

## From the Pastor



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Dear Parishioners,

Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday. Lent has always been a time of preparation for Easter. In the first three centuries of our church history, this was a very short period, perhaps a week or less. By the fourth century the period of forty days was established as common practice, and it remains a special time for repentance and spiritual renewal.

On Ash Wednesday, Roman Catholics respond to the call of repentance, issued on this sacred day when we are marked with ashes. Ashes serve as a reminder that we are a sinful people, ever in need of the mercy of God. As this Lenten season unfolds, let us recall that God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and full of kindness. Let us begin this season of grace with humble and contrite hearts.

In order to enter more fully into this season, we should:

1. Focus on the sins that prevent us from being true disciples of Jesus.
2. Confessing our sins to a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
3. Do penance to atone for our sins.
4. Attend Mass faithfully and frequently (daily if possible).
5. Schedule more time for prayerful meditation and spiritual reading.
6. Make personal sacrifices to help the poor.

Let us also invite fallen away Catholics back home to the church. God uses ordinary people like you and me to do extraordinary things in His Holy Name. Who knows? Perhaps God may use you to touch a wounded or divided heart.

Let us continue to pray for each other and that our parish community may always reflect God's love and compassion.

Faithfully yours,

Fr. Jim  
Pastor

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

St. Paul tells the Corinthians that they are living letters, "known and read by all." What does the letter of *my* life reveal to those who read it? Can they tell by the way I live that I belong to Christ and that all I am and have is His?

Your Stewardship in Treasure  
last week was **\$14,480.75**.  
Thank you.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Pt 1:3-9; Mk 10:17-27  
Tuesday: 1 Pt 1:10-16; M 10:28-31  
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20 -- 6:2;  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25  
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15  
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32  
Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

It is time once again for the Anniversary Celebration of those couples in our Archdiocese who are celebrating 5, 25 and 50 years of Christian marriage in 2006. These liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers and held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

*25 and 5 Years*  
**Sunday, March 26, 2006 - 3:00 PM**  
*(Reservation Deadline March 16<sup>th</sup>)*

*50 Years*  
**Sunday, April 30, 2006 - 3:00 PM**  
*(Reservation Deadline April 20<sup>th</sup>)*

It is our desire that every couple in the archdiocese, deserving of such recognition, be present at the appropriate Liturgy. The presence of a large number of couples will give favorable witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in our society today.

Please call the rectory at 732-388-7852 to register before the deadline date. All reservations will be acknowledged by the Archdiocese. Directions to the Cathedral Basilica and a seating chart will be mailed to each couple.

**BUILDING FUND**

*To complete Phase I projects  
we still need to raise –*

**\$620,054.00**

*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.*

**The Women's Commission  
of  
St. Agnes**

*invites you to a Women's Retreat at  
**Loyola Retreat House**  
Morristown, New Jersey  
April 21-23, 2006  
Conducted by The Jesuits*

*Donation: \$150.00  
Arrival: Friday 4:00 p.m.  
Departure: Sunday after lunch  
(\$25.00 Deposit Due at  
Time of Reservation)*

**For more information please call  
Dee Memmer at 732-381-8956  
RESERVATIONS LIMITED!  
PLEASE RESPOND NO LATER  
THAN FEBRUARY 27, 2006**





A great opportunity for spiritual enrichment is to participate in our annual St. Joseph's Novena. The Novena begins March 10th and ends on March 18th with Mass for the Feast of St. Joseph at 7:00 p.m. On March 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> the Novena will be incorporated into our 5:30 Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday. This great spiritual devotion inspires conversion during nine consecutive nights of prayers, hymns, sermons and benediction. Plan to be with us each evening and make this a Lenten Devotion for yourself.

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### **Archdiocese of Newark 2006 Lenten Regulations**

The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

- On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
- On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2006, to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, June 11, 2006.**

\* Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

### **Lenten Schedule 2006**

#### ***Ash Wednesday, March 1st***

#### ***Stations of the Cross***

Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> & March 24<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

#### ***Living Stations of the Cross - CYO***

Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

#### ***Communal Penance Service/***

#### ***Individual Confessions***

Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

#### ***Living Stations of the Cross - CYO***

Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

#### ***Palm Sunday***

Saturday, April 8th Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 9th Masses

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12 Noon

#### ***Holy Thursday, April 13th***

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 p.m.

Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament concluding with Night Prayer Service at 10:00 p.m.

#### ***Good Friday, April 14th***

Seven Last Words Service - 12 Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Main Service - 7:30 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord Jesus Christ

#### ***Holy Saturday April 15th***

Blessing of the Food - 11:00 a.m.

Solemn Easter Vigil Mass - 8:00 p.m.

#### ***Easter Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> Masses***

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12 Noon



### **Beginning Experience**

#### **BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND - MAY 5-7, 2006 - Villa Pauline, Mendham**

For men and women who know the pain of separation, divorce or the death of a spouse, a Beginning Experience weekend provides participants with the opportunity of taking the first step toward resolution, wholeness and a new direction. For more information, call Peggy O'Neil (973) 887-4541 or Doug McMahan (973) 292-9777.

## Coming Events

**St. Agnes CYO** - proudly presents the Living Stations of the Cross. Join us for this moving production on Friday, April 7, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

**St. Agnes Clothing Drive** - Saturday, April 22, 2006, rain or shine, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. More information to follow.

**Easter Egg Hunt** - Saturday, April 22, 2006, 11:00 a.m. weather permitting. More information to follow.

### ST. AGNES BOARDWALK!!



February 25<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 - 10:00 PM  
February 26<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 - 6:00 PM

**FREE ADMISSION**

### ROSARIANS BAGEL SALE!



**MARCH 5, 2006**  
**AFTER ALL MASSES**

We offer the following varieties:

Plain	Russian
Cinnamon/Raisin	Salt
Poppy Seed	Pumpernickel
Sesame Seed	Onion
Everything	Egg
Garlic	Wheat

**Cost: .50 each**

**\$6.00 per dozen (bakers' dozen - 13 bagels)**

*Thank you for your support!*

## ST. AGNES ROSARY SOCIETY BRINGS TO YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS



### A TASTE OF ITALY (Un Gusto di Italia) SPAGHETTI DINNER

**SUNDAY: MARCH 26, 2006**  
**TIME: 1:30 TO 4:30 PM**  
**PLACE: ST. AGNES AUDITORIUM  
CLARK, NJ**  
**TICKETS: ADULTS: \$9.00**  
**CHILDREN UNDER 12: \$5.00**

#### MENU

*Salad, Italian Bread*  
*Spaghetti and Meatballs*  
*Dessert*  
*Coffee/Tea/Soda*  
*(B.Y.O.B.)*



**ITALIAN MUSIC PROVIDED BY OUR  
STROLLING MUSICIAN**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO  
PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE CALL  
ROSE AT (732) 574-0023 OR  
THE RECTORY AT (732) 388-7852**

**DEADLINE FOR PURCHASING TICKETS:  
SUNDAY, MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>**



<p><b>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2006</b>                      5:30 People of the Parish</p> <p><b>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2006</b>                      7:30 George Howell - Howell Family                      9:00 Mary Pisani - Ernest &amp; Vicki                      10:30 Madison Guillen - Elizabeth Ministry                      12:00 Violet Hanson - Betty &amp; Dom Massarelli</p> <p><b>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006</b>                      7:00 Jim Ross - John &amp; Gina Ross                      9:00 Antoinette Visconti - Husband &amp; Children</p> <p><b>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2006</b>                      7:00 Jane McTigue - Dora Ryan                      9:00 Alfred Barilla - Mr. &amp; Mrs. Peter Koscica</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006-ASH WEDNESDAY</b>                      7:00 Michael McKeon - Mom &amp; Dad                      9:00 Andrew Balak - Anne &amp; Joe Kolibas                      3:30 Service with Ashes                      7 PM Carchilla &amp; Gabriel Families-Tony &amp; Angie Plesh</p> <p><b>THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2006</b>                      7:00 Rosemarie Hillebrand - Mary &amp; Jim Scott                      9:00 Stanley Stefanik - Josephine Stefanik</p> <p><b>FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2006</b>                      7:00 Carol Mandrona - Navantieri Family                      9:00 Regina Bladzinski - Mr. &amp; Mrs. Paul LoRocco</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2006</b>                      8:30 Memorial Mass - Joseph Zucaro, Christina Palmieri, Charlie Cerneglia                      5:30 Frances Miele - Mr. &amp; Mrs. D. Cook</p>
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<p><b>SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26</b>                      9:00 AM Religious Education                      1:00 PM Boardwalk Weekend                      1:30 PM Baptism                      7:00 PM CYO</p> <hr/> <p><b>MONDAY FEBRUARY 27</b>                      3:30 PM Religious Education                      7:00 PM Religious Education - Acre Test                      7:30 PM Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge</p> <hr/> <p><b>TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28</b>                      7:00 PM Religious Education</p> <hr/> <p><b>WEDNESDAY MARCH 1</b>  <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>                      3:30 PM Service with Ashes                      4:30 PM Brownies - Kindergarten                      5:30 PM Girl Scouts - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade                      7:00 PM Mass                      8:00 PM Adult Choir</p> <hr/> <p><b>THURSDAY MARCH 2</b>                      3:30 PM Children's Choir                      7:30 PM Bereavement</p> <hr/> <p><b>FRIDAY MARCH 3</b>                      7:00 PM Stations of the Cross                      7:30 PM School Board Meeting</p> <hr/> <p><b>SATURDAY MARCH 4</b>                      8:30 AM Mass - Memorial                      9:00 AM St. Joseph's Soup Kitchen</p>
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**TRAVELING MADONNA** - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Helen Paulkowitz during the week of February 26<sup>th</sup>.



**SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn in memory of Stanley Stefanik during the week of February 26<sup>th</sup> at the request of Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Hoehn.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

***Those Who Have Died***

Cecilia Smentkowski, Anthony Segreto,  
Marty Ferrara, Joseph Petrick

***Those Who Are Sick***

Aileen Sasala, Florence Iasello, Mary Zelanko, 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., Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Wayne Tribble, Linda Ruth, Vincent Flanagan, Barbara Rygiel, Anna Reichenstein, Henry Latch, Thaddeus Zbikowski Sr., Vickie Tomasco, Mary Marrin, Alice Triano, Barbara Guinta, Ronald Francisco, George Stanka, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Edward Alfano, Robert McKeon, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Robert Palumbo, Florence Kempinski, Bart Zucosky, Stefan Nowak, Barbara Slack, Theresa Hanselman, Elizabeth Bell, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, Mary Lou Loffa, Craig Allen, James MacConchie, Louise Venezio, Lucia DeCristofaro, Frances Latch, Patricia Zych, Barbara Steinberg



**Atlantic City Bus Trip**

WHEN: March 16, 2006

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: \$23.00

For reservations call:  
Tony (732) 388-2315  
Joe (732) 381-3395

**WE WILL BE RUNNING 1 BUS.  
PLEASE CALL EARLY TO RESERVE  
A SEAT. BRING A FRIEND.**

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**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 26, 2006**

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,  
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

- Psalm 103:8