



# *Peace*

*I leave with you;  
my peace I give you.  
I do not give to you  
as the world gives.*

*Do not let your  
hearts be troubled  
and do not be afraid.*

– John 14:27

# *Merry Christmas*

*The Church Of Epiphany  
Brick Township, New Jersey*

# The Church of Epiphany

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

615 Thiele Road ~ Brick, New Jersey 08724

Phone: 732-458-0220 / Fax: 732-458-0855 / Website: [www.churchofepiphany.org](http://www.churchofepiphany.org)



## Served By

REV. MICHAEL SANTANGELO -----Pastor  
REV. ROBERT LAFERRERA-----Weekend Assistant  
LOUIS V. COMMISSO (Retired) -----Deacon  
MICHAEL MULLARKEY-----Deacon  
RONALD NOWAK (Retired)-----Deacon  
KIM LORENTZEN-----Director Religious Education  
DANIEL DANTONI-----Director of Music  
DONNA WOODLEY-----Parish Secretary  
CAROL LORE-----Finance Secretary  
KELLY CURCIONE-----Administrative Asst. Rel. Ed  
MICHAEL & AMY NOWAK-----Middle School Youth Group  
BARBARA FAVRETTO-----High School Youth Group

## Rectory Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 4:30pm

Office is closed for lunch 12:00pm – 1:15pm

Friday 9:00am – 3:00pm (no lunch break on Friday)

## Religious Education Office

Same as Rectory Office Hours

Kim Lorentzen – Director of Education

[kim@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:kim@churchofepiphany.org)

Kelly Curcione – Administrative Assistant

[kelly@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:kelly@churchofepiphany.org)

## Welcome to our Parish

Please fill out a registration form to be affiliated with Epiphany Parish. Registration forms can be found on the parish office door or online on our website.

## Masses

Saturday Vigil-----4:00 pm

Sunday-----8:00 am & 10:30 am

Holy Day Masses -----Mass as Announced

Confessions-----3:00 pm – 3:30pm

## Sacrament of Marriage

Saturday 11:00 am, 12:30 pm, 2:00 pm. Couples should contact the Parish Office to make preparations at least 1 year before the planned wedding date.

## Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is ordinarily celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 12:00 pm. To schedule Baptism, please call the Parish Office, at least one month in advance.

## Sponsor Letters/Requirements

The following is required by Canon Law to be a Catholic Godparent/Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. Be at least 16 years of age. Have completed the Sacraments of Initiation. (Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation). If married, have a marriage that is canonically valid and recognized by the Catholic Church. Be a registered and active parishioner living a life of faith. You must be registered with our parish for at least 3 months before we will provide a sponsor letter. Although you may have registered with our parish, if you are not attending Mass regularly and using the envelope system there is no way for the parish office to confirm regular Mass attendance. Please contact the Parish Office to confirm your status with our parish.

December 22, 2024 • 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent



## Daily Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 21, 2024

9:00AM George Sciorra by Jane & Jeff Fabach  
4:00PM People of the Parish

### Sunday, December 22, 2024

8:00AM John Infantolino by Coleen & Richard Jackson  
10:30AM Jennifer Smith Chavez by Ginny Rimback

### Monday, December 23, 2024

9:00AM Carlotta Lopez by Fr. Mike Santangelo

### Tuesday, December 24, 2024

9:00AM Claire DePaul by Louis & Mary Marella  
4:00PM All Parishioners Living & Deceased  
8:00PM All Parishioners Living & Deceased

### Wednesday, December 25, 2024

12:00AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased  
8:00AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased  
10:30AM All Parishioners Living & Deceased

### Thursday, December 26, 2024

**NO MASS**

### Friday, December 27, 2024

9:00AM Rick Gellis by Linda & Fred Dioito  
Intentions in the Grey Book

### Saturday, December 28, 2024

9:00AM Richard Santangelo Sr. by Fr. Mike  
4:00PM Mark Reissner by Mom & Dad

### Sunday, December 29, 2024

8:00AM People of the Parish  
10:30AM Pat Barra by Jack & Mary Cummings

## This Week at our Parish

### Monday, December 23, 2024

**OFFICE CLOSED**

10:00AM Food Pantry – PH

### Tuesday, December 24, 2024

**CHRISTMAS EVE – OFFICE CLOSED**

### Wednesday, December 25, 2024

**MERRY CHRISTMAS – OFFICE CLOSED**

### Thursday, December 26, 2024

**OFFICE CLOSED**

### Friday, December 27, 2024

8:00PM AA – APR

### Saturday, December 28, 2024

10:00AM Food Pantry – PH

### Sunday, December 29, 2024

2:00PM Walking with Purpose – APR

**Legend:** APR – All Purpose Room PH – Parish Hall  
CA – Commons Area WA – Worship Area  
RE – Religious Education Room OS – Outside

## Sunday Scriptures

Here are next Sunday's Scripture Readings

### First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Sirach emphasizes the importance of honoring one's parents. He explains that spiritual riches will come to those who are kind to their mother and father.

### Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

### Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

### *Please remember those who have died*

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the deceased spouses, relatives, friends, and benefactors of the parish and for the comfort and consolation of their families including; Martha Serpico.

### *Please pray for the sick*

Doris McCabe, Jim Alexander, Jerry McCormack, Mary Buono, Barbara Ballestas, Bill Wilder, Simone McDill, Patrick McHugh, Maureen Kelly, Stella LoBianco, Linda Winger, Theresa Rosas, Billy Rutledge, Doris McCabe, Adele Byrne, Jill Rudville, Joanne Greenburg, Carol Nobile, Rosemarie Dooley, Dee Rebecky, Beth Kelly, Thea Clark, Anthony Cafaro, Madelyn Brunas, Steve Santangelo, Mary Caddigan, Lisa Jones, Greg Piekarz, Dena Kleb, Ester Garcia, Gail Williams, Peggy Lane, Henry Gregory, Craig Percopo, Judy DiLeo, and those in the sick call book.

"Please Pray for the Sick" list is for those parishioners who are in need of further prayers from our "Prayers of the Faithful". They will remain on the list for 2 months, after which time their names will be moved to the Gray Book. To add someone to the prayer list, call Donna at 732-458-0220 or email

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



### *Christmas Eve*

*4pm*

*8pm*

*12:00am Midnight*

### *Christmas Day*

*8am & 10:30am*

Please note that there is no 9AM Mass on Thursday, December 26th

## VIGIL LIGHT PRAYER

### Weekly Remembrance December 22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>

The Tabernacle Lamp  
will burn in the honor/memory of:  
**Rose Rotondo**



The Blessed Mother Devotional Lamp  
will burn in honor/memory of:  
**Gina & Joseph Taibi & Family**



The Sacred Heart Devotional Lamp  
will burn in honor/memory of:  
**Those grieving the loss of a loved one**



The St. Joseph Devotional Lamp  
will burn in honor/memory of:  
**Vocations**



### **Eucharistic Adoration: Every Wed. 3-6PM** **What is Eucharistic Adoration?**

It is where you can be in the Presence of God in a real way. Jesus Christ Himself is present, on the altar, in a consecrated Host that is in the monstrance. "To visit the Blessed Sacrament is...proof of gratitude, an expression of love toward Christ our Lord" (CCC1418). It's where Jesus is waiting...for you to come to Him...

It takes some time to adjust to the silence & can even seem boring if you've never gone before. That's normal but if you can just breathe & relax, Jesus can teach you how to come to Him as a little child. Children find a sense of awe & wonder at things the rest of the world takes for granted or doesn't slow down to enjoy.

Re-discover Jesus! He's right here. In Adoration, God is present! Come talk to Him. He's waiting to listen to you, to help you & to pour out His graces upon you. He knows you. He loves you & He wants to bless you!  
**Please note Adoration will be on a short hiatus until January 8, 2025.**

### **Altar Rosary Society**

The Society's Mission is "to sustain the beauty and sanctity of our Church and to increase devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary by promoting true Christian Charity, love of God, Neighbor, and Catholic Family Life" and recitation of the Rosary. Meetings last about one hour in the APR. Our membership is open to all Catholic Women and Men of our Parish. Please come to any of our monthly meetings to meet us. **Our next meeting will take place on January 4, 2025.** Remember to keep praying your Rosary!

### **Let's Get Together and Pray**

Meetings take place on **Mondays at 7:00PM.** Our prayer group is open to anyone who is searching for answers and looking to pray as a community. Please contact Kim at [kim@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:kim@churchofepiphany.org) for more information. **Please note that there is no meeting on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



### **Wellness for Maturing Adults**

The HOPE – Wellness Ministry invites you to join them every first Wednesday of the month where they will discuss wellness for maturing adults. This program goes far beyond simple "health practices" (diet, exercise, etc.) for better health; it teaches how to harness psychological power, and spiritual strength to achieve optimal health in body, mind and spirit. **We are taking a short hiatus and will resume on March 5, 2025.**

### **HOPE For the Homebound Ministry**

We are reaching out to parishioners who may be alone, homebound, and unable to participate in our Church Community. If you are homebound, or know of someone who is homebound, and would like to receive the Eucharist or just a friendly visit or call from one of our parishioners, please call the parish office.

### **Healing Mass**

All are welcome to join us from September to May for a Healing Mass. We will begin at 6:30PM in the worship area with prayer and reflection. Mass will commence at 7PM followed by Prayers of Healing and Adoration. Our next Healing Mass will be on **January 17, 2025**

### **Bethany Bereavement**

The Church of Epiphany Bethany Bereavement Support Group offers peer support for those grieving the death of a loved one. If you have lost a loved one, join others who have also experienced a loss for a series of 6 sessions of information, mutual sharing and peer support in a spiritual, caring, and confidential setting. If you are interested in joining, please call 732-458-0220.

### **Jordan's Roses**

Jordan's Roses cordially invites all women to join us for a morning of spirituality and fellowship. The day will begin with Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by fellowship at 10:00 a.m. in the APR. Please contact [jordan'sroses@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:jordan'sroses@churchofepiphany.org) or contact the Parish office with any questions. Our next meeting will be on **January 18, 2025.**

# STEWARDSHIP

Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

## \*\*\*Our Current Collection\*\*\*

*Your continued generosity is most appreciated!*

**December 15, 2024**

**Total weekly collection: \$5,582.50 | Online: \$1,137.00**

**Diocesan Assessment: \$933.00**

**Needed to meet the budget: \$8465.00**

**Our 2024 Annual Appeal – Goal \$30,000**

**Pledges - \$33,580.00 (112% of goal)**

**Payments – \$33,022.00 (109% of goal)**

**Total Donors: 134**

**Total Gifts: 199**

**Estimated Rebate: \$6,011.00**

**Congratulations on making goal!!!**

**Thank you for your support!**



## Annual Appeal Explanation

The Annual Catholic Appeal mission remains the same as it was when it began; to financially empower the Church to serve all the people of God, regardless of belief. What's different today: the needs are greater than ever before. For more information visit the Diocese website: <http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/catholicappeal/>

## Online Giving

If you prefer to pay bills and manage your finances online, you can set up an account and make your parish offering online via our website. You will be able to specify exactly how much you are giving, how you are giving it (credit card or bank withdrawal), to what fund you are giving, and when/how often you would like to contribute. It's safe and secure, and you can even track your giving history and pledge progress at any time. Just click the Online Giving button (on the home page or the Online Giving page) to get started or access your existing account. *Please note: Special Holidays/days of Holy Obligation Donations may be set up separately.*

If you have questions about the security of online giving or the processes involved, check out the Online Giving FAQ page on our website: [churchofepiphany.org](http://churchofepiphany.org)

**Why Should I use weekly envelopes?** The use of envelopes is important, they document your active participation in the faith life of our parish. This information is needed in order to obtain a Letter of Eligibility to be issued when you are asked to be a baptism or confirmation sponsor. This also facilitates the preparation of a statement of contributions for income tax purpose.

If you do not currently participate in our envelope system and would like to start using them, please contact the Parish Office at 732-458-0220.

## Ways to Perpetuate a Memory or Commemorate an Event

**The Tree of Life:** This is a way to perpetuate the memory of a loved one or to memorialize someone. To make a donation of \$500 for an engraved leaf or \$2500 for a stone, please contact the parish office staff at 732-458-0220 or email [carol@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:carol@churchofepiphany.org)

**Commemorative Bricks:** This is an ideal way to commemorate a graduation, wedding, special family celebration, or acknowledge a love one. To order one of the two bricks (4X8" or 8X8) and make a donation of \$150 or \$200, please contact the parish office staff at 732-458-0220 or email [carol@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:carol@churchofepiphany.org)

## Bequests

We are a tax-exempt non-profit Organization and gratefully accept donations from last will and testament and/or stock to assist in carrying out our mission. For more information on how to have your wishes known, please talk to your personal banking representative. May God Bless you for your generosity!

## Vigil Candles

Candles will be in honor or memory of the named individual for one week (Sunday to Saturday) and announced in our bulletin and displayed at candle. Donation is \$10. Please come to the parish office to see dates available dates.

## Spiritual Bouquet

A Spiritual Bouquet is a spiritual blessing that is made for a loved one during the First Friday Mass of the month. In addition, their name will be printed in the bulletin. You can also request a card. Donation is \$10



<https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Church-of-Epiphany>



[https://www.instagram.com/Church\\_of\\_epiphany](https://www.instagram.com/Church_of_epiphany)



## Helping Hands

Our Food Pantry is located in the Parish Hall, the small white church, on the corner of Herbertsville Road and Thiele Road in Brick. Food Pantry hours are Saturday from 10AM – 1PM and Monday from 10AM – Noon.

Below is the list of items needed for the Helping Hands food pantry:

### Most Needed

- \*Meat/Chicken/Pork/Hamburgers
- \*Pancake Mix & Syrup
- \*Canned Pasta
- \*Jelly
- \*Brown Rice
- \*Pasta Sauce (Jars)
- \*Assorted Canned Beans
- \*Canned Tuna/Salmon/Chicken

### Needed

Coffee  
Frozen Vegetables  
Fresh Fruit & Vegetables  
Snacks  
Cooking Oil

**In October, Helping Hands helped 348 families / 1716 people with Food.**

## OCIA

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process by which adults who would like to become Catholic, or Catholic adults who would like to receive all of their Sacraments are able to do so. If you would like more information about the process, feel free to reach out to Kim at [Kim@churchofepiphany.org](mailto:Kim@churchofepiphany.org) or contact the parish office.

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our youngest parishioners are invited to join us every Sunday, at the 10:30 Mass in the APR for the Children's Liturgy of the Word. It's open to ages 4 through Second Grade. No need to pre-register or sign up. If you have any questions, please leave a message with the Church office.

## RE Students: Homily Reflection Books

**Homily Reflections:** Each student must write 14 Homily Reflections as follows: A minimum of 9 Masses throughout the year as well as 3 Mandatory Masses together with Christmas and Easter Masses. (*Minimum Total of 14 Homily Reflections.*) This is not saying you only have to attend Mass 14 times a year. Sundays are a Holy Day of Obligation and Practicing Catholics are required to attend weekly Mass and all Holy Days.

## "Did you ever wonder...?"

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month we will gather in the APR for a casual gathering to answer your questions about the Faith. Questions can be submitted ahead of time or will be collected as we gather.

**Who:** Anyone interested in learning more about the faith

**What time:** 7:00PM – 8:30PM

**Where:** The All Purpose Room

**When:** Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

**Why:** Why not?

## Celiac Sprue Parishioners

The parish provides a low gluten (<0.01% gluten content) host for those who are gluten-intolerant. Parishioners should see the Deacon or Priest prior to the beginning of Mass in order to be included in the reception of the Eucharist.

## myParish App

Stay up-to-date with what is going on in your parish throughout the week. Enjoy many useful faith-building resources and features to complement our daily faith life, such as, Confessions and prayer time reminders, daily Mass readings, quick access to parish contacts, receive MASSMode reminders to silence your phone before Mass, and much more.

## *Religious Articles & Gifts*

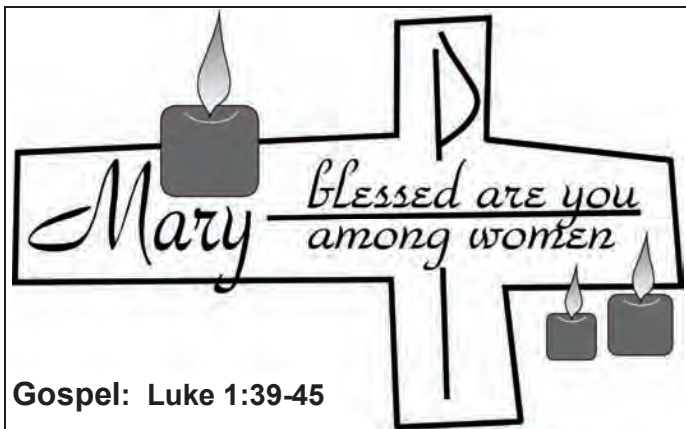
The Altar Rosary Society will be selling Religious Articles and Gifts after all Masses the second weekend of every month. If you are looking for something in particular, please contact the parish office and someone from the Rosary Society will get back to you. Our next sale will be on January 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>.

## College-Age Retreat January 3-5, 2025

Marianist Family Retreat Center – Cape May Point, NJ  
This retreat is designed to bring young people together of college-age (17-22). So, whether you are in college or working, come join us to renew your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God and to meet new friends. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun!  
Cost: \$150 per person/register at:  
[www.capemaymarianiets.org](http://www.capemaymarianiets.org) or call 609-884-3829

## Promise to Protect Pledge to Heal

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the US Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church or if know of someone who was, you can report the abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at [abuseline@diocesoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@diocesoftrenton.org). The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to the local enforcement authorities.



### Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Mary paid a visit to Elizabeth, whose baby stirred in her womb upon hearing Mary's greeting. Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Elizabeth was deeply overjoyed that the words God had spoken to Mary had now been fulfilled.

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leapt in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?'"

As we complete our advent preparation, take a minute to see and hear the family reunion of the two cousins. The question of Elizabeth can fall from our lips. Not only 'how is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me', but for us, how is it that our loving God should become one with us today? The marvelous question for us 'can it indeed be that God dwells on earth?' These final days before Christmas urges us to consider and be serious about His coming and our need to find Him among us.

The biblical words of the greeting above, which we recite so frequently, invite us to discover the real meaning of our Christmas celebration this week.

### Calendar Raffle

The Church of Epiphany is once again having a Calendar Raffle fundraiser. Drawings will begin on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 10AM, and will continue to be drawn every Tuesday for 12 weeks (until March 25<sup>th</sup>). There are 12 chances to win! Every drawing will have a \$250 prize and your ticket will be entered in all drawings! Ticket's cost \$20 each. You can pick up your raffles in the commons area or the office any time. Makes a great stocking stuffer, teacher gift, etc.. All proceeds from the raffle will go towards our parish.

### Catholic Charities

#### Mental Health Crisis Services

Feeling Down or Anxious? Catholic Charities can help you. They Offer:

- Mental Health Crisis Services
- Psychiatric Urgent Care
- Substance Recovery Treatment
- Social Services and Support

Call 609-729-5468, you connection to Catholic Charities Mental health Crisis Services. Daily hours of operation are 8AM – 6PM.



St. Leo's in Lincroft is pleased to announce its continuing ministry for Separated and Divorced Catholics. It is called "Surviving the Holidays" Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family"

([www.catholicsdivorce.com](http://www.catholicsdivorce.com)). St. Leo's will be hosting an Information Night on Thursday, January 16, 2025 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall located at 50 Hurleys Lane, Lincroft, NJ.

This Information Night will help you decide if you would like to attend our upcoming 12-week program starting in March of 2025 on Thursday nights. All the details will be provided to you at the Information Night. If you would like more information about our offerings, please check out our Ministry page at:

<https://www.mylifechangecoach.com/divorceministry>. All are welcome! To register or if you are interested and would like more information, please email Michele Coppola Wilson at [healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com](mailto:healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com). Have any questions? Feel free to call or text anytime at 201-753-8485. We hope you can make it!

### Office Closed

Please note that the office will be closed from Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, and again on December 31<sup>st</sup> & January 1<sup>st</sup>.

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Scan the code to get started!

[eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one](http://eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one)

**Please see Deacon Mike if you are  
interested in more information on  
Go Walk with One.**

*The Church of Epiphany's*

# CALENDAR

# Raffle

Prizes drawn each Tuesday at 10AM – Beginning on January 7, 2025 – March 25, 2025

## \$20 Each

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN!  
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- \$3,000 Total Cash Prizes.
- 12 Chances to win!
- Purchase a \$20 Raffle and be entered to win a weekly jackpot of \$250 each week for 12 weeks.
- Each Ticket sold will be entered in **ALL** drawings, including winning tickets!
- Tickets may be purchased after Mass or in the parish office.
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The logo for the American Red Cross, featuring a red cross on a white background.

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