



SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the St. Thomas Room. The purpose of the Book Club is to provide an awareness of the wide range of books that are available and to provide an opportunity for faith sharing based on the current book.

The Book Club's first meeting of the year will meet on September 8th to discuss Megan McKenna's *And Morning Came*. This book compares the four Gospel accounts of the Resurrection and considers its implications for our lives today.

For more information about Megan McKenna or her books check her website: www.meganmckenna.org.

For more information about the Book Club, or if you have books you would like to have discussed, please call Grace Bradley at (732) 388-3754.

Christian Foundations for Ministry Program

*an adult formation and education program
of the Archdiocese of Newark that strives
to promote the call of all the baptized to
participate in the mission and ministry of Jesus*

Saint Agnes Parish is one of the designated sites for the CFM Archdiocesan three-year program. Courses in Old and New Testament, Sacraments, Morality and Liturgy will prepare individuals for ministry in the parish and diocese. Classes will be held on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., September through May in the St. Lucy Filippini Room located on the lower level of the parish center. For further information, please call Sister Margaret at (732) 388-2560.

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

Elijah recognized the voice of God not in the strong and heavy wind, not in the earthquake, and not in the fire, but in a tiny whispering sound. May we find enough quiet in our clamorous world to hear His voice and discern what He is calling us to do and be.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
 last week **\$10,919.00;**
 last year **\$10,674.00.**
 Thank you for your generosity.

TODAY'S READINGS

Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Mt 17:22-27
 Tuesday: Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
 Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Mt 18:15-20
 Thursday: Ez 12:1-12; Mt 18:21 — 19:1
 Friday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2;
 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56
 Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Mt 19:13-15
 Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32;
 Mt 15:21-28

NOTHING TO FEAR

A rabbi was asked why God sends trials and troubles into human lives. "Because God gets lonely for his people" was the reply. There is some resonance with this wisdom in today's Gospel, as Jesus makes his disciples get into a boat without him and goes off alone while they venture into stormy waters. Of course, neither Jews nor Christians believe that the Almighty plays this sort of whimsical game with them, but there is some truth in the statement that we don't turn to God for saving help until we're in a bind. Peter's role today, as it is throughout the New Testament, is to be a sign or to represent each member of the church and the whole church. Our story is the tale told about Peter's faith today. What can bolster our faith is that even when Christ calls us to face bravely the tempests of life, if we are walking through them with our eyes fixed on him in faith, we have nothing to fear. Even when we falter or sink, simply crying "Lord, save me!" is enough to help us know the steady grasp of God's hand. Then, sheltered inside the walls of faith, the storms we endure lose their power over us.

BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF 08/05/08

Total Pledges	\$3,313,534.50
Pledges Collected	\$3,157,705.31
Outstanding Pledges	\$ 155,829.19

Total Building Costs	\$3,830,672.97
Interest on Loan	(+) \$ 19,887.27
Pledges Collected	(-) \$3,157,705.31
Mtge. Reduction Collections	(-) \$ 174,037.00
Funds from Savings	(-) \$ 250,000.00
Remaining Debt	\$ 268,817.93



Elijah Cup Program

Please prayerfully consider taking the Elijah Cup into your home for a week of prayer for vocations. It is an honor and a privilege for the laity to support this ministry. During the month of August, the Elijah Cup will be in the homes of the following parishioners:

- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| August 3 | Dolores Koch |
| August 10 | Murray Family |
| August 17 | McCarthy Family |
| August 24 | Dorothea Mulcahy |
| August 31 | Bob Rasmussen |

Please call the Parish Office at (732) 388-7852. A week that is convenient for you will be assigned. Thank you.



Baptisms

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

BRIANA JOY DREHER
BROOKE LYNN DREHER

Daughters of Gregory and Amy

GLORIA LYNN GARAY

Daughter of Carlos and Tara

NICHOLAS JOHN MACALUSO

Son of Robert and Joanna

LUKE VINCENT LAPORTA

Son of Anthony and Elizabeth

PEYTON ELIZABETH MEDVEDICH

Daughter of Keith and Lisa

ISABELLA RAFOA

Daughter of Joao and Lisa

GIA GRACE SPALTRO

Daughter of Joseph and Debra

BRODY THOMAS GULBIN

Son of Vincent and Lisa



ASSUMPTION

Friday, August 15th is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses for the Holy Day are:

Thursday: 7 PM Vigil

Friday: 7 AM, 9 AM & 7 PM

IMAGE OF GOD

Nature has perfections in order to show that she is the image of God, and defects to show that she is only God's image.

– Blaise Pascal



CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION NEWS YOU'RE LATE!!

If you wish your child to continue in the Catholic Faith Formation Program (CFF), please return the re-registration form that was mailed to you in March. Classes are reaching capacity!! The number of classes, teachers, books and class lists, all need to be in place by August.

Our policy is: All children must be registered and in our system before classes begin. Your child will not be permitted to attend the first day of class, if not pre-registered. He/she will have to wait until the secretary puts them in the system. We ask your cooperation in this matter.

New student registration takes place in the CFF Office located in the school. (Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9 to 4 p.m.)



CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION TEACHERS NEEDED!

FAST ROAD TO HEAVEN!!

Due to the increasing number of students, we need teachers and substitutes. If you are a faith-filled practicing Catholic and willing to give an hour and a half of your time weekly, please call the Catholic Faith Formation Office (732)388-2560 or e-mail us at cff@stagneparish.com. Come with enthusiasm, a love for young people, a sense of humor and patience!



HEALING MASS

A Healing Mass will take place on Wednesday, August 20, at 7:45 p.m. at St. John The Apostle Church, 1805 Penbrook Terrace in Clark/Linden. All who are in need of physical, emotional, relational and spiritual healing are invited to attend. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Individual Eucharistic Blessing and Benediction will be part of the event. Participants are invited to stay for refreshments following Mass. For directions to St. John's, please access www.sjanj.net or call (908) 486-6363.




How Does the Church Help Catholics to Address Political and Social Questions?

What Does the Church Say About Catholic Social Teaching in the Public Square?

A consistent ethic of life should guide all Catholic engagement in political life. This Catholic ethic neither treats all issues as morally equivalent nor reduces Catholic teaching to one or two issues. It anchors the Catholic commitment to defend human life and other human rights, from conception until natural death, in the fundamental obligation to respect the dignity of every human being as a child of God.

Catholic voters should use Catholic teaching to examine candidates' positions on issues and should consider candidates' integrity, philosophy, and performance. It is important for all citizens "to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest" (USCCB, *Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 33). The following themes of Catholic social teaching provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.



**BEREAVEMENT
MINISTRY**

St. Agnes Bereavement Support Group will be held for six consecutive Thursdays beginning on September 25th and ending on October 30th. All sessions will begin at 7:30 PM in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Room (Lower level of Parish Center).

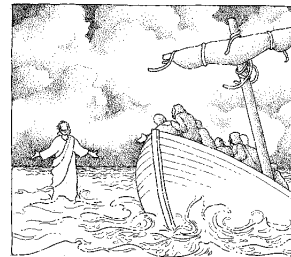
Please call the Parish Office at (732) 388-7852 for more information or to register for the group.



***Rite 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. Inquiry Sessions are held monthly. Our next Inquiry Session will take place on Wednesday, August 13th at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Lucy Room, which is located on the lower level of the parish center. If you need any additional information, please call Sr. Margaret at (732) 388-2560.



It is I; do not be afraid.

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**ST. AGNES
SPIRITUAL BOOK NOOK**



Sundays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - St. Jude Room
(Closed Holiday weekends.)

Have a cup of coffee while you browse and borrow spiritual books, DVD's and audio books. If you are looking for some reading for the pool, beach or your own back yard retreat, come down to the St. Jude Room and see our excellent selection of books.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2008

5:30 Louis Tavormina - Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2008

7:30 People of the Parish

9:00 Frank DeRosa - Colucci Family

10:30 Elisa Aloï - Mr. & Mrs. John O'Connor

12:00 Salvatore Esposito - Colucci Family

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 20087:00 Deceased Members of Bokenko & Morahan
Families - Barbara & Ed Morahan

9:00 Anthony Marchitto - Family

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2008

7:00 Declan Mulcahy - Arlene Lagattuta

9:00 Hugh & Ruth Evans - Kimberly & David Broadwell

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2008

7:00 Bart Zucosky - Introcasa Family

9:00 Michael & Anne Dudek - Mullin-Meade Family

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 20087:00 Norman Slater, William Gesell, Mike Spesak -
Peter & Lucy Koscica

9:00 Anne Flanagan - Grace Driesens

7PM People of the Parish

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2008**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**7:00 Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother Mary -
Mary Garra

9:00 Raymond Morris - Joan & Tony Tese

7PM Ann Brueckner - Lydia Lehner

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 20088:30 Memorial - Frank J. Fasano, Sr., Ralph Caprio,
Carolyn A. Schneider, Otto Fernandez, Lottie
Malfatto

5:30 Pauline & Louis Tavormina - Family

MONDAY**AUGUST 11**

6:00 PM Sandwiches - Team 1D

WEDNESDAY**AUGUST 13**

7:30 PM RCIA Inquiry - St. Lucy Room

SATURDAY**AUGUST 16**

11:00 AM Sports - Gym



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Lucy Koscica during the week of August 10th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Cecilia Smentkowski during the week of August 10th at the request of Joshua and Alek (great grandchildren).



ALTAR BREAD AND WINE for the week of August 10th were donated in memory of Jack Kennedy at the request of Betty & Michael Rainone and Terry & Joe Segreto.

**ST. MICHAEL'S TO CELEBRATE WEEK
TO HONOR MARY**

St. Michael Parish, Cranford, will celebrate a Week to Honor Mary, with special Rosary Services.

Beginning Saturday, August 16 and every evening including Friday, August 22, a special Rosary Service will be conducted at 7 p.m. To show the universality of the Church and its devotion to Mary, on most evenings, the person leading the Rosary will pray in a language other than English with the responses prayed in English. **All services will begin at 7 p.m.** For more information please call the Parish Office at (908) 276-0360.



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

Thomas Wilkinson, Jean Poole (mother of Mary Jean O'Grady),
Michael M. Granatir

Those Who Are Sick

Mary Zelanko, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Joe & Irene Margeton, Irene Sisko, Noel Stevenson, Leilla DiLeone, Mary Morelli, Anthony Szablowski, Robert Szabo Jr., Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Barbara Rygiel, Henry Latch, Vickie Tomasco, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, Lucia DeCristofaro, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Giovanna Tripicchio, Marie Cerone, Daniel Palumbo, Jim MacConchie, Eileen Imbriaco, Josephine Zbikowski, Antonina Manto, Warren Sidney, Kenneth McLoughlin, Elizabeth Kate Chern, William Miskovich, Zackary Infante, Angela Decker, Vincent Flanagan, Helen Kiempista, Carmelina Giacobbe, Marie Farese, Joseph Loria, Rose Gerhardt, Robert & Esther Quinlivan, Mariani Rocco, Dominic Preite, Marge Geist Gais, Jerry Veza, Brenda Vermeal, Angie Plesh, Gabriella Giordano, Mary Marciano, Mary Gianti, Joao Faria, Maria Dietrick, Mark Shipe, Richard Ciccone, Nancy Reuter, Joseph Fabijanczuk, Jennifer Concalves, David Shea, Joey Santillo, Josephine Kane, Sergio Ricciardi, Kevin Keating, Michael Denora, Nicholas Maculuso, Edward Nicholson, Jeanmarie Stewart, Michael Joseph Anderson III, Joseph Santillo, Josephine Pipa, Neil Boyle, Jr., Alice Dowzycki, Janet Papetti



Almighty God, Creator of the earth in which we live, help us today in our search for peaceful ways to avoid war, to eliminate terrorism and tyranny and to establish justice for peoples of all races and faiths. We pray that the billions of peace-loving people of goodwill throughout the nations, will join together in prayer and action to bring love where there is hatred, friendship where there is enmity and justice where there is oppression. May God continue to bless and watch over our men and women who make ultimate sacrifices for our freedom and democracy. Amen



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Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 10, 2008

Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

– Psalm 85:12