

From the Pastor

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Dear Parishioners,

During this time of year we are invited to show appreciation to our mothers and to pray for those who have passed from this world to the next. The relational and spiritual connection between mother and child cannot be compared to any other relationship. This intimacy is so profound that I feel inadequate trying to describe it as a male. Only mothers really know about the love, sweat and tears that are the price for this special vocation. Only mothers know what it is like to be used by God as a vehicle for life. Only mothers know sacrifice on a level that makes them receptive by nature to God's revelation and Divine Mercy. Mothers may not always be perfect, but you are the closest reflection of God's unconditional love for the family of humankind. Thank you.

The month of May is also a special time in the church for increased devotion to our Blessed Mother. Mary was chosen among women by God to give birth to His Son, Jesus. All mothers (and everyone) would benefit greatly by drawing closer to the Mother of God. In Mary, we have someone who knows the joys and trials of parenting. In Mary, we have a role model for faithfulness and discipleship. Through Mary, we have an intercessor that prays on our behalf. As our devotion to Mary grows stronger, our relationship with her Son becomes more intimate and life giving.

Happy Mother's Day!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Jim
Pastor



MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

*Loving God,
as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children,
so you watch over your Church.
Bless these women,
that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honor them always
with a spirit of profound respect.*

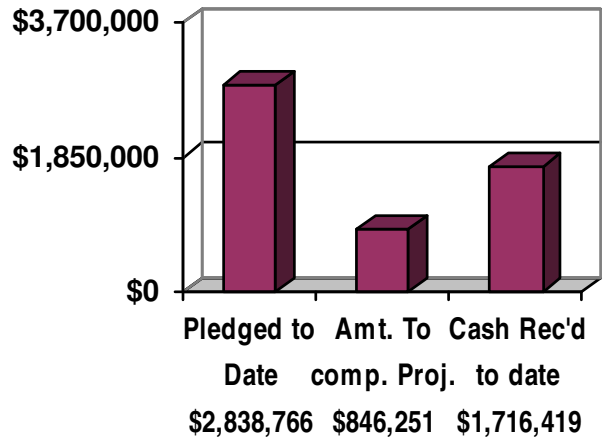


STEWARDSHIP
&
FAITH
Time, Talent, Treasure.
Putting God First?

In today's Gospel, Jesus prays, "I have given You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do." Good stewards follow His example by using their time and talents for the glory of God.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
 last week was **\$12,475.00.**
 Thank you.

■ Campaign Progress - Phase I



READINGS FOR THE WEEK



- Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a
- Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26
- Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
- Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
 Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

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

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
- Marble Baptismal Font 50,000
- Marble Pulpit 50,000
- School Classroom 50,000
- Parish Multi-Purpose Room 100,000
- Parish Conference Room 75,000
- Parish Meeting Room 50,000

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

Lana's

fine dining

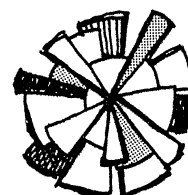
Hyatt Hills Complex

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.



Give Glory to Christ

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ELIZABETH MINISTRY NEWS

Please sign our Elizabeth Ministry Prayer Book. Located at the front of the church by the Statue of the Blessed Mother.



You and your family will be prayed for daily by our Elizabeth Ministers.

Sign if you or a family member is:

- * expecting a child through pregnancy or adoption
- * hoping to become pregnant
- * have experienced a pregnancy loss or infant loss

An Elizabeth Minister may contact you personally.



Holy Hour and



The bi-monthly Holy Hour for Life, including Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, will be celebrated for the churches in our deanery on Thursday, May 19th, at 7:30 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Scotch Plains. Come for an hour of prayer to help atone for the millions who are killed each year by abortion, for the elderly and terminally ill and pray that our country will return to reverencing and protecting all human life.

SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB



The next meeting of the Spiritual Book Club will be Monday, May 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Sacristy. If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please call Marian Heelan at 732-499-0195. The book of discussion will be Hear and Now by Henri Nouwen.

Baptisms

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

JOSEPH JOHN BARTOLO
Son of Joseph and Maria

HENRY THOMAS BLEWITT
Son of Patrick and Elizabeth

JULIANA LEIGH CARVALHO
Daughter of Antonio & Maria-Li

JASON THOMAS GREENBUSH
Son of Michael & Christine

MICHELLE ANN ELICHKO
Daughter of Michael & Genevieve

MELISSA ANN MITJANS
Daughter of Edward & Simone

ANDREW JOHN TRECOTT
Son of Glen & Michelle

THOMAS MATTHEW WOODS
Son of Matthew & Michelle



The next meeting of the Holy Name Society will be held on Tuesday, May 10th. A film presentation about Archbishop Fulton Sheen will be shown. Pizza and refreshments will be served. All male members of the parish are invited.





The month of May is, of course, the Month of Mary, and our parish reflects our love for the Blessed Mother in a special way this month. In addition to our perpetual novena and monthly rosary, many of our various committees are planning events that center around our parish's

devotion to Our Lady. In particular, I would like to highlight an event sponsored by our Rosary Society and some Portuguese members of our community. On Friday, May 13th we will honor our Blessed Mother under the title of Our Lady of Fatima. May 13, 1917 marks the date when our Blessed Mother appeared in the small village of Fatima, encouraging a devotion to her through the immaculate heart. All are invited to gather in the church to pray the rosary, crown our Blessed Mother's statue, and to hear a reflection on Our Lady Fatima. May we all pray for peace, as Mary guides and intercedes for us.

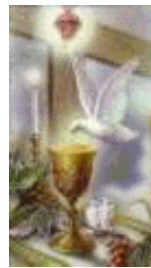
Send a City Child to Camp

The Eddie Gray Camp Fund is seeking funds to send inner city children to Summer Camp. Some camps are able to give us discounted prices. We have to pay at least \$75 per child for a 10-day overnight session. Donations of any amount will be gladly accepted for this purpose. Children will be selected through St. Joseph Social Service Center, the Elizabethport Presbyterian Center and other non-profit agencies in Elizabeth. Please make checks payable to the **Eddie Gray Camp Fund**, and mail them to:

Sister Jacinta Fernandes O.S.B.
812 Rebecca Place
Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Thank you for providing a healthy and happy experience for our children. We are grateful for all your support now, and in the past.

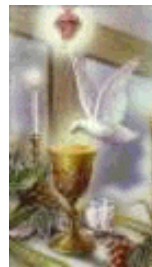
Please save the following dates:



**50th Anniversary Mass for
 Father Bill Driscoll**

**Sunday, 12 Noon Mass
 May 22, 2005**

**Hot food reception afterwards
 in gym**



**10th Anniversary Mass for
 Father John Chadwick**

**Friday, 7 p.m. Mass
 May 27, 2005**

Lite reception afterwards in gym

St. Mark's Social Club for Unmarried Mature Adults

Come and take this opportunity to meet new friends and explore new places on Friday, May 20th, 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Church, 287 Hamilton St., Rahway, in the downstairs church hall.

We are fortunate to have the lovely and interesting Police Officer Dawn Rodger of the Rahway Police Department to give us a lecture at this meeting on general safety and identity theft. She invites you to bring questions.

Refreshments will be served and a small donation of \$3.00 is requested. For further information, please call Nina at 732-381-1298.





SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2005

5:30 Gerard Corrado - Rita Ann Corrado

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2005

7:30 Helene Vale - Vale Family

9:00 Pauline Tavormina - Bell & Tavormina Families

10:30 Helen Parrillo & Eleanor Palmquist - Larry & Sandy Palmquist

12:00 People of the Parish

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005

7:00 John DeFilippo - Mr. & Mrs. Edward Levitan & Sons

9:00 Antoinette Canzonieri - Mary Bove

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2005

7:00 Ada Volpe - Anita & John Christiano

9:00 Paul & Alice Hart - Hart Family

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2005

7:00 James Murphy - Murphy Family

9:00 Flora Visconti - Mr. & Mrs. George Visconti

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2005

7:00 Dr. Victor Garra - Sister

9:00 Siclari Family - Rose & Ed Zukowski

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2005

7:00 Valentino Scipioni, Sr. - Son, Valentino

9:00 Helen McSorley - James McSorley

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2005

8:30 Memorial Mass - George Nucera, Madison Guillen, Elizabeth Cordos

5:30 People of the Parish

SUNDAY

MAY 8

MOTHERS' DAY

10:30 PM Mass - May Crowning

MONDAY

MAY 9

7:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting - Sacristy

7:30 PM Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge

TUESDAY

MAY 10

7:30 PM Holy Name Society

WEDNESDAY

MAY 11

4:30 PM Brownies Meeting - Kindergarten

THURSDAY

MAY 12

FEAST OF ST. LUCY FILIPPINI

7:30 PM Adult Choir

7:30 PM HSA Executive Board Meeting

7:30 PM Bereavement

FRIDAY

MAY 13

9:00 AM School May Crowning K-8

7:00 PM Devotion of the Rosary
Our Lady of Fatima

SATURDAY

MAY 14

**COMMUNICATING GOD'S WORD
COLLECTION**

SUNDAY

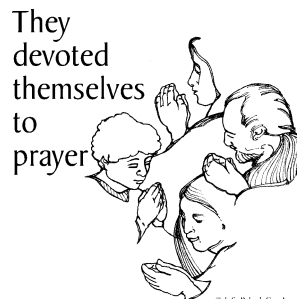
MAY 15

**COMMUNICATING GOD'S WORD
COLLECTION**

12 Noon CYO Trip to Great Adventure



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Peggy Phelan during the week of May 8th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Pauline and Carmela Tavormina and Madeline Ciorra during the week of May 8th at the request of the Bell Family.

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

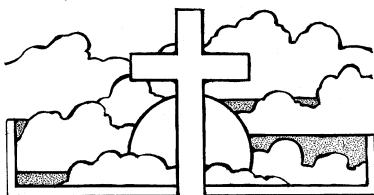
Joanne LaGuardia, Alice Kessler

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 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, Margaret Shea, Barbara Steinberg

Atlantic City Bus Trip**WHEN: May 19, 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.**



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**Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 8, 2005**

They have kept your word.

– *John 17:6b*