

# Merry Christmas

*"...this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
...the babe, the son of Mary."*

## The Parish of Our Lady of Hope



### Saint Jerome Church

254 Wall Street  
West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 7:30 AM and 11:00 AM  
Daily: Wednesday-Friday-Saturday 8:30 AM  
Confessions: Saturdays 4:00-4:45 PM

### Saint 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

December 25, 2022

The Nativity of the Lord



**Saint Jerome School \* Blue Ribbon Awardee**

Office Number: 732-222-8686

Website Address: [www.saintjeromeschool.org](http://www.saintjeromeschool.org)



**Pastoral and Support Staff**

Pastor: Fr. Sheldon Amasa  
 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  
 Georgie Mandica  
 Norma Adamitis \* Joann Fischer  
 John Dufford \* Christine Scholtz  
 Dennis Melofchik & Theodore Ferraro, Jr., Trustees

**Contact Information**

**Offices are operating by phone, email or by appointment only Monday—Thursday mornings**  
 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

**Weekly Collection and Attendance**

*May the good Lord bless you for your generosity*

St. Jerome

St. Mary of the Assumption

Saturday/Sunday, Dec. 10/11, 2022		
5:00 pm Mass	\$1,081.00	64 people
7:30 am Mass	\$2,402.00	86 people
11:00 am Mass	\$1,591.00	184 people
Online Giving	\$1,068.00	41 families
Total	\$6,197.00	334 people
Last year same weekend total	\$5,835.00	251 people



Saturday/Sunday, Dec. 10/11, 2022		
5:00 pm Mass	\$430.00	51 people
8:00 am Mass	\$1,329.00	97 people
10:00 am Mass	\$1,709.00	99 people
Online Giving	\$942.00	33 families
Total	\$4,410.00	247 people
Last year same weekend total	\$3,805.31	223 people

Immaculate Conception: \$ \$1,146.00– Thank you!  
 Religious Retirement: \$1,933.00 —Thank You!

Immaculate Conception: \$ \$927.00– Thank you!  
 Religious Retirement: \$1,449.00 —Thank You!



**Please register as a parishioner**

Why is it so important to register with a parish? Registration is the official way we join a parish community. Some people think they automatically are registered just by attending Mass regularly in a particular parish but it requires a form to be submitted to the parish office with copies of sacrament records. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social and ministerial activities of your parish. Registration is also necessary for certain benefits and administrative purposes such as, scheduling sacraments, obtaining a sponsor or godparent eligibility form if requirements are met, a qualification letter from the pastor and receiving a year end donation tax statement. Weekly collection envelopes are used to track attendance at Mass. Registration in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish. Registration forms may be found on our website [www.ladyofhopeparish.org](http://www.ladyofhopeparish.org) under the About us tab or email or call the Parish Office 732-222-1424 or office@ladyofhopeparish.org. Thank you.

**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](http://www.ladyofhopeparish.org)



## A Letter from Father Sheldon

My dear Parish Family,

Greetings peace and joy to all of you and your loved ones!

One of the most powerful Christmas images I have seen is the picture of the baby Jesus in the manger. I know you might be asking: "What makes it more powerful than other pictures? It is Christmas. We should see pictures of baby Jesus in the manger everywhere." Well let me describe it more. In this painting, the manger is so bright because it has lights focused on it and the shadow it created, on a distant backdrop, is the cross. I guess that tells us where the manger is leading us to.

If you will allow me, this is how I would read the Theological message of that picture: God, born to be with us by becoming human flesh and his flesh, offered as a sacrifice, has given us salvation. In other words, Christmas unites God and man. The Eucharist, makes this unity work for salvation.

The Eucharist, is the same flesh that was born on Christmas day. But here, in the Eucharist, is the completion of the purpose of God becoming flesh.

This year, the Catholic Church in the United States launched the National Eucharistic Revival. This will culminate in 2025. We are given the opportunity to deepen our appreciation of the Eucharist. With all the programs that we will be having in our parish, we will surely be drawn to strengthen our devotion to the Eucharist. We will discover more the power and beauty of the presence of God hidden in the Sacred Host, God made flesh on Christmas.

This Christmas, our celebrations of Joy is because God became man to be with us. And by being with us in the Eucharist He assures us: "You will have life."

May we all be happy and more forgiving this Christmas and all our lives. Let us not be afraid to live and share the Joys of knowing that God is with us.

Merry Christmas! ...with love,

Fr Sheldon



### Our Lady of Hope Parish Holiday Mass Schedule

#### Christmas Eve—Saturday, December 24

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

#### Christmas Day—Sunday, December 25

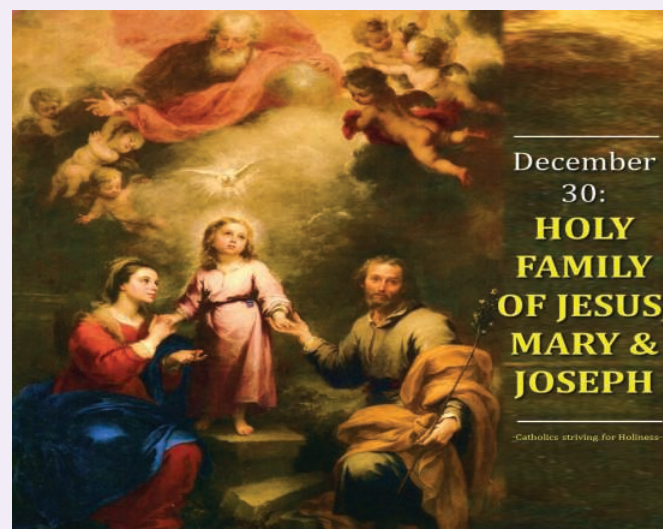
7:30 AM - St. Jerome  
8:00 AM - St. Mary's  
9:30 AM - St. Jerome  
10:00 AM - St. Mary's  
11:00 AM - St. Jerome  
12 Noon - St. Mary's

#### New Year's Eve Vigil -Saturday, December 31

5:00 PM - St. Jerome  
5:00 PM - St. Mary's

#### Solemnity of Mary - Sunday, January 1

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



## Saint Jerome Church

Mass Intentions		
Saturday, December 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b>	4:00 PM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	9:00 PM	
Sunday, December 25 <b>Christmas</b>	7:30 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	9:30 AM	
	11:00 AM	
Wednesday, December 28	8:30 AM	Carmella & Frank Trocchia <span style="float: right;">Lillian Trocchia</span>
Friday, December 30	8:30 AM	Rose Rinaldi <span style="float: right;">Lillian Trocchia</span>
Saturday, December 31 <b>NY Eve</b>	5:00 PM	Donna Holtz <span style="float: right;">Connie &amp; Rich Dominguez</span> Healing for Joseph Mandica <span style="float: right;">The Mandica family</span>
Sunday, January 1 <b>Solemnity of Mary</b>	7:30 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners Rosemary Loeffler <span style="float: right;">Connie &amp; Rich Dominguez</span>
	11:00 AM	Michael Dannunzio <span style="float: right;">Mom &amp; Dad</span> Clement Corbo, Sr. <span style="float: right;">Vito &amp; Liz Paolantonio</span>

"The Rosary Altar Society of Our Lady of Hope Parish," invites everyone to reserve flowers in front of the Blessed Mother and Sacred Heart Statues at St. Jerome Church. The donation is \$15 each and can be for loving memorials, birthdays, anniversaries, or any special intentions. Please contact Robin Stillings for available dates at 908-309-2976 or email: gymwrat51@gmail.com



**Sanctuary Candle for week of December 25, 2022**

*In loving memory of Mary & Antonio Falvo*

Requested by their children


### Attention Ladies Bowlers Needed

Join the St. Jerome Bowling League and help support the St. Jerome PTA

We bowl Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM  
Shore Lanes at the Asbury Circle


Call Kitty Mandica for more details or to join  
732-259-0406






# National Eucharistic Revival

The Church needs healing. And the world needs the Church. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.



Jesus needs each one of us to be his hands and feet throughout this Eucharistic Revival.



66

*I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.*  
John 6:51

#### *Be Blessed as You Present the Gifts*



*Would you like to present the Bread and the Wine at mass? Please see Dennis, Ed or any of our ushers for your preferred weekend Mass time.*



## Saint Mary of the Assumption Church

Mass Intentions		
Saturday, December 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b>	5:00 PM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
Sunday, December 25 <b>Christmas</b>	8:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	10:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
	12:00 PM	Living and Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
Monday, December 26	9:00 AM	All Deceased Family Members Theresa J. Trocchia
Tuesday, December 27	9:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners
Wednesday, December 28	9:00 AM	Living and Deceased Parishioners
Thursday, December 29	9:00 AM	Tony Caruso His wife & children
Saturday, December 31 <b>NY Eve</b>	5:00 PM	Deceased members of the Carbone & Fischer families
Sunday, January 1 <b>Solemnity of Mary</b>	8:00 AM	Deceased members of the Adamitis, Gizenski & Regulski families
	10:00 AM	Deacon Paul & Mrs. Patricia Serafino



“Put on love. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body.”

### Sheepish Question:

When have I been less than understanding with members of my own family or faith community?

### Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for December Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



**Our Lady of Hope Parish Goal : \$60,000**

**Collected thus far: \$48,188 / 144 Donors 80% of Goal**

Please help us meet our goal, donations can be made **on line** [www.dioceseoftrenton/catholicappeal](http://www.dioceseoftrenton/catholicappeal) or cards with envelopes may be picked up near the exits.

We have only 1 week left to meet our goal of \$12,000 more , we are so close. Thank you to all who have contributed.

### 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: Sam Britton, Bernice Cobb, Marge Edelson, Joseph Mandica, Frank Marsico, Carole Mueller, Rob Norman, Regina Roche, Stephanie Sassola, Frank Signorelli, David, Maureen & Myra Walther, Sammi Yann

Week 2: Fr. Doug Freer, Cathy Mueller, Bill Prihel, Dan Sloan

Week 3:

Week 4: Donna Convery, Karen Daly, Joan Day, Jim Shanahan, John Wengler, Howard White, August Wreiole

*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](mailto:office@ladyofhopeparish.org) or call 732-222-1424 to extend \*\*



## *Las Posadas 2022*

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 2022*

*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 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 2022!*

*God bless you.*

*Sisters Elizabeth Seton, Angelina, Elizabeth, Donna*



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