

SAINT MARY'S PARISH

17 MSGR. OWENS PLACE NUTLEY, NJ 07110
STMARYSNUTLEY.ORG

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THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

May 24, 2020

all gave **SOME** *gave all*



MEMORIAL
Day

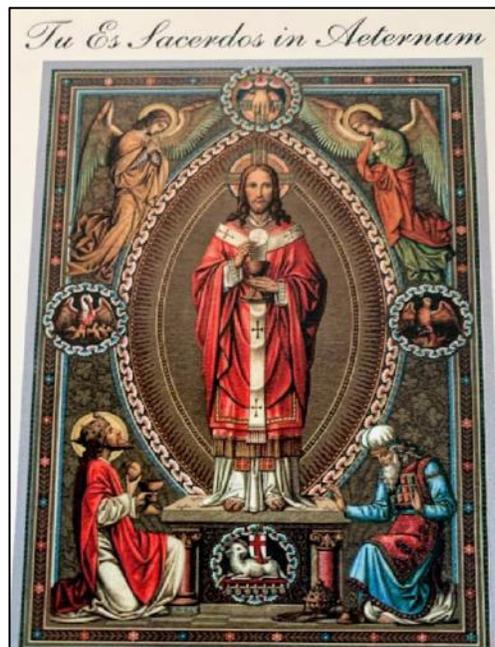
Gracious God,
On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace. In union with people of goodwill of every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.
We ask this through your name. Amen

Join us virtually (Website, Facebook, YouTube Page) at 9am on
Monday, May 25th for a special Nutley Clergy Memorial Day Prayer Service

"The Priest Is Not His Own"
"Spirit and Memory"
"Gift and Mystery"

Having been confined in the rectory for the most part, with a few exceptions, for the past two or more months due to the coronavirus pandemic, I have had the opportunity to do a lot of reflecting on life in general and in particular in this month of May about priesthood and Priestly anniversary celebrations.

With the printing of this parish bulletin online, we are quickly coming to a close of the month of May. First and foremost this month has traditionally been set aside to honor Mary the mother of God and her holy rosary. May is also the month in which we celebrate Mother's Day, priestly ordinations and priests' anniversaries.



Fr. Tom's Anniversary Prayer Card

My time of confinement has afforded me the opportunity "to go on a retreat", so to speak. Retreat comes from the Latin "to pull back". So "to retreat" or a retreat is a place where you "pull back from the world." During this time one "settles in" and "quiets one's body and soul." This time allows you to take a walk or simply "sit in stillness" and allow yourself to experience God's presence. It affords you the golden opportunity to reflect and meditate.

I have been doing a lot of reflecting on priesthood ordinations and my own ordination. For me, this year's anniversary of my ordination on May 26th recalls a special milestone! Thirty years ago on May 26th, I laid prostrate on the floor of Saint Augustine Cathedral in Bridgeport, Connecticut. After several minutes of prayer and calling on the Saints for their heavenly intercession, during the Litany of Saints, I got up and knelt before my bishop who then imposed hands on my head and called down the Holy Spirit. I then rose up a priest of Jesus Christ forever.

After all these years, one becomes keenly aware of the greatness of the priesthood of Jesus Christ! Further, the profundity of this great and awesome gift makes one realize, first and foremost how unworthy you are to be fulfilling this great calling. You realize you're only an instrument of the great high priest Jesus Christ and a sinner in need of God's mercy, as well. Yet, somehow mysteriously one is called by God's providential plan. On this occasion, I call to mind the words of Saint John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests. "O, how great is the priest!... If he realized what he is, he would die... The priest, is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you."

This anniversary celebration is one of "Spirit and Memory" and "Gift and Mystery" as Saint Pope John Paul the Great would say. The priest realizes his call is for service to the people of God and service to the Church. The priest comes to understand his priesthood is a gift from God and one of profound mystery. "God gives it so that the priest can build up the holiness of Christians by dispensing grace from the very hand of Christ - through the sacred waters of baptism, the living bread of the Eucharist, and the holy oils of anointing." (Scott Hahn, *Many Are Called*, pg.34)

In the “Rite of Priestly Ordination”, when I was ordained, it’s stated, “let the doctrine you teach be true nourishment for the People of God. Let the example of your life attract followers of Christ, so that by word and action you may build up the house, which is God’s Church... Always remember the example of the Good Shepherd who came not to be served but to serve, and seek out and rescue those who are lost.” This week, as priests are celebrating anniversaries, pray that they reflect prayerfully on the “Gift and Mystery” of the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

During this month we honor Mary, the mother of God and the holy rosary. She is the mother of all priests. The rosary, as a devotion, is truly a “strong witness” that subtly affects the life of every parish priest and his spirituality. This devotion to Mary is a perduring one and is a beloved prayer form embraced by many priests and laity alike. It truly represents the special, unique role Mary plays in our lives as parish priests. “From Mary and her spirituality each of us is led to a deeper joy in Christ, and in his priesthood.” (Rev. Msgr. Peter Vaghi) All priests are called to have a deep love for Mary, not only in their finest moments but in their weaker moments as well. The priest trusts in her powerful intercession to “combat” the weakness inside him. The way in which he does this is no different from any other individual. He should have recourse through prayer and meditation to her. During the recitation of the rosary “...we surrender to the Savior” by this Marian meditation. It is in and through her that we find many beautiful examples of “virtues to imitate”, many inspirations of hope, charity and joy.”(Dom Columba Marmion, OSB).

Saint Pope John Paul the Great spoke about the renewal in the life of the Church and how much it is needed. This renewal must go hand-in-hand with the renewal of all priests. It is Mary who will lead us to Jesus her Son. It is to Him that we are “configured” at our priestly ordination. “ ... She leads us to our authentic selves. One might therefore say that a renewal of the clergy begins with Mary and ends with Jesus.” (Rev. Stephen J. Rossetti)



Stained glass window from St. Mary’s Church depicting Saint John Vianney, Patron Saint of Parish Priests

Continued on pg. 4

In conclusion, please prayerfully reflect on these words; the author is unknown.

“The priest, he is another Christ – respect him. He is God’s representative - trust him. He is your benefactor – be thankful to him. At the altar, he offers your prayer to God – do not forget him. He prays for you and yours in purgatory - ask God’s mercy for him. In the confessional, he is the physician of your soul – show him its wounds. He directs us towards God – follow his admonitions. He is judging - abide by his decision. He is human – do not hastily condemn him. He is human – A word of kindness will cheer him. If you must tell him his faults - tell them to God, that He may give him light and strength to correct them. He has a great responsibility – ask God to guide him in life, and be merciful to him in death.”

Lastly, recall the great words of Lacordaire, the French priest who said,
“What a glorious life! And it is yours, O priest of Jesus Christ.”

In the peace of Jesus Christ the Great High Priest,
Fr. Tom Nicastro
Parochial Vicar

Join us virtually this Tuesday, May 26th at 9am for a special Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr. Tom’s 30th Anniversary as a Priest of Jesus Christ.

The Hands of Holy Orders

by Larry and Mary Sue Eck and Bob and Rita Boeke

Look at the palms of your hands and remember back to that day when your bishop anointed them and sent you forth to love and serve us.

Remember the plans you had that day for these hands, to gather and minister to your people?

Think back to the babies these hands have baptized and think of the children these hands have prepared for First Communion and Confirmation. Think of the hundreds of homilies these hands have written; carefully chosen words that transform lives.

Think of the countless times these hands have been held up in blessing and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Now think of your last Mass, and so many others, when you took plain bread and wine into these hands, and changed them into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Think of the hands, our hands, which you place His Precious Body and the cup of His Precious Blood.

Think of the retreats, the missions, the days and nights of renewal that these hands have prepared.

Think of the people these hands have gathered and touched and sent forth from these experiences, with a new understanding and love for each other and for our Catholic Church.

Think of the times these hands have reached out and grasped ours in a prayer circle of love.

Think of the hands, young and nervous, which your hands have joined in the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Think of the sick in mind and body who have come to you seeking help and left with hope alive in their hearts again.

Think of the dying bodies these hands have anointed into Paradise.

Today we anoint your hands anew with our love; with the love of your entire Catholic family.

If ever, in the days ahead, you feel lonely and discouraged, please remember these words. Please hold up your hands and look at them, and remember how they fed us the Bread of Life, how they brought hope back into our lives, how they comforted us, healed us, and welcomed us home to our church again.

We wish we could take you by the hand and stand at the busiest intersection in town and shout to the world, “Look everyone - this is our beloved priest, in whom we are well pleased.”

These hands of yours are the hands of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. We revere them and we cannot live our lives without them...without YOU. Thank you for faithfully loving and serving us. We are so proud that you are OUR beloved priest.

CELEBRATING THE MASS

Our Eucharistic fast continues, as we pray for its quick end.”
– Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R, Archbishop of Newark.

CELEBRATE THE SUNDAY LITURGY WITH ST. MARY’S

We will be streaming the Sunday Mass beginning at 4pm on Saturday Evening.
It will be available for you to view whenever you are ready to celebrate Mass
on our Website, Facebook Page, and YouTube Channel.

Daily Mass Celebrated by Pope Francis from the Santa Marta Chapel in Rome
Catholic Faith Network (CFN) Broadcast of the Celebration of the Eucharist:

Sunday at 1:30 pm, 9:30 pm ET
Monday – Friday at 10:30 am, 9:00 pm ET
Saturday at 10:30 am, 9:00 pm ET

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is available throughout the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area on: Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296, Spectrum channel 162/471 or at www.catholicfaithnetwork.org/daily-mass-santa-marta-chapel-rome



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 in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment 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. Amen.

Stay Connected with St. Mary’s Church

Although, we cannot gather as a parish family, we can stay connected virtually! Our website will be updated as more information is available. Our Facebook page highlights feast days of saints, articles for reflection, live programs and events.
So check us out and stay in the know about what’s going on at St. Mary’s Church.

Website: www.stmarysnutley.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley

SUBSCRIBE TO ST. MARY’S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOceJGcHuZ1_sei860rldug

We have been adding music, videos, and reflections on the Sunday readings to our channel as another way for you to experience St. Mary’s at home. Be sure to check it out!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH. WE NEED YOUR HELP.

You can sign-up for Parish Giving by going to www.stmarysnutley.org
It's easy to do and no amount is too small.

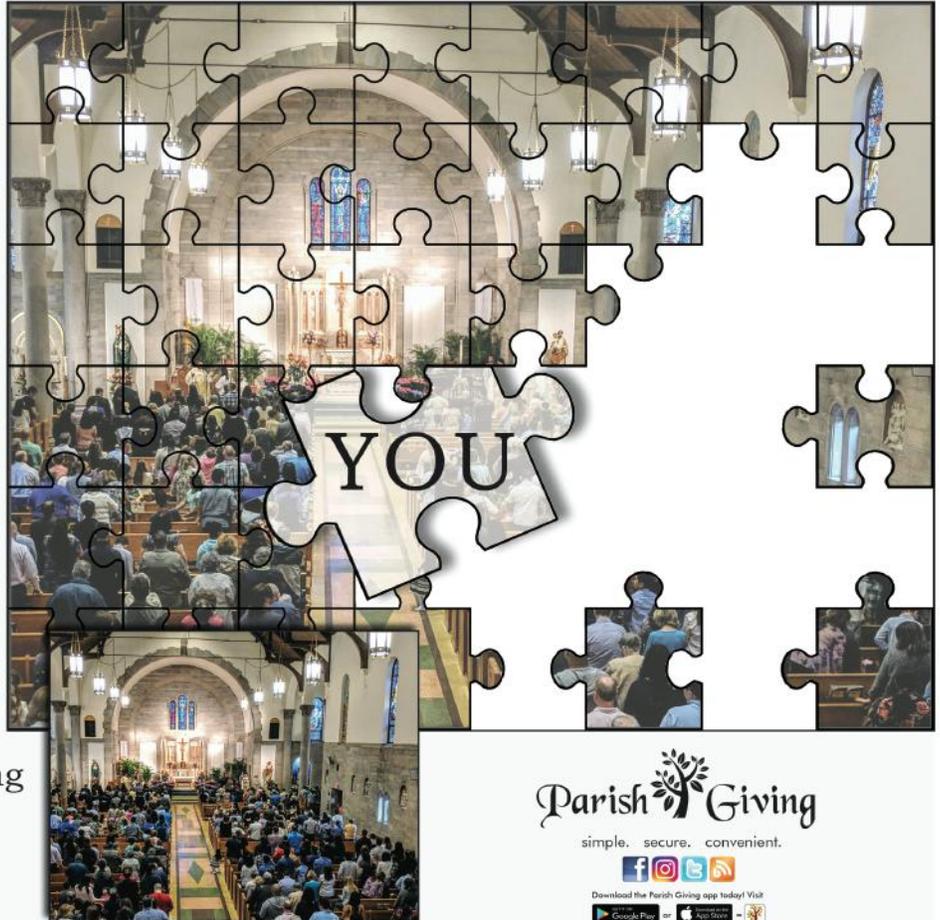
You can also drop off your envelopes or donations through the mail slot of the Parish Center or by mailing them to: St. Mary's Church, 17 Msgr. Owens Place, Nutley, NJ 07110

Families are like puzzles. They fit together in a certain way, and if one piece is missing, it throws everything off.

-Richard Schiff

YOU complete our parish family at St. Mary's.

Please consider automating your contributions to St. Mary's.



Please visit www.stmarysnutley.org to learn more and sign up for our Parish Giving program.

Parish Giving offers secure flexible online giving for our parishioners who would like to make their donations online using a credit card or bank transfer. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan the budget. Check out the website listed for benefits and details. 656 St. Mary Nutley, NJ 07110

St. Mary's Church is served by:

Rev. Richard Barbary, Pastor

Rev. Thomas Nicastro,
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Ron Ronacher

Anthony G. Armando,
Director of Faith Formation
armandoa@stmarysnutley.org

Bruce Mauro,

Music Director, b.mauro1@yahoo.com

Patrick Perrone, Trustee

Anne Scheidel, Trustee

HOPE

- we will all be together again -

©JPPC

TUNE IN TO THE ST. MARY'S CHURCH FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM

www.facebook.com/stmarysnutley

Our Facebook page has been a great way to not only get information and find links to resources, but to connect to the parish in real time. Anthony Armando, our director of Faith Formation, has been going LIVE to pray the rosary, do Q&A with our students, and continue our Children's Liturgy of the Word (Sundays at 10:30am). Bruce Mauro, our Music Director, has been going LIVE with music to help us pray and to get us Ready to Receive, a weekly look at the Sunday readings with music. The great thing about Facebook Live is you don't need a Facebook account to watch the videos! We hope you will join us and many other of your fellow parishioners to pray, reflect and connect!



Children's Liturgy of the Word
Every Sunday Morning at 10:30am

We sit down to proclaim the Liturgy of the Word with our children to help them better understand how God is speaking to them through the scriptures.

Pray the Rosary
Wednesdays at 4pm
Join us in meditating on the Glorious Mysteries



Windows of Faith
Fridays at 4pm



A look at the stained glass windows of our Church and the stories that they tell

On Facebook Search for "Church Music by Bruce"

"Hallelujah Is Our Song"

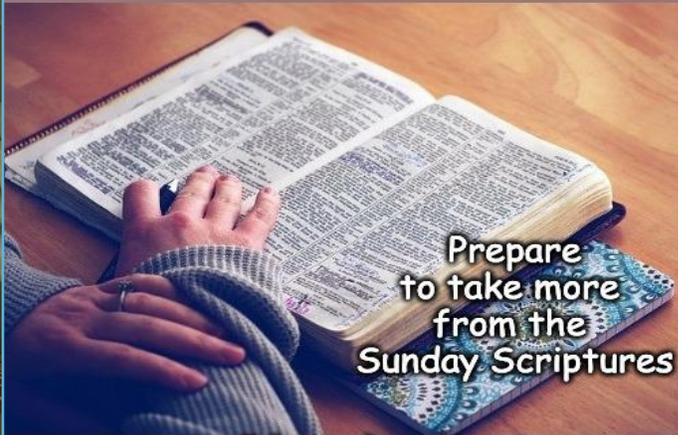


Bruce Plays Music of the Season

Tuesdays 7-7:30 p.m.

imgflip.com

Ready 2 Receive
Thursdays 7- 7:45 p.m.



Prepare to take more from the Sunday Scriptures

Livestreamed on Facebook
Search for
St. Mary's R.C. Church Nutley

imgflip.com

WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE LOOKING AT THE SKY?

Of what use is the Bible?

We hear it in church. We see it in posts on the internet. There are snippets of it in our conversations, books and films. Some base predictions on its words and numbers. Some use individual verses to justify their actions.

“An eye for an eye, it’s in the bible.” BTW This logic is flawed.

See my blog of February 20th [Turn the Other Cheek?](#)



How do YOU apply the Word of God to “real life”?

A long time ago, I was advised to never ask a question I was unwilling to answer myself. So...The Bible helps me to better know the God who created me, saved me and reaches out to me in countless ways. I attempt to apply this knowledge to my daily decisions.

I share it as first as a fellow traveler and second as a church musician in two principle ways:

- A 12-15 minute video called **Ready 2 Receive** is what I’ve learned about the day’s scripture based on years of study and recent research. It Livestreams on the [St. Mary's RC Church Nutley](#) Facebook on Thursdays at 7 p.m. but you can view it anytime.
- **Liturgical Notes** is a weekly online bulletin article and blog. [link to past articles](#)

In the account of Jesus’ Ascension, Luke writes the following:

“While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? Acts 1:10-11a

Why were the apostles standing there looking at the sky? Maybe it’s because they were stunned. Maybe it’s because their spirits were moving in the exact opposite direction as Jesus.

Decide for yourself.

Jesus rises from the dead and enters the locked room where they are hiding. He touches them. Talks with them. Eats with them. They go out and in His name are preaching, converting and healing. And now he’s leaving? If I were them, I’d be singing the line from that Sinatra tune: *“Riding high in April. Shot down in May.”*

Can you think of any parallels for yourself in this year which among its promises were to be the year of perfect vision?

Blest to be in ministry at St. Mary’s,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "Barbara", written in a cursive style.

**The Liturgy of the Word for
Sunday, May 17, 2020
The Ascension of the Lord**



1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

2nd Reading: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Praying the Rosary

Everyday at 4pm the Rosary Society has been praying the Rosary for an end to the pandemic, for those affected and for those who have died.

Anthony Armando has also been leading the recitation of the Rosary on Facebook Live on Wednesdays at 4pm. We invite you to join us in prayer.

You can view the Pope's Letter on the Month of Mary and the two prayers to recite at the end of the rosary: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-04/letter-on-the-month-of-may-full-text.html>

Learn More About the Rosary: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/rosary#about>



Our weekly lessons are now complete. If you have missed a lesson, you can always find it on the Faith Formation Website: www.stmarysnutleyccd.blogspot.com

Even though there are no new lessons, we encourage you to continue to pray as a family, talk about your faith with one another, watch Mass online and help those in need in this difficult time.

We have already begun planning for the fall semester. With the uncertainty of how we will be able to conduct classes in September, we are exploring a few different options for our families.

We join together to pray for the needs of our parish family

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please email bulletin@stmarysnutley.org with the name and reason for your prayers. Ex: John Smith, who passed away or Jane Doe who is sick. All prayer requests will remain here for two weeks.



We Pray...

For the Church Universal that may all believers together with Francis, our Pope, embrace the peace of Jesus as we rejoice in Christ triumphant.

For our leaders that they may work together to protect our freedoms, provide for safety and ensure peace.

For all those affected by the pandemic, the sick and the suffering, the anxious and the fearful, and for those who have lost loved ones that may they see their sufferings and struggles lifted up and redeemed by the cross of Christ.

For all who are sick and suffering, especially Lillian Rich.

For all who have died in the joyful hope of eternal life, especially Dennis Dework, Filomena Adamo, Ted Lovallo

For healthcare professionals and service personnel, for those who work in essential jobs and those who work to provide for our needs may they be kept safe from harm and know of our gratitude for the work that they do.

For the poor, the homeless, the lonely and the hungry that they may see Jesus in the kindness and generosity of others

For our planet, that we can appreciate the beauty of God's creation and be good stewards of the environment.

For all priests that they may be renewed in spirit and strive to serve the people of God with gentleness, courage and mercy.

That the Lord may preserve the members of our Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Air Force from all harm

That the Lord may help families with men and women in the armed forces to cope with daily challenges in the absence of their loved ones

For all veterans who have served our nation that they may know our gratitude for all that they sacrificed.

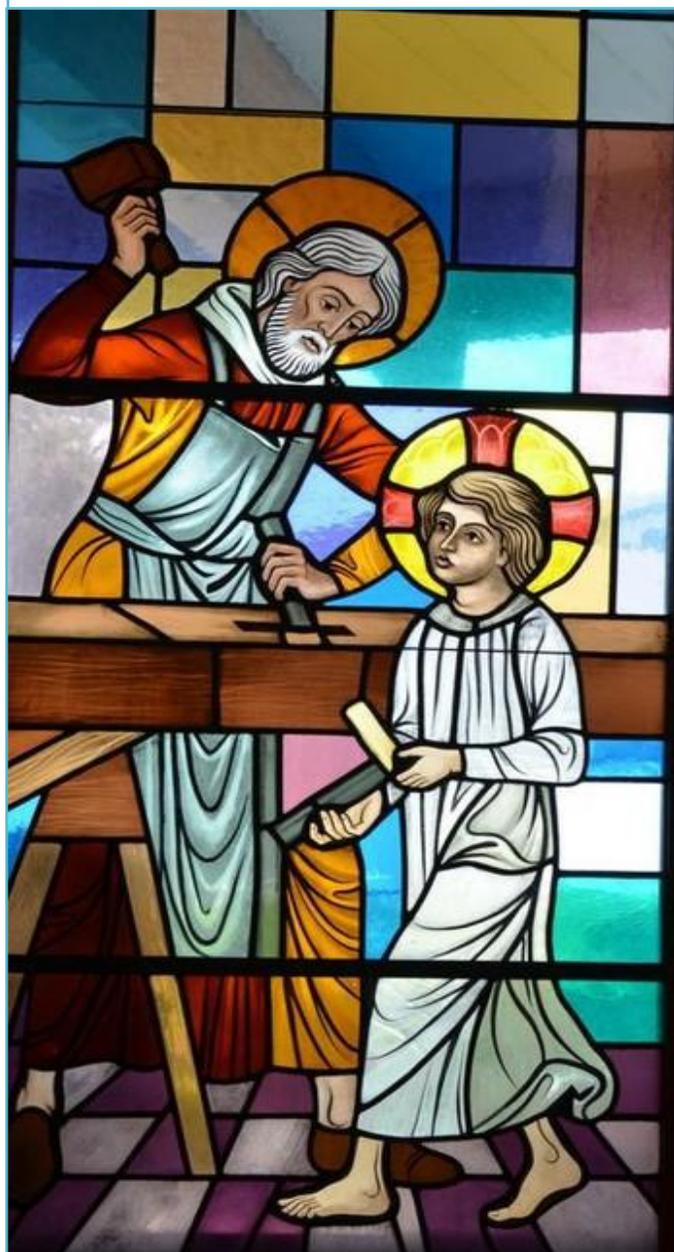
For all those who gave their lives in service to our nation that they may rest in the peace of Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Helping Those In Need

Especially in these challenging times, we are called to love our neighbor. Back in March, St. Mary's closed our food pantry and turned over all of our food supplies and stock to Nutley Family Services for use in serving our community. Thank you to everyone who has donated and to those who helped deliver the food. If you wish to help by donating food, please donate it directly to NFS by following the directions below or go to www.nutleyfamily.org/food-pantry/

NFSB Food Pantry

Shelf-stable donations are gratefully accepted in the marked bins on the porch at the rear of the NFSB Annex at 169 Chestnut Street. Additionally, grocery gift cards for the purchase of staples are always welcome. Please consider a monetary donation to support ongoing programs/services and ensure we can continue to meet the needs of our community in this time of crisis.



PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH FOR WORKERS AND THOSE SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Silent and well-known carpenter in Nazareth, model of workers, by the work of your hands you gave your contribution to the work of the Creator, you earned your living, and you provided for the needs of the Holy Family. Intercede for all workers, in the difficulties of their daily lives especially for the unemployed, in their anxieties for tomorrow, so that through the guidance of God, the great Architect and Builder, they all may use their strength and talents to make visible God's new creation, to offer a concrete service to society, and to earn wages worthy of their efforts. With confidence and trust we make this prayer thru Jesus. Amen.