

We are **Church of the Presentation**,
a welcoming Catholic community leading people
into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ
through **Word, Worship, and Outreach.**



April 7, 2024 / 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

**Make authentic connections with other women
Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God**

Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point

This study explores the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us as we examine the core questions that we need to wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us.

- How do I reach my child's heart?
- What challenges will I face in my efforts to follow Jesus more closely?
- What is the relevance of the Church in my life?
- How do I read the Bible in a meaningful way?
- How do I set the world on fire?

YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN US EVEN IF YOU MISSED THE FIRST SESSION!



Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11:15am on the following dates:
4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 in the **Gathering Rooms**

Visit the [parish website](#) or
use the QR code to register.



Questions?
Contact the Women's Spirituality Team at
womensspiritualitypresentation@gmail.com

TAKE A TAG!

...from the Sharing Board in the Narthex & help our Youth Ministry help the homeless on their Homeless Overnight Retreat!

“Play-’n-Worship”
Our Sunday School for ages 3 through Kindergarten during 10am Mass in the Gathering Room.



Parents, you can now have a more meaningful worship experience with fewer interruptions, while your children learn about our faith in a fun environment with games, crafts & songs.

Parent(s) must to sign their children in and out of the program, sign-in time starts at 9:45am.
Email Catzel at catzel@churchofpresentation.org with any questions.

Youth Ministry Happenings

churchofpresentation.org/youthministry

Next YM Gathering- Today, April 7 after 6:30pm Mass.

IGNITE - Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm in the Antioch Room. All high school students are welcome!

Attn. All High Schoolers: We are looking for Teen Lectors. Once trained, you'll be able to be scheduled to read at Mass. Contact Craig for more info.

Attn. H.S. Seniors: Are you interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister? Contact Craig or Shelby for training.

Foundations in Faith

Please sign up on the [parish website](#).

The next session is this **Thursday, April 11** 9:30-11:30am or 7-9pm in the Jerusalem Room
Catholic Social Teaching: An Overview
presented by Catzel LaVecchia

+ The final session is “The Holy Spirit” on April 25.



...from our Justice & Peace Ministry

Our Offering of Letters Campaign resulted in over 390 letters to legislators, a wonderful response to our parish's effort to advocate for programs that address the issue of hunger. Thank You!

Synod Updates - We Need Your Input!



Please join us as we give more input to the Pope and the Synod of Bishops. They are meeting again in October 2024, and are asking for some more feedback from us as a parish.

Please take a moment to fill out a sheet (at our table in the narthex) or complete an online survey. You can access the brief survey using the QR code or by [clicking here](#). (these links are also on the [parish website](#)).



UPCOMING BULLETIN DEADLINE

The deadline for the April 14 & 21 bulletins will be this Tuesday, April 9 at noon.

FROM THE PASTOR

A word about this past **Holy Week**. I find it a hectic but very beautiful period filled with so many experiences that it's difficult to find time to reflect on them! Holy Thursday begins with Morning Prayer, then the priests of Bergen County gather for noonday prayer & lunch. For the past 30 years, I've hosted my staff to a lamb supper (*celebrating the supper of the Lamb of God*) and finally, the Mass of the Last Supper, which is the anniversary of the Eucharist and the priesthood. What a remarkable day! Good Friday begins with Morning Prayer, followed by the Bicycle Stations (a unique approach taken by our parish), the Passion Service (*the only day of the year when we celebrate Christ's death without a Mass*). Good Friday ends with our Youth Ministry's Living Stations of the Cross. I always sleep well after those two days!

So much work and effort is expended to put our large parish through Holy Week and **many thanks** to the army who made it happen. Let's continue to be a community that attracts people to the Lord – that so impressed our Catechumens and Candidates that they wanted to join us.

Next weekend, should you come to an early Mass, you'll see our teens sleeping on the lawn as part of our **Youth Ministry's Homeless Overnight Retreat**. This popular service experience helps raise awareness of hunger, homelessness and poverty as they bring clothing and supplies to the homeless in New York City and experience a little bit of homelessness themselves. Thank you to all who have donated to their outreach efforts.

I'm thrilled to announce that thanks to your generosity, we have **exceeded our Annual Appeal goal** of \$168,000. We have currently received pledges of \$203,002 from 290 donors (507 donated to last year's Appeal). Feel free to continue to support this wonderful cause, a sign of our parish's good stewardship.

I recently saw the movie, "**Cabrini**," about our first American Catholic saint. It highlights her work with Italian immigrants to our country in the late 1800's and early 1900's. She was setting up orphanages and then hospitals, and it follows her early attempts at trying to make headway dealing with the Church fathers and the politicians. At one point, there's an explosion killing many of the immigrants building the tunnel under the Hudson River. I thought of the Irish immigrants who labored and were killed building the tunnel from the Croton Reservoir to NYC and it's hard not be reminded of the immigrants who died last week when the Francis Scott Key bridge in Baltimore collapsed. May we look to help all of those in these desperate situations. **Thanks for your support** most recently for Haiti at the Casino Night. I'm happy to report that parishioner **Bobby Williams** has just joined the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, which is powered by our Annual Appeal funds, enabling them to help so many of the needy in our state.

Fr. Bob

Are You Interested in Learning More about Achieving Peace in the Middle East?

The Parents Circle – Families Forum (PCFF) is a joint Israeli-Palestinian organization of over 600 families, all of whom have lost an immediate family member to the ongoing conflict. The PCFF has concluded that the process of reconciliation between nations is a prerequisite to achieving a sustainable peace. In December 2023, Pax Christi International hosted "For a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine", an event meant to spotlight the inspiring work of the PCFF, recipients of the Pax Christi International Peace Award 2023. You are invited to join your fellow parishioners in a viewing of this powerful presentation on **Monday, April 8, at 7:30pm in Gathering Room North**. *Sponsored by the Justice & Peace Ministry.*

The **CAREER MANAGEMENT GROUP** is here for those who are unemployed, under-employed, looking to enhance their career or just considering a career change. We meet in a welcoming, low-pressure setting. **Our next meeting is Monday, April 8 at 7:30pm in the Jerusalem Room (& on Zoom - email us at the address below if you need the Zoom link).** We will be continuing the series on "Actional Advice for Enhancing Your Career." All are welcome to join us - bring your questions!



If you have concerns or questions at any time about your job, a search for a job, networking, assistance with interviews, etc. simply email presentation.cmm@gmail.com with your name, email address and a brief introduction and we will be happy to assist.

Caring Stitches - Tuesday, April 9

We knit, crochet & quilt for the benefit of the sick and bereaved. Patterns and yarns are available. Join us from **6:30-8:30pm** in Gathering Rm. South. We generally meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. *Contact Michele Baron with any ?s.*



Knights' Corner
Knights of Columbus



Presentation
Council #6033

We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter last Sunday. For this month, our big push is to fill up all of the volunteer slots for the drive later this month (*see below*).

Upcoming Event for our Brother Knights

Children with Disabilities Collection on Saturday, April 27 & Sunday, April 28

This is our annual collection to support children with intellectual disabilities. This initiative runs statewide throughout all Councils and, as we did last year, we'll be collecting donations by Uncle Giuseppe's in Ramsey and by the Stop & Shop store in Wyckoff.

If there is one thing you do, if it's the **ONLY** thing that you can do for the Knights each year, this is your chance to make two hours go a long way towards helping families.

Please join with your family members, they are welcome to help as always. We need as many people as possible so that we can cover all the shifts.

On our webpage on the parish website (churchofpresentation.org/knights-of-columbus), the **Knights may sign up** for upcoming events & volunteer opportunities.

Who are the Knights? We are men serving our parish as friends and brothers. Our order's key principals are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. We are looking for a 'few more good men to join us. If you can afford 1-2 hours once or twice a year and you are interested in giving back, you have enough time to join us and help make a difference. It might not sound like much, but your presence really makes a big contribution to our programs.

Email us at kofc6033@churchofpresentation.org to learn more or visit kofc6033.org.



Morning Yoga Classes

Mondays at 9:45am in the Community Room. Wear loose clothing, and bring a mat, towel & water. Donations welcome.

Green Thumb Ministry - Tuesdays at 8am

Help us maintain the outside grounds of the church, i.e. by gardening, weeding etc. Bring whatever basic garden tools you may have. Come when you can. No commitment necessary. We meet in the parking lot opposite Mary's Grotto. Questions? Email Michele Baron at mbaron@churchofpresentation.org

Women's Morning Group:

Thursdays at 7:30am via Zoom

All women are invited to join us every Thursday morning at 7:30am for an hour. Weekly attendance not required, but you are most welcome! Email Kathleen at kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org for the Zoom link. Let's share the gift of faith together!

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY



Sunday, April 7, 2024
Ever Merciful

Loving and Merciful

Eternal Father,
in you we find mercy,
compassion, and love.
May your Spirit work within us,
calming our fears
and opening our hearts
so that we might greet others
with peace.
Grant us wisdom to put aside
our doubts
and like Thomas profess our
belief in you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's readings: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31. On this Second Sunday of Easter, the Church also celebrates the Sunday of Divine Mercy. The readings today reveal some of the many facets of God's mercy. The psalm proclaims that "his mercy endures forever," and in the Gospel, Jesus enacts that mercy as he greets the disciples in peace. In a loving manner, Jesus helps the group of disciples overcome doubt about the resurrection. Though his followers do not recognize him, he is gentle, beginning both visits with the greeting, "Peace be with you."

During the homily on the canonization of St. Faustina, Pope John Paul II declared that the Second Sunday of Easter

would be called Divine Mercy Sunday. St. Faustina had shared her visions of Jesus appearing to her dressed in a white garment and with rays of light emanating from his heart. Jesus asked her to share the word of his mercy for a day to celebrate his mercy. St. Faustina trusted her vision.

The disciples to whom Jesus first appeared and whom he showed his wounds also trusted the man standing before them. At the sight of Jesus, these followers surrendered themselves completely to God. Think about your first encounter with Jesus. What was that moment like for you? How has your relationship changed over the stages of your life? Have others come to know Christ through your belief?

Presentation Seniors

Tues., April 9 meeting: A viewing of the film "Trinity's Triumph," co-written by Fr. Stephen Fichter (pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church in Wyckoff), which presents a realistic portrayal of the Catholic priesthood. Fr. Fichter is quoted in the review: "It was a 25-year labor of love and very worth the wait."

Reservations will be taken for the award winning musical "Beautiful, The Carole King Musical." This will be on **April 25** at the White Plains PAC. \$125. Call Loraine O'Loughlin at 631-259-1391 to see if any seats are available.

May 15 Trip - featuring dancing, entertainment and lunch at "Let the Good Times Roll" at the Brownstone. The trip down memory lane is \$95, includes transportation, lunch, beverages and entertainment. Wear your dancing shoes!

Parish Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Our Wedding Anniversary Celebration held here at the parish for parishioners celebrating one of the "fives" in 2024 is **Saturday, June 1**. Registration forms are in the Narthex & may be downloaded & printed from the [parish website](#). Deadline to sign up is May 14.

LGBTQ Ministry

LGBTQ Ministry is a welcoming fellowship embracing the dignity and diversity of all Catholics by fostering a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and his people, through Word, Worship and Outreach.

For more information or to get involved, please contact LGBTQ@churchofpresentation.org



Eucharistic Exposition

Come anytime on Wednesdays from noon-6pm to spend time with our Lord in the Nazareth Room.



Church of the Presentation 271 West Saddle River Rd., Upper Saddle River NJ 07458

Phone: 201-327-1313 Fax: 201-760-2570

Website: www.churchofpresentation.org

Information Desk: Sun. 9am-12:45pm in the Narthex

Mass Schedule: See "Mass Intentions" on this pg.

Summer Office Hrs: (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 9:30am-4pm Mon-Thur

"Non-Summer" Office Hrs: 9:30am-5pm Mon-Fri

Confession: Mon-Sat after 9am Mass, Sat 3:30pm-4:45pm, or by appt.

Email Addresses: Except as otherwise noted, all of our email addresses end with: @churchofpresentation.org

Rev. Bob Stagg, Pastor ext. 820 [bstagg@](mailto:bstagg@churchofpresentation.org)

Fr. Bob's asst.: Melanie Cheplic ext. 827 [mcheplic@](mailto:mcheplic@churchofpresentation.org)

Rev. Richard Francesco ext. 829 [rfrancesco@](mailto:rfrancesco@churchofpresentation.org)

Pastoral Council [pastoralcouncil@](mailto:pastoralcouncil@churchofpresentation.org)

Bob Rooney (Accounting, Finance, Plant Management)

ext. 818 [brooney@](mailto:brooney@churchofpresentation.org)

Catzel LaVecchia (Lifelong Learning, Junior High,

Play-n-Worship) ext. 828 [catzel@](mailto:catzel@churchofpresentation.org)

Craig Johnson (Youth Ministry, Confirmation) ext. 819

[cjohnson@](mailto:cjohnson@churchofpresentation.org)

Diane Carr (RCIA, Catholic Faith Inquiry) ext. 831 [dcarr@](mailto:dcarr@churchofpresentation.org)

Ed Ginter (Music) ext. 813 eddieg717@aol.com

Kathleen Costello (Family Faith Formation) ext.840 [kcostello@](mailto:kcostello@churchofpresentation.org)

Kathleen Martorano (Parish Registration, Facebook, Protecting

God's Children, LGBTQ Ministry) ext. 835 [kmartorano@](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org)

Liz Cosentino (Bulletin, Parish Website) ext. 812 [LizC@](mailto:LizC@churchofpresentation.org)

Marilou Tenazas (Livestreaming & Tech Support, Family

Faith Formation, FFF Website) ext. 815 [mtenazas@](mailto:mtenazas@churchofpresentation.org)

Maureen Murphy (Outreach) ext. 844 [mmurphy@](mailto:mmurphy@churchofpresentation.org)

Michele Baron (Meeting Room Reservations, Scheduling,

Volunteering) ext. 847 [mbaron@](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)

Nancy Mierswa (Baptisms, Weddings, Worship) ext. 839

[nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

Patty Dodwell (First Eucharist, Family Faith Formation)

ext. 832 [pdodwell@](mailto:pdodwell@churchofpresentation.org)

Shelby Hawks (Evangelization, Young Adult Ministry,

Youth Ministry, Adult Education) ext. 843 [shawks@](mailto:shawks@churchofpresentation.org)

Altar Server Training: Nancy Mierswa, ext. 839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

Bereavement Support: ext. 872

Bulletin Advertising: Bon Venture Services 800-364-0684

Celiac Communion: Nancy Mierswa ext.839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

Communion Calls: Kyle Lippman ext. 879 [pastoralcare@](mailto:pastoralcare@churchofpresentation.org)

Emergencies (hospital/funeral) ext. 899

Envelopes (Parish) Kathleen Martorano ext. 835 [kmartorano@](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org)

Funerals: ext. 899

Knights of Columbus: www.kofc6033.org [kofc6033@](mailto:kofc6033@churchofpresentation.org)

Meeting Room Setups: Cesar da Gama ext. 823

Prayer Tree Ministry: [prayertree@](mailto:prayertree@churchofpresentation.org)

Weekdays after 9am Mass, all are welcome to stay in the church to pray the Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet.

This Week's Mass Intentions

MONDAY, APRIL 8

9:00am John (Giovanni) Porco, by the Mierswa Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

9:00am Kermit Hoffman, Jr., by Jeanette Hoffman & Jim Monks

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

9:00am Frank Colonno, by Rebecca Colonno

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

9:00am Sergio Gagliardi, by Maria & Vito Cuocci

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

9:00am Tim Lawrence, by Melody Zima

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

9:00am Pauline Tobin, by Melody Zime & family

5:00pm Frank Latargia, by Carol Latargia

George Lord, by the Hettinger Family

June McGreggor, by Gerri Kearns

Angela Meglio, by Gerri Kearns

Angelo Anecchino, by Florine Salierno

Thelma Frega, by Judi Mottle

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:00am Sharon VanDerbeek, by the Sharp Family

10:00am Ignycia Hrehorowicz, by the family

11:30am Kelvin Briones, by Agnes, Mark, & AJ

Grace Petrucci, by Tom & Teresa Ficca

Hank Kolokowsky, by Pat Kolokowsky

Peter Seibel, by Marie & Peter DeAngelis

Dorothy Kolb, by Mark & Carol Kolb

Laila Shahin, by Jackie Franzetti

6:30pm Larry Barry, by Denise Rover

We also pray for the following ill: Elena Pandolfi, Virginia Kondrat, Anne Downs, Seth Gopin, Frank & Desiree Esposito, Joe Schneider, Ginger McDonald, Tom Crowley, Geri Cruzen, Jim Montone, Baby Jack Stender, Cheryl Agnes, Joseph Mansfield, Joyce Moshac, Eithan Benjamin Berkowitz, Joan Sharp, Victoria Regan, MaryAnn Solazzi-Skees, Sal Solazzi, Christine Solazzi, Frank Cirillo, John Nazzaro, Marie Kaspar, Cheyanne Emmons, Pete Reilly Jr., Kathie McKinless, Tencha Guadron, Jerry Mattimore, Egil Arnoldo, Urrutia Baldizon, Kathleen Callaghan, James A. Callaghan, Judi Larkin, Joan Sharp, Rosemary Tocci, Theresa Fallon, Jere Johnson, John Rodriguez, Kim McDavitt, Ellen Hart, Cornelius Hanna, Adrienne Stephens, Karin Elliott, Gloria Zoda, Bill Brown, Marcie O'Brien, Scott M. Koenig, Lynn St. John Brew, Ken Genalo, Richard Hanna, Mary Goldberg, Larry Vanore, Christopher Noel Hanna, Steven Chakonis, Virginia Kondrat, Thomas Doorhy, Sab Caponi, Baby River Budesca, Joan Borysenko

and recently deceased: Netty Shostak (mother of Toni), Helen Curley (mother of Christine Arnold), Paul Doran (husband of Patricia)

To request prayers **in the bulletin** for the ill or recently deceased, email LizC@churchofpresentation.org. The deadline for a name to appear in an upcoming bulletin is Tuesday at noon. If received after noon on Tuesday, it will be printed in the following week's bulletin. If the ill person still needs prayers after their name is removed, feel free to email Liz to have their name printed again in the bulletin. **See page 3 for an update to the bulletin deadline.**

For **mass cards & mass intentions**, call or visit the parish front office, or visit the Information Desk in the narthex on Sunday mornings.

We ask that you prayerfully consider using electronic donations through Faith Direct Visit membership.faithdirect.net/NJ854 or the parish website to enroll or make a one-time donation. Thank you for your support!

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