Reflection on Today's Scripture Readings by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Last December, a 49 year old American female tourist was killed in a shark attack off the coast of Costa Rica. It was described as an extremely rare incident. Less rare but equally deadly were the hurricanes that swept into Texas and Louisiana earlier last Fall, which destroyed lives and property. Both the creatures that live in the oceans and the oceans themselves can be so deadly.

But water has another power. It is life giving and life preserving. Dehydration is deadly for our bodies. This is true in a higher realm. This leads to a consideration of the water of Baptism. That takes us to the heart of the annual Lenten season that is upon us. One could say that Lent is all about baptism.

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

A covenant is a solemn agreement between parties sworn before God who oversees such oaths. Here God makes such a covenant with Noah and promises not to destroy all life with flood waters.

Second Reading: I Peter 3:18-22

Christians are saved by "passing through" the waters of baptism. That blessed water is the redemptive opposite of the destructive waters of the flood that threatened Noah and his passengers aboard that famous ark.

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

The Son of God overcomes His testing by Satan in the desert before He begins His public life and ministry. He begins that with the announcement that the kingdom of God "is at hand," and not in the faraway future, as was always thought.



LEDG

February 18, 2018 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MASSES for the Week of February 18, 2018

Weekday and Weekend Masses are in St. Raphael Church.

Sat., February 17. Saturday after Ash Wednesday; Memorial of The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

8:00 am-(1)Marietta Barbieri, r/b Alex & MaryAnn Candelori;(2)Frances Tattoni, r/b Noreen Herring

4:30 pm-(1)Kevin McCoy, r/b Brothers Ken & Josh McCoy;**(2)**Jeffrey Bergner, r/b Mattonelli & O'Gara Family;**(3)**Theresa Martucci, r/b Andrew Varianka & Johnny Melnick

Sun., February 18. FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30am-(1)Paul Hohman III, r/b Paul Hohman;(2)Claudia Picariello, r/b The Wilson Family;(3)Anne Butterfield, r/b Rosary Altar Society

9:30 am-(1)Peopleof the Parish;(2)Louis G. Costa, Sr; r/b Jane Branca(3) Intentions of Maryann Nicholson (living), r/b Teresa Wieger

11:30 am-(1)Protection of Unborn Babies, r/b Jean Douglass;(2)Nicholas Pratico, r/b Ginny Voilas;(3)Andrea Quarino, r/b Sharon & Felix Tuccillo 5:00 pm-(1)Robert Keim, Sr., r/b Judi & Bill Hoffman;(2)Jozefina Maes, r/b

Nick & Angie Gephart & Family;(3)Heather Carr, r/b Alice & Tony Bolton & Family

Mon., February 19. Lenten Weekday [1].

7:30 am-(1)Leon Zakrzewski, r/b The Bryan Family

6:30 am-(1)Peter Lamb, r/b Gail & Tom Smith;(2)Bruce Barender, r/b David Fine

Tues., February 20. Lenten Weekday [1].

7:30 am-(1)Intentions of Brandon Douglass (living), r/b Jean Douglass 6:30 pm-(1)Richard Pizzuti, r/b Wife, Robin

Wed., February 21. Lenten Weekday [1]; Memorial of Saint Peter

Damian, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

7:30 am-(1)Intentions of Gina Douglass (living), r/b Jean Douglass 6:30 pm-(1)Kevin J. Bookholdt, r/b Frank Venza

Thurs., February 22. FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE 7:30 am-(1)John McGill, r/b Michael & Marie Aschettino APOSTLE

6:30 pm-(1)Francis Doyle, r/b Betty & Jim Walker

Fri., February 23. Lenten Weekday [1]; Memorial of Saint Polycarp,
Bishop, Martyr

7:30 am-(1)Intentions of Merinda & Wayne Giles (living), r/b Peterman Family

6:30 pm-(1)Archimedo "Archie" Massei, r/b Florence Dill Sat., February 24. Lenten Weekday [1].

8:00 am-(1)Marietta Barbieri, r/b Alex & MaryAnn Candelori

4:30 pm-(1)Intentions Deacon Sal & Rose Marcello (living)

[50th Anniversary];(2)Dorothy Jordy, r/b Dot Astbury;(3)Edward E. & Anna B. Mount, r/b Daughter, Joan

Sun., February 25. SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

7:30am-(1)Frances Tattoni, r/b Rosary Altar Society;(2)Jozefina Maes, r/b Rosary Altar Society;(3)Theresa Martucci, r/b Rosary Altar Society 9:30 am-(1)Louis G. Costa, Sr., r/b Jean Noto;(2)Volunteers of Saint Raphael-Holy Angels Food Pantry; r/b John Margicin(3)Louis G. Costa,

Sr., r/b Joyce Marhefka

11:30 am-(1)People of the Parish;(2)Catherine Persichetti;(3)Andrea Quarino, r/b Bill Tuccillo

5:00 pm-(1)John Caola., r/b Paul & Linda Peoples(2)Clod Leonida, r/b Nannette & Bobby Adlawan;(3)Nicholas M. Ricigliani, r/b Leonard Tripode



ADORATION CANDLE

Anthony Montalvo, r/b Grandma Ida

Pray for the sick & homebound of our parish.

Arlene Amisson, Rose Belviso, Alyssa Chaconis, Janet Auletta, Joanna Barry, Kathleen Chester, Helen Ciali, Lauren Costantini, Robert Cunningham, Ronald DeMarie, Bernadine Filippi, Justine Doan, Bob Dunne, Jason Dzbenski, Sue Dzbenski, Laura Fares Farley, Charlene Edwards Fattori, Dorothea Fell, Gina Ferrara, Marie Filidore, Lynda Foldetta, Patricia Gardner, David Hibbs, Lori Hoos, Anna Mae Kane, MaryAnn Kardos, William Kelly, Kevin Kreiss, Gregory Lucidi, Alex Manukas, John Margicin, Mary McDonald, Anne Modica, Robert J. O'Boyle, Patti O'Gorman, Nancy Opalski, Juanita Penkala, Ann Pirrera, Nancy Pollack, Jerome Posz, Marianne Przemieniecki, Judith Pullman, Edward Quinn, III, Albert Rafalski, Donna Marie Ratico, John Ratico, Carl Reinhardt, Sr., June Reinhardt, Jackie Restuccia-DiBiasi, Thomas Ruble, Joan Sandy, Pauline & Edward Sikorski, Edward Sitzler, James R. Smith, Marie Stearle, Eileen Streight, Amanda Werb, Hannah Wojciechowski, Marco Ziccardi, Virginia Zuno

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 24:

4:30 pm: D. Spoto, D. Yasick, L. Wilson, A. Wilson,

G. Pasqualone

Sunday, February 25:

7:30 am: K. Teague, G. Luca Pugliese, A. Berrios,

J. Teague

9:30 am: K. Kerwick, M. Kerwick, A. Nezezon, E. Nezezon,

N. Ola

11:30 am: C. Senat, E. Gorman, S. Gorman, Elena Abreu,

E. Abreu

5:00 pm M. Walker, J. Torres, N. Sidone, S. Rose,

C. Obiukwu

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Dorothy M. Forconi and Helen Muolo Requiescant in pace.

PARISH OFFICE (rectory): 3500 S. Broad St., Hamilton, N.J. 08610; 609-585-7049; fax: 609-585-5876; e-mail: parishoffice@srhap.org; www.straphael-holyangels.com (including link to current week's bulletin). NEW HOURS (effective July 1, 2016): Mon.– Thurs. 9am-7pm; Fri. 9am-5pm; Sat. 9am-12 noon. PARISH CLERGY:

Pastor: Rev. Gene P. Daguplo

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Edward Jawidzik

Deacons: Deacon Robert Tharp, Deacon Sal Marcello, Deacon Thomas Lavelle, Deacon Richard Arcari, Deacon Bill Palmisano,

Deacon David Colter, Deacon Gregory Costa

PASTORIAL ASSOCIATE: Sr. Sandra Kulick, S.S.J.

(609-270-0388)

FAITH FORMATION: (609-585-0542) (Mon.-Fri.,10 am- 4 pm)
Director of Religious Education: Deacon Bill Palmisano
Secretary: Midge Cassarini Office Assistant: Gabriela Gates

FOOD PANTRY: John Margicin (609-585-3848) MUSIC DIRECTOR: Lori Hoos (609-462-2929)

SCHOOL: (609-5857733; Fax: 609-581-8436; <u>www.srsnj.org)</u> (Summer [June 20-August18]: Mon. - Thurs., 8 am-2 pm);

Principal: Mrs. Ann M. Cwirko

YOUTH MINISTRY: Gez Ford (609-456-8857)

BUSINESS MANAGER: Dennis Heffernan, Bookkeeper: Elaine

Welsh

OFFICE SECRETARIES: Karen Peterman (Mon. thru Fri.-8 am-4 pm), Alice Bolton (Mon. 9 am-3 pm; Wed.-Thurs. 9 am - 12noon; Fri. 9 am-2 pm), Judy Pullman (Tues. 9 am-4 pm; Wed. & Thurs.-12 noon-7 pm), Claudia DiLissio (Tues. 4-7 pm, Sat. 9am -12); Christine Braun (Mon. 3-7 pm; Fri. 11-5pm)

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Parish and School,

This weekend is our **Annual Catholic Appeal In-Pew Commitment Weekend**. The Diocese wants us to help achieve the financial target of \$7 million by hitting our parish goal of \$90,000. Why? Because we will receive a 15% rebate. If we collect in excess, the parish earns a 50% rebate. Our focus this year is to increase the rate of participation from 10% to 20%. Let's do it!

On this **First Sunday of Lent**, we hear a short reading from the Gospel of Saint Mark, which gives a brief account of Jesus' forty days in the desert. Within this account is an important reminder for us as we begin this Lenten season.

During Lent, we seek to strengthen our resolve to resist temptation. However, God does not expect us to do this on our own. God helps us, giving us the Holy Spirit in Baptism. God also gives us the community of the Church to help us. What can we do during Lent to accept the help God gives us to resist temptation?

On **Feb 18 at 7:00pm** in our church, the Music Ministry presents "**Journey to the Calvary in Scripture and Song**." Come and reflect the need to prepare our lives for the glory of Easter.

RAPHAEL'S ANGELS. A joint ministry of St. Raphael-Holy Angels Parish and Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Mercer County, that enables under-served, home-bound seniors and adults with disabilities to maintain their independence and dignity. Services are provided by a dedicated group of volunteers who are recruited, trained and managed by Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Mercer County and their interdenominational coalition, including Raphael's Angels. It is a network of support for the most vulnerable among us. We hope any parishioner who needs a "helping hand" will contact this ministry. Pray for more volunteers.

Join us in the celebrating the Holy Mass to spread the tradition of **Station Churches**. It's a way for us to know and love our churches as we hop from one church to another within this season of Lent. After the Mass, refreshment is served at the narthex. All are welcome!

The Season of Lent is the time for soul cleansing. Our school children will avail the **Sacrament of Forgiveness on Feb 21, Wed, at 12:45pm**. Four priests will hear their confessions.

Congratulations Deacon Sal and wife Rosa! May God bless you in your 50 years of blessed togetherness in good times and bad! More years to come and cheers!

In the service of the Lord, with the inspiration of St. Joseph, the guardian of all parishes, Thank you.

Fr. Gene



THERE IS NO HEALING MASS DURING THE SEASON OF LENT. IT RESUMES APRIL 20, 3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH, 6:30 PM, ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH.



ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

The Altar Server Ministry is recruiting **new** altar servers (**3rd grade** to 12th grade). For information, please contact Fr. Gene, in the parish office (rectory), at 609-585-7049, ext. 100.



ROSARY

Please join us in praying the Rosary every morning prior to the 7:30 am Mass, Monday through Friday at 7:10 am.



ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The next meeting for the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be held on **Wednesday**, **February 21**, **2018**, from **1:30** to **3:00** pm, in the parish center.



21st ANNUAL

CATHOLIC MEN for JESUS CHRIST CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, February 24, 2018, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, St. Gregory the Great Church, 4620 Nottingham Way, Hamilton, NJ [Doors open at 8:00 am for bagels and coffee: Lunch included] (609) 587-4877



JUNIOR LEGION of MARY

The Junior Legion of Mary resumes their meeting when school opens in September on **every Wednesday**, at **3:00 pm** in the parish center. Mrs. Louise Ferrara (609-586-8153) with the assistance of Judith Dallaris (609-588-5655) will preside at the meeting.

INTENTIONS of POPE FRANCIS for FEBRUARY

Pope's Universal Intention: Say "No" to Corruption. That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure or corruption.

SCHEDULE OF CONFESSIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2018:

SATURDAYS – 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm **WEDNESDAYS** – After the 6:30 pm Mass (7:00 - 8:00 pm)

Except on: February 14- Ash Wednesday
FRIDAYS – After the 6:30 pm Mass (7:00 - 8:00 pm)
Except on: No Healing Mass during Lent

CONFESSIONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT.

SCHEDULE OF CONFESSIONS:

WEEKENDS:

1. **SATURDAY** – 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

WEEKDAYS:

- 1. **WEDNESDAY**–AFTER THE 6:30 PM MASS (7:00 8:00 pm)
- 2. FRIDAYS AFTER THE 6:30 PM MASS (7:00 8:00 pm)

EXCEPTIONS:

- 1. THE FIRST WEDNESDAY LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING
- 2. THE THIRD FRIDAY HEALING MASS,

(EXCEPT LENT, JULY and AUGUST)

- 3. HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION
- 4. THE VIGIL MASS FOR HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION
- 5. ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE TRIDUUM
- SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION (in the Spring, May) and AS OTHERWISE NOTED.

CONFESSIONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT.

STATIONS of the CROSS

The Stations of the Cross are on Lenten Fridays at 7:15 pm, in St. Raphael Church. Stations of the Cross on Good Friday will be at 7:00 pm. (**No confessions** on Good Friday.)

Please note that there will be **NO BINGO** on Monday, **March 19** [Parish Lenten Mission] or on **Good Friday**, **March 30**.

LENTEN PARISH MISSION - 2018 St. Raphael-Holy Angels Parish

Will be celebrated on Monday, March 19 through Wednesday, March 21 -- 8:15 am and 7:15 pm. Presenter: Father Paul Fagan. Topic: The Challenge of Faith: Living with God's Mercy and Love. Bring a non-perishable food item for the food pantry. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36). Please join us - all are welcome. For more information contact: Josephine Woodward at jwoodward56@optonline.net or 609-731-4893; Santa Trombino at strombino01@optonline.net or 609-249-4219.



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 6,** from **7:30-9:00 pm,** in the Spiritual Center living room. Please use the rear door to enter the St. John Paul II Spiritual Center. For more information, call Deacon Bob Tharp at 609-890-1011.

ELDERBERRY CLUB

Friday, March 2, 1:00 pm. Arrangements are being made for a trip to see "Jesus", the musical stage adventure at Sight and Sound Theater at Strasburg, PA for Wednesday, October 17, 2018. Cost is \$100 PP and will include bus transportation, ticket, and lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant. It is open to members and non-members. If interested, please call Vice President Dianne Ivins at 609-528-0491 ASAP so we can reserve tickets The next meeting will be held on Friday, March 2, 1018 at 1:00 pm in the parish center. For further information, please call President Agnes Fischer at 609-802-1711.



HOLY NAME SOCIETY

The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, March 14, at 7:00~pm, and there will be light refreshments in the parish center.



WEEKEND MASSES GIFTS of LOVE

This is what you put in the baskets on

February 11, 2018

1st Collection: \$11,813.00 Children's Collection: \$ 31.00

> Total \$11,844.00 Archangel Fund: \$ 747.00

School Endowment: \$ 1,219.00

****** COMPARED to February 12, 2017 *****

1st Collection: decrease of: \$ 4,065.00 Children's Collection: decrease of: \$ 42.00 Archangel Fund: decrease of: \$ 236.00



The following people are on the Parish Implementation Team:

Jennifer Sidone, Nancy Rhodes, Courtney Renegar, Bill Wowk, and Fr. Gene

LUMEN CHRISTI - Cohort 6: Our Lady of Sorrows-St. Anthony, Hamilton • St. John, Allentown • St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton Square • St. Raphael-Holy Angels, Hamilton • St. Vincent de Paul, Yardville.

The Cohort 6 next meeting will be on Thursday, February 20, 2018 at 7PM at St. Gregory the Great. Mark your calendars!!

What the World needs now....is collaborative action!

A recently, I heard an instrumental rendition of the Dionne Warwick 1966 hit song "What the World Needs Now is Love, Sweet Love." In this moment could this song title offer a message of hope in the New Year? Too often the words of songs just become part of our memory and are not fleshed out in reality. During the past year our focus has been on implementing Bishop O'Connell's "Faith In Our Future" decisions. The Bishop's decisions were an invitation to bring God's love to the people of the Diocese of Trenton in Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean and Burlington Counties through vibrant parish life. How do we make sure these decisions are not just words (like the song lyrics), but are "fleshed out" in reality?

As we begin 2018, early reports indicate some amazing things are taking place. Through collaboration, cohorts have held regional liturgical celebrations, decided on shared youth ministry programs and shared staffing of parishes. Some parishes are working toward linkage or merger that should strengthen their ability to serve the people of the parishes. Renewed vibrancy can breathe new life and excitement into worship and outreach ministry to meet the needs of the young and the old, the poor and those on the peripheries. Parishes collaborating with each other can bring both the Bishop's decisions and the message of that 60's song to life.

In his first World Day of Peace message (2014), Pope Francis vrote:

"In the heart of every man and woman is the desire for a full life, including the irrepressible longing for fraternity which draws us to fellowship with others and enables us to see them as enemies or rivals, but as brothers and sisters to be accepted and embraced."

In the New Year, it is our hope that "Faith in our Future" can draw us together in a common bond of fellowship allowing us to move outward beyond our parish boundaries, and offering the possibility for unlimited and creative thinking as we move into the future.

2018 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Preparations for the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal are well underway! We have scheduled the In-Pew Commitment Weekend for February 17 and 18, 2018. Please plan to notify your parishioners a couple of weeks prior to the presentation through bulletin inserts.

Kick off Meetings will be held at 4 different locations, one in each county. For Mercer County, the kick off is scheduled on January 17, at 12 noon –1:30pm, at the Diocesan Chancery. The purpose of the meetings will be to enjoy a delicious lunch with fabulous people and to discuss the critical evolution of our Annual Catholic Appeal moving forward. View the DVD, and distribute your materials.

ST. RAPHAEL-HOLY ANGELS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

Father Gene Daguplo, our Pastor, invited all ministry leaders to meet with him on February 6, 2017. One of the topics for discussion was his desire to form a Parish Pastoral Council. Four persons volunteered for the Parish Pastoral Council-Facilitator (Linda Richardson), Recorder-(Deacon Rich Arcari), Spiritual Chair-(Lou Monticchio), and Hospitality-(Nancy Rhodes).

On February 23, the four of us met with Fr. Gene and he gave us some background. Fr. Gene knew Bishop O'Connell would soon be asking every parish to establish a Pastoral Council. We discussed possibilities, and it was decided to focus on doing a Parish Assessment, based on seven elements of Parish Life: Evangelization, Word, Worship, Service, Community, Stewardship and Leadership.

Parish Ministry leaders met with Fr. Gene and the Pastoral Council in March, May and July to go through a process of identifying existing ministries in each element area, as well as areas needing attention. At the final meeting, we looked at 12 possible priority areas derived from the Parish Assessment results. Ministry leaders chose four priorities as focal points for future parish activity:

- Becoming more intentional about extending the invitation for people to become involved in various groups and ministries
- Becoming more joy-filled, welcoming parish
- Better coordination and collaboration between leaders and among parish ministries and organizations
- Full and active participation in the Mass

It is hoped that by focusing our energies on these areas, we will build God's kingdom in a more intentional way. The next step is to formulate a Parish Pastoral Plan using these priorities. The Pastoral Council invited several parishioners to join us in this effort. In December, the 10 member writing team for the Pastoral Plan attended a training session led by Mrs. Terry Ginther, Chancellor of the Diocese of Trenton and Director of the Office of Pastoral Planning. The process of writing the Pastoral Plan will continue over the next few months, and we ask for your prayerful support of this effort. We look forward to sharing the results with you soon.

FAITH FORMATION

- Please Note there has been a change for the Sacramental Sunday for the Second Grade. They will not meet on January 21st. The updated schedule for Second Grade Students Only is as follows: February 25th and April 15th from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.
- ◆ Volunteers are always needed! Please consider volunteering for our Religious Education Program. We have a wonderful program for Catechists, aides, substitute teachers and Hall monitors. The success of our program is dependent on the willingness of individuals to help out. Volunteering is a rewarding experience to share your faith with our parish youth.

Catechists Needed for Summer and Fall CCD Programs

- ♦ We are in need of catechists to teach during our Summer CCD Program for 5th and 6th grade. Our Summer Program starts on August 6th and ends on August 17th and runs from 9:00AM to 12:00PM.
- We are also looking for one or two catechists willing to teach on Sunday mornings for our traditional Fall CCD to help with preparing the students for First Communion.

If you are interested, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 609-585-0542 or email us at ggates@srhap.org.



BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Evening Bible Study
A Powerful Study on the Blessed Mother.
Begins Wednesday, February 7th

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her divine Son. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. She will become a part of your daily life and help you to become more like Christ.

Join us for Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother: Wednesday's beginning 2/7/2018 through 4/18/2018. Time: 7:30-9:00pm in the School APR (there will be no sessions held on 3/21, 3/28 and 4/4). Fee \$35.00. For more information or to register for the study, call the Faith Formation office at 609-585-0542 or email mcassarini@srhap.org.

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

God Is Calling You to a Deeper Relationship with Him

If we consider that God is the Divine Bridegroom and the Church is his Bride, then the prophets can be seen as "spiritual marriage counselors." They afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted, calling us to return to our covenant relationship with God. They urge us to repentance, warn us of the dangers of sin, and announce the blessings of faithfulness. Their prophetic words speak to us even today, as they draw us closer to our heavenly Bridegroom.

The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy:

Tuesday's beginning 2/20/2018 through 5/1/2018. Time: 12:00-1:30 pm, in the Spiritual Center. (No class on 3/27). Fee \$35.00. For more information or to register for the study, call the Faith Formation office at 609-585-0542 or email mcassarini@srhap.org.

Faith Formation Office

Deacon Bill Palmisano bpalmisano@srhap.org
Midge Cassarini mcassarini@srhap.org
Gabriela Gates: ggates@srhap.org
609-585-0542

10 DAY PILGRIMAGE to IRELAND

Spiritual Director: Fr. Genaro Daguplo St. Raphael-Holy Angels Parish Hamilton, NJ Monday, June 25 to Wednesday, July 4, 2018

.....,,,,,,

\$3,150 per person Round Trip from Newark, NJ

[includes: First class hotels, Double Occupancy, 2 Meals a day - Breakfast and Dinner. Daily Sightseeing, Daily Mass, Tips for your guide and driver. Airport Taxes, Fuel Surcharges]

Tour Coordinator:

Deacon Tom Cechulski: (732) 610-5434 or deacon.tom@nativitypilgrimage.com

Brochures and registration forms are in the parish office.

SANTACRUZAN - 2018

Designated as a diocesan event in Mercer County, the St. Raphael-Holy Angels Filipino Community proudly invites you on **Saturday**, **May 19** to our **7th Annual Celebration of Flores de Mayo/Santacruzan** in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a fundraising event to benefit the projects and needs of the Filipino Community, our parish, the poor and street children and victims of calamities in the Philippines, as well as, to preserve the celebration of the religious festival year after year. Event activities are as follows:

- Concelebrated Mass at 1:30 pm
- Santacruzan procession at designated routes at 3:00 pm
- Dinner-dance reception at 4:00 pm,
 Presentation of the Sagalas in the parish center

General Admission \$30, and children 11 years old and under are free. If you wish to participate to be one of the sagalas, please contact one of the member's phone number listed below. **There will be some tickets in the parish rectory if anyone is interested.**

For more information, please contact Jay Janolo at 609-540-0992; Tony Rejano at 732-239-5836; Fr. Gene Daguplo at 848-448-5187; Norma McCoy at 609-238-9362; Mila Gutierrez at 609-529-6040 or Criselda Codilla at 609-379-9490.

OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

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 Hotlined: 1-888-296-2965** or via e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

Pro-Life



To read Caring for Loved Ones At Life's End visit www.goo.gl/fvSEYp

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

The Rosary Altar Society will not meet in January or February. Have a Blessed and Happy New Year. Next meeting for the Rosary Altar Society is Sunday, March 11, following the 9:30 am Mass in the parish center Light refreshments will be served. The rosary will be recited before the meeting. Frank Bresnen will provide entertainment.

The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** provides free and confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to anyone in suicidal crisis, emotional distress or those concerned about a loved one. **Talk to someone now 1-800-273-8255.**

NJ Addiction Services Hotline

Struggling with an addiction to drugs or alcohol? **Call** <u>1-844-276-2777</u> for the **Addictions Hotline** which can provide Information and referral to substance abuse treatment agencies throughout NJ. Confidential and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To access the "Novena to St. Joseph: For Those on the Path of Adoption" visit www.goo.gl/dv7Dn2

Pregnancy Resources

Pregnant? Need Help? call 609-840-3785

 First Way of Burlington County
 800-848-5683

 Birthright - Freehold
 732-462-2888

 Birthright - Toms River
 732-349-0154

 Birthright - Red Bank
 732-747-7600

 Birthright - Barnegat
 609-660-0485

24/7 Toll-Free Hotlines:

 National Life Center
 1-800-848-LOVE

 Good Counsel Homes (NJ/NY)
 1-800-723-8331

 Birthright
 1-800-550-4900

 NJ Safe Haven
 1-877-839-2339

 Abortion Pill Reversal Hotline:
 1-877-558-0333



"Saintly Stories"

(The Good News from Saint Raphael School)

As we were preparing ourselves for Catholic Schools Week, students in the 7th grade were also preparing for a Chapter test on our United States Constitution. To help students review, Mrs. Hickman also tasked students with an "Escape Room" activity. Students were placed into groups of three and four then given clues where they would use their knowledge of the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution to unlock each next clue. In one activity, students needed to compare and contrast the two documents. In another, students needed to decode a message using the braille alphabet to decipher what the framers of the Constitution planned at their meetings in Philadelphia.

Not only did everyone that participated enjoy the review, but it truly helped them prepare for the test and for their lifelong understanding of our United States Constitution.







EASTER CANDY FUNDRAISER - ST. RAPHAEL SCHOOL PTA GERTRUDE HAWKS CHOCOLATES

St. Raphael School PTA is pleased to offer Gertrude Hawk Chocolates as part of our Fund Raising Program this year. This is a great way for you, as fellow parishioners, to purchase high-quality Easter Candy, and help St. Raphael School at the same time. There are 2 ways parishioners can order (1) on-online: http://bit.ly/2E2thUp or (2) order after Mass on Sunday, February 18. For more information contact Sue and Joe Feltri at sfeltri@hotmail.com.



The St. Raphael-Holy Angels Filipino Community is pleased to invite you to our 2018 Valentine's Fundraising Ball

Join us for an enchanting night of music, dance, romance, and entertainment. Everyone is welcome to attend... young or old... singles, couples and/or families!

Saturday, February 17, 2018, at SRHA Parish Center 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Tickets - \$30 per person (children 11 yrs. old & under are free)

Attire: Semi-Formal

Dinner buffet will be served

For tickets and more information, please contact:

Ariel - <u>267-808-7642</u>, Lida - <u>215-806-5896</u>, Helen - <u>609-462-2766</u>, Tony - <u>732-239-5836</u>, Fr. Gene - <u>848-448-5187</u> and the parish office.

Also, tickets will be sold at the door.

All proceeds for the benefit of SRHAFC projects, SRHA Parish and the poor and victims of calamities in the Philippines.

Snow Date:

Saturday, February 24, 2018

SCRIP CARDS

Scrip cards will be available for sale on Hospitality Sunday, March 4th after all Masses. If you would like to pre-order, please contact Eileen Garretson at 609-658-8473. Regular Scrip Card hours are Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00pm. NO scrip cards will be sold on Saturday. Local participating businesses are:

Brothers Pizza on Rt. 33, Rossi's Bar & Grill, Amari's Pizzeria, Caesars Bagel & Deli, DiModa Salon & Spa, Rossi Barber's, Royal Nails/Magestic Nails, Foley's and Broad Street Diner. These local businesses participate because they wish to help our parish and school. Please keep these businesses in mind when making purchases when you can, as they are generously donating money back to us! These gift cards can be purchased through our Scrip program.

CYO SOCCER SIGN-UPS - Boys and Girls [SAINTS SOCCER]

We participate in Mercer County CYO's spring soccer season. That season begins in April, continuing to early June. Our teams will play at Mercer Park, as well, as other fields. Games will be played on weeknights between 6:00 and 8:00 pm. Students in grades 2nd-8th, who attend Faith Formation classes at St. Raphael-Holy Angels or are enrolled in St. Raphael School are welcome to participate. For sign-ups visit www.srhasports.com/signups.



FAMILY ROSARY NIGHT

7:00 -- Doors Open 7:30 -- Rosary Begins Saint Raphael School All Purpose Room

Please enter through main school doors and into the basement.

Warmly welcome all parishioners and school families of all ages to join us to pray the rosary on the following dates:

* March 2

* April 6

* May 4 *

* June 1

FOOD PANTRY

Lent is a time for fasting, praying and almsgiving. Many of our clients fast many times through the year. They cannot purchase food and pay for all the other bills necessary to upkeep their homes. If we were to ask a client if they fasted because of lack of food, the answer would be yes.

These families depend on the generosity of our parishioners, those of St. Gregory the Great and Our Lady of Sorrows-St. Anthony to donate the food to our food pantry.

So donors of all parishes it's up to you to assist us in placing food on some of the empty shelves, not only during Lent, but also during the entire year. Thank you for your donations.

PLEASE--NO CLOTHING

Next "Reach Out Saturday" - March 3 9:00 am - 11:00 am, Parish Center

SOCIAL CONCERNS

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES. Newcomers are always welcome. Remember, volunteering once does not commit you to volunteer on every occasion. **CONFIRMATION AND OTHER STUDENTS, HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO HAVE FUN AND GET SERVICE HOURS.**

NURSING HOME

Tuesday, March 13, 6:15 – 8 pm. Our March Bingo Party at Hamilton Grove Healthcare will be a celebration of St. Patrick's Day with lots of green, music, refreshments, hats and favors, and special prizes for the residents. Many volunteers are needed to cheer on the residents as they play Bingo. Meet in the second floor dining room of the facility which is located on Hamilton Avenue, near the intersection of Klockner.

TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN

2018 Commitments. Our fifth-Wednesdays serving commitments for the remainder of the year fall on the following dates. We meet in St. Raphael's parking lot at 9:45 am and return about 1:15 pm. Sit down jobs are available if you prefer not to work the serving line. Hope YOU can join us one or more times.

May 30 August 29 October 31

Adult Education Program. If you have 1 1/2 hours to spend (either morning or afternoon), on one or more days a week, you are encouraged to consider becoming a tutor with the one-on-one adult education program at TASK. No special education is required. All students have workbooks related to their needs. Tutors supply guidance and encouragement. It is a jointly rewarding experience.

Trenton Community A-TEAM art exhibit in Cranbury. Once again, this talented group of self-taught artists (which originated at TASK) will be exhibiting and selling their art at the Gourgaud Gallery, North Main Street, Cranbury. The exhibit runs from February 3 – 26. Gallery hours are 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday, with special hours 1:00 – 3:00 on Sunday, February 18. ALL ARE INVITED!

Please call Kathy Wooley at 609-585-4307, if you want more information about the above or if you have a suggestion for another activity.

ST. RAPHAEL-HOLY ANGELS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

The Sports Association website has participation forms, schedules, contact information, and updates. On the "Contact" page are the phone number and e-mail address of our parish's volunteer athletic director, Brian Sakowski. Please visit the website, www.srhasports.com, and check us out!

JOIN the HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The Hospitality Committee is looking for more volunteers to help out. The first Sunday of each month we serve bagels, donuts, coffee, etc. in St. Raphael Church. Opportunities avail at St. Raphael after the 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses. Pick the time that works best for you. For more information, call Trish Teague at 609-424-7444.

9

SOCIETY of SAINT VINCENT de PAUL Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Your almsgiving in the St. Vincent de Paul envelope will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.

For more information about our parish's conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the programs that reach out to those in need, please call the parish office at 609-585-7049.

NEW UPDATED PARISH WEBSITE. VISIT IT REGULARLY. IN THE SEARCH ENGINE, TYPE: srhap.org

PARISH COUNSELING SERVICE

Through a joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton & Catholic Charities, licensed professional counselors are available to help parishioners with difficult issues that interfere with day-to-day functioning. This service can be accessed by contacting your pastor or parish priest who will provide additional information and a referral. The fee is \$75 per session. If needed, financial assistance for short term counseling (maximum of 6 sessions) is available through the Dioceses of Trenton Parish Counseling Service.

PRAY for those in MILITARY SERVICE

Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael Polyak, Iraq; Petty Officer Ryan Bucchi; Carl Vinson; Father Patrick McPartland, USN (Chaplain Corps); Staff Sgt. Shawn Beaver, USAF (Turkey); MK3 Samantha Williams-Gabris, USCG; HM3 (SW) Gerritt W. Furda, USNS Comfort: Army Chief Warrant Officer Robert Smith



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Polish Arts Club of Trenton announces the availability of \$1,500 scholarships to qualified high school seniors of Polish descent to assist in their pursuit of a college education. For details and an application, please visit our website www.trentonpolisharts.org. Applications must be submitted by Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

COMMUNION at MASS for the DISABLED

If you would like a minister of Holy Communion to bring Communion to you in your pew or wheelchair, would you or a relative, friend, or other Mass attendee please contact one of the ushers before Mass, so that one of the ushers can lead one of the ministers of Communion to you.

OPTIONS OTHER THAN ANNOUNCED MASSES

In addition to Mass intentions, sanctuary candles, and sanctuary flowers, the parish also offers cards for donations "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one (for birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) for the parish Food Pantry and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The amount of the donation is by the choice of the donor. There is no set fee. Cards are available in the parish office during regular business hours.

YR 14. LIFE TEEN 2018

Leading Teens Closer to Christ!



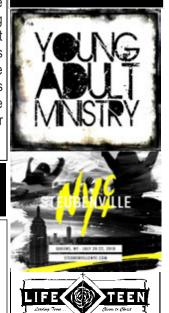
LENT

In recent weeks we have been reading of the ways in which the Lord calls us to follow Him. In this final week before the Lenten Season begins, we would do well to consider the words of Christ to Saint Peter as He stood by the waters of the Lake of Gennesaret and commanded Peter to "Cast Out Into The Deep". Our first pope was guick to complain as he stated "Master we have been working all night and caught nothing..." How many of us can identify with Peter as we claim to yearn for The Lord to draw near to us, only to find that when He does we are slow to look outward and quick to think of ourselves first. Thankfully for all of us Peter was quick to overcome his own selfishness and was able to respond with Your will not mine be done, (at your command I will lower my nets). This has been true in my own life, countless times. I believe Jesus comes to us every moment of every day with proposals and too often they are missed or ignored or compromised in some way. As we sojourn through the desert over the next forty days, let us all lower our nets, let us cast out into the deep and be open to whatever Jesus might desire for us. Whatever His will might be or His design for our lives. When His love and His grace and His mercy begin to overwhelm us as they first did Peter, let us not simply stand before Him saying "Depart from me a sinner" but instead let us be free from fear, and stand before Him astonished, yet ready, for The Lord continues to remind his disciples, Do Not Be Afraid, from now on you will be fishers of men....Come And Follow Me! Again, like Saint Peter, we should drop everything to follow Him. We should let go of our bad habits, of our toxic relationships, of our vices and of anything that prevents us from following Him and doing His Will. Three Days to Go before we place ash on our foreheads, Three days to go before we begin our Lenten journey. Make this one your best Lent ever and Cast Your Nets Out As Far As You Dare !!and Cast Your Nets Out As Far As You Dare !!



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CALENDAR EVENTS

VOLUNTEERS/CORE MEMBERS Meeting First Thurs of the Month
JFF (THURSDAY NIGHTS TBD)
LIFE TEEN MASS EVERY SUNDAY AT 5PM
LIFE NIGHTS IN THE APR FROM 6:15-8PM
SNEAK PEEK...XLT Heart of God Life Night on Jan. 28th
HOLY SPIRIT SEMESTER
DYC—FEARLESS (Feb 10th 2018)
MENS CONFERENCE (Feb 24th 2018)
PENTECOST PARTY...MAY 18TH (2018)
REVEALED RETREAT NYC (JULY 20-22,2019)



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION SIGN-UP FORM

To become an Adorer, please call John Margicin, in the Chapel Office (609 -585-3848), or drop off the sign-up form at the Chapel.

Name:	Phone:_		E-mail:	
l am available as a:	weekly adorer	substitute also	substitute only	-
Morning (6am-noon)		Afternoon (noon to 6pm)		8 8 6 8
Evening (6pm to midnight)		Night (midnight to 6am)		
Circle: Sunday	Monday Tuesday	Wednesday Thursday	Friday Saturday	

MUSIC MINISTRY

SAVE THESE DATES!

THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18.7:00 PM. ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH Come and "Journey to Calvary in Scripture and Song" with the Music Ministry. This hour long program will deepen your Lenten experience.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25. 7:00PM. ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH

Come and be part of the "Living Stations", a contemporary version of the Stations of the Cross, presented by Saint Raphael School students and the Contemporary Ensemble.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30. 2:00PM. ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH TAIZE PRAYER prior to the Good Friday liturgy.

This first Sunday of Lent we are reminded in the Gospel that Jesus was tempted for 40 days in the desert. He was bewildered by it all, but knew he was the beloved. May we know the same during our times of trials and temptations. Have a blessed week!

Sunday, February 25 - 9:30 am - Adult Choir and Contemporary Ensemble All other Masses are keyboard/Cantor except for LifeTeen

ST. ANTHONY of PADUA MUSIC MINISTRY

Presents: Bella Musica

St. Anthony of Padua's Music Ministry presents as part of their Recital Series Bella Musica String Quartet performing various classical and popular musical selections. Sunday, February 25, 2018 at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 121 Bridge Avenue, Red Bank, NJ. Admission \$10 available at the church or at the door. Church is handicapped accessible.

ATTENTION: ALL ADORERS

Adorers committed to one hour per week are needed:

The following hours need immediate coverage:

Fri. 10pm; SAT. 5pm; SUN. 7am,4pm,5pm

Give thanks to God for the many blessings He has given us.

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., 2/19 Lv 19:1-2,11-18;Ps 19:8-10,15; Mt 25:31-46 Tues., 2/20 Is 55:10-11: Ps 34:4-7,16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wed., 2/21 Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13,18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thu., 2/22 1 Pt 5:1-4;Ps 23:1-6; Mt 16:13-19 Fri., 2/23 Ez 18:21-28;Ps130:1-8;Mt 5:20-26

Sat., 2/24 Dt 26:16-19;Ps119:1-2,4-5,7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sun. 2/25 Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18;Ps 116:10,15-19;Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

SAINTS of the WEEK

Wednesday, 2/21 - St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (1007-1072) His desire was "to faithfully transmit to posterity the example of virtue which we have received from our ancestors."

Friday, 2/23 - St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr (69-155). "Stand fast and follow the example of the Lord...helping each other...despising no one.

HOLY CROSS OPEN HOUSE

5035 Rt. 130 South, Delran, NJ 08075

Holy Cross will have an Open House on **Sunday**, **February 25**, at 12:00 to 2:00 pm. There will be a Mass at 11:00 am (optional Mass). For more information go to **newholycross.org** or **info@newholycross.org**.

When you update your Last Will and Testament, please consider including a bequest to your parish. Our corporate name is "The Church of St. Raphael-Holy Angels, Hamilton, New Jersey.

(For Li	(For Life Leen events, see page 9.) IHIS WEEK IN ST. RAPHAEL - HOLY ANGELS PARISH						
Mon.,	2/19:	Miraculous Medal Novena (weekly)	St. Raphael Church	6:15 PM			
Mon.,	2/19:	Bingo	Parish Ctr. (doors open 6 PM)	7:30 PM			
Tues.,	2/20:	Contemporary Ensemble	St. Raphael Church	7:15 - 8:45 PM			
Tues.,	2/20:	Pray and Play Prayer Group (weekly)	St. John Paul II Spiritual Ctr.	8:30 AM			
Wed.,	2/21:	Youth Choir (W4Y)	St. Raphael Church	3:00 - 4:00 PM			
Wed.,	2/21:	W4Y Youth Choir (grades K-8)	St. Raphael Church	5:00 - 6:15 PM			
Wed.,	2/21:	Divine Mercy Chaplet (weekly)	St. Raphael Church	8:00 AM			
Thurs.,	2/22:	Youth Choir (W4Y)	St. Raphael Church	3:00 - 4:00 PM			
Thurs.,	2/22:	Handbells	St. Raphael Church	5:00 - 6:15 PM			
Thurs.,	2/22:	Adult Choir	St. Raphael Church	7:15 - 8:30 PM			
Thurs.,	2/22:	Jesus, Our Good Shepherd Prayer Group (weekly)	Fr. Emmons Conf. Room	7:00 - 8:30 PM			
Fri.,	2/23:	Bingo	Parish Ctr. (doors open 6 PM	7:30 PM			

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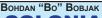
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