

# Welcome to the Church of St. Andrew the Apostle

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

CYCLE A

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

## Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:00 PM

Feb 27th

Taize Stations of the Cross

March 6th

Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage

March 13th

Women of Jerusalem

March 20th

The Horror of the Crucifixion

March 27th

Through His Mother's Eyes

Pray Fast Give



## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKEND

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM

### WEEKDAY

Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

Rosary and Adoration  
after 8:00 AM Mass  
(Monday - Saturday)

## CONFESSiON

Saturday 3:15 PM  
and by Appointment

## EUCHARiSTiC ADORATION

Monday through Friday  
8:30 AM to 9:30 AM  
Wednesday 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
First Wednesday of Each Month  
All Day Adoration  
8:30 AM to 8:00 PM

## ROSARY

Monday through Friday  
12:00 PM

## DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Monday through Friday  
3:00 PM

**Clergy**

Rev. Msgr. Louis A. Marucci, VF, D. Min.	Pastor	msgrmarucci@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 19
Rev. Anthony Infantì	Parochial Vicar	frinfanti@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 14
Deacon Aaron Smith	Permanent Deacon	asmith@churchofstandrews.org	leave message at Office
Deacon Anthony Malatesta	Permanent Deacon	amalatesta@churchofstandrews.org	leave message at Office

**Parish Administration**

Deacon Aaron Smith	Parish Administrator	asmith@churchofstandrews.org	856-784-3878
John Michael Thomas	Worship & Music	jthomas@churchofstandrews.org	leave message at Office
Kathy Emrich	Lifelong Faith Formation	kemrich@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 33
Michelina O'Neill	Administrative Assistant	moneill@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 15
Rebecca Poland	Ministerial Support	rpoland@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 12
Chris Parry	Compassionate Outreach	spcp1@comcast.net	856-906-5127
Tese Hemschoot	Senior Adult Ministry	themschoot@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 36
Bibiana Sola Trejo	Parish Bookkeeper	bsolatrejo@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 11
Matthew Johnson	Maintenance Director	mjohnson@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 35
Carl Zuccarelli	Maintenance	czuccarelli@churchofstandrews.org	ext. 35
June Stengel	Sacristan	jstengel@churchofstandrews.org	856-784-3878

**Parish Registration**

Welcome to St. Andrew the Apostle Church! We invite you to join our family! You may register or update your current information by calling the Parish Office or visiting our website. [www.churchofstandrews.org](http://www.churchofstandrews.org)

**Parish Office Information**

**Parish Office Hours of Operation**

The Office hours for the Parish Office are 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

**Gluten Free Hosts**

Those who are gluten intolerant and wish to receive Holy Communion should speak with an usher or member of the hospitality ministry before the start of Mass.

**Children and Family Masses** are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at the 10:00 AM Mass.

**Masses of Inclusion** are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at the 4:00 PM Vigil (Saturday) Mass.

**New to the Parish?**

Call the Parish Office to learn about our ministries and how to register with the parish, or you can visit our website to register online and find information about our many ministerial opportunities.

**Parish Lost and Found**

Numerous items get left behind after Mass and parish events - umbrellas, hats, reading glasses, etc.

The parish lost & found is located on the shelf in the hallway near the priest's sacristy. Due to space concerns, the lost and found is cleaned out monthly, with items being donated. Thank you!

**Sacrament of the Sick**

Call the Parish Office to request a home or hospital visit.

**Prayer List for Those that are in Need of Healing**

Please call the Parish Office to add someone to the list.

**Marriage**

Arrangements are made at least one year in advance. One wedding may be scheduled on Saturday afternoon.

**Baptism**

Please call the Parish Office to schedule. Baptisms take place on the first and third Sunday of each month at 11:30 AM.

**Mass Cards**

You may request a Mass for your intention through the Parish Office, or conveniently through the website.

**Sanctuary Candle / Blessed Mother Candle**

We offer candle remembrances for special intentions. Please call the Parish Office to reserve a Sanctuary or Blessed Mother Candle.

**Spiritual Bouquets**

Your prayer intention will be remembered on First Fridays for six consecutive months. Your prayer intention may be for anyone either living or deceased. Please call or stop by the Parish Office to obtain a Spiritual Bouquet.



### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: An Introduction to Msgr. Marucci's "Stay at Home" Parish Lenten Pilgrimage (Week 1)

Two months ago, a priest friend from Buffalo told me about an experience that surprised him. He was driving home late on a foggy night, the kind where the headlights seem to illuminate nothing but a wall of gray. As he crept along,

tense and unsure of the next turn, something unexpected happened: his GPS suddenly lost its signal. No map. No guidance. Just silence and fog.

He pulled over, frustrated. But as he waited, he noticed something: without the noise of the car or the pressure to keep moving, the fog around him began to thin. Slowly, almost imperceptibly, shapes emerged—trees, a fence line, the outline of the road bending gently to the right. When he finally started driving again, he did so more slowly, more attentively, more peacefully.

Later, he told me, *"It was strange. Losing direction helped me see again."* That moment is like the Lenten season. God doesn't remove the map to punish us; He invites us to look up, slow down, and notice that Christ is already drawing us forward—through fog, uncertainty, and the gentle turns we might otherwise miss.

Lent is not an obstacle course. I like to think of it as a recalibration of vision. A holy opportunity to let the Lord reset our priorities, our patterns, and our pace. This year, I invite you to journey through our **"Stay at Home" Parish Lenten Pilgrimage**. Each week you will have the opportunity to travel with Jesus through six Gospel moments that shape the heart of Lent. My intent is to write a reflection each week that shows Jesus revealing what our souls often forget: that **God is patient, God is present, and God is already working in the places we feel lost**. Here is our pilgrimage path:

- **Week 1 – Matthew 4:1–22: *Desert & Call*** Jesus resists temptation (4:1–11) and then calls fishermen to follow (4:18–22). He doesn't just free us from evil; He frees us for a mission.
- **Week 2 – Matthew 17:1–9: *Transfiguration*** A glimpse of glory strengthens disciples for the road ahead. We learn how hope transfigures ordinary faithfulness.
- **Week 3 – John 4:5–42: *The Samaritan Woman*** At the well, Jesus names our thirst and offers living water. No one is too far, too complicated, or too late for grace.
- **Week 4 – John 9:1–41: *The Man Born Blind*** Sight is restored, courage is born, and a community must decide what to do with the Light standing in front of them.
- **Week 5 – John 11:1–45: *The Raising of Lazarus*** Jesus steps into our grief, weeps with us, and calls us out of the tomb—unbind him, let her go.
- **Week 6 – Palm Sunday – Matthew 26:14–27: *The Passion*** We enter the week of mercy, watching Love persevere through betrayal, denial, suffering, and the Cross.

Each reflection will offer you an opportunity to journey with Jesus. I will offer a brief Gospel focus, one image to carry into prayer, and two or three simple practices you can live at home. If your Lent has felt "hit-or-miss" in the past, take heart: God is more patient than our calendars and more faithful than our attempts. He doesn't wait at the finish line—He walks beside us, now. Are you willing to journey with Jesus this Lent? If so....read on.

#### **Week 1 — Into the Desert, Onto the Shore (Matthew 4:1–22)**

In today's Gospel, **the Spirit leads Jesus into the desert to face temptation**. Jesus responds not with clever comebacks but with the living Word of God, revealing a heart anchored in the Father. Immediately after, He walks along the shore and calls ordinary fishermen to an extraordinary life: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." The arc is intentional: **freedom from false promises** becomes **freedom for real discipleship**.

I would like you to consider this image for prayer this week. Imagine standing with Jesus at the edge of the wilderness at dawn. The air is cool; the horizon is clean. He looks at you—not disappointed, but delighted that you showed up—and says, **"Walk with Me."** Later, picture Him

on the shoreline, eyes meeting yours, speaking the same invitation: **“Follow me.”** Desert and shoreline are two doors into the same house: **friendship with God.**

### Consider the following three lessons for the week.

**1. Name the devil when he tempts.** The tempter offers shortcuts—bread without trust, glory without surrender, religion without obedience. Temptations often mimic good desires (security, recognition, influence), but **they cut God out of the story.** This week, when a temptation surfaces, pause and ask: **What good do I really desire here?** Then ask the Lord to provide for you the real thing in His way, in His time.

**2. Hold fast to the Word.** Jesus answers with Scripture, not slogans. Choose one verse from this Sunday’s Gospel—perhaps, “One does not live by bread alone,” or simply, “Follow me.” Write it on a card. Put it on your phone’s lock screen. Let it become your breath prayer when you feel tired, hurried, or pulled in ten directions. Pray it often throughout the day.

**3. Respond promptly, not perfectly.** Peter and Andrew left their nets *at once*. They didn’t possess a five-year plan; they possessed willing hearts. God does more with prompt willingness than with polished hesitation. Your “yes” may be small, but it lets grace move. If you are hesitating to commit to being his disciple, take a lesson from our Patron, Andrew.

### During the week, implement one of the following spiritual practices:

- **Fast from the automatic reach.** Identify your default comfort (scrolling, snacking, background noise). When you feel the reach, wait 60 seconds and pray, “Jesus, I hunger for You.” Then decide again.
- **Five minutes of first-fruits.** Before coffee, email, or news, sit in silence with the Lord. Make the Sign of the Cross slowly. Read Matthew 4:1–11 or 4:18–22. Speak one honest sentence to Jesus; listen for one word from Him.
- **Show Mercy to one person in a special way.** Do one concrete act of charity: check on a neighbor, call someone lonely, or donate food. Fasting opens space; mercy fills it with love.

Remember, Lent is a time for spiritual growth and renewal. If it has been a while since you last went to confession, come to this Wednesday evening’s holy hour and Sacrament of Reconciliation (7:00 PM). Come to the church and simply pray: **“Jesus, it’s been some time. I need you, Lord, in my life.”** Sit before the Blessed Sacrament for a few minutes and reflect on what disappoints our Lord. Then, enter the confessional, make a good confession, and receive the great gift of God’s mercy. The goal is never embarrassment—it’s freedom to live in God’s love and mercy. I hope you will enjoy this Lenten Journey.

With a loving and grateful heart,  
Msgr. Louis Marucci, VF, Ph.D., D.Min.  
Pastor

### Pray this prayer each day throughout the first week of our Lenten pilgrimage:

*Lord Jesus, lead me through the desert of distractions and into the freedom of Your call. Expose the temptations that drain my joy, steady me in Your Word, and make my heart prompt to follow You. Give me the courage of our Patron, St. Andrew, and the peace of belonging to You. Amen.*

### The Road Ahead

- **Week 2 – Mount Tabor: Hope Stronger than Fear (Mt 17:1–9):** Let a glimpse of glory strengthen your daily obedience.
- **Week 3 – At the Well: Truth that Quenches (Jn 4:5–42):** Let Jesus meet you where you actually are—and give you living water.
- **Week 4 – Eyes Wide Open (Jn 9:1–41):** Learn to see—and to stand—by the Light you’ve received.
- **Week 5 – Come Out! (Jn 11:1–45):** Bring your grief to Christ and hear Him call you to new life.

**Week 6 – From Hosanna to “It Is Finished” (Mt 26:14–27):** Walk the Passion with reverence and discover the mercy that never quits.

## For Whom Shall We Pray

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Robin Lyons r/b Her Husband  
 10:00 AM MASS: + Patricia Kuchler r/b Jeff and Erin Jaworski  
 6:00 PM MASS: + Margaret O'Neill r/b Her Daughter and Grandsons

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Budd Brouwer r/b Walter and Maxine Butkus

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

8:00 AM Mass: Pro Populo Mass

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Joseph DiBruno r/b His Children

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Ann Marie Lento r/b Bob and Geri Borbe  
 8:00 AM MASS: + Josephine Sbrocco r/b Harold Sbrocco

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Edward Kelleher r/b Julianne

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Edward Othental and Dunia Minnium  
 r/b Annie Peter  
 4:00 PM MASS: L Abigail Volk and Family  
 r/b Aunt Vickie and Uncle Joe  
 4:00 PM MASS: + Patricia Forte r/b Vickie and Joe Benedetti

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

8:00 AM MASS: + Joan Huntowski r/b Joseph Huntowski  
 8:00 AM Mass: + Gloria and Anthony DiMedeo r/b Lisa and John  
 10:00 AM MASS: L Fr. Timothy Mulraney r/b Roger and Josie Tizon  
 10:00 AM MASS: + William Maiatico r/b Dominic and Regina Disco  
 6:00 PM MASS: L Roseanne Joan Leatz r/b Gary Stone

+ Deceased L Living

The Sanctuary Candle Burns in Memory Of  
 Daniel Stephen Ruggerio r/b Mama

The Blessed Mother Candle Burns in Memory of  
 Clemente Rosero r/b Aurora and Jennifer Rosero

We Pray For The Repose Of The Souls Who  
 Have Entered Into Eternal Life In Christ  
 Adrian Febus  
 Theresa Delle Monache

#### Important Announcement

The OCIA Inquiry Meeting scheduled for March 9th 7:00 PM  
 Upper Room has been cancelled due to a parish scheduling  
 conflict. The next meeting will be held on April 13th at 7:00  
 PM in the Upper Room.

### A Time to Be Healed

Maye Alfonso	Loretta Lipp
Peggy Badey	Bill Long, Jr.
Joseph Bello, Sr.	Maria LoPresti
Valerie F. Butler	Nicolina Marucci
Gary Carmody	Anna Mascino
Timothy Cody	Dan McGrawey
April Cole	Bob Merkert
Bob DeRenzo	Marge Merkert
Tony Del Pidio	Theresa Matteuci
Stephen DiLizio	Jay McGovern
Maryann Donohue	David Misilewich
Guinevere V. Faulkner	Jane Mooney
Bob Freer	Mike Mooney
Alexander Fromnic	Anthony Pallante
Rob Gallo	Andrew Papp
Sr. Alma Gallagher	Linda Pinson
Joan Geier	Linda Raymond
Nancy Giampietro	Michael Ruggiero
Joe Gilmore	Anthony Simone
Amy Glenney	Maryann Simone
Dottie Glenney	Mary Bauman Soards
Neil Glenney	Don Stoll
Donald Ray Hamilton	Nina Stone
Carson Hill	Helene Taylor
Tina Joelstein	Jess Verrecchia
Robert Joynes	Baby Abigail Volk
Tim Klauder	Jane Weiman
Peter Kricken	Robert Wozniak

### A Time for Peace

Luke Bianchini, Staff Sargent, USAF	Officer Bill Walsh
Melvin Dastas, Navy	Officer Kevin Wynne

Congratulations to Albert and Lynnette (Ruiz)  
 Zapata who were joined in Holy Matrimony at St.  
 Andrew's on August 16th, 2025



### Pastoral Coordinators- Chris Parry and Lois Siebert.

If you are facing challenges or know someone struggling, we're here to help. Call or text Chris at 856-906-5127 or call Lois Siebert at 856-784-3878 Ext 27.

### Joseph's House Monthly Casserole Recipe

Last month we collected 42 casseroles for Joseph's House! A big thank you to our volunteers! We appreciate your commitment to this ministry. In addition to casseroles, we will continue collecting individual snack bags for Joseph's House clients. The next drop off for casseroles will be **Thursday, February 26 , 2026 from 10-11 AM**. Drive up to the parish hall and a volunteer will be there in the parking area. We will hand deliver to Joseph's House later in the day. If this day and time do not work for you, we can make other arrangements. Call or text Chris Parry at 856-906-5127 with any questions and/or to confirm you will make a casserole. Prepare one or more casseroles. All donations are deeply appreciated. We will continue to use the same recipe.

#### Hamburger Noodle Casserole

1 lb. hamburger	1 cup cottage cheese
15 oz. can or jar tomato sauce	1 cup sour cream
1 medium chopped onion	12oz. egg noodles
1 cup of green pepper	2 cups Shredded Monterey Jack Cheese

Combine the hamburger, green pepper and onion and sauté until meat is cooked. Salt and pepper to taste. Add tomato sauce and simmer for 20 minutes. Cook noodles according to package directions.

In another bowl combine sour cream and cottage cheese. Blend cottage cheese and sour cream mixture with the cooked noodles. Salt and pepper to taste.

In a lightly greased aluminum pan spread the hamburger mixture. Next, layer the noodle mixture. Top casserole with shredded Monterey Jack cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until thoroughly heated.

Please freeze the casserole, cover with aluminum foil, date and label "St. Andrew's- Hamburger Noodle Casserole."

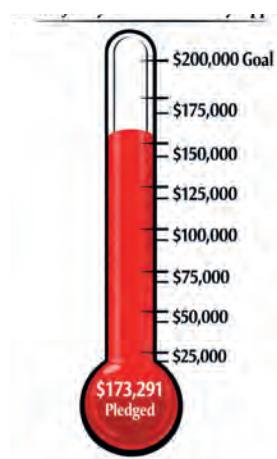
### Christian Cupboard Needs

Pasta  
Pasta sauce  
Jelly

### Compassionate Outreach Donation Request

We are currently assisting an individual in need of suitcases and large storage bins. Donations can be placed in the Compassionate Outreach cart located in the church entrance. If you have any questions, please text or call Chris at 856-906-5127. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

### **2026 South Jersey Catholic Ministries Appeal**

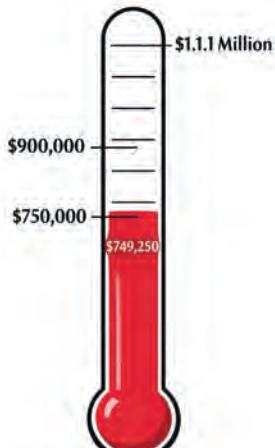


**Help Us Reach Our Goal for the  
South Jersey Catholic Ministry Appeal  
and the  
Building Up the House of the Lord  
Capital Campaign**

**Pledge Cards Can Be Found in the  
Vestibule of the Church**

**Please be generous!**

### **Building Up the House of the Lord Capital Campaign**



**LENTEN FRIDAY  
FISH FRY FUNDRAISER**

PRESENTED BY  
SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH

ALL FRIDAY'S IN LENT STARTING FEBRUARY 20TH  
5:30PM- 6:45PM  
IN THE PARISH HALL



JOIN US FOR FISH AND FELLOWSHIP BEFORE STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7:00PM IN THE CHURCH.

\$20 PER PERSON (FOR ADULTS)  
\$10 PER CHILD

GRACIOUSLY ORGANIZED BY THE  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND THE HOSPITALITY  
COMMITTEE

**Lenten Friday Fish Fry Dinner  
Immediately before Stations of the Cross  
All are Welcome!**

Join us beginning on Friday, February 27th and each Friday in Lent for our Lenten Fish Fry, held from 5:30–6:45 PM in the parish hall.

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather in fellowship and share a simple Lenten meal before the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM in the church.

The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 per child. Our Fish Fry is graciously sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and hosted by the Saint Andrew Hospitality Committee.

No reservations are needed—simply bring the family and enjoy a lovely dinner together prior to the Stations of the Cross.

**Camden Diocese Office of Child and Youth Protection**

The mission of The Office of Child and Youth Protection is to protect the children who are entrusted into the care of the Diocese of Camden and to ensure that the Diocese is doing everything possible to be in safe environment compliance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, a document disseminated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Camden Diocese has maintained a **toll-free number [800-964-6588](tel:800-964-6588)** connected to the Diocese's Victim's Assistance Coordinator, to whom allegations of abuse can be made and who, in turn, reports such allegations to the appropriate civil authorities and to the Diocese. The Victim's Assistance Coordinator's email address is: [CamdenVAC@gmail.com](mailto:CamdenVAC@gmail.com).



*"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age, sometimes age just shows up all by itself"*  
Tom Wilson

Dear Seniors, Thanks for hanging in there with us through the cold spell! You have proven that you are not, and never were, a bunch of sugar plums! And thanks to Matt for always thinking ahead to warm up the space for us, but we're still looking forward to March!

Let's start out on Tuesday with our small weight workout. The small weights may not seem like much, but they really make a difference when we do enough reps! Nicole from Vitality will also be with us. She will review healthy eating tips and go over the of reading labels, which is very important especially if you have dietary restrictions.

Due to a Diocesan Staff Day, we will be closed on Thursday February 26th, since Mary Lou and Tese will be at the Staff Day. We will be open next week on Tuesday, March 3rd.

Why not make a plan to come by the center and see what's going on? I'm sure you will see people you already know from our parish. Come to the Upper Room on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays between 9:30 and 10:00. Check us out. We serve breakfast and lunch, and there is no cost.

Just send me a note at [themschoot@churchofstandrews.org](mailto:themschoot@churchofstandrews.org), and I will send you a schedule. There is no commitment or cost to join, so what's stopping you?



The graphic features a circular logo for "Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers" with a stylized "M" and cross. To the right, the text "You Are Invited" is written in a large, elegant, gold-colored script. Below this, "Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience" is written in a smaller, gold-colored serif font. The date "Friday, March 6th" is prominently displayed in a large, gold-colored script. Below the date, the location and time are listed: "St. Andrew the Apostle 27 Kresson-Gibbsboro Road Gibbsboro, NJ 08026 7:00 pm". To the right of the text is a painting of the Virgin Mary in a blue robe and golden crown, holding a cross. At the bottom left, there is a small icon of a church and the text "Free Will Offering Generously Accepted! A Plenary Indulgence Granted by Papal Decree".

### Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience Returns to St. Andrew the Apostle

Come and experience the peace and healing of Lourdes with Stations of the Cross and the Interactive Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience guided by Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality, North American Volunteers, the first Lourdes Hospitality of the Americas.

Experience this same peace and healing and the opportunity to receive a plenary indulgence! The Pilgrimage is recreated using projections, narration, a Eucharistic blessing, and Stations of the Cross. As part of this prayerful visit to the Grotto, pilgrims touch actual pieces of the grotto rock, and leave with a deeper understanding of the Message of Lourdes, as well as a small bottle of Lourdes Water to remember their journey.

**Join us on**  
**Friday, March 6th at 7:00 PM**  
**at St. Andrew the Apostle Church**

**Touch the Lourdes Grotto Rock**  
**Receive the gift of Lourdes Water**

# CAMP VERITAS

**CAMP VERITAS 2026:** Camp Veritas is a one-week play-and-pray sleep away summer camp for middle school teens. Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish is inviting students from 7th grade through 9th grade to Camp Veritas from August 9-15 at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY (7th-9th grade; \$550 per child).

Father Infant will be going to this camp to assist with Masses and any sacramental needs. Enrollment is currently open. An early bird discount of \$50 is applied when paid in full by March 1st. More details and info on other locations can be found at [www.campveritas.com](http://www.campveritas.com). Email [admin2@campveritas.com](mailto:admin2@campveritas.com) for more info.

### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are You Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you have been coming to Mass for a while but are not Catholic, we *invite you to take a deeper look into the Catholic faith.*

If you are already Catholic and have not yet completed your Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion or Confirmation), we *invite you to join us and see what steps you need to continue your journey to the Lord.*

If you or someone you know might wish to learn more about this possibility, please contact Fr. Anthony Infant or Kathy Emrich.

You may call 856-784-3878

or e-mail us at

[FrInfanti@Churchofstandrews.org](mailto:FrInfanti@Churchofstandrews.org)

or Kathy Emrich at [Kemrich@churchofstandrews.org](mailto:Kemrich@churchofstandrews.org)

### Convalidation of Marriage

If you were not married in the Catholic Church, Msgr. Marucci is available to assist couples in navigating the convalidation process and ensuring that your union is celebrated in accordance with Catholic teachings.

In seeking the blessing and convalidation of your marriage, you are embracing the fullness of the sacrament and inviting Christ to be at the center of your union. This step not only strengthens your relationship but also brings you into deeper communion with the Church.

The journey toward convalidation is one of reflection, preparation, and celebration, where the grace of God transforms your marital bond into a sacred covenant.

Please email Msgr. Marucci for more information about the possibility of convalidation of your marriage at [msgrmarucci@churchofstandrews.org](mailto:msgrmarucci@churchofstandrews.org)



### **Lenten Parish Mission: "Speak Lord, Your Servant is Listening Rev. Kevin Mac Donald, C.Ss.R.**

**March 9,10,& 11 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

Join us for a special opportunity to deepen your Lenten journey at this year's Lenten Mission, led by Fr. Kevin MacDonald, C.Ss.R. A Redemptorist priest from Woburn, Massachusetts, Fr. Kevin brings a unique and inspiring background, including time as a professional baseball player and years of ministry throughout the Caribbean, New York, Boston, and the Virgin Islands. Now serving at San Alfonso Retreat House, he offers a message shaped by faith, humility, and real world experience.

This year's theme, "Speak Lord, Your Servant is Listening," invites us to pause, reflect, and open our hearts as we continue our journey through Lent. All are welcome! Confessions will be available on March 9th.

### **Messages of the Heart**

**Thursday, March 19 • 9:00 AM–2:00 PM • Parish Hall**

Set aside time this Lent to let the Lord speak to your heart. Mary Neary and Joan Sandell will lead us with two uplifting presentations—"Mary's Greatest Hour" and "The Life of Saint Joseph." These talks are designed not only to inform but to move the heart toward deeper trust, courage, and love. We'll begin with welcome and prayer, hear the first talk, break for lunch (provided), and return for the second talk and closing prayer.

This gathering is a perfect opportunity for women to be renewed in faith and to enjoy prayer and fellowship with others. Bring a friend! For more information, contact Angie Fieni: (856) 651-0544 or [fieni1234@gmail.com](mailto:fieni1234@gmail.com). Brochures will also be available in the vestibule.

### **Men's Prayer Group**

**Wednesday, March 4 at 6:30 PM in the Upper Room**

The Men's Prayer Group at St. Andrew the Apostle warmly invites all men of the parish to gather in prayer, fellowship, and faith. Meeting twice each month, the group provides a relaxed and welcoming space where men can support one another as brothers in Christ. Together, they grow spiritually, build meaningful friendships, and strengthen their relationship with God.

No prior experience is needed—just a desire to walk the journey of faith alongside other men. The next meeting will be held on **March 21 at 8:30 AM**. For more information, please email **Sam Parry at [spp1@comcast.net](mailto:spp1@comcast.net)** or text **856-761-7999**. All are welcome.

### **Praying the Stations of the Cross: A Lenten Journey**

**Friday, February 27th at 7:00 PM**

During Lent, Catholics around the world pray the Stations of the Cross as a way to walk spiritually with Jesus on the path to Calvary. This ancient devotional invites us to pause, reflect, and enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's suffering, love, and sacrifice. By moving from station to station, we meditate on key moments of the Passion, opening our hearts to renewal and conversion as we prepare for Easter.

Our next parish celebration of the Stations of the Cross will be a special Taizé presentation, offering a profoundly peaceful and prayerful experience. The Taizé tradition—rooted in the ecumenical community in Taizé, France—is known for its simple, meditative chants and extended moments of quiet reflection. These repetitive, prayerful songs help create a calm space where we can listen to God and encounter Christ in a deeper way.

We warmly invite you to join us for this moving form of prayer on Friday, February 27th at 7:00 PM. Let the soothing chants and gentle rhythm of Taizé prayer guide you through Christ's Passion with renewed serenity and hope.

## The Light is On for You

Confession, like all other sacraments, is a gift through which God has made His saving love and mercy real and present to us.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on the following Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM

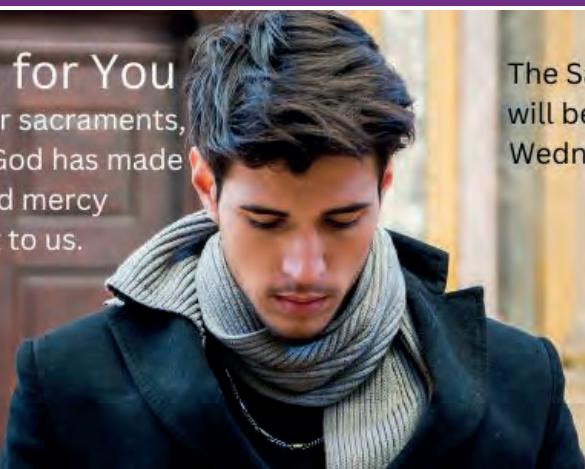
February 25th

March 4th

March 11th

March 18th

March 25th



**This Lent, we remember in a special way our priests, deacons, and our seminarians from the Diocese of Camden, who are in formation for the priesthood.** May this holy season be a time of renewal and strength for all who serve the Church and for those preparing to answer God's call.

**Prayer:**

*Lord Jesus, bless our priests, deacons, and seminarians with courage, wisdom, and deep joy in their vocation. Strengthen them in their service, protect them in their ministry, and fill their hearts with Your love. May they always be faithful shepherds after Your own Heart. Amen.*

### YOUTH ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

As an altar server, you are involved in the holiest and most sacred events of Catholic worship. Your service is very important! As you assist the priest, you help to make worship more reverent, efficient, and beautiful. As an altar server, you are now a member of a very special group of young people in our parish who have answered God's call to ministry. Youth altar servers must be in 5th grade or higher. If you are interested in learning more about becoming an Altar Server, please complete the form which can be found in the vestibule of the church, or speak to any of the priests after Mass.



### Join Us This Lent for Our Parish Book Study

This Lent, we invite you to journey with us through *Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux*. Discover the magnificent and deeply moving story of St. Thérèse, the Little Flower, whose "little way" of holiness continues to inspire hearts around the world.

Together, we will reflect on her simple yet profound spirituality, her trust in God's mercy, and her joyful path of love. All are welcome—whether you are new to spiritual reading or returning to a familiar favorite.

Come grow with us this Lent as we walk with St. Thérèse toward a deeper relationship with Christ.

More information coming soon!

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