

COVER SHEET

CHURCH NAME: **ST. CECELIA CHURCH**

BULLETIN NUMBER: 511586.Nov28

BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF: **November 28, 2004**

NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED: **6**

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...

Harold Speakman, Lisa Marie Mantz, Donald Crilly, Lidia Rodriguez, Bronisla Szymanzek, Rose Cicillione, Alice Greco, Theresa Byrnes, Quentin Mariano; Marie Martini, 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.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY will meet on Sunday, December 12th, after the 8:30 AM Mass. Immediately following the Mass, there will be brief prayers in the church for the canonization of our founder, Blessed John Vercelli. Then there will be a short meeting in school room 101. All adults are invited and welcome to join us for the prayers and the meeting.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

TURKEY COLLECTION TIME: Our Food Pantry is still accepting 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.

GIVING TREES were placed in the atrium on the weekend of November 20th-21st and gifts are due back on the next two weekends, December 5th-6th and 12th-13th. Each ornament represents an actual need, so please help us to empty the trees as much as possible!

ADULT BABY SITTER NEEDED, 1 to 3 nights a week from 6 PM to 1 AM. Must have own transportation. Call Michelle, 848-219-6519.

We give thanks for your support - all year long!

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, 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 (RSVP to the parish office), and beverages and cake available for all.

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.

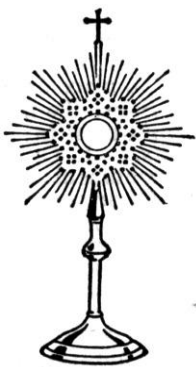
ST. ANDREW'S ALTAR-ROSARY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will be held on Saturday, December 4th, from 10 AM to 3 PM at the church (244 Avenel Street, Avenel). Raffles, food, prizes, games, handmade items, pictures with Santa. Bring baby food or other baby items "for Jesus".

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).



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.



There is no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Sunday, November 28th.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the Mondays of Advent:

November 29, December 6, 13, 20
after the 9:15 AM Mass.

Benediction will be at 7 PM
(except on December 13th,

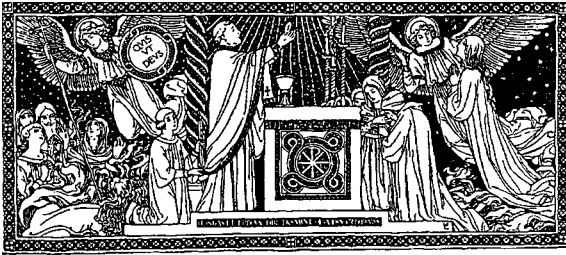
when benediction will be at 6:45 PM).

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

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.

IMPORTANT PRE-HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENT:

THANK YOU to all who submitted their information on time for this bulletin. Please continue to plan ahead as the hectic holidays approach! All bulletin information is due in the parish office by **9 PM on MONDAYS**. However, for the bulletin for Holy Family Sunday (the Sunday after Christmas: December 26th) all information is due by **Friday, December 17th**. Information for Epiphany (the Sunday after New Year's Day: January 2nd) is due by **Friday, December 24th**.



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, November 29th: Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Jack D'Angelo req Family
 9:15 AM Raymond Rodgers req Family
 *1:00 PM Minnie Racioppi req Kay & Jack Keleher

TUESDAY, November 30th: St. Andrew

7:00 AM Evelyn Pandolfo req Jack & Rita Bryson
 9:15 AM Nicholas Luongo req Lou & Margaret Truppa

WEDNESDAY, December 1st: Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Evelyn Pandolfo req Gene & Betty Washington
 9:15 AM Piegari, Penninella & Leonard Families
 req Family

THURSDAY, December 2nd: Advent Weekday

7:00 AM Sally Lonergan req Mom, Dad & Family
 9:15 AM Raymond Wonski, Sr.,
 req M/M Michael Wonski

FRIDAY, December 3rd: St. Francis Xavier

7:00 AM Intention of Maria Palang
 9:15 AM Purgatorial Society
 ** 2:00 PM Dorothy Sager req John & Helen O'Brien

SATURDAY, December 4th: St. John of Damascus

8:00 AM MacAlbert Noel req Pearl Noel & Children
 4:30 PM James Dreker req Siggins Family

SUNDAY, December 5th:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 8:30 AM Michael & Anna Rogozinski
 req Daughter-in-Law Dolores
 10:00 AM Dorothy Hofmann req Ozechowski Family
 11:30 AM Vincent La Faso req Wife & Children
 5:00 PM Crispin Recondo req Daughter

*MASS CELEBRATED AT VETERANS HOME

**MASS CELEBRATED AT ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

VETERANS HOME: Monday, December 6th

1:00 PM Edward Evancik, Sr. req Wife Rose & Family

ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER: Friday, December 10th

2:00 PM Patricia Maillet req Leslie DeNoia



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week
IN MEMORY OF MATTHIAS ERHART
 requested by Susan & Vincent Estok



The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** this week is
IN MEMORY OF VIRGINIA VETLAND
 requested by Kimberly Siggins & Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11
 Tuesday: Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
 Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
 Friday: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
 Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 -- 10:1, 5a, 6-8
 Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



We are grateful for the many and generous gifts
 provided weekly by our faithful stewards!

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

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.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Please be sure that you have a copy of the bright-gold insert from this week's bulletin. This Christmas Mass schedule covers the time from Christmas Eve Day (December 24th) through Epiphany (January 2nd) and should be an essential reference for your holiday planning!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The season is upon us! Not the red-and-green-and-glitz which is the way Madison Avenue would have us view it, but the purple-and-rose mindful expectation of Advent which will soon enough give way to the white-and-gold rejoicing of the joyful Christmas season. Here at St. Cecelia's, we have many opportunities to enrich this time of waiting. We've listed them in calendar form below, and explained them more fully elsewhere in the bulletin. Yes, we will certainly have parties and concerts during this season as well - but don't forget the Reason for the Season. Be sure to include some time for the Lord as we prepare for the wonderful celebration of His Nativity.



Both here in church and at home, an Advent wreath can serve as a daily reminder of the spirituality of the Advent season. The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. All together, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who entered our world becoming true man and who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death, and resurrection.

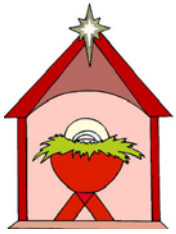
The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are purple and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, *Gaudete* Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; *Gaudete* Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead. The light again signifies Christ, the Light of the world.

In family practice, the Advent wreath is most appropriately lit at dinner time after the blessing of the food. A traditional prayer service using the Advent wreath proceeds as follows: On the First Sunday of Advent bless the wreath, praying: "O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen." Each of the days of the first week of Advent pray: "O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen." Then light one purple candle.

Advent Opportunities for Spiritual Enrichment at St. Cecelia's

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 1 st Sunday of Advent	29 Eucharistic Adoration (after 9:15 AM Mass) Benediction 7 PM	30 Nativity Narratives Supper: 7 PM Study: 7:30 PM	1	2	3 Nocturnal Adoration 8 PM	4
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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3639

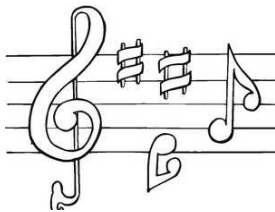


THE ANNUAL NATIVITY LIGHTING will be held on Friday, December 3rd at 7PM at the K of C Hall, 116 Grand Street. Refreshments and hot dogs will be served, and Santa will be there at 8 PM. Entertainment will be provided by the Children's Choir and the MAVIS band. For more information, call John Parascando, 732-283-0880.

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.

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. Please call 732-754-8876 for more information about our group or Christmas Caroling.

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH FAITH-SHARING GROUP: *"When we lean upon His will, we start to cooperate with the grace of the moment, through which our lives can become more harmonious, can lead us to a deeper union with the will of God and can sanctify us."* Contact bzmak@comcast.net for more information.



Sing joyfully to the Lord!


The Adult Choir has resumed rehearsals; there is still time to join us as we prepare for Christmas. Just come to our next rehearsal on Wednesday, December 1st, at 7:30 PM in the church. Instrumentalists (flute, guitar, clarinet, etc.) are also invited to become involved in our music ministry. See Iouri after Mass or leave a message for him at the parish office.

YOUTH GROUP: Happy Thanksgiving weekend! Because Thanksgiving is a time for families to be together there is no meeting this Sunday night. It is important for any parent who missed the meeting regarding the retreat and ski trip to call me; I have materials to get to you. The number is always located on the front of the bulletin. 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: Sunday, November 28th, is our last *Breaking Bread Bonding Lives* session. We will meet at St. Cecelia's Church for the 11:30 AM Mass and then discuss the readings at the Galaxy Diner. Please be aware that we are making a change: beginning in December, we will no longer meet for *Breaking Bread Bonding Lives* once a month. Instead, we will meet twice a month to discuss the readings leading to Sunday's Mass. In December, we will meet from 7 to 8:30 PM on Wednesdays, December 8th and 22nd, in the office of young adult ministry (Trailers C & D on the far left side of the St. John Vianney parking lot). Any young adult interested in an informal faith discussion is invited to join us.



*"...at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." As we begin the three-year cycle of liturgical texts today, we read about being ready to be called into the house of the Lord - **always** being ready in mind and spirit, since there may not be 'just a few minutes more' to prepare. We read, also, of a world filled with peace and light - at a time when our own world seems more filled with war and darkness. How are we to "stay awake"? How are we to "be prepared"? Where do we begin? What can only one person do? We are called to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" - to pattern ourselves after the Prince of Peace. With a role model like Him, we cannot fail!*

Stewardship Spotlight shines on: 

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)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

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

Monday, November 29, 2004

7:00 PM	Benediction	Church
7-8:30 PM	J4F	Rm 103
7:15-8:15 PM	Families of Nazareth (small faith community)	Conference room

Tuesday, November 30, 2004

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

Wednesday, December 1, 2004

St. Cecelia's School NOON DISMISSAL

4:30-6 PM	Youth Choir	Church
6:30-7:30 PM	J4F	Rm 101
7-9 PM	AA, AI-Anon, STEP	Rms 103, 105, Fatima Hall
7:30-9:15 PM	Adult Choir	Church

Thursday, December 2, 2004

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

Friday, December 3, 2004

8 PM	Nocturnal Adoration	Church
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Saturday, December 4, 2004

after 8AM Mass	Novena	Church
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Sunday, December 5, 2004

11 AM - 1 PM	RCIA	Rms 103, 105
1:00 PM	Baptisms	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.

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.

EUCARISTIC 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



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 call Ramon Esteban, 732-396-0032.



GRADE SIX: The children from St. Cecelia's School and the Religious Education Program host the Children/Family Mass on 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:

November 29 th :	3:55 PM	Class 4-1
	8:30 PM	Class 8-3

Parents/Guardians are welcome to go to confession after the designated class.

PLEASE NOTE: the class will be dismissed from the church.