

## From the Pastor

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Dear Friends,

Thank you for the outpouring of your love and affection since the announcement of my reassignment. To tell you the truth it's overwhelming, in a positive sense. Everyday in the parish is like living in a wake. Please know that this is a bitter/sweet experience. It is bitter because I am going to miss you, as much as you are expressing your sentiments to me. It is sweet, because in this day and age, it's nice to know that parishioners still love their priests and priests genuinely love their parishioners. This is the best of parish life!

My appointment as Pastor to Saint Agnes was an answer to a prayer. Eight years later, I can honestly say that my experiences far exceeded any prior expectation. Your love and support helped me to a better priest. I always share with my friends what a wonderful community we have here. You continue to love your priests in spite of our weaknesses and shortcomings. What a gift. It reflects a hint of God's unconditional love. I pray we do the same for you. Thank you.

Parishioners continue to ask me, "Do you know who will be appointed pastor?" The Archbishop opened Saint Agnes to all priests in the Archdiocese. Numerous priests wrote to the Archbishop asking to be considered. In turn, the Archbishop passed these letters on to the Priest Personnel Board. The members on this board go through a process and then they make recommendations to the Archbishop, who ultimately decides. I believe that this process will be completed by February 15. Hopefully, we will know soon thereafter. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will bring to us a good and holy pastor.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Msgr. Jim  
Pastor



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

Blessed are they who are what they are and do what they do *for the sake of the kingdom!* The Gospel today assures good stewards that their suffering and their service on behalf of the Kingdom will be rewarded!

Your Stewardship in Treasure

last week was **\$11,937.00.**

Thank you.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 — 19:3;  
Mk 5:21-43Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51; 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 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51; Rom 5:12-19  
[12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11**THE CHOSEN REMNANT**

Zephaniah is one of the least-known of the Old Testament prophets. He speaks in today's first reading of impending judgment. But the Lord will leave a "remnant" in Israel. This image of a remnant, or remainder, was to become vital to both Judaism and Christianity.

Paul's letter to Corinth makes obvious his deep concern for the Christians there. They are too self-confident, he says, too sure of themselves. He admonishes them to remember that Christ has given them all they have.

Today's Gospel comprises the opening of Jesus' "Great Sermon." As God gave Moses the law on Sinai, so now Jesus gathers his disciples on a hillside to teach them the new law. Each of these Beatitudes contrasts the humiliation of the present with the glory of the future: poverty vs. the riches of God's kingdom, hunger for holiness vs. fulfillment in the Spirit, persecution vs. the reign of God. Jesus is here speaking to God's chosen "remnant."

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**BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT  
AS OF 01/29/08****Total Pledges** \$3,301,090.97**Pledges Collected** \$3,123,338.27**Outstanding Pledges** \$ 177,752.69**Total Building Costs** \$3,830,672.97**Interest on Loan** (+) \$ 19,887.27**Pledges Collected** (-) \$3,123,338.27**Mtge. Reduction  
Collections** (-) \$ 139,570.50**Funds from Savings** (-) \$ 250,000.00**Remaining Debt** \$ 337,651.47**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 February, the Elijah Cup will be in the homes of the following parishioners:

February 3	Mary Beth & Leo Schaeffer
February 10	Alice & Bob Smith
February 17	Sister Claire Ouimet
February 24	Frank Marino

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

**Ash  
Wednesday**

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### **Archdiocese of Newark Anniversary Masses**



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 2, 2008 - 3:00 PM**  
**(Reservation Deadline February 22)**

#### **50 Years**

**Sunday, April 13, 2008 - 3:00 PM**  
**(Reservation Deadline April 3)**

Please call the parish office at 732-388-7852 to register before the deadline date. All reservations will be acknowledged by the Archdiocese. Directions to the Cathedral Basilica will be mailed to each couple.

### ***A note from Fr. Dominic Ciriaco, OSFS. . . .***

Hello Friends of St. Agnes and greetings from Wilmington, Delaware. As many of you may remember when I was at St. Agnes Parish, I had a great love and devotion to the saints. I used to write the "Saint Spotlight" column that used to appear in the weekly bulletin. I recently wrote and published a book on the saints entitled: "*Witnesses to the Gospel: Reflections on Saints and Others who Inspire,*" by Authorhouse Publications. If you are interested in purchasing the book, it can be obtained the following ways: Ordered at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com), or by calling 1-888-280-7715. The cost of the book is \$14.95. St. Agnes continues to be in my prayers. God bless!

### **50/50 Raffle Books**

Please return all raffles books (purchased or un-purchased) to the Parish Office by Friday, February 8th. Thank you.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Women's Cornerstone Retreat**  
**April 18-19, 2008**

***An invitation to attend a faith enriching experience.***

***See next weekend's bulletin for insert.***

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

St Agnes School is seeking a part-time registered nurse to work on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:15 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. (9-1/2 hours per week). Anyone interested should call the school office at (732) 381-0850.

### ***Retrouvaille***

**RETROUVAILLE** ("Rediscover") is a program of the Catholic Church designed to provide practical help and support to married couples in difficult or painful relationships. The program, offered by the Office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, begins with a weekend experience on April 4-6, 2008. For program and fee information, please contact the Office of Family Life Ministries at 973-497-4327.

### **PALM CROSSES**



The Traditional St. Agnes Palm Crosses will be made available soon. The Crosses fashioned from palm with an attractive purple bow are used to decorate grave sites and some homes. The price is \$10.00 and the crosses will be distributed the weekend before Palm Sunday (March 8/9). Anyone wishing a cross is asked to complete the form below and return to the rectory by February 22nd.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Crosses \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ST. AGNES BOARDWALK 2008!!**

**Come join the fun!**

Cotton candy, games & prizes to be won!  
"Dot the Clown", food, pastries and tattoos!!!  
Something for everyone, hope to see you!

**Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 - 9:30 PM**  
**Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 - 6:00 PM**



**\*Clown Hours:**

**Saturday - 7:30 to 8:30 PM**  
**Sunday - 2:00 to 4:00 PM**

**Homemade hot dogs, pizza & pierogies!!**

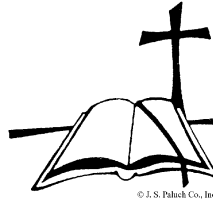


**Raffle baskets too!! (Nintendo Wii)**

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

**A FUN-FILLED WEEKEND!**

**FREE ADMISSION**



**THE MASS INTENTION BOOK FOR 2009**

The **2009 Book for Mass Intentions** will be open on **Monday, February 18th** between the hours of **9:45 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the gymnasium**. 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 March 24, 2008, 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, Devotional Area Flowers offering \$50.00 and Altar Bread & Wine offering \$50.00. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.



**CATHOLIC MEN FOR JESUS CHRIST**

Men, set aside Saturday, March 1, 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., and come to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spiritual Rally for Men held this year at Saint Veronica's Gym, on Route 9 North in Howell.

This year, pro-life Congressman Chris Smith, and former NFL player Kevin O'Brien, will provide uplifting and inspiring presentations. Bishop John Smith will celebrate our closing Mass and Fr. Scott Shaffer will emcee the day. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 students. Priest, Deacons, and Seminarians are free. Breakfast and lunch are provided. For more info, call (732) 845-2999 and press #1 to speak to Bill Marshall or go to [www.CatholicMenforJesus.com](http://www.CatholicMenforJesus.com).

***Save the date!!***

***Father Jim's Farewell Mass and Reception***

***Sunday, February 24, 2008  
12 Noon***

***Reception to follow in gymnasium.***

***All are invited.***



***Altar & Rosary Society***

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Monsignor Flusk Room. Our guest speaker will be a representative from the Clark First Health Care Station.



<b>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2008</b>	
5:30	Robert McKeon - Stephen & Lois Radics
<b>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008</b>	
7:30	Robert McKeon - Stephen & Lois Radics
9:00	Colleen Helber - Trevino Family
10:30	Thomas Ford - Ruth Kawko
12:00	People of the Parish
<b>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008</b>	
7:00	Denis Cogan - William & Margaret Draghi
9:00	Alice Joan Robertson - John & Barbara Greve
<b>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008</b>	
7:00	Declan Mulcahy, Jr. - Sr. Claire Ouimet
9:00	Thomas Ford - Terry & Joe Segreto
<b>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 - ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	
7:00	Beori Maria Hernandez - Carol Szipszky
9:00	Leo Schaeffer, Sr. - Schaeffer Family
3:30	Service
7 PM	Anthony Ciarlone - Wife-Angela
<b>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2008</b>	
7:00	Thomas Swinden - Mary Ellen Swinden
9:00	Jeffrey Sacks - Darren, Mary Jean & Erin O'Grady
<b>FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2008</b>	
7:00	Michael Gorel - Walter & Jolanta Borowski
9:00	Florence Kempinski - Don & Patty Massarelli
<b>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2008</b>	
8:30	Memorial - Mary T. McManus, Noelia Ouimet, William White
5:30	People of the Parish

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 2</b>
<b>ARCHBISHOP ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKEND</b>	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 3</b>
<b>ARCHBISHOP ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKEND</b>	
<b>FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE/BLESSING OF THROATS</b>	
<b>ROSARY BAGEL SALE/NO CYO</b>	
8:45 AM	CFF Classes
1:30 PM	Baptisms
5:00 PM	Super Bowl Party - Gym
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 4</b>
3:30 PM	CFF Classes
6:00 PM	Sports - Gym
6:30 PM	CFF Classes
7:00 PM	Scripture Sharing - OLG Room
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 5</b>
6:00 PM	Sports - Gym
6:30 PM	CFF Classes
7:00 PM	Parent-to-Parent - St. Thomas Room
7:30 PM	Rosary Meeting - Msgr. Flusk Room
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 6</b>
<b>ASH WEDNESDAY - RETIRED PRIEST COLLECTION</b>	
9:00 AM	School Mass
7:30 PM	RCIA - OLG/St. Joseph Room
8:00 PM	Adult Choir
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 7</b>
3:30 PM	No Children's Choir
6:00 PM	Sports - Gym
7:00 PM	CFM Program - St. Lucy Room
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 8</b>
7:00 PM	Stations - Church
9:00 PM	Boardwalk Setup
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 9</b>
6:30 PM	Boardwalk Weekend



**TRAVELING MADONNA** - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Lucy Koscica during the week of February 3rd.



**SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn in memory of Keith Owen Evans during the week of February 3rd at the request of Kimberly & David Broadwell.



**ROSARIANS BAGEL SALE!**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2008**  
**AFTER ALL MASSES**

*Thank you for your support!!*



**ALTAR BREAD AND WINE** for the week of February 3rd were donated in memory of Noelia Ouimet at the request of Sr. Margaret and CFF.

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

Roger Camacho, William R. White, Catherine Bussicolo

***Those Who Are Sick***

Mary Zelanko, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Joe & Irene Margeton, Ann Lesko, 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, Mary Marrin, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Robert Palumbo, Hazel McGuinness, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, Louise Venezia, Lucia DeCristofaro, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Giovanna Tripicchio, Marie Cerone, Daniel Palumbo, Jim MacConchie, Eileen Imbriaco, Josephine Zbikowski, Geraldine Disano, Antonina Manto, Warren Sidney, Kenneth McLoughlin, Elizabeth Kate Chern, William Miskovich, Zackary Infante, Angela Decker, Vincent Flanagan, Helen Kiempista, Carmelina & Andrew Giacobbe, Marie Farese, Joseph Loria, Rose Gerhardt, Robert & Esther Quinlivan, Mariani Rocco, Dominic Preite, Marge Geist Gais, Jerry Vezza, William R. White, Brenda Vermeal, Angie & Anthony Plesh, Gabriella Giordano, Mercer Wilkinson, Mary Marciano, Mary Gianti, Joao Faria, Maria Dietrick, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Shipe, Katherine Franceski, Richard Ciccone, Theresa Sarica, Nancy Reuter, Joseph Fabijanczuk

**Crisis Pregnancy Help**

Catholic Community Services  
Pat Chiarello (201) 246-7379

Birthright USA International  
1-800-550-4900



*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*

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 3, 2008**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

– Matthew 5:3