

# St. Joseph's Church

Lincoln Park, NJ



## OPERATION BLESSING: WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS . . .

Has your home—house, apartment, condo, etc.—been formally **blessed**? Divine blessing of the home is an ancient rite practiced not only in Christianity, but also in Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam. It has been an important way for people to acknowledge that God's blessings are meant to be gratefully praised . . . and generously shared . . . and joyfully **celebrated**!

Because every Christian has a heavenly home as God's gracious promise for the future and an earthly home to be valued and cared for in the present, the house blessing has long been a traditional feature of Catholic family and parish life. In recent years, this practice has for various reasons fallen into only limited use. But the house blessing remains both a sign and a source of the peace, grace, and unity we wish for our earthly homes and for our parish community by which we journey towards our heavenly home.

Here at St. Joseph's, we want to bless our lives with every sense of the sacred and every reality of God's love that we can. Beginning in the next few weeks, Deacon Steve, Deacon Joe, Deacon Luke, or myself **will visit each and every household in our parish of St. Joe's to bless your home** in a brief and meaningful prayer service and to present some mementoes of that blessing for you to keep.

Tune in next weekend for how to arrange for your home and family to be part of **OPERATION BLESSING!**

Fr. Tom

