

# Church of the Sacred Heart



## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

***Together we foster a welcoming spirit of unity while honoring our diversity which leads to a graced harmony among us since Christ is the center of all we are and do.***

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 17, 2017**

**GOD HAS SENT ME TO BRING GLAD TIDINGS TO THE POOR**

Children who are poor make toys out of the unlikeliest things: milk cartons, nails, bottle caps, sticks, plastic bags, corn cobs, clothespins. Folks who have plenty consider these things trash—in fact, some poor children literally make their toys out of trash. Their abject need gives them a different perspective, seeing blessing where the rich see only waste. Material poverty is a scourge on our planet, and we must never make excuses for it. We must work tirelessly for decent conditions for every human person. As we work, we can learn from the special perspective of our brothers and sisters who do not have enough to live. We can see how depending on others for resources can transform a rich person's trash into a poor child's treasure.

### **SPIRITUAL POVERTY**

On this "Rejoice!" Sunday in Advent, we can pray in a particular way for an end to material poverty. Today's readings assure us that the kind of poverty God desires for us in spiritual poverty, a radical knowledge that all things come from God. Where material poverty can wound the human spirit, spiritual poverty cultivates boundless joy. John the Baptist provides a startling model for us. In all sincerity, he admits that he is not worthy to touch Jesus' sandals. John says this not to charm the crowds by being coy and self-deprecating. No, John embraces the truth that God is the source of all goodness. We are utterly dependent on God for all good things. We cannot do anything to earn God's favor; God simply provides for us because we need God. This is massively good news! No one could possibly care for us like God does. At our very best, we merely reflect God's brightness into the world. God's brilliant joy is exactly what we are called to. As Saint Paul says, "The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it."

### **PRIESTS**

Very Rev. Robert W. Holtz, V.F.,  
Pastor, ext. 11  
Rev. Roberto Ignacio, Assistant, ext. 21  
Rev. Richard Gross, S.J., Weekend  
Assistant

### **DEACONS**

Rev. Mr. Robert Bednarek  
Rev. Mr. Joseph Donadieu  
Rev. Mr. Kenneth Heilig  
Rev. Mr. Michael Stinsman  
All Deacons — ext. 10

### **PARISH OFFICE**

**103 Fourth St. Riverton, NJ 08077**  
856-829-0090 • **856-829-2087** Fax  
Leslie Crofton, Secretary, ext. 10  
Joanne Moore, Secretary, ext. 24

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**102 Fourth Street - Family Center**  
856-829-1848 • **856-829-2087** Fax  
Patricia Hutchinson, Director  
Joanne Moore, Secretary

### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

856-829-1836  
Fran Stinsman

### **LITURGICAL MUSIC MINISTRIES**

856-786-5380  
Susan Barnett, Associate

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

856-829-0090  
Scott Perry, Business & Facilities  
Director, ext. 14  
John Scouler  
Donna Casey

**Web Site: [www.shcriverton.org](http://www.shcriverton.org)    E-mail: [sacredheartriverton@comcast.net](mailto:sacredheartriverton@comcast.net)**



**SACRED HEART CHURCH  
PARISH INFORMATION**

**PARISH OFFICE**

103 Fourth Street, Riverton, NJ 08077-1205

Monday through Friday

8:30 am — 12:00 noon & 1:00 pm — 4:00 pm

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE**

Family Center, 102 Fourth Street, Riverton, NJ 08077-1206

Tuesday through Friday

12:30 pm — 4:30 pm

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays

3:30 pm — 4:15 pm

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Are always welcome, please register at the parish office.

**MOVING?**

Please notify us if you are moving out of the parish or changing your address or telephone number.

**BAPTISMS**

Please call the rectory as soon as possible to make arrangements. Parish registration must be confirmed and eligibility certificates for Catholic Godparents must be presented. Godparent and sponsor certificates may be obtained by those who have received all Sacraments in the Catholic Church. **CALL JOANNE MOORE AT 829-0090 x 24.**

**MARRIAGE**

Arrangements should be made at the rectory at least **ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE**. Please contact us to receive guidelines for the celebration of marriage.



**PLEASE PRAY  
FOR OUR DEARLY DEPARTED  
AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Loretta Horgan, Rudolf Bozicek, William Jeffers, Marta Shears, Earl Gray Jr, Sr. Madeline Mary Smith, Teresa McNulty, Frank Wigmore, Leo Carr, Francis Rooney Jr, Patricia Mori, Joseph Corso, Raymond Buenzle, Eugene McDonald, Robert Barry, Richard Boucher, Domenico Lombardi, Timothy Piazza, Flora Kramer, Jason Wark, Kiersten Ott, Connie Giampaolo, Glen Jackson, John Bruno, Stephen McCarty, Patricia Poletti, Maryann Coady, Jeanne Thomas, Joshua Rich, Terry Gillis, Florence Ehrhardt, Alfred Rezende, Gerard Schlindwein, Gail Truchel, Alexander Covalleski, Amanda Layton, Charlotte Weldon, Mark Irons, Suzanne Cucinotta, Genevieve Alburger, Claire Giovanetti, Toby Walz, Joy Lawmaster, Sandra George, Joan Kane, Dolores Mufalli, Janice Carr, Kathleen Brothers, Walter Brickley, Mary Cakir, Lila McKeon, Bernard Orfe Jr, Judith McCauley, Jeff Scouler, Jeanne Muzik, Joseph Allen, Fr. Michael Waites, Mary Rosica, Theresa Gladney, Kathy Frunzi, Cathy Daly, Kelly McGann Glenkowski, Anthony Tursi, Alice Durham, Edward Lewis Sr, Nick Orio, Edward Lewis III, Kate Cunningham, Regina Feeney, Jean Costello, Julius Romero, Mary Mulvihill, Lillian Wille, Mildred Lipsett, Leon Paulikas, Mary Chiaccio, Helen Nachurski, Constance Bergmeister, Robert Cristella, Maryann LaSalle, Margaret Donovan, Joseph Peditto, Christine Rossell, Vincent Fynan Sr, Regina Criqui & Ralph Talarico



**Monday, December 18, 2017**

8:00 am **George J. Klase**  
r/o His Family  
**Leo Carr**  
r/o The Kearney Family

**Tuesday, December 19, 2017**

8:00 am **Dean Potts**  
r/o Jill Boyle  
**Alice Durham**  
r/o Adam & Nancy Haraburda

**Wednesday, December 20, 2017**

8:00 am **Joseph Allen**  
r/o Katherine Meenan

**Thursday, December 21, 2017**

8:00 am **Frank Gavigan**  
r/o Joe & Jean Threston

**Friday, December 22, 2017**

8:00 am **Florence Ehrhardt**  
r/o Her Family

**Saturday, December 23, 2017**

8:00 am **Michael K. Noel**  
r/o Mary Lou  
**Emil Koch**  
r/o His Family  
4:30 pm **Lorraine Earley**  
r/o Chester & Barbara Wajda  
**Cass Ferry**  
r/o Sharon & Jean  
**Caroline Pearson**  
r/o Sharon & Jean

**Sunday, December 24, 2017**

7:30 am **William & Ruth Smith**  
r/o Doris  
**John & Freda McQuillin**  
r/o Doris  
**Rocco & Evelyn Russo**  
r/o Marie & Family  
9:00 am **People of the Parish**  
10:30 am **Edward Lewis, III**  
r/o The Pascal Family  
12:00 pm **For the Holy Souls in Purgatory**  
**Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017**  
4:30 pm **Don Schofield**  
r/o His Wife, MaryLou & Family  
**Mary Pat Chrupcala**  
r/o Her Family  
**John Flannery**  
r/o His Family

Continued on Page 3



**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND**

Colleen Anninos, Bobby Barnett, Joann Beard, Joanne Brady, Debra Burns, Billy Byrem, Angela Canco, Anna Catanzariti, Sharon Christenson, Dorothy Clinton, Tony Colkers, Paul Daly, Tanya DiMaio, John Doherty, Ruth Dolbow, Jon Donachi, Diane Donnelly, Fr. Michael Doyle, Marianne Ford, Mary Lou Francis, Dot Fries, Loretta Gibson, Kelsey Goodwin, Alec Haas, Jamie Hall, Thomas Heliger Sr, Gloria Hornberger, Carol Hosey, Walter Huber, James Huff, Becky Jones, Liz Jones, Joachim Jung, Maura Kendall, David Kloss, Edward Knicley, Ryan Konetski, Sandra Konetski, Casey Lang, Matthew Laverty, Howard Lawmaster, Joe Leahy, Erin Lively, Joyce Macke, Molly Maerten, Robin Graff Marinelli, William Martens, Dawn McGinley, William McGonigal, Mary McGovern, Melissa Milewski, Kathy Moir, Eleanor Mortiz, Shawn Mulvihill, Rick Muraresku, Fran Murphy, Alexa Pagano, Guido Pasquale, Anthony Pignatelli, Anthony Portella, George Reinas, Bro. Bill Riley, Thomas Rutledge, Bob & Kate Salamon, Theresa Scafidi, Michael Stanley Schneider, Ed Siemietkoski, Joan Siperavage, James Sutton, Lynne Turley, Bob Venango, Dori Walsh, and Lillian Zamichieli

*If you or a family member would like to be prayed for at Mass and listed in the bulletin, please call 856-829-0090.*

**Care of the sick:** If a family member is sick or homebound and would like to receive Communion please contact Dawn Vermes at 856-979-5107.

**THIS WEEK AT SACRED HEART PARISH**

**NOTE:** Please remember all announcements to be placed in the bulletin should be brought to the Parish Office by Friday, one week prior to the weekend the bulletin will be published.

**Monday, December 18**

6:00 pm — Legion of Mary  
Family Center Room 6

**Tuesday, December 19**

Miraculous Medal Novena  
Following 8:00 am Mass  
Willing and Able will meet again in February  
7:00 pm — NA Meeting  
Lower Church

**Wednesday, December 20**

8:00 pm — AA Meeting  
Lower Church

**Thursday, December 21**

6:00 pm — Mary's Rosary Guild  
Lower Church Rosary Room  
7:00 pm — Dance Class  
Lower Church

**Friday, December 22**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
Following 8:00 am Mass

**Sunday, December 24**

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
8:00 pm — AA Meeting  
Lower Church

**MEMORIALS**

THE SACRED HEART LAMP BURNS THIS WEEK  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF



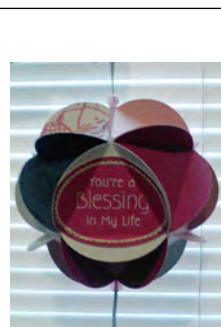
*Mr. & Mrs. William Haws,  
Thomas Smith, Mary & Carl Pennauchi,  
Dolores & George Edwards, Ken George,  
Jeanne & Glen Thomas and Anthony Gallo*

AT THE REQUEST OF  
THEIR FAMILY

**Mass Intentions continued**

**Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017**

4:30 pm **Cathy Daly**  
r/o The Rubright Family  
**Joseph Mascio**  
r/o The Veneziano Family  
**Michael & Florence Veneziano**  
r/o Mike & Mari Veneziano  
7:00 pm **Bert & Theresa Cahill & Maureen Cahill Gerner**  
r/o Their Family  
**Michael Grace**  
r/o The Grace Family  
11:00 pm **Diane Harvey**  
r/o Her Husband, Bob



Please stop by the vestibule on Sunday, December 17th after the 9:00 and 10:30 am Masses to purchase a handmade ornament. All proceeds are to benefit Catholic Relief Services for Hurricane Relief.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

Weekend of December 9 & 10, 2017  
\$10,204.00  
Same Weekend last year's collection  
\$12,056.00  
Average needed for weekly expenses  
\$14,950.00

***Thank you very much for your generosity.***

***Please remember Sacred Heart  
in your Last Will and Testament***

## Understanding Our Catholic Faith

### Gaudete Sunday

What is special about the third Sunday of Advent? For much of the Church's history, this Sunday had a special name: "Gaudete" Sunday. The traditions surrounding this Sunday go back as far as the 4th or 5th century, as does the Season of Advent itself. Advent, our preparation for Christmas, was originally a 40-day penitential season, like Lent. In fact, since it used to begin on November 12th, it was called "St. Martin's Lent." "Gaudete Sunday" was the Advent counterpart to "Laetare Sunday," which marked the mid-point in Lent.

On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, "The Lord is coming." But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, "The Lord is near." This shift is marked by a lighter mood, and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation.

Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. The priest usually wears rose-colored vestments, a hue seen only on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. On this day, we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is also rose-colored, or if you prefer, pink.

The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "Rejoice." In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God, who loves us, is still in charge, and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy. This is reflected in the second reading for the day in the Year "B" cycle, from the first letter to the Thessalonians: "Brothers and sisters, rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances, give thanks, for this is the will of God for you, in Christ Jesus."

## John the Baptist ...

A Lesson for today.

### How was John the Baptist related to Jesus?

John was related to Jesus through their mothers. In Luke 1:36, Elizabeth is described as Mary's "kinswoman," meaning that they were related in some way through marriage or blood. Most likely, it was a blood relationship, but neither a particularly close or distant one.

Elizabeth, being elderly, may have been an aunt, great-aunt, or one of the many types of "cousin." The precise relationship cannot be determined.

This means that Jesus and John were cousins in one or another senses of the term.

When did John the Baptist's ministry begin?

Luke gives us an extraordinarily precise date for the beginning of John's ministry. He writes:

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar . . . the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness; and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins [Luke 3:1-3].

"The fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar" is most naturally understood as a reference to A.D. 29.

This is important also because Luke suggests that Jesus' ministry began shortly after John's did, which places the likely date of Jesus' baptism in A.D. 29 or early A.D. 30.

What does John have to teach us about on the job morals?

Quite a bit! He was quizzed by both tax-collectors and soldiers about what they needed to do to be right with God.

Both of these positions required cooperation with the Roman Empire, and they were wondering if they had to quit their jobs.

John tells them no, but to do their jobs in a righteous manner. This is important for us today as so many are required to cooperate with employers, states, and corporations that are—in part—engaged in immoral actions.

We read:

Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

And he said to them, "Collect no more than is appointed you."

Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?"

And he said to them, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages" [Lk. 3:12-14].



**SACRED HEART YOUTH GROUP RIVERTON (SHYGR)**

**Sacred Heart Youth Ministry continues to be a gathering filled with friendship faith, and fun! Here are our December & January events!**

**Sunday, December 17th** ~ Gym Night ~ 7:00 pm ~ Family Center Gym

**Sunday, January 7th** ~ Pretzel Sale ~ After 9:00am & 10:30am Masses

**Friday, January 12th** ~ Movie Night (willing be showing Despicable Me 3) ~ 7:00pm ~ Family Center Gym (Teens should arrive by 6:30 to set up)

Thank you for your support.  
For any questions, please email us at: [sacredheartyouthgroup@yahoo.com](mailto:sacredheartyouthgroup@yahoo.com)

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS**

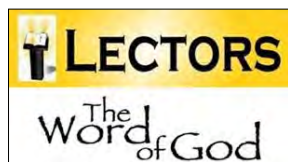
If you would like to make a monetary donation to assist with the expenses of decorating our Church for Christmas, you may bring it to the Parish Office or put your offering in the "Christmas Flower Offering" envelopes that can be found in the corners of the Church and place them in the collection basket.



Please join your parish family in the Family Center Meeting Room for "A Time of Preparation" on Formed.org. Wednesday Morning at 9:00 AM. This is a short study and faith sharing that will stir our faith and prepare our hearts for the Lord. Let us continue to "Watch With Hope" this holy season.

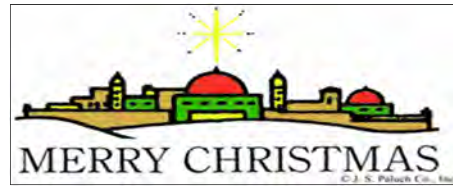


**Lectors** - God's gift to proclaim the Good News - seeking volunteers 13 years and up...!!



Have you been thinking about becoming a Lector, but have not had the courage to make the step needed to find out more information and/or to receive training??

If this is YOU then YOU need to contact Kathie at [kathleenrubright@comcast.net](mailto:kathleenrubright@comcast.net). Training provided. If you can not serve every month or only 2x a year do not let that hinder you from saying YES.



**CHRISTMAS SEASON AT SACRED HEART**

**Masses**

**Christmas Eve**

4:30 pm — Family Mass with the Guitar Group

7:00 pm — Mass with Choir

11:00 pm — Mass

**Christmas Day**

8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon

**No Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, it is a Holy Day but not of Obligation Monday, (Solemnity of Mary) New Years Day 8:00 am Mass only**

**Separated and Divorced...**

Are you divorced or going through a separation? The Divorced and Separated Group meets at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Maple Shade on the **3rd Thursday of each month at 7:15pm in the School Community Room. For further information please call Sr. Evelyn at 856-667-8850 ext. 213.**

**THE BLESSED CHRISTMAS WAFER — OPLATEK**

Oplatek is the Sacred Legacy from the past to brighten your future. The Christmas wafer commemorates a custom which is many centuries old. It is usually broken and shared by those who take part in the Christmas Eve Dinner. We have packets of Oplatek in the Parish Office now. You are welcome to stop by during office hours if you would like some for your Christmas celebration.



If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan **ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965** or via e-mail at [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org).

**‘HEART TO HEART’ MINISTRY  
Make a Difference  
‘Wrap a child in a coat’  
this Christmas**

With the cold weather coming our collection of *new* coats for the children of Camden (children and teen coats needed) is under way. The coats can be dropped off in the Church at St. Elizabeth Anne Seton’s side altar.

Our Lady said yes for the human race. Each one of us must echo that yes for our own lives. We are all asked if we will surrender... to the Holy Spirit and allow Christ to fill the emptiness formed by the particular shape of our life. — Caryl Houselander

**RECENT BAPTISMS AT SACRED HEART**

We extend a warm welcome to our newly Baptized

- Bailey Rose Bacon**
- Lena Sophia Casparro**
- Abigail Jane Cooperson**
- Amelia Marie Cooperson**
- Daniel Jeffrey Cooperson**
- Demi Hope De Joseph**
- Conor Joseph Feeney**
- Calista Catherine Flowers**
- Declan Scott Garriel**
- Sadie Katherine Guglielmucci**
- Vivian Claire Jordan**
- Mairead Caroline O’Connell**
- Dennis James Quinn**
- Kinsley Renae Sharkey**
- Carly Ann Simek**
- James Patrick Sweeney**
- Evelyn Marie Tetlow**
- Lucas James Tieman**
- John Keith Valadez**

May the Lord give His angels charge over you, to guide you in all your ways. — Psalm 91:11

**NEED A MIRACLE?**

Our Lady of Grace Statue is available to visit in your home for a week at a time. She has been known to bring peace and healing when she visits. The Legion of Mary representative will bring the statue to your home and lead a brief prayer. Then Legion of Mary (Mary Mother of Divine Mercy group) will continue to pray for your intentions and your family while the statue remains in your home. To schedule a visit please call Angel Sauro at 856-461-3873.

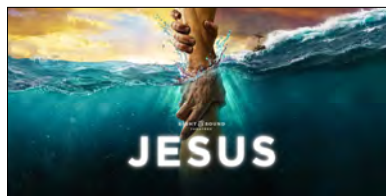
**Our Lady looks forward to visiting you.**

**WEEKEND MUSIC – DECEMBER 17TH**

- 61 On Jordan’s Bank
- 67 Maranatha
- 620 The Cry of the Poor
- 38 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



**Catholic Daughters** is sponsoring a trip to Sight and Sound Theatre



on Friday, March 16, 2018 to see the production of “JESUS”. The cost is \$130 per person which includes

transportation, show ticket - premium seats, home style lunch at Good and Plenty, all tips including bus driver and gratuities and snacks. For more information please call Marie Russo at 856-829-1999.

**Friends of Catholic Daughters who have signed up for the show “JESUS” are asked to submit a deposit of \$30 by Monday, October 23, 2017. There is limited space and a waiting list is growing. Thank you**

\*\*\*\*\*

The creators of the show *Mother is Italian, Father is Jewish and I’m in Therapy* will open a new show on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 called “*Cannoli, Latkes and Guilt*” at Caesars. Cost is \$82 per person. A \$30 deposit reserves your seat. Price includes: transportation, \$25 slot play, buffet lunch, show ticket, all tips and gratuities including driver plus snacks. For information and reservations call Marie Russo at 829-1999. Only one show and limited seating.

**Attention all 4th to 8th Graders**

There is still a need for Altar Servers. Jesus calls us forth to serve with gladness. Please consider answering His call. Anyone interested please call Deacon Mike Stinsman at 856-745-0413.



**A PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY**



Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior... Amen.