



# HOLY ANGELS

## CATHOLIC PARISH

81 Cooper Street · Woodbury, NJ 08096 · 856-845-0123

*Welcome . . . we're glad you are here!*

Follow  
me

### St. Patrick Church

86 Cooper Street  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

### Worship Center

96 Green Avenue  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

### St. Matthew Church

4<sup>th</sup> & Monument Avenue  
National Park, NJ 08063

### Ministry Center

8 Green Avenue  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

### Holy Angels Catholic School

211 Cooper Street  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

### Family Faith Formation Office

81 Cooper Street  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

† September 12 2021 †

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday:** 9:00AM—St. Patrick Church  
4:00PM—St. Patrick Church  
5:30PM—St. Matthew Church

**Sunday:** 7:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM—St. Patrick Church  
8:30AM—St. Matthew Church  
6:00PM—St. Patrick Church

**10AM SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED ON OUR WEBSITE:**  
**[WWW.HOLYANGELSNJ.ORG](http://WWW.HOLYANGELSNJ.ORG)**

**Monday—Friday:** \*6:45AM & 9:00AM—St. Patrick Church  
\*(NO 6:45AM MASS ON CIVIC HOLIDAYS)

**Holy Day Vigil and Holy Day:** 7:00PM—St. Patrick Church

**Holy Day:** 6:45AM, 9:00AM, 12:10PM—St. Patrick Church

### BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

**Monday:** 7:00PM—St. Patrick Church

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

**Saturday:** 5:00PM—St. Patrick Church  
6:30PM—St. Matthew Church

### CONFESSIONS

**Monday—Friday:** 9:30AM—St. Patrick Church

**Saturday:** 3:00PM—St. Patrick Church  
4:30PM—St. Matthew Church

### COMMUNION CALLS

For sick or homebound, please call the parish office.



## Twenty Years After 9/11/01

The wounds of the terrorist attacks on our country are still causing pain and suffering even twenty years later, not just from the loss of life experienced on that day and the subsequent suffering of loved ones but also in the significant cost of life in the continuing efforts that we make as a country to stay safe. The solution to terrorism and indeed to all strife is ultimately the establishment of peace not the eradication of the “bad guys” whoever they may be at any given time. Why? Firstly, there will always be “bad guys” in the world and we will never be able to get rid of them all and secondly, who decides who the “bad guys” are in the first place? Due to the wounded human nature that all of us share, there will always be strife. So the answer is peace. The Second Vatican council talks about peace in this way:

Peace is not the mere absence of war or the simple maintenance of a balance of power between forces, nor can it be imposed at the dictate of absolute power. It is called, rightly and properly, a work of justice. It is the product of order, the order implanted in human society by its divine founder, to be realized in practice as men hunger and thirst for ever more perfect justice.

The common good of the human race is subject to the eternal law as its primary principle, but its requirements in practice keep changing with the passage of time. The result is that peace is never established finally and forever; the building up of peace has to go on all the time. Again, the human will is weak and wounded by sin; the search for peace therefore demands from each individual constant control of the passions, and from legitimate authority untiring vigilance.

Even this is not enough. Peace here on earth cannot be maintained unless the good of the human person is safeguarded, and men are willing to trust each other and share their riches of spirit and talent. If peace is to be established it is absolutely necessary to have a firm determination to respect other persons and peoples and their dignity, and to be zealous in the practice of brotherhood. Peace is therefore the fruit also of love; love goes beyond what justice can achieve. Peace on earth, born of love for one’s neighbor, is the sign and the effect of the peace of Christ that flows from God the Father. In his own person the incarnate Son, the Prince of Peace, reconciled all men to God through his death on the cross. In his human nature he destroyed hatred and restored unity to all mankind in one people and one body. Raised on high by the resurrection, he sent the Spirit of love into the hearts of men.

All Christians are thus urgently summoned to live the truth in love, and to join all true peacemakers in prayer and work for peace. Moved by the same spirit, we cannot but praise those who renounce violence in defense of rights, and have recourse to means of defense otherwise available to the less powerful as well, provided that this can be done without injury to the rights and obligations of others or of the community.

Working for peace is to work towards the just order of society that God has laid out for us, seeking the common good, living according to our human nature, doing good and avoiding evil in our lives. It is easy to speak of peace as if we need to go out into the world and “do something”. But peace begins first in our hearts with a right relationship with God and then in our relationships with those around us. If we truly seek peace, we will not only look to strive to end war and conflict and injustice in the world at large, but we will also seek establish peace in our daily lives and within our day to day relationships with those directly around us.

God Bless you,  
Father Joseph Byerley





**SAMUEL GROUP**

Samuel Group is a spiritual formation program to go deeper in your prayer life and receive information on discerning God's voice in your life.

**Ages 18-39**  
 1:30pm—5:30pm  
 Sep. 12 | Oct 10 | Nov 7 | Dec 5 | Jan 9 (optional)  
 Feb 6 | Mar 6 May 1

**St Anthony Of Padua Church**  
 285 Route 206  
 Hammonton, NJ

**Obligations**  
 ~ Interview with Sr. Ann Kateri over the phone  
 ~ Full participation and attendance at all meetings  
 ~ Have a Spiritual Director (we can help you find one)

**Contact**  
 Sr. Ann Kateri 609-343-1545

To learn more and register, go to  
[www.franciscansisterscfr.com/st-michael](http://www.franciscansisterscfr.com/st-michael)

**Sponsored by**  
*The Franciscan Sisters of Renewal*

To Know Oneself, Jesus, and Your Role in the Church and World




**FALL SCRIPTURE SESSION**  
*This Fall's Scripture reflection will be Chapters 5 to 7 in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount*

Jesus' call to discipleship in the Sermon on the Mount is too often dismissed as special instructions for the most exceptional Christians. In this study we are challenged to hear the sermon once again as Christ intended it, as our call to follow him. The Sermon on the Mount is a message for each of us, a challenge that is our constant call to renewal.

The four-session reflection will begin on **Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**, and continue for four Thursdays from **7:00 to 8:30PM**. All sessions will be held in the Worship Center upstairs classroom.

To register, call Jean or Jerry Washko at 856-845-6944. **Please register by September 19<sup>th</sup>**. Cost for materials from the Diocese of Little Rock Scripture Program is \$20, but lack of funds should not prevent attendance.



**ST. JOSEPH REFLECTION**

We are currently in the year dedicated to St. Joseph. Judy Principe, of the Spiritual Life Ministry, is moderating a book/reflection on St. Joseph. The book is entitled St. Joseph, Tender Father. **Reading and discussion will be ZOOM ONLY format.**

The program will begin September 14<sup>th</sup> and continue for six weeks at 7:00PM. (Books can be obtained through Amazon.com, Catholic Book Publishing Corp., The Catholic Company, Word Among us.)

If interested, call Judy at 856-845-7507.

Judy will also consider a daytime Zoom meeting for those interested but you will need to call her to express your interest.

**HOLY ANGELS GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY**

For any and all who are grieving the loss of a loved one, no matter how recent or how long ago. Please consider this invitation for yourself or extend this invitation to another who is suffering loss. **Newcomers are welcome.**



**EACH WEDNESDAY**  
**September 15<sup>th</sup> thru October 27<sup>th</sup>**  
 1:00PM – 2:30PM  
 —MINISTRY CENTER CLASSROOM—

For more information or to register for the afternoon program contact: Julie Rutherford – 856-845-1846  
 Tasha Amendt – 856-848-3942

**EACH THURSDAY**  
**September 16<sup>th</sup> thru October 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 7:00PM – 8:30PM  
 —MINISTRY CENTER CLASSROOM—



For more information or to register for the evening program contact: Lorraine Woodring – 856-534-9095  
 or: [Lwoodring@yahoo.com](mailto:Lwoodring@yahoo.com)



### SPIRITUAL LIFE MINISTRY ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

St. Therese, also known as the “Little Flower”, is known for her spirituality called the “Little Way.” Her feast day is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Julie Rutherford, who co-hosts our parish Grief Support Ministry, will do a presentation on the Spirituality of St. Therese on Thursday, **September 30<sup>th</sup>** in the Ministry Center, first floor back room, from **1:00 to 2:30PM**. All are invited. There is no fee.

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### † MASS INTENTIONS †

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- 9:00AM-STP Francis A. Giovinazzo  
r/b The Lostracco Family  
4:00PM-STP Philomena Reitmann r/b Family  
5:30PM-STP Edward Verbit r/b Family

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 7:30AM-STP Mary Theresa Andaloro  
r/b Diane Brenner and Family  
8:30AM-STP Daniel Tinney r/b wife, Krista  
10:00AM-STP Joe Avallone r/b The Smith Family  
11:30AM-STP Ellen O'Laughlin r/b The Dolan Family  
6:00PM-STP Gianna Marie Palladino  
r/b Scott and Sue Jones and Family

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 6:45AM-STP Cynthia Contino r/b Deacon Vince Latini  
9:00AM-STP Maddalena Turci r/b The Minutillo Family

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 6:45AM-STP  
9:00AM-STP Louis and Emily Ambrose r/b Sharon Ambrose

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 6:45AM-STP People of the Parish  
9:00AM-STP Beatrice Eisenhardt r/b Jean Eisenhardt

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 6:45AM-STP  
9:00AM-STP Edward H. Barry r/b Family

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 6:45AM-STP Charles Maronski r/b Family  
9:00AM-STP Paul and Teresa Turci r/b The Minutillo Family

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 9:00AM-STP Mario Flamini r/b Family  
4:00PM-STP Edward Cirone r/b Family  
5:30PM-STP James and Edna Meehan r/b Donna Raymond

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 7:30AM-STP Harry Crimi r/b Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Turco  
8:30AM-STP Betty Dandrow r/b Family  
10:00AM-STP Deceased members of the Letkiewicz and Rakiewicz Family r/b Family  
11:30AM-STP Fr. Alfred Onyutha r/b Leon and Rose Sumoski  
6:00PM-STP Charlie Haines r/b Helene Masiko



May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
Amen.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 12:45PM Baptisms—St. Patrick Church  
5:00PM **B I N G O**—American Legion Hall, Brooklawn  
DOORS OPEN AT 3PM

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 9:30AM Confessions—St. Patrick Church  
10:00AM Art Club—Ministry Ctr.  
6:30PM Art Club—Ministry Ctr.  
7:00PM K of C #1994 Mtg—Worship Ctr.  
7:00PM Adoration—St. Patrick Church

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 9:00AM Pray the Rosary—St. Matthew Church  
9:30AM Confessions—St. Patrick Church  
7:00PM Men's Bible Study—St. Patrick Church Basement

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 9:30AM Confessions—St. Patrick Church

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 9:30AM Confessions—St. Patrick Church

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 9:30AM Confessions—St. Patrick Church

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 3:00PM Confessions—St. Patrick Church  
4:30PM Confessions—St. Matthew Church

**2021**  
**MASS INTENTION BOOK**  
There are a number of  
Mass intentions still available  
before next year's book can be opened.  
Please call the office if you would like to  
schedule an intention for 2021.



Looking for some serenity?  
Need some peace?  
How about some down time  
to just think, or just be?  
Try an hour with Jesus....  
every Monday at 7:00PM  
Blessed Sacrament Adoration  
in St. Patrick Church.

*He's always waiting for you with great expectation!*



**AMELIA LEE DOLAN**  
**VANESSA ANNE PERKINS**



"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.  
Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and  
their families for the selfless acts they perform in  
our time of need." We ask this in Jesus' name.  
Amen



**PARISH  
OFFICE HOURS**

**Beginning  
September 7<sup>th</sup>  
Monday thru Friday  
9:00AM—4:00PM**

## WELCOME TO HOLY ANGELS PARISH!



*We are blessed to have you share in this Eucharist Celebration. You are invited to become part of our parish family and become fully involved in our life of prayer, education, service and community.*

**BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM** for new and expectant parents held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, at 11:30AM in the Worship Center. It is mandatory for both parents. Parents, please call the Parish Office on Tuesdays or Wednesdays to register for class and to schedule a Baptism.—856-845-0123 ext. 103

**BAPTISMS** are held each Sunday in St. Patrick Church following the 11:30AM Mass. When choosing your Godparents, please keep in mind that according to Canon Law, both Godparents must be Christian, and at least one must be a practicing Catholic.

**\*\*\*If you have been asked to be a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor, please call the office to set up a short meeting with one of our priests to obtain your Letter of Eligibility/Sponsorship Letter.**

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS** Deadline for receiving information is Monday by noon. Email: [mail@holyangelsnj.org](mailto:mail@holyangelsnj.org)

**FLOWERS and SANCTUARY CANDLE** If you are interested in having the **Sanctuary Candle** burn in memory of your loved one, or if you would like to purchase **flowers** for the Altar in his/her memory, please contact the Parish Office at 856-845-0123 ext. 5106. Arrangements should be made in advance to make sure that the week is available.

**MARRIAGES** Must be arranged at least 1 year in advance. Engaged couples should reserve the Church prior to scheduling the reception. Please call the Parish Office on **Wednesdays or Thursdays** to register: 856-845-0123 ext. 5106.

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program that prepares adults to be received into the Catholic Church. Persons who complete the program receive the sacraments of Baptism (if not yet baptized), First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

RCIA begins after each Easter season with a rolling open enrollment and continues to the following Easter season. The program is also available for Catholics who have never received the sacraments of First Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

For more information, please contact Deacon Vince at [dvladini@outlook.com](mailto:dvladini@outlook.com) or 609-932-6170.



## MASKS

At Mass and in all parish offices, if you have been completely vaccinated, masks are not required.

You are encouraged to wear a mask if you have not been vaccinated.



## HOLY ANGELS ART CLUB

**We're back for another colorful year!**

**Beginning Monday, September 13**

Classes are held every Monday at 10AM and 6:30PM in The Ministry Center.

For more information, contact Jerry O'Donnell: 856-534-0063



Please join us for a **Meet and Greet** on **Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1:00PM** in the Worship Center. We'll meet, talk, and make some music!

St. Augustine once said that "He who sings prays twice." If you love to sing along to hymns at Mass, or to the radio when no one's watching, come on out! Come to meet people with similar interests, to make music with your fellow parishioners, or just to get more information. You don't have to have any previous experience or know how to read music to join - just bring yourself and your love for music. I hope to see you there!

All the best,  
Beth Pirolli

**P.S.** - If you are thinking of coming to the **Meet and Greet**, please send an email to [bpirolli@holyangelsnj.org](mailto:bpirolli@holyangelsnj.org). This is not a commitment to join; I would just like to know how many people to plan for.

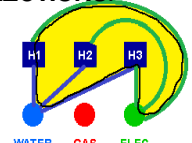
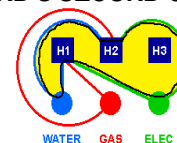
*Let's Connect*



#HOLYANGELSPARISH

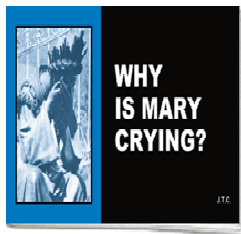
## THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTIONS:

**Utilities  
and**



## National Needs:

CATHOLIC MISSIONS-BLACK & NATIVE AMERICANS  
CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS  
CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION  
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA



Recently you may have found a pamphlet, like the one to the left, on your windshield after Mass on Sunday. Someone has been to both St. Matthew's and St. Patrick's and has come into the parking lot during Mass, and placed these pamphlets on our windshields.

So, why *is* Mary crying? Because probably she read this pamphlet! Joking aside, this pamphlet is one of a number from the infamous Jack Chick, a rabid Anti-Catholic, who thinks the Catholic Church is from the devil and all Catholics are going to hell unless they repent and leave the Catholic faith.

These pamphlets, often called "Chick Tracts", are easy-to-read, illustrated cartoons that contain an endless amount of conspiracy theories, distortions, erroneous assertions, misuse of and problematic interpretation of Sacred Scripture, and complete fabrications regarding the Catholic faith.

If you look at some of Mr. Chick's claims, you can easily see why you shouldn't give a second thought to nor be bothered by these tracts. For instance, Jack Chick in various tracts of his, states that the Catholic Church started the religion of Jehovah's Witnesses, the KKK, Communism, the mafia, the Mormon religion, and the religion of Islam in order to take over the world. Ironically, most of these organizations are as anti-Catholic as Jack Chick. He further claims that the Pope and the Catholic Church are Satan himself in disguise and Catholic Church keeps "the name of every Protestant church member in the world" in a "big computer" in the Vatican for use in future persecutions.

In *Why is Mary Crying?*, the one that was put on your car, makes the claim that the Catholic Church came into existence around 300 A.D. This is another example of the outlandish claims in these tracts. History shows that there were almost 30 popes before 300 A.D. How could the Catholic Church have begun then in 300?

And, of course, we Catholics do not worship Mary. We worship and adore only Almighty God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. But it is totally fitting and good to honor the Mother of Christ our Savior. That is what Catholics do when we have a devotion to Mary.

The goal of these tracts is to steal as many Catholics as possible from the Church. But I would say, if it this were being done with a sincere concern for our souls, one would act with God's love, honesty, and accurately portray Catholic doctrine rather than presenting false assertions. It is one thing to disagree with someone's religion, but it is something else entirely to present countless falsehoods and then proceed to tear apart and condemn what wasn't true in the first place.

I urge you to pray for those who print and distribute these pamphlets that the fullness of Christ's love might be theirs, so that they may personally know the Truth that is our Lord and love him as He is, rather than as they wish him to be.

God Bless You,  
Father Joseph Byerley

## FACES OF HOPE 2021 CAMPAIGN UPDATE

**Gifts to-date: \$122,998**  
**Our Goal: \$155,500 % of Goal: 79.1%**

Thank you to those who through their generosity and sacrifice have contributed to the 2021 campaign! It's not too late to still make a gift if you have not done so this year. Your kindness in providing for the House of Charity enables the Diocese of Camden to provide for the needs of our less fortunate brothers and sisters throughout our South Jersey community. Your support is vital to the pastoral, charitable, educational and social ministries funded by the House of Charity and puts our parish in the forefront in accomplishing this mission.

Also, this reminder that a 10% rebate of our goal is returned to our parish should we reach our goal.

**Thank You! YOUR GIFT MATTERS**



### Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.

Be our defense  
against the wickedness  
and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him,  
we humbly pray and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
cast into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.  
Amen.





### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

I want to let you know that Irene Clark, Holy Angels Director of Religious Education, resigned from her position on August 25th. We thank her for her service to the parish and wish her well in her new endeavor. However, due to the timing and suddenness of the announcement, and just weeks before the beginning of the program, we had quite a challenge on our hands to find a replacement.

But I am happy to announce that Karen Caso, a long-time parishioner here, has accepted the position of Director of Religious Education for our great parish. Karen brings a number of years of experience as a Religious Education Director; we are fortunate to have her. I know she will do a great job for our program.

I am also very grateful to Jeannie McParland, the Religious Education Secretary, for all of her help and assistance during the transition. Our goal, of course, for our Religious Education Program is to help our children and, indeed everyone, to know the Lord better and come closer to him in this life and the next.

Father Joseph Byerley

### VOLUNTEERS

Catechists are needed for Grades 1 and 4. Classes are held on Sunday morning at Holy Angels Catholic School from 10:30-11:45. If you enjoy being with and teaching children this is a perfect opportunity to share the faith with our children.

Catechist aides are also needed. This is a perfect opportunity for high school students needing service hours.

Contact the Family Faith Office at 856-845-6826



### PB&J FOR *Joseph's* HOUSE

Since April, five months ago, parishioners have continued to provide on average **359 sandwiches a month** to the overnight residents of Joseph House in Camden. (Consumption is about 100 per day.)

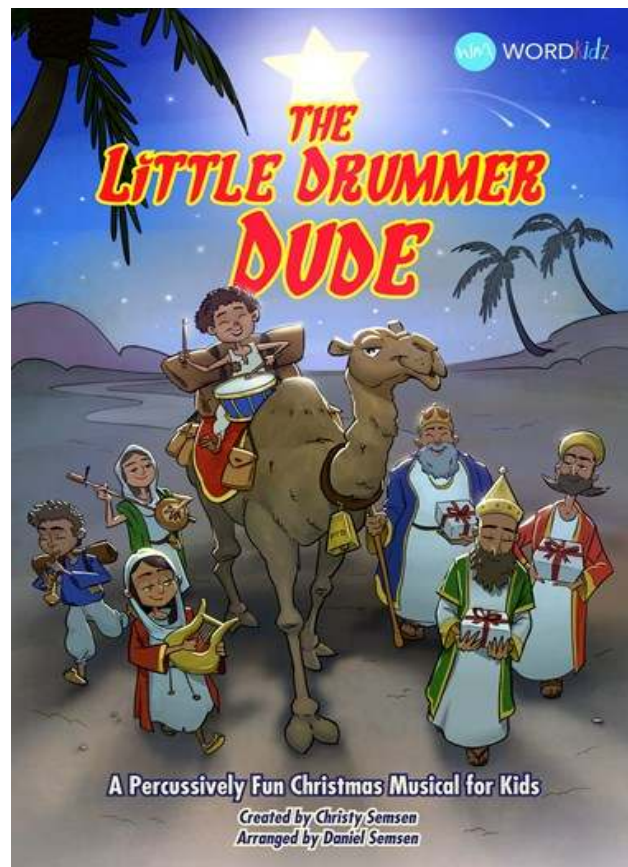
Thank You to all who continue to provide for the hungry among us. We remember Jesus' words in Matthew, "If you give bread to a hungry person, you give it to me".

If anyone would like to join the PB&J Club, just buy a loaf of bread, a jar of grape jam (it spreads easier than jelly) and peanut butter and make as many as you hearts and sticky fingers can handle. Make it a family project. (On average, a loaf of bread gives approximately 11 sandwiches.)

Then, call Jean/Jerry Washko at 856-845-6944 and we can pick them up from your home or you can drop them off at our home: 439 E. Barber Ave, Woodbury. Thank you so very much!

Anne Connor  
Jerry & Jean Washko  
Life and Justice Ministry

## HOLY ANGELS PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS:



**COME ONE, COME ALL AND TAP YOUR TOES  
TO THE TRAVELING PERSIAN BAND  
AS THEY TELL THE STORY ABOUT  
THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY'S  
PERFORMANCE AT THE BIRTH OF JESUS!**

### Practice starts:

Sunday September 12th

1: 00-2:00pm in Holy Angels School

### Registration:

\$25 per child / \$40 for Family of 2 or more

### Any questions, please contact:

Jennifer Liberto

HAPAProgram@gmail.com

### Check us out on Facebook:

Holy Angels Performing Arts

**CDC / DIOCESAN  
GUIDELINES IN PLACE**

**MASKS REQUIRED!**

**God Bless All  
Students & the Staff**

• **BACK TO SCHOOL  
BLESSING**

**Register today we  
have a few more  
seats**



**Holy Angels  
PRESCHOOL**

**Holy Angels**



**Join us on**

**Sunday Nights**

**Doors Open at 3pm Games  
Begin at 5pm**

**Brooklawn American  
Legion 11 RR Lane**

**Three 50/50s  
Progressive  
House Jackpot  
\$1000**

**609-828-2709**



**HOLY ANGELS**



**CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**Holy Angels Catholic School**

**Enroll now for the 2021-2022 school year.**

**We offer small class sizes and  
a strong academic and spiritual education.**

Visit our website at:

[www.holyangelswoodbury.org](http://www.holyangelswoodbury.org)

or contact the school: **856-848-6826**

*The small school, with a big heart!*

Thank You to all of our families and  
parishioners who support us throughout  
the year! We could not do it alone! ❤️



Please use our link when making your purchases  
on Amazon—our School receives a percentage  
back! The link shows up as Holy Angels Parish!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-2392839>

**Get Your Ticket  
Big Winners!**

Thank you for your support of...

**Holy Angels Catholic School  
Fundraiser**

211 Cooper St

Woodbury NJ 08096

[marketing@holyangelswoodbury.org](mailto:marketing@holyangelswoodbury.org)

[www.charitymania.com](http://www.charitymania.com)



**9/7 TILL 10/15**



## SEPTEMBER 12 — TWENTY- FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Reading I: Isaiah 50: 4c-9a

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

### Reading II: James 2: 14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well, " but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

### Gospel: Mark 8: 27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him. He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Reading I: Isaiah 50: 4c-9a

Even though he has experienced much suffering, the prophet exudes confidence because God is his help.

### Reading II: James 2: 14-18

This famous passage makes an obvious observation. If a person accepts the facts of God's revelation, then a certain way of life, his/ her "works," should reflect that belief, with all its expected consequences.

### The Gospel: Mark 8: 27-35

The first self-originated "poll" from Jesus seeks to know what the outside world thinks of Him. Then comes the first Passion prediction and its consequences for authentic discipleship.

**Monday:** 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Lk 7:1-10

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

**Wednesday:** 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

**Thursday:** 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10; Lk 7:36-50

**Friday:** 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20; Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15

**Sunday:** Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6, 8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

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