

Based on Today's Second Reading, 1 Peter 2:20b-25

Doing the right thing does not always feel good. You might take a stand for what you believe. You might go out of your way to assist someone in need. But even in these circumstances, something can still go wrong. Others do not appreciate your sacrifice. You suffer ridicule. You experience loss. You know it is right to do good, but unfairly you do not always feel good.

The first letter of Peter says, "If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called."

The good we do is already a sign of our progress in the spiritual life, even if it does not feel that way. In the past, we may have avoided what is good if it seemed to threaten peace. We might have kept quiet about injustice in the workplace, the offenses of a neighbor, or the inappropriateness of derisive humor. Our silence gave consent. We were like sheep going astray.

But in Christ we know better. We do what is right even if it is unpopular. We speak up for the oppressed. We take time to defend human rights. We act with boldness we did not know before. We obtain this strength for doing good from the Shepherd of sheep, who guides and protects the flock.

Faith in Christ brings comfort and courage. It makes us feel loved, confident, and strong to suffer for doing what is good, even when it is unpopular.

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And based on today's Gospel, John 10:1-10

Reflection In order to call us back, the Shepherd is always like an open door. We have encountered many types of doors in our lives. There are swinging doors, locked doors, revolving doors, trap doors, fun-house doors, open doors, and sliding doors to name just a few. For the most part we go through doors every day without much thought. Jesus creates the door of peace for us. We don't have those foreboding feelings of apprehension. It's not like the fun house – there's no distortion in what Jesus promises us. Jesus is not a revolving door – he always opens a straight path for us. We will find a safe pasture in the life the Shepherd has won for us.

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The shepherd calls
his own sheep by name

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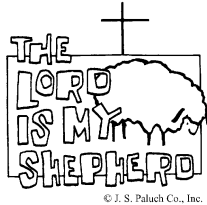
**STEWARDSHIP
&
FAITH**
*Time, Talent, Treasure.
Putting God First?*

Jesus says, "I came that they may have life, and have it to the full." Good stewards are grateful for the gift of life and joyfully share their abundance with others.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$11,939.00.**
Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18
 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
 Wednesday: Acts 12:24 -- 13:5a; Jn 12:44-50
 Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20
 Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14
 Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33; 1 Pt 2:4-9;
 Jn 14:1-12

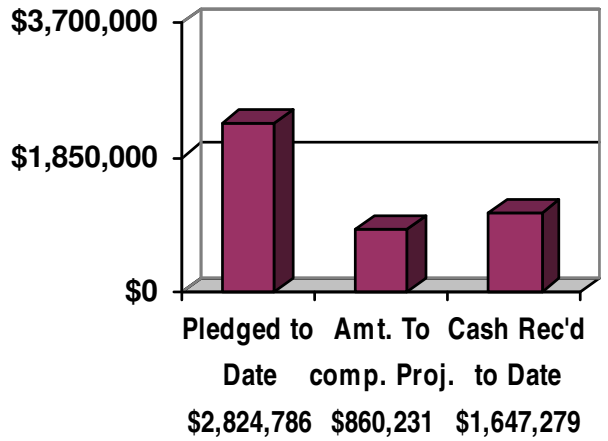


Lana's
fine dining
Hyatt Hills Complex
1300 Ravitan Road, Clark
732-669-9024



Present this coupon while dining at Lana's Restaurant on any Tuesday or Wednesday during April and May (2005), and the establishment will donate 20% of your food bill (excluding alcohol) to the St. Agnes Church building fund. Please share the news with family, friends and neighbors. Thank you.

■ Campaign Progress - Phase I



Total Cost of Project: \$3,685,017

Please help us reach our goal by making a pledge today. Pledge forms can be obtained in church or call the Rectory at 732-388-7852.

Phase I includes:

- Expansion and renovation of church;
- Expansion of school;
- Parish meeting center;
- Capital maintenance projects.



Garwood Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

The Garwood Knights of Columbus will have a Blood Drive on Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at their council hall, 37 South Avenue, Garwood (opposite Path Mark). Parking is available behind the building off Willow Ave. For information, please call the Knights at (908) 789-9809 after 4:00 p.m., or The Blood Center of New Jersey at (973) 676-4700, or visit their website at www.bloodnj.org. Thank you.

GREAT IDEA FOR



To honor your mother (living or deceased) this **Mother's Day**, Catholic Charities is offering a meaningful gift. For a minimum donation of \$5, the Emergency Food and Nutrition Network will send your mom or the person you designate a card noting your donation to help feed the hungry of the Archdiocese! Monies received will be used ONLY for the purchase of emergency food supplies for 75 pantries in Essex, Hudson, Union, and Bergen counties. Mail your donation to:

EFNN, Catholic Charities
37 Evergreen Place
East Orange, NJ 07018
or call (973) 266-7941

Please Print:

My Name: _____
Address: _____ **Zip:** _____
Name to Enroll: _____
Living **Deceased**
Telephone No.: _____
Send to: _____
Street: _____ **City:** _____
Sign Card FROM: _____

Your mom will be so proud of you for recognizing her caring!!



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St. Agnes Rosary Society Spring



Luncheon

Fashions by: Dress Barn

Date: Sunday, April 24th
Time: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: Gran Centurions
Amount: \$23 Per Person

For ticket information call
Rose at 732-574-0023 or
the Rectory at 732-388-7852

Tickets available until April 18th
(Tables of 8-10 can be reserved)

Respect Life News: The 1973 Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, was the event that legalized abortion in the United States. Besides permitting the destruction of innocent life, this decision can also be used as a test case for senators when they are making decisions about confirming judicial nominees for work in our federal court system. In short, if a nominee doesn't support Roe v. Wade (and a pro-choice agenda) he or she would not be confirmed for the job. It is for this reason that the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment and the Secretariat for Pro-life Activities, of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, are sponsoring a Postcard Signing focusing on the U.S. Senate. The purpose of the Postcards is to encourage our Senators, not to require support of Roe v. Wade in determining a nominee's fitness for judicial office.

The postcards are available at the doors of the church. All parishioners are encouraged to take a postcard home with you, fill it out and mail it with proper postage. It is in making our voices heard that our system of government can work on behalf of the dignity of all human life.

And as always pray for the protection of innocent, and for all who are affected by abortion.





Campus Ministry Third Annual Golf Outing

Catholic Campus Ministry of the Archdiocese of Newark is holding its third annual Golf Outing on Monday, June 27, 2005 at the Cedar Hill Golf & Country Club in Livingston, New Jersey. The cost per golfer is \$300 or \$1,200 per foursome. Your contribution covers brunch, green fees, carts, cocktails, dinner and fabulous prizes! All proceeds from this event are distributed to our campus ministries at Bloomfield College, Fairleigh Dickinson University/Teaneck, Kean University, Montclair State University, New Jersey City University, NJIT, Ramapo College, Rutgers-Newark, Stevens Institute of Technology, Union County College, and University of Medicine & Dentistry of N.J. Join us and enjoy a great day of golf! There are still sponsorship opportunities available.

If you would like to promote your business or want more information about our outing, please contact Jennifer Tunnicliffe at (973) 642-1613 or via email at newmancenter@optonline.net. Help us continue serving the over 36,000 Catholic students at the public & private colleges and universities within our Archdiocese.

The Year of the Eucharist October 2004 - October 2005

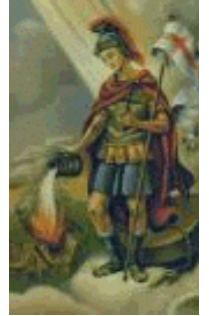
“Abide in me and I in you.” – Jn 15:4

When the disciples on the way to Emmaus asked Jesus to stay “with” them, he responded by giving them a much greater gift: through the Sacrament of the Eucharist he found a way to stay “in” them. Receiving the Eucharist means entering into a profound communion with Jesus. “Abide in me, and I in you” (Jn 15:4). This relationship of profound and mutual “abiding” enables us to have a certain foretaste of heaven on earth. Is this not the greatest of human yearnings? Is this not what God had in mind when he brought about in history his plan of salvation? God has placed in human hearts a “hunger” for his word (cf. Am 8:00), a hunger which will be satisfied only by full union with him. Eucharistic communion was given so that we might be “sated” with God here on earth, in expectation of our complete fulfillment in heaven.

–Pope John Paul II

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Archbishop Myers will celebrate the annual Saint Florian Mass, honoring all fire service personnel, at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Basilica on Sunday, April 24th at 3:00 p.m. (all are to be seated by 2:45 p.m. for the Presentation of Colors and the National Anthem). Both active and retired firefighters and their families are invited to attend the Mass.



Archbishop Myers will celebrate the Annual Mass for EMS Workers at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Basilica on Sunday, April 24th at 12:00 noon (all are to be seated by 11:45 a.m. for the procession). Monsignor Richard Arnholts will give the homily. All active and retired EMS workers and their families are invited to attend the Mass.



ST. AGNES SCHOOL PRE-K OPENINGS 2005-2006

Openings are still available in our
Three half day 4-Year Old Program
Monday - Wednesday - Friday
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(Must be 4 years old by October 1st)

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



*The Women's Prayer Group
will meet Tuesday, April 19th
at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.
We will dedicate an hour of
prayer in memory of Pope
John Paul II. All women of the parish are welcome
to attend.*



SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2005

5:30 Antoinette Visconti - Mr. & Mrs. Mark Davey & Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2005

7:30 People of the Parish
 9:00 Antoinette Visconti - Roseann & Frederick Testa
 10:30 George Volturo - Rose Volturo
 12:00 George J. Christensen, Jr. - Family

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005

7:00 Joseph Szmarda - Family
 9:00 Dominick Piizzi - Diane & Jim Molloy

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2005

7:00 Mauro Pires - Parents & Brother
 9:00 Philip J. Cocco, Jr. - Foster Family

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2005

7:00 George Kappler - John & Sharyn Petillo
 9:00 Frances Samperi - Frank Fuzy III

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005

7:00 Mr. & Mrs. Lamatino - Family
 9:00 Angelina Julia Palumbo - Mr. & Mrs. Michael Palumbo

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2005

7:00 Gabriel Noto - Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Thek
 9:00 Mike Elko - Betty Comer

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2005

8:30 Memorial Mass - Valerie Geiger, Joseph Sasala, Byron Swackhamer, Lil Salter, Susan Hummel
 5:30 John & Lucia Zabolla - Daughter, Mary Turi

SUNDAY APRIL 17

MAINTENANCE

9:00 AM Religious Education
 10:30 AM Mass with Children's Choir
 1:00 PM Boardwalk Weekend
 7:00 PM No CYO

MONDAY APRIL 18

3:30 PM Religious Education
 7:00 PM Religious Education
 7:00 PM Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge
 7:00 PM Sandwiches - Group II

TUESDAY APRIL 19

7:00 PM Religious Education
 7:00 PM Women's Prayer Group - Chapel

WEDNESDAY APRIL 20

3:30 PM First Eucharist Rehearsal - Church
 7:30 PM RCIA - Sacristy

THURSDAY APRIL 21

11:30 AM Holy Name A/C
 3:30 PM First Eucharist Rehearsal - Church
 3:30 PM Choir Party
 7:30 PM Adult Choir
 7:30 PM Bereavement

FRIDAY APRIL 22

3:30 PM First Eucharist Rehearsal - Church

SATURDAY APRIL 23

CATHOLIC HOME MISSION COLLECTION

8:30 AM Memorial Mass
 5:30 PM First Eucharist Celebration with Bell Choir



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Betty Flanagan during the week of April 17th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Mauro Pires during the week of April 17th at the request of the Family.



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

Mary M. Grenevicki, Joan B. Ladines,
Susan Hummel, Armando "Ace" Carmello

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 Venezia, Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Wayne Tribble, Linda Ruth, Vincent Flanagan, Barbara & Leon Rygiel, Anna Reichenstein, Gene Andre, Henry Latch, Nora Coletta, Thaddeus Zbikowski Sr., John Frantantoni, Vickie Tomasco, Mary Marrin, Maria Conforti, Mary Scott, Alice Triano, Barbara Guinta, Alice Bartlomiejczyk, Ronald Francisco, John Cardoso, George Stanka, Earl Miller



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Atlantic City Bus Trip

WHEN: April 21, 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.**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 17, 2005

He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross,
so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.

- 1 Peter 2:24a