

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

May 25, 2025 / Sixth Sunday of Easter



GRAND CAMP

FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THEIR GRANDKIDS

"CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATNESS!"



- ✓ SPEND TIME TOGETHER
- ✓ LEARN BIBLE STORIES
- ✓ MAKE SOME MEMORIES
- ✓ PLAY FUN GAMES AND MAKE CRAFTS
- ✓ SING AND WORSHIP TOGETHER



**JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL
SUMMER BIBLE CAMP FOR
GRANDPARENTS AND GRANDCHILDREN!**
(KIDS MUST BE GOING INTO GRADES K THRU 5 IN SEPT.)

**DATES: AUGUST 12-13-14, 2025
(TUES, WED, THURS)
FROM 9:30AM-12NOON EACH DAY
(BUT WE INVITE YOU TO BEGIN EACH DAY TOGETHER WITH DAILY MASS AT 9AM)**

LIMITED SPACE! SIGN UP NOW!
DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JUNE 30TH
FEES: \$50 PER PAIR/ \$10 PER EXTRA CHILD
TO REGISTER, VISIT THE [PARISH WEBSITE](#)



EMAIL PATTY AT PDODWELL@CHURCHOFPRESENTATION.ORG WITH QUESTIONS

Youth Ministry Happenings

churchofpresentation.org/youthministry

IGNITE! Are you looking to grow in your relationship with the Lord with a deeper “youth group” connection? Join us on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm in the Antioch Rm. **June 24 is our last Ignite before summer break.**

“Play-’n-Worship” Update



We will not be meeting on May 25. Our remaining two classes before summer break will be June 1 & June 8.

Parents of kindergarten children are invited after 10am Mass on June 8 to a brief ceremony recognizing the children who have participated as they prepare to move to our Family Faith program in September.

Confirmation News!

- Congratulations, newly Confirmed! We hope you will join us at Ignite (see above). Be on the lookout for TEAM applications soon!
- **Attn.: Candidates who completed Year 1 of Confirmation Preparation.** We are reaching out to Candidates & families who completed Year 1 with information about a mandatory Year 2 Orientation, which will be in June.



**“PRAY and WASH”
YOUTH MINISTRY CAR WASH
DURING THE JUNE 8
SUNDAY MORNING MASSES**

Cleanse more than your soul during the June 8 Masses (on Sunday MORNING only) and support our Youth Ministry’s summer mission trip!

Cost is \$15 (cash or check payable to “Church of the Presentation” please).

Thanks in advance for your support!

PLEASE TAKE THE DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX SURVEY BY THE END OF THIS WEEKEND!



Church of the Presentation is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ in our parish community. Together we must embrace Christ’s vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

The very first step in this process involves assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities, and that is where the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) comes in! **The DMI is an important survey tool** that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at Presentation. The Disciple Maker Index is designed to:

- ♦ Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- ♦ Enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions.
- ♦ Help parishioners grow in their faith.

The 10–15 minute survey with multiple choice questions can be accessed through an [online link on the parish website](#) through May 25. We ask that everyone in your household who is high school age or older each complete the survey. and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish’s efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. Paper surveys will also be available for those who do not have the ability to complete the survey online.

Together we must embrace Christ’s vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith. *Thank you for helping with this important project and please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.*

FROM THE PASTOR

In today's gospel, Jesus is giving his farewell speech to his disciples, but leaves them very few instructions on how the new community should grow. He didn't instruct them on how the Church should expand. Should these Gentiles be allowed in? Should bingo be on Wednesday evenings and Baptisms on Sunday afternoons? Should the Pope be Italian, or as the past couple of elections have shown, does it not matter? What Jesus does leave his disciples (and us) are three tools to work with: His Word, His Spirit, and His Peace. Not bad for a start! What a great gospel message for all of us for dealing with whatever life throws at us.

* * *

Happy Memorial Day weekend! As we're enjoying our beer and hot dogs this weekend, let us not lose sight of the holiday's purpose – to remember and appreciate those who have died serving our country in the armed forces. I can hardly remember being so touched as when I walked the beaches of Normandy and saw all of the graves of those who died so you and I can enjoy the lives that we do.

The **Disciple Maker Index** survey is open until the end of this weekend. The purpose of the survey is to invite you to reflect on your journey of discipleship, enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions, and to help you grow in your faith. Please take the time to complete the survey this week. You can access the survey link on the parish website.

This Tuesday and Wednesday (May 27 & 28), we priests will be away at a convocation; accordingly, we will be holding a **communion service** instead of 9am daily mass on those two mornings.

We have received **Annual Appeal** pledges of \$185,000, of which \$168,000 has already been collected. If we hit the goal of \$196,624 by June 30, our assessment to the Archdiocese is reduced from 18% to 16%, which saves the parish about \$32,000. Thanks to all who have participated, we're almost there!

I'm honored that so many of you plan to attend the 11:30am Mass next weekend. I'm looking forward to celebrating my retirement and 50th anniversary of my ordination with my parish family. My term officially ends on June 30 so I'll be around for the rest of this month. We decided to have the celebration on June 1 because that's the actual anniversary date of my ordination.

Fr. Bob

CARDS FOR FR. BOB

We have boxes in the Narthex & outside of Maureen Murphy's office for any cards you'd like to write to Fr. Bob, who is celebrating his retirement & 50th Anniversary of his Ordination on June 1.

Free Blood Pressure screening after the 10am & 11:30am Masses on the first Sunday of the month (next on June 1) in Maureen Murphy's office.

Caring Stitches - Tuesday, May 27

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.*



Alzheimer's & Dementia Support

Our **Support Group** is virtual on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:30pm-8pm. The group will meet next on **May 28**. Facilitated by Debby Montone, RN, Certified Dementia Practitioner, & Certified Dementia Support Group Facilitator from the Greater NJ Alzheimer's Assn.

To receive the Zoom link, email Michele at mbaron@churchofpresentation.org



Annual Appeal the 2025

Reaching this year's goal of \$196,624 will result in a benefit to Presentation. If we meet our goal by June 30, our assessments to the Archdiocese will be lowered and we'll receive a rebate which greatly helps our annual budget. We have a donation link on our [parish website](#).

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Radiating Splendor

God our Father,
have pity on us and bless us!
We come to you
with renewed hope
because your face shines upon us,
your splendor radiates around us!
May you continue
to make your way known to us.

Guide us in keeping your Word.
When we find ourselves troubled
and afraid,
help us rest,
knowing that you remain with us.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 25, 2025

The Guiding Spirit



Today's readings: Acts 15:1–2, 22–29; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; Revelation 21:10–14, 22–23; John 14:23–29. Next week, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This week, we hear Jesus remind the disciples that he will be “going away,” or ascending. He tells them that, even though he is joining the Father, he is with them: “The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you.” The Holy Spirit is with us, too, inspiring us as we discern how to best respond to the call to be followers of Christ.

As the Easter season nears its end, prayerfully reflect on the ways the Holy Spirit has guided you. Begin your

reflection by invoking the Holy Spirit. (“Come, Holy Spirit.”) Light a candle, if possible. Where can you see God moving in your life? Consider the following: various settings that have moved or inspired you; conversations with friends or family that have helped clarify something for you; a passing thought or feeling that has resurfaced. Next, ask for the wisdom to respond!

The apostles were sent to pastorally respond to the needs of various communities. How have you been asked to respond to the needs around you? End your prayer by reading the Gospel passage. Sit with Jesus’ words: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”

Centering Prayer

Saturday, June 7 at 9:45am

All are welcome to join us to attend to your prayer life with this ancient contemplative practice. We meet for Centering Prayer (usually) on the first Saturday of the month after 9:00am Mass (approx. 9:45am) in the Gathering Room. Newcomers welcome!



Monday & Wednesday Yoga
at 9:30am. Wear loose clothing, and bring a mat, towel & water. Donations welcome.



Coffee, Canned Chicken, Canned Green Beans (reg and french cut), Crunchy Peanut Butter, Tomato Sauce, Cereal, Ramen, Packaged Side Dishes, Crackers, Dressings, Condiments, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Soap (bars), Toothbrushes, Shaving Cream, Razors, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap

*There's a bin for your donations in the hallway outside of the parish kitchen. **Thank you, your donations are truly appreciated!***

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

FASHIONED BY GOD WONDERFULLY MADE

A Mass of Welcome for All

Sunday, June 22nd
6:30pm

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!

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



from our Justice & Peace Ministry

Our "Offering of Letters," in support of funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants and Children (SNAP), generated over 850 signed letters to the Congress. They have been delivered to the NY and NJ Senators' and Representatives' offices. We thank you for this generous response. With the uncertainty surrounding cuts to SNAP, these letters are crucial to preserving the program's safety net and the 51 million people who rely on it, to feed themselves and their families. The SNAP PROGRAM is one of the most effective, efficient and low fraud government programs to help people move out of poverty.



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-Thu

"Non-Summer" Office Hrs: 9:30am-5pm Mon-Thu. | 9:30am-4pm 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 (OCIA, Catholic Faith Inquiry) ext. 831 [dcarr@](mailto:dcarr@churchofpresentation.org)

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) [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)

Natasha Gonzalez (Music) ext. 813 [NGonzalez@](mailto:NGonzalez@churchofpresentation.org)

Patty Dodwell (First Eucharist, Family Faith Formation)

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

This Week's Mass Intentions

Bread & Wine: Orlando de Bien, by the Davi Family

MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 26

9:00am Bob Waring, by Roger Weiland

TUESDAY, MAY 27

9:00am *Communion Service*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

9:00am *Communion Service*

THURSDAY, MAY 29

9:00am Robert Leckie, by the Leckie Family

Charles Messenger, by Patricia & George Erdman

FRIDAY, MAY 30

9:00am William McGowan, by the Cinelli Family

Christine Schechter, by Maureen Gallagher

SATURDAY, MAY 31

9:00am Mary Therese Weimert, by the Vitale Family

5:00pm Ken Birdsall, by the Birdsall Family

Dorothy Eppolito, by Mary Ellen & Anthony Vassallo

Angelina Candela, by Steve Candela

Bob Waring, by Carol Sileo

Jack Simchera, by Maria Caso

Joseph Stanziani, by Ralph & Joanne Spinnato

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

8:00am Daniel McCaffrey, by Helga Fanciulli

10:00am Patti Lippman, by Kyle & Hannah Lippman

11:30am Eileen & Bob Stagg, Sr., by Fr. Bob

Joseph Patti, Jr., by Mary Davis Patti

Johanna Padluck, by Diane Padluck

John Duggan, by Martha & Rick

Robert Darienzo, by the Tasman Family

Jo-Jo Onufrak, by the Criscione & Porod Family

6:30pm Zofia & Bolek Kowieski, by the Kowieski Family

We also pray for the following ill: Annette Vanore, Mary Krugman, Judy DiDonato, Lauren Mounce, Allison Boucher Jarvis, Lorraine O'Loughlin, Joseph & Judy Schneider, Dyan Hardy, Helga Scholton, Lucy Schneider, Henry Schneider, Melinda Carney, Lu St. Aubin, Graham W. King, Dale Walwark, Hope Gusmer, Jennifer Connelley, Claire Quinn, Jr., Fran Partlan, Evelyn Roberts, Michael Keane, Daniel Negron, Mary Urban, Pat Brunnock, Jared Bochicchio, Tom Napolitano, Justin Spillane, Carol Latargia Blake, Holly Holland, Patricia Lamoriello, Mary Lou Murphy, Patricia Carey, Danny Lauber, Michael Donovan, Jamie Brown, Althea Gardner, Thomasina Uzzi, Richard & Monica Castiglia, Ronald Volino, Keith Brew, Guy & Marion Gaudenzi, Ellen Bellias, Clara Willey, Kimberly Berardino, Christina Grenzer, Veronica, Bill Partlan, Mike O'Donnell, Bob DePellegrini, Bobby Vandal, John & Wilma Mcmurran & family, Christopher Noel Hanna, Cornelius Hanna, Frances Gerbino, Baby River Budesza, Marianne & Bill Hurley, Francis J. Neeson Jr., Rosemary Fuhrman, Patti Murray, Louis D'Amico, Ethan Benjamin Berkowitz, Marie Hiles, Michael Roger, Jon Rapkin, Steven Chakonis, Cathy Mostyn, Kevin Flood, Dirk & Donna Kinney, Mary Anne Nardini, Cathy Mueller, Susanne Knoepfle, Virginia Kondrat, Anne Downs, Seth Gopin, Adrienne Stephens, Karin Elliott, Frank Cirillo, John Nazzaro, Marie Kaspar, Cheyanne Emmons, Gloria Zoda, Bill Brown, Scott M. Koenig, Mary Goldberg, Thomas Doorhy, Sab Caponi, Rosemary Tocci

and recently deceased:

To request prayers **in the bulletin** for the **ill or recently deceased**, email LizC@churchofpresentation.org. The name is not kept on the list indefinitely. 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.

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

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

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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