

COVER SHEET

CHURCH NAME: **ST. CECELIA CHURCH**

BULLETIN NUMBER: 511586.Nov21

BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF: **November 21, 2004**

NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED: **6**

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: **Page Four is the Bishop's letter; no header line, please.**
Insert, Giving Trees (pre-printed - 1500 pcs only)

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

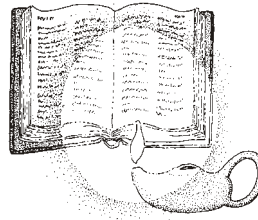
The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** may be lighted for a week at a time in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** may be provided for a week at a time in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Please call the parish office for more information.

"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...

Harold Speakman, Lisa Marie Mantz, Donald Crilly, Lidia Rodriguez, Bronisla Szymanzek, Rose Cicillione, Alice Greco, Theresa Byrnes, Quentin Mariano; William Boley, Janet Schutt, Rose Gentile, Robert Baljak, John Farley, Joanna Santamaria, Jane Strauss, Mary Zullo, Mary Gerstner, Henry Mlodgenski, 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.



YOUR RESPONSE IS REQUESTED...

A few weeks ago, you were asked to consider how *you* can "grow in faith" through Adult Faith Formation here at St. Cecelia's. Have you returned the response slip to the parish office yet? Your input is important as we plan the upcoming monthly sessions!

J4F ADULT GROUP: We will have our first Christmas Caroling practice on Tuesday, November 30th, at Denise's house at 7 PM. Our Coffee Talk will be on Saturday, December 4th. Have a great Thanksgiving, everyone! Thank you for all your hard work on the retreat and in the parish in your separate ministries. May God continue to do good works through you. God bless you and see you after Thanksgiving! Please call 732-754-8876 for more information about our group or Christmas Caroling.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3639

A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held 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, for information.

SPELLING BEE FOR EIGHTH GRADERS: Eighth Graders, are you good spellers? Would you like an opportunity to demonstrate your skills outside of the classroom? How about the chance to win prizes and enjoy refreshments, too? We're looking for contestants for our Spelling Bee. If you are interested or need more information, please call Grand Knight John Parascando at 732-283-0880 and leave your name and phone number.

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH FAITH-SHARING GROUP: *"In all situations - easy or difficult, pleasant or painful - our reliance must be on God, who is present through His will in all events."* Contact bzmak@comcast.net for more information.



IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE...

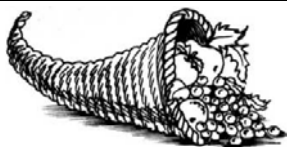
Let us remember all our departed brothers and sisters, asking God through our prayers to reward them as only He can with Light, Happiness and Eternal Peace.



The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the Mondays of Advent:
November 28, December 6, 13, 20
after the 9:15 AM Mass.
Benediction will be at 7 PM.
Nocturnal Adoration is on **First Fridays**
from 8 to 9 PM.

NOCTURNAL ADORATION will be held in the church on Friday, December 3rd, beginning at 8 PM. Everyone is invited to join us for one hour of active devotional prayer.

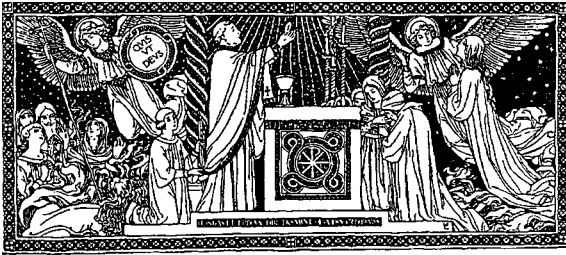
THE CARDS OF REMEMBRANCE that were displayed in our church for All Souls' Day may be picked up at the parish office during the week.



We Come To Your Feast! This Thursday, November 25th, is Thanksgiving Day.

As we have in past years, we will celebrate Mass at 10 AM to thank God for all the wonderful gifts we have received - gifts of family and friends, talents and treasures. All of our parish family's musicians will lend their talents to our liturgy, and all the members and friends of the Parish Family of St. Cecelia are invited to join us. What better way to celebrate than at the table of the Lord! In

addition, we will have a **BLESSING OF FOOD** for your Thanksgiving meal. Please bring some food item (canned goods, bread, wine, etc.) to bring forward at the Mass for a special blessing and to serve later at your holiday table.



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, November 22nd: St. Cecilia

7:00 AM Evelyn Pandolfo req Ann Kane & Family
 9:15 AM Nicholas Luongo req Ann Small
 *1:00 PM Angela Capurso req Caroselli Family

TUESDAY, November 23rd:

St. Clement, St. Columban, Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro

7:00 AM Roland Francis Bote req Children
 9:15 AM Leonard Pontrantalfi & Joseph Zbrowski
 req Family

WEDNESDAY, November 24th:

St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions

7:00 AM Rose D'Angelo req Family
 9:15 AM Nicholas Luongo req Marge & Phil Cerria

THURSDAY, November 25th: St. Catherine of Alexandria
 Thanksgiving Day

7:00 AM NO MASS
 9:15 AM NO MASS
 10:00 AM MASS OF THANKSGIVING

FRIDAY, November 26th: Weekday

7:00 AM NO MASS
 9:15 AM Dominick Antonucci req Diane Riporti Family
 ** 2:00 PM Virginia Laffey (4th Anniv) req Husband Thomas

SATURDAY, November 27th: Weekday

8:00 AM Robert La Rouche req Ethel & Janice Fech
 4:30 PM Cecilia Mlodgenski req Husband Henry

SUNDAY, November 28th:

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 8:30 AM John Ferullo req Wife Ann
 10:00 AM Dominick Antonucci req Margaret Riporti
 11:30 AM Theodore G. Catino req Jean Raposo
 5:00 PM Anna Krein req Marian Shanley

*MASS CELEBRATED AT VETERANS HOME

**MASS CELEBRATED AT ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

VETERANS HOME: Monday, November 29th

1:00 PM Minnie Racioppi req Kay & Jack Keleher

ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER: Friday, December 3rd

2:00 PM Dorothy Sager req John & Helen O'Brien



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week
IN MEMORY OF DOMINICK ANTONUCCI
 requested by Diane Riporti Family



The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** this week is
IN MEMORY OF ROBERT LA ROUCHE
 requested by Paula Wojtczak & George S. Jacko

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19; Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4; Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Lk 21:20-28

Thanksgiving Day, Suggested:

Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11 -- 21:2; Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36

Sunday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44



Last Sunday our faithful stewards gave: \$12,449.76

Last year at this time: \$13,546.86

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

Sing joyfully to the Lord!



The Adult Choir has resumed rehearsals, under the direction of Iouri Grichetchkine. There is still time to join us as we begin to prepare for Christmas. Just come to the next rehearsal on Wednesday, December 1st, at 7:30 PM in the church.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Office of the Bishop

November 12, 2004

Dear Friends in Christ:

As you know, this year's flu season may be a particularly difficult one because of the shortage of the flu vaccine. As a result, I have received a number of inquiries about options available regarding certain aspects of the Liturgy that may cause health concerns, particularly the Sign of Peace and the Reception of Holy Communion. First and foremost, I would like to emphasize that pastoral practice and common sense should always go together, and this is certainly the case with our celebration of the Eucharist. It goes without saying that if you know you are sick or if there is the danger of your spreading germs, you should take every precaution to prevent this. On the other hand, we should also avoid overreaction and panic since we still do not know the full extent of any flu vaccine shortage or what the nature of this flu season will be like. In light of these concerns, then, I would like to remind you of the options that already exist in the hope that this information will be helpful to you.

Regarding the Sign of Peace, while the priest or deacon should never omit the invitation to the Sign of Peace, it is appropriate to smile and bow to one's neighbor instead of extending one's hand if there is a serious concern about contagion. There are already a number of options available to those who receive Holy Communion and I would like to repeat them. If you know you are sick or if you have concerns about receiving from the chalice, you are not bound to do so. It is an option. (Please remember that it is never an option to dip the host yourself in the chalice for priest, deacon or the faithful). I might add that while receiving on the tongue is always an option to the faithful, one should be sensitive to the fact that the priest or minister must place his/her hand in your mouth, and if you are sick you should be aware of the risk this may cause to your neighbor who will be receiving Communion from that minister's hand as well. Finally, and this once again falls under the rubric of common sense, if you know you are ill - especially with the flu - you are excused from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. This is probably the wisest course of action for all concerned.

As I mentioned above, these are all options that already exist within the Liturgy. I also repeat that, at this time, we should avoid overreacting and we should follow the recommendations of our doctors and other health care professionals. Let us pray, too, that those who are particularly at risk - the elderly, the chronically ill and our children - will have the opportunity to receive the protection they require, and that this will be a relatively mild and uneventful flu season.

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

Holy Darkness, Blessed Night...

Advent Study Series 2004

Name: _____

Phone: _____

I plan to come for supper on 11/30 ____ 12/7 ____ 12/14 ____

I can bring something to share; please call me! _____

Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John - which Gospel writers included the story of the birth of Christ in their work? How did each writer record this blessed event? How are they similar? Where do they differ? Why are their varied perspectives important? Father Jay will present a study of the Nativity narratives in Lourdes Hall from 7:30 to 9 PM on Tuesday evenings, November 30th and 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. Why not prepare for Christmas with a more complete understanding of the wonderful gift God gave to us - His Son, incarnate! Attend any or all of this series; fill out and return the coupon below or call the parish office to register. You may register for one week at a time - let us know by Monday of each week whether you will be joining us for supper.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

GIVING TREES have been placed in the atrium this weekend. Please be sure to read the full-page insert in this week's bulletin which fully describes our project, and make the Giving Tree / Adopt-A-Family project part of *your* holiday stewardship.

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

FURNITURE NEEDED: Living room and adult bedroom furniture in good condition. Please call Lisa, 732-331-7010 (home) or 732-825-3999 (work).

BABYSITTER NEEDED to watch 14-month-old one hour a day, Monday through Friday. Please call Fran, 732-881-3619.

SOCIAL MINISTRY MONTHLY REPORT, OCTOBER 2004

Total receipts	\$1,635.50
Total disbursements	1,124.32
Food certificates	550.00
Utilities	316.49
Office	134.83
Sponsored child	68.00
Living expenses	30.00
Bereavement workshop	25.00

We give thanks for your support - all year long!



GRADE FIVE: The children from St. Cecelia's School and the Religious Education Program host the Children/Family Mass this Sunday, November 21st, 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 fifth grade class in Eucharistic celebration. After Mass, everyone is welcome to come to the cafeteria, where Grade Five is providing light refreshments and a display of art. The music at the Mass will be provided by the Children's Choir.

GRADE ONE: Children of our parish in Grade One are scheduled to participate in the Thanksgiving Day Mass at 10 AM on Thursday, November 25th. Happy Thanksgiving!

HOLY CHILDHOOD JACK-O-LANTERN PROJECT: Thank you to all who participated, a wonderful example of "Kids Helping Kids". Through their generosity and faithful stewardship, sharing with others who are less fortunate, the children donated \$500 to the missions.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

November 22 nd :	6:45 PM	Class 6-2
	8:30 PM	Class 8-2

A Prayer for Mindfulness

Give us grace, almighty Father, to address thee with all our hearts as well as with our lips. Thou art everywhere present; from thee no secrets can be hidden. Teach us to fix our thoughts on thee, reverently and with love, so that our prayers are not in vain, but are acceptable to thee, now and always. Amen.

--Jane Austen



Today is the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year and Christ is exalted as king. Yet the Gospel shows us the stark reality of his kingship: thorns for a crown and a cross for a throne. Jesus spent his life trying to change the people's expectation of the messiah-king, as well as who the citizens of the kingdom

would be --outcasts, sinners, even this thief on the next cross! The letter to the Colossians presents a wonderful theology of Christ's kingship. His eternal position is within and over all creation. Like last week, we get the sense of kairos, God's time: "He is before all things... the beginning..." Again we see the convergence of so many Gospel messages - Jesus Christ "holds all things together ... reconciles ... makes peace." This is precisely the kind of king we need!

Stewardship Spotlight
shines on:



STUDENTS FROM GRADE FIVE OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

It's not quite Thanksgiving yet, and Grade Five of the Religious Education Program has been writing Christmas cards. No, they're not rushing the season! The recipients of those cards will be our soldiers, who will not be at home with their families during the upcoming holiday season, and our students have allowed extra time (*chronos!*) for mailing.

It's important to let our soldiers know that we stand behind them and appreciate them. Thank you, students! Thank you, Mrs. Rackley, Mrs. Crowley, and Mrs. Zayac, for your support in this project of love!

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, November 22, 2004		
12:30 pm	Seniors	Lourdes Hall
7:15-8:15 PM	Families of Nazareth (small faith community)	Conference room
Tuesday, November 23, 2004		
10 AM	Legion of Mary	Conference room
11 AM	Bingo	Lourdes Hall
5-10 PM	Golden Knights	Gym, cafeteria
Wednesday, November 24, 2004		
11:30 AM	School dismissal; NO LATCHKEY	
7-9 PM	AA, AI-Anon, STEP	Rms 103, 105, Fatima Hall
Thursday, November 25, 2004		
Office closed; school closed; no activities		
10 AM	MASS OF THANKSGIVING	Church
Friday, November 26, 2004		
Office closed; school closed; no activities		
Saturday, November 27, 2004		
after 8AM Mass	Novena	Church
Sunday, November 28, 2004		
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

YOUTH GROUP: There will be a *mandatory* parent meeting for both the retreat and ski trip this Sunday evening immediately following youth group (from 8:30 to 9 PM). Any parent whose child is participating in *either activity* must attend. Last week's youth led youth ministry team did a fine job; *all* of our groups have done an excellent job developing difficult topics and bringing them through personal discussion back to scripture. This Sunday's topic is "Racism." Please know that new members are welcome at any time. I am still collecting permission slips for both the winter retreat and the ski trip. Please get them to me as soon as possible.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will touch those who are on the J4F Advent retreat this weekend! Please be advised that we are making a change: beginning in December, we will meet twice a month for *Breaking Bread Bonding Lives*, to discuss the readings leading to Sunday's Mass. We will meet from 7 to 8:30 PM on Wednesday evenings December 8th and 22nd in the office of young adult ministry (trailers C & D at the far left hand side of the St. John Vianney parking lot). Any young adult interested in an informal faith discussion is invited to attend.

EVENTS AROUND OUR DIOCESE:

A VOCATION DISCERNMENT GROUP for men ages 18-45 seeking information about the priesthood and religious life is starting up again and will meet twice a month. For more information or to sign up, call the Office of Vocations (732-562-2457) or e-mail vocations@diometuchen.org.

ST. ANDREW'S ALTAR-ROSARY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will be held on Saturday, December 4th, from 10 AM to 3 PM at the church (244 Avenel Street, Avenel). Raffles, food, prizes, games, handmade items, pictures with Santa. Bring baby food or other baby items "for Jesus".

The SINGLE AGAIN MINISTRY of NACSDC REGION III will hold its *Calling All Angels* Christmas dinner-dance on Saturday, December 4th, here at St. Cecelia's from 8 PM to midnight. Hot & cold buffet, punch, wine, and soda; dance music by DJ Nick. \$35 per person (by November 24th); no tickets sold at the door. Call Mary (908-810-9581), Jackie (732-388-0258), or Rich (609-333-9868).