar  
are in  
Loving Memory of  
Joell Lanfrank*  
requested by mom & dad



From the Pastor  
25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in  
Ordinary Time - A  
September 24, 2023

**EXCUSES FOR NOT GOING TO MASS.** Having finished the 13-part miniseries on the Apostolic Letter, 'Desiderio Desideravi,' during the year-long reflection on the 2022-2025 National Eucharistic Revival or NER [our Parish website has the past

articles], We now start a 5-part miniseries on the 15 most common excuses some people use for not fulfilling the obligation to attend weekly Mass. These were gleamed from the [www.catholiclink.org](http://www.catholiclink.org) website, which offers timely insight into the challenges faced by the Catholic Church these days. We begin with this quote from the NER #55:

"In recent years, increasing numbers of Christians ... have left their churches and become religiously unaffiliated. We invite Catholics who have left the Church or who no longer practice the faith to come home. We miss you and we love you. We pray that Jesus will draw you back to your Catholic family, his Mystical Body, through his Eucharistic Body. We repeat words attributed to St. Teresa of Calcutta: 'Once you understand the Eucharist, you can never leave the Church. Not because the Church won't let you but because your heart won't let you.'" Here are the excuses ranked by [www.catholiclink.org](http://www.catholiclink.org) from the most common excuse to the least.

**Reason #1: The Church is full of judgmental hypocrites.** As Pope Francis and others often note, the *Church* is not a museum for *Saints*, but a *hospital for sinners*. And no one has the right to *judge anyone else* - for as Jesus warned us: "*Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you.*" [Matthew 7:1-2] So, those who judge others as hypocrites may just find themselves without forgiveness or mercy since they denied these spiritual gifts to others. This does not excuse *Mass-goers* from striving to be as perfect as *Jesus* ... although no one [except His *Mother!*] will ever be perfect! One good reason for going to *holy Mass* is to hear the *Word* that guides us to become more perfect, to be fed with the *Food* that can help us become better, and to

support and - dare I say - challenge each other - to become more perfect, day after day.

**Reason #2: If God is everywhere, why do I need to go to a Church to be with Him?** Yes, God IS everywhere - but so is air for the most part. But to be in a place free from pollution or any manmade odors, in a relaxed setting, where we can enjoy a blast of fresh air ... isn't that a better place to be than in a smog-infested, congested, city? While all analogies limp or fail to perfectly make a point, the gist of this example is: the Church is to be an oasis that strives to proclaim and make visible what is hidden in all created things: God's presence and the saving law of the Lord. Just as stargazing can open our eyes to the wonders of creation, Sacred Scripture can reveal to us the Creator. And just as a day at the beach or a forest can reveal God's majesty, the Eucharist can enable His awesome power to enter into and change us! As Saint Maximilian Kolbe said, "If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion." For we can be no closer to God, or God to us, than through the Gift of Eucharist!

**Reason #3: The Mass is so boring.** Let's be blunt: those who go to a sporting event or an opera - without first doing all they can to understand the game or the storyline behind the play - whose fault is it that the game or the opera was boring? First, I assume those who say this are not paying attention and striving to take an active part in the celebration. If so, I agree with them: there is nothing more boring than to be at an event in which we are disinterested.

However, there is no excuse for anyone in our Parish NOT to have a deeper understanding of the *holy Mass*! I say that because of: 1] these very articles in which I try to explain why we do what we do. 2] The Parish pays for everyone to log on for free to FORMED.ORG which offers FREE Faith Formation talks and presentations on the *holy Mass* and other Rites, and a treasure chest of information about Catholicism! 3] Each year I explain every part of the *holy Mass* for our kids, their families, and all of us. 4] We invite all to serve, if possible, in any liturgical ministry, which is the best way to enter into the *holy Mass*. Next week: more 'excuses' for missing Mass.

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..."

Alliyah Paulyn Berano

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

Stefania lemma & Stephen Michel III

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

Lorraine Wedgwood, Jack Cantagallo, Judith Audinis

*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, Kevin Kreder, Henry Sohl Christopher Sylvester, Nick Panzara, 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, Joseph Paparazzo, Jr., Peter Herbert, Jake Jackson  
*And for our President and elected Leaders of our Country.*

**St. Justin the Martyr Rosary Altar Society  
Gift Auction**

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 6, 2023**

Doors open at 6PM—Tickets \$15

Tickets will be available every weekend  
starting September 10th  
(St. Justin's Conference Room)

For more information & tickets call:

Pat: 732-608-0745, Terry: 732-861-2575,  
Debbie: 732-691-2643   (Must be 18 years or older)



**St. Justin's Annual Mum Sale—Remember Your Loved One. Cost of each mum is \$10.00 Flyers in bulletin, Narthex & also downloadable from the website: [www.stjustin.org](http://www.stjustin.org)**



**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)  
**Thank You and may God bless you and your families.**

**This week 276 Rosaries: To Date: 5,265 Rosaries**

# Religious Education

## Grade 1 and New to the Program Parent Meeting

On Tuesday, September 26th is a Parent Information Meeting for all those new to our program at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. We ask our parents/guardians to please make an effort to attend this important meeting.

### October Reminders

**October 9th** – No Classes

**October 19th** – Grade 1 Epiphany Pageant Rehearsal

4:30-5:30PM in the Parish Hall

**October 24th** – Parent/Guardian Meeting for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation

7:00pm in the Parish Hall

**October 30th – 31st** – No classes

Save the Date!

**Saturday, October 28th**

*Dance the night away*  
at St. Justin's

### Rock & Roll Dinner Bash

6:00pm to 10:00pm

Price: \$30.00 per person  
(ages 21 & older)

Featuring:

our Rock Around the Clock  
**DJ /Entertainer Lou Reed**

(formerly of the "Crests", now with  
The Jersey Four A Four)

### Includes delicious dinner catered by Capones

Sausage & Peppers, Eggplant Rolatini, Chicken Francaise, Penne Vodka, House Salad/Dressing, Bread & Butter, Grated Cheese Coffee, Tea, Soda & Water, Homemade Desserts

Tickets go on Sale in the narthex after Masses starting the weekends of Saturday, October 7th thru Sunday, October 22nd

*Tickets will also be sold in the Parish Office Monday thru Thursday 9am-12Noon & 1:15pm-3:45pm*



**2023 Bishop's Anniversary  
Blessing Ocean/Monmouth  
County Parishes Sunday,  
October 8, 2023; 3:00 pm**

**Co-Cathedral of**

**St. Robert Bellarmine,**

**Freehold: Visit: [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing), or call the parish office to register.  
The registration deadline for all anniversary couples is September 30, 2023.**

## 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

Next Meeting Wed. Sept. 27, 2023 6:30pm Parish Hall



**BAPTISMAL WORKSHOPS**  
*in the Religious Ed Building.*  
**Next Baptismal Workshop**  
**7:00 pm Wednesday, October 4, 2023**  
***Pre-registration required call the parish office at 732-270-3980***

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP** will be meeting on **Monday, October 16th 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. In the Conference Room. **Next Meeting Date Monday October 2nd 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, October 12, 2023 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 October 1st & October 15th . 6:00pm in the Conference**



**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.



**IS GOD CALLING YOU?** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul monthly meeting is **Monday September 25th, 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"*



**ADULT OCIA NEWS**  
(formerly RCIA)  
We will begin classes for the 2023-2024 season on **Sunday, September 24, 2023 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***



***The St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Justin the Martyr Church located in Toms River is asking you to prayerfully consider joining our ministry.***

***We need your help. We are in need of people to, one day a week, from the presence of your home, screen calls of those in need of help. The St. Vincent de Paul ministry helps our neighbors in the eastern section of Toms River as well as the barrier island.***

**There is an in person training on Saturday, September 30, 2023.**

***If you have any questions, and to leave your name & number if you are interested in helping, please leave a message on our Helpline at 732-929-1119. Thank you for prayerfully considering joining this important ministry to serve God's people.***



## Annulment Advocate Program

The Diocese of Trenton offers a Lecture Series and Training of

Annulment Advocates to teach prospective Annulment Advocates to assist parishioners in preparing petitions for marriage annulments.

Candidates will be instructed in procedural law, as well as the various grounds for annulment. The Program is conducted in 5 two-hour sessions plus one take home exam and practical case preparation. The two-hour sessions are all on Thursday nights from 7pm to 9pm:

October 19 and 26, November 9 and 16 at St. Anthony Parish, 251 Franklin St., Hightstown, NJ 08520. Final session and handling of certificates will be on Tuesday, December 19 at 7pm in the Chancery.

Applications must be submitted by October 12, 2023. Please prayerfully consider becoming an Annulment Advocate. For further information, please reach out to Father Mark or call the parish office at 732-270-3980.

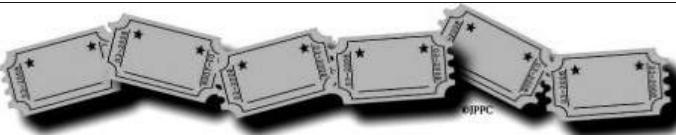


## RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Some couples feel lonely, frustrated, or angry in their marriage, often feeling shut off from one another. Other couples experience severe conflict and never-ending arguments. Retrouvaille offers hope for all these marriages by teaching couples to communicate in a deeper, more meaningful way, healing hurts and rebuilding trust and intimacy. No relationship is beyond help.

The next program will be held October 6 - 8, 2023 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

All inquiries are strictly confidential.



### Interfaith Family Services

Formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network of Ocean County  
**50/50 Raffle \$100 per ticket—Only 100 tickets sold**

*Drawing Oct. 16, 2023 7:00pm*

*Winner will receive 50% of amount received,  
do not need to be present to win. All proceeds will  
support the continued operation of*

*Interfaith Family Services*

**732-341-7675    908-278-2963    732-736-1550**

*Must be 18 or over to participate*

## GRATITUDE

Your Parish Community is

## GRATEFUL

for your consistent contributions.

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

Collections are vital to our existence as a Parish. If your

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Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Elizabeth Klein

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**THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON**  
is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

## PROMISE TO PROTECT



## PLEDGE TO HEAL

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan

**ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965**

or via e-mail at [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org).

The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

0514-pg. 6

# Silverton Memorial Funeral Home

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It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:  
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

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