

FROM FR. JASON



January 27, 2025

Our Lady of the Mother Church
Attn: Fr. Jason Mantich, Pastor
209 Woodcliff Avenue
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677

Dear Fr. Jason & Parishioners,

The Archdiocese of Newark Respect Life Office has gratefully received a generous donation of Christmas toys for Mercy House.

Thank you for your donation. Our Christmas toy giveaway is one of the largest events we hold each year before Christmas. With three Mercy Houses open in three different locations, we are always in need of enough toys to distribute to the many families who come to this event. Your kindness and generosity have touched the lives of so many children this Christmas season.

May God bless you Fr. Jason as well as the parishioners and staff at Our Lady of the Mother Church in Woodcliff Lake for your contribution to Mercy House.

In Peace,

Cheryl A. Riley

Cheryl A. Riley, Director
Phone: 973.497.4350
Cell: 201.650.2961



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We received a Thank You note from 'Mercy House' for the Giving Tree gifts at Christmas. Please see the letter to the left from Cheryl Riley. Thank you to all who organized, helped, and participated in this annual event!

This Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, we begin Lent. The Church will sign us with ashes and will call us through the words of the prophet Joel to a time of conversion and to return to the Lord with our whole heart. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the three spiritual tools that the Church will challenge us to use during this season. Dying with Christ, may we rise with Him and come to Easter victorious over death. Let us not forget that Christ went through forty days of spiritual battle Himself in the desert to encourage us in all our battles and for us to know that with Him we can win any battle because He won the war. We will celebrate that victory at Easter.

As there are so many battles that we will take on, I propose to take one special bat-

tle as a parish: to be reverent. Reverence will be our guiding theme during this season of Lent. Reverence as we enter the sanctuary. Reverence during the Mass. Reverence during the reception of Holy Communion. Reverence when we pass in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Reverence in staying till the end of Mass. Simple things, but since life is composed of simple things, may our Easter be a celebration of conquering ourselves in simple things with Christ's help. Is not Lent about breaking the routine so that we may live our Christian lives more deeply? Courage!

May this Season of Lent be a joyful time of coming back to the Lord. In the words of St. Therese of Lisieux: "You cannot be half a saint; you must be a whole saint or no saint at all."

Peace,