

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...

Joan Belan, Henry Mlodgenski, Alice Greco, Imelda Manalo, John Ryan, John Carroll, Elizabeth Chincharick, Henry Santiago; Nancy Lopez, Nobuko Mitsui, Anna Cornell, Beth Kreckman, Terrance Stephen, 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, 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.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS NEWS

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.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Our **PARISH FOOD COLLECTION** will be held next weekend, January 8th & 9th. Please be generous during these cold winter days!



IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE...



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

FAMILIES OF NAZARETH FAITH-SHARING GROUP: “Every one of your good deeds affects others. Your faithfulness is the strength for those that you love...Begin then with yourself, with your own opening up to Christ. God wants you to be sanctified and through this, He wants to sanctify your environment, your loved ones, the Church and the world.” For more information, Contact bzmak@comcast.net.



The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the fourth Sunday of every month after the 11:30 AM Mass. Benediction will be at 2 PM

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

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION that can provide spiritual benefits to you throughout the year is to attend the monthly **NOCTURNAL ADORATION** beginning at 8 PM in the church on every First Friday of the month. In 2005 we begin on Friday, January 7th. Join us then and continue to participate for the full year in this one hour of active devotional prayer.

The **HOLY NAME SOCIETY** will hold its first meeting of the New Year on Sunday, January 9th, 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.

Thank you...

to all who have helped, in any way, to make our celebration of the Nativity of the Lord so wonderful: our altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, the many members of our music ministries, and all those who worked “behind the scenes” by decorating the church with the flowers so lovingly offered by you, our parishioners and friends. May the blessings and joy of the Christ Child - and of His Holy Family - be with all of you as we enter this new year!

Your parish priests - Father Jay, Father George, and Father Francis - also extend their thanks to all those who remembered them with cards, gifts, and baked goods. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Know that they thank God for each of you and remember you daily in prayer.





MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, January 3rd: The Holy Name of Jesus

7:00 AM Carrano Gaterina req M/M Pavese
 9:15 AM Anna Labik req M/M E. Kazor
 *1:00 PM Special Intention of Wayne Wallace
 req Mom Claire

TUESDAY, January 4th: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

7:00 AM Theresa Lozinski req Stanley & Theresa Kaye
 9:15 AM James T. Flynn req Pollock Family

WEDNESDAY, January 5th: St. John Neumann

7:00 AM John P. Kushner req Jerry & Lillian Bavero
 9:15 AM Anna Labik req M/M Stephen Doric

THURSDAY, January 6th: Bl. Andre Bessette

7:00 AM Carmen S J Geronimo req Mila Kushner
 9:15 AM Timothy Fields req Camille Retkwa

FRIDAY, January 7th: St. Raymond of Penyafort

7:00 AM Loretta McNair req Mom & Dad & Family
 9:15 AM Purgatorial Society
 ** 2:00 PM Special Intentions of Judy Cerria
 req Lou & Margaret Truppa

SATURDAY, January 8th: Weekday

8:00 AM Elizabeth & William Hoffman
 req Betty & Ed Kazor
 4:30 PM Jim Flynn req Betty McGeehan

SUNDAY, January 9th:

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish
 8:30 AM Helen Messina req Celeste & Eric Dominioni
 10:00 AM Harold B. Dowd req Wife Eileen & Children
 11:30 AM Mary Frances Beglan req Kathy & Jeff Beglan
 5:00 PM Frank & Jessie Placco & Rosemary Koster
 req Family

*MASS CELEBRATED AT VETERANS HOME

**MASS CELEBRATED AT ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

VETERANS HOME: Monday, January 10th

1:00 PM Betty Baker req Ruth & Patrick Donaghue

ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER: Friday, January 14th

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



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** will burn this week
IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH FRAGOSO
 requested by Phil & Tracy Mimmo



The **EUCCHARISTIC BREAD & WINE** this week is
IN MEMORY OF GEORGE SENTNER
 requested by M/M John Moyle

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 -- 4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 -- 5:4; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17



SACRIFICIAL GIVING

We are thankful for the offerings of our faithful stewards.

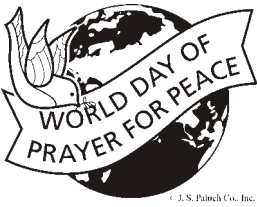
Young People's envelopes (December 18th & 19th): \$271.56

Bishop's Annual Appeal (to 12/10/04): \$72,144.37

This is 74.53% 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).





Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In addition to being the Octave of Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, January 1st is celebrated as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Following the lead of his predecessor, Pope Paul VI, who inaugurated the day in 1967, our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, issues an annual message. An excerpt is printed here, and the entire document can be found at the web address listed below.

1. At the beginning of the New Year, I once again address the leaders of nations and all men and women of good will, who recognize the need to build peace in the world. For the theme of this 2005 World Day of Peace I have chosen Saint Paul's words in the Letter to the Romans: "*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good*" (12:21). Evil is never defeated by evil; once that road is taken, *rather than defeating evil, one will instead be defeated by evil*.

The great Apostle brings out a fundamental truth: peace is the outcome of a long and demanding battle which is only won when evil is defeated by good. If we consider the tragic scenario of violent fratricidal conflicts in different parts of the world, and the untold sufferings and injustices to which they have given rise, the only truly constructive choice is, as Saint Paul proposes, to *flee what is evil and hold fast to what is good* (cf. *Rom 12:9*).

Peace is a good to be promoted with good: it is a good for individuals, for families, for nations and for all humanity; yet it is one which needs to be maintained and fostered by decisions and actions inspired by good. We can appreciate the profound truth of another saying of Saint Paul: "*Repay no one evil for evil*" (*Rom 12:17*). The one way out of the vicious circle of requiting evil for evil is to accept the Apostle's words: "*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good*" (*Rom 12:21*).

12. No man or woman of good will can renounce the struggle to overcome evil with good. This fight can be fought effectively only with the weapons of love. *When good overcomes evil, love prevails and where love prevails, there peace prevails*. This is the teaching of the Gospel, restated by the Second Vatican Council: "the fundamental law of human perfection, and consequently of the transformation of the world, is the new commandment of love"(20).

The same is true in the social and political spheres. In this regard, Pope Leo XIII wrote that those charged with preserving peace in relations between peoples should foster in themselves and kindle in others "charity, the mistress and queen of all the virtues"(21). Christians must be convinced witnesses of this truth. They should show by their lives that love is the only force capable of bringing fulfillment to persons and societies, the only force capable of directing the course of history in the way of goodness and peace.

During this year dedicated to the *Eucharist*, may the sons and daughters of the Church find in the *supreme sacrament of love* the wellspring of all communion: communion with Jesus the Redeemer and, in him, with every human being. By Christ's death and resurrection, made sacramentally present in each Eucharistic celebration, we are saved from evil and enabled to do good. Through the new life which Christ has bestowed on us, we can recognize one another as brothers and sisters, despite every difference of language, nationality and culture. In a word, by sharing in the one bread and the one cup, we come to realize that we are "God's family" and that together we can make our own effective contribution to building a world based on the values of justice, freedom and peace.

From the Vatican, 8 December 2004. JOHN PAUL II

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/messages/peace/documents/hf_jp-ii_mes_20041216_xxxviii-world-day-for-peace_en.html



Diocese of Metuchen 2005 Marriage Seminars

at the St. John Neumann Diocesan Center, Metlars Lane, Piscataway

Presented by David Hajduk, M.A., Campus Minister for the Delbarton School in Morristown, these seminars are based on the teachings of Pope John Paul II. Each session offers a light supper at 6 PM; the presentation itself begins at 7 PM. The fee per person for each session is \$10 (including supper) or \$8 (presentation only). To register, mail your check (payable to Diocese of Metuchen) to the Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen, St. John Neumann Diocesan Center, PO Box 191, Metuchen NJ 00840. For additional information, call 732-562-1990 x 1624 or e-mail jpsota@diometuchen.org.

Thursday, January 13th: It All Begins at the Beginning

In the beginning of all things lies the root, the purpose, and the potential. Learn from Jesus and the Holy Father just what "the beginning" means for love, sex, marriage, and family life.

Thursday, February 10th: A Model Marriage

Love is the meaning of life and the greatest longing of the human heart. Jesus not only teaches us the true meaning of love, but by giving Himself for the Church He provides the model for Christian marriage. This seminar ponders the meaning of love and marriage and explains how the Sacrament of Marriage empowers Christian spouses to love one another as Jesus loves.

Thursday, March 10th: The "Truth" About Body Language!

Sex is the language of love, the language of communion, spoken not simply with words but with the body. Expressed between a man and a woman in marriage, sex is the language of God's love - given freely, totally, faithfully, and fruitfully for the life of the couple, the individual, and the family. This session reflects on the power of the sexual union to fulfill and renew the sacramental vows of marriage.



REMINDER

TO ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS:
Classes resume
on Monday, January 3rd.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

January 3 rd :	3:55 PM	Class 3-1
	6:45 PM	Class 7-1
	8:30 PM	Class 8-4
January 10 th :	3:55 PM	Class 4-2
	6:45 PM	Class 6-3

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

GRADE EIGHT (Confirmation Class 2005): Under the direction of Mrs. Adele Rackley and Mrs. Marie DiPette, Larissa Tumaneng, Kristy Vigilante, Catherine Sena, and Leo Primero made stockings and cards, which were distributed to those in the hospital.

LIVING LITURGY: Our Student of the Week is Francesca DeStasio, Grade 2: "This week I lived my Faith by receiving the *Golden Rule* award at school. It's for kindness, courtesy, and respect to self and others. This was for the month of December, signed by my teacher and principal. AMEN."

J4F: A special thank you to our members who faithfully served our parish and the larger community through prayer and volunteer service this past year. Thank you for the following: serving at Elijah's Promise every month, helping with the New Brunswick Food Pantry, helping with our Mother's Day drive for Life Choices, making our First Retreat a success, and singing Christmas carols at Hartwyck on top of your own individual ministry responsibilities in the parish. Our parish has truly been blessed by your example of living out Christ's peace and charity in your daily lives. May God bless you and keep you. I'll see you all on Wednesday, January 12th, for our first meeting of the new year at 7:30 PM in the church conference room. For more information contact Denise Valdes, 732-754-8876.

Holiday Bulletin Deadlines:

Information for this bulletin was due by **Friday, December 24th**. Thank you to all who remembered! We now resume our regular publishing schedule, with all information due in the parish office by 9 PM on Mondays (or the Friday before, if Monday is a holiday).

YOUTH GROUP: Happy New Year! Remember to keep the spirit of retreat alive in your hearts and families as you venture out on the New Year. Ski Trip final payments, as well as rental and lesson forms, are due at the meeting on Sunday, January 9th (7 to 8:30 PM).

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Happy New Year! Thank you for coming out in December; it was great to see all of you. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, January 5th, from 7:30 to 9 PM in the young adult ministry office. Hope to see you there.



"Raise your eyes and look about..." says the prophet Isaiah, and see what marvels will come when the glory of the Lord is made manifest. This showing-forth of God's glory is what we have to look forward to, but the Epiphany is present here and now as well. The magi followed a star and recognized the Child. What do you see? Do you see the potential that shines within each baptized member of the church? Do you see the many examples of good stewardship, large and small, that are demonstrated by members of our parish family?

Stewardship & Spotlight shines on:



ASIAN TSUNAMI RELIEF EMERGENCY COLLECTION

Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian organization of the U.S. Catholic community, has had a significant presence in South and Southeast Asia for more than 60 years, providing both emergency and long-term development assistance. They have made an initial commitment of \$500,000 to provide shelter and immediate healthcare needs to thousands devastated by the massive earthquake and tsunamis that hit the Bay of Bengal December 26.

Bishop Bootkoski encourages us all to respond generously to CRS's appeal for funds to aid the relief effort. If you are not prepared to make a free-will offering today, please consider sending a donation to CRS Metuchen, which will also field inquiries from local residents who need assistance for their families abroad. **Contact CRS at Catholic Charities, 732-738-1323, or via e-mail at info@crsmetuchen.org.**

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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, January 3, 2005		
School reopens; CCD resumes		
Tuesday, January 4, 2005		
10 AM	Legion of Mary	Conference room
11 AM	Bingo	Lourdes Hall
Wednesday, January 5, 2005		
12 Noon	School dismissal	
4:30-6 PM	Youth Choir	Church
7-9 PM	AA, AI-Anon, STEP	Rms 103, 105, Fatima Hall
7:30-9:15 PM	Adult Choir	Church
Thursday, January 6, 2005		
6-9 PM	Boy Scouts	Rms 101 & 105
7:30-9 PM	Faith Sharing Through Scripture (Bible Study)	Rm 103
Friday, January 7, 2005		
8 PM	Nocturnal Adoration	Church
Saturday, January 8, 2005		
after 8AM	Mass Novena	Church
Sunday, January 9, 2005		
9:30-10:30 AM	Holy Name Society	Rm 101
11 AM-1 PM	R.C.I.A.	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:

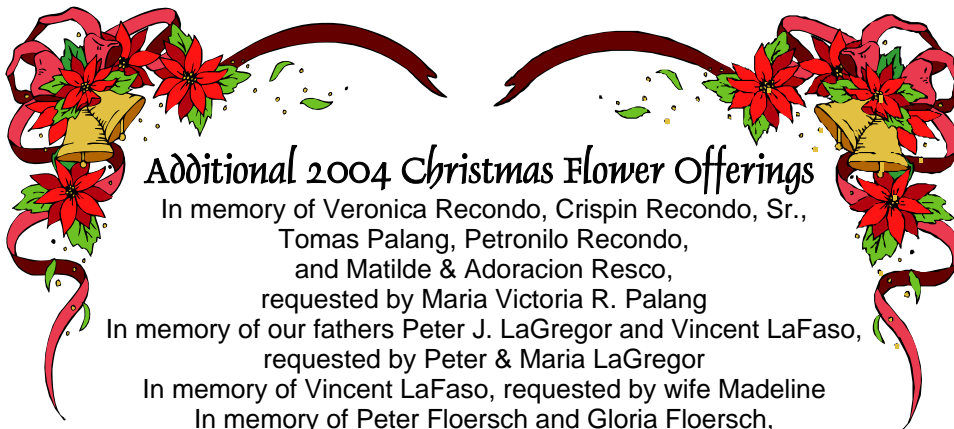
Phone 732-283-1775

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



Additional 2004 Christmas Flower Offerings

In memory of Veronica Recondo, Crispin Recondo, Sr.,
Tomas Palang, Petronilo Recondo,
and Matilde & Adoracion Resco,
requested by Maria Victoria R. Palang

In memory of our fathers Peter J. LaGregor and Vincent LaFaso,
requested by Peter & Maria LaGregor

In memory of Vincent LaFaso, requested by wife Madeline

In memory of Peter Floersch and Gloria Floersch,
requested by Emilia G. Floersch

In memory of John P. Kushner requested by Mila G. Kushner

In memory of husband Anthony Clemintone
and deceased members of the Ricci and Clemintone families,
requested by Catherine Clemintone

In memory of the deceased members
of the Winship, Cleary, Anderson & Green Families,
requested by Jim & Gert Winship & family

In memory of Sebastian & Aurora Navarro, requested by Susan Navarro

In memory of Michael, Maria, & Armando Quinto,
Michael, Elia & Thomas Pinto, and Carl & Mary Pinto,
requested by M/M Frank Quinto

In memory of the unborn son of Rebecca Pinto,
requested by M/M Frank Quinto

For a special intention for Kath Pinto & Olive Pinto,
requested by M/M Frank Quinto