

From the Pastor



Dear Friends in Christ,

After the noon Mass on Sunday, I'm leaving for my annual spiritual retreat. It has been 14 months since my last one, so I'm a little overdue. If my preaching is shallow, or my pastoral sensitivity lacking, now you know why. Recently, a parishioner joked . . . "You're going on retreat again?" Believe me, the best thing that a priest can do is to be faithful to his prayer life. When a priest prays regularly, goes for spiritual direction, avails himself to the grace of penance and makes an annual retreat, the parish or ministry that he is involved in will certainly be better off.

A spiritual retreat helps a priest in numerous ways. It helps me to concentrate without distractions, get in touch with the deeper stirrings of my heart, clarify my mind, process confusing emotions, reflect on my experiences, and simply rest in the Lord – allowing God to speak to me in whatever way he fashions. I always come back from retreats renewed and with my spiritual senses opened to whatever God asks of me.

Unfortunately, the demands of a busy schedule can slowly erode focus and a sense of wholeness. That is why retreats are important for priests. It's like taking care of your car. You pray regularly (filling up with gas). At times, you have your oil changed (confession). But after a certain amount of miles, you need the full tune-up (retreat). If you do not, eventually everything breaks down.

Father Henri Nouwen, a popular Spiritual writer, once compared a priest to a town water pump. Everybody in town goes to the pump and draws out from it what they need. If not replenished, the well will run dry. A priest can only give what he has stored in his spiritual reservoir. Retreats provide an opportunity for the reservoir to be replenished by God's raining grace.

Please pray for me while away on retreat. You will all be in my prayers. Thank you.

Faithfully yours,

Fr. Jim
Pastor



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

In today's first reading, we hear Samuel respond eagerly, "Here I am!" each time the Lord calls him. May we, too, be listening for the call of God in our lives and be ready to say like the Psalmist, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$14,246.50.**

Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk 3:1-6
 Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12
 Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19
 Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk 3:20-21
 Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25; 1 Cor 7:29-31;
 Mk 1:14-20

**2006****Archbishop's Annual Appeal***"It Is In Giving That We Receive"*

Your contribution to the 2006 Archbishop's Annual Appeal makes a difference in the lives of so many in our community. Funds raised through the appeal help to educate children in our inner-city Catholic schools, serve the spiritual needs of people at parishes located in poor neighborhoods, and assist Catholic Charities in running its programs, which help the poor overcome the many obstacles in life. In addition, the appeal assists with seminarian and priest retirement costs.

Please consider making a generous gift on Pledge Weekend - February 4th and 5th.

BUILDING FUND

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

\$628,136.00

*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.*

**ST. AGNES SCHOOL SPORTS
FUNDRAISER****SPAGHETTI DINNER
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2006****6:30 to 9:00 PM****ADULTS: \$10.00****Children: \$7.00**

Includes spaghetti, salad, bread,
soda, coffee and dessert

*St. Agnes Sports program is fully independent
of the school and relies on funds raised
by its members.*

For ticket or additional information, please
contact David Broadwell at (908) 403-2860

Proceeds to benefit St. Agnes Sports Program

**DEADLINE FOR PURCHASING TICKETS
JANUARY 17, 2006**

Baptisms

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

ANTHONY ACOCELLA
Son of Robert and Melissa

ANTHONY XAVIER LA PORTA
Son of Anthony and Elizabeth

ROBERT SALVATORE MACALUSO
Son of Robert and Joanna

JULIANA MARY MURETTA
Daughter of Stephen and Marlene

STEVEN THOMAS VIGLIOTTI
Son of Richard and Susan

The Elizabeth Ministry (Ministry for Mothers)



The Elizabeth Ministry of St. Agnes is a caring group of women supporting other women in our parish. It is built on the foundation of Scripture, looking to Mary and Elizabeth as models of how mothers can support one another in their times of need.

Mothers from St. Agnes have formed a network to help other mothers through prayers, phone calls, cards, providing meals, babysitting and other assistance. People are matched up based on their own experiences. We have moms that have had multiple pregnancies, miscarriages, stillborns, fertility issues and adopted children. We are here to listen and talk about our own experiences and share yours with the hopes of providing comfort and friendship.

Please call and register when you find out that you are expecting so we may pray for you and our future St. Agnes Parishioners.

Marianne English 732-382-5221
Linda McKenna 732-382-3007
Cheryl Vargas 732-381-3822
(Or call St. Agnes Rectory at 732-388-7852)



COUNTDOWN TO OUR 5TH ANNUAL SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!

**AT ST. AGNES SCHOOL ON
FEBRUARY 5, 2006
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM**

**VIEW THE GAME ON A 15 FT.
DIAGONAL MOVIE SCREEN**

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS:
17 AND OVER: \$12.00
UNDER 17: \$8.00**

**PRICE INCLUDES: SNACKS, COLD
BUFFET,
SODA, BEER**

**FOR TICKET INFO CALL
BOB BOTTITTA @ 732-388-5595**



St. Agnes will be holding a Holy Hour with exposition of Eucharist from 7 to 8 p.m. on Friday, January 20th, to commemorate the anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision Roe v. Wade.

All are invited to attend and pray for the sanctity of life.

Children aged 3 and under eat for free. For ticket information please call Greg at 732-388-2637.

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**

**A FUN-FILLED WEEKEND!
FREE ADMISSION**



Boy Scout Troop to Host Eagle Scout Pancake Breakfast

Boy Scout Troop 91 will be hosting an Eagle Scout Pancake Breakfast to support the American Red Cross. The Red Cross will purchase Volunteer Identification Vests with the donations. The breakfast will be held at The Zion Lutheran Church on Raritan Rd. in Clark, NJ on Saturday, January 21, 2006, and will run from 9 a.m. until noon. Tickets will be \$5 per person and will include a full course breakfast with pancakes and sausage.

Join Us for an



**Open House
(for Parents**

**Reception
Only)**

**Thursday, January 19, 2006
7:00 PM**

**St. Agnes Gymnasium
Clark, New Jersey**

**You are invited to discover the
difference at St. Agnes School**

Pre-K through Eighth Grade

St. Agnes is a small caring school that embraces each student and prepares them for life, academically and spiritually.

At St. Agnes we offer:

Pre-K - Three and Four Year Olds

4's - 5 day morning session
3 day afternoon session
3's - 2 day afternoon session

- All Certified Teachers
- Computer Tech. Program
- Foreign Language Program
- After-School/Care Program
- Hot Lunch Program
- Sports Program

Middle States Accredited

**PLEASE R.S.V.P. ST. AGNES SCHOOL
OFFICE AT (732) 381-0850**



SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2006	
5:30	People of the Parish
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2006	
7:30	Helen Paulauskas - Joseph Gato
9:00	Joseph Le Fano - Tony & Maria Guarraci
10:30	Michael & Stella Carr - Richard & Marie Carr
12:00	Ruth Bielecki - The Bielecki Children
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2006	
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - ONLY 1 MASS	
9:00	Michael McKeon - Mom and Dad
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2006	
7:00	John Leone - Noelia and Sr. Claire Ouimet
9:00	Carlo Denora - Sam & Mary Gianti
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2006	
7:00	Helen Cordasco - Son, Michael
9:00	Valerie Geiger - Marion Greenwood
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2006	
7:00	Andy Smith - John & Bridie Smith
9:00	Ann Ezzo - Terry & Joe Segreto
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006	
7:00	George Finger - Peggy Phelan
9:00	Andrew Darylmpole - Phyllis & Harry Moore
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2006	
8:30	Memorial - For the Deceased Members of Our Parish
5:30	Paul Hart - Hart Family

SATURDAY	JANUARY 14
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
CONFIRMATION RETREAT	
SUNDAY	JANUARY 15
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
9:00 AM	Religious Ed
7:00 PM	No CYO
MONDAY	JANUARY 16
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - NO SCHOOL	
3:30 PM	No Religious Education
7:00 PM	Sandwiches - Team 2E
7:00 PM	No Religious Education
7:30 PM	Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge
TUESDAY	JANUARY 17
7:00 PM	Religious Education
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 18
4:30 PM	Brownies - Kindergarten
5:30 PM	Girl Scouts - 6 th Grade
THURSDAY	JANUARY 19
11:30 AM	Holy Name A/C
3:30 PM	Children's Choir
7:00 PM	Open House Reception
7:30 PM	Adult Choir
FRIDAY	JANUARY 20
7:00 PM	Respect Life Holy Hour
SATURDAY	JANUARY 21
FEAST OF ST. AGNES	
8:30 AM	Mass - Memorial



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Peggy Phelan during the week of January 15th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Pauline Tavormina during the week of January 15th at the request of the Family.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Who Have Died

Julie Ann Kosiarski, Peter Massimo Liberti,
Michael Zizza, Yolanda Frese

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, Maria Conforti, Alice Triano, Barbara Guinta,, Ronald Francisco, George Stanka, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Edward Alfano, Robert McKeon, Andre Kovacs, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Cecelia Smentkowski, 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 Venezia, William Foderaro, Michael Fedosh, Thomas Wilkinson, Lucia DeCristofaro, Frances Latch

Atlantic City Bus Trip

WHEN: January 19, 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.**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 15, 2006**

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit
within you.

- 1 Corinthians 6:19a

