

December 24, 2023



The Catholic Community of **St. Stanislaus Kostka Church**

**225 MacArthur Avenue
Sayreville, NJ 08872**

Serving the Catholics of Sayreville for 109 Years

Parish Membership

Our Parish Family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the Parish is requested to register at the Parish Office. If you move or change your address, please notify us.

Baptisms

Please make arrangements by calling the Parish Office.

Marriage

Please make arrangements by calling the Parish Office at least one year in advance. No Sunday weddings.

Served by:
Rev. Kenneth Murphy, *Pastor*
Deacon David Mikolai
Deacon Andrzej Ozga

Administrative Staff:
Christina DeMeyer, *Secretary/*
Bookkeeper

School Staff:
Lori Hodder, *Principal*
Kimberly Carlson, *Secretary*

Director of Religious Education:
Kathleen Krolick

Director of Sacred Music:
Sharon Wildnauer
Organist - Polish Mass:
Stanley Gmyrek

Cemetery Staff:
(732)535-8670

Trustees:
David Samuel
Annette Hockenjos

Parish Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday evenings:
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
10:30 a.m. (Polish), and
12:00 Noon
Weekdays: 7:00 am, Saturday 7:30 a.m.
First Friday: 7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.
with school
Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (with
school) and 7:00 p.m.
Vigil Mass at 7:00 p.m. the evening
before the Holy Day
Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Parish Directory

Parish Office/Rectory: (732) 254-0212
Parish Fax: (732) 390-2989
Parish website: www.sskparish.org
E-mail: saintstanislaus@optonline.net
School: (732) 254-5819
School Fax: (732) 254-7220
School website: www.skskschool.org

Confessions

Saturday: Following the 7:30 a.m. Mass and Novena (English only), 4:00 - 4:45 pm, also by appointment.

Ministry to the Sick and Confined

Please contact the rectory regarding parishioners who are in the hospital or confined at home. If any parishioner is unable to get to Mass because of illness or handicap, please let us know so that we may bring the Eucharist to them.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023

5:00 pm †Dave Zagata - Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

7:30 am †Joao & Rosa Doce - Maria

9:00 am †John B. & Florence T. Genus -
John F. Genus Family

10:30 am †Slowikowski & Monko Families -
Family

12 Noon †Dollie Lauw - Family

5:00 pm Christmas Spiritual Bouquets

10:00 pm Christmas Spiritual Bouquets

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023

7:30 am Christmas Spiritual Bouquets

9:00 am Christmas Spiritual Bouquets

10:30 am Christmas Spiritual Bouquets

12 Noon Christmas Spiritual Bouquets

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2023

7:00 am †David lake - Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2023

7:00 am †Happy Birthday in Heaven Lenny -
Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2023

7:00 am †John Garbowski - Peggy,
Children & Grandchildren

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2023

7:00 am Rev. Raymond L. Szulecki

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2023

7:30 am †Margaret Murphy - Family

5:00 pm †Edward Corrado - Brenda & Bob
Cantora

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

7:30 am †Joanne & Charles Skwira -
Skwira Family

9:00 am †Edward Sokoloski, Sr. - David &
Debbie Samuel

10:30 am Parishioners

12 Noon †Chris Becker - Kristen & Andrew
Samuel

5:00 pm Parishioners



Candle Intentions

December 24, 2023



MAIN ALTAR

†David Lake - Family

†David Lake - Family

BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR

†Adam & Frances Detmer - Family

†Adam & Frances Detmer - Family

SACRED HEART ALTAR

†Happy Birthday in Heaven Lenny - Family

†Happy Birthday in Heaven Lenny - Grandkids



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

King David plans to build a temple to honor God. But God tells Nathan the Prophet that instead he will give David rest from his enemies, and ensure that both his house and community will be protected forever.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

In this letter of Paul to the Romans, he explains that the gospel reveals the mystery that had been hidden for many ages. Now it has been made known to all, so that they may believe, obey, and give glory through Jesus Christ forever.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

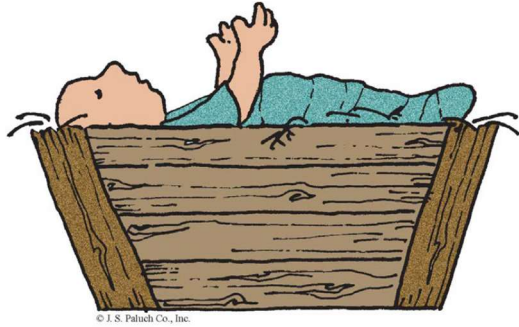
The Virgin Mary is approached by the angel Gabriel, who tells her that she has been chosen to bear the Son of God. Mary is first afraid, yet shows her unquestioning faith when she simply says, "Let it be done to me as you say."

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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: The Nativity of the Lord
(Christmas)
Tuesday: St. Stephen; Boxing Day (Canada)
Wednesday: St. John
Thursday: The Holy Innocents
Friday: St. Thomas Becket



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Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2023
The child to be born will be called holy,
the Son of God.

—Luke 1:35



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday

Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday

1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday

1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Friday

1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday

1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40



Please pray for Maria Hernandez, Danuta Se motiuk, Patricia Kelly, Linda Hoffmann, Joanne Starzec, Anna Garrick, Barbara Catenacci, Carol Johnson, David Colgan, Carol Harning, Diane Helmy, Joe Bartkowicz, Edward Strugala, Steve Wiklinski, Patricia Palma, Tom Weber, Patty Kerekes, T. J. Villanti, Richard DuBois and all the sick and homebound of our parish.

If you or someone you know is sick, in the hospital, or homebound, please contact the parish office to have a name put on our Pray for the Sick list.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of all the faithful departed of our parish. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

“Do not fear, Mary. You have found favor with God. You shall conceive and bear a son, and give Him the name Jesus. Great will be His dignity and He will be called Son of the Most High.”

The great moment in the history of salvation, began with the visit of the angel Gabriel and the invitation to be the mother of Jesus. It is not surprising that Mary hesitated, questioned and then consented. Wouldn't you? Her response 'I am the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say' redirected the course of human history.

The celebration of the Bethlehem event tonight, allows us not just to recall what happened, but to imitate Mary and permit the Lord to touch our lives in a truly special way. Our traditions and customs are rich as we relive Jesus' entering our lives again. The Simbang Gabi celebration of Filipino Catholics or Las Posadas of Latin Catholics lead us to the stable cave to meet and adore the Lord of history, the Lord of today. We have been praying 'Come Lord Jesus' for the four weeks of advent. Today, we welcome Him with joy.

As we celebrate this special night, may we be ready to open our door not just to Joseph and Mary, but Christ who comes to us.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

4th Sunday of Advent

“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!”

— Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

This Week

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

Christmas Eve - Mass at 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm
2024 Offertory Envelopes, English & Polish calendars and Oplatki - available in the church lobby. Suggested donation for Oplatki is \$5.00
No Bingo

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023

Christmas Day - Mass at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am (Polish) and 12 Noon

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2023

Parish Office closed.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2023

No C.C.D.
Rosary - 6:00 p.m. in the chapel.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2023

Bingo - 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

New Year's Eve Mass - 5:00 pm
Bingo - 1:30 pm. Doors open at 12 Noon

New Year's Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve 12/31

5:00 pm

New Year's Day 1/1

9:00 am, 10:30 am (Polish) and 12 Noon

Flags for Heroes

If you would still like to pick up your flag, contact Lisa Grover
lgrover@skschool.org/732.379.1279
Thank you for your support of this project!

Holy Name Society 50/50 Raffle

The Holy Name Society will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets after all Masses and at all the Bingos throughout the month of December. Tickets are also available in the parish office. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Drawing will take place on Monday, January 1, 2024, at 1:00 pm.

Weekly Offering



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Sunday, December 17, 2023

Regular Collection - \$4,905.00

Last year - \$5,204.00

Christmas Flowers Collection - \$1,699.00

Last year - \$2,135.00

THANK YOU!

The Rosary Altar Society would like to thank all those who supported our Grave Blanket and Wreath sale. Our fundraiser was a great success thanks to your support. The Rosary Altar Society would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year!



New Year's Eve Bingo

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Doors open at 12 Noon. Games begin at 1:30 p.m.

New Year's Day Bingo

Monday, January 1, 2024

Doors open at 11:30 am. Games begin at 1:30 p.m.

2024 NEW YEAR'S DAY BINGO SPECIALS

Roasted turkey breast in gravy over stuffing served with mashed potatoes, French-style green beans, cranberry sauce, rye bread and a tossed salad

Roasted pork loin in gravy served with mashed potatoes, French-style green beans, apple sauce, rye bread and a tossed salad

Roasted half chicken served with baked potato, French-style-green beans, rye bread and a tossed salad

Sliced New York strip steak in a tangy sauce with roasted red peppers & onions served with baked potato, French-style green beans, rye bread and a tossed salad

Taste of Poland Platter: Stuffed cabbage, kielbasa & sauerkraut and potato & cheese pierogi served with rye bread and a tossed salad

SPECIALS INCLUDE CHOICE OF COFFEE, TEA, HOT CHOCOLATE, BOTTLED WATER OR SODA, PLUS SLICE OF CAKE

ALL SPECIALS - \$15.00

Calling All Alumni!

We are in the process of updating our alumni contact information. There will be cards in the lobby to fill out to update your information or you can email your contact information to us: skalumni@skschool.org.

Make sure you are on our list, as we look forward to inviting you to upcoming events. Cards can be dropped in the collection basket, parish office, or at the school. Thank you!

You can also use the QR code below to complete the online form.





Winter Coat Drive

including gloves, hats, & scarves

January 21st to January 29th

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Stanislaus Kostka School,

January 22nd is our *Christian Service Day* of Catholic Schools Week. Various service projects will be started this day to continue our mission to help those in need.

We are collecting gently used or new winter coats, hats, gloves, and scarves for the homeless. These items will be donated to the Blessing Bag Brigade NJ who will distribute the items to those in need. Men's winter clothing is also in need. The Religion Club will be separating the items collected to make distribution easier for the Blessing Bag Brigade.

Donations can be dropped off in the church lobby or outside the front of the school during school hours 7:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Thank you for your continued support to help those in need.

Please contact Lisa Grover lgrover@skskschool.org / 732.379.1279

for any questions or to arrange for pickup.

Items can also be brought to the school during our Open House (breakfast included) on Sunday, January 21st from 10 am - 12 pm following the Opening Mass of Catholic Schools Week at 9 am.

The Blessing Bag Brigade NJ is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to showing compassion and humanitarianism towards those in need.

Committed to aiding the homeless and educating the public.

www.blessingbagbrigadenj.org





Dive into St. Stan's School spirit at the ***Polar Bear Plunge for Catholic Education*** sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 2 Monmouth.

The plunge will take place on Sunday, February 4th in Sea Bright, New Jersey at the Municipal Beach. Registration begins at 11am and closes at 12:30 pm (Ms. Grover will register our team). 12:45 pm we line up on the beach and 1:00 pm is plunge time!

The money raised from this event will go towards the 2023-2024 Project Fundraisers: School Boiler Replacement and School/Church AC Replacement with 15% donated to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Additional information will be in the church lobby the first week in January. Polar Bear Plunge spirit wear/items will be available for purchase. Items with the school logo will also be available.

We look forward to another great event, and we hope you will join us or make a donation! \$30.00 plunger registration fee

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Grover lgrover@skschool.org