



Divine Mercy *Sunday*

Jesus,
I trust
in you.

Nativity of Our Lord
Monroe Township, New Jersey

2nd Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday – April 27, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday April 28th

**Easter Weekday; St. Peter Chanel,
Priest & Martyr; St. Louis Grignion
de Monfort, Priest**

8:30 a.m. Anthony Sofo by Phyllis Sofo and Family

Tuesday April 29th

**St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and
Doctor of the Church**

8:30 a.m. Bob and Jane Nimmo by Susan Yates

Wednesday April 30th

Easter Weekday; St. Pius V, Pope

8:30 a.m. Richard Steinbeck by Wife, Peggy,
Children: Cheryl, Kevin and Jennifer

Thursday May 1st

**Easter Weekday; St. Joseph the
Worker**

8:30 a.m. John and Sean Wynn by Maureen
Wynn, wife and mother

Friday May 2nd

**St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of
the Church**
Purgatorial

Saturday May 3rd

St. Philip and James, Apostles

4:00 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. William Schmitt by Mr. &
Mrs. Paul Major

Sunday May 4th

Third Sunday of Easter

7:30 a.m. Jack Porzio by Domenica Porzio

9:00 a.m. Kevin Colish and Ron D'Angelo by
Family

11:00 a.m. Georgiana Ulrich and Joseph Marone
Sr. by Georgena and John Russo

The Collections for the Weekend of

April 13 - \$17,256

Good Friday - \$4,956

Easter - \$30,610

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

CANDLE OFFERING

St Joseph: Anna Bernieri by Joseph and Theresa Atanasio

St. Jude: Anthony Tacopino by By wife Cherie Tacopino

St. Anthony: Richard Steinbeck by By wife Peggy,
Children Cheryl, Kevin & Jennifer

FLOWER OFFERING

BVM: 70th Wedding Anniversary Celebration for Joan
& Michael (deseased) DiSilvestro by wife Joan

St. Joseph: For blessing of our Grandchildren by
Robert and Gail Colletti

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday: Acts 5:12-16; Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn
20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36 or, for the Optional Memorial, Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Mt 13:54-58

First Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

First Saturday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’” (JOHN 20:21)

Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be compassionate and merciful; and not with just those who are our friends, but also with our “enemies.” Think of someone in your life who you need to reconcile with. Call them right now or better yet, go visit them.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

“Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said: ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. And bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.’ Thomas answered and said to him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ ... ‘Blessed are those who have not seen but believed.’”

Is there a Thomas in me? Does my faith allow me to celebrate the most important fact that Jesus died, arose and lives? By His passion, death and resurrection, we too share in the newness of life. We reach out to Jesus as did Thomas. We unlock the doors of our unbelief and allow Him to touch us with His saving grace in a special way on this Divine Mercy Sunday. Touched by the Lord, we bring that gift to others. ‘Jesus I trust in you.’



Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are selling Calendars after all Masses in the Resurrection room on the following dates: the weekends of **May 3rd and 4th, May 17th and 18th, and May 24th and 25th.**

Each Calendar costs **\$20.00**, and you can win between \$75.00 and \$300.00 each day during June, July, and August, that's 91 chances.

All proceeds support various charities.

We appreciate your support. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE!

Nativity of Our Lord Church
invites all men to its Annual Retreat!
Theme: **HOPE** Date: **July 18th - 20th**
Location: **San Alfonso Retreat House**
755 Ocean Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740
More details to follow!



Parish Calendar

Apr. 27 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/Catechumenate 8:30 am— 11:30 am Cl#1 & 11
Apr. 28 (Mon)	K of C Assembly Cl#5&6
	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
Apr. 29 (Tue)	Initiation Ministry 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Cl# 1
May 1 (Thu)	Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study- 9:00 am -11:30 am & 7:00 pm-9:00 pm Hall
	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
May 2 (Fri)	First Friday and Adoration
May 3 (Sat)	First Communion Mass 10:00 am Church
May 4 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 8:30am to 11:30am Cl#1 & 11
May 5 (Mon)	K of C Meeting 6:30PM Hall
	Companions 1:00 pm -3:00 pm Hall
	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
May 6 (Tue)	Confirmation 4:30pm Church
May 7 (Wed)	Bereavement Ministry 6:00pm-7:30pm RR
May 8 (Thu)	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
	Adult Faith Formation/Bible Study- Hall 9:00 am-11:30am & 7pm-9pm
May 11 (Sun)	Initiation Ministry/ Catechumenate 8:30am to 11:30am Cl#1 & 11
May 12 (Mon)	Initiation Ministry/ Inquiry 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm RR
May 13 (Tue)	Bereavement Ministry 6:00pm-7:30pm RR
	Prayer Shawl- 1:30pm Hall

Ministries

St. Vincent DePaul – If you are experiencing financial hardship due to a temporary loss of employment, illness, or disability, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to aid with your everyday needs such as food, utility assistance, or agency referrals. Please dial the parish number 609-371-0499, then press 4, and leave a message with your name and phone number. Someone will return your call. All calls are handled in strict confidence.

Homebound Ministries - Eucharist Ministers bring communion to the homes of those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or other circumstances. Please call **Marge Nadolny** at **609-409-6164** or email **margen21@comcast.net**.

Helping Hands: We help parishioners with small household tasks such as changing smoke detector batteries, lightbulbs, opening & closing vents, etc. If you need assistance, please call Esther Wolff at 732-521-6019 for more information.



Bereavement Support Ministry

"Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

No one but you knows how great your grief is or how it affects your life. We must all travel our own journey. If you are grieving the death of a loved one, you are invited to join the Bereavement Support Ministry here at Nativity of Our Lord Church.

Our Spring sessions will **begin on Wednesday May 7th 2025** and will be held once a week for 7 weeks, **ending Tuesday June 17th 2025**. Please note that all sessions will be held on Tuesdays EXCEPT the first session which is Wednesday May 7th. Our sessions are held at Nativity of Our Lord Church from **6PM until 7:30PM**. There is no cost, all supplies will be provided.

If you would like more information, or to register, please call **Jane Gatto** at **(917)848-2300**. Registration is required no later than **April 30, 2025**.



Remembering in Prayer

Kindly contact the office if you know of a parishioner who is sick, having surgery or in need of pastoral care. We would like to remember them in our prayers and care for their spiritual needs.

Initiation Ministry



The doors were locked because of fear. But Jesus isn't stopped by fear. He enters and brings joy, peace, the Holy Spirit, and a mandate to spread the good news of His resurrection. This was the story on the day He rose and appeared to the Apostles. This is the story today, too. We may be afraid to share our faith in Him. What will be people's reaction? Will we be ridiculed? Turned off? Ostracized? Does it matter? Really? Think of the change you might start in someone's life by simply speaking about the One who can triumph over fear and death. If the Risen Lord lives in your heart, share your faith with those who have yet to hear the good news. For more information about the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), contact **JoLynn Krempecki** at **732-690-2610 (jollynnkrempecki@msn.com)**.



Nativity of Our Lord parish rejoiced as five individuals were confirmed and two received First Eucharist at the Easter Vigil on April 19, 2025. Pictured left to right are Kristin Esposito, Dyonne Lopez, Nicole Cioffi, Jazzy Antony and Javin Antony.





Nativity of Our Lord

Council No. 14658, Monroe Twp., NJ

6th Annual Charity Golf Outing

Monday, July 14th, 2025

At: Rossmoor Golf Course

1 Forsgate Drive

Monroe Twp., NJ, 08831

Phone# (609) 655-3182

Cost: **\$150** Per Golfer, this includes coffee and Bagels at 8 AM, Golf 9 AM

Scramble Format, Drinks and Dinner to Follow.

Dinner Guests only: **\$50**

Prizes: Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive, etc.

You do not need a foursome to play.

Gift Certificates for Restaurants, Services, Door Prizes, etc. For additional information, please contact :

Tony Cardello: (917) 282-6818 or pepperhouse@aol.com

Benefits Charities Such as: Hospital, Life Choices Research Center, Wounded Project, St. Vincent DePaul, American Lung Association, Send a Hero Home, etc.

*Fun Event for Nativity's Middle Schoolers
and High Schoolers!*

NJ Catholic Youth Rally at Great Adventure

Sunday, May 18, 2025

The NJ Catholic Youth Rally is a day-long event that gathers teens from across the state of NJ for a day of fun, fellowship, Mass, and more held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ. The day starts with a dynamic opening ceremony at 9:45. Teens then get the day to enjoy the park and all the rides. The day concludes in the Batman Stunt Arena with a Mass at 6:00-7:15. Open to all Jr. High, High School & Young Adult Ministry, Scouting Parish/School Athletic Programs, and families!

For those without a season pass, cost varies depending on whether you want a meal plan and parking in addition to ticket cost.

If interested, please register using the QR Code. Questions can be sent to CRLCESQ@gmail.com. RSVP no later than April 30th



Multicultural Fair – May 10, 2025

Come celebrate Asian Pacific Islander month and other diverse cultures in the Diocese of Metuchen at Our Lady of Czestochowa Hall, 908 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ from 1:00 -4:00 PM. For more information contact **Sr. Miriam Perez at mpez@diometuchen.org**



Feminine Genius Brunch

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Come join us for a Jubilee Celebration of Women and discover God's plan for your ultimate flourishing. Guest speaker, Lisa Cotter's, topic will be "Reveal the Gift". The morning includes fellowship, music, hot brunch, prayer and reflection. This event is for women of all ages and will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Cost is \$30 per person. For more information and/or to register please visit **www.diometuchen.org/humanlifeanddignity** or call **732-562-1543** or email **amarshall@diometuchen.org**

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Washington, DC

Jubilee 2025!

The Diocese of Metuchen will be hosting a pilgrimage to the **Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception** on **September 20** in celebration of Jubilee 2025. Please join Bishop Checchio and hundreds of other parishioners this fall as we travel to Washington, DC, to celebrate the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of Our Lord.

Also, for those who are unable to travel to Washington, DC, for the Diocesan Pilgrimage, please know that Bishop Checchio, in accordance with the directives of the Holy See, has designated the following sites as sacred places in the Diocese of Metuchen where the faithful may obtain a Jubilee indulgence:

- **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen**
- **Shrine Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, Raritan**
- **National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Washington**
- **National Shrine of St. Lucy Filippini (inside St. Mary of Mt. Virgin Church), New Brunswick**

Rest in Peace!

Pope Francis - 1936-2025



Statement of Most Rev. James F. Checchio,
Bishop of Metuchen
On the passing of Pope Francis

With heavy hearts the Diocese of Metuchen mourns the passing of His Holiness, Pope Francis. From the moment of his election as Supreme Pontiff when he took the name Francis, our Holy Father has emphasized the mercy of God, embracing in his Petrine ministry the poor, the migrant, the marginalized and all those broken by this world's problems and concerns. We entrust his noble soul to the hands of our Blessed Mother to accompany him to our Father's house. In this Jubilee year in which Pope Francis called us to be Pilgrims of Hope, he has now made the ultimate pilgrimage to the embrace of our loving God.



2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE: Journeying Together in
Faith, Hope and Charity**

Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports the work of the Vicariate for Evangelization and Communication. Responsible for our website, social media platforms, videos, podcasts and written content about our Catholic faith, the Evangelization & Communication ministry is essential to how we expand our effort to share the Gospel message and make His love known to all. More and more, we have come to understand that these tools are necessary for reaching people where they live and work. A gift of any amount is important and greatly appreciated.



The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His mercy can only be received by our trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and lives to Him with trust, the more we can receive.



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