

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 14th
4pm - 4:45pm

FRIDAY, December 20th
7pm – 8pm

Saturday, December 21st
4pm - 4:45pm

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Tuesday, December 24th
5:00 PM Mass
10:00 PM (Polish)
12:00 Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Wednesday, December 25th
7:30am,
10:00am,
11:30am (Polish)

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Tuesday, December 31st
5:00 PM, Vigil Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Wednesday, January 1st, 2025
10:00am (English)
11:30am (Polish)

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE !

Catholic Charities Thrift Store and Food Pantry at 387 South Main St. in Phillipsburg are in need of volunteers. If you or someone you know may be interested in volunteering, contact Maria Hunter at 732-387-1315 for more details. Please consider this opportunity to practice the Works of Mercy and bring hope to someone in need.

HOLIDAY SUPPORT GROUP FOR ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE

The Life-Giving Wounds Ministry for adult children of divorce is sponsoring a hybrid support group consisting of a series of virtual meetings and 2 in-person sessions. The first session will be held at St. Francis Cathedral in Metuchen following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on December 7th. Subsequent meetings will take place each Thursday evening on Zoom from 8 to 9:30 p.m. The final session will take place on February 8th. Cost is \$45 per person for materials. To register, please visit: www.diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce. For questions, please contact Molly at molly.moltane@gmail.com.

CONFIRMATION COAT PROJECT



Hi! My name is Gianna. For a Confirmation service project, I am looking to donate coats to the

homeless and low-income families in our community. Please bring in new and gently used coats to the box in the back or the church by Sunday, December 8th.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please help yourselves to one box of offering envelopes per family for next year, 2025. Remember, if you wish us to keep track of your donations for tax purposes, please put your name and amount on each envelope. The free address labels are an easy and fast way to address your envelope. This helps in receiving sponsor certificates.



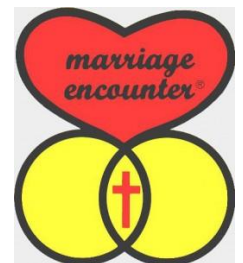
WANT TO BE AN ALTAR SERVER???

If you already received your First Holy Communion and wish to serve at Mass please contact the church office (Mon-Fri, 9:30am – 3pm). A training session will be set up for anyone interested. Please call, 908-637-4269 or email: stpeterandpaul@comcast.net.



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Marriage Encounter is a weekend enrichment program designed to help build communication skills between husband and wife. A series of presentations given by married couples and a priest provide meaningful reflection for couples to refocus on their relationship. The weekend affords private time for dialogue away from the distractions of everyday life. The Marriage Encounter Weekends are usually held in local hotels. If interested contact Tom and Ruth DeFalco at (732) 904-9636 or visit Worldwide Marriage Encounter Central NJ at www.wmme.org.



SHARING THE SEASON COMMUNITY BENEFIT AUCTION & DINNER

Council 10419 of the Long Valley Knights of Columbus is holding its 33rd Annual Auction on Saturday evening, December 7, 2024 at St. Luke's Catholic Church, 265 West Mill Road, Long Valley, NJ 07853. It is a wonderful evening out featuring both live and silent auctions, a buffet dinner, beer, wine, beverages and deserts. Be part of the action, help those in need and have fun! Proceeds fund programs that benefit the needy, seniors, youth and veterans. Live auction begins at 8 PM, silent at 6 PM. Admission is only \$40 (with a \$10.00 discount to \$30.00 for early purchase). Visit their website www.lvkofc.org to purchase or for additional details.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS / OPLATEK

Just before the Christmas Eve meal (in Polish - Wigilia) the entire family will gather around the table with the Christmas Wafer or Oplatki. Generally, the eldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing. This blessing can simply consist of what you desire for your loved one in the upcoming year - whether it be good health, success, or happiness. The wafer passes from person to person until all have had a piece and all have been given a blessing. The purpose of this act is primarily to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of his or her family. This symbolism is deepened by the fact that the name of the town where Jesus Christ was born, Bethlehem, means "House of Bread," which makes the Oplatki tradition an especially beautiful way to celebrate the charity and unity so characteristic of the Christmas season. Many families include the wafers in Christmas cards to family members in distant locations. The tradition can easily be shared in this way with anyone around the world! Christmas wafers are available here in our church. The asking donation for a packet of wafers is only \$5.00.



Sanctuary Lamp / Bread & Wine / Divine Mercy Candle

Please contact the church office, 908-637-4269, if you would like to book the Sanctuary Lamp, Bread & Wine, or Divine Mercy Candle for the week in memory of or in honor of a loved one. The cost is only \$10 for the week. The name(s) will be placed in the bulletin and announced at all Masses for the week it is booked.

CHURCH WEBSITE

Remember to check out our church website for current information, holy & feast day schedules, upcoming events, and to see the bulletin on-line before the weekend. The website is peterpaulgm.com.

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?



RETROUVAILLE
a lifeline for your marriage

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ.

RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with four follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is February 28 – March 2, 2025. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.

BE NOT AFRAID

Perhaps priesthood has crossed your mind, but fear pushes the idea away:

- My friends would laugh if they heard I was thinking about the priesthood!
- My parents would be shocked.
- My mom wants grandkids.
- I'm scared to death of speaking in public.
- I'm nowhere near holy enough.
- I don't want to give up sex.
- I'll be lonely.
- Seminary may be too hard for me.
- Being a priest seems lame.

These fears are very common, even for men who are already in seminary. But literally thousands of men have had the same concerns and then went on to become holy and effective priests. Contact Fr. Mauricio Tabera-Vasquez, Vocation Recruiter, (732) 562-2457, vocations@diometuchen.org

