



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

This Sunday, we read about John the Baptist and his message of repentance of sin and redemption through our Savior, Jesus Christ. "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

John the Baptist arrives in a locale, in a place, with very little natural water. Water is scarce in the plain and flat lands of the Middle East and in the area around the Jordan River.

In a spiritual sense, John was concerned with both rehydration and redemption. John was concerned that the people of his day were not DRINKING in, were not being immersed in, God's commandments, God's ways.

And you and I may resemble these very early followers of JTB and of Jesus as well.

That is, we might be able to accept a little sip, a little taste of God's ways. But, do we want to be Immersed? Submerged? For example, you and I might be very willing to follow the Golden Rule, which is a beautiful rule and a way to regulate our lives and to regulate our expectations. What is the Golden Rule?

We read in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 7, verse 12: "Do to others whatever you would have them do to you. This is the law and the prophets." (Matthew 7:12)

So, it is reasonable for me then to love others so that I will be loved, to be kind to others so that they will be kind to me.

However, even with the Golden Rule, we might only be speed-skating along the surface of the frozen lake of God's word, rather than being submerged in God's word.

Jesus invites us, not only to love those who love us but to love those who do not love us in return. This does not require – or mean – that we will have equally cordial relationships or daily friendship –

with everyone. Some people, it is true, may have to love from a distance...or we may need time to understand them.

When we are baptized, we are also immersed, submerged in water, in God's will ... and this, for example, means praying for those who do not love us, praying for those who persecute us.... (cf. Matthew 5:43-44)

Or...if we are insulted, do not return insult for insult but return a blessing instead. (1 Peter 3:9) We are baptized in water not only so that we can be washed or cleansed on the outside but also so that we can know God's mercy as nourishment on the inside.

We are invited to be compassionate (beneath the surface of our emotions and feelings) when we might feel angry on the surface. And, this invites us to be sympathetic to others, to unite our hearts and minds to others.

For example, St. Paul writes and reminds us "rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep." (Romans 12:15)

But, it might be a real challenge for me to rejoice with someone who is rejoicing, someone who is very happy, someone who has a success that I also desire. My first reaction – on the surface – might be some envy or jealousy. I might not want to rejoice. Sometimes, being happy – for someone else – is a sacrifice.

Similarly, to weep with those who weep. Am I not called to sympathy to the sorrow of another person? We are called to this, though we know we have our own sorrows and difficulties.

Doing so, we accept that baptism and God's holiness are meant to touch and penetrate our lives, beneath the surface, underground so that we might also have life and deep roots and connections to Jesus as our Savior.

In Christ's Peace,  
Father Jim Ferry



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – JANUARY 19, 2020



**SATURDAY 18 JANUARY**

8:30 am John Wiegel  
5:30 pm Bernard J. Degnan

**SUNDAY 19 JANUARY**

7:30 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am Nancy Lynch  
11:30 am Michael Sugar

**MONDAY 20 JANUARY**

8:30 am Vilma Rendor (3rd Ann.)

**TUESDAY 21 JANUARY**

8:30 am Dennis J. McCole

**WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY**

9:30 am Luigi Russo

**THURSDAY 23 JANUARY**

8:30 am Donna Marie Gilsenan

**FRIDAY 24 JANUARY**

8:30 am Dumonname Dossous

**SATURDAY 25 JANUARY**

8:30 am Minucia Ferande  
5:30 pm Kathy Whelan

**SUNDAY 26 JANUARY**

7:30 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am Michael Sugar  
11:30 am Deodato S. Saniel

**CHURCH CALENDAR**



**SUNDAY 19 JANUARY**

10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal

**MONDAY 20 JANUARY**



RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

**THURSDAY 23 JANUARY**

10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for Feb 2nd bulletin email: Lourdesbulletinaol.com.

6:00 pm Choir Practice

**SUNDAY 26 JANUARY**

10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal

**Stewardship Reflection**

January 19, 2020

*"Now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb..." (Isaiah 49:5)*

God has given each of us different gifts. In order for God's plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do and I have to do what God is calling me to do. And guess what? God has given each of us a different plan! So, stop comparing yourself to others. Don't let envy and jealousy enter your life. Be thankful for the gifts God has given you and generously share them with others.



**WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

JAN 25 – JAN 26, 2020

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm	Andrew Novoa	Marge Christiano Emily Kunz Eileen Reilly	Gina Camosy Jenie Camosy Johnathan Camosy
7:30 am	Joy Hayward	Bless Bernardo Sr. James Soon	Tim Brennan
9:30 am Adult Choir	Bill Talbot	(C) Espy Cain Joseph Petrillo Ann Pflug John Pflug	Briana Sampson Volunteer
11:30 am	Faith Nzegwu	Carmelita Dizon Michele Gizzi Nancy Lanfrank Wendy Sheyka	Ramone Eugene Amir Stewart
11:30 am	Children's Liturgy:	Annamarie Frey	Called to Serve



**Daphne Brown**  
**Catherine Gascoyne**  
**Nicholas Larusso**  
**Mary McGuinness**

**Dolores Otero**  
**Mary Lou Ruppel**  
**Pat Schoeler**  
**Katerina Zachos**

**PRAYER Requests**

If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the rectory at 973.325.0110.



**FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**  
 January 25-26 is our monthly food collection for St. John's Church, Newark. Please bring non-perishable food and place it in the bins in the Church lobbies. Thank you.



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**  
 When all the hustle-bustle of the holidays are over.... Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? If you agree they you'll want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information go to website [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or call Mike and Janet Turco at 973-427-7016 or 609-335-6880 or email [mikeandjanetwwme@gmail.com](mailto:mikeandjanetwwme@gmail.com).



**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT**  
**February 7-9, 2020**  
 Marianist Family Retreat Center  
 Cape May Point, NJ 08212  
 Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun!  
**Cost:** \$135 per person, double occ.  
**Register at:** [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) or call 1-609-884-3829.  
 Some financial aid is available



**SHINING the LIGHT of CHRIST**  
**2020 Archdiocesan Appeal**  
 Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the Annual Appeal which this year has the theme "Shine the Light of Christ" and supports the poor and vulnerable through Catholic Charities as well as the goals of evangelization, education and other missions. Our 2020 goal is \$28,384. Consistent with his desire that parishes benefit directly from the Appeal, Cardinal Tobin has approved that every dollar above our goal will remain at Our Lady of Lourdes for our use. Thank you for your support and prayers.  
 The video announcement of the appeal will be shown at all Masses on January 18-19 at Our Lady of Lourdes.

# PIPE DREAM

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
 TO THE RAFFLE  
**WINNERS**

**January 5, 2020**  
**\$500 winner of 1st Drawing:**  
 Linda Sue Galate PhD  
**\$500 winner of 2nd Drawing:**  
 Yolie Dantel

**PARISH GIVING**  
**FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2019**

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
<b>Collection*: Jan 4-5</b>	<b>\$ 4667</b>
Deficit:	\$ 2133

\* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



**For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure**



**Improving Language Skills to Better Spread God's Word!**  
*Do you have a strong background in Spanish or are you Spanish/English bilingual?*  
 Volunteers, preferably having past experience in teaching or training, are needed to teach Spanish to local seminarians at Immaculate Conception Seminary located on the campus of Seton Hall University. If you are interested and have one hour a week to volunteer, please contact Chandler S. Cohen as soon as possible at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology for further details and/or application procedures for the upcoming spring semester!  
[chandler.cohen@shu.edu](mailto:chandler.cohen@shu.edu) OR 973.761.9226.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – JANUARY 19, 2020**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES**  
 4 Eagle Rock Avenue  
 West Orange, NJ 07062  
 973-325-9111 [www.lourdeswv.org](http://www.lourdeswv.org)  
 Uplifting Community & Service Opportunities



<p><b><u>Souper Bowl Soup Drive</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donating (or eating) the soup/meal from soup kitchen to the needy</li> </ul> <p>Group: St Vincent De Paul Society                  Contact: Teresa &amp; Ruthy Pe...</p>	<p><b>Event Dates:</b>                  Wed. January 1, 2020                  Sat. Feb. 8, 2020                  (Souper Bowl) Sunday 12 Feb. 2020</p>
<p><b><u>Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day Mass &amp; Cafe</u></b></p> <p>Main church and Comm. Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up of tables and chairs including tablecloths and decorations covering/arranging tables for food</li> <li>• Donate food</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Father Jim Ferry – <a href="mailto:FerryJim@Dioc.com">FerryJim@Dioc.com</a></p>	<p><b>Set Up Date &amp; Time</b>                  Saturday, February 8, 2020                  Time: 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm                  Sunday, February 9, 2020                  Time: 8:30 am – 9:15 am  <b>Event Date &amp; Time</b>                  Sunday, February 9, 2020</p>
<p><b><u>St. Joseph's Table – Festive Evening to Conclude Our Novena of Nine Nights of Prayer during Lent</u></b></p> <p>Comm. Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up tables</li> <li>• Donate Desserts</li> <li>• Clean up</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Father Jim Ferry – <a href="mailto:FerryJim@Dioc.com">FerryJim@Dioc.com</a></p>	<p><b>Set Up Date &amp; Time</b>                  Thursday, March 19, 2020                  Time: 9:00 am – 11:00 am  <b>Event Date &amp; Time</b>                  Thursday, March 19, 2020                  Novena 7:30 pm                  St. Joseph's Table                  immediately following Novena</p>
<p><b><u>Church Decorating for Easter</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewal open flowers</li> <li>• Holy week</li> <li>• Steam ironing wall banners</li> <li>• Change various liners</li> <li>• Arrange flowers on altar and around the church</li> <li>• Sweep and vacuum altar and carpet</li> </ul> <p>Group: Arts &amp; Environment                  Contacts: Eileen Reilly – <a href="mailto:Eileen.Reilly@Dioc.com">Eileen.Reilly@Dioc.com</a>                  Wendy Sheeks – <a href="mailto:Wendy@Dioc.com">Wendy@Dioc.com</a></p>	<p><b>Event Date &amp; Time</b>                  Good Friday, April 10, 2020                  5:30                  Stations of the Cross                  7:30 pm – 9:30 pm</p>
<p><b><u>Annual Turkey Day – This social event is a major parish fundraiser</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making to business cards (January)</li> <li>• Gift solicitations (January to April)</li> <li>• Advertising (February to April)</li> <li>• Gift Wrapping (February – April 16) – Weekdays 8:00/ Saturdays</li> <li>• Auction Tickets (Purchase in February; prepare tickets for event in April)</li> <li>• Reservations/Seating (February – April 17); Seating Charts (April) &amp; table setup (April 15) – custodial help available</li> <li>• Event Program (April 6/16)                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naming of Baskets &amp; preparing basket numbers</li> <li>• Typing, printing &amp; assembly of program</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>April 16, 2020</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move gifts from Comm. Hall to school cafeteria                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults/youth volunteers needed: 6:00 to 7:00 pm</li> <li>• Arrangement of gifts: 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Group: Treasury Altar Society                  Contact: Eileen Reilly – <a href="mailto:Eileen.reilly@dioc.wv.net">Eileen.reilly@dioc.wv.net</a></p>	<p><b>Task Dates &amp; Time</b>                  Dates: January to April                  depending on task (see description)                  Times: varies with task</p> <p><b>Event Date &amp; Time</b>                  Friday, April 17, 2020                  Time: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm</p>

More information on our website [lourdeswv.org](http://lourdeswv.org) listed under "Some of our Events"  
 select **Volunteer Service at the Parish** from the drop down menu.  
 If you need information via telephone, call rectory office 973-325-9111  
 to speak with AnnMarie Greath or with Father Jim Ferry, Pastor.  
 We can also have someone contact you by telephone.