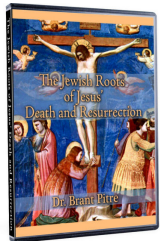


**The Crucifixion
A Marital Act, A Priestly Act
DVD Presentation
with Dr. John Bergsma
This Wednesday, March 21,
7:00 PM McNulty Hall
No cost. Just come.**

Are marriage and the priesthood “opposites” of each other? Are they two opposing and exclusive ways to serve God? Or, are they somehow profoundly linked to one another?

In this presentation Dr. Bergsma, former Protestant pastor and now Professor of Theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, examines the passion story of the Gospel of John, showing the unexpected and surprising ways that John reveals Jesus as both priest and bridegroom at the Cross. Married couples and priests alike will benefit from this moving reflection on the way both sacraments—Matrimony and Holy Orders—participate in the self-sacrifice of the crucified Christ.



**THE JEWISH ROOTS
OF THE CRUCIFIXION
AND RESURRECTION
Dr. Brant Pitre, DVD Presentation
WEDNESDAY OF HOLY
WEEK, March 28
7:00 PM, McNulty Hall
No cost. Just come.**

In this Bible study, Dr. Brant Pitre takes two aspects of the ancient Jewish Law: the daily “perpetual sacrifice” known as the Tamid and the weekly day of rest and worship known as the Sabbath and shows how Jesus truly fulfilled both of these Jewish feasts in his passion, death, and resurrection from the grave. In this ground-breaking Bible study, you’ll learn about:

How Jesus fulfilled the Jewish Sabbath: why do Catholics worship on Sunday rather than Saturday (the Jewish Sabbath)? How did Jesus’ fulfillment of the Sabbath usher in a new creation?

If you’ve ever been confronted by Seventh-Day Adventist rejections of Sunday worship, or if you’ve ever wanted to understand the mystery of Jesus’ death and Resurrection more deeply, then this Bible study is for you.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

You are invited to participate in the international **40 DAYS FOR LIFE** <https://40daysforlife.com/> This is a prayerful, peaceful presence at abortion clinics that has already saved over 14,000 unborn babies’ lives. The campaign runs from 2/14 -3/25. We plan to leave St. Jude in Blairstown after the 9AM Thursday mass and pray at Planned Parenthood, 66 E Washington Ave, Washington, NJ 07882 for about an hour. Please join us and call or email me for more information



Join our faith community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family’s CRS Rice Bowl in Church vestibule. Add to the rice bowl box your offerings during Lent. Return at the end of Lent. During the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our neighbor.

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT ENCOUNTER ALEFA
We encounter Alefa in Malawi, where seeds are helping her family survive an uncertain climate. How can you care for God’s creation this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.



Chrism Mass

Monday, March 26, 2018, 7:30pm

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen

On Monday, March 26, 2018 Bishop James F. Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Diocese. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils which each parish receives for the rites of anointing. Saint Ambrose [340-397] began this custom – which we now call the Chrism Mass – in his Cathedral in Milan. These Holy Oils, which are used to sanctify the Faithful, have been channels of holiness for centuries! The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint infants and adults before their Baptism; the Oil of the Sick is used on the forehead and hands of the infirmed in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and Sacred Chrism is used to anoint the head of the newly baptized, the foreheads of confirmandi, the hands of a priest at his ordination, the head of a bishop at his ordination, and the altar and walls of new churches. At the Mass, all priests make a Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service, recommitting themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry to God and His People; the Bishop and all Priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are strongly encouraged to join in the ancient, grace-filled Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen at 7:30pm.

St. Jude's Fellowship Café


Come and enjoy a cup of coffee (or tea) and spend a few minutes with your St. Jude church family.

The Fellowship Cafe is every Sunday after the 8:15 am and 10:30 am masses.

To offer your cooking talents or time to set-up/clean-up, please phone Christine Palmer at 908-798-7678 or email stjudefellowshipcafe@gmail.com



Our secure giving option is accessible through our church website: stjudech.org

Click  [Online Giving](http://stjudech.org), then click - "Sign Up for Your New Account" - and complete your initial account registration. Please let us know if you have any questions by calling the parish office at 908-362-6444 or email at stjudech@ptd.net Whichever way you choose to give, thank you for your ongoing support.

If you use online giving you can save the parish money by switching from the use of a credit card to having the money transfer directly from your checking account to St. Jude Church. You have the use of either option the use of credit card or direct transfer from your bank checking or savings account. The parish is charged a small percent for every credit card transaction, which varies depending upon the type of card. So setting it up to be transferred from your checking account helps. Whatever way you choose Online Giving is a great option for you in contributing to the parish.



SHOES AND CLOTHING BINS

Do you have clothing or shoes you no longer use?

Remember The Catholic Charities Shoes and Clothing Bins are located near the St. Jude Giving Tree Preschool. Please help support Catholic Charities programs within the Diocese by donating Clothing, Shoes, and Household items. Your continued generosity is appreciated.



March 18, 2018

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The Diocese of Metuchen currently has 30 retired diocesan priests. Just imagine how many people have heard them preach and teach over the years, and how many more have been the recipients of their sacramental and pastoral care. In their combined years of service, these men have ministered to literally hundreds of thousands of people.

For the majority of diocesan priests, retirement usually at 75, may end administrative responsibilities, but obviously not their priestly ministry. In a number of parishes, our retired priests celebrate Mass and assist with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They bring Christ's love to the sick and serve as spiritual leaders, counselors, and teachers, giving freely of their time to assist our active priests. The retired priests, who for health reasons cannot minister in the parishes, also continue to support the people of God and their brother priests through their prayers and example.

Next weekend, March 24-25, the faithful of our diocese will have the opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the life-long dedication of these priests by contributing to the **Annual Collection for our Retired Diocesan Priests**. Your generous response to next week's special collection is a practical way to convey your personal appreciation to our retired priests for their many years of service and helps to provide for their sustenance. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen



2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

As of March 9, 2018 the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$28,564.06 and payments totaling \$20,984.06 from 125 parishioners. This represents pledges of 68 % of our \$42,000.00 goal and payments of 49.9% towards our goal.

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen, Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at www.diometuchen.org/BAA