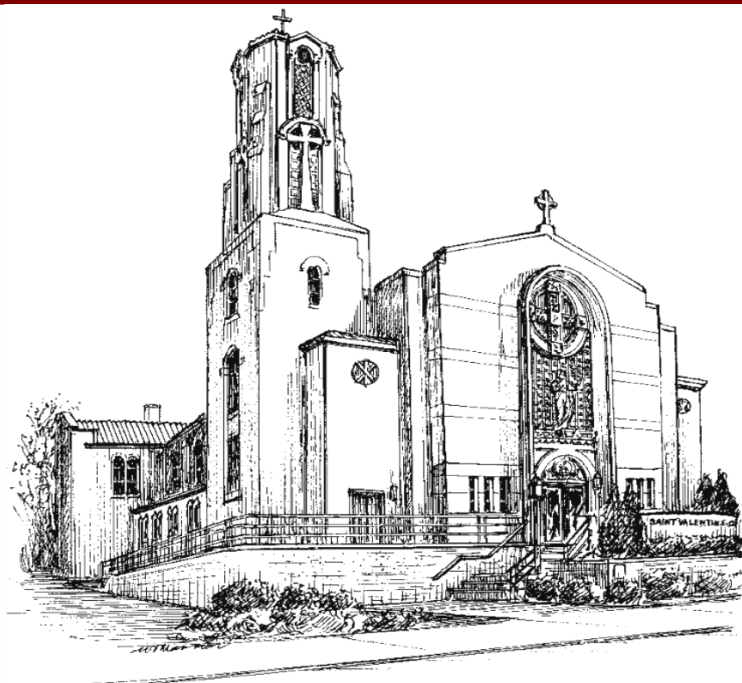


CHURCH OF SAINT VALENTINE

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 18 , 2024



Masses

Saturday Evening ----- 5:30 pm

Sunday ----- 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

Monday to Saturday in the Chapel ... 12:00 pm

Holy Days ----- Please see the bulletin

Rectory Office Hours ----- 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Rectory Telephone ----- 973-743-0220

Rectory Fax ----- 973-743-2041

Parish Website: ----- www.stvalentinechurch.com

Parish Instagram ----- [@SaintValentineBloomfieldNJ](https://www.instagram.com/SaintValentineBloomfieldNJ)

Parish Facebook: ----- [@SaintValentineBloomfieldNJ](https://www.facebook.com/SaintValentineBloomfieldNJ)

Parish Email: ----- stvalentinechurch@yahoo.com

Pastoral Council: StValsPastoralCouncil@gmail.com

Faith Formation: faithformationstval@gmail.com

Served By

Fr. Andrew N. Onyemaobi ----- *Pastor*

Fr. Andrew Njoku ----- *In Residence*

Judy Giuliano ----- *Parish Secretary*

Robert Bulkowski ----- *Maintenance*

Kevin Amahit ----- *Financial Trustee*

Iris Prcic ----- *Director of Music*

Jean Frucci ----- *Food Pantry Coordinator*

Our Mission Statement

The Roman Catholic Community of Saint Valentine is called to be a visible sign of God's presence in the world. Through celebration of the sacraments, especially through reconciliation and the Eucharist, we are sent out to proclaim and witness to the Gospel by our lives.

We are therefore dedicated to serving others within our church, local communities and throughout the world. By loving God, neighbor and self we deepen our response to the Lord and to announce the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

At the Church, Saturdays at 12:45pm (after the 12:00pm mass in the rectory chapel) we have Confession. during the week, you may call the office to make appointments with the Priest.

BAPTISMS

Parishioners who want Baptism for their children need to be registered, active members of the Church. The Baptism will be celebrated at the 12:00 Noon Sunday Mass. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a meeting in the Rectory. All Godparents must have received the sacrament of Confirmation.

MATRIMONY

All Catholics should only marry in the Catholic Church. A Catholic marriage requires a time of preparation of at least one year. Therefore, parishioners should first meet with the priest before making any arrangements of date and time, or booking of the banquet.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If someone needs the sacrament of the sick, please call Fr Andrew Onyemaobi at 973-743-0220. Family members are invited to join in the liturgy of the Sacrament of the Sick.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our program will be held at St. Valentine Church. For further information please reach out to our acting D.R.E.

Mrs. Marta Cirilli-Kuebler at faithformationstval@gmail.com.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 17

2nd Collection — Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern Europe

12:00pm (50th Wedding Anniversary)

From: Chris Gill

5:30pm Marian Damato (Deceased)

From: Mary DiNardo

Sunday, February 18

2nd Collection — Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern

8:00am Juliana L. Resus

From: Desiree

10:00am Antoinette Duger (Birthday)

From: Family

12:00pm Reynaldo & Leonora Velasquez (Deceased)

From: Emma Laurente

Monday, February 19

12:00 pm Jose Garcia (Deceased)

From: Elito & Divina

Tuesday, February 20

12:00 pm Priscilla Garcia (Deceased)

From: Elito & Divina

Wednesday, February 21

12:00 pm Jacqueline Angeli Santos

From: Elito & Divina

Thursday, February 22

12:00pm Ziggy Gabara

From: His Sister Lucy Gambino

Friday, February 23

12:00 pm People of the Parish

Saturday, February 24

2nd Collection — Maintenance Fund

12:00pm George Giangeruso (Deceased)

From: Val & Tess

5:30pm Nettie & John Mulvihill (Deceased)

From: Maryanne Witkos

Sunday, February 25 — Second Sunday of Lent

2nd Collection — Maintenance Fund

8:00am Eugene & Ann Reilly (Deceased)

From: Jim & Christena McManus

10:00am Cindy Cariaga

From: Val & Tess

12:00pm Danilo L. Resus

From: Desiree

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

God made a promise to Noah that he would never again devastate the entire planet with a flood. He also told Noah that the symbol of this promise would be a rainbow in the clouds.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

This letter from Peter reminds all people that Christ died for us so that we might be led to God. We have been saved by our baptism; not a physical cleansing, but a promise to continually strive to obey God.

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Mark briefly tells of Jesus' stay in the desert, where he was tested by Satan. He did not give in to temptation, but reappeared in Galilee to proclaim the good news.

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<u>Sunday Collection (2/11/24)</u>	\$ 3,690.00
Easter.....	\$ 10.00
Archdiocesan Assessment.....	\$ 934.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$ 5.00
Communicating God's Word.....	\$ 35.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 3.00
Central & Eastern Europe.....	\$ 3.00
Black/Indian Collection.....	\$ 3.00
TOTAL.....	\$ 4,683.00

Electronic Giving \$ 381.04

NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new in the parish, we would appreciate it if you register. [Please PRINT clearly and drop in the collection box]

Name _____ Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail _____

KID'S KORNER

Gospel Today
First Sunday of Lent | Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit sent Jesus to the desert for 40 days where He prayed and fasted and angels took care of Him.

Year B

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Like Jesus, we too will spend 40 days praying and fasting.



Give us New Life, O Lord.

My plan for Lent, one week at a time...

This week I will pray for _____

This week I will give up/do without _____

This week I will do this act of love/good deed _____
(Sundays optional)

LET'S MAKE PRETZELS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 package dry yeast
- 1 1/2 cups warm water
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 4 cups flour
- Kosher salt
- Water to hold salt on

Latin - Braccellae "Little arms", the original Lenten bread dating back to the 4th century.

Place yeast, sugar & warm water in a large bowl and let stand. Add flour & salt, mix well and knead to form smooth ball.

Divide into 12 pieces and roll each into a "rope" about 10-12 inches long. Form into a pretzel and place on baking sheet, brush with water and sprinkle with kosher salt. Let rise slightly and bake at 425° about 12-15 minutes.



Flip ends over to resemble arms crossed over chest - praying little arms

UPCOMING IMPORTANT FAITH FORMATION DATES:

To All students: Classes on March 3rd are rescheduled so that the children and their Families can attend our Special Anniversary Mass at Noon celebrated by Cardinal Tobin. Teachers will be in the back of the church to take attendance prior to Mass. First Reconciliation. 2/28 6:00pm in our Church

Communion practice 5/2 and 5/3 from 5:00-6:00pm, details will be given closer to practice dates.

Communion MAY 5 at Noon Mass

Confirmation Candidates MUST ATTEND: Confirmation Retreat at St. Thomas Church in Bloomfield, NJ. Retreat Date is MARCH 8th, from 6:00-9:00pm. We will only be providing snacks so please remind the kids to eat dinner before they arrive.

Thank you.

BEYOND BAPTISM



Beyond
Baptism

Engaging Laity
Empowering Hearts
Sharing the Real Presence
Encounter Christ through the Eucharist



Eucharistic Saint of the Month

Saint Gertrude



St. Gertrude was born in Biennio Brescia, Italy in 1837 into a large family. From early childhood she was always aware of the presence of God, especially in the Eucharist. She was drawn to prayer in the presence of the tabernacle. At the age of seven, unable to resist any longer the pressing invitation of Jesus, one day, in the very early morning, she wrapped herself in her mother's black shawl and went to the nearby Saint Mary's Church. Standing at the balustrade, she secretly made her First Communion. Caterina experienced a "heavenly" feeling and swore eternal love to Jesus. The child became more serious, meditative and more absorbed in the thought of Jesus present in the Eucharist who, she realized, was often left alone for many days. At the age of 15, Gertrude wanted to join the convent. Because of illness she was forced to wait. She worked as a domestic worker for a priest.

While still young, she became an Apostle of the Eucharist: she would have liked to take Jesus present in the Holy Sacrament onto the top of a high mountain so that everyone could see and adore Him.

On the Feast of Corpus Christi of 1878, with the permission of her confessor, she made the vow of chastity, which she had made on the morning of her secret Communion, perpetual. Without neglecting her duties as a domestic servant, Caterina decided to educate the children of San Gervasio, Bergamo, guiding them towards an honest life of christian and social virtues.

By means of assiduous prayer, mortification, an intense interior life and the practice of the deeds of charity, Caterina prepared herself to accept the will of the Lord. Freed from family responsibilities after her parents' death, the young woman sought a way to achieve her Eucharistic ideal.

She opened her heart to the Bishop of Bergamo Mgr Speranza, who was, at that time, in Biennio as a guest of the Fé-Vitali's. He encouraged and assured her that her plans were the will of God.

In 1880, while in Rome with the Fé-Vitali's, she succeeded in speaking with Pope Leo XIII about her plans to establish a religious institute devoted to the adoration of the Eucharist. The Pope changed them by inviting her to include the education of young female factory workers as well.

On Dec. 15, 1882 she founded the Congregation of the Sacramentine Sisters of Bergamo. Its focus was on adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and education. The sisters committed their lives to prayer and helping those who were most in need.

St. Gertrude was canonized in 2009 by Pope Benedict XVI, and her feast day is February 18.

St. Gertrude died of natural causes while praying in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in 1903.

Interested in volunteering? Contact info@beyondbaptism.com

This is the time of fulfillment

FOOD PANTRY

You can donate:

Cereal, Macaroni & Cheese, Soups, Canned Vegetables, Tuna, Peanut Butter, Jelly, and Spaghetti Sauce.

You may bring your donations to the Vestibule of the Church before Mass or at the Rectory during office hours. Thank you for your kind generosity!



Please PRAY For The Healing of those listed:

- ◆ Nicole Ostering
- ◆ Mary Rende
- ◆ Jacob (Maria DaCunha's Grandson)
- ◆ Viola-Cleo Bradshaw
- ◆ Alan Bruce Bradshaw
- ◆ Cordelia Vogel
- ◆ Andrea Emilia Bernabey
- ◆ Gustavo & Caceres Family
- ◆ Rios Family
- ◆ Alonso Family
- ◆ Santa Cruz Family



"Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions

For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

WEBSITE (www.stvalentinchurch.com)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS**Saturday, February 17****7:00pm Neo Catechumenal Eucharist (Chapel)****Sunday, February 18****No CCD Classes****2pm—FISH FRY Dinner****Monday, February 19—President's Day****Holiday - Rectory Office Closed****7pm—125th Committee Meeting****Tuesday, February 20****7pm— First Spiritual Book Club Meeting****Wednesday, February 21****No events scheduled****Thursday, February 22****7:00pm Neo Catechumenal Liturgy of the Word (Chapel)****Friday, February 23****7:00pm Stations of the Cross****Saturday, February 24****10:00am Church Hall Clean-Up Day****7:00pm Neo Catechumenal Eucharist (Chapel)****Sunday, February 25****No events scheduled****SAVE THE DATE:**

Feb 19th– Next 125th Committee Meeting — 7PM

Feb 20th—First Meeting of the Spiritual Committee Book Club! 7PM

Feb 24th– Church Hall Clean-up Day — 10AM

Feb 25th—Meet & Greet after 8AM Mass

Feb 26th—Festival Wrap-Up Meeting 7pm

March 3rd—NOON Mass with Cardinal Tobin followed by Luncheon w/Cardinal

Archdiocese of Newark
OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL**2024 LENTEN REGULATIONS**

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 18 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 26, 2024.**

*Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.

January 23, 2024

ARCHDIOCESAN CENTER

171 Clifton Avenue • Post Office Box 9500 • Newark • New Jersey 07104-0500 • (973) 497-4002 • Fax (973) 497-4525

DAILY READING**First Sunday of LENT****Sunday**

Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Friday

Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48



To commemorate the 125th Anniversary of St. Valentine's Church, the Spiritual Committee has initiated a Book Club.

Our first selection, *My Life with the Saints* by James Martin SJ is a "Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year", "Winner of the Catholic Press Association Book Award" and winner of the "Christopher Award".

The first meeting will be held February 20th at 7pm in the Rectory. **Please Do Not** read the book prior to the Introductory Meeting. Won't you consider joining us as we read through this "outstanding and often hilarious memoir".

Please RSVP to Janice Ph. 973-634-6393



125th CORNER

FEBRUARY 16, 2024—2025

COMMEMORATIVE ANNIVERSARY MERCHANDISE SALE ONGOING

Please join us on March 3rd
Noon Mass with Cardinal Joseph
Tobin followed by Luncheon

ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

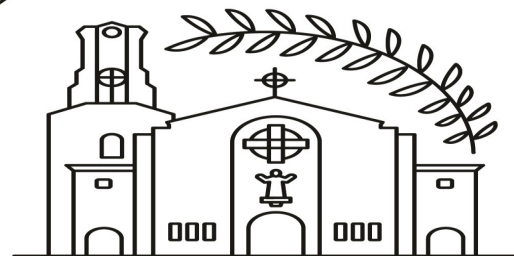
Name _____

Guests Attending _____

Phone Number _____

Drop in Collection Box or RSVP To Patti 201.207.0785

By February 25th for head count. Thank you.



125 YEARS

ST. VALENTINE
BLOOMFIELD, NJ