



# CO - CATHEDRAL OF ST. ROBERT BELLARMINO

Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton

61 Georgia Road, Freehold, New Jersey 07728

## CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday in the Church after the 9:00am & 4:30pm Masses, and by appointment.

## MASS TIMES

### DAILY

**Monday - Friday**  
Chapel 7:00am & 9:00am

**Saturday** - Church  
9:00am

### WEEKEND

**Saturday** - Church  
4:30pm

**Sunday** - Church  
8:30am, 10:00am,  
11:30am & 5:00pm

**HOLY DAYS:** Call the office at 732-462-7429 and press #1 for Holy Days and special events.

## TODAY'S GOSPEL

*As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging.*

*On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say,*

*"Jesus, son of David, have pity on me."*

*And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent.*

*But he kept calling out all the more,*

*"Son of David, have pity on me."*

*Jesus stopped and said, "Call him."*

*So they called the blind man, saying to him,*

*"Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you."*

*He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.*

*Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?"*

*The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see."*

*Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you."*

*Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.*

**Mark 10:46-52**

# HOPE

Jeremiah was writing to the people of God during a time of horrendous religious corruption in the Temple, political corruption, assault against his country and then occupation and exile. In the midst of all this, he preached reform and hope. Today's first reading is an expression of Jeremiah's belief that God would restore Israel; that those who were suffering would eventually come out the other side and experience true joy. His message for Israel, unfortunately, wasn't something he himself would see come to fruition, as he was murdered by the people he tried to bring hope to. His hope was rooted in God's salvation of the remnant—the faithful few—but also in reform of the leaders and the people. Sadly, most folks wanted everything fixed without having to change themselves.

The second reading is a reminder that the high priest, the one who would make the sacrifices in the Temple for the forgiveness of the people, is a flawed person just like the rest of us. Priests, flawed as they are, are chosen by God for service and so need a little slack when they mess up, and they have to give others some slack because nobody's perfect. We're all broken

people helping one another to heal.

Bartimaeus, the blind man in today's Gospel, is healed because of his faith. If we look closely at the story, he heard that Jesus was passing by and yelled until he got Jesus' attention—despite people telling him to be quiet. He calls Jesus "Son of David"; a messianic title—he knows who he's talking to. In his persistence, he received an answer, a healing, and a new life. Jesus didn't require anything of him; he even told him that he could "go your way", but Bartimaeus followed Jesus on his way.

Have you ever been in a very dark place in need of a message of hope? Who brought you that hope? Have you ever been the bringer of a message of hope and rejected? Why did the person (or people) refuse to listen? Have you ever rejected someone else's message of hope? What prevented you from receiving it? Are you overly critical of priests? If so, what are you focusing on, and why do you think you give it so much thought? How can your faith heal you? Would you, like Bartimaeus, have followed Jesus if you got your sight back?

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 28, 2018

## OFFICE HOURS

**Mon:** 9am-8pm  
**Tues - Thurs:** 9am-3pm  
**Fri:** 9am-12pm  
**Sat:** 9:30am -12:30pm

## CONTACT US

**Phone:** 732-462-7429  
**Fax:** 732-409-3496  
**Web:** [www.StRobert.cc](http://www.StRobert.cc)

## OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold, NJ of the Diocese of Trenton, united in the faith and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and empowered by our Baptism are called to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

We respond to this call as a people of faith, hope, and love, through the proclamation of the Gospel, celebration of the sacraments, active participation in the sacred liturgy, and sharing our time, talent and treasure to teach and serve our brothers and sisters in Christ, within and outside our parish community with hospitality, grace and charity.

*It is the goal of your Pastoral Staff to support all souls in our parish in fully living the mission of our Church.*

*Please contact us if we can be of any assistance to you.*

## PASTORAL STAFF

### CLERGY

**Rev. Monsignor Sam A. Sirianni**, Rector: ext. 119, [frsam@strobert.cc](mailto:frsam@strobert.cc)

**Rev. Arian Wharff**, Parochial Vicar: ext. 120, [frwharff@strobert.cc](mailto:frwharff@strobert.cc)

**Rev. Michele Brizio**, Adjunct Clergy

**Rev. William J. Bausch**, Retired Priest

**Deacon Henry Cugini, Deacon Rolf Friedmann, Deacon Vincent Rinaldi, Deacon Andy Smith, Deacon Frank Weber.** Call the Parish Office.

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Jen Schlameuss-Perry:** ext. 141, [jperry@strobert.cc](mailto:jperry@strobert.cc)

### DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Lisa Clarke:** ext. 122, [lclarke@strobert.cc](mailto:lclarke@strobert.cc)

### OFFICE STAFF

**Receptionist:** ext 124, [receptionist@strobert.cc](mailto:receptionist@strobert.cc)

**Eileen Kane:** Parish Business Manager: ext. 123, [ekane@strobert.cc](mailto:ekane@strobert.cc)

**Frank Estremera:** Parish Operations Manager: ext 121, [festremera@strobert.cc](mailto:festremera@strobert.cc)

**Fran Nielsen:** Coordinator for Rel. Ed.: ext. 134, [fnielsen@strobert.cc](mailto:fnielsen@strobert.cc)

**Monica Ettore:** Secretary to Msgr Sam: ext. 118, [mettore@strobert.cc](mailto:mettore@strobert.cc)

### PARISH MUSICIANS

**Bob Stasiak:** Choir Director

**Renee Weber:** Cantor/Praise Group/Asst. Choir Dir.

**Carol Lippin:** Children's Choir/Folk Group Director

**Ken Perry:** Contemporary Music Group

### YOUTH MINISTRY

**Jeanne Marinello:** Youth Ministry Coordinator  
[youthgroup@strobert.cc](mailto:youthgroup@strobert.cc)

**Facebook:** Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine

**App:** Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold NJ

**Instagram & Twitter:** @ccsrbfreehold

**YouTube:** Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine



**ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:** To schedule an anointing call the office. For emergencies dial extension 380

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION:** Following 9:00am Mass until 1:00pm

**BAPTISM:** We celebrate Baptism most Sundays at 1:00pm. Parents must be registered in the parish and attend a baptismal preparation session. Sponsor certificates must be presented at the time of registration for Baptism, and can be obtained by the Godparent from the parish in which they are currently registered.

**MATRIMONY:** Couples planning a marriage must notify the Parish Office one year in advance to reserve a date and begin preparation which includes Pre-Can. At least one party must be a registered member of the parish.

**RCIA:** The process by which adults become Catholic and/or receive Sacraments is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. See bulletin for meeting details.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** To arrange for pastoral visits and Sacraments for homebound or hospitalized parishioners, please call the Parish Office.

**SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN:** Children receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation through our Religious Education program. Children seven years old who have been Baptized or have not received their Sacraments through our program may be candidates for RCIA. Please contact the Religious Education office for more information.

**REGISTER FOR THE PARISH:** We are so happy to welcome new members to our Parish family! Please come and see us at the Parish Office so that we can get your information and introduce you to the many aspects of our Parish life.

**OBTAIN A MASS CARD:** During office hours we welcome those who would like to request that their special intentions or deceased loved ones be prayed for particularly at a weekday or weekend Mass. We ask a donation of \$10 per Mass.

**OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY:** Registered parishioners who have been asked to be a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor, should call the Parish Office to request a certificate of eligibility. Eligible individuals (according to Cannon Law) are at least 16 years old, fully initiated, married in the Catholic Church (if married) and participating in the life of our faith regularly and are not the child's parents.

**FR. BENEDICT MINISTRY:** Hotline call 732-462-7429 ext 150.

# WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - OCT. 28, 2018

Oct. 27th  
**SAT.** 4:30pm Madeline & Andrew Kane  
Dolores De Paolis

Oct. 28th  
**SUN.** 8:30am Colleen Holzchuh  
Conrado Ordonez  
10:00am Dr. Jeffrey Louro  
Victoria Bearer  
11:30am The People of the Parish  
5:00pm Mr. & Mrs. Jesus Cosio  
Connie Pepe

Oct. 29th  
**MON.** 7:00am Patricia Luszik  
John DeVincenzo  
9:00am Frederick Kroog  
Kathy Faith

Oct. 30th  
**TUES.** 7:00am Mary Heller  
Patricia Luszik  
9:00am Deceased Abel Family & Friends  
Rose DiFolco

Oct. 31st  
**WED.** 7:00am All Saints  
Carmine Bologna  
9:00am Stephen Spizzirri  
All Saints

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Nov. 1st  
**THURS.** 7:00am The People of the Parish  
9:00am The People of the Parish  
All Saints' Day 8:00pm The People of the Parish

Nov. 2nd  
**FIRST  
FRIDAY** 7:00am All the Faithful Departed  
9:00am All the Faithful Departed  
All Souls' Day

Nov. 3rd  
**SAT.** 9:00am Mary Ann Reynolds  
All Souls

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE  
DECEASED OF OUR PARISH.

Frank L. Colossi  
Christopher John Whelan  
Patricia Bradley

## WEEKLY REMEMBRANCE

The Blessed Mother Devotional Lamp  
will burn in honor/memory of:  
**George Mango**



The St. Joseph Devotional Lamp  
will burn in honor/memory of:  
**Joseph Micalizzi**



It is with great happiness  
that we announce our  
newest parishioners who  
have joined our Parish  
Family through the  
Sacrament of Baptism:

Emilia Christine Alexander  
Amberle Isabella Aparicio  
Noah Gabriel DeAngelis  
James David-Francis Gier  
Kai Deker Goetke

Aiden Nicholas Goetke  
William James Liberatore  
Camillo Michael Pavese  
Aria Rae Rodriguez  
Mason Scott Shoemaker

**LOW GLUTEN HOST** The parish supplies all low gluten hosts for anyone who is in need of them at Mass. Please see the presider 10 minutes before Mass so that he can prepare a host for you. Thank you.

**AID FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED** We offer the use of radio aids during Mass upon request. The device is tuned to the sound system in the Church so that those who have a hearing impediment might hear more clearly. Please ask an usher or greeter for assistance.

## MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRAYER GROUP

**Prayer Meeting: Fridays, 8:00 PM (Chapel)**

This prayer group meets every Friday from 8:00pm – 11:00pm here at St. Robert's. We begin with a prayer meeting for spiritual enrichment giving praise and worship to our Lord! Every First Friday we celebrate a Healing Mass at 8:00pm followed by Fellowship in Dentici Hall.



## WORSHIP

Music Ministry, Lectors, Sacristans, Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Wedding Coordinator's Ministry, Greeters, Liturgy Committee, Art and Environment, Ushers (*Each ministry requires about 1 hour per week, a couple of weeks per month.*)



DID YOU  
KNOW?

### Why does the priest hold up a broken host during the Liturgy of the Eucharist?

The priest holds up the broken consecrated host at the conclusion of the Fraction Rite and says, "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." This is done for two purposes: to commemorate the breaking of bread that Jesus shared at the Last Supper, and to connect for us that Jesus allowed himself to be broken on the cross as a sacrifice for our salvation. He is the Lamb who takes the place of any other sacrifice, completing the Covenant of Abraham and Moses, and establishing the New Covenant, which from here on in, is bloodless except for the blood he shed for us. During the fraction rite, we sing the "Lamb of God" and the priest calls him this making reference to Jesus' sacrifice.

Do you wonder about anything in the Church or in our faith? Send your questions to Jen at: [jperry@strobert.cc](mailto:jperry@strobert.cc).

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION



**November 2nd** First Friday Adoration will take place from 9:30 - 1:00PM in the Chapel. Contact Mimma: [RosaryGuild@StRobert.cc](mailto:RosaryGuild@StRobert.cc) for more info.

### St. Pio Comes to the Diocese of Trenton

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 • 10:00AM to 6:30PM

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine

Come and venerate the official relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, on the occasion of the 50th commemoration anniversary of his passing.

A Mass in honor of Saint Pio will be celebrated at 7:00PM by Msgr. Thomas Gervasio, Vicar General of the Diocese of Trenton.



### PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

*Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our protection against the wickedness and  
snares of the Devil.*

*May God rebuke him, we humbly pray:  
And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host,  
By the power of God cast into hell  
Satan and all the evil spirits who  
Wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.  
Amen*

*Why pray this prayer: A call to all Catholics to pray for the protection of the Saints and the Strength of the Sons and Daughters of the Church to effect the change that is needed to prevent the Abuse of Children and young Adults. To sanctify those called to be our bishops and priests, and to work for the end of human trafficking and other crimes and abuse that disfigure the face of Christ.*

# ADMINISTRATION

Buildings and Grounds, Finance Committee. (Each group requires a few hours per month.)

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Oct. 28th  
**SUN.**

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Oct. 29th  
**MON.**

**6:00PM** Bethany Support Group (Room 100)

Oct. 30th  
**TUES.**

**7:00PM** Healing Prayer Ministry (Church Bridal Room)  
**7:00PM** RCIA Inquiry (Room 100)  
**7:00PM** Rosary Guild Prayer Group (Chapel)



Oct. 31st  
**WED**

**7:00PM** Comunidad Hijos de Maria Santisima (Chapel)  
**7:30PM** Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible (Dentici Hall)



Nov. 1st  
**THURS.**

**All Saints' Day**  
**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

Nov. 2nd  
**FIRST FRIDAY**

**All Souls' Day**  
**9:30AM - 1:00PM FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION (Chapel)**  
**8:00PM Mary Queen of Peace Healing Mass (Church) followed by Fellowship (Dentici Hall)**

Nov. 3rd  
**SAT.**



**NOV. 4TH** **NEXT WEEK'S 2ND COLLECTION:**  
**Father Benedict Fund**



## THANK YOU!

**Your continued generosity is most appreciated!**

### WEEKLY MASS COLLECTION 10/21:

Weekly Offerings	\$12,334.50
Votive Candles	\$463.00
Building Fund	\$6.00

### ONLINE GIVING WEEK ENDING 10/19:

Weekly Offering	\$2,591.00
Building Fund	\$187.00
Fr. Benedict Fund	\$165.00
Grounds & Maintenance	\$5.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$22.00

### Thanks For Your Mission Voice!



Thank you for being a voice for mission on World Mission Sunday!

Our parish offered \$3,028.00 to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the missionary work of the Church.

This is a real

blessing for the Missions! Please continue to pray for missionaries, and for the people to whom they bring the "Good News" of Jesus. May God bless you for your generous missionary spirit!

To get started with online giving, go to [www.strobert.cc](http://www.strobert.cc) and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration steps. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 732-462-7429 or Parish Giving at 866-307-7140.



Protecting God's Children - Making the Church a safe environment for all, particularly children and at-risk adults, is a major priority of the administration and staff of Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish Family. Please take a look at the posters and "Safe Environment & Standards of Conduct Policy" that are posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Center. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how to make our church, homes and community safer, please contact our Safe Environment Coordinator, Lisa Clarke at 732-462-7429, ext. 122 or [lclarke@strobert.com](mailto:lclarke@strobert.com). To report the sexual abuse of minors call the diocesan hotline 1-888-296-2965 or email [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org). Please note: The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

# November, Month of the Dead

## ALL SAINTS / ALL SOULS

This year **THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS** falls on **Thursday, Nov. 1st** and is a **Solemnity**, and a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**. Masses will be celebrated in the church at **7AM, 9AM and 8PM**. **Friday November 2nd** is the **Feast of All Souls -The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. (It is not a Holy Day of Obligation)**. Masses will be celebrated in the church at **7AM & 9AM**. A **MASS OF REMEMBRANCE** for the Faithful Departed will be held on **Tuesday, November 6th at 7:00 PM**.

Also, in observance of these two special days of prayer, and the month of the Dead, the faithful are invited to participate in several devotions:

### BOOK OF NAMES:

A special book is available in the Church gathering space for the faithful to write the names of loved ones who have died. These names can be of relatives, friends, co-workers, neighbors, anyone you care for.

### ALL SOULS DAY ENVELOPES:



All Souls Day offering/intention envelopes are available in the gathering space. They will be placed at the Altar for All Souls Day Masses and

at the Mass of Remembrance, and placed in the Chapel throughout the month of November.

### MASS OF REMEMBRANCE:

**Tuesday, November 6, 2018 • 7:00PM in the Church**

As is the tradition of our parish, the names of all those buried from the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine from November 1, 2017 to November 1, 2018 will be remembered in a special way during the Prayers of the Faithful and their names will be read. We hope you and your family will be able to join us.

Please know that if you cannot be present, your loved one will be remembered and your family will be held in prayer. May the God of all consolation and his mother, Mary, who stood at the foot of her Son's cross, be a source of strength and healing as you grieve the death of your loved one. Please join us for a light reception after the Mass in the Parish Hall.

### MASS INTENTIONS

The request to remember a loved one during the celebration of Mass is an ancient and honored custom. Such requests and the stipend given are to be respected and preserved for the spiritual welfare of the parish. This time honored custom is being overwhelmed due to the limited number of Masses, and the practice of requesting the same Masses on the same days. In order to allow more of the Faithful to be involved in this practice the following directives have been implemented:

- **A family may request 3 Masses per visit.**
- **Each family may request 3 weekend Masses per year.**
- **All other Mass requests will be during the week.**

Requests should be in honor of, or in memory of an individual, using the name of the deceased, or for "the deceased members of the \_\_\_\_\_ family". Or they can be in thanksgiving to a particular saint, or simply "In Thanksgiving".

The opening of The 2019 Book will be on Thursday, November 8, 2018.

### PRAYER INTENTION BOOK

Our Prayer Intention Book is located in the gathering area of the church and is for the names of those who are in special need of prayer. We will pray for these intentions at each Mass that is offered here at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine.

## ST. JOSEPH, PATRON SAINT FOR A HAPPY DEATH

Parishioners who experienced the death of a loved one between November 1, 2017 and November 1, 2018, are invited to bring in a framed photo that will be part of this display. These photos will be placed at the Shrine of Saint Joseph from the weekend of October 27th & 28th and will remain until the weekend before Thanksgiving.

All photographs must be framed • Identified on the back with your name, telephone number, the name of the deceased and the date of death.

Beginning October 27th and 28th, a basket will be placed in the gathering area of the Church to collect the framed photographs. Photographs must be picked up after Mass on the weekend before Thanksgiving. We are not responsible for photos that are not picked up.



## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Our ministry assist our parishioners with planning of funeral liturgies for their deceased family member. We attend the wake, funeral and follow up with a call or note a month later. We assist the priest as lector, sacristan, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion if needed.

## BETHANY SUPPORT GROUP

When their brother, Lazarus died, Martha and Mary of Bethany were surrounded by their community who shared their grief, and gave them the emotional support they needed in their time of loss. In this tradition, our Bethany Support Group is an informal, faith-based gathering for adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one. We offer an environment of safe, secure, confidential sharing.

Our Bethany Support Group meets on Mondays 6PM - 7PM at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine through December 3. Attendance each week is not necessary, this is an open session. Feel free to come to any/all meeting nights.

## RAINBOWS FOR ALL CHILDREN

Rainbows for All Children is dedicated to being the premier source of support for all youth as they navigate grief and heal from loss, whether from death, divorce, deployment, or other trauma. Rainbows fosters awareness that youth require support to heal. We nurture a community of effective Rainbows-trained facilitators, supported with a repository of resources designed to guide youth in their grieving process. Rainbows meets Wednesdays at 6:30PM in Trinity Hall.

## Prayer in time of Bereavement

*Dearest Jesus, who wept at the death of your friend and taught that they who mourn shall be comforted, grant us the comfort of your presence in our loss.*

*Send Your Holy Spirit to direct us lest we make hasty or foolish decisions.*

*Send Your Spirit to give us courage lest through fear we recoil from living.*

*Send Your Spirit to bring us your peace lest bitterness, false guilt, or regret take root in our hearts.*

*The Lord has given.*

*The Lord has taken away.*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

**Amen.**

*O sweet mother Mary,  
who knew the sadness of mourning those your  
heart loved most,  
Jesus, your Son,  
and Joseph, your devoted spouse,  
pray for us in our time of loss.*

**Amen.**

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Spiritual direction is a relationship in which a director assists a directee in their spiritual journey by accompanying them under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The director helps the directee to see where God is present and working in their lives, and how to fine-tune their prayer life. We have three certified Spiritual Directors, including Deacon Henry, in the parish who are currently taking on new directees. Please contact Jen at ext. 141, or [jperry@strobert.cc](mailto:jperry@strobert.cc) if you would like more information.

## IN MEMORANDUM

A wall inside our lobby has a memorial board that houses plaques where we can honor members of our families or friends who have died. The cost of the plaque is \$350.00

For more information please call the parish office at 732-462-7429 X:124. If you would like to purchase a plaque for a loved one, please fill out the information below, cut out and return with a check payable to: Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

○
Name of Deceased (please print clearly)
Date
○

## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who missed the August meeting are asked to attend a makeup meeting on Wednesday, November 7 at 7:00 pm in the Church. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Jen Perry at: [jperry@strobert.cc](mailto:jperry@strobert.cc) or 732-462-7429 X:141.

## DEACON'S CORNER

### CAN SOMEONE REALLY BE AN ATHEIST?

As some of you may know, I worked in a courtroom for many years. A lady came into testify as a witness. She had been a victim in a matter whose details are not important for purposes of this article. When she was asked to take an oath on the Bible, she said she couldn't do so because she was an atheist. Instead she did a civil affirmation that her testimony and agreed that she knew if testified to anyone falsely, she'd be subject to perjury.

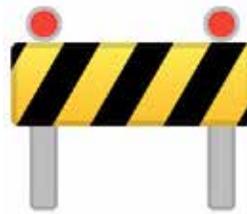
She was an excellent witness who gave testimony that I found very credible. Cross-examination is the best test of a witness's truthfulness in a court proceeding. She passed that test with flying colors. She impressed me as very honest decent person, as someone as very polite, respectful, humble and sincere. She had no "chip on her shoulder" made no attempt to exaggerate her case. She presented a picture of herself as someone of stability and good judgment.

A bit later, I talked to her lawyer, and asked him if he knew what caused her to become an atheist. He was quite familiar with her family history and told me that her father was a fundamentalist protestant minister who ruled his family like a dictator, frequently beating his daughters with a strap, and refusing to tolerate any disagreement with his view of the world or his religious doctrines. At 18, she ran away from home, eventually started a new life for herself and raised a nice family. But the stigma of her youth caused her to deny God so she could put her terrible stigma behind her. That stigma included a belief in God that her father had forced upon her.

From my earliest day, I've always believed in the existence of a supernatural Being. Without the existence of an all knowing, infinite Designer, how could this beautiful planet and all the billions and billions of stars, planets which adorn our skies each night have come into existence? Only an Infinitely powerful Being could have ignited the Big Bang (or whatever brought the Universe into existence). I questioned a lot of other things over the years, including a few points of Church, but I found it impossible to believe that the universe could not have come into existence without being created by a powerful Infinite Force.

I wondered at first how someone could completely deny God, but the answer was also evident in the case of this woman. I'm no psychiatrist or psychologist, but I suspect that the only way this woman could have put a twisted, brutal childhood behind her was to have denied everything which was associated with it. Unfortunately, that included belief in God. Pope Francis often says "Who am I to judge?". The human mind is in many ways an impenetrable mystery. If this woman has led a good life, I could easily see the God welcoming her into eternity with the words "Welcome, good and faithful servant, the traumas of your life have caused Me to have been erased from your mind, but you have always been in My mind and My Heart".

Peace, **Deacon Andy**



To all parishioners, please be advised that parking lot repairs will start October 30th thru November 2nd and actual milling and paving will be done the week of December 2nd. Please note these dates are all dependent on weather conditions. Please be aware that parking may be limited during this time.

## "ROAMIN' CATHOLICS"



**No, it's not too soon to think about the Holidays!**

On Saturday, December 1st, 2018, the "Roamin' Catholics" of the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine will be sponsoring a bus trip to:

**Radio City Music Hall in New York City to see  
"CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR" starring the  
RADIO CITY ROCKETTES**

**Bus Leaving St Robert's - 2:00PM Leaving NYC - 8:30PM**

**Tickets: \$182 per person**

**No REFUNDS/RETURNS – ALL SALES FINAL**

We have a brand-new way to order your tickets! Just follow the link below and you can pay with either your debit or credit card:  
<https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-4160342/>

For more information, please contact Marty Weisman at:  
732-462-7038 or email: [comehome@strobert.com](mailto:comehome@strobert.com).

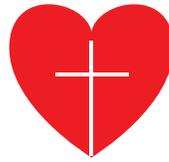
## Garden Committee Invitation

Many visitors and parishioners have commented on how beautiful the Gardens are here at St. Robert. The care of the Blessed Mother's Garden as well as the gardens around St. Anthony, St. Francis, and areas around the church property are cared for by parishioners who love to garden and who love their Church. There is always opportunities for new members to get involved in this ministry of love for nature and for the One who created all things. So, please answer the following questions:

- 1) Do you love gardening?
- 2) Do you want to learn about gardening?
- 3) Do you want to add your creative talent to the beauty of the parish grounds?

Then come join the Garden Committee. We would love to share our love of gardening with you. For more information, please send an e-mail to: [receptionist@strobert.cc](mailto:receptionist@strobert.cc).





**SRB**  
Help Center

## **HURRICANE RELIEF**

for those affected by  
**Hurricanes Florence and Michael**

*Cherishing the memories of yesterday, praying for strength for today,  
and dreaming of an even brighter tomorrow.*

**SRB Help Center will *ONLY* collect the following:**

- **NEW** Underwear, All Sizes
- **NEW** Blankets
- **NEW** Flip Flops
- **NEW** Work Gloves
- **NEW** Socks
- **NEW** Feminine Products
- **NEW** Backpacks
- **NEW** Dust Masks
- **NEW** Diapers
- **NEW** Small Toys
- **NEW** Snacks
- **NEW** Stuffed Animals

**All items *MUST BE* in an unbroken package.**

Collection of all items will begin on Monday November 5th and  
conclude on Sunday, November 11th

### **DROP OFF DAYS/HOURS:**

**Monday - Friday: 9:30 - 11AM / 4-7PM**

**Saturday & Sunday: 10AM - 12PM**

Linda Altini and Lori Tocci will be accepting donations at the Box Truck parked in the  
Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine Church's parking lot, in front of the priest's residence.

Those interested in volunteering or who have questions please call the Main Office:

**732-462-7429, X 124**



*Special thank you to  
All American Ford for the use of the Truck*



**Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine • 61 Georgia Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728**

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