THE MISSION OF ST. MARY’S

We the family of St. Mary’s of Closter, fervently believe in the fatherhood of God whom we come to know through the Lord Jesus Christ. We dedicate ourselves to the promotion of the spiritual and temporal welfare of our parish and our community. To this end, we direct our prayers to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit through Mary the Blessed Mother and Patroness of our parish family.

WE INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday (Anticipated</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>7:30 AM, 9:30 AM &amp; 12:00 PM</td>
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<td>Weekdays (Monday through</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
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<td>Saturday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Days &amp; Civic Holidays</td>
<td>As announced the Sunday before 7:00 PM—Holy Hour and Healing Mass</td>
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<td>First Fridays</td>
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Devotions

- Eucharistic Adoration: Monday - 7:00 - 8:00 PM and as scheduled.
- Holy Hour: Thursday, 7:30 PM - Church
- Marian Devotions: Miraculous Medal Novena and Recitation of the Rosary: Saturdays after 8:00 AM Mass.

Information regarding Sacraments, Parish Ministries and Care of the Sick & Homebound can be found on our website. To arrange baptisms or weddings call Father or the parish office.

PARISH STAFF AND CONTACTS

- **Rev. Joseph Scarangella, K.H.S**
  - Pastor
  - fatherjoe@stmarycloster.org

- **Rev. Ranees Anbukumar Rayappan, S.M.A., Weekend Associate**

- **Deacon James P. Tobin**
  - Permanent Deacon
  - jimtobin1@aol.com

- **Paul Weiner**
  - Director of Music Ministry
  - paulweiner@stmarycloster.org

- **Sharon Abramski & Joseph Fritz**
  - Cantors

- **Gail Ferraiolo**
  - Director of Religious Education
  - gferraiolo@stmarycloster.org

- **Grace Ditzel**
  - Parish Secretary
  - gditzel@stmarycloster.org

- **Canice Cristofoletti**
  - Business Admin./Parish Bookkeeper
  - ccristofoletti@stmarycloster.org

- **Religious Education Secretary**
  - reled@stmarycloster.org

- **Pamela Derfus & John Hernandez**
  - Parish Trustees and assisted by the Pastoral Advisory Board and Financial Council

Please like us on Facebook: facebook.com/stmarycloster
MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 –
Ez. 18: 25-28; Phil. 2: 1-11 or 2: 1-5; Mt. 21: 28-32
5:00 PM Erika Zuleg / req. by Jean Delatorre

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 –
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Ez. 18: 25-28; Phil. 2: 1-11 or 2: 1-5; Mt. 21: 28-32
7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
9:30 AM Jessica Hasbrouck / req. by Camille Cantarella
12:00 PM Julia and Thomas Verdylione
req. by Gloria Tropiano

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2 –
THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS
Zec. 8: 1-8; Mt. 18: 1-5, 10
8:00 AM Paul Roth
req. by George and Florence Mertz

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 – WEEKDAY
Zec. 8: 20-23; Lk. 9: 51-56
8:00 AM Anastasio Torralba
req. by Roy and Espie Landrito

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4 – ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
Neh. 2: 1-8; Lk. 9: 57-62
8:00 AM Frances and Hugh Caldwell
req. by the J. Caldwell Family

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5 –
BLESSSED FRANCIS XAVIER SEELOS, PRIEST
Neh. 8: 1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk. 10: 1-12
8:00 AM Rose Benevento
req. by Thom and Grace Calabro

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6 – ST. BRUNO, PRIEST; BLESSED MARIE ROSE DUROCHER, VIRGIN
Bar. 1: 15-22; Lk. 10: 13-16
8:00 AM Otto and Nellie Bertelloni
req. by the Bertelloni Family
8:00 PM Lisa Greco / req. by Chris Hofmann

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 – OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
Bar. 4: 5-12, 27-29; Lk. 10: 17-24
8:00 AM Lois Paino / req. by Steven Ditzel
5:00 PM Lillian Cahill / req. by Thom & Grace Calabro

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 –
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Is. 5: 1-7; Phil. 4: 6-9; Mt. 21: 33-43
7:30 AM All Parishioners – Living and Deceased
9:30 AM Mary Burnside
req. by Marie and Arthur Battaglia
12:00 PM Juergen Kleine
req. by Katalin Mauksch and Family

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Dear Parishioners,

This coming Wednesday, October 4th, is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. The “poverello”, the poor one, who by his life as a simple friar, helped to change the world. Although St. Francis lived 800 years ago, his message of peace is still, if not more, important today as it was then. St. Francis is known for many things, his prayers, his love for God and love for all creatures, his love for the environment and nature. One of the many traditions surrounding the observance of the feast St. Francis is the blessing of pets and animals. There is a legend that even if the people would not listen to him, the animals would. Fish would jump out of the water and birds in the air would circle around him to hear every word uttered from his mouth. To this day, many Christian faiths observe his feast day by continuing this tradition of blessing pets and animals. Here at St. Mary, we too will continue this tradition on Wednesday in our new St. Francis Prayer Garden. Thanks to the hard work of Tommy Nyfenger and the other volunteers/helpers, we now have this beautiful place next to our church to sit and pray and contemplate all God’s beauty around us. Please join us with your pet (or come even if you do not have one) on this special day to thank God for all his blessings, and pray through the intercession of the “poor one of Assisi” for peace in our world, in our families, and in our hearts.

Sincerely in the Lord,
Fr. Joe

ST. MARY PARISH IS A PARISH
THAT PRACTICES STEWARDSHIP

Last Sunday’s collection was as follows:
Amount Collected in 129 Sunday Envelopes ........ $4,964.00
Total Collected in Loose Money ............................... $503.00
Total Collected in 1 Air Conditioning Envelope .......... $25.00
Total Sunday Collection ........................................ $5,524.00

Last year’s collection for same week was ............. $5,884.00

Special Collection
Collected for the National Collection for the Catholic University of America .................................................$322.00

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP

“Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves . . .” – Philippians 2: 3

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put in our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life.

THIS WEEK’S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Sanctuary Flowers and Plants – In loving memory of Rosie, req. by Mary-Anne and Joe Colucci.
SCRIP ORDERS
We will be placing an order for Scrip Gift Cards Monday morning, October 2\textsuperscript{nd}. Scrip cards which are prepaid cards that are used like cash are available for many different stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, etc. The Church of St. Mary receives a certain percentage of each card purchased (2\% to 15\% or more depending on the card) and doesn’t cost you anything extra. Please have your orders to us no later than 10:00 AM Monday. Info can be found in the vestibules or contact John Hernandez at jah21344@aol.com or 201-768-8871 or Grace Ditzel at gditzel@stmarycloster.org or 201-768-7565 for further information.

ANIMAL BLESSING AND PET FOOD DRIVE OCTOBER 4\textsuperscript{TH}
Join us at our Annual Blessing of the Animals and Pet Food Drive on Wednesday, October 4\textsuperscript{th}, at 3:30 PM or 7:00 PM. This year we’ll gather in the new St. Francis Prayer Garden next to the driveway entrance. Blessing will be held rain or shine. Animals must be on leashes or in carriers. We are again sponsoring a pet food drive to benefit the Closter Animal Welfare Society (C.L.A.W.S.). Attendees are encouraged to bring donations of wet or dry cat/kitten and dog/puppy food.

DIVORCED AND SEPARATED CATHOLICS
Our Lady of Victories parish in Harrington Park is pleased to offer a support group to all divorced and separated Catholics. The group will begin in October and meet one evening per week. To register or for more information, please call the OLV rectory at 201-768-1706.

DO YOU GRIEVE THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE?
St Leo’s Parish will begin their fall Bereavement Support Group on Wednesday, October 4\textsuperscript{th}, at St. Leo’s, in the Rectory Meeting Room. It will commence at 7:00 PM and conclude around 8:30 PM. It will consist of approximately six weekly sessions. Many people have benefited from the kind of mutual support a Bereavement Group can offer. Nothing can ever replace a loved one, but together, in an atmosphere of love and understanding, we hope to provide some help in dealing with grief that death brings. The ministry is open to all. Please advise any members of your family and friends that we welcome them with compassionate arms. If you are interested in registering or would like more information, please call Judy Regan at 201-703-9367.

PASTORAL MINISTRY WITH PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Attention Moms! Do you need help navigating the system of services for your son or daughter with a disability? One of the greatest challenges facing families and individuals is learning to navigate the system of services for people with disabilities throughout their lifespan. Linda Wieseneck, LSCW from Bergen County Special Services (BCSS) will speak to mothers at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church through their lifespan. Linda Wieseneck, LSCW from Bergen County Special Services (BCSS) will speak to mothers at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church Parish Life Center, 15 North Washington Avenue, bergenfield, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM on Wednesday, October 11\textsuperscript{th}. Overview of BCSS CAPE Resource Center; Information about NJ Children’s System of Care; Your Questions – what do you need help with? RSVP appreciated – 973-497-4309. If you can come at the last minute, please do!

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWL
St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry will have its annual blessing of the shawls on October 14\textsuperscript{th} – 15\textsuperscript{th}. If you are in need of a shawl, please take one, fill out the attached card and leave it with our ministry. If you would like to make a donation, envelopes are available. Thank you for your support. Cathy Thornhill, Chairperson.

INVITING ALL WOMEN
Come away for awhile . . . to an oasis of peace and healing . . . Spiritual Weekend Retreat, January 12\textsuperscript{th} – 14\textsuperscript{th}, 2018. St. Francis Center for Renewal, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. $175.00 per person single, $165.00 per person doubles. $80.00 deposit payable to St. Francis Center for Renewal, balance paid at retreat center.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK
Church of St. Mary, Closter

Annual Blessing of the Animals & Pet Food Drive
to benefit the
Closter Animal Welfare Society (CLAWS)

Date: Wednesday, October 4
Times: 3:30pm and 7pm
Location: St. Mary’s Church at
20 Legion Place, Closter

New!! This year we will gather in
our new St. Francis Prayer Garden
(to left of the entrance driveway)

Our annual Blessing of the Animals on Wednesday, October 4
is open to the community – please join us!

All types of animals are welcome, and must be on leashes
or in carriers

Two blessings at 3:30pm (after school) and 7pm (after work)

We are supporting the Closter Animal Welfare Society in their
pet rescue & placement efforts by sponsoring a pet food drive.
Attendees are encouraged to bring donations of wet or dry
cat/kitten food, dog/puppy food, and kitty litter.

Thank you!

St. Francis, who believed that all creatures should be treated with dignity and
respect, wrote the “Canticle of the Creatures,” an ode to God’s living things:
“All praise to you, O Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures.”