

RESURRECTION PARISH

Four Sister Communities One Parish In Downtown Jersey City

*Come And Join Us And Create Christ-Centered Community
Where Strangers Become Friends And Friends Become Family.*

Welcome to Jersey City, our home for the last 150 years. We have been sharing in the life of our community by creating a sacred space where the human heart can experience life. We invite you to join us in creating our parish. Our Liturgies & Activities are celebrated in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Tagalog Celebrating all the beauty and multicultural diversity of Downtown Jersey City

"The Christian Community Welcomes you with great Joy and in the name of Christ our Savior I claim you with the sign of His Cross." (Baptismal Rite).

These words were spoken to you the day you were received into the Church as you and your family celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism. We, the community of Resurrection Parish, reaffirm these words and welcome you with great joy to our parish family.

At Resurrection Parish we struggle to bring into reality the gift of our Baptismal Invitation. To be a people of God called by name to form a Christ centered Community where we can experience the grace to become the dream that God has planted in our hearts. To achieve this, each member of the community pledges himself/herself to the other. Our central pledge is to create a space so sacred that God's deep, passionate love can be experienced and shared. We hope to awaken within ourselves our truest identity, that we are Sons and Daughters of God and, therefore, brothers and sisters to each other. From this we hope to be a light that shatters the darkness in our world and be Good News that is announced for others to take comfort.

These are lofty goals and high ideals. Sometimes we fall short but we do not give up the struggle. We invite you to join in our struggle. Be gentle in judgment rich in forgiveness generous in your love.

In Matthew's Gospel, when you see the word "church" he is using the Greek word "Ekklesia" the English translation is the "gathered up". Matthew is recalling the prophet Jeremiah who speaks of a remnant that will be gathered up and form a new people of God, a new community. This word has come into English as "Church" We are not a church building, we are building church. We have found that since our parish has almost 2,000 families, it is difficult to form community on this large level. Small groups create an easier space to experience intimacy and allow growth. It is our desire that these small Christian communities not become cliques that are exclusive, but communities that are inclusive and inviting. These many small groups are the building blocks that create the larger community.

To assist you in becoming more involved in our parish we have created this booklet to let you know the many activities that are going on in our parish. Please know we want you to feel free to join and assist us in creating a sacred space. Please know we are not limited to what "already is" but we are always looking for new ways to express God presence by forming new, small Christian Communities. If you have an idea and want to

create it, go for it.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

Adults who have not been Baptized or have been Baptized in another Christian Community and wish to enter into full communion with the Roman Tradition, or adults who have not received the Sacraments of Communion and Confirmation, please contact the Parish Office for further information.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism is a lifelong journey and commitment to be church. At Resurrection Parish we recognize the major responsibility that the parents and the community has in choosing to celebrate infant Baptism. To assist the parents in their duty as Christian parents we supply an adult enrichment program for the parents and godparents. This program is for the spiritual benefit of the parents and godparents and also an opportunity for our parish family to share in your joy.

Infant Baptisms take place on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 2:30 PM. Prior arrangements are necessary. There is a pre-baptismal program for parents and godparents to assist them in the preparation for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. Please make arrangements with Sr. Mary Lynch our Pastoral Associate for an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Couples who are contemplating sharing the Sacrament of Marriage should contact one of the priests one year in advance to insure adequate preparation for this lifelong commitment.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

The Sacrament of Anointing is available for anyone seriously ill or of advanced age. Please notify the Rectory. In an emergency call the Rectory at any time.

Those who are homebound are still a very important part of our parish and the Eucharist will be brought to their home. Deacon Marcelo is our Deacon in charge of the care of our homebound. You may contact our Parish office so that arrangements can be made.

At times the care givers need some free time. To assist the care giver, arrangements can be made with Deacon Marcelo for assistance.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

One of the great gifts of the Church is the Sacrament of Penance. In the early Church it was nicknamed "Second Baptism". So often in our life as we journey to the kingdom, we awaken to the fact that our life style or life patterns have not been what they should or could be. We realize that we have lost our original fervor or relationship with God, or we have simply lost our way and like the Prodigal Son we want to return home. We want to renew our Baptismal promises and begin anew. We do not have to be re-baptized when this spiritual event occurs. We can turn to the Sacramental gift of Penance and celebrate that tender healing of the Father's embrace and return home. At Resurrection Parish we encourage our members to develop a Confessor. That is a Priest who comes to know us as individuals and can share spiritual direction as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is normally done by appointment with your confessor.

Twice a year we have Penance Services with a multitude of priests and languages available: One during Advent and one during Lent to assist you in your spiritual journey during these special Seasons.

Also to assist you in your spiritual growth we schedule Confessions routinely in the reconciliation rooms in the Church at St. Mary's. These rooms are built to give the penitent a choice of going face to face or staying behind the screen for anonymity. On Saturday at St. Mary's Church individual confessions are available from 1-1:30 PM in English and on Tuesday Evenings after the Spanish Mass in Spanish.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

The education of our youth and the sharing of our heritage is a priority in our parish. We have three Schools to aid our parents in their mission as primary educators of the faith. We invite all members of our parish to become actively involved with the school of their choice.

RESURRECTION PARISH GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL:

We, the teaching staff members who serve at Resurrection Parish School and St. Mary's High School consciously accept the calling to spread the Good News of Jesus and His teachings to the children and young adults attending our school.

We believe that our religious belief and practices are the focal point all academic learning and allow us to nurture, guide mold and protect youth as they mature toward adulthood.

We strive to teach children or young adult to grow spiritually, to love and serve God, to perform academically to the best of their ability and to become responsible adult members of the community with strong moral convictions and a genuine concern for the well-being of all people, living things and the totality of God's creation.

For information on Resurrection Parish School, please contact our Parish Grammar School co-principals Sr. Eleanor Uhl O.P. & Sr. Barbara Nesbihal S.C., and for our Parish High School contact our High School principal, Beatriz Esteban-Messina

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Jesus' command to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations....." is the basis upon which our Catechetical ministry is built. "Catechesis is an education in the faith of children, youth and adults, which includes especially the teaching of Christian doctrine imparted, generally speaking, in an organic and systematic way, with a view to initiating the hearers into the fullness; of Christian life." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 5) Catechesis is essential for on-going development of a personal relationship with Jesus as the foundation for discipleship for "at the support; heart of catechesis we find, in essence, a person, the person of Jesus of Nazareth."

Catechesis has four main aims:

To proclaim the Christian Message

To prepare for prayer and worship

To build up community

To motivate for Christian living and Service.

To accomplish this our Religious Education program is not Sacramental oriented but rather our goal is a life long education. We invite our families who have chosen to educate their children in the Public schools to become involved in creating the space our children need to experience the four goals of our Catechetical ministry

Classes are held on Saturdays mornings and afternoons.

For information on the Resurrection Parish Religious Education Program please contact Sr. Mary Lynch our D.R.E.

ADULT EDUCATION:

Adult Catechesis is essential for on-going development of a personal relationship with Jesus as the foundation for discipleship for "at the support; heart of catechesis we find, in essence, a person, the person of Jesus of Nazareth." Too often our adults see Religious Education as something for their children. Their personal education ceases whenever they stop attending grammar school or high school. This creates the problem of having Adult Religious Experiences and attempting to deal with these experiences with a vocabulary that was gained as a child or teenager. We become frustrated when this vocabulary is insufficient to help us deal with our adult situation.

CFM:

Christian Foundations for Ministry is designed for those who want to deepen and enrich their personal relationship with God, assume responsibility for their own spiritual formation; examine their lives in light of the Gospel; discern their giftedness for ministry; respond to the needs of the Church and the world. This program welcomes new parishioners, newly initiated Catholics, anyone who is searching for a role in the life of the Parish, of the Church. It is an excellent follow-up to the RCIA.

VARIOUS FORMS OF SPIRITUALITY:

At Resurrection Parish we attempt to assist you in your Spiritual Development. The Second Vatican Council clearly proclaimed this universal call to holiness, this deepening of Christian conversion. The Council stated that it is a unique call requiring a unique response, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is characteristic that women and men hear the call to holiness in the very web of their existence (*Lumen Gentium*, 31). The response to this requires a spiritual foundation that continually generates a lived spirituality.

Spirituality is about noticing and sensitively listening to the leading of the Spirit of God in our own hearts and in the manifold expressions of God's presence in our life, in family, parish, work, people, events and our total world. Spiritual life begins when people realize that there is something going on between themselves and God and when they make the choice to be involved in that process. Resurrection Parish tries to provide the baptized with a type of spiritual formation that furthers the living out of this call and gift.

Personal Prayer is at the heart of an individual's spiritual journey. There are many types of prayer in the Christian tradition that may be useful for a particular person's spiritual journey. There are also various forms of prayer that may be useful at one time or during one stage of development and then another at another time or for another stage. There are certainly available to Catholics, the use of the Book of Christian Prayer (Breviary), ways of praying with the scriptures, meditation, centering prayer, contemplative prayer, Novenas and other spiritual devotions, the rosary, Eucharistic Holy Hours, the use of prayer books and other methods of prayer.

Group Support (group prayer) - People often benefit from group support in their spiritual lives and from group prayer. At Resurrection Parish we have various styles of Group prayer. We invite you to share your prayer life in one of these groups.

Spiritual Aids: There are also a number of traditional skills that aid a person to continue to deepen spiritual life. Spiritual reading, examinations of conscience, rules for spiritual discernment, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, devotions to the Saints, spiritual communions, ongoing spiritual direction, the spiritual exercises, and others are part and parcel of Catholic life.

Liturgy: Sunday Eucharist, Source and Summit of Christian Life Above all, the response to the call to holiness should come to expression through the celebration of the Eucharistic liturgy, the central form of worship in the Church, the source and summit of Catholic spirituality and life.

While there are a number of ways in which the Church gathers in prayer, the Sunday Eucharist is the source and the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed. All other forms of communal prayer, including daily Mass, flow from the celebration of the Mass on the Lord's Day. (Ref. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1322-1344) The Sunday Eucharist, is the preeminent gathering of the local community at Resurrection Parish. We have four different worship sites with different styles and spirituality.

The Rosary is prayed publicly after many of our daily Masses.

St. Jude Novena: Every Tuesday after the daily Masses at St. Michael's Church and on the 1st Tuesday of the Month we share the Sacramental Anointing of the Sick.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Every Wednesday after 7:15 PM Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Our Lady of Medigorje Novena every Monday after 7:15 PM Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Miraculous Medal Novena every Monday after the 12:05 PM Mass at St. Peter's Church.

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament Every Tuesday from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM St. Michael's Church and on the 1st Saturday of the Month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at St. Peter's Church.

The Block Rosary Devotion: our Parish. Families are invited to welcome the image of the Blessed Mother into their homes and pray the rosary with their family and friends for one week. Please contact Deacon Cesar.

Volunteers Vs. Ministry:

As you join us in covenant, we invite you to prayerfully meditate on the differences between volunteers and Christ centered ministry. Volunteers are people involved in social organizations or in public works. People who give generously of their time for the betterment of Society.

Ministry on the other hand, is living out the baptismal calling to proclaim and witness the Gospel in our daily life. It is placing your time, your person and your financial resources at the disposal of God through the Church. We need you to consider tithing your time, talent and treasure. Read Paul's letter to the Corinthians and then prayerful consider your gifts and talents and how they can aid our community in growth and becoming the 5th Gospel.

As you register in our parish, we invite you to discern where your spirituality is leading you. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are not for the benefit of the individual but for the benefit of the Community. We, at Resurrection Parish, incorporate all our gifts and talents and mold them into a living sacrament (.i.e. an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace). We become a visible presence of the Risen Lord. We are the body of Christ; through our actions and lifestyle, we visibly make manifest Christ's presence in our world. St. Thomas Aquinas said we must become "altus Christus" (another Christ). We are the hands of Christ who hold each other in

tenderness. We are the ears of Christ that listen to each other in our needs. We are the Mouth of Christ that speaks to each other of the Father's love. We are the feet of Christ that walk with each other on life's journeys.

For this reason, we invite each parishioner to spend some time in prayer, asking how your prayer life and spirituality is being expressed in some form of ministry.

What direction this meditation takes you in is between you and the Lord. Is He inviting you in some special way to minister to the needs of the family of Resurrection Parish? How can that ministry take form so that the Kingdom of God can be experienced here and now as promised by Christ. When Jesus began His "Public Ministry" He announced the "Kingdom of God was at hand". Enclosed find a list of possible ministerial opportunities. We invite you to join us. How can your gifts and talents best aid our parish? Please fill out the enclosed form after prayerful reflection. Share the gift of your person with our parish. If you feel a ministry has not been noted and desire to help get that ministry started, let us know your suggestion and how to start it.

IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE MINISTRY

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES:

The Sacred Liturgy is the essential reason for our existence to gather in community to recognize Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread begun on the road to Emmaus. Each of us has a role to play and a ministry to share. To say I'm not worthy to take an active role in the Liturgy is not to understand the great gift which has been shared with us in the suffering Messiah. The Son of Man came into the world not when it was saved, but to save it. Our salvation is a gift from God; no one is worthy of it. But if we realize the gift being offered and we accept this gift, then we can celebrate it with all the joy it entails.



1. Eucharistic Ministers

For Sunday Liturgies and for the shut ins and homebound.



2. Lectors (Sunday and Daily Liturgies)

To share in this ministry an individual should have a special relationship to the Scripture in their own prayer life. It is important that since the reader is reading the Word of God that they be good public readers and practice the weekly reading prayerfully during the prior week.



3 Ministry of Hospitality (Ushers)

This is more than taking up the collection. You cheerfully greet people as they enter our church and again as they leave to bring the Gospel to the World. It is this ministry that helps our new members feel welcomed and at home.



4. Members of a Liturgical Committee

To assist in planning special Seasonal Liturgies (i.e. Advent, Lent, Sacred Triduum, Holy Days, Novena in honor of St. Jude, Children's Liturgies.) Continued education is important to this ministry.



5 Liturgical Art and Decoration Committee.

Those interested in this ministry should be artistically inclined and aware of the rubrics of our Liturgy. There should also be a willingness for continued education.



6 Music Ministry

He who sings prays twice is an old quote from St. Augustine. Our music ministry is essential to good Liturgy. We invite all musician of the parish to gift their time and talent from voice to instruments.

We have Several Choirs that aid our Sunday Liturgies and assist us in Celebrating God's presence in our life. Depending on the worship site you have chosen. Contact Roxanne Pastoral Associate coordinating our music ministry.



7 Musicians:

Do you Play a musical instrument. Musical instruments can add a special touch to our liturgy. Would you like to play unto the Lord during special celebrations using your gifts and talents (Christmas and Easter as an example).



8 Altar Servers both Boys and Girls

This is a wonderful opportunity for the youth of our parish to learn ministry. This gives them a chance to learn commitment and their role in the church. Contact Deacon Cesar

EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES:

Our faith is a heritage that must be passed on to our children or it will be lost. It is essential that parents do not abdicate this responsibility to others. However, it is not just the responsibility of the parents but of the entire community to educate our children in the ways of the faith.



9 Catechists for our Religious Education Program (Teachers)



10 Substitute Catechists for our Religious Education Program (Substitute Teachers)



11 Teacher's Aides for our Religious Education Program.



12 Clerical Assistance for our Religious Education Program.



13 Resurrection Parish School Substitute Teachers



14 Resurrection Parish School Teacher's Aides



15 Resurrection Parish School Clerical Assistance



16 Resurrection Parish School Lunch Room Monitors



17 Dreamers, Thinkers, Doers—Parents Organization for Resurrection Parish School



18 Continuing Adult Education Committee

This committee helps expand the horizons of our adults with adult education classes. If our formal style of education ceases whenever we leave school we will then be an adult people having adult religious experiences and trying to understand them with a vocabulary and mentality of children. Our faith is an adult faith that must be nourished throughout our life. There is a need for constantly growing in our faith. Not only must our youth attend to their education but our adults must continue in theirs.



19 Sponsors and catechists to assist in Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults




20 CFM

Meets on Friday night at the Parish office 7:30PM contact Betty Hopf



21 Married Couples to Assist in Baptismal Preparation Program

 **22 Married Couples to Assist in Marriage Preparation Program**


SERVANT ORIENTED MINISTRY:

 **23 Members for Ministry to Sick and Shut In**

Home visitation is a key element to letting those who cannot be part of our weekly gathering know that they are not forgotten. Contact Deacon Marcel.

 **24 Healing Mass Committee.**


Twice a year we gather to celebrate the Healing gifts of the Lord with a special Mass. We are in need of men and woman who will assist us and create a welcoming atmosphere. Contact Fr. Felix

 **24 Members for Ministry to the Poor**

The ancient tradition of Service to the poor is part of our heritage. Members are needed to coordinate, plan and execute our social justice ministry We distribute food every Tuesday.

 **25 Bereavement Ministry.**

So many of us are still dealing with the tragedy of the loss of a loved one. Men and women who have experienced some form of loss gather with a trained facilitator to share and aid each other in experiencing healing.

 **26 Rainbows for All God's Children**

A special program to assist children dealing their emotions created by the loss of a parent or loved one. This loss can be through death or divorce. Adults to assist in the Rainbows program.

 **27 Ministering to our Youth**

We are in need of role models for our youth, men and woman who can create a safe place for our youth to grow. By sharing your gifts and talents you aid our children. It takes a village to educate a child. Can you gift your time and talent? Coaching, tutoring, social activities chaperoning, Our youth group meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month in Marian Hall. Contact Fr. Junior

 **28 Boys Scouts & Girl Scouts & Cub Scouts**

Do you have experience in Scouting or want to help create a Scouting program in our Parish. At present we do not have Scouts in our Parish but if you would like to create Scout troops contact Fr. Vic

 **29 Resurrection Parish Young Adult Club**


Young men and women creating a space to grow in understanding of Christ presence in their lives. Member are over 18 and are singles and couples. This includes our parish Cyber Café. Contact Theresa Rivezzo

SOCIETY ORIENTED MINISTRY:

As a community, companionship is essential to our continued growth. To be a community we must gather with those of like minds and hearts. This gives us strength in our daily life.

 **30 Resurrection Parish Seniors**

Remember the days of C.Y.O. We invite members of our Parish who have retired from work but not from life to gather and create community to share their lives.

 **31 Resurrection Parish Charismatic Prayer Group**

If your interested in this style of Prayer and Community please contact Deacon Marcelo.

 **32 Catholic Action of Mary**

A society of our Filipino parishioners who gather in community to celebrate their faith and Filipino heritage. Please contact Deacon Cesar.

 **33 The Ancient Order of Hibernians**

AOH is the oldest Catholic lay organization in America. Officially formed in New York in 1836. A society of Irish Americans who gather in community to celebrate their faith and Irish heritage. We still stand in

Vigil. Contact Fr. Vic Hudson County Chaplain.

TEMPORAL MINISTRY:

We live in a very concrete world. Nothing just happens. Not only must we take care of the soul of our parish, we must take care of the body of our parish. Our physical plant is in need of people to safe guard it for the future generations.



33 Finance Committee

Men and woman of our parish with the skills and talents to aid the pastor in creating and executing our annual budget. They offer suggestions to deal with the Temporal necessities of our parish.



34 Buildings and Grounds Committee

Men and woman who have skills and talents to care for the buildings of our parish. They meet to advice the pastor on the needs of our buildings and monitor and execute bids for jobs and contracts.



35 St. Fiacre Society.

St. Fiacre is the patron of gardeners. We invite the men and woman who enjoy gardening to care for and beautify the areas around our churches planting, weeding and designing, . Contact Betty Hopf in our office.



36 Annual Feast Committee and Workers

During different times of the year we celebrate our parish identity with festivals . This is a great time to get to know each other and form family and community. The San Juan Bautista Fiesta in June, Santa Cruzan Feast in May, and St. Jude Feast in October.



37 Counters for the Sunday Collection

Can you join once or twice a month and help count and prepare our Sunday Collection for deposit.



38 Clerical Assistance in our Parish office.

At various times of the year we need help in our parish office with folding letters stuffing envelopes and doing Parish mailings.