



# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Community

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Parish Web Site: [www.sjrc.org](http://www.sjrc.org)

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## Director of Music Ministries

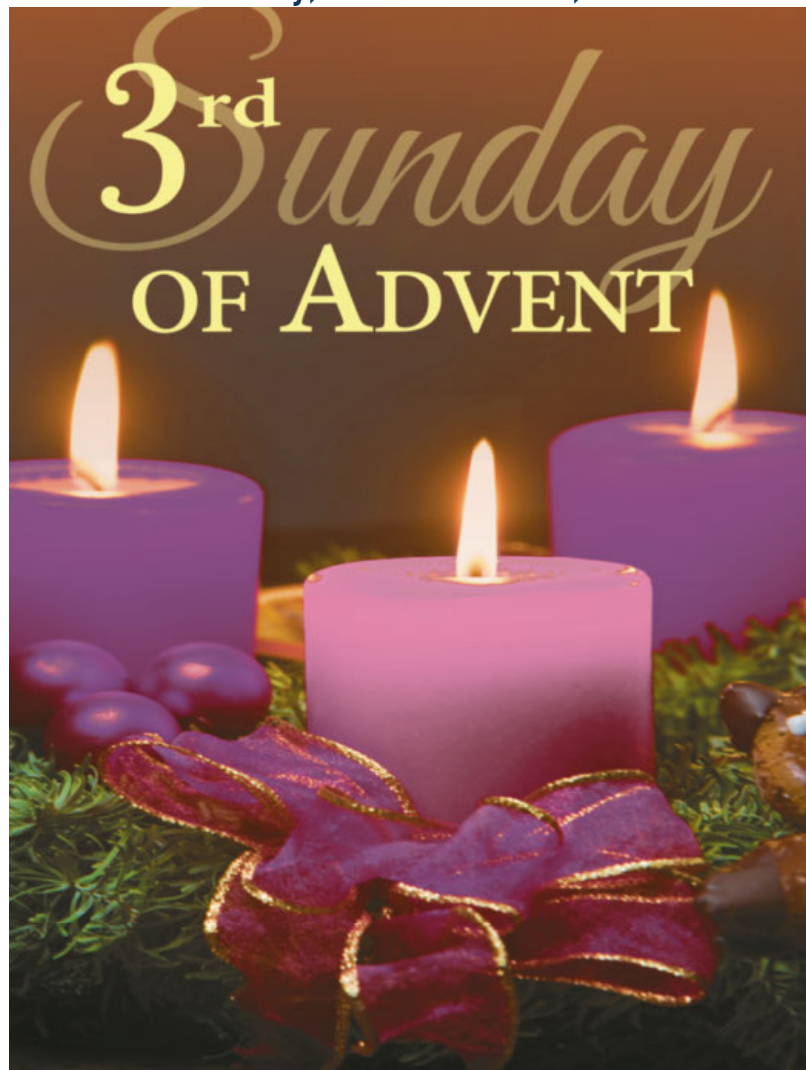
Lisa Oggioni Marciano

## Trustees

Mrs. Patricia D. Rickly

Mr. Enrique G. Enriquez

Sunday, December 17, 2023



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Parish Life Center

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Rosemarie Flood ~ [roflood@yahoo.com](mailto:roflood@yahoo.com)

Director of Religious Education

Eric A. Acosta ~ [ericacosta7@msn.com](mailto:ericacosta7@msn.com)

Youth Minister

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass:  
5:30 PM, 7:00 PM (Spanish)

Sunday Masses:  
7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM  
1:15 PM - Spanish

Daily Masses:  
Monday—Friday  
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 7:30 PM




Saturday	<a href="#">December 16</a>
55:30 pm	Candelaria Deanon
7:00 pm (Español)	Valentin Burgos
Sunday	<a href="#">December 17</a>
7:30 am	The People of the Parish
9:00 am	Danny Ibera & Inocentes Adaniel
10:30 am	Albina Perez
12:00 pm	Aiden Scordia
1:15pm (Español)	Pascual Bourdierd
Monday	<a href="#">December 18</a>
7:00 am	Gertrudes Y. Guevarra
9:00 am	Domenic E. Francisco
7:30 pm	Ty Bio Ho
Tuesday	<a href="#">December 19</a>
7:00 am	Isabella Cemenja— Birthday Thanksgiving
9:00 am	John F. Carlo
7:30 pm	Marie Picone
Wednesday	<a href="#">December 20</a>
7:00 am	Robert Pantano
9:00 am	Jose Masip, Sr. and Henry Aguilar, Sr.
7:30 pm	Family & Friends of the Pinto Family
Thursday	<a href="#">December 21</a>
7:00 am	Patricia Sutherland
9:00 am	Roger Coppinger
7:30 pm	Mary Patricia McHale
Friday	<a href="#">December 22</a>
7:00 am	Souls in Purgatory
9:00 am	John T. Brady
7:30 pm	Zareeda Jairam— Birthday Thanksgiving
Saturday	<a href="#">December 23</a>
7:00 am	Kevin Charles Pineda
9:00 am	Aida G. Lapuz
5:30 pm	Delmy A. Escobar
7:00 pm (Español)	Jorge Mendoza, Jr.
Sunday	<a href="#">December 24</a>
7:30 am	The People of the Parish
9:00 am	Martina Perez
10:30 am	Domenic E. Francisco
12:00 pm	Jeffrey Jose— Birthday Thanksgiving
1:15pm (Español)	Alejandro Peña <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
4:00pm (Family Mass)	John, Nora, Mary Reilly and Steven Shine
6:30pm	In Thanksgiving-The Tabuzo Family
9:00pm (Español)	Familia Chavez
12 midnight	The Lee & Casper Families

*Advent Morning Prayer*  
During Advent, Morning Prayer will be prayed in the church at 6:00am. All are welcome to attend.

*Early Bulletin Notice*  
During this month, our bulletin company requires us to submit our bulletin earlier than our usual date. If your ministry would like to add an announcement in the bulletin for Dec. 24, please email: [sesjrc@gmail.com](mailto:sesjrc@gmail.com) by Dec. 12. For the Dec. 31 bulletin, please email by Dec. 20.

*Feast of St. John the Evangelist*  
*Dec. 27*



Come join us to celebrate the feast day of our parish's patron saint, St. John the Evangelist, on **Wed., December 27<sup>th</sup>**. We'll start with a bi-lingual Mass at 6pm, followed by a buffet dinner and celebration at around 7pm. This event has been a tremendous success in past years. There's no fee to attend the dinner, but donations are gladly accepted. (checks, no cash please). *Please make checks payable to St. John the Evangelist Church & include 'St. John's Feast Day' in the memo.*

*Memorial Fund/Special Intention*  
Week of December 16-22  
[Altar Flowers](#)  
In loving memory of Salvatore T. Cinque  
Requested by Clare Kaberle

**Holiday  
Office Closures:**

The Rectory and Religious Education offices will be closed on Dec.22, Dec. 25, Dec. 29 and January 1.

## A Reflection From Our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters



Can you imagine life without keys? How many doors have you locked or unlocked already today? In the Advent Liturgy there is a prayer which speaks about a key. It is a remarkable prayer.

“O Key of David, what you open no one else can ever close again! What you close no one can open! O Key of David, come to lead the captives from prison! Free all those in darkness and in the shadow of death!”

The 'Key of David' is Our Lord Jesus Christ. He can open a door before us that no other key can open; a door that leads to new hope and peace, to truth and integrity, to purity and love.

And he can close and lock behind us the door through which fear and anxiety, bitterness and remorse, guilt and shame, have so often entered our lives, sometimes making our lives hell.

He can close the door firmly in the face of so much from our past, our history that comes to accuse us and mock us, to haunt us and humiliate us; and all the lies we have fed on and believed.

He can set us free from our captivity and slavery; from all the things that chain us and imprison us; from those dungeons where we sit in terrible loneliness or dark despair, often hating ourselves.

He can rescue us from the solitary confinement of our selfishness and greed; and from everything that prevents us from going out in love, compassion and friendship to others.

Jesus Christ, the 'Key of David', can break the hold that evil has on us, the tight grip of our repeated moral lapses, our sexual sins, our laziness and indifference, our cunning and hypocrisy.

He can help us to rise above the strange compulsive needs that our ego often inflicts on us; the addictions that seem to dominate us. He can purify our sordid desires and calm the heat of our crazy and sometimes violent thoughts; and all our disordered urges and passions.

Christ can conquer death in us; the death we daily experience when we want to escape and deny the truth about our lives; or to run away from the responsibilities we know are ours in the family, or work.

The Church wants each of us to meet Christ, the 'Key of David', and to experience his healing touch and his saving grace. But where? Where can we meet Christ? Where can we find him?

We can meet him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Sacrament of his Mercy and Forgiveness. The Church invites you to find him there. Yes, there we can meet him!

The Church calls us, encourages us, and urges us, to make a simple and sincere confession of our sins; without fear, without anxiety. And to place our lives under the gaze of God's love and mercy.

How long since your last confession? Weeks? Months? Years? It does not matter. What does matter is that you take this opportunity now.

It is a very great gift of God to you. Do not let this opportunity pass you by. The Advent Deanery Liturgy of Reconciliation, with the opportunity for individual confession, will take place this Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at St. Therese in Cresskill.

Priests from the deanery will be there. One of them will hear your confession. And God will inspire this priest to give you a word of enlightenment, hope and encouragement for your life!

Come! There is a place reserved for you. The 'Key of David' will be turned in your favor.

*Fr. Sean*

## Una Reflexión de Nuestro Pastor

*Queridos hermanos y hermanas*

¿Te imaginas la vida sin llaves? ¿Cuántas puertas has cerrado o abierto hoy? En la liturgia de Adviento hay una oración que habla de una clave. Es una oración notable.



"¡Oh Llave de David, lo que abres nadie más puede cerrar de nuevo! ¡Lo que cierras nadie puede abrir! ¡Oh Llave de David, ven a sacar a los cautivos de la cárcel! ¡Libera a todos los que están en la oscuridad y en la sombra de la muerte!"

La 'Llave de David' es Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Él puede abrir una puerta ante nosotros que ninguna otra llave puede abrir; una puerta que conduce a una nueva esperanza y paz, a la verdad y a la integridad, a la pureza y al amor.

Y puede cerrar y cerrar detrás de nosotros la puerta a través de la cual el miedo y la ansiedad, la amargura y el remordimiento, la culpa y la vergüenza, han entrado tan a menudo en nuestras vidas, a veces haciendo nuestras vidas un infierno.

Él puede cerrar la puerta con firmeza de nuestro pasado, nuestra historia que viene a acusarnos y burlarse de nosotros, a perseguirnos y humillarnos; y todas las mentiras que hemos alimentado y creído.

Él puede liberarnos de nuestro cautiverio y esclavitud; de todas las cosas que nos encadenan y aprisionan; de esas mazmorras donde nos sentamos en una soledad terrible o en una desesperación oscura, a menudo odiándonos a nosotros mismos.

Él puede rescatarnos del confinamiento solitario de nuestro egoísmo y codicia; y de todo lo que nos impide salir en amor, compasión y amistad con los demás.

Jesucristo, la Llave de David, puede romper el control que el mal tiene sobre nosotros, el férreo control de nuestros repetidos errores morales, nuestros pecados sexuales, nuestra pereza e indiferencia, nuestra astucia e hipocresía.

Él puede ayudarnos a elevarnos por encima de las extrañas necesidades compulsivas que nuestro ego a menudo nos inflige; las adicciones que parecen dominarnos. Él puede purificar nuestros deseos sórdidos y calmar el calor de nuestros pensamientos locos y a veces violentos; y todos nuestros impulsos y pasiones desordenados.

Cristo puede conquistar la muerte en nosotros; la muerte que experimentamos diariamente cuando queremos escapar y negar la verdad sobre nuestras vidas; o huir de las responsabilidades que sabemos que son nuestras en la familia, o en el trabajo.

La Iglesia quiere que cada uno de nosotros nos encontremos con Cristo, la Llave de David, y experimentemos su toque curativo y su gracia salvadora. ¿Pero dónde? ¿Dónde podemos encontrar a Cristo? ¿Dónde podemos encontrarlo?

Podemos encontrarnos con él en el sacramento de la reconciliación, sacramento de su misericordia y de su perdón. La Iglesia nos invita a encontrarlo allí. ¡Sí, allí podemos conocerlo!

La Iglesia nos llama, nos anima y nos insta a hacer una confesión simple y sincera de nuestros pecados; sin miedo, sin ansiedad. Y poner nuestra vida bajo la mirada del amor y la misericordia de Dios.

¿Cuánto tiempo ha pasado desde tu última confesión? ¿Semanas? ¿Meses? ¿Años? No importa. Qué importa es que aproveches esta oportunidad ahora.

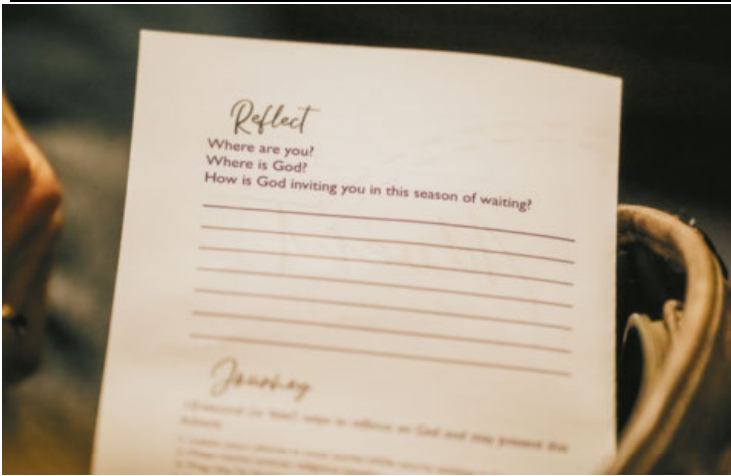
Es un gran regalo de Dios para ustedes. No dejen pasar esta oportunidad. La Liturgia de la Reconciliación del Decanato de Adviento, con la oportunidad de una confesión individual, tendrá lugar este lunes 18 de diciembre a las 7:00pm en St. Therese en Cresskill.

Los sacerdotes del decanato estarán allí. Uno de ellos oírás tu confesión. ¡Y Dios inspirará a este sacerdote para darte una palabra de iluminación, esperanza y aliento para tu vida!

¡Ven! Hay un lugar reservado para ti. La 'Llave de David' será entregada a tu favor.

*Fr. Sean*





**Deanery Penance Service:**  
**Mon., Dec. 18 – 7pm**  
St. Therese of Lisieux, Cresskill



**Come & Pray**  
**Adoration This Week:**  
**Tuesday—12 pm—6:30pm**  
**Wednesday 12pm—7:15pm**  
**Thursday 12pm—6:30pm**



### Christmas Flowers

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



1 Peter 1:8-9 "and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls."

### Women's Cornerstone Retreat

June 21 & 22, 2024 save the date!  
Beatrice D' Souza  
[beadsouza@gmail.com](mailto:beadsouza@gmail.com)  
Reyna Berroa  
[rlbalberto22@gmail.com](mailto:rlbalberto22@gmail.com)

**St. John's Food Pantry**  
December food donations needed: pasta & sauce, rice, tuna, pancake mix & syrup, kids cereal, coffee, spanish beans, oatmeal, peanut butter & jelly, cookies & crackers. You may drop off food donations in the large bin inside the church doors on the ramp side. We don't need any canned vegetables at this time. Any donations of cash, checks or store gift cards may be dropped off at the rectory or you can contact Joe McHale (201)655- 1073 / [joemc1217@gmail.com](mailto:joemc1217@gmail.com). He'll also assist you if you have large donations of food. Thank you



### Christmas Eve—Dec. 24

**4:00 pm—Vigil Family Mass, 6:30 pm Mass, 9:00 pm Mass (Español), 12 Midnight Mass**

### Christmas Day—Dec. 25

**7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm, 1:15 pm—Español**  
*O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Please share our Christmas Mass schedule with family and friends. We invite all to come and celebrate the birth of our Savior with us this Christmas!

### *Fiesta de San Juan Evangelista*



Únase a nosotros para celebrar la fiesta del santo patrón de nuestra parroquia, San Juan Evangelista, **el Miércoles, 27 de diciembre.** Comenzaremos con una Misa bilingüe a las 6pm, seguida de una cena buffet y celebración alrededor de las 7pm. Este evento ha sido un tremendo éxito en los últimos años. No hay tarifa para asistir a la cena es gratis, pero Si desea hacer una donación, por favor haga cheque pagado a la parroquia y anotar en el memo que es para la *festividad de San Juan Evangelista.* No hay que hacer reservaciones.



*Ven y Ora*  
 Adoración al Santísimo Sacramento  
 Horario de esta semana:  
 martes—12pm—6:30pm  
 miércoles 12pm—7:15pm  
 jueves 12pm—6:30pm

**Diciembre**  
**15 - 23**  
**8:00 pm**  
**Iglesia de Abajo**

**San Juan, Bergenfield NJ**

**Nota:** Dic 17, 6:00 pm: lgesia de Abajo  
 Dic 23, 8:00pm: Conlon Hall

### *Flores de Navidad*



Por favor coloque sus sobres para las flores de Navidad con la colecta regular. Los sobres adicionales están disponibles por las salidas de la iglesia.

**AVISO**

Las oficinas de la Rectoría y Educación Religiosa estarán cerradas el 22 de Diciembre, 25 de Diciembre, 29 de Diciembre y 1 de Enero por los días festivos.



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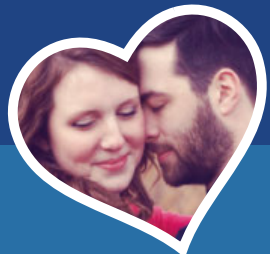
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