



St. Margaret of Cortona Parish

31 Chamberlain Ave Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Phone: (201) 641-2988 Fax: (201) 322-0172

*Serving the Catholic Communities of Little Ferry and Moonachie
In Ministry, Education and Service -- Since August 24, 1912*

February 26, 2023



Reverend Kevin E. Carter,
Pastor

Reverend Michael Otuwuronne,
In Residence

Sister Dorothy A. Donovan, S.S.J.,
Pastoral Associate

Eileen M. Ballone,
Director of Music

Dina R. Tarabocchia,
Parish Secretary

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon

Weekdays: Monday to Friday: 12:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.

PARISH WEBSITE:

<http://www.stmargaretfnj.org/>

PARISH E-MAIL: smcortona1912@aol.com

Parish Center Office

Phone: 201-641-2988 Fax: 201-322-0172

Monday to Thursday

Rectory

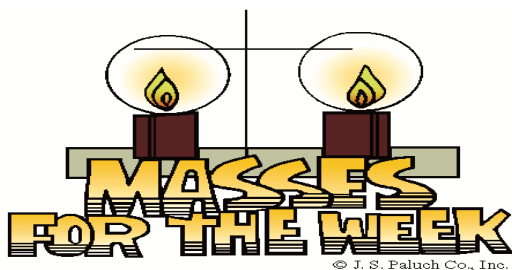
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By appointment only

Religious Education

201-641-2989

Sunday to Thursday



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**Memorials
Bread & Wine
And
Sanctuary Candle
People of Our Parish Family**

SATURDAY, February 25

5:30 PM Ludwig Burhardt

SUNDAY, February 26, 2023

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM Egidio Picinich
10:00 AM Gioacchino Piccinich
12:00 PM Judith Davis

MONDAY, February 27

12:00 PM Ottavia Minervini

TUESDAY, February 28

12:00 PM Pasquale Manente

WEDNESDAY, Marh 1

12:00 PM Pasquale Manente

THURSDAY, March 2

12:00 PM Michelle Paparella

FIRST FRIDAY, March 3

12:00 PM Joseph J. Ruzich [3 A]

FIRST SATURDAY, March 4

12:00 PM Mass Guild
5:30 PM Madalena De Felice

SUNDAY, March 5, 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM John Bussanich
10:00 AM Doris Mattessich
12:00 PM Mauro Favuzzi

LOVE AND DEEDS

God doesn't want our deeds; God wants the love that prompts them.
 — St. Teresa of Ávila

GOOD TIMING

The best time to do something worthwhile is between yesterday and tomorrow.
 — Anonymous

**FIRST SUNDAY OF
Lent**

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

At that time Jesus was let by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.
 Matthew 4:1



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February 26, 2023 First Sunday of Lent

WHO WE ARE AND WHOSE WE ARE

The Lenten season is a fresh invitation to explore again who God is, who we are, and what it means to be human. We begin by hearing the tragic story of the first humans in the book of Genesis. As Paul describes in Romans, our struggles started when our ancestors broke the bond of unity with God, sought self-sufficiency, and grew apart from their true purpose and identity. In Matthew's Gospel, we see how Jesus resists the lure of living outside of unity with God. Jesus rejects false promises of possessions, power, and status. Instead, he puts his life in his Father's hands. As our model for living as a fully human person, Jesus demonstrates that we are created to live in relationship with and trust in God, and in harmony with and for all of creation.



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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them (Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7).

Psalm — Have mercy on us sinners, O Lord (Psalm 51).

Second Reading — Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus (Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]).

Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights (Matthew 4:1-11).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Gregory of Narek;

Julian Calendar Lent begins

Friday: St. Katharine Drexel; Abstinence;

First Friday; World Day of Prayer

Saturday: St. Casimir; First Saturday



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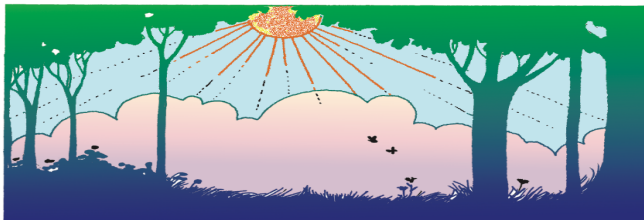
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We lift up to the Lord in our prayers and good works for: the sick, frail and the homebound.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Catherine Mary Moncello | Anthony Deli |
| Michel Porta | Valerie Vernay |
| Camilla Leventhal | Julian Morgan |
| Nicole Grano | Baby Amato Jordan |
| Johanna Hanush | Philip Dittmar |
| Lena Vitalle. | Grace Ehler |
| John Thomas Lazur Dersch | Julio Sanchez |
| Robert Zienkiewicz | Arline Hrbek |
| Florence Navarro | Kevin Michael Francis |
| Paula Kelnhofer | Jacqueline Palmadessa |
| Barbara Demczyszyn | Michael Toscano |
| Caroline Ruppert Hubertz | Ellie Lombardelli |
| Tom Greaux | Brandon Kingsley |
| John Ratynski | Robert & Carolyn Salzman |
| Victor Ruggiero | James Moran |
| Dominick Di Buono | Olivia La Forte King |
| David I. Ramos | Emily Menzella |
| Charlie Di Buono | Vitangelo Bavaro |



Victims of terrorism and war; genocide in Syria and the Holy Land, worldwide human trafficking, racism and hatred, domestic abuse and street violence, severe weather conditions and for all those victims who suffered and lost their loved ones, under the COVID-19 pandemic.



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RCIA



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If there is any adult (18+yrs.) who wishes to complete their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving Confirmation and/or Communion and Confirmation, please call Sister Dorothy at 201-641-2989.



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Fish & Chips - It is Back
We will be having the Fish & Chips on Saturday March 11 from 6:15 to 7:30.

Tickets will again be \$15.
Tickets will be on sale in the back of the church starting February 11
If you bought tickets for the 2019 Fish & Chips, please call Ellie at 201-641-0883

If you would like to volunteer to help, please also call Ellie.



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The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years (or any years, specify) of valid marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2023. These anniversary liturgies will be held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows below. The 50th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin. The 5th & 25th Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Gregory Studerus.

April 16, 2023 - 3:00 pm

50 years

(All counties)

May 7, 2023 - 3:00 pm

5 years and 25 years

(All counties)

Registration must be in by

April 28th for those celebrating 5 years and 25 years of marriage and April 11th for those celebrating 50 years of marriage.

Please call the Parish Office for more information • 201-641-2988.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer during Lent

Holy God,

*now is the acceptable time to
return to you.*

*As we walk the path of
these forty days,
may we turn away from sin
and embrace a life of
goodness and truth.*

*Strengthen us on
our Lenten journey
and keep us focused
on the cross and resurrection
of your Son, our
Savior and Redeemer.*

He is Lord forever and ever.

Amen.



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OUR FASCINATING FAITH

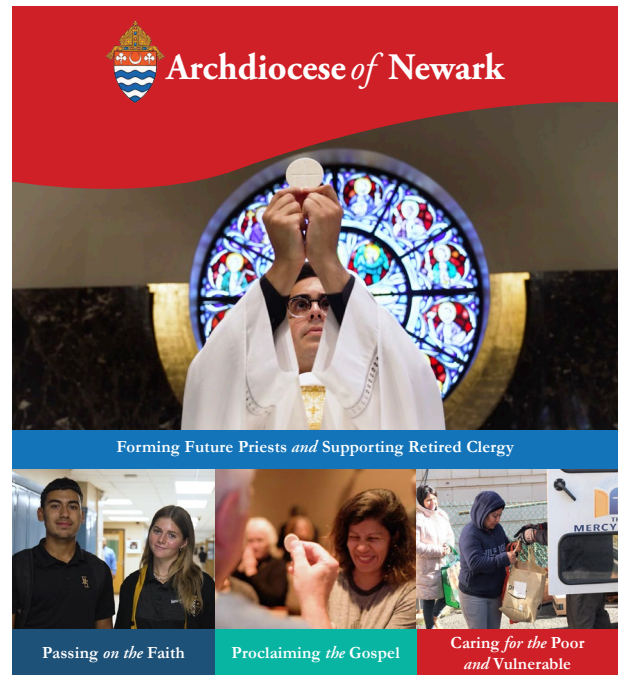
Lent

One of the liturgical reforms mandated at the Second Vatican Council was that the focus of the season of Lent should be restored as a time of preparation for—or renewal of—baptism. The bishops at the Council were aware of the fact that the origins of Lent as a distinctive liturgical season lay in the early centuries when the Church celebrated the sacraments of Christian initiation only once a year, at the Easter Vigil. In order to prepare those who were to receive those sacraments, a special period of preparation (eventually lasting forty days) gradually developed.

By the time of the Second Vatican Council, the initiatory character of Lent had long been forgotten, and it had become simply a time of penance focused on individual spiritual renewal.

The introduction of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and the revision of the Lectionary after the Council have changed all of that. Now the Sunday scripture readings during Lent are very carefully selected with an eye to the journey of those preparing to be initiated at the Easter Vigil. Once again, the entire community is asked to undergo penance in solidarity with the candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Thus, in order to appreciate fully the meaning of the readings during this season, the “filter” through which they must be heard is always the knowledge that we are helping to prepare our sisters and brothers in the catechumenate for their initiation at the Easter Vigil.



Annual Appeal ^{the 2023} Catholic Stewardship *in Action*

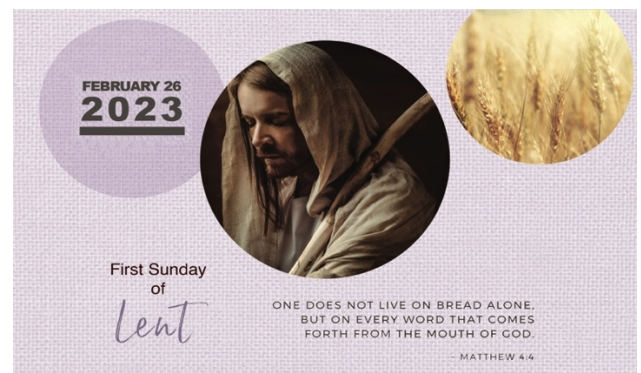


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February 19, 2023
\$2,035



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First Sunday of Lent

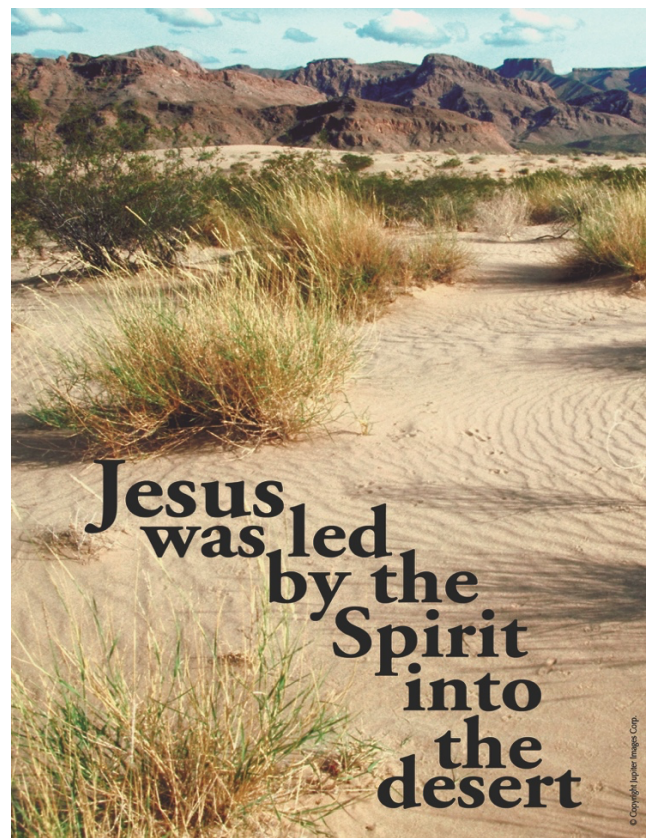
Ashes and gardens, failings and faithfulness, death and life. As we enter into Lent, we are invited to turn our thoughts, hearts, and lives toward God and God's ways, to turn away from the death of sin, which separates us from God, and to embrace the gift of life offered in Christ, now and into eternity. Eve and Adam listened to the serpent rather than God who had given them a garden filled with beauty and abundance. On the contrary, Jesus stood firm in the face of temptation. This Lent, we ponder the choices we make in our daily lives, trust in God's mercy as we repent from sinfulness, and strengthen our commitment to discipleship, following Jesus' model of faithfulness.

TURN AWAY FROM SIN

Lent is a season in which we resolve to turn away from sin and turn toward Jesus. Turning away from sin requires us to admit that we miss the mark and fail to live as God desires. The first Sunday of Lent always includes a gospel account of Jesus facing temptation in the desert. Notice that it is not generic temptation Jesus meets, nor do we. Our temptations are personal, areas of particular weakness, situations in which, like Eve and Adam, we may rationalize and give in to sin rather than holding firm to what we know is right and just. Jesus gives us a model for meeting temptation: draw on the wisdom and truth found in sacred scripture and the teaching tradition of the Church to know what we must do or not do. Be strong and know that the Lord is with you as you resolve to be faithful.

TRUST IN GOD'S MERCY

"Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned." The refrain of today's Responsorial Psalm gives voice to our conviction that God is good and reminds us that we can trust in God's mercy as we face our sin, seek forgiveness, and resolve to avoid sin in the future. The more deeply we grow in relationship with Christ, the more sure of God's love we become. Rooted in this love, we can admit our failings and trust that God always desires to be close to us, drawing us into abundant life. Lent is a good time to seek God's mercy and forgiveness in the sacrament of reconciliation. We can take heart in the assurance that forgiveness awaits our repentant heart.



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CONTACT PERSON

Dina Tarabocchia

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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