

From the Pastor

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Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and best wishes during this holy time of year. I love Easter because the resurrection of Jesus transformed the world for all eternity. That's not to say that the world is now perfect, nor does it promise us a cross free life. On the contrary, Jesus' rising from the dead provides us with hope and grace to pick up our daily crosses, to sacrifice for a greater good, and to find our consolation in God alone. The resurrection assures us that there is no power on this planet that can separate us from the love of God. Those who faithfully follow Christ experience serenity even in the midst of chaos. With resurrection faith we can walk through the fires of hell and back.

As pastor, I want to welcome home parishioners who do not worship with us on a regular basis, but are attending Mass this Easter. Know that you are missed throughout the year. As Catholics we believe that a worshipping community forms the Body of Christ, His Church. When you are absent, we are incomplete and weakened as a church. There are many reasons why people become lackadaisical. Laziness is one factor that can develop into a bad habit. Remember, bad habits can be turned into good habits by getting back on track and coming to church. Some parishioners may have been hurt by the way priests or church staff members treated them. We too are human and are in need of your forgiveness. Please come home and do not let anger or bitterness prevent you from celebrating your faith. Others claim that church is boring. If we are looking to be entertained we may be disappointed, but if we bring our "whole self" and participate, we might be pleasantly surprised. Please consider coming home not only for the holidays but throughout the year as well.

As you look around the grounds, exciting things are happening here at St. Agnes. The parking lot has been reduced slightly because of our building project. I apologize for this temporary inconvenience. In June we will begin the church expansion and renovation. Mass will then be celebrated in the gymnasium until November. The school expansion and creation of parish meeting rooms is presently underway and will take roughly one year to complete. Our capital campaign has been a success, but actual project costs are higher than our preliminary estimate. We need to raise an additional \$850,000. All parishioners are being asked to make a financial pledge to be paid over the next three years. Can you please help us? All donations are genuinely appreciated. Please see information in this bulletin regarding memorial possibilities. Thank you.

May the joy of Easter bring you into full communion with the church. And may you and your loved ones experience the consolation of resurrection faith and hope.

Fr. Jim
Pastor

Lana's

fine dining
Hyatt Hills Complex
1300 Raritan 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.

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

Very early in the morning after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with precious oils. The reward of this good and conscientious steward was to be the first to know that Jesus had been raised from the dead! Alleluia!

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$14,984.00.**
Thank you.

Thank You

WALTER J. JOHNSON FUNERAL HOME
On behalf of St. Agnes Parish Community, we would like to thank Steven and Lynette Perlmutter from Walter J. Johnson Funeral Home for their donation which will pay for the new 12 foot circular stained glass window which will enhance our newly renovated worship space.

The following are some ways that we hope to secure additional project funds:

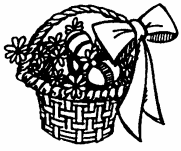
1. Seek the support from all parishioners who have not yet pledged.
2. Solicit the support of one-time donors to consider making an additional donation.
3. Some parishioners have voluntarily increased their original pledge amount. Others may be willing to do the same.
4. Write to Foundations for grant funds. Any leads would be appreciated.
5. 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.

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

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

<i>Church Organ</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
<i>Tabernacle & Marble Base</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>Marble Baptismal Font</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>Marble Pulpit</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>School Classroom</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>Parish Multi-Purpose Room</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
<i>Parish Conference Room</i>	<i>\$75,000</i>
<i>Parish Meeting Room</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>

St. Agnes Rosary Society Spring



EASTER EGG HUNT

For several years now the young people of the parish have enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt. This year the hunt will be held on the **SATURDAY** after **EASTER, APRIL 2nd**, at 11:00 AM weather permitting. There are two prizes available, in addition the wonderful various plastic eggs filled with goodies and pennies.

Requirement to be part of the Easter Egg Hunt: submit half dozen or one dozen colored **PLASTIC** eggs at the rectory entrance by Friday, April 1st.



ST. AGNES SPRING BOARDWALK 2005

TAXES ARE DONE!!!

Now it's time for fun!

St. Agnes Boardwalk has just begun!
Popcorn, games & prizes to be won!
Free tattoos, food & cookies too!
Fun for all ages, hope to see you!

April 15th - 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
April 16th - 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
April 17th - 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Food specials all weekend!!
Volunteers always welcome.
Please call Carol Bottitta at
732-388-5595

A FUN-FILLED WEEKEND

FREE ADMISSION



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)

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

If you or someone you know are experiencing pain and loss as a result of the death of a loved one, we would like to extend an invitation to you. With faith in Christ, we seek to listen, to share feelings, to support one another and restore hope.

St. Agnes Bereavement Support Group Meeting
Beginning Thursday, April 7th, for
six consecutive Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
For more information please call
the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.



**PLEASE HELP US TO
FEED THE HUNGRY**



"In this richest of nations, it is difficult to grasp that millions of Americans experience hunger every day."

These are the words of Alan Shawn Feinstein, a philanthropist dedicated to fighting hunger in the United States. He has established the Feinstein Foundation in Rhode Island for this purpose. For the past six years, Mr. Feinstein has donated one million dollars a year to non-profit agencies throughout the country that are dealing with hunger issues.

Saint Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth is one of the many agencies that Mr. Feinstein has donated to throughout the years and will continue to do so this year with your kind assistance. Any donation received by the Saint Joseph Center between the period March 1st and April 30th will be matched/increased by the Feinstein Foundation according to the number of agencies participating and the amount that each raises.

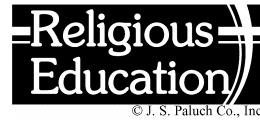
Checks should be made out to:
Saint Joseph Service Center
They should be mailed to:
Sister Jacinta Fernandes
Saint Joseph Social Service Center
118 Division Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07201

"Thank you for sharing my heart, and the hope that - someday - no one will ever go hungry."

Alan Shawn Feinstein

Sister Fernandes sends her "loving gratitude and prayers" to all who can help with this worthy cause.

For additional information, please contact Dee Memmer at 732-381-8956. Thank you.



Registration for New Students

Registration for new students (including Kindergarten) will begin **Monday, March 28th** and will conclude **Thursday, April 14th**. You may register anytime between **9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, or 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the Religious Education Office in the Rectory (the office is closed on Fridays)**. Evening registration will take place in the School Office April 4th and April 5th, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please try to register early; classes reach their quota rapidly. You must bring a copy of your child's **baptismal certificate**. **Registration fee is \$100.00 per child.**

IMPORTANT RE-REGISTRATION INFORMATION!!

Family re-registration fees are as follows:

First child - \$100

Second and third children - \$50

Fees will not exceed \$200 per family.

If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at (732) 388-2560.



ST.

AGNES



SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2005

RAIN OR SHINE

8:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

**ALL CLOTHES MUST BE BAGGED OR BOXED.
NO HANGERS PLEASE.**

**ITEMS - CLOTHES, SHOES, HATS, BELTS,
POCKETBOOKS, STUFFED ANIMALS, ALL
HOUSEHOLD LINENS, BLANKETS, ETC.**

**Any questions please call Adele
at 732-382-8332**



<p><u>SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2005</u> 8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass - No Intentions</p> <p><u>SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2005 - EASTER</u> 7:30 Casey & Robert Aklonis - Jean & Lorraine 9:00 Pauline Tavormina - Bell & Tavormina Families 10:30 Rose Mangiavillano - Mr. & Mrs. Michael Palumbo 12:00 People of the Parish</p> <p><u>MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2005</u> 7:00 Patrick & Cecilia Cosgrove - Cecilia Cosgrove 9:00 George J. Christensen, Jr. - Faith, George, Gerard Marylou</p> <p><u>TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2005</u> 7:00 Anna Korytko - Vargas Family 9:00 Margaret Williams - Betty & Dom Massarelli</p> <p><u>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2005</u> 7:00 George & Betty Capozzi - Family 9:00 Mike Elko - Joe & Marian Heelan</p> <p><u>THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2005</u> 7:00 James Curry - The Kraus Family 9:00 Ellen Long Gross - Family</p> <p><u>FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2005</u> 7:00 John Bielecki, Sr. - Mr. & Mrs. John Bielecki, Jr. 9:00 Elizabeth & George Vanner - Anne Zambolla</p> <p><u>SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2005</u> 8:30 Memorial Mass - Elizabeth Garofalo, Crescenza Toto, Marion Hughes, George Nucera, Benedetto J. Mirto, Megan Beck, Ruth Bielecki, Helen Paulauskas, Joseph A. Lefano, Sr. 5:30 Mike Elko - Elko Family</p>

<p>SUNDAY MARCH 27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EASTER</p> <p>9:00 AM No Religious Education</p> <p>12:00 Noon Mass with Bell Choir</p>
<p>MONDAY MARCH 28</p> <p>3:30 PM No Religious Education 7:00 PM No Religious Education</p>
<p>TUESDAY MARCH 29</p> <p>7:00 PM No Religious Education</p>
<p>SATURDAY APRIL 2</p> <p>8:00 AM Clothing Drive 8:30 AM Mass - Marian 11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt</p>
<p>SUNDAY APRIL 3</p> <p>9:00 AM No Religious Education 1:30 PM Baptism 7:00 PM CYO</p>



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Angie Plesh during the week of March 27th.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday:	Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday:	Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday:	Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35
Thursday:	Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48
Friday:	Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14
Saturday:	Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15
Sunday:	Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of George J. Christensen, Jr. during the week of March 27th at the request of Alexa, Grace, Beth, Eric & Gabriel.

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

Robert D'Urso

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, Anne Marie Ricci, Michael Denora, Mary Morelli, Anthony Szablowski, Robert Szabo Jr., Louise Venezio, 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, Tracy Duliban, Mary Marrin, Maria Conforti, Mary Scott, Alice Triano, Barbara Guinta, Alice Bartlomiejczyk, Ronald Francisco

**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.**

**Easter Sunday
March 27, 2005**

When Christ your life appears,
then you too will appear with him in glory.

– *Colossians 3:4*