

From the Pastor

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Dear Parishioners,

Numerous people have been asking me how they can obtain tickets to attend the Mass at Yankee's Stadium in April. Unfortunately, this is not an Archdiocese of Newark's event. The Archdiocese of New York is the proud sponsor. Cardinal Egan graciously gave our Archbishop a block of tickets. Now Archbishop Myers is offering five (5) tickets to each pastor in the Archdiocese. Hence, sparse tickets accompanied by overwhelming requests have become a formula for a pastor's nightmare.

The names of those who will be attending the Mass had to be submitted for security purposes. Pastors were not given much time to figure out how we would distribute the tickets. I prayed for the Wisdom of Solomon and now I want to share with you the rationale behind my final decision.

At first, I thought about giving the tickets to parishioners who go above and beyond the call of duty in our church. The problem here is that there are numerous people who fall into this category. No matter who receives a ticket, I would be blamed for showing favoritism. Not on my watch!

I then thought about a raffle. However, the deadline for submitting names for the ticket did not allow enough time for a fair process. Plus, if the tickets went to parishioners who were not that active, the cry would sound: "It's not fair." Not on my watch!

I then thought about giving the tickets to parish staff, but then again who? There are only five tickets. And with the request for tickets coming from parishioners, I did not think that this option would be fair.

So, this is what was decided. There are only five tickets and this is the way they have been distributed:

1. Parish Trustee
2. Parish Trustee
3. Pastoral Council Co-Chair
4. Pastoral Council Co-Chair
5. Finance Council President

I am aware that some parishioners may be disappointed, but please know that I tried my best to be fair under the circumstances of limited tickets and time constraint.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Msgr. Jim
Pastor



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

Today's responsorial Psalm is the theme song of the good steward: "Here am I, Lord: I come to do your will." May I, too, stand ready to offer myself and my gifts in the service of God.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$13,188.00.**

Thank you.

TODAY'S READINGS

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: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18
 Saturday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 3:20-21
 Sunday: Is 8:23 — 9:3; Ps 27; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17;
 Mt 4:12-23 [12-17]

THREE MISSIONS

Today we begin with one of the "servant songs" from the book of Isaiah, a song prophetic of Jesus' ministry of service. Isaiah's mission is not only to bring back the children of Jacob to gather in Israel; it is also to be "a light to the nations" (Isaiah 49:6). Jesus Christ, as servant, will be the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy and the basis of the new.

This Sunday we begin a series of readings from Paul's letter to the Corinthians. Here Paul is identified by his mission: he is an apostle of Jesus Christ. The church at Corinth to whom he addresses this letter is also identified: it is part of the universal church of God. The Corinthians are called to holiness, as are all Christians.

Though the feast of the Baptism of the Lord was celebrated last Sunday, today's Gospel also alludes to the importance of that event. The reading emphasizes that Jesus "outranks" John: his baptism in the Spirit will eradicate sin. Jesus accepts John's baptism, even though it is he himself who is the Lamb of God.

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**BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF 01/15/08**

Total Pledges \$3,300,500.96

Pledges Collected \$3,122,723.27

Outstanding Pledges \$ 177,777.69

Total Building Costs \$3,830,672.97

Interest on Loan (+) \$ 19,887.27

Pledges Collected (-) \$3,122,723.27

**Mtge. Reduction
Collections** (-) \$ 134,337.50

Funds from Savings (-) \$ 250,000.00

Remaining Debt \$ 343,499.47

PRO-LIFE MASS**AT****SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL BASILICA**

All are invited to attend a Pro-Life Mass marking the 35th Anniversary of the infamous Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in the U.S. The Mass will be on Sunday, January 20, 2008, at 12 Noon. The Most Reverend Thomas A. Donato will preside. Mass will be followed by a Eucharistic Holy Hour for Life at St. Lucy's Church in Newark. (St. Lucy's is a short walk from the Cathedral). Parking is available at both locations. The Holy Hour will include the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Silent Adoration and Benediction. Young Adults of the Archdiocese will lead prayers and music at the Holy Hour.



**THE FEAST OF ST. AGNES
OUR PATRON SAINT**

**Monday, January 21st
After 9:00 a.m. Mass**



Following the 9:00 a.m. Mass, we will expose the Blessed Sacrament for an afternoon of Eucharistic Adoration. Adoration will conclude with vespers (evening prayer) at 6:00 p.m. Preaching during vespers will incorporate a tribute to our Patron Saint and spiritual insights for a greater respect for human life. The day after our parish feast day is the **Respect Life March in Washington, D.C.** It is very important for us to pray for life issues on the eve before the march. All are invited to come and give praise to the Lord Jesus and pray for the sanctity of life.

**MARCH FOR LIFE
JANUARY 22, 2008**

Join us as we stand up for life at the annual **March for Life in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, January 22.** Anyone who wishes to go should call St. John The Apostle Rectory at (908) 486-6363, ASAP, to reserve seating. The cost is \$10. The day will begin with a Mass at 6:15 a.m. at The Knights of Columbus Hall in Linden, followed by light refreshments. **The bus will leave the Knights parking lot at 7 a.m. and return to Linden by 10:00 p.m.** Thank you.



**COUNTDOWN TO OUR
7TH ANNUAL
SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2008 - ST. AGNES GYM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM**

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

**17 AND OVER: \$14.00
UNDER 17: \$9.00**

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

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

Baptisms

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

JULIANA MAKAELE DORAN

Daughter of John and Elizabeth

DYLAN JAY MULROY

Son of John and Kelly

AVA MARIE ROSE SMOLAR

Daughter of Michael and Regina

**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.

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.

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 9th - 6:30 - 9:30 PM
Sunday, February 10th - 1:00 - 6:00 PM



***Clown Hours:**

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

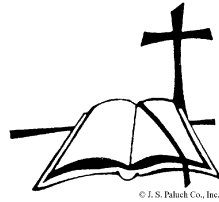
Homemade hot dogs, pizza & pierogies!!



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.



**ATTENTION ALL
WOMEN OF THE
PARISH**

**Tuesday, January 29, 2008
6:45 to 7:45 p.m. in the church**

The Holy Hour will include the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Join us as we pray for our loved ones for an hour. Please bring rosary beads.



Save the date!!

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

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

Reception to follow in gymnasium.

All are invited.

A THANK YOU FROM

ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER

Thank you so much for your generous donations of food, toys, giving tree items and financial assistance at holiday time. We are very grateful to all for your great generosity! You made the holidays very special for many people with little or no income. May the spirit of Christmas continue all year and may its message of simplicity, love, humility and peace convert our lives and transfer our world!

With loving gratitude,

Sister Jacinta Fernandes and Staff



SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2008

5:30 Robert McKeon - Stephen & Lois Radics

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2008

7:30 Jim MacConchie - Kate Matthews

9:00 People of the Parish

10:30 John Gregorek - Grandchildren-Michael, Melissa &
Joey Fabijanczuk

12:00 James MacConchie, Jr. - Scott Family

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2008 - PARISH FEAST DAY

9:00 John & Edward Rajkowski - Mike & Mary Fedosh

10:00 Exposition of Sacrament

6PM Vespers (Evening Prayer)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008

7:00 Priests of the World - Bernice Hurley

9:00 Mary Louise Loffa - Joe & Helen Suszko

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2008

7:00 Thomas Foster - Tom & Arline Foster

9:00 Mary Lynn Petteway - Mr. & Mrs. F. Lubniewski

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2008

7:00 Frank Canelleri - Jo & Jerry Meola

9:00 Maria Suchmel - Lee Elishberger

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008

7:00 Declan J. PppppppMulcahy, Jr. - Tom & Flo Haas

9:00 Elizabeth McLean - O'Grady & Matthews Families

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 20088:30 Memorial - Salvatore Bellomo, Arthur Perriello, Jr.
Arthur Perriello, Sr., John Perriello, Noelia Ouimet

5:30 Thomas Vito Parrinello - The Patuto Family

SATURDAY JANUARY 19**MORTGAGE REDUCTION COLLECTION****SUNDAY JANUARY 20****MORTGAGE REDUCTION COLLECTION**

8:45 AM CFF Classes

7:00 PM CYO - Church

MONDAY JANUARY 21**FEAST OF ST. AGNES/MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY****NO CFF CLASSES/PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

10:00 AM Exposition of Sacrament

6:00 PM Sandwiches - Team 2B

6:00 PM Vespers (Evening Prayer) - Church

7:00 PM Sports Executive Bd/Gen Mtg. - St. Joseph Room

TUESDAY JANUARY 22

6:00 PM Sports - Gym

6:30 PM CFF Classes

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23

6:30 PM Sports - Gym

7:30 PM RCIA - OLG/St. Joseph Room

THURSDAY JANUARY 24

3:30 PM Children's Choir

6:30 PM Sports - Gym

7:00 PM CFM Program - St. Lucy Room

7:30 PM Marketing - St. Jude Room

7:30 PM Adult Choir

7:30 PM Cornerstone Meeting - St. Joseph Room

FRIDAY JANUARY 25

6:30 PM Sports - Gym

SATURDAY JANUARY 26**MORTGAGE REDUCTION COLLECTION**

9:00 AM St. John's Soup Kitchen



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Helen Paulkowitz during the week of January 20th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Cecilia Smentkowski during the week of January 20th at the request of Mark Kiempisty.

*Memorial Mass
for
Noelia Ouimet (Mother of Sister Claire)
February 8, 2008, 11 a.m.
All are invited.*

Rev. Msgr. James S. Choma Presiding

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

Patricia Boff, Philip Salimbene, Edward J. Ruby, Jr.

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, Andy Pavelko, 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 and Anthony Plesh, Gabriella Giordano, Mercer Wilkinson, Mary Marciano, Mary Gianti, Joao Faria, Maria Dietrick, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Shipe, Katherine Franceski, Richard Ciccone, Theresa Sarcia, Nancy Reuter

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



**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 20, 2008**

I will make you a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

– Isaiah 49:6b