

From the Pastor



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Dear Parishioners,

The U.S. Catholic Bishops agreed to extend the yearly national collection for retired religious until 2017. The Religious Retirement Fund collection has been considered the most successful national collection in Church history. In our Archdiocese, parishioners have been most generous throughout the past years. In 2005, the Archdiocese of Newark contributed \$709,322 to the national fund. St. Agnes Parish collected \$9,459 of those funds.

Over the years, religious women and men serving in our community have blessed our parish. Today, we are fortunate to have with us Sister Claire, Sister Margaret and Father Vinny. I believe this is why St. Agnes parishioners are always generous to the collection for retired religious. It is our way of saying thank you. It is very uncommon nowadays to have three religious from three different religious communities serving in one parish. Indeed, we are truly blessed! Thank you Sister Margaret, Sister Claire and Father Vinny.

Sister Claire will be speaking at all Masses this weekend, on behalf of the Religious Retirement Fund. The second collection next weekend, December 9-10, will be for this important cause. Please make checks out to St. Agnes Church and write Religious Retirement Fund on the memo line. We have been instructed to collect, count and send one parish check into the Archdiocese. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Jim
Pastor

SIXTH ANNUAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHRISTMAS GATHERING



Will be held on

*Sunday, December 10th
after the 10:30 a.m. Mass
Fr. Denis J. Whelan Center
(New addition, lower level)*

*All Religious Education Teachers
and their families are welcome*

Prepare for Christmas . . .

*Come and join us for Advent Prayer Service
every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.
Please note that the December 13th prayer
service will include the School Program
Lessons and Carols.*



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

“Be on guard,” Jesus warns in today’s Gospel, “lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence.” Let us heed His warning *and follow* the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$12,088.00**
Mortgage Reduction Collection **\$5,476.00.**
Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;
Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 — 10:1,
5a, 6-8
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;
Lk 3:1-6



Elijah Cup Program

The Elijah Cup is thriving at St. Agnes Church! Many individuals and families have signed up for participation during the upcoming months. Please prayerfully consider taking the Elijah Cup into your home for one week of prayer for vocations. If you would like to be a part of this new ministry at St. Agnes, please call the rectory office at (732) 388-7852. A week that is convenient for you will be assigned. You would pick up the Elijah Cup and basket (containing prayers, aids and devotionals) at church after the mass of your choice and return the consecrated chalice and basket to the church sacristy before 5:30 pm. the following Saturday. A “special thank you” to all the parishioners who have taken the Elijah Cup into their home using it as a focal point of prayer for the increase of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT

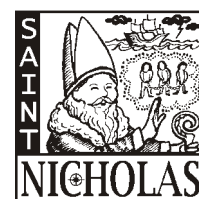
Total Pledges	\$3,178,219.31
Pledges Collected	\$2,728,637.64
Outstanding Pledges	\$ 449,581.67

Total Building Costs	\$3,825,000.00
Pledges Collected	(-) \$2,728,637.64
Mtge. Reduction	
Collection	(-) 18,078.00
Funds from Savings	(-) \$ 250,000.00
Remaining Debt	\$ 828,284.36

*If you would like to make a donation,
please make check payable to
St. Agnes Church and mail to the Rectory
attention Building Fund,
or drop in the collection basket.
Thank you for your continued support.*

**CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS FOR
MINISTRY PROGRAM**

Saint Agnes Parish will be 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 every Thursday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., September to May in the St. Lucy Filippini Meeting Room which is located on the lower level of the new building. For further information, please call Sister Margaret at (732) 388-2560.



Christmas

2006 Christmastide Liturgy Schedule

Sacrament of Penance

Friday, December 15th, 7:00 p.m.
Advent Penance Service

All Saturdays throughout the year
1:00 p.m. and after 5:30 p.m. Mass
(December 23rd, 1:00 p.m. ONLY)

Christmas Masses

Sunday, December 24th
4:00 p.m. Liturgy with Children
6:00 p.m. Mass with Bells
12:00 Midnight Mass
Carols begin at 11:30 p.m.

Christmas Day: 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
and 12 noon

New Year's Masses

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, December 31, 2006
7:30 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Mass
10:30 a.m. Mass
12 noon Mass

Monday, January 1, 2007
9:00 a.m. Mass



Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - December 8th

A Holy Day of Obligation in the United States, this is the day on which we celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin, the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother. St. Agnes will celebrate a vigil Mass on Tuesday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. and Masses on December 8th at 7:00 and 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

MINISTRY CORNER

FUNERAL TEAM



When a family enters the doors of St. Agnes for the funeral of a loved one, they are greeted not only by the priest, but the Parish Funeral Team. The team consists of men and women who take the role of altar servers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist and readers at the liturgy. If you are available weekdays and Saturday mornings and would like to be a part of this reverent team, please contact the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.



Take an angel (blue & white) from the tree and read the item needed for less fortunate children. Place the blue angel on your wrapped gift so we know what's inside...and the decorated white angel on the tree. Please return gifts no later than Sunday, December 10th. The gifts will be directed to one orphanage in Newark and Several Sources in Bergen County, a home for young mothers who chose to have their babies and not to abort. As always, the CYO, and the groups receiving our gifts, thank you for your generosity. Bless you all! And Merry Christmas!

ST. AGNES SCHOOL "Highlight Zone"



The newly elected Student Council wasted no time in reaching out to the community through the school's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Grades K-8 contributed canned goods and food which were picked up by a local food bank. SAS students and their families know the importance of making a difference through reaching out and helping those in need.

ROSARIANS BAGEL SALE!



TODAY AFTER ALL MASSES

Thank you for your support!!

*St. Agnes Rosary/Holy Name
Christmas Party*

Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2006

Place: Gran Centurions

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Amount \$25.00



*Tickets can be purchased at the Rectory or by
calling Rose at 732-574-0023.*

*The deadline for purchasing tickets is
Monday, December 4th.*

**ST. AGNES ROSARY SOCIETY
CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE**



DECEMBER 9TH & 10TH

AFTER ALL MASSES

LOVE AND FAITH

It is love that makes faith, not faith love.

- John Henry Newman

**ST. AGNES PARISH PRESENTS
"BRUNCH WITH SANTA"**



Saturday, December 9th

11:00 am to 2:00 p.m.

Santa arrives 12:15 p.m.

\$8.00 per person

(children under 2 FREE)

Price includes digital picture with Santa
Bagels, muffins, fresh fruit, juices,
cheese & crackers, coffee/tea/hot chocolate and
Christmas cookies

Ticket Information Call:

Kim 732-396-4240

Sue 732-340-9659



PLEASE RESPOND BY DECEMBER 3RD

Reserve _____ tickets for me for Brunch with Santa.

Name _____

Address _____

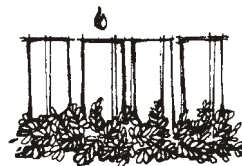
Phone _____

Children _____ Adults _____

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE



The 7th grade class of St. Agnes School will have a
Poinsettia sale on December 9th and 10th after all
Masses. The Poinsettias will sell for \$8.00 each or 2
for \$15.00. This year there will be a variety of colors.
Your support is most appreciated by the 7th graders.





SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2006

5:30 People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2006

7:30 Angelo Acocella - Mr. & Mrs. James Eliff
 9:00 Antoinette Visconti - Husband and Children
 10:30 Earl Hassler - Hassler Family
 12:00 Irene Knych - RCIA Team

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2006

7:00 Antoinette Urso - Scipiani & Yedlock Families
 9:00 Crescenza, Donato & Nicholas Toto - Rose & Vito Toto

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2006

7:00 Bordynko/Mulcahy Family - Leslie & Arthur Phelan
 9:00 Liam Shackleton - Grandma & Grandpa

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2006

7:00 John Fresco - Mary Ann Fresco
 9:00 Marguerite Stringer - Mr. & Mrs. Ronald O'Lenick
 7 PM Advent Service

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2006

7:00 Ruth & George Christensen -Alexa, Brett, Eric & Gabriel
 9:00 George Nucera - Dolores Memmer

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED
 VIRGIN MARY - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

7 PM (Vigil Mass) Maria Yost - St. Agnes Rosary Society

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2006

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED
 VIRGIN MARY - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

7:00 Salvatore DeNicholo - Sr. Claire Ouimet
 9:00 Anna Spisak - Richard Kurutz
 7PM Florence Peluso - Harry & Patricia Brandt

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2006

8:30 Memorial Mass - Anthony G. Pecoraro, Edward H.
 Wray, Bernardita Tang, Deacon Daniel McCarren
 5:30 John Delaney - Sports Committee

SUNDAY**DECEMBER 3****ROSARY BAGEL SALE**

8:45 AM Religious Education
 10:30 AM Mass with Adult & Children's Choir
 1:30 PM Baptism

MONDAY**DECEMBER 4**

3:30 PM Religious Education
 5:30 PM Cheerleading - Gymnasium
 7:00 PM Religious Education
 7:00 PM Scripture Sharing - St. Jude Room
 7:30 PM RCIA Inquiry - St. Lucy Filippini Room

TUESDAY**DECEMBER 5**

7:00 PM Religious Education

WEDNESDAY**DECEMBER 6**

7:00 PM Advent Service
 7:30 PM RCIA - OLG Room

THURSDAY**DECEMBER 7**

3:30 PM Children's Choir
 7:00 PM CFM Program - St. Lucy Filippini
 7:30 PM Adult Choir

FRIDAY**DECEMBER 8**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED
 VIRGIN MARY - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
 NO SCHOOL - ST. AGNES**

SATURDAY**DECEMBER 9**

**RETIREMENT COLLECTION
 ROSARY COOKIE SALE
 POINSETTIA SALE**

8:30 AM Mass - Memorial
 11:00 AM Brunch with Santa - Gymnasium

SUNDAY**DECEMBER 10**

**RETIREMENT COLLECTION
 ROSARY COOKIE SALE
 POINSETTIA SALE**



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Irene M. Finger during the week of December 3rd.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Christopher Bonner during the week of December 3rd at the request of the Telleri Family.

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

Elena G. Tordilio, Edward Getchis

Those Who Are Sick

Aileen Sasala, Mary Zelanko, Joe & Irene Margeton, Michael Dudek, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Ann Lesko, Irene Sisko, Noel Stevenson, Leilla DiLeone, Michael Denora, Mary Morelli, Anthony Szablowski, Robert Szabo Jr., Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Linda Ruth, Barbara Rygiel, Anna Reichenstein, Henry Latch, Vickie Tomasco, Mary Marrin, Barbara Guinta, Ronald Francisco, George Stanka, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Robert McKeon, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Robert Palumbo, Stefan Nowak, Barbara Slack, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, MaryLou Loffa, James MacConchie, Louise Venezio, Lucia DeCristofaro, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Hazel McGuinness, Marian Heelan, Giovanna Tripicchio, Sam Roglieri, Pauline Liotti, Bart Zucosky, Marie Cerone, Andy Pavelko, Richard O'Lenick, Declan Mulcahy, Jr., Dolores Acquisto, Daniel Palumbo, Jim MacConchie, Victor Fernandes, Sr., Eileen Imbriaco, Josephine Zbikowski, Geraldine Disano, Antonina Manto, Warren Sidney, Kenneth McLoughlin, Elizabeth Kate Chern, William Miskovich, Zackary Infante, Mary Sciacca

THE COMING KINGDOM

Jeremiah could see it coming—the kingship of Jesus and the restoration of Jerusalem. But was anybody listening? Is anybody listening now? It must have been tough being a prophet, but Jeremiah was persistent in his message because he knew that it needed to be heard.

Also persistent in his message is Paul as he encourages the Thessalonians—and all of us—to live in accordance with the kingship that Jeremiah foretold. He encourages us to conduct ourselves in ways of holiness so that we may be well prepared for the king's coming. Finally, Jesus himself tells us to be ever diligent so that we may gain favor before our God and King.

Jeremiah could see the kingship of Jesus coming. As we begin the season of Advent, Paul and Jesus tell us not only how to prepare for the Kingdom, but how to live it day to day.

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**First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2006**

I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.

– *Jeremiah 33:15*