# HOLY CHILD PARISH

"Two beautiful churches, one GREAT parish."

St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus

13 E. Eve<mark>sham Road</mark>

St. Maria Goretti 321 Orchard Avenue

## November 30, 2025 First Sunday of Advent

Pastor
Parochial Vicar
School Principal
Bereavement
Faith Formation

Rev. Robert L. Sinatra, JCL+ Rev. Arockia Britto Prabhu+ Sister Santa Teresa, IHM+ Sister Lisa Pasquale, IHM + Joanna Schmidt

Deacon David J. Harkins+
Administrative Assistant Danielle Amerman
Finance Coordinator Theresa Heibel
Census Coordinator Eileen Martin

Parish Office

13 E. Evesham Road
Runnemede, NJ 08078

E-mail

holychildparish@comcast.net

Faith Formation
Office

(856) 939-0592

St. Teresa Regional School

(856) 939-0333

STRS Advancement Director

(856) 939-1207

St. Teresa Convent

(856) 939-5508

# WELCOME! The parishioners of Holy Child Parish welcome you! All worshiners are invited to

All worshipers are invited to register by calling the Parish Office at (856) 939-1681

No matter what your present status is in the Catholic Church; no matter your family or marital status; no matter where you are in the practice of the faith; no matter your personal history, age or background; no matter what your self-image may be; YOU are invited, welcomed and loved at Holy Child Parish.

13 E. Evesham Road • Runnemede, NJ 08078 856-939-1681 • www.holychildparish.net

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



With its origins tracing back to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries, Advent, as first practiced, wasn't focused on Christmas at all. Like Lent, Advent was considered a penitential season of fasting, repentance and spiritual preparation. This preparation was actually for the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6th. Similar to the practice of the Easter Vigil, the Epiphany was a time in which new converts were baptized. The one aspect of Advent that was in place from the beginning was the Church's preparation for the Second Coming of Christ. It wasn't until the 6<sup>th</sup> century where the dual themes of Christ's future coming in glory and His birth as a baby in Bethlehem became blended. The length of Advent has

also varied over the years. When first practiced, Advent could last as long as 6 weeks as evidenced in the Mozarabic Liturgy in medieval Spain. This time period eventually developed into the 4 Sunday structure that the Church celebrates today codified in the liturgical books of the 7th and 8th centuries. As we've written about previously, each week is dedicated to a different theme: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The Advent wreath actually has its origin in the Lutheran tradition, created in 1839 by Johann Hinrich Wichern, a German pastor who used an old wagon wheel filled with 24 candles (4 large ones and 19 smaller ones) to help children count down the days to Christmas. The simpler Advent wreath with greenery that is more commonly in use today was adapted by 1860. One of my fondest memories as a child was lighting the next candle on the Advent wreath with my family before dinner. We still use the same worn piece of paper and say the same prayers together even now that we're grown. While I couldn't get the prayers from my mom and dad in time for the bulletin, here are some prayers you can pray with your family before the Advent wreath:

<u>Advent Wreath Blessing:</u> Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends, and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

1st Week of Advent: Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent:</u> Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent:</u> Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent: Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.



## **Holy Child Parish Mass Intentions**

#### Week of November 30

**SATURDAY 34th Week in Ordinary Time** 

4:30 am +Michael C. Harkins req by The Harkins Family (ST) + Howard Strohl req by The Kanopka Family (ST)

**SUNDAY** First Sunday of Advent

7:00 am +Maryann Dymond req by family, +Tony Samulis req by family,

+Anthony D'Auria req by Ralph & Barbara D'Auria (ST)

9:00 am +Ronald W. Kiewel reg by The Kiewel Family,

+Sr. Rene Marie Wentzel, IHM req by the Sisters (SMG)

11:00 am +Philomena Sanchez req by Patti & Joe Perrone (ST)

**MONDAY** Advent Weekday

8:30 am +Sister Carol Isselmann, IHM reg by the Sisters (ST)

**TUESDAY Advent Weekday** 

8:30 am +Carole Redheffer req by Gina Simon (ST)

WEDNESDAY St. Francis Xavier

8:30 am +Sister Marie Hubert Kealy, IHM req by the Sisters (ST)

**THURSDAY St. John Damascene** 

8:30 am +Helen McWilliams req by Michael McWilliams & Donna Hale (ST)

FRIDAY Advent Weekday

8:30 am +Mike Simon req by wife, Gina (ST)

**SATURDAY St. Nicholas** 

8:30 am +Jim Boyle req by wife, Joan (ST)

4:30 pm +James & Lucy McCarthy reg by MaryLou Venella & family,

+Charles Mansfield req by Eileen Schmidt, +Colleen Hudrick req by friend, Colleen,

+Gary Winkler reg by Bill & Anne Burkeitt (ST)

**SUNDAY** Second Sunday of Advent

7:00 am +Walter Zubrzycki (Happy Heavenly Birthday) req by family (ST) 9:00 am +Nicholas & Adele Bush req by The Kanopka Family (SMG)

11:00 am +John Kennedy req by Alice & daughters,

Healing Intentions for Mary & Dean Russell req by Patrick O'Neill, +Mae Davielle Liccketto req by Deacon Dave & Mrs. Harkins (ST)

SMG = St. Maria Goretti Church, 321 Orchard Ave. ST = St. Teresa Church, 13 E. Evesham Road Bread &
Wine Memorial
& Sanctuary
Candles
(the week of
Nov. 30-Dec. 6)

The Blessed Virgin
Mary Candle
burns: (SMG)
Intentions for
Joyce Peirce
Req by
Pat & Michelle
Schenk

The Blessed Virgin
Mary Candle
burns: (SMG)
In Memory of
Paul Mullen
Req by
Pat & Michelle
Schenk

The Sanctuary
Candle burns: (ST)
In Memory of
Barbara Cremean
Req by
Ann Lafferty



#### **Senior Annual Christmas Party**

Holy Child Seniors will meet Thursday, December 11!

Time: 10:30AM When: December 11 Where: Saint Maria Goretti Hall Cost: \$22

Call Eileen Martin 856-870-9228 before December 3rd to reserve your seat. Come join in the fun, food and festivities! Merry Christmas and all seniors welcome!

#### Happy Thanksgiving from Holy Child Parish to your family!

Office, Adoration Chapel and School will be closed starting half day on Wednesday, November 26 and will reopen Monday, December 1, 2025. God Bless you all!



# LESSONS IN CAROLS

# TELLING THE CHRISTMAS STORY THROUGH SCRIPTURE, REFLECTIONS & CAROLS

The Festival of Lessons in Carols is a beautiful service of Scripture and song dating back to the late 19th century.

Please join us for a night of reflection as we listen to Scripture passages that recount the promise of a Messiah, the wonder of the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to share the Good News. Each lesson will be followed by a carol or hymn that echoes its message, along with a brief prayer.

Please mark your calendar now for our Advent Teachable Moment, a time to slow down, reflect, and enter more deeply into the grace of the season.

Friday, December 19 ~ 7PM @ St Teresa Church

Advent Holy Hour for Liturgical Ministers Sat. December 13 9:30AM St Teresa Church

The longing of the Advent season is not only our longing for God, but God's longing for us. It is the love that led to the Incarnation, the Passion, and ultimately to the altar, a foretaste of His desire for eternal communion with us.

We invite all our Lectors, Sacristans, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantors, Altar Servers, and their families to join us for a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration.

Come spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament as we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord.



# Teachable Moments Parish Office @ 7PM Tues/Wed Evenings

December 2, The Mass (Tuesday Evening)
Presenter: Fr Rob Sinatra

Did you know that the word *Mass* comes from the Latin words spoken at the dismissal, "*Ite, missa est,*" meaning "*Go, you are sent*"? The Mass reminds us of our mission to love and serve the Lord, strengthened through the breaking of bread together. In this sacred meal, we are called to carry Christ into the world, a world in deep need of His love.

# December 10, Prayer & Public Worship (Wed Evening) Presenter: Joanna Schmidt

A traditional Catholic definition of prayer is "the lifting of one's mind and heart to God." A popular description would be prayer is a 'loving conversation with God." However we choose to define prayer, it always begins with turning to God and becoming aware of his presence. Come and find out more about the purpose of prayer and how it affects each of us.

# Women's Prayer Group

Let Every Heart
Prepare
Him Room
Tues, December 16
@ 7PM
STRS Hall

Let every heart prepare Him room.

What if Jesus needed a place to stay and ended up knocking on your door this Christmas Eve? Would you have a spare room ready, maybe a sofa with a warm blanket? Or would you be so embarrassed apologizing, 'sorry, Lord, my place is a mess, and I am really not ready for you to stay with me." This holy season is about making room for Jesus and flinging open the doors of our hearts, no matter what state we may be in. Please join us for our Christmas celebration on our special day December 16. All women are welcome.

# Holy Child Christmas Pageant

Christmas Eve Mass, December 24, 4:00 PM @ SMG



We invite all youth from 1st through 8th grade to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant! We are looking for participants to fill the roles of Mary, Joseph, the Three Kings, Innkeeper, Shepherds, Angels, Donkey, various Stable Animals, and of course, the Christmas Star! No need to worry about memorizing lines — our narrator will handle all the speaking parts. We hope your child will join us in bringing the Nativity story to life!

There will be two rehearsals: Both will be held in St Maria Goretti Church December 19th and then a dress rehearsal Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> both starting at 6:30PM

**TEEEN HELP NEEDED:** Can you help with the younger children during the pageant. Service hours will be provided for church/school.

Parental help is also needed. If you can help in even the smallest way, please let us know

# Christmas Pageant Volunteer Form 2025 Send back through Religious Ed/STRS or drop off @ our Parish Office. For more information, please call Faith Formation Office @ 856-939-0592 Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teen or Adult Volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_



# SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

9AM TO 130PM AT ST MARIA GORETTI HALL

HOMEMADE CAKES & HOLIDAY TREATS
HANDMADE CRAFTS & HOLIDAY SHOPPING
SPIRITUAL TABLE ~ BASKET AUCTION

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT YOUTH CHRISTMAS CAROLERS



#### **Breakfast with Santa Combo Includes**

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, juice, coffee/tea

- (1) 4x6 color picture with Santa & Mrs. Clause
- (3) Craft Tickets

This year, youth will be able to make their own ornamnets, stockings, tissue paper wreaths & so much more!

## Christmas Festival Breakfast w/ Santa Registration Form

Cost: \$10 for Combo Packet or \$5 for Breakfast Only

Name:	Phone#
# of Combo Tickets (\$10 ea):	\$ of Breakfast only Tickets (\$5 ea):

Amount Emclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Tickets guarentee breakfast w/ Santa Make checks payable to Holy Child Parish. Drop off @ Parish or School Office



Made with PosterMyWall.com

#### Youth Carolers Still Needed to Help Sing in Santa during our Festival

We are still looking for youth ages 5 through 18 who love to sing Christmas carols! No need to be a perfect singer — a joyful heart and a love for caroling are all we're looking for.

We will be practicing at 9AM on December 6, making it easier for everyone!

Call Joanna @ 856-939-0592 to sign-up!

We hope you'll join us in sharing the spirit of the season through song!!



#### HOLY CHILD PARISH, RUNNEMDE, NJ

#### Sacrament of the Sick

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

#### Marriage

Arrangements are made at least one year in advance. One wedding may be scheduled on Saturday between 12:30–2:00 pm.

#### Confessions

Confessions are taking place on: Saturday 11AM to 12Noon & 3:45PM to 4:15PM at St. Teresa Church and Sun 8:15AM to 8:45AM at St Maria Goretti Church.

#### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Adults interested in becoming Catholics and those Catholics who wish to complete their sacraments, call the parish office.

#### **Pre-Jordan Class**

The Pre-Jordan Program is a required class to prepare parents, who are having their babies baptized. These classes are only offered once a month at 7PM upstairs in the Parish Office. Please call the office to sign up.

#### Next sessions will be held:

December 10, 2025 January 14, 2026 February 4, 2026

#### **Baptism Scheduling**

Baptisms are currently being held during our weekend Masses on **Sundays immediately following the 11am Mass.** Pease **call the Parish Office** to schedule a baptism or for more information.

#### Mass Cards & Candles

You may request a Mass for almost any intention, in the Parish Office, Monday-Saturday. We have remembrances for Masses, Candles and Offertory Gifts for your faith-filled gift to a loved one.



#### **Baptism**

This week we welcome

#### Kellin Michael Brodzik

to the Church and our parish family. May you always remember this day, and may God's joy, love and peace fill you through all your tomorrows.





### **Blood Drive**

# Holy Child Parish St. Maria Gorretti Church

Hall 321 Orchard Avenue Runnemede, NJ 08078

Friday, December 19, 2025 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



#### Schedule your blood donation appointment today!

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org Download the Blood Donor App

#### **PB&J** Outreach

We gather to make sandwiches the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:30am at SMGH. For those that make sandwiches at home, drop offs between 11-12:00 noon at SMGH.



Please place the uncut sandwiches in individual zip lock bags before placing them back in the original bread sleeve. Thank you for your generosity to the needy. All are invited to join in this wonderful ministry.

Next PB&J will be December 4, 2025

#### LUNCH BUNCH

We are starting our monthly Lunch Bunch Gathering back up. We can not wait to see you all soon.

December 4, 12:30 pm Passariello's Pizzeria 111 Laurel Oak Road Voorhees, NJ 08043

Contact Diana Querubin at 609-707-6357, if you'd like to join the LUNCH BUNCH. Everyone is welcome! You will have your own check and only pay for what you eat.

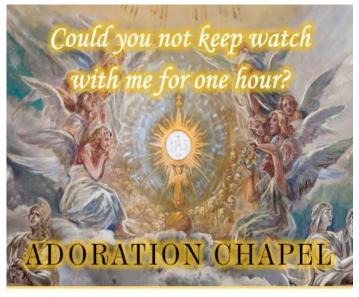


# #iGIVECA HOLIC

#### **iGiveCatholic**

Did you know that #iGiveCatholic is the first-ever day of Catholic giving in our nation? It's a special day for us to give back and give thanks to the organizations that shape our

souls. Join the movement and show your support for our St. Teresa School. Advanced Giving runs from Monday, November 17th – Monday, December 1st. iGiveCatholic Day is officially Tuesday, December 2. You can support STRS with an offline gift of check or cash OR give online at iGiveCatholic.org. Thank you for your continued generosity!



Holy Child Parish offers Eucharistic Adoration at St. Teresa's Church every Monday through Friday. Consider spending time with our Lord and let His love radiate through your heart!

#### Adoration Schedule:

- · Monday-4 to 7 PM
- Tuesday—9 AM to 12 PM
- Wednesday—4 to 7 PM
- Thursday—9 AM to 12 PM
- Friday "Date Night with Jesus" 7 to 9 PM



Thank you for supporting Football Mania.

Due to the bulletin submitted early for the holidays, Football Mania will be behind in the bulletin. Thank you for your understanding.

#### Hats for the Homeless

We are once again collecting warm hats, gloves and scarves for the Homeless. (New only please) Boxes will be in the back of both churches. Collection until December 2025. Donations are handed out at the Cathedral Kitchen in Camden. Questions please call Joann 609-381-9435.

#### Charles Mansfield *Lucky Day* Raffle

The Charles Mansfield Memorial Raffle aka "2026 Lucky Day Raffle" is still available for sale. K of C will be selling tickets in the back of church. Please send in your donation of \$20 and we will send back your calendar number. NEW this year you can use the QR attached, you can buy online. Good Luck!

#### Saint Vincent dePaul



Do you need assistance for the holidays? If your family is experiencing difficulty HRISTMAS because of Lack of Work, Medical Problems, Other Family Problems and you are in the towns of Glendora-Runnemede or if you have children in St Teresa School or Religious Education, you can call the St

Vincent de Paul Society for strictly confidential assistance. We Can Help! Anyone in need of a Christmas Basket please call SVdP hotline 856-632-1765 by December 6th.

Leave your name and an unblocked telephone number and the best time to call you.

Clients must register! No walk ins.



# **Compassionate Outreach**

#### Please Pray for Our Beloved Deceased



John Matera, Sister Margaret Peter, IHM, All the Holy Souls & All of our Veterans

#### **Please Pray for our Sick:**

Our updated sick list (8/3/2025) is at all the entrances to our churches, and in the Adoration Chapel.

Adorers can pray for the sick (newly added): Giavanna DiGiacomo, Pat Tracey, Liv Nocella, Tom Castellano, Diana Eleftheriou, Judy Costello, Mark Hanlon, Martin Joyce, Joan Davis, Dolores Gibbins, Caroline & Pat Rocco, Riley Crowder, Fran Lafferty, Angela Giordano, George Rollins and Maryann Eaton

Virginia Venturo	Norm McConchie
	Norm McConcine
Anthony Weiner	Fran Mangano
Weezie	Joe Gordon
Michael Grecco	Michael Bonnette
Danny & Julia Byrnes	Len Venturo
Barb Farnsworth	<b>Edwin Hopkins</b>
Michelle <b>Kettel</b>	Jennifer Jones
Tony Mangano	Maggie Schmidt

PRAYER LIST When names are put on the list, they will remain on the list for three months unless otherwise requested. If you would like to have a name on the list, please fill-out this form and return to the parish office or call the office at 856-939-1681. Thank you and God bless!

I would like to have the following name (s) entered on the Prayer List:

Requested by:		_
Dhana#	Data	

REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE An independent, toll-free number has been established by the Diocese of Camden to help callers report cases of sexual abuse by priests, deacons, religious, employees and/or volunteers. Calls are handled by a licensed clinical social worker. In accord with state law, cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the N.J. Division of Child Protection and Permanency and law enforcement. For information or to inquire about counseling and support services, call 1-800-964-6588.

#### **Our Active Military**

Jim Boyle, Tabatha Baur, Justin Warrender, Gianna Bowne, Nicholas Liberatore, Taylor Naphys, Lou Sampolski, Tyler Thomas, T.J. Swanson, Nicholas Cristinzio Justin Nairn & Nicholas LoCantore



#### Stewardship

Our weekly expenses are \$9,561.75 and our monthly expenses are \$38,247.

November 2—\$8,913.00 November 9—\$8,615.00 Archdiocese Military Services—\$670.00 November 16—\$8,052.00 Campaign for Human Develop—\$1,743.00

Second collections for November—
November 9—Archdiocese of Military Services
November 16—Campaign for Human
Development
Thank you for your continued support.

#### **Telephone Prayer Chain Line**

Please call with prayer intention requests to Theresa 856-939-4132 or Joan 856-939-4679 anytime. The telephone prayer chain line will activate for your loved one.

## **Prayer Quilt Ministry**

Anyone can request a prayer quilt for someone in need of prayers. Call Eileen Martin 856-870-9228 or Diane 856-994-2734. A great gift of caring.



If you feel that you have a burning desire to help people get closer to Christ and to know the Truth, then perhaps you have a vocation to the priesthood. If you feel like God is calling you, call our vocations director Father Adam Cichoski at:

856-583-2864 or email him at adam.cichoski@camdendiocese.org





## **Annual Appeal Letter**

As we wrap up the first months of the school year and begin preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas, I find myself *reflecting with gratitude on you*—our faithful benefactors. Your generosity and support sustain the mission that has guided St. Teresa Regional School for generations: Forming young minds and hearts through faith, service, and academic excellence.

To continue this mission, we rely on the generosity of supporters like you. I am humbly asking you to consider a donation to our annual appeal. Every gift, no matter the size, is deeply valued and put to immediate, meaningful use. Your donation directly strengthens our school and most importantly your generosity helps to keep tuition affordable for families so their children can have the quality Catholic education they deserve. Our students and families are very grateful beneficiaries of our donor's generosity, and your support makes a lasting impact on their lives.

On behalf of our students, parents, and staff, thank you for your prayerful consideration and support. May God be generous in blessing you and your family with peace, happiness, and health this season and always.

Sincerely,
Sister Santa Teresa IHM, Principal

Donation envelopes in pew or call 856-939-0333

# **Gift Card Program**

Thank you for your great support of the gift card program to help St Teresa School through gift card purchases. We have had so many requests for additional gift card options for the holidays that we have added over 350 gift card options to an order form that can be found in the back of both churches. If you are interested in ordering any of these gift cards for the holidays, please pick up the form, indicate the cards you would like, enclose a check and drop in the collection basket or to the front office of St Teresa School. All orders received before 12/5 are guaranteed to be available for pick up at mass or school from 12/12-12/15.

If you would like regular access to these cards and many more, please consider joining our school on the RaiseRight app to order on demand and even have delivered to your home. Questions: ad@stteresaschool.org OR 856-939-1207



12/5 Poinsettia Pick up 2:30-4:30
12/5 Tree Lighting 6-7p
12/6 Parish Christmas Fest
12/8 Irish Hill Tavern Dine & Donate-ALL DAY
12/10 Student Christmas Program

Ongoing- Gift card sales- \$25 Acme, ShopRite, Walmart, Target cards will be sold after masses