

The Parish of Our Lady of Hope

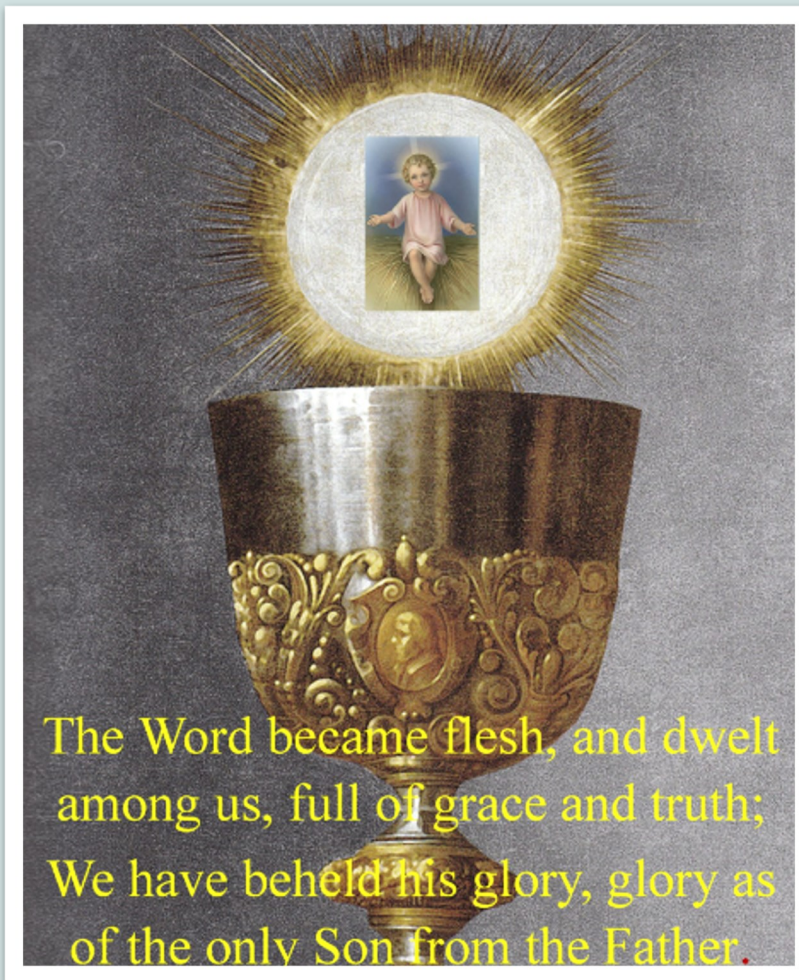
St. Jerome Church
254 Wall Street
West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM and 11:00 AM
Daily: Wednesday-Friday-Saturday 8:30 AM
Confessions: Saturdays 3:00-3:45 PM



St. Mary of the Assumption Church
46 Richmond Avenue
Deal, NJ 07723

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Daily: Monday - Thursday at 9:00 AM
Confessions: Saturdays 4:00-4:45 PM



The Word became flesh, and dwelt
among us, full of grace and truth;
We have beheld his glory, glory as
of the only Son from the Father.

December 24, 2023 *Fourth Sunday of Advent



Saint Jerome School * Blue Ribbon Awardee

Office Number: 732-222-8686

Website Address: www.saintjermeschool.org



A Letter from Father Marcin

Dear Parish Family,

Advent is ending and a joyful season of Christmas begins. I wanted to share with you about this amazing true story that took place in northern town of Italy in Bra, Piedmont. On the evening December 29th, 1336, a young wife named Egidia Mathis was returning home when she spotted two French soldiers, mercenaries hiding behind the bushes. She was pregnant with child and from the looks of these men she sensed that she was in danger of being taken advantage of by them. Since she was in the advanced stage of her pregnancy, she knew that she would not be able to escape and run away. She went over to a statue of Mary on the pillar that was nearby and kneeling she pleaded with Our Blessed Mother for help. As those two men approached this young pregnant woman all the sudden a flash of light came from the statue which frightened those two soldiers and made them runaway. The young woman beheld a vision of our Blessed Mother, who told her that everything is going to be well and that she does not need to be afraid anymore and all will be well with her child as well. Because the young woman suffered emotional distress of the situation, she gave birth to her healthy first child in that very moment. After delivery, she shared with the people of the town what took place and therefore the people went to the location where she said she saw our Blessed Mother. When people got to the place, they saw the statue of Mary on the pillar, and to their amazement they noticed that the leafless blackthorn bushes which were covered in ice and grew in the place of the apparition were blooming with thousands of little flowers. Ever since that event the bushes in that location continue to bloom every year from December 25th to January 15th. The only time that the flowers did not bloom was in 1914 and 1939 when two World Wars began. The church next to the location of this miraculous site and apparition is called Our Lady of the Flowers. Due to the remarkable blooming of those blackthorn bushes, the scientists from nearby University tried to investigate this phenomenon. They used the same type of blackthorn bushes and they tried to plant them in the same soil that was found in place of apparition. However, their efforts proved useless, and they concluded that they cannot explain the reasons why in middle of winter those bushes bloom while all the rest of the bushes that are of the same species, same type of plant do not. I have not been to Italy yet, but I would like to visit this site. I hope that this true story and ongoing evidence of the blooming flowers at that place of Mary's apparition will help you to grow in love with our Blessed Mother. Whenever difficulty or crisis appears in your life try to remember what Mary did and how she came to the rescue of her child that turned to her for help. Let us confide our lives and families in her motherly care and we will not be disappointed with her unfailing help. Mary too in her life had to face many difficulties like traveling long journey to Bethlehem while she was in later part of pregnancy with Jesus. She could not even enjoy the moment of the birth of Christ, and she had to flee with Joseph to Egypt, because king Herod sent army to Bethlehem to kill her baby son. Mary is sinless and holy, but she did face real life difficulties like us. This knowledge should give us consolation that she understands what we are going through, and she knows our fears, our worries, our concerns. She loves us so deeply because we are her children. Like every loving mother, she is there when their children are going through difficult times to support them and encourage them to trust God and not to give up hope. Our Lady of Flowers, pray for us! Our Lady of Hope, Pray for us!

My dear parish family, I wish you all a Blessed and Joyful Christmas, and may the coming of Christ child fill your hearts with peace and grace. Merry Christmas!!!

Fr. Marcin



Pastoral and Support Staff

Administrator: Reverend Marcin Kania
Rev. Michael Lynch * Rev. Jerome Nolan
Deacon Louis Jakub

Sr. Angelina Pelliccia, M.P.F. * Sr. Elizabeth Toft, M.P.F.

Sr. Elizabeth Dalessio, M.P.F., School Principal

Maria Lozano * Carolyn Silva

Norma Adamitis * Joann Fischer

John Dufford * Christine Scholtz

Dennis Melofchik & Theodore Ferraro, Jr., Trustees

Contact Information

The main office is operating preferably by phone, email or appointment Monday—Friday 9 AM—1 PM

254 Wall Street, West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Phone 732-222-1424 • Fax 732-222-2291

Email Address: office@ladyofhopeparish.org

Website: www.ladyofhopeparish.org

St. Mary's phone: 732-531-1409

Email Address: stmary@ladyofhopeparish.org

frmarcin@ladyofhopeparish.org

Our Lady of Hope Parish

Our Lady of Hope Parish Weekly Collection and Attendance

May the Good Lord bless you for your generosity

St. Jerome

St. Mary of the Assumption

Saturday/Sunday, December 16/17, 2023		
4:00 PM Mass	\$1,150	68 people
7:30 AM Mass	\$3,396	75 people
11:00 AM Mass	\$1,458	130 people
Online Giving	\$1,045	40 families
Total	\$7,049	273 people
Last year same weekend total	\$5,743	259 people

"For it is
 in
giving
 that
 we
receive."
 - St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday/Sunday, December 16/17, 2023		
5:00 PM Mass	\$873	69 people
8:00 AM Mass	\$894	76 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$2,416	159 people
Online Giving	\$597	26 families
Total	\$4,780	304 people
Last year same weekend total	\$4,035	268 people

Christmas Collections will be posted at a later date

Interfaith Neighbors \$ 1,748 Thank you!

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

4 PM ST. JEROME

5 PM ST. MARY

9 PM ST. JEROME

CHRISTMAS DAY

7:30 AM ST. JEROME

8:00 AM ST. MARY

10:00 AM ST. MARY

11:00 AM ST. JEROME



NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE

VIGIL MASS FOR SOLEMNITY
OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

5 PM ST. MARY

NEW YEAR'S DAY

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

MOTHER OF GOD

10:00AM ST. MARY

11:00AM ST. JEROME

It's Simple:

- Log onto our parish website and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration instructions.

It's Secure:

- Parish Giving is PCI compliant and uses the strongest SSL encryption technology available.

It's Convenient:

- No more searching for the check book on Sunday morning or stops at the ATM machine.
- You can pick the day of the month for the recurring contributions to be processed.

Tax Benefits:

- You will be able to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year.

Parish Benefits:

- Weekly or monthly contribution choices



Our Lady of Hope Parish

Our Lady of Hope Parish Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve—December 24

4:00 PM - St. Jerome (Children's Choir)
 5:00 PM - St. Mary's
 9:00 PM - St. Jerome (Las Posada and Adult's Choir)

Christmas Day— December 25 (Holy day of Obligation)

7:30 AM - St. Jerome
 11:00 AM -St. Jerome
 8:00 AM - St. Mary's
 10:00 AM -St. Mary's

New Year's Eve Vigil – December 31

5:00 PM—St. Mary's

Solemnity of Mary - January 1 (Holy Day of Obligation)

10:00 AM—St. Mary's
 11:00 AM -St. Jerome



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Please pray for the sick, the homebound and those who have requested us to remember them in prayer, especially:

Week 1: David Applegate, Fr. Doug Freer, Fr. Michael Lynch, Sr. Angelina Pelliccia, Charlie Ruggirello.

Week 2: Fiona Lytle, Sharon DeVito, Tom Smith.

Week 3: Karen Daly, John Day, James Shanahan, August Wreiole, Nick Greico, Catherine Troglen.

Week 4: Sam Britton, Bernice Cobb, Frank Marsico, Carole Mueller, Rob Norman, Regina Roche, Frank Signorelli, David, Myra, Maureen Walther, and Sammi Yanni, Alfred Trapanese.

Also, we continually keep in our prayers all those who are serving in our Armed Forces .

**The names will be listed for four weeks unless you contact the rectory office at office@ladyofhopeparish.org or call 732-222-1424 to extend **



The Parish of our Lady of Hope Welcomes our Newly Baptized

Brayden Michael Danna

Son of:

Michael Danna Jr. & Shauna Leys

&

Summer Rose Phillips

Daughter of:

Douglas J. Phillips & Laura Szwed

FOURTH Sunday OF ADVENT

'GOD FILLS US WITH HIS GREAT LOVE.'

•On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes LOVE. It reminds us that God is Love.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Holy Matrimony is the covenant a man and woman make to one another and to God to work as partners for the rest of their lives. The woman and man marry one another before a witness of the Church and representatives of the community. Are you prepared, as you follow the path of Marriage, to love and honor each other for as long as you both shall live?



You must be actively registered for 6 months to schedule a marriage preparation meeting at least 1 year in advance of the wedding date. Please do not book venue before choosing date with the parish. Anyone interested in receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony, please contact Patty Carvalho at 848-466-0807 to book a wedding date and for additional documentation and paperwork that will need to be completed.


More information regarding Sacraments can be found under the Sacrament link @ www.ladyofhopeparish.org

Our Lady of Hope Parish


St. Jerome's Church Mass Intentions		
Saturday, December 23	4:00 PM	William Nurthen + Lou & Mary Jakub Donald Curtis + Richard & Connie Dominguez
Sunday, December 24 Sunday, Christmas Eve Monday, December 25 Christmas Day	7:30 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	11:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	4:00 PM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	9:00 PM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	7:30 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	11:00am	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	Wednesday, December 27	8:30 AM
Friday, December 29	8:30 AM	Living and deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
Saturday, December 30	8:30 AM	Josephine Santadrea (1yr) Our Lady Of Hope
	4:00 PM	Mary Ann Felice Her Loving Family Jayne M. Natoli The LeTendre Family
Sunday, December 31	7:30 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	11:00 AM	S. Michael & Celeste Varone The Sita Family Donald Curtis Marie Curtis

St. Mary's Church Mass Intentions		
Saturday, December 23	5:00 PM	Jean Papparella + - In Memory of Her Birthday Req. Rudy Papparella Bianca & Antimo Russo & Family Req. The Russo Family
Sunday, December 24 Sunday Christmas Eve	8:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	10:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	5:00 PM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
Monday December 25 Christmas Day	8:00AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	10:00AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
Tuesday, December 26	9:00 AM	David Carbone + - 55th Anniversary
Wednesday, December 27	9:00 AM	Thomas Cavanagh + Req. Joann Fisher
Thursday, December 28	9:00 AM	Howard White + Req. Joann fisher
Saturday, December 30	5:00 PM	Tony Caruso + Req. His Wife and Family Olga Laraine Wolfe + Req. David & Giovanna Kulka
	8:00 AM	All Souls in Purgatory +
Sunday, December 31	10:00 AM	Robert Stratton + Req. Parish of Our Lady of Hope

All donations, contributions, and payments to the Parish for both churches including Interfaith Neighbors should be made payable to:
The Parish of Our Lady of Hope



REQUIESCAT IN PACE



Please remember in your prayers the happy repose of the souls of:

Carole Ann Napolitan
Bertram James Riley

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Envelopes may be found in pews, back of church and offices. Other ways to donate may be found www.dioceseoftrenton.org use parish name or code P3655 when donating. Checks should be written to Catholic Appeal not the parish. Our goal this year is \$60,000. **As of 12/18/2023 Pledged: \$45,351.23 paid so far \$45,051.23 which is 75% of our goal from 164 donors. Thank you.**

ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
Appeal
DIOCESE of TRENTON

2023

Las Posadas 2023

The roots of *Las Posadas* stretch deeply into Latin culture. It originated in Spain, but it's been a yearly celebration throughout Mexico for over 400 years. The tradition commemorates Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a warm place to stay the night. (*Posadas* is Spanish for "lodgings" or "accommodations.")

Mary and Joseph faced the elements of the journey —and indifferent innkeepers that night. *Las Posadas* is the story of Christmas: It's about pilgrims and a pilgrimage. The story of Christ's birth has been told and retold so many times it could have lost its luster generations ago. But it hasn't—not even close. If anything, in this world of war, famine and natural disasters, holding on to something as simple and as singularly important as the Nativity story is a necessity to our faith.

Thank you to the eighth grade students and the entire student body for once again, telling us the story of *Las Posadas* reminding us that in very humble surroundings, the Son of God came to us, to bring peace.



Blessed Christmas 2023

It is Christmas everytime you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas everytime you smile at your brother or sister and offer them your hand."

Mother Teresa

This year we stressed the importance of seeing our smiles through the kindness of each other. More importantly, we see the peace of Christ.

May you and your loved ones be graced with the peace of Christ and enjoy His presence in each other.

Merry Christmas and blessings as we enter 2024.

God bless you.

Sisters Elizabeth Seton, Elizabeth, Donna