

St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Community

29 N. Washington Ave.
201-384-0101

Parish Web Site: www.sjrc.org

Bergenfield, N.J. 07621
Fax: 201-384-2055

Served by:

Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnhols

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Rev. César A. Infante

Rev. Oliver D. Nilo

Rev. Ashton I. F. Wong

Parochial Vicars

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Deacon Airán Negrín

Lisa Oggioni Marciano

Director of Music Ministries

Mary Ann C. Johnston

Pastoral Council President

Mrs. Patricia D. Rickly

Mr. Enrique G. Enriquez

Trustees

December 18, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY

of
Advent

Excerpt from the Dictionary by Alan Watts, 1966, 1997, 1998, 1970, CDD.
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Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:23

PARISH LIFE CENTER

15 N. Washington Ave., Bergenfield 201-384-3601

Rosemarie Flood ~ roflood@yahoo.com
Director of Religious Education

Eric A. Acosta ~ ericacosta7@msn.com

Living God's Word

We ask God to continue to save us in our own day
from all that would lead us away from God. We ask
God to continue to help us to know Jesus as
Emmanuel, God with us, so that our faith may be
rooted in the wisdom and power of God.

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| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Saturday | <u>December 17</u> |
| 5:30 pm | Ty Bio Ho |
| 7:00 pm (Español) | Roberto Enmanuel |
| Sunday | <u>December 18</u> |
| 7:30 am | Gertrudes T. Guevarra |
| 9:00 am | The People of the Parish |
| 10:30 am | Albina Perez—1st Anniversary |
| 12:00 pm | John LaMotta |
| 1:15 pm (Español) | Alicia Rustica Veras |
| Monday | <u>December 19</u> |
| 7:00 am | Grace Casabuena |
| 9:00 am | Jill Verga Tabor |
| 7:30pm | All Departed Souls of the D'Silva Family |
| Tuesday | <u>December 20</u> |
| 7:00 am | Sp. Int.: Nicholas Ospina—Birthday |
| 9:00 am | Dax P. Coste |
| 7:30 pm | All the Departed Souls of the Menezes Family |
| Wednesday | <u>December 21</u> |
| 7:00 am | Jill Verga Tabor |
| 9:00 am | John T. Brady |
| 7:30 pm | Sp. Int.: In Thanksgiving for all blessings of the D'Silva Family |
| Thursday | <u>December 22</u> |
| 7:00 am | Jesús Valenzuela Sebastian |
| 9:00 am | Family & Friends of the Pinto Family |
| 7:30 pm | Martina A. Perez |
| Friday | <u>December 23</u> |
| 7:00 am | Aida G. Lapuz |
| 9:00 am | Rosita Lacson Quiambao |
| 7:30 pm | Sp. Int.: In Thanksgiving for Tom Thomas' Birthday |
| Saturday | <u>December 24</u> |
| 7:00 am | NO 7AM MASS |
| 9:00 am | Sp. Int.: In Thanksgiving for Jeffrey Jose's Birthday |
| 4:00 pm | Margie Quille |
| 6:30 pm | Delmy Escobar |
| 9:00 pm (Español) | Roberto & Concepcion Chavez |
| 12:00am | T.J. and Sally D. Lee |
| Sunday | <u>December 25—CHRISTMAS DAY</u> |
| 7:30 am | The People of the Parish |
| 9:00 am | Rogelia Trumpeta |
| 10:30 am | Zareeda and All the Jairam Family |
| 12:00 pm | Alipio & Maxima Dativas |
| 1:15 pm (Español) | Jorge Mendoza, Jr.—Anniversary |

Final Deanery Penance Service

Monday, Dec. 19 – 7pm

Ascension, New Milford

Prayers for the Deceased

*Please remember
William Horn and Martin Jennings
in your prayers.*

Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

Please see the invitation on page 2 of today's bulletin, for Fr. Ray's Retirement Celebration. I hope that many of you will be able to attend! The event is sponsored by many of our parish groups, organizations, and societies. It will be a fitting way to celebrate our parish feast day in gratitude for the many years of Fr. Ray's faithful service to our parish.

Our Simbang Gabi celebrations continue with daily morning Mass at 5am in church through Christmas Eve. Please see the Christmas and following holiday Mass schedule elsewhere in the bulletin. I hope you will invite others to join you for Mass at Christmas, even if some say "no." We never know when a gentle word of invitation may open the door to a "yes."

Those who receive our parish offering envelopes in the mail will notice that there is both a Christmas Day envelope and Sunday, Dec. 25 envelope in their packets. This is not an error, as we count on the regular Sunday offering to sustain our basic operations, while welcoming your most generous gift possible for the Christmas Collection. Please place both envelopes in the collection basket when you come to Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Thank you for your generous and faithful support of our parish at Christmas and all year long!

Msgr. Richard Arnhols, Pastor

Reflection on Today's Scripture Readings

The Bible offers us a rich variety of men and women who qualify as heroes, warriors, prophets, and wise men and women. And every so often it places before us a dreamer. Jacob had the first big dream, with that ladder connecting heaven and earth, bearing ascending and descending angels.

His son Joseph started off with dreams that put himself at the center, much to his brothers' chagrin, but later he saved himself by interpreting the dreams of others, including Pharaoh. However, the most important dreamer of all was Joseph, spouse of Mary and foster father to Jesus.

Joseph was asked to live out his dream. "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her," he was told in a dream (Matthew 1:20). And not only that, he was to name the child Jesus, which means "God saves." What all this cost him we don't know. All we hear is that when he awoke from the dream, he did what had been asked and took Mary into his home.

That wasn't the end of the dreams. "Joseph, take the mother and child into Egypt—Herod is trying to kill him." "Joseph, take the mother and child out of Egypt—Herod is dead." And Joseph did. Maybe once you begin to live God's dream it gets easier.

God's dream is that we live in the world as God's adopted and saved children, working to bring God's peace and justice, mercy and forgiveness into our world wherever they are needed.—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R. *Copyright © 2013, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.*

Stewardship: Sharing our Time, Talent, and Treasure!

*"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."
MATTHEW 1:24*

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

Our Sunday Offering: Sunday, November 6, 2022 — \$15,975.35

November 7, 2021 — \$17,125.65 ~ November 8, 2020 COVID19 LIMITATIONS—\$13,469.49 (by mail/electronic)

Escritorio del Párroco

Estimados Feligreses,

Favor de ver la invitación en la página 2 del boletín de hoy, para la Celebración de la Jubilación del Padre Ray. ¡Espero que muchos de ustedes puedan asistir! El evento está patrocinado por muchos de nuestros grupos parroquiales, organizaciones y sociedades. Será una forma adecuada de celebrar la fiesta de nuestra parroquia en agradecimiento por los muchos años del fiel servicio del Padre Ray en nuestra parroquia.

Nuestras celebraciones de Simbang Gabi continúan con Misa matutina diaria a las 5:00am en la iglesia hasta la víspera de Navidad. Consulte el horario de Misas de Navidad y los siguientes días festivos en la página 2 del boletín. Espero que invite a otros a unirse a usted para la Misa de Navidad, incluso si algunos dicen "no". Nunca sabemos cuándo una amable palabra de invitación puede abrir la puerta a un "sí".

Aquellos que reciben nuestros sobres de ofrendas parroquiales por correo notarán que hay un sobre del día de Navidad y un sobre del domingo 25 de diciembre en sus paquetes. Esto no es un error, ya que contamos con la ofrenda regular de los domingos para mantener nuestras operaciones básicas, también le damos las gracias por su generosa contribución de Navidad. Coloque ambos sobres en la canasta de la colecta cuando venga a Misa en Nochebuena o el día de Navidad. ¡Gracias por su generoso y fiel apoyo a nuestra parroquia en Navidad y durante todo el año!

Monseñor Richard Arnholts, Párroco

Reflexión de las Escrituras de Hoy

La Biblia nos ofrece una rica variedad de hombres y mujeres que califican como héroes y heroínas, guerreros y guerreras, profetas y profetizas, sabios y sabias. Y de vez en cuando nos presentan un soñador. Jacob tuvo el primer gran sueño con esa escalera que conectaba al cielo con la tierra y ángeles que ascendían y descendían.

Su hijo José comenzó a tener sueños donde se ponía él mismo en el mero centro, lo cual disgustaba a sus hermanos; pero más tarde salvó su propia vida al interpretar los sueños de los demás, incluso los del faraón. Sin embargo, el soñador más importante fue José el esposo de María y padre adoptivo de Jesús.

A José se le pidió vivir su sueño. “No temas aceptar a María como tu esposa, pues el hijo que espera viene del Espíritu Santo”, así se le dijo en un sueño (Mateo 1:20). Y no sólo eso, sino que además debía ponerle al niño el nombre de Jesús, que significa “Dios salva”. Todo lo que esto le costó no lo sabemos. Todo lo que se nos dice es que cuando se despertó hizo lo que se le había pedido y recibió a su esposa María en su hogar.

Ése no fue el final de los sueños. José, “toma al niño y a su madre, huye a Egipto—Herodes trata de matarlo”. José, “levántate, toma al niño y a su madre, y regresa a la tierra de Israel—Herodes ha muerto”. Y José así lo hizo. Quizás una vez que se comienza a vivir el sueño de Dios las cosas se hacen más fáciles.

El sueño de Dios es que vivamos en el mundo como hijos adoptivos de Dios y redimidos por Dios, trabajando por llevar la paz y la justicia de Dios, su misericordia y su perdón a nuestro mundo, dondequiera que hagan falta. —James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R. Derechos de autor © 2013, World Library Publications. Todos los derechos reservados.

Administradores: ¡Compartiendo Nuestro Tiempo, Talento, Y Tesoro!

“Cuando José se despertó, hizo lo que el Ángel del Señor le había ordenado y llevó su esposa a su hogar.”
Mateo 1:24

Poner nuestra completa confianza en el Señor sin esperar nada a cambio. Esforzarnos en poner a Dios primero en todas las cosas y seguirlo a dondequiera que Él nos lleve a José fue un ejemplo de esos pilares de nuestra fe. A medida que nos preparamos para el nacimiento de nuestro Señor, oremos por la fortaleza y el valor para ser un modelo de discipulado, tal como lo fue José.

Nuestra Ofrenda Dominical: domingo, 6 de noviembre 2022 — \$15,975.35 ~ 7 de noviembre 2021 — \$17,125.65
8 de noviembre 2020 — LIMITACIONES DEBIDO A COVID—\$13,469.49 (por correo/electrónico)

Missalettes

Limited copies of Breaking Bread and Misal del Día missalettes are available for individual purchase at the rectory. Breaking Bread issues are six dollars each, and Misal del día issues are \$5.00 each.



Come & Pray

Adoration This Week:
Tuesday & Wednesday 12pm—6:30pm
Thursday 12pm—5:00pm

Memorial Fund / Special Intention

Week of December 17th—23rd

Altar Flowers

In loving memory of Salvatore T. Cinque
Requested by Clare Kaberle

Christmas Flowers

Please put your Christmas Flower envelope in with the regular collection this weekend. Extra envelopes are available at the church exits.

Sacraments

Penance - Saturdays: 1:00pm-2:00pm in the Church.

NO CONFESSIONS ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Baptisms - English - 3:00pm

2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month

Spanish—2:45pm—4th Sunday of the month

Instructions for parents will be held on the 1st Sunday of the month in English at 1:30pm in the Parish Life Center Basement and the 3rd Sunday of the month in Spanish at 2:45pm in the Parish Life Center Gathering Room for parents having their first child baptized. All parents must be registered parishioners and present the child's birth certificate at the time of arranging the baptism. Godparents must be practicing Catholics, at least sixteen years of age, who have received the Sacraments of Confirmation & Eucharist, and, if married, the Sacrament of Matrimony. Sponsor certificate must be presented at least one week before Baptism.

PLEASE NOTE! We are accepting registrations for Baptisms for January and beyond.

Please call the Rectory at 201-384-0101 for information.

Matrimony - Arrangements for a wedding should be made at least one year in advance. Please contact one of the priests,

God Wants To Be One With Us

What great lengths God will go to in loving and saving us! Think of the most outlandish circumstance you might conceive. That seems to be what the Lord is saying to Ahaz in today's first reading. "A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Not only is the idea of a virgin conceiving beyond comprehension in Ahaz's time, so would the concept of God wanting to be with us be, as the name Emmanuel indicates. And yet, this is what we celebrate in the Incarnation—God wants so completely to be one with us that God came to be with us in a son born to a virgin, the Blessed Virgin Mary. There is more to this story than even these amazing and outlandish occurrences, however. God wants to be one with us so deeply that God partners with us to make God's presence known. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

St. John's Prayer Groups

Legion of Mary ~ Meets each Saturday, 9:30am-11:00am in the Lower Church (English).

Padre Pio Prayer Group ~ Meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month, 3pm—5pm in the Lower Church.

St. John's Youth Group - Meets on Sunday 7pm-9pm, Youth Room, Lower Church. For more information contact Eric Acosta, ericacosta7@msn.com.

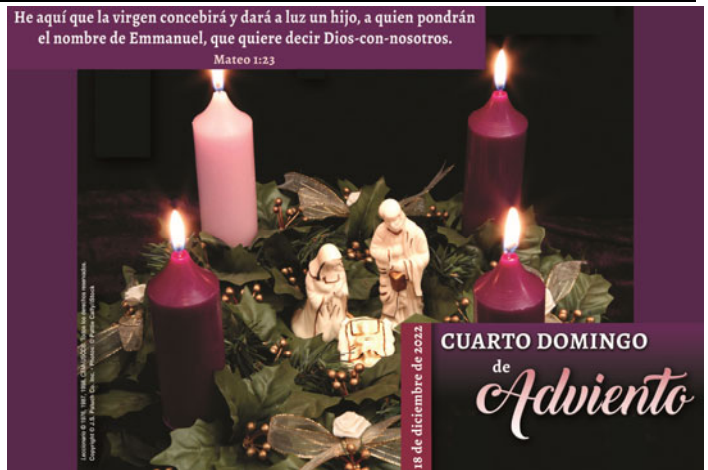
EL Shaddai DWXI-PPFI Bergenfield Cell Group - meets 2nd & 4th Saturday 1:30pm-5:30pm in the Lower Church. Come & Be Blessed by the "Healing Message". For more info, contact Lhot Liwanag at 201.233.8235 or John Teopengco at 201.658.4032.

Anointing Fire Ministry Group - Meets Mondays 7pm-10pm in the Parish Life Center Chapel. Also, meets the 2nd Friday of the month from 10pm—6:30am for Eucharistic Adoration & Praise, in the Lower Church.

Las Posadas (16-24 de diciembre)

De las muchas tradiciones latinoamericanas para celebrar el Adviento y la Navidad, las posadas parecen ser las mejor conocidas en los Estados Unidos. Tienen su origen en la última mitad del siglo XVIII cuando las estrepitosas Misas de Aguinaldo dejaron de ser celebradas en México. Para reemplazar esas Misas los laicos decidieron celebrar en sus casas tomando lo que habían visto dramatizado en los templos, el recorrido de los inmigrantes galileos, José y María de Nazaret mientras buscaban posada en Belén de Judea. Como las “Antífonas O” de la liturgia oficial estas posadas llegaron a ser celebradas nueve noches consecutivas.

El recorrido de José y María recordado por las posadas lamentablemente sigue todos los días en los pasos temerosos y cansados de tantos inmigrantes en este país. Al igual que la Sagrada Familia, familias latinoamericanas continúan buscando hospedaje con la esperanza de dar a luz una nueva vida para sus hijos/as. Desgraciadamente, muchos estadounidenses se portan como la gente de Belén, prefieren cerrar la puerta en la cara a los inmigrantes que darles la bienvenida. Tal vez por esto las posadas han tomado tanta importancia entre los latinos en los Estados Unidos porque conocemos en carne propia lo que José y María experimentaron hace dos mil años. Hay que preguntarse, ¿cuándo cambiarán los corazones de los seres humanos? ¿Cuándo abriremos las puertas del corazón a nuestro Dios inmigrante? —Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Grupos Parroquiales

La Palabra ~ lunes, Iglesia de abajo de 7:30pm ~ 9:30pm

Legión de María ~ martes, Capilla del Parish Life Center de 6:00pm ~ 7:30pm

Tienda del Encuentro ~ martes
Basement del Parish Life Center de 7:00pm ~ 10:00pm

Emaús Mujeres ~ miércoles, Iglesia de abajo de 7:30pm ~ 9:30pm

Emaús Hombres ~ miércoles, Basement del Parish Life Center de 7:30pm ~ 9:30pm

Grupo de Oración Luz y Vida ~ jueves, Iglesia de abajo de 7:30pm ~ 9:30pm

Devoción a la Preciosa Sangre de Cristo ~ viernes
Basement del Parish Life Center de 8:00pm ~ 9:00pm

Ministerio Matrimonios Con Cristo ~ tercer viernes del mes,
Iglesia de abajo de 8:00pm ~ 9:45pm



Vivamos la Palabra de Dios

Pedimos a Dios que continúe salvándonos ahora en nuestra propia época de todo lo que pudiera alejarnos de Dios. Pedimos a Dios que continúe ayudándonos a conocer a Jesús como el Emmanuel, Dios con nosotros, a fin de que nuestra fe se arraigue en la sabiduría y el poder de Dios. Derechos de autor © 2013, World Library Publications. Todos los derechos reservados.

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