

***“They came bringing a paralytic carried by four men.
Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up
the roof above him. After they had broken through they let down
the mat on which the paralytic was lying.”***

This is such a beautiful and rich Gospel, one that can mean so much depending on which character or characters we identify with. The lines above invite us to follow the example of the four men who assisted the paralytic. Imagine their strength and the work they did so that the poor soul could experience the healing, forgiving touch of Christ! Think of the stress and strain as they hoisted his body up to the roof. Picture their fingernails full of dirt and dried mud as they dug through the grass, mud and planks that made up the roof, creating a hole so that they could lower the paralytic down safely before Jesus. Whenever I hear this Gospel and pray over it in this manner I have to ask...who am I called to carry to Christ? There must be a person out there, perhaps paralyzed by sin, or by fear, or maybe just plain old lost. How would I get them to Christ? How much strength will I use up on their behalf? That is the cost of discipleship!

I can think of one way in which many of you have carried another on behalf of your faith. Although I thanked you for it in last week's bulletin, I want to do it again as many of you may have missed it because of last week's blizzard. Your generosity on behalf of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is one way that we carry others to the gift of Jesus Christ. Because of your donations, more people will be helped throughout the Archdiocese. The poor will receive better care, our seminarians' education will be supported, and others will continue to operate programs, which, in so many ways, continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. For those who donated, I thank you for carrying others to Jesus Christ! For those who haven't, it's still not too late. Simply take an envelope home with you, fill it out and return it in next week's collection or drop it off at the rectory. In the past our parish has been one of the more generous contributors in our area. Know that I, too, donate in the name of St. Agnes parish.

Let us all look for ways to exercise the strength of our faith on behalf of others. Let's carry those who seem paralyzed by life to the healing gifts of Christ! God bless you all!

- Fr. John



STEWARDSHIP

&

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

Forgiveness, too, is a gift from God. Freed from the paralysis of sin, the man in today's Gospel was able to stand and give witness to the power of God. How do I let sin cripple me? Am I a good steward of the gift of God's forgiveness?

Your Stewardship in Treasure

last week was **\$5,015.50.**

Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Mk 9:14-29
 Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37
 Wednesday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19
 Thursday: Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:41-50
 Friday: Jas 5:9-12; Mk 10:1-12
 Saturday: Jas 5:13-20; Mk 10:13-16
 Sunday: Hos 2:16b, 17b, 21-22; Ps 103;
 2 Cor 3:1b-6; Mk 2:18-22

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 16th)

50 Years

Sunday, April 30, 2006 - 3:00 PM
(Reservation Deadline April 20th)

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***



THE MASS INTENTION BOOK FOR 2007

The 2007 book for Mass Intentions will be open on **Monday, February 20th** between the hours of **9:45 a.m. & 3 p.m. in the Gym**. We will break for lunch from 12 noon - 1 p.m. The number of Mass intentions will be limited per person. In the spirit of fairness, parishioners will be limited to a total of 5 intentions. (Three weekday and 2 weekends). We appreciate your cooperation in complying with this process. After April 17, 2006, parishioners will be able to request additional intentions. In addition to Mass intentions, we will be continuing donations in memorial of loved ones for the weekly Sanctuary Lamp offering \$10.00, Altar Flowers offering \$50.00 and Altar Bread & Wine offering \$50.00. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

When a loved one by death, we are wounded. Just as God does, we need to heal from within, to ease our thoughts and feelings, even when they seem crazy. We need to recognize that "crazy is normal."

Knowing this will not lessen your grief, but it may help your healing to begin. A support group is a safe haven where we can talk, cry, share our anger, guilt, and fears with those who understand and care.

Grief, like a wound, takes time to heal. A support group is to the grieving like healing salve is to a wound; it soothes and comforts us while we heal.

We are here to offer information, to listen, to share feelings and to support one another.

St. Agnes Bereavement Support Group starts Thursday, February 23rd for six Thursdays at 7:30 PM

Call the Rectory at (732) 388-7852 for more information or to register for the group.

**9th Annual
Catholic Men's
Spiritual Rally
Saturday, February 25th
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

Men, set aside **Saturday, February 25, 2006** for the 9th annual **Catholic Men for Jesus Christ ~ Men's**

Spiritual Rally at Christian Brothers Academy, 850 Newman Springs Road in Lincroft, NJ. The day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends with a 2:00 p.m. closing Mass. Speakers for the day include:

Peter Herbeck – V.P. and Director of Missions for Renewal Ministries, has been actively involved in evangelization and Catholic renewal throughout the U.S., Canada, Africa, and Eastern Europe for the past 25 years. Peter is a co-host on The Choices We Face, a frequent conference speaker and author.

Father Brendan Williams -- Pastor of St. Veronica's in Howell is a dynamic and inspiring conference speaker and evangelist.

The Main celebrant and homilist for our closing Mass will once again be our very own, beloved **Bishop John M. Smith**.

Plan to come and bring your sons, age 12 and older. Pray about inviting co-workers, family members, neighbors and friends.

Tickets cost \$25 per adult, \$5 for youth ages 12-17. Price includes coffee, donuts and lunch. Priests, deacons and seminarians are free. Please make checks payable to St. Agnes.

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Registration Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ email _____

Car-Pool to leave from

St. Agnes Parking Lot at 7:30 a.m.

Mail check and registration form to St. Agnes.

For additional information please
call the Rectory at (732) 388-7852

Email: StAgnesChurch@comcast.net

ST. AGNES BOARDWALK!!
RETURNS TO FEBRUARY!!



Winter blues??
Come have some fun!

Cotton candy, games & prizes to be won!
"Dot the Clown", good food and cookies too!
Fun for everyone, hope to see you!

February 24th - 6:30 - 10:00 PM

February 25th - 6:30 - 10:00 PM

February 26th - 1:00 - 6:00 PM



***Clown Hours: Friday - 7 to 8 PM**

Saturday - 7:15 to 8:15 PM

Sunday - 2:30 to 3:30 PM

Food Specials All Weekend!

Volunteers always needed!

**Please call Carol & Bob Bottitta at
(732) 388-5595**

FREE ADMISSION

RETROUVAILLE (“Rediscovery”) is a program of the Catholic Church designed to provide practical help and support to married couples in difficult or troubled relationships. The program, offered by the Office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, begins with a weekend experience on March 24-26, 2006. For program and fee information, please contact the Office of Family Life Ministries at (973) 497-4327. **RETROUVAILLE is a lifeline of hope and healing.**

ROSARIANS BAGEL SALE!



REMINDER. . . .

This is your last chance to get your raffle books in. Raffle books can be dropped off at the Rectory. Three lucky winners will be drawn on Sunday, February 26th during our Weekend Boardwalk.

Cinnamon/Raisin

Poppy Seed

Sesame Seed

Everything

Garlic

Salt

Pumpenickel

Onion

Egg

Wheat

Cost: .50 each

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

Thank you for your support



Right 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 is scheduled to take place on Thursday, February 23rd at 7:30 p.m. in the teachers' lounge. If you need any additional information, please call the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.

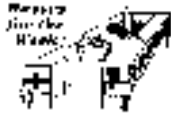
Fairleigh Dickinson University's Office of Campus Ministry at the Metropolitan Campus in Teaneck will host its **Fourth Annual Campus Ministry Lecture** on **Friday, February 24, 2006, at 7:30 p.m.** in the university's Rutherford Room, Student Union Building. Dr. Henry F. Knight, Applied Professor of Hermeneutics and Holocaust Studies at the University of Tulsa, an author and activist in world-wide Jewish-Christian dialogue, will present “Limping to Jerusalem: Celebrating Holy Week in a Post-Holocaust World.” The Lecture is open to all. Free will donations will be accepted. For further information please call (201) 692-2406.

MARCH 5, 2006 AFTER ALL MASSES

We offer the following varieties:

Plain

Russian



ALTAR FLOWERS that decorate our sanctuary this weekend are in memory of John Delaney at the request of Susan, Matt and Eric.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2006

5:30 Earl Hassler - Hassler Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2006

7:30 Mary Margaret Calabrese - Barbara & Hank Gawel

9:00 Violet Hanson - Lorraine Wiskowski

10:30 Henry Stringer - Mr. & Mrs. Richard O'Lenick

12:00 People of the Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2006 - President's Day

ONE MASS ONLY

9:00 Rocco Nofrio - Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006

7:00 Stephen Fiyut

9:00 Manuel Dios - Terry & Joe Segreto

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2006

7:00 Virginia Crawford - The Bonavitacola Family

9:00 Matthew Monetti - Family

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2006

7:00 James Breslin - Joe & Anne Kolibas

9:00 Mr. George Finger - Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Pavelko

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2006

7:00 Patricia Leonardis - Aunt Mary

9:00 John Delaney - Marian & Joseph Heelan

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2006

8:30 Memorial Mass - Mary Payne

5:30 People of the Parish



SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 18
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 19
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
9:00 AM	No Religious Education
7:00 PM	CYO
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 20
PRESIDENT'S DAY - NO SCHOOL	
9:45 AM	Opening of 2007 Mass Book
3:30 PM	No Religious Education
7:00 PM	Sandwiches - Team 2A
7:00 PM	No Religious Education
7:30 PM	Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 21
7:00 PM	No Religious Education
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 23
7:30 PM	Bereavement
7:30 PM	RCIA Inquiry - Teachers' Lounge
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 24
6:30 PM	Boardwalk Weekend
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 25
8:30 AM	Mass - Memorial
6:30 PM	Boardwalk Weekend
SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 26
9:00 AM	Religious Education
1:00 PM	Boardwalk Weekend
7:00 PM	CYO



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of John Delaney during the week of February 19th at the request of Terry and Joe Segreto.



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Betty Comer during the week of February 19th.

