



# St. John the Evangelist

Roman Catholic Community

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## Pastor

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Rev. Ashton I. F. Wong  
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## Permanent Deacon

Deacon James A. Detura  
[DeaconJimDetura@gmail.com](mailto:DeaconJimDetura@gmail.com)

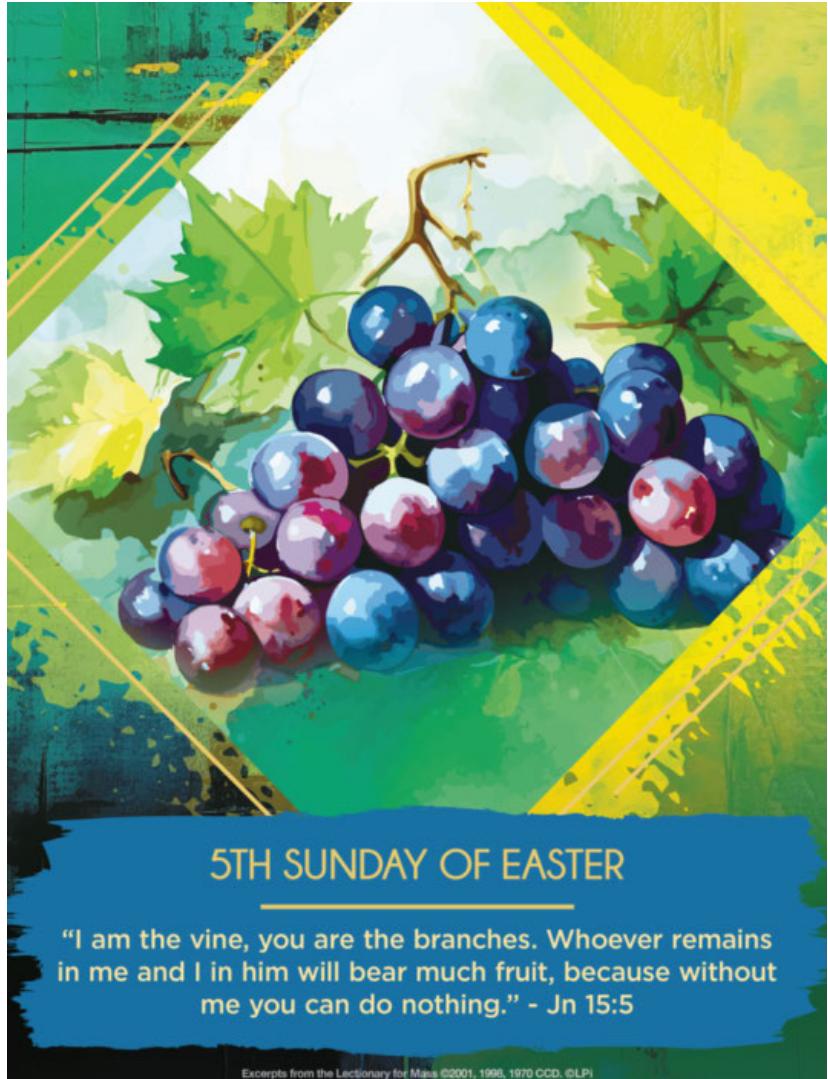
## Director of Music Ministries

Lisa Oggioni Marciano

## Trustees

Mrs. Patricia D. Rickly  
Mr. Enrique G. Enriquez

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Parish Life Center  
15 N. Washington Ave., Bergenfield 201-384-3601

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, 6:30 PM  
Tuesdays 6:30 PM Spanish

**Saturday**

5:30 pm

7:00 pm (Español)

**Sunday**

7:30 am

9:00 am

10:30 am

12:00 pm

1:15 pm (Español)

**April 27**

Patricia Sutherland

Ana Lucia Estevez

**April 28**

The People of the Parish

Tony Thompson

Claire Cialone

Sp. Int.: Albert Valdenarro

Birthday Thanksgiving

Salustiana Hernandez and

Jose Ovino Rosario

**Monday**

7:00 am

9:00 am

6:30 pm

**Tuesday**

7:00 am

9:00 am

6:30 pm (Español)

**Wednesday**

7:00 am

9:00 am

6:30 pm

**Thursday**

7:00 am

9:00 am

6:30 pm

**Friday**

7:00 am

9:00 am

6:30 pm

**Saturday**

7:00 am (Español)

9:00 am

5:30 pm

7:00 pm (Español)

**Sunday**

7:30 am

9:00 am

10:30 am

12:00 pm

1:15 pm (Español)

3:00 pm (PLC Chapel) Special Needs Inclusive Family Mass

5:30 pm (Tagalog) Special Intention

**Prayers for the Deceased**

Please remember

Diane Casamento in your prayers.

Save the Date: May 25th



Please join Fr. Sean in celebrating his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. We will celebrate with a bilingual 5:30pm Mass on Saturday May 25th. After Mass we will gather in Conlon Hall to continue the celebration. All are invited.

*Ordination in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark on May 29, 1999.  
Inset: Celebration of First Mass, May 30th 1999 in St. Peter & Paul, Hoboken, Fr. Sean's parents bring the gifts for the Offertory Procession.*

**First Friday Holy Hour on May 3rd—7pm—8pm.**

8pm—midnight silent adoration.

Friday midnight—Saturday 6am adoration led by the Anointing Fire Ministry in the Main Church.

Saturday 6am-7am adoration led by Rosario de la Aurora. 6:45am Benediction.  
7:00am Mass in Spanish.**Join us—May 4th****2,000 Hail Marys**

6:30am—4:30pm

Adoration Chapel ramp side

Come &amp; join us to honor Mary, Our Beloved Mother.

**SPECIAL NEEDS ALL-INCLUSIVE FAMILY MASS**

This monthly Mass will be next **Sunday, May 5th at 3pm in the Parish Life Center Chapel**, especially for individuals with disabilities and their families, but all are welcome!



Rosarians will gather for the 9am Mass on **Monday, May 6th** and pray the rosary together after Mass. All are invited to join in the Rosary.



Online giving offers a secure & convenient way to contribute to our parish . With Parish Giving,

St. John's will benefit from a reliable, more efficient and more convenient means of processing contributions which will help to support our parish mission. Interested in Parish Giving, please visit [www.parishgiving.org](http://www.parishgiving.org)

## A Reflection From Our Pastor

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*



"I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit."

I remember hearing these words at a Protestant service when I was in college. I had been invited by a group of friends who were very active in their faith, from different Protestant denominations, Church of England, Evangelical Charismatic, Lutheran, Pentecostal....I was their project, they knew I was Catholic, and were eager for me to join their Christian Union – a college based Christian church. It was at one of their Sunday meetings that the Gospel of the Vine and the branches was proclaimed.

An Anglican priest then gave a sermon, but I was deaf to his words. I could only hear were the words of the Gospel that had just been read: "I am the Vine...Remain in me..."

I was not remaining in Him. The questions my fellow students had been asking me were ringing in my head:

Why do Catholics believe in the Virgin Mary?

Why do you believe in the Pope?

Do you really believe that the host is the actual Body of Christ?

Asked these questions, I felt inadequate to articulate why the Catholic Church, let alone myself, believed these things. I began to doubt them myself. Here were a group of young people alive in their faith, with a vibrant community such as I had never experienced, and yet they did not believe any of these things. Could it be that they were right? Was the Catholic Church wrong? Could it be that my parents raised me in the faith of the Church, to believe certain things, but that in the end it does not matter what you believe?

God was speaking to my heart.

I admired my Protestant friends and their vibrant faith community, but I knew that to "Remain in him" meant for me to remain Catholic, even if I did not understand everything, the faith I received in the Church acted at a deeper level than my reason or my feelings. I stopped going to their services, and very soon found a Catholic community that led me on a post- Baptismal itinerary of faith.

We will hear the Gospel of the Vine and the branches in Mass today.

May it speak to our hearts, and allow God to bear fruit in our lives.

Fr. Sean

## Una Reflexión de Nuestro Pastor

*Queridos hermanos y hermanas,*



"Yo soy la vid; ustedes son los sarmientos. El que permanece en mí y yo en él, ese da mucho fruto."

Recuerdo haber escuchado estas palabras en un servicio protestante cuando estaba en la universidad. Había sido invitado por un grupo de amigos que eran muy activos en su fe, de diferentes denominaciones protestantes, Iglesia de Inglaterra, Evangélica Carismática, Luterana, Pentecostal... Yo era su proyecto, ellos sabían que yo era católico, y estaban ansiosos por que yo me uniera a su Unión Cristiana - una iglesia cristiana basada en la universidad. Fue en una de sus reuniones dominicales que se proclamó el Evangelio de la Vid y las ramas.

Un sacerdote anglicano dio un sermón, pero yo estaba sordo a sus palabras. Solo pude oír las palabras del Evangelio que acababan de leerse: "Yo soy la vid... Permanece en mí..."

Yo no permanecía en Él. Las preguntas que mis compañeros me habían estado haciendo sonaban en mi cabeza:

¿Por qué los católicos creen en la Virgen María?

¿Por qué crees en el Papa?

¿Realmente crees que la hostia es el verdadero Cuerpo de Cristo?

Al hacer estas preguntas, me sentí inadecuado para explicar por qué la Iglesia Católica, y mucho menos yo, creía estas cosas. Empecé a dudar de ellas. Aquí había un grupo de jóvenes vivos en su fe, con una comunidad vibrante como nunca había experimentado, y sin embargo no creían en ninguna de estas cosas. ¿Podría ser que tenían razón? ¿Estaba equivocada la Iglesia Católica? ¿Podría ser que mis padres me criaron en la fe de la Iglesia, para creer ciertas cosas, pero que al final no importa lo que usted cree?

Dios estaba hablando a mi corazón.

Admiré a mis amigos protestantes y a su vibrante comunidad de fe, pero sabía que "permanecer en él" significaba para mí permanecer católico, incluso si no entendía todo, la fe que recibí en la Iglesia actuó a un nivel más profundo que mi razón o mis sentimientos. Dejé de ir a sus servicios, y muy pronto encontré una comunidad católica que me guió en un itinerario postbautismal de fe.

Escucharemos el Evangelio de la Vid y las ramas en la Misa de hoy.

Que hable a nuestros corazones y permita que Dios dé fruto en nuestras vidas.

*Fr. Sean*



## Thank you for the clean up!

Last Saturday 40 parishioners showed up for a general clean out of the lower church, the garages and the Parish Life Center. It was wonderful to see so many of us all working together to take care of our home. **The next clean up day will be Saturday, May 4th, at 9:30am.** If you want to come and help, bring your gloves, broom and duster, or hammer screwdriver and crowbar!

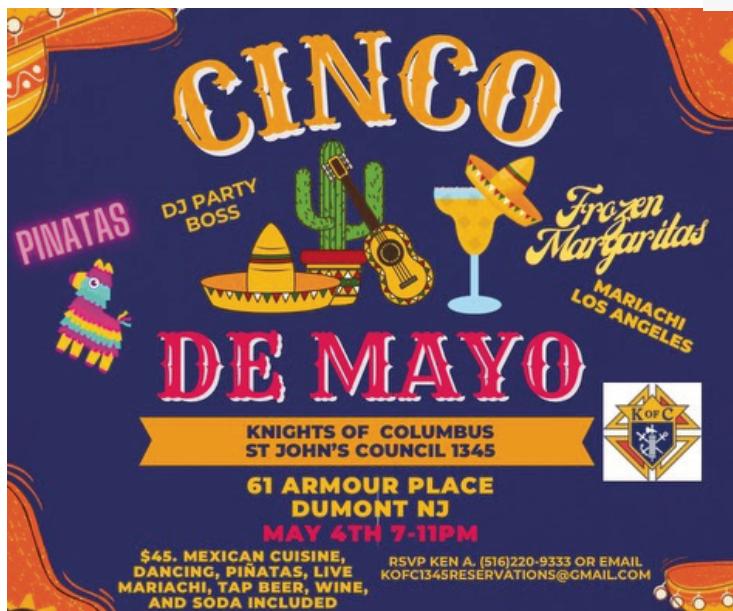
**Fr. Sean invites ALL catechists, aides and volunteers in this ministry!**



**St. John's Religious Ed  
Volunteer Breakfast  
Sunday, May 5th @ 10:30am  
Lower Church**



**Celebrate the gifts of faith and friendship... say goodbye to those not returning...and say hello to our new Religious Ed staff!**



**We're wrapping up our Children's Liturgy of the Word Year.  
Our last session will be this Sunday.  
We will return in September.**



**Items needed:**  
Pasta & sauce, rice, kids cereal, coffee, toothpaste, black beans, peanut butter & jelly.

Don't need: canned vegetables, canned soup or canned apple sauce.  
Thank you!



## Lower Church Kitchen

All the locks will be removed from the cabinets in the kitchen of the Lower Church. The kitchen will be supplied with 100 plates, knives, forks, spoons, napkins and cups. Any group is welcome to use any of these supplies, but will then replenish them the next day ready for the next group. This is our kitchen, and the Lower Church, like all the meeting spaces in the parish,

belongs to all of us. Let's keep it clean, sweep the floors after use, take out the trash, clean the fridge, and pay it forward by leaving everything ship shape for the group who will use it after us. We are blessed to have so many groups and activities in this parish. We are one family, and taking care of our facilities, our home, makes it a more welcoming place for us to be in.



## **¡Gracias por la limpieza!**

El sábado pasado 40 feligreses se presentaron para una limpieza general de la iglesia de abajo, los garajes y el Parish Life Center. Fue maravilloso ver a tantos de nosotros trabajando juntos para cuidar de nuestra casa. **El próximo día de limpieza será el sábado, 4 de mayo a las 9:30 am.** ¡Si quieras venir y ayudar, trae tus guantes, escoba y plumero, o destornillador de martillo y palanca!

## **Cocina de la Iglesia de Abajo**

Todas las cerraduras serán removidas de los gabinetes en la cocina de la Iglesia de abajo. La cocina se suministrará con 100 platos, cuchillos, tenedores, cucharas, servilletas y tazas. Cualquier grupo es bienvenido a usar cualquiera de estos suministros, pero luego los repondrá al día siguiente para el siguiente grupo. Esta es nuestra cocina, y la Iglesia de abajo, como todos los espacios de reunión de la parroquia, nos pertenece a todos. Vamos a mantenerlo limpio, barrer los pisos después de su uso, sacar la basura, limpiar la nevera, y mantener limpio para el grupo que lo utilizará después de nosotros. Estamos bendecidos de tener tantos grupos y actividades en esta parroquia. Somos una familia, y el cuidado de nuestras instalaciones, nuestro hogar, hace que sea un lugar más acogedor para nosotros.



**Únase al Padre Sean  
al celebrar su  
25º aniversario de  
ordenación  
al sacerdocio.**

**Celebraremos en la Misa  
de las 5:30 pm el  
sábado, 25 de mayo.  
Esa noche**

**no habrá Misa en  
español a las 7:00 pm.**

Todos están invitados  
a la Misa a las 5:30pm  
que será bilingüe.

Después de la Misa,  
nos reuniremos en Conlon Hall para  
continuar la celebración.  
Todos están invitados.



## **Peregrinación Mariana a España, Francia y Portugal en Mayo de 2025**



Precios aprox. \$4,700 todo incluido. Las fechas precisas, al igual que el precio se confirmaran más adelante. Por ahora, déjenos sus datos escaneando con su celular el siguiente código QR.

## **Llamada Anual 2024**

¡Gracias a todos nuestros feligreses que se han comprometido con La Llamada Anual de este año! **Nuestra meta parroquial es \$102,661.33 y nuestra meta de estiramiento es \$104,591.00.**

Por favor considere participar en la Llamada Anual de este año para ayudar a hacer una diferencia significativa en muchas vidas dentro de nuestra Arquidiócesis. Haga una donación en línea hoy visitando [rca.org/llamada](http://rca.org/llamada), escaneando el código QR.



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