

***Openness.** Today's readings remind us that all of us are "strangers" who owe our "closeness" to God's openness and all-inclusive love. By definition, then, we have no business dabbling in any form of exclusiveness. As Isaiah puts it, God's "house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."*

Reflection of today's readings. . .

The Canaanite woman is one gutsy gal. Unnamed, outcast, a foreigner, a woman, she stands for us as a model for faith and faith-filled prayer. Her prayer comes from deep recognition of who she is and upon whom it is she is calling. Her prayer is "grounded" in humility (from *humus*, "of the earth/dust"). Her intercession is made not on her own behalf, but on behalf of her sick and tortured child. Her prayer is simple, to the point, and brooks no misinterpretation: "Lord, help me!" No matter that she is one of Israel's outcasts, she calls upon Jesus to "observe what is right, do what is just" (Isaiah 56:1). The woman's faith is strong. That makes her prayer persistent. Neither she nor it will be rebuffed. She calls to mind the words of Saint Paul, "There does not exist among you Jew or Greek, slave or freeman, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28). Here, in the middle of Matthew's Gospel, the Canaanite woman serves as our representative, one of the many ordinary, unnamed, and outcast people, on behalf of whom, at the end of the Gospel, Jesus commands, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19).

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**STEWARDSHIP
&
FAITH**

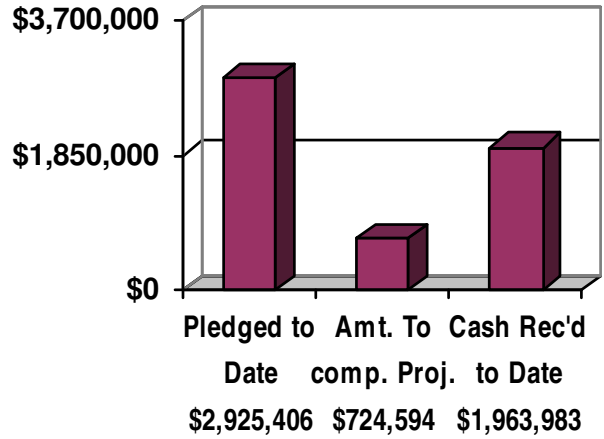
Time, Talent, Treasure.

Putting God First?

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Romans, "God's gifts and his call are irrevocable." To what is God calling me today? What gifts are mine to share?

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$10,155.00.**
Thank you.

Campaign Progress - Phase I



READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2;
Ps 132;
1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45;
1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138; Rom 11:33-36;
Mt 16:13-20

Total Cost of Project: \$3,700,000

Memorial incentives. Anyone who donates \$3,000 or more will be entitled to one memorial listing, in a decorative display, to be displayed in a public location, at a future date.

The following memorials are available for substantial donations (other larger memorial naming rights have already been secured):

- Church Organ \$100,000
- Tabernacle & Marble Base 50,000
- School Classroom 50,000
- Parish Multi-Purpose Room 100,000
- Parish Conference Room 75,000
- Parish Meeting Room 50,000

GRATITUDE

*O Thou who has given us so much,
mercifully grant us one thing more—a grateful heart.*

— George Herbert



If you are interested in a memorial or would like further information, please contact the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.



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The Elizabeth Ministry



Motherhood is a beautiful and blessed journey. It's not always an easy one. There was a time when women would rely on family to help them through, but today with grandparents working or miles between families, it might not be as available as it once was.

The Elizabeth Ministry of St. Agnes is a caring group of women supporting other women in our parish. It is built on the foundation of Scripture, looking to Mary and Elizabeth as models of how mothers can support one another in their times of need.

Mothers from St. Agnes have formed a network to help other mothers through prayers, phone calls, cards, providing meals, babysitting and other assistance. People are matched up based on their own experiences. We have moms that have had multiple pregnancies, miscarriages, stillborns, fertility issues and adopted children. We are here to listen and talk about our own experiences and share yours with the hopes of providing comfort and friendship.

For support or more information about The Elizabeth Ministry you can contact:

Marianne English 732-382-5221
Linda McKenna 732-382-3007
Cheryl Vargas 732-381-3822
(Or call St. Agnes Rectory at
732-388-7852)



St. Agnes' 6th Annual Golf Outing

*Monday, September 26, 2005
Echo Lake Country Club
Springfield Ave.,
Westfield, N.J.*



Schedule

*10:00 a.m. Registration and Brunch
12:00 PM Shotgun Start
5:00 PM Reception
6:00 PM Prize Announcement
Exciting Prizes - Raffles - 50/50
Silent Auction*

For more information or to obtain a brochure, please call the Rectory at 732-388-7852

Proceeds to help support parish and school expansion.



Coming Soon!!!

St. Agnes School Tricky Tray

Thursday, October 6th, 7:00 p.m.

The Gran Centurions

Tickets go on sale in August

Check the bulletin for information

Now accepting donations

(baskets or monetary)

Mark all donations St. Agnes School Tricky Tray

Drop off at the Rectory

For more information please contact:

Maria O'Connor (732) 882-1893



ST. AGNES SCHOOL EXTENDED CARE AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



Volunteering is a wonderful way to share your time and skills with others. St. Agnes School is seeking volunteer counselors for its newly structured Extended Care and Enrichment Program (aftercare program). Please consider joining our dedicated staff of counselors in September. Alumni welcomed. For more information, please contact Lance Steinberg @ (732) 381-8964 or Gina Behrend @ (732) 340-9621. Thank you.

Baptisms

We wish to **WELCOME** the following who have entered into the faith community through the sacrament of Baptism:

DANIEL RICHARD CARLUCCI
Son of Richard & Marie

SAMANTHA MARIE DREHER
Daughter of Gregory and Amy

JAKE ROBERT TALARICO
Son of Ralph and Kristen

Raffle to Benefit St. Joseph's in Elizabeth

St. Joseph Social Service Center will conduct its annual raffle on October 20, 2005, at the Westwood in Garwood. Raffle books are now available (\$1.00 per chance - ten in a book). Dinner tickets are also available at \$30 each. Contact Maureen at St. Joseph's at 908-354-5456 or Marilyn at St. Helen's at 908-233-8757. Thank you for your support!



Right of Christian Initiation of Adults

- *Is the Lord calling you to a closer relationship to Him?*
- *Are you interested in formally joining the Catholic faith?*
- *Do you have questions about what it means to be a Catholic?*
- *Do you know anyone who would like to be a Catholic?*
- *Are you presently an adult Catholic who has not received Eucharist or Confirmation?*

If you answered "YES" to any of these, the RCIA process is for you.

New sessions are starting very soon.

Please call St. Agnes Rectory at (732) 388-2560 for further information.

Plan on attending the inquiry session on August 10th at 7:30 in the Rectory. An additional inquiry session will take place in September.



ST. AGNES SCHOOL PRE-K OPENINGS 2005-2006

Limited openings in our
Pre-K 4-Year Old Program
(Must be 4 years old by October 1st)

**If you are interested, please call
732-381-0850.**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2005**

5:30 James J. Williams - Betty & Dom Massarelli

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2005

7:30 Jack Ferriera - Ann Quinn

9:00 Matthew C. Helminski - Anne Marie Leone

10:30 People of the Parish

12:00 Margarete Flynn - Daniel Flynn

MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2005**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

7:00 All Souls in Purgatory

9:00 Vito & Maria Sue Jannicelli - Joseph & Adele
Castellano**TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2005**

7:00 Maria Antoinetta Duselli - Lucy & Peter Koscica

9:00 Sue Villani - Family

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2005

7:00 Robin Helminski - Dom & Karen Segro

9:00 Sadie Lagattuta - Mary Federico

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2005

7:00 John O'Sullivan - The Waldrop Family

9:00 Sarah Lombino - Rose Brinker & Jeanne Danatzko

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2005

7:00 Carol Smeaton - Jim & Judy Heller

9:00 Helen Schildbach - Grandchildren

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 20058:30 Memorial Mass - Frank J. Fasano, Dina Talamo,
Edward Plescia

5:30 Pat Castellano - Mom & Dad

TUESDAY AUGUST 16

7:00 PM CCD Teachers' Mtg., Grades K-4 - Gym

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17

7:00 PM CCD Teachers' Mtg., Grades 5-8 - Gym

THURSDAY AUGUST 18

10:00 AM CCD Blue Box Day - Gym

SATURDAY AUGUST 20

8:30 AM Memorial Mass

Altar & Rosary Society

TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Elaine Mastropasqua during the week of August 14th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Pat Castellano during the week of August 14th at the request of Mom and Dad.



ALTAR FLOWERS that decorate our sanctuary this weekend are in memory of Pat Castellano at the request of Mom and Dad.



BREAD & WINE will be offered in memory of Pat Castellano at the request of Mom and Dad.

MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED



A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE
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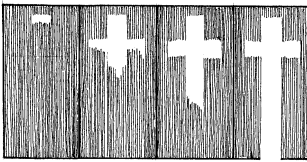
Please note. . . There is no vigil mass for Assumption and no evening mass on August 15th since it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

PLEASE PRAY FOR***Those Who Have Died***

May They Rest in Peace

Those Who Are Sick

Aileen Sasala, Florence Iasello, Mary Zelanko, George Heindel, Joe & Irene Margeton, Ann & Michael Dudek, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Anna Manigold, Ann Lesko, Irene Sisko, Noel Stevenson, Leilla DiLeone, Michael Denora, Mary Morelli, Anthony Szablowski, Robert Szabo Jr., Louise Venezio, Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Wayne Tribble, Linda Ruth, Vincent Flanagan, Barbara Rygiel, Anna Reichenstein, Gene Andre, Henry Latch, Thaddeus Zbikowski Sr., Vickie Tomasco, Mary Marrin, Maria Conforti, Mary Scott, Alice Triano, Barbara Guinta, Alice Bartlomiejczyk, Ronald Francisco, John Cardoso, George Stanka, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Barbara Steinberg, Hank Kaczka, Edward Alfano, Robert McKeon, Michael Newman, Andre Kovacs, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Cecelia Smentkowski, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Richard Palumbo



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Atlantic City Bus Trip

WHEN: August 18, 2005

TO: Caesar's

TIME: 11:30 AM Coffee & Buns

LEAVE: 12:30 PM From Gran Centurions
Parking Lot. Please park in back of lot.

COST: \$22.00

For reservations call:

Tony 388-2315

Joe 381-3395

**WE WILL BE RUNNING 2 BUSES.
PLEASE CALL EARLY TO RESERVE
A SEAT. BRING A FRIEND.**

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 14, 2005**

Observe what is right, do what is just;
for my salvation is about to come,
my justice, about to be revealed.

– *Isaiah 56:1*