

COVER SHEET

CHURCH NAME: **ST. CECELIA CHURCH**

BULLETIN NUMBER: 511586.Aug29

BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF: **August 29, 2004**

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

CONTACT: **STEPHANIE: 732-283-2300**

WELCOME! You are invited to become a part of our parish family and an active member of parish life.

REGISTRATION

To enable us to better serve you, **all parishioners** are asked to register at the Parish Office. Family members over the age of 18 should register as individuals. To receive a letter of recommendation or a character reference you should be registered for at least three months.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE

Please remember to put all pagers and cell phones on **SILENT ALERT** before Mass begins. Please be sure to extinguish all cigarettes and use the ashtrays on either side of the plaza. Smoking is not permitted in the church.

THANK YOU!

MEMORIALS

The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** may be lighted for a week at a time in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** may be provided for a week at a time in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Please call the parish office for more information.

“Whatever you do, do from the heart, as for the Lord... knowing that you will receive from the Lord the due payment.”

Sick Relatives and Friends...

Philip Reilly, Magdalena Gonzalez, Sabina Goley, Stanley Plodzien, Marian Vrabel, Beatrice Knutelski, Theresa Byrnes, Rebecca Ware, Michael D. McMahon, Alvin Decker, Sr., Baby Joseph R. Trzepla, Jason Bastkom, Jennifer Perez, Henry Mlodgenski, Maryann Swiak, Karen Zaborny, Mary Ann Osmulski, Dorothy Glynn, Josephine Sitar, Linda Obertz, Jean Barry, and all those in hospitals, sick at home and in nursing homes; may they always be assured of our prayers.

Names may be placed on this list for a four-week period and will be removed after that time unless a call is received to request a continuation. Please keep in mind that we pray for all the sick every day in the General Intercessions of the Mass.

J4F YOUNG ADULT GROUP: Welcome back! Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 8th, at 7 PM, location at St. Cecelia's to be announced. If changes are made prior to the date, an announcement will be posted via e-mail. Please come and help me welcome Father Francis F. Vaz to our group as our new mentor and advisor. Father Vaz has had prior engagements with young adult groups at various parishes and is very eager to get to know us. Let's give him a warm welcome to show our appreciation for his interest in us and our parish. John Drust is organizing a trip to the Blue Army Shrine on Saturday, September 11th. We will depart from the Church parking lot at 10 AM. Please contact Denise Valdes at 732-754-8876 or J4F_CYA@yahoo.com.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SUMMER INDOOR FLEA MARKET: Only one Saturday left for the First Congregational Church of Woodbridge's indoor flea market: September 4th from 8 AM to noon in their parish hall (corner of Barron and Grove Avenues). 6-foot tables are \$15 (2 for \$25) and 8-foot tables are \$20. Weekly set-up is not required. For information and reservations, please call Debbie at 732-634-6895.

FURNITURE NEEDED: Living room, dining room, child and adult bedroom furniture in good condition needed. Please call Leslie (732-254-8700 ext 1820).

CLOTHING NEEDED: Boy's pants size 28-30 waist x 28 long; shirts size large. Leave donations in the atrium, marked ATT: Social Ministry Office.

VETERANS' HOME EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED for services on Mondays from 1 to 2 PM. If you can help, please call the Social Ministry Office, 732-283-0150 x-21.

LIFE CHOICES ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE: Save the date! On Saturday, September 25th, Life Choices Pregnancy Center will hold its 11th annual Walk for Life at Merrill Park in Iselin from 9 AM to 2 PM. For more information call Life Choices Pregnancy Center at 732-499-8676. To get pledge sheets and registration forms contact Denise Valdes at 732-754-8876.

THANK YOU for your generous support, which enables us to sustain all of our projects!

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH QUOTE OF THE WEEK: *“When we see God, when we recognize His presence in the world, we cannot remain indifferent.”* For more information, please contact bzmak@comcast.net. FAMILIES OF NAZARETH'S next meeting will be on Monday, September 13th. Join them in September, and see what they're all about!



IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE...

Let us remember all our departed brothers and sisters, *especially Joseph DeVizio, Jr., Michael Gergel, Jared Shulman*, asking God through our prayers to reward them as only He can with Light, Happiness and Eternal Peace.



The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed following the 11:30 AM Mass on the fourth Sunday of every month.

Benediction is at 2 PM.

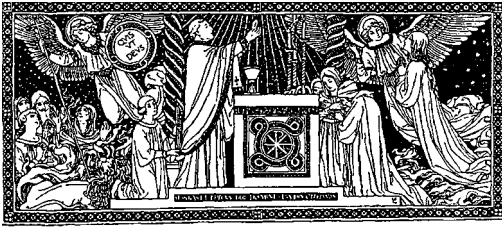
Nocturnal Adoration

is on **First Fridays** from **8 to 9 PM**.

NOCTURNAL ADORATION will be held in the church on Friday, September 3rd, beginning at 8 PM. Start the 2004/2005 season with one hour of active devotional prayers. Everyone is invited to attend.

Wedding Banns

III Brian Petralia - Jaclyn Johnson (9/3)



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, August 30th: Weekday

7:00 AM Helen Triano req Peter Triano
 9:15 AM Helen Lewka req Florence Kelly
 *1:00 PM Josephine Pellegrino
 req Domenick & Frances Pellegrino

TUESDAY, August 31st: Weekday

7:00 AM Bill Kammeyer req Susan & Lester Olscvary
 9:15 AM Vincent Lyons req Pat Meagher

WEDNESDAY, September 1st: Weekday

7:00 AM Eileen Ringwood req Frank & Helen Jacob
 9:15 AM Raymond Grant req Wife & Family

THURSDAY, September 2nd: Weekday

7:00 AM Special Intention of Reynaldo Baniqued
 req Ruby Maramba
 9:15 AM Deceased Members of Stefan Family
 req Camille Retkwa

FRIDAY, September 3rd: St. Gregory the Great

7:00 AM Angelo Pierro & Sal Lapaglia
 req Frances & Anthony Pierro
 9:15 AM Purgatorial Society
 ** 2:00 PM John Buzzi req Judy Ferrara

SATURDAY, September 4th: Weekday

8:00 AM Sister Valerie Mangogna
 req Joan Langenberger
 4:30 PM Manuel Torres
 req Lorraine & George Lapidus

SUNDAY, September 5th:

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 8:30 AM Keith Munroe req Family
 10:00 AM Charles & Antoinette Berry req Berry Family
 11:30 AM Stanley Kopacz req Cecelia Pakstas
 5:00 PM Petronila Maguyon req Linda Resuma

*MASS CELEBRATED AT VETERANS HOME

**MASS CELEBRATED AT ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

VETERANS HOME: Monday, September 6th

1:00 PM NO MASS

Tuesday, September 7th

1:00 PM Robert J. Fulton, Sr. req Mary Lou Fulton

ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER: Friday, September 10th

2:00 PM Marie, Warren & Arline DeRिंग req Janet



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week
IN MEMORY OF THOMAS PALANG
 requested by Maria Palang



The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** this week is
IN MEMORY OF SISTER VALERIE MANGOGNA
 requested by Parish Office

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Lk 6:1-5

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33



SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Last Sunday our faithful stewards gave: \$11,682.75

Collection for the week of August 24, 2003: \$13,638.25

*"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
 and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
 Each of you must give as each has chosen in the heart..." (2 Cor 9:6-7)*

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

FIRST MONTHLY MEETING is on Monday, September 13th, following 7 PM Mass and recitation of the Rosary. New members welcome.

ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER is Saturday, September 18th, from 5 to 8 PM in Lourdes Hall. Tickets (\$8/Adults; \$5/Children 12 and under) are available after weekend Masses or by contacting LaVerne 732-574-1882 or Gloria 732-512-9140.

BOBBY BYRNE NIGHT AT ST. CECELIA'S will be Saturday, November 20th. Mark your calendar and watch the bulletin for more details.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Last weekend's relocation of all our Masses to Lourdes Hall was quite a surprise, and gave rise to much speculation as we reached out to appropriate experts for their inspection and evaluation. Fortunately, we had only a brief trip down the Memory Lane of Masses celebrated in the hall, and our Parish Family is "back at home" now. The engineers and consultants who arrived on Monday morning determined that the loosened tile flooring around the font in the atrium was caused by condensation - a combination of moisture in the air (from the many rainy days and the summer's humidity), possible leakage in the vapor barrier under our font, and our failing air-conditioning system. Further testing will be done on this very localized problem so that the affected area can be properly fixed as soon as possible.

We are glad to have a solution to the loose tiles, but there is another matter of ongoing concern for our Parish Family: the continuing loose talk about the future of our school. The persistent and completely invalid rumors that our school is closing create distress among our school parents, our teachers, our school administration, and our parishioners. There is no simpler way to say it: **the rumors are not true**. It is difficult to comprehend why anyone who professes to have the best interests of our parish family at heart would want to engage in damaging gossip. Please pray for those who persist in circulating these stories, both here and at neighboring parishes, so that their hearts will be moved to speak only the truth and not bear false witness against us. Please pray for our students as they prepare to continue their Catholic education at St. Cecelia's School.



ST. CECELIA'S SCHOOL OPENS on Wednesday, September 1st, for Grades 1 through 8. Full uniforms are required. There will be early dismissal (12 noon) on September 1st, 2nd, & 3rd with bus service but no Latchkey.

Monday, September 6th, is Labor Day; no school.

Tuesday, September 7th: full day sessions begin, including lunch program and Latchkey.

Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Tuesday, September 7th, at 9 AM in Lourdes Hall.

Kindergarten (full day session) begins on Wednesday, September 8th.

Pre-K Orientation will be held on Wednesday, September 8th, at 9 AM in Lourdes Hall.

Pre-K (full day session) begins on Thursday, September 9th.

II. SCHOOL CHOICE: WHAT IS CURRENTLY HAPPENING IN THE UNITED STATES?

Second in a series highlighting the position of the New Jersey School Choice Alliance

(including the New Jersey Catholic Conference, Knights of Columbus, and New Jersey ALLIANCE of Catholic School Families) on school choice.

Currently, tax-supported, K-12 school choice exists in the form of a voucher/scholarship in Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Florida, with recent legislation in Colorado currently in litigation. Maine and Vermont continue to operate school choice programs which date back to the 19th Century, although students may not use the scholarships to attend a religious school. Minnesota provides taxpayers an education tax credit and an education tax deduction when they invest in approved education expenses, including books, tutors, academic after school programs, and, in the case of the tax deduction, tuition fees at private schools. Since 2000, Illinois has a tax credit program to cover approved educational expenses from any public or private school. Arizona provides a dollar-for-dollar refund for individual taxpayers making contributions to a Student Tuitioning Organization which provides scholarships to students attending private schools, while Pennsylvania offers a corporate tax credit for contributions to Scholarship Organizations or Education Improvement Organizations (the latter partner with local public schools to support innovative programs in those schools). Florida, in addition to providing scholarships to students who previously attend a public school which has been given a failing grade for two years in any four year period, also provides a scholarship to students who have disabilities and possess an Individualized Education Plan and who were enrolled during the previous year in a public school.

The most recent addition to the list of school choice programs is the voucher program offered in Washington, D.C., using federal funds. This program is scheduled to begin operation in September, 2004, and parents have responded enthusiastically to the opportunity for their children to receive these scholarships.

Researchers are currently pursuing answers to a variety of questions regarding school choice, and published results reveal promising outcomes. However, the most significant outcome remains the high degree of parental satisfaction with these school choice options.

Ultimately, the success of such programs will rest with parents themselves: They have the ability to validate their decision by continuing to re-enroll their children in nonpublic schools.

YOUTH GROUP (Grades 9-12): HEY 9th GRADERS!!! Our Kickoff Picnic is on September 12th from 3 to 6 PM in the field behind the youth ministry office (Trailer "D" at St. John Vianney Church). Come, meet new friends, and join the fun. Most importantly, find the truth about the youth ministry program from the people who *live* it - and don't forget to bring your friends!!! The Hand-In-Hand service project takes place at The Club in Woodbridge on Sunday, September 19th, from noon to 3 PM. We will meet at 11:45 AM in The Club parking lot, and conclude our experiences with a discussion ending at 3:30 PM (there will be no meeting that night). Can't wait to see you at the Picnic!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (18-35): *Breaking Bread Bonding Lives* will take place on Sunday, October 10th. We will gather for the 11:30 AM Mass at St. Cecelia's. After Mass, we will head over to the Galaxy Diner for brunch and discussion on the readings and how they fit into our lives. You should have received a mailing containing all the dates for *Breaking Bread Bonding Lives* last week in the mail. If you have not, please call the office of young adult ministry to sign up. Please place all these important dates on your calendars. Can't wait to see you then. Peace!

GOLDEN KNIGHTS: "We're here for the Kids"

SPLISH SPLASH, WE'RE RAISIN' SOME CASH: Don't forget to visit our car wash this Sunday, August 29th, starting at 8 AM at the lot at the corner of Green Street and Middlesex Turnpike (the old Flip's Tavern site). All cars \$4 - donations welcome!

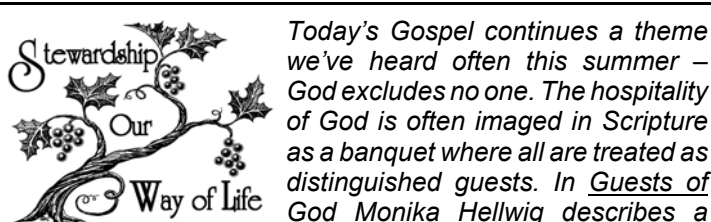
BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL: 35-game season; full uniforms and tournaments. Child must be a registered parishioner or attend St. Cecelia's School. **TRYOUTS** will be held on Thursdays, September 16th AND 23rd, in the school gym, according to the following schedule:

- 7th & 8th Grade boys 5:30 until 7 PM
 - 5th & 6th Grade boys 7 until 8:15 PM
 - 6th, 7th & 8th Grade girls 8:15 until 9:30 PM
- For more information, call Nick Shine at 732-548-6518.

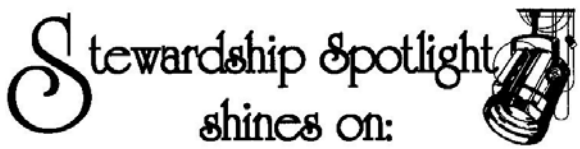
HOLY NAME SOCIETY will hold its first meeting of the 2004/2005 season on Sunday, September 12th. Prayers for the canonization of our Founder, Blessed John Vercelli, and for recently-deceased members will be held in the church immediately after the 8:30 AM Mass. Following the prayers, there will be a brief meeting in school Rm 101. All adults are invited to join us for the prayers and meeting.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3639 CORPORATE COMMUNION will be held on Sunday, August 29th, at the 8:30 AM Mass. Breakfast will follow, at the K of C Hall, 116 Grand Street, Iselin.

THE K of C END OF SUMMER 2004 BASH will be held on Saturday, August 28th, from 7 PM to midnight at the K of C Hall. For just \$20/person, you can enjoy a buffet dinner (7-8 PM), beer, wine, & soda, and live music by Not In That Order. For tickets, call John Parascando (732-283-1436), John McCarthy (732-283-3068), Joe LaMagna (908-276-6132) or The Council (732-283-0290). Please bring a canned food donation for Hunger Harvest.



Today's Gospel continues a theme we've heard often this summer – God excludes no one. The hospitality of God is often imaged in Scripture as a banquet where all are treated as distinguished guests. In *Guests of God* Monika Hellwig describes a good guest as one who looks out for the needs of the other guests. This requires humility and a true sense of stewardship: each of us is here to serve and to reverence, not only people but all creation. It has been said that "humility is truth." It is not a poor or a false self image; on the contrary, it is a deep realization of being made in God's image and called to treat others as God treats all. No one has been given the right to dominate. Stewardship stresses interdependence.



"HARVEST OF HOPE" DINNER

The Sacred Heart Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul announces that its inaugural "Harvest of Hope" Dinner will be held on Friday, October 1st, from 6 to 9 PM at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 56 Throop Avenue, New Brunswick. Fourteen beneficiaries of grants from the Metuchen Diocese's Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Campaign for Human Development will be recognized (*including our own St. Cecelia's Food Pantry!*). Tickets (\$20/adults; \$10/children) can be ordered through Sister Joan Marie, 732-283-0150 ext. 21. All proceeds benefit the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Our own chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society welcomes new members who seek to continue the legacy of St. Vincent and Frederic Ozanam - to see the face of Christ in the poor, to be the good news of Jesus Christ, and to be a reflection of the love of God to each person served. Join them at their meeting on September 8th at 7:30 PM in the church conference room or contact Sister Joan Marie at the Social Ministry Office, 732-283-0150 ext. 21 for more information.

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If you'd like to share your time and talent with this or any of our parish's many opportunities for stewardship - or there's an idea that you'd like to present - please fill out and return this coupon to the Parish Office or call the office and leave your name and number.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

e-mail/ALT. PHONE: _____

Please contact me about: _____

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

...events taking place on our Parish campus - the school, the church, or the hall.

Monday, August 30

NO Families of Nazareth Movement

Tuesday, August 31

10 AM	Legion of Mary	Conference room
11 AM	Bingo	Lourdes Hall
6-10 PM	Golden Knights	Gym, cafeteria

Wednesday, September 1

Noon dismissal	St. Cecelia's School opens (Grades 1-8)	
7-9 PM	AA, Al-Anon, STEP	Rms 103, 105, Fatima Hall

Thursday, September 2

Noon dismissal	St. Cecelia's School	
5-10 PM	Golden Knights	Gym, cafeteria
7-9 PM	Faith & Hope Sharing (small faith community)	Chapel
7-9 PM	CARE Program	Conference room

Friday, September 3

Noon dismissal	St. Cecelia's School	
5-10 PM	Golden Knights	Gym, cafeteria
8 PM	Nocturnal Adoration	Church

Saturday, September 4

after 8AM Mass	Novena	Church
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Sunday, September 5

1 PM	Baptism	Church
4:15 PM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy	Church

Please note that meetings may be subject to change or cancellation.

BULLETIN E-MAIL ADDRESS: stceceliabulletin@yahoo.com.

Deadline for information is Monday evenings by 9 PM; thank you for your cooperation.

All items for the September 12th bulletin are due by Friday, September 3rd. On any item submitted, please include a name and phone number. Thank you!

The **Parish Office** is now on Summer Schedule and closes at Noon on Fridays.

The **Parish Office** will be closed on LABOR DAY, Monday, September 5th.

GIFT SHOP END-OF-SUMMER SCHEDULE (August 23rd - September 5th)

WEEKEND HOURS ONLY; CLOSED WEEKDAYS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REGISTRATION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2004/2005 will be held this Sunday, August 29th, in the atrium following 10 AM Mass. The Religious Education Office will then be open for registration from 9 AM to 3 PM, September 1st through 8th (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and Labor Day). If you are registering your child for the first time, please bring his/her baptismal certificate. Re-registration forms and Confirmation information have been mailed.

NOTE: only *registered parishioners* may register for Religious Education classes. Parish registration takes place during *parish office hours*; current summer hours are noted in the bulletin.

TUITION for the year (for registered and supporting members of the parish - attending Mass and using church envelopes) is as follows: Grades 3, 4, 5, 6: \$65; Grades 1, 2, 7, 8: \$75. After September 8th, a \$25 late fee will be charged.

OPENING DAYS for Religious Education classes will be Monday, September 20th, for Grades 5 - 8 and Monday, September 27th, for Grades 1 - 4. The children will assemble in the church *except for GRADE ONE*; Grade One students will go directly to their classrooms. The student aides will assist the first grade children in finding their rooms.

THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Office for all information and to make arrangements. Pre-Baptismal Preparation Class is required.

MARRIAGE: Make arrangements *one year* in advance of the proposed wedding date. One party must be a parishioner. Participation in a Pre-Marriage Preparation Program is required; call the Parish Office.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK OR HOMEBOUND: Urgent sick calls at any time; contact the Parish Office. Regular communion calls to the sick, aged or homebound should be arranged in advance through the Social Concerns Office.

EDUCATION

ST. CECELIA'S SCHOOL

Phone: 732-283-2824

MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED



Served by the Religious Teachers Filippini, the mission of St. Cecelia School is to form the heart, mind and spirit of its students according to Gospel values, ever aware of the unique, God-given gifts within each child.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Phone: 732-283-2816

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 8:30 AM-8:30 PM
 Tuesday through Thursday: 8:30 AM-2:30 PM
 Friday: 8:30 AM-1:30 PM

CLASSES for grammar school students are held on **Mondays at 3:00, 5:45 & 7:25 PM.**

SPECIAL PROGRAMS for the continuing religious education of adults are held periodically throughout the year.

R.C.I.A.: For information about becoming a Roman Catholic, contact the Parish Office.

DEVOTIONS

NOVENA to St. Jude and Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal after 8 AM Mass on Saturday

CHAPLET of DIVINE MERCY Sunday 4:15 PM.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION 4th Sunday after 11:30 AM Mass; Benediction at 2PM.

NOCTURNAL ADORATION every First Friday from 8 to 9 PM.

SOCIETIES/ORGANIZATIONS

BIBLE STUDY:

Thursdays 7:30 PM, Faculty Room

CELEBRATE LIFE COMMITTEE:

New members always welcome.

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH MOVEMENT:

Mondays, 7:15-8:15 PM in the Conference room.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY:

2nd Sunday after the 8:30 AM Mass, Room 101

J4F - Just 4 Fun:

1st and 3rd Mondays ; ages 21-35

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS:

2ND & 4TH Thursdays; Membership: call Dan Neroda 732-283-0290

LEGION OF MARY:

Tuesdays at 10 AM in the Church Conf. Rm.

ROSARY/ALTAR SOCIETY:

1st Monday after the 1st Sunday after 7 PM Mass

SENIOR CITIZENS:

2nd and 4th Monday of the month, 12:30 PM in Lourdes Hall

GIFT SHOP HOURS:

Phone 732-283-1775

Tues/Weds/Thurs 10 AM to 2 PM

Saturday 2 PM to 6 PM

Sunday 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Monday and Friday CLOSED