



SHRINE SPIRIT

November 2017 Issue 27

Contact Us

Shrine of St. Joseph
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Mass Schedule

8:00 AM *Chapel*
10:00 AM *Auditorium Emmaus*
11:30 AM *Chapel Spanish*
Our Lady of Good Health –Velankanni
5:30 PM 1st Saturday *Chapel*
Filipino Community Mass
5:30 PM Vigil 3rd Saturday *Chapel*

Daily

8:00 AM Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat. *Chapel*
5:30 PM Tues. & Thurs. *Chapel*
6:30 PM Wed. Spanish *Chapel*
Recovery Mass
12:00 PM 2nd Saturday *Chapel*

Reconciliation

Mon.-Fri. 2:00-5:00 PM *Office*
Sat. 3:00-5:00 PM *Chapel*
Sun. 1:00-3:00 PM *Chapel*

Devotions

Saint Joseph
Sunday 3:00 PM *Chapel*
Our Lady of Good Health –Velankanni
1st Saturday 5:15 PM *Chapel*

Blessings In The Midst Of Chaos

Feeling useful is something that fills us with pride. On my trip to Puerto Rico, the experience of putting my hands and my vocation at the service of others, led me to meet a merciful and loving God who does not forget any of His children. I had never been in a disaster area before, the destructive power of nature left me in awe. But it was not the electricity towers on the ground, nor the houses without roofs, nor the light poles cut in half, nor all the trees in the streets that captivated my attention. In the midst of so much chaos, I was able to contemplate many blessings. I saw many people willing to leave their comforts to enter a hot place full of mosquitoes. I saw people who, instead of complaining, proposed very practical solutions. Many people were amazed to see so many children playing in the streets, riding bicycles, running in the squares and people talking for long hours. It was impressive to see children, young people, and adults interacting with each other. There is no doubt that human touch is much more enriching than a thousand friends on the internet.

Thanks to the generosity of all the members of the Shrine, I was able to take with me, a generator, chainsaw, medicine, food and cash. Everything, absolutely everything, was used in our three mission places in Puerto Rico: in Loiza, Humacao and in the Parish of Santiago Apóstol. The chainsaw was and still is a very helpful tool, since we were able to form a team that was dedicated to cutting the trees that were on top of the houses, especially in the homes of the elderly. The generator is used to turn on the refrigerator and thus be able to provide cold water to people especially to loggers, since the temperatures are very high on the Island. Several people have been helped with cash because banks do not work well, but especially to the poorest.

Restoring the Island will take a long time. That is why we will continue to work, guided always by the Holy Spirit, who moves our hearts to help the most vulnerable. Our faith and vocation to holiness requires us to pray for our neighbor and our baptismal commitment moves us to work for Him. Thanks to the entire Shrine community for their quick and valuable collaboration and our Brothers in Puerto Rico, in gratitude for your generosity, pray for all of you.

-Fr. Enrique Arango, S.T.



Grateful Thanksgiving

We are grateful for the outpouring response from those in the Shrine community and Warrentville Hardware to assist in the Hurricane Recovery Efforts. Together we collected \$3,123.00 that was sent to the Paterson Diocese for Catholic Charities in Texas. Together we were also able to collect \$15,000 to aid those in Puerto Rico. **Thank you for your generosity!**

Turkey Donations



The Shrine of St. Joseph is happy to announce that we will be continuing the Thanksgiving Turkey Drive tradition while partnering with Christ the King Church, Jersey City; St. Lucy's, Newark; and St. Bonaventure, Paterson. We are looking to build on the success of previous turkey drives with the hopes of breaking the 102 turkey record from last year.

As Thanksgiving approaches we will be making more detailed announcements at mass on how to participate. The initial plan is to drop off all turkeys (frozen only) and other perishable goods (stuffing, yams, cranberry sauce, gravy, canned potatoes) in the front of the parish office lobby starting at **3 PM Monday to 9 AM Tuesday**. Frozen turkeys take a couple of days to thaw, so we should be covered for safety reasons with under 24hrs until drop off. Also frozen turkeys are also extremely economical at under \$1/lb and assuming 1.5lbs feeds 1 person, a 15lb turkey could feed a family of 10 for ~\$15.

One other option to participate from last year which was very successful, was in accepting monetary donations. Those donations were then used to place a bulk order of ~50 turkeys ahead of time which allowed for 25-30% price reductions.

Contemplative Outreach



Centering Prayer is a receptive method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship.

Join us on Saturday, December 2nd from 9:00 AM - 12 Noon in the Retreat Room as we welcome Contemplative Outreach a local and national organization that shares the techniques of *Centering Prayer*. Please visit stshrine.org for more information or to register. *All are welcome!*



Pope Francis "Sanctuarium In Ecclesia"

The Holy Father recently issued an Apostolic Letter regarding the importance of Shrine's in today's society. The following is a small quote from the letter. *"The Shrine is sacred place where the proclamation of the Word of God, the celebration of the Sacraments, especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist, and the witness of charity express the Church's great commitment to evangelization; and it is therefore characterized as a genuine place of evangelization, where from the first proclamation up to the celebration of the sacred mysteries, the powerful action with which God's mercy works in people's lives is made manifest."* We pray for all that journey to the Shrine of Saint Joseph may feel the peace and mercy of God's unconditional love for them. To read more of the Holy Father Francis' Apostolic Letter regarding Shrines, please visit our website at stshrine.org.

Annual Appeal

Please be on the look out for the Shrine of Saint Joseph Advent Annual Appeal Letter in the mail or located in the vestibule.

Shrine Gift Shop To Extend Hours In November-December

Looking for a great gift – Consider our Gift & Book Shop which is open Mon-Sat 10-5 and Sunday 11-3. New Spiritual Thanksgiving and Christmas items are beginning to arrive. In anticipation of these celebrations, our Shop will extend the hours on Thursdays to 7pm and Sundays to 5pm. Come and visit the peaceful ambiance of the Shrine Gift & Book.