



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 19, 2023



Reverend Kevin E. Carter,
Pastor

Reverend Michael Otuwurunne,
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

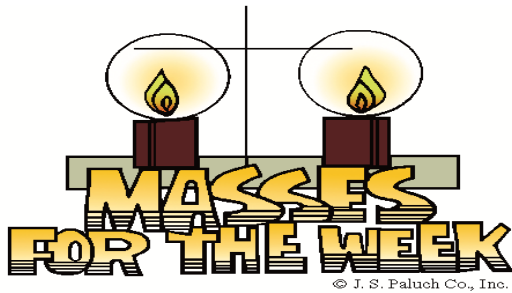
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By appointment only

Religious Education

201-641-2989

Sunday to Thursday



SATURDAY, February 18
5:30 PM Mary & John Van Saders

SUNDAY, February 19, 2023
Seventh Sunday of the Church Year

8:00 AM Lucia Intal
10:00 AM Casimir Katkowski
12:00 PM Darriano Family

MONDAY, February 20 *President's Day*
12:00 PM Narding Malit

TUESDAY, February 21
12:00 PM Pasquale Manente

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22
8:00 AM Pedro De Jesus
12:10 PM Pasquale Manente
3:30 PM Scripture Service
7:00 PM Nerina Picinich

THURSDAY, February 23
12:00 PM Gioacchino Piccinich [28A]

FRIDAY, February 24
12:00 PM Michelle Paparella

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



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

MARTYRDOM
Live as though today you may die a
martyr's death.
— Charles de Foucauld

THE HEAVIEST LOAD
A chip on the shoulder is the heaviest load
anyone can carry.
— Anonymous

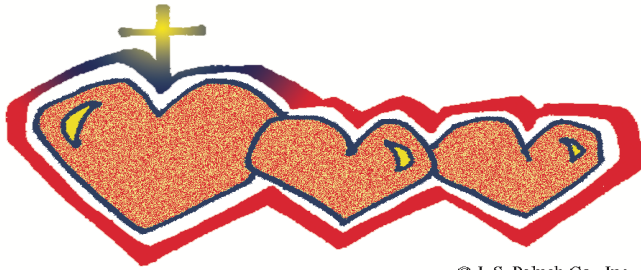


8:00 am Mass with
Distribution of Ashes

12:10 pm Mass with
Distribution of Ashes

3:30 pm Scripture Service with
Distribution of Ashes

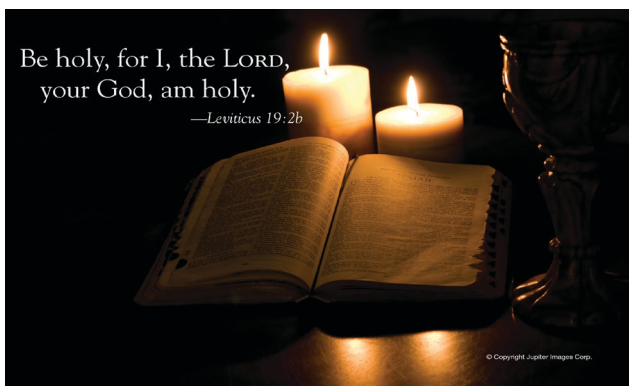
7:00 pm Mass with
Distribution of Ashes



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DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.



Be holy, for I, the LORD,
your God, am holy.
—Leviticus 19:2b

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take no revenge and cherish no grudge; love your neighbor as yourself.

(Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18).

Psalm — Our God shows mercy and graciousness (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — You are the temple of God, and holy (1 Corinthians 3:16-23).

Gospel — Offer no resistance; love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Presidents' Day

Tuesday: St. Peter Damian;

Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence;

Washington's Birthday

Thursday: St. Polycarp

Friday: Abstinence



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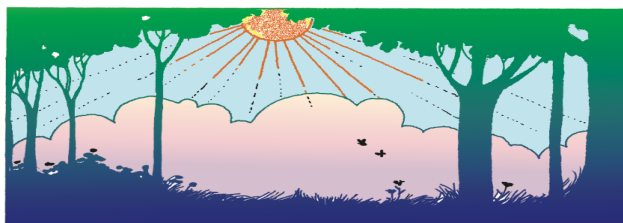
We lift up to the Lord in our prayers and good works for: the sick, frail and the homebound.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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 Demczynsyn | 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 | |



- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Sadie Murphy | Mary Scolaro |
|--------------|--------------|

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 28 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.



Come join us for a Movie and Pasta Dinner Saturday Evening February 25, 2023 immediately after the 5:30 pm Mass

The Lost Valentine

is a 2011 Hallmark Hall of Fame made-for-television drama film starring Jennifer Love Hewitt, Betty White and Sean Faris. It is based on the novel by James Michael Pratt of the same name, previously titled The Last Valentine, a 1998 New York Times and USA Today bestseller.



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February 5, 2023

\$ 2,471

February 12, 2023

\$3,098



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OUR FASCINATING FAITH

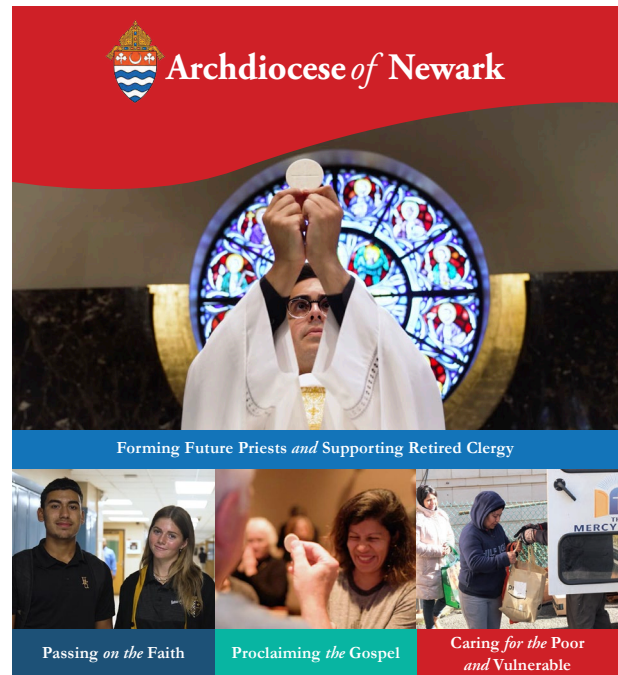
Ashes

There are three major Biblical traditions concerning ashes: repentance, mourning, and mortality, and they are interrelated.

Repeatedly throughout the Bible we encounter the use of ashes (often together with sackcloth) as a penitential practice. A similar practice is seen when someone is in mourning or distress. And ashes are a metaphor for human life, which is seen as brief and destined to end in death:

Ashes are the result of fire, the complete burning of something that was alive. They are ephemeral; the slightest puff of air can send them away into nothingness. It is easy to see how ashes came to symbolize fleeting human life or the humility of repentance. Ashes can represent other things as well. For example, ashes are often used to fertilize our gardens and fields. Ash is therefore necessary to bring about and nourish life.

We can now begin to see how appropriate a symbol ashes are for the season of Lent. For Lent is not only a time of repentance, of sorrow for our sins. It is a baptismal season of preparation for the new life of our catechumens and of recalling the new life of our own baptism. We start Lent in ashes, and end it in Easter. What will the ashes mean to you this Lent?

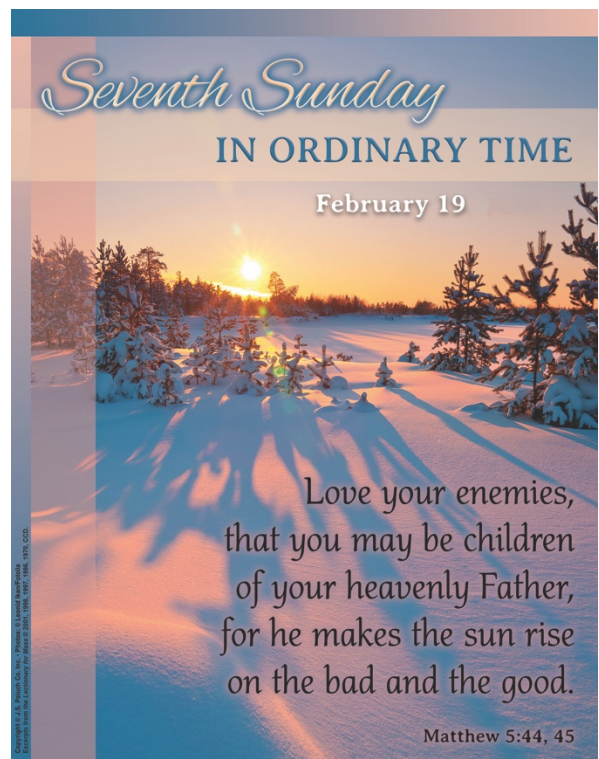


Annual Appeal ^{the 2023}

Catholic Stewardship *in Action*



Visit rcan.org/sharing to make a gift today.



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our readings from Leviticus and from Matthew today explore an especially difficult challenge: how to respond to injury and humiliation. Leviticus teaches that, in order to be holy, God's people must refrain from grudges or revenge. In Matthew, Jesus teaches that we must first avoid actions that continue an escalating cycle of retribution. Jesus advocated a creative non-violent resistance, a response that both refuses to accept being humiliated and keeps open the possibility of reconciliation. For his listeners, turning the other cheek or walking the second mile were ways to throw the oppressor off-balance. They expose the harm being done, and sustains one's personal dignity. When Jesus follows with his next teaching, "love your enemies," he points to what might be a long journey of forgiveness toward those who hurt us. At these times, we might remember that Jesus, in his suffering and death, followed a similar path.

TEMPLE OF GOD

When Paul writes "you are the temple of God," note that he uses the plural form of "you." He was speaking about the community at Corinth as a temple. For Paul, a temple is where God dwells. God abides, and is active within, the shared life of the community. Paul speaks at length about the divisions within the Corinthian community. These divisions were seen as a defilement of God's temple.

We encounter divisions in our own Church today, sometimes accompanied by a troubling lack of humility and charity.

Often the conflicts revolve around establishing markers of true discipleship, with some emphasizing personal faith and morality, and others emphasizing justice and the Church's social teachings.

Perhaps the Spirit, active in the temple of our shared life, points toward Jesus' command "love your enemies." Perhaps we best exhibit discipleship in the charity we extend, and our capacity for dialogue, with those who disagree with us or who are unkind to us.

THE SERMON

Today we conclude the series of Sunday Gospel passages from the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew's chapters 5–7. Having proclaimed the coming of the Kingdom, Jesus extensively described to his new community what life is like in this new realm, and the inner dispositions needed to enter into it. He exposed hidden places of the heart, especially those places that needed to be healed.

The Sermon is a huge challenge for us today. The Sermon pushes against our attempts to compromise what God summons us to be and to do. It challenges our deep desires to see ourselves as virtuous, and to resist God's desire to transform us. It reminds us that we are both loved by God and in need of God's help. As we anticipate the season of Lent, consider prayerfully reading the Sermon as a whole. We are invited to carefully explore our deeper motivations, to allow God to uncover and to heal our fears and our wounds.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Margaret of Cortona #911186
31 Chamberlain Avenue
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

PHONE

201-641-2988

CONTACT PERSON

Dina Tarabocchia

SOFTWARE

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

200 copies