

COVER SHEET

CHURCH NAME: **ST. CECELIA CHURCH**

BULLETIN NUMBER: 511586.Dec05

BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF: **December 05, 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...

Donald Crilly, Donna Spock, Herbert Denoyelles, Louise Colajay, Katherine Riccardi, Lisa Marie Mantz, William Witt; Dorthy Glenn, Ann Marie Siwick, Mary Louise Bogert, Clara Suarez, Dr. Barbara Wheeler, Milly Margetis, John Boyle, Michael David McMahon, William Boley, Janet Schutt, Rose Gentile, Robert Baljak, John Farley, Karen Zaborny, Mary Ann Osmulski, 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.

IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE...



Let us remember all our departed brothers and sisters, especially *Anna Mikelait, Sophie Clark, Veronica Dussalt, Sister Barbara Ann Pavlik, RSM (former principal of St. Cecelia's School)*, asking God through our prayers to reward them as only He can with Light, Happiness and Eternal Peace.



The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the Mondays of Advent:
December 6, 13, 20
after the 9:15 AM Mass.
Benediction will be at 7 PM
(except on December 13th,
when benediction will be at 6:45 PM).
Nocturnal Adoration is on **First Fridays**
from 8 to 9 PM.

HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES:

For Holy Family Sunday (December 26th) all information is due by **Friday, December 17th**. Information for Epiphany (January 2nd) is due by **Friday, December 24th**. Thank you for thinking ahead and getting things in on time!

Do you have YOUR copy...

...of the Christmas Mass Schedule? If not, pick one up in the atrium. The 4 PM Mass on Christmas Eve is by ticket only, and tickets will be distributed after all Masses next weekend, December 11th & 12th (6 ticket per family limit). If there are any left, they will be available in the parish office during regular business hours the following week.

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH FAITH-SHARING GROUP: "*Only in the Giver Himself can we find our hope.*" Contact bzmak@comcast.net for more information.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Our **MONTHLY PARISH FOOD COLLECTION** is next weekend, December 11th & 12th. At this time we are in particular need of coffee, tea, diapers, white rice, shampoo, jelly, toothpaste, toothbrushes, ketchup, pudding, laundry detergent.

TURKEY COLLECTION TIME: Our Food Pantry is still accepting donations of turkeys for the holiday season. Please call the Social Ministry Office, 732-283-0150 ext 21, before dropping them off so we can be sure they are refrigerated.

GIVING TREES gifts are due back on the next two weekends, December 4th-5th and 11th-12th. Each ornament represents an actual need, so please help us to empty the trees as much as possible!

We give thanks for your support - all year long!

YOUTH MINISTRY: PARENTS, if you were unable to make the previous two parent meetings, please call the youth ministry office as soon as possible - there is crucial information regarding the retreat and the ski trip that you need to know. I am still accepting permission slips for both retreat and ski trip; however, both are filling up fast! **TEENS**, there is a meeting this Sunday night from 7 to 8:30 PM in the youth ministry office. I have just returned from the National Catholic Youth Ministers Conference in Pittsburgh and am ready to go with renewed vigor and new ideas! See you soon.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: WOW! Thanks for a great *Breaking Bread Bonding Lives* gathering last Sunday. Our spiritual lives become so rich when we assimilate the seasons of the church year into our daily lives. Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 8th, from 7 to 8:30 PM in the office of youth ministry (Trailer C at St. John Vianney Church). We are casually discussing the readings leading to Sunday's Mass. New people are eagerly welcomed.

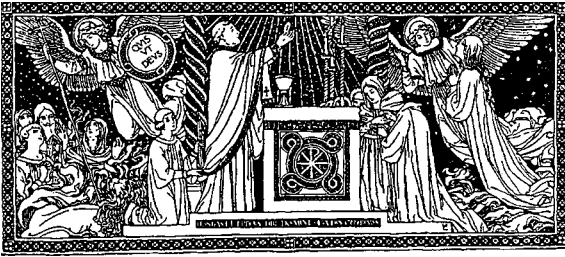
K of C COUNCIL 3639 will hold a **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Saturday, December 11th, from 10 AM to noon at the K of C Hall, 116 Grand Street. \$5 donation is requested per family; open to the public. Call John Parascando, 732-283-0290.



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on Monday, December 6th, from 6 to 10 PM in Lourdes Hall; entertainment will be provided by Mrs. C. and the Youth Choir. Tickets: adults, \$20; children age 12 and under, \$10.

FLU CLINIC SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th IN LOURDES HALL:

The Visiting Nurse Association has 200 doses of vaccine available. Influenza vaccine is \$20 and pneumococcal vaccine is \$25. Doors will open at 8:30 AM, and 65-and-over and high-risk (*according to VNA determination*) will receive preference.



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, December 6th: St. Nicholas

- 7:00 AM Augusta A. Golumb
req Barbara & Rick DeRollo
9:15 AM Ann Hilton req Sister
*1:00 PM Edward Evancik, Sr., req Wife Rose & Family

TUESDAY, December 7th: St. Ambrose

- 7:00 AM John Paulikas req Perlman Family
9:15 AM Robert La Rouche req Leone Family

Vigil of the Immaculate Conception

- 7:00 PM Kenneth & Timothy Lake req Family

WEDNESDAY, December 8th:

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00 AM Richard "Pat" Patterson req DeRollo Family

9:15 AM NO MASS

- 10:00 AM In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin
req Anne Vendola
12:05 PM Luise Zaborny req Family
7:00 PM Paul Aiosa req Family

THURSDAY, December 9th: Bl. Juan Diego

- 7:00 AM Gerard Van Doorn req Family
9:15 AM Hank McGeehan req Betty & Family

FRIDAY, December 10th: Advent Weekday

- 7:00 AM Adelina Trapani req Carniglia Family
9:15 AM Elsie Truhe req Dolly Rittweger & Family
** 2:00 PM Patricia Maillet req Leslie De Noia

SATURDAY, December 11th: St. Damasus I

- 8:00 AM Milton Wells req Family
4:30 PM Donato Ciardiello req Family

**SUNDAY, December 12th:
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
8:30 AM Soledad (Chole) Wells req Family
10:00 AM Mary Ellen McCarthy
req Justin McCarthy & Family
11:30 AM Paul & Maria La Faso
req Daughter Filomena D'Ippolito
5:00 PM Intention of Krisha Palang req Mom

*MASS CELEBRATED AT VETERANS HOME

**MASS CELEBRATED AT ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

VETERANS HOME: Monday, December 13th

1:00 PM Josephine Pellegrino req Bunage Family

ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER: Friday, December 17th

2:00 PM Marie, Warren & Arline De Ring req Janet



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week
IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW
requested by Nana



The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** this week is
IN MEMORY OF CRISPIN RECONDO
AND FOR THE INTENTION
OF MARIA & KRISHA PALANG
requested by Daughter

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



Last Sunday our faithful stewards gave: \$11,199.01
Last year at this time: \$15,418.25

On November 20-21, our faithful stewards gave: \$12,828.48
Last year at that time: \$14,398.41
Second collection (Educational Support): \$1,644.37

Bishop's Annual Appeal (to 11/24/04): \$66,001.98
This is 68.18% of our goal.

*"Tell them to do good, to be rich in good works,
to be generous, ready to share"(1 Tim 6:17-19).*



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

is Wednesday, December 8th. This celebration of the sinless birth of Mary, the Mother of God, is a holy day of obligation. Please check the schedule in the previous column for additional Masses.

*O Mary, conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to you!*



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Office of the Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the Spiritual Exercise of St. Ignatius of Loyola, we're asked to "bring to memory the benefits received." These words are especially fitting as we prepare to conduct the Retirement Fund for Religious in our Diocese.

The U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has helped sponsor this appeal for 17 years, along with the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. The appeal has evoked unsurpassed generosity among Catholics, who have donated more than \$400 million to date. It is humbling, then, to realize that the cost of care for our elderly religious each year exceeds \$400 million and continues to escalate. Today, more than 12,000 of our sisters, brothers, and order priests require skilled care or assistance with the tasks of daily living. They need our help. And we, who have been educated, inspired, and many times renewed by their compassionate care, can be of aid.

On December 11 and 12, the Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken up in the parishes of the Diocese of Metuchen. Please give generously to this collection.

Sincerely in the Lord,

+ Paul G. Bootkoski

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski
Bishop of Metuchen

The St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. BOX 191 • Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191 • (732)-562-1990

The Advent Wreath

During the second week of Advent, we pray: "O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen." Then light the purple candle from the first week plus one more purple candle.



Advent Opportunities for Spiritual Enrichment at St. Cecelia's

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 2 nd Sunday of Advent Giving Tree gifts due	6 Eucharistic Adoration (after 9:15 AM Mass) Benediction 7 PM	7 Vigil Mass 7 PM Nativity Narratives Supper: 7 PM Study: 7:30 PM	8 Immaculate Conception Holy day of Obligation	9	10 Christmas Flower offerings due in Parish Office	11
12 3 rd Sunday of Advent Giving Tree gifts due	13 Eucharistic Adoration (after 9:15 AM Mass) Benediction 6:45 PM Penance Service 7 PM	14 Nativity Narratives Supper: 7 PM Study: 7:30 PM	15	16 Simbang Gabi: Misa de Gallo 8 PM (Supper to follow)	17	18
19 4 th Sunday of Advent	20 Eucharistic Adoration (after 9:15 AM Mass) Benediction 7 PM	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 4 PM (by ticket only) 5:30 PM 11:30 PM: Lessons & Carols Midnight Mass	25 Christmas Day 8:30 AM 10 AM 11:30 AM

Advent Penance Service

On Monday, December 13th, there will be a Penance Service in our church beginning at 7 PM. After a short service of prayer and song, there will be time for individual confessions. All parishioners are invited to take part in this communal service of God's mercy and forgiveness in preparation for the celebration of Christmas.



GRADE SIX: The children from St. Cecelia's School and the Religious Education Program host the Children/Family Mass this Sunday, December 5th, at 10 AM. During the Mass, the children in Grades K, 1, 2 & 3 will be called forward to sit near the altar, where the message of the Gospel will be explained to them at their level of understanding. Please join the sixth

grade class in Eucharistic celebration. After Mass, everyone is invited to the cafeteria, where Grade Six is providing light refreshments and a display of art. The music at the Mass will be provided by the Children's Choir.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

December 6th:	3:55 PM	Class 3-1
	6:45 PM	Class 7-1
	8:30 PM	Class 8-4

Parents/Guardians are welcome to go to confession after the designated class. PLEASE NOTE: the class will be dismissed from the church.

LIVING LITURGY: Our Student of the Week is Tiffany Palazzo, Grade 4: "This week I lived my Faith by praying, helping my mom and dad and being nice. AMEN."

Scripture Study of the Nativity Narratives

Father Jay presents a study of the Nativity narratives in Lourdes Hall from 7:30 to 9 PM on Tuesday evenings, December 7th and 14th. We will have a simple meal available each week for those who wish to join us for supper at 7 PM, and beverages and cake available for all. Please be sure to RSVP if you're coming for supper - so our cooks know how much to prepare!

GOLDEN KNIGHTS NEWS

CHEERLEADING: On November 20th and 21st, the Cheerleaders competed in the Pop Warner Regional Tournament at the Sovereign Arena in Trenton. Both the Nuggets (1st Place, Peewee Large Intermediate) and the Knights (2nd Place, Midget Large Advanced) will be going to Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL for the National Pop Warner Cheer Competition. This is the second straight year for the Knights and the first year for the Nuggets. Congratulations and Good Luck!! For updates on dates and times, please check the Golden Knight website, www.scgk.org.

ANNUAL DO-WOP NIGHT: Saturday, January 29th, from 7 PM to midnight in Lourdes Hall. \$27.50 per person includes buffet, beer, soda, set-ups (BYOB) and music by Jersey Gold. Tickets go on sale January 4th and will then be available Tuesday and Friday nights at St. Cecelia School gym from 7-9 PM. Contact Rich McLellan at 732-382-9106.

J4F ADULT GROUP: Special thank you to Carla, Tim, Jim, Kim, Jacqui, Alice, JoJo, and John for making this first Advent retreat truly special for everyone who attended. Your hard work paid off! And thank you, too, to Father Francis Vaz, Father Ron Jandernoa, and Sister Jane Feltz for their participation. Our next Caroling practice is on Tuesday, December 7th. We meet for Caroling on December 11th at the Hartwyck Day Center on Oak Tree Road in Edison at 2:45 PM. Everyone in our Parish family is welcome to join us! Please call 732-754-8876.



"There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain..." says the Lord. On that day and in that place the lion lies down with the lamb, the poor and afflicted are rescued, and justice shall flourish. But we are living here and now; what do we do while we are waiting? In the Gospel, John the Baptist challenges his listeners to "produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance" and conversion to the way of Christ. Not just any fruit - GOOD fruit. Not necessarily large or grand or impressive fruit - GOOD fruit. As we continue to model our lives after Jesus Christ, let us continue to "prepare the way for the Lord" one small, good action at a time. Let us, as Paul suggests, "think in harmony with one another" so that God will be glorified not just someday on his holy mountain but right here and right now.

Stewardship & Spotlight
shines on:



SIMBANG GABI: THE MISA DE GALLO



It is a Filipino tradition to hold a novena of Masses from December 16th through the 24th - a tradition that began in Spanish colonial times, when the Spanish friars would gather the Filipino workers early each morning before sending them out to the fields to work. The Diocesan Commission for the Filipino Apostolate has again invited St. Cecelia's to host one of this year's celebrations, but instead of having the Mass so early in the day (!! we will have it on **Thursday, December 16th, at 8 PM**. A short supper will be held in Lourdes Hall after Mass. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND**. If you would like to sing in the choir for this occasion, please contact Ramon Esteban at 732-396-0032.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

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

Monday, December 6, 2004

6-10 PM	Rosary Altar Society Christmas Party	Lourdes Hall
7:00 PM	Benediction	Church
7-8:30 PM	J4F	Rm 103

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

10 AM	Legion of Mary	Conference room
11 AM	Bingo	Lourdes Hall
7:30 PM	Nativity Narratives (scripture study)	Lourdes Hall

Wednesday, December 8, 2004

St. Cecelia's School closed

7-9 PM	AA, AI-Anon, STEP	Rms 103, 105, Fatima Hall
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Thursday, December 9, 2004

6-9 PM	Boy Scouts	Rms 101 & 105
7-9 PM	Faith & Hope Sharing (small faith community)	Chapel
7:15-8:15 PM	Families of Nazareth (small faith community)	Conference room
7:30-9 PM	Faith Sharing Through Scripture (Bible Study)	Rm 103

Friday, December 10, 2004

Saturday, December 11, 2004

after 8AM Mass	Novena	Church
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Sunday, December 12, 2004

after 8:30 AM Mass	Holy Name Society	Rm 101
11 AM - 1 PM	RCIA	Rms 103, 105
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.

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 (Faith Sharing Through Scripture):

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:*

2nd Wednesdays in Room 101; 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:

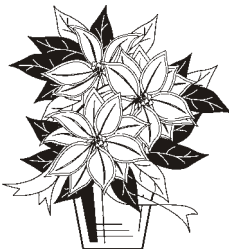
Phone 732-283-1775

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



CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS: The flowers that will adorn our church for the Christmas season may be given in memory of your deceased loved ones or for a special intention. If you would like to make an offering, please place your monetary contribution in an envelope marked Christmas Flowers, include the information as shown below - *please print clearly* - and return the envelope to the Parish Office. Those offerings received by the morning of **Friday, December 10th**, will be listed in the bulletin insert for the Fourth Sunday of

Advent, December 19th. Offerings received after December 10th will be listed in the bulletin on subsequent Sundays.

Christmas Flower Offering 2004

DONOR'S NAME: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____
(for the deceased)

SPECIAL INTENTION: _____
(for the living, or other intention)