

From the Pastor

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Dear Parishioners,

SUMMER IS HERE, thank God! This has been a long year of grinding activity here at St. Agnes. Pastoral demands on the rise, school accreditation - while in full operation, Religious Education booming with children and sacramental celebrations, major church renovation (within 5 months time), and the construction of a major school expansion with parish meeting rooms (which will be in full operation after Labor Day). Yes, we're all looking for a little rest & relaxation during these quieter summer weeks.

I am happy for the return of Father Jacek. This is my seventh summer here at St. Agnes and Father Jacek has been here for five of them. He is a good priest and Father has become a part of our parish family. Father makes it easier for your parish priests to take vacation with peace of mind. We know you are in good hands when we are not present.

Some parishioners have noticed that they do not see me running around town nowadays. The reason for this is that I am experiencing knee problems. Over the past two months I have not been running as much – hoping that the knee would heal. It did not. After going to the doctor, a MRI revealed a large osteochondral defect and a tear of the medial meniscus in my left knee. It's tough getting old – ha! I guess 32 years of jogging has taken its toll. I will be going for surgery on July 20. It's ironic that this is my first day of vacation. I will be spending my vacation with surgery, recovery and rehabilitation. The whole ordeal is more of a nuisance than a critical medical problem. Please say a little prayer for me.

Enjoy the summer. Don't be too hard on Father Nuno in my absence – ha!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Jim
Pastor



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

Today's readings are about being chosen and sent. The prophet Amos was chosen by the Lord and sent to use his talents for the people of God. The Gospel recounts the story of the sending of the twelve disciples; and in the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that we, too, are chosen. For what have I been chosen? To Whom have I been sent?

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$12,564.00.**
Thank you.

BUILDING FUND

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

\$562,182.00

*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.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Is 1:10-17; Mt 10:34 -- 11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Sunday: Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

***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)

***“The Elijah Cup”
Is Coming!***



WE NEED COACHES!!

The St. Agnes Sports Committee is looking for coaches in the following sports:



Fall and Spring Track

Cheerleading

Girls' Volleyball

Instructional Basketball
(Grades K, 1-2)



Anyone interested, please contact Jeff Dattilo at (908) 486-4480 or email

jeff.dattilo@baywaylumber.com



Have a Good Summer!

Please remember the needs of your church before you go your way. Your support given before you leave will make this a good summer for everyone!



Thank you and may God Bless you with a Happy and Safe Vacation!

DOES GOD CARE WHAT I WEAR TO CHURCH?

Summer activities and vacations can make getting to Mass each week seem like a juggling act. Harder still is finding the time to dress properly and prepare as we would like. But approaching all aspects of the Eucharist carefully can deepen our Communion with Christ. What we wear can help.

Make it feel special. If you were invited to a friend's house for an evening, wouldn't you wear something nice to honor your friend? Sunday Mass is a special time for you and God. Wearing good clothes makes it feel special.

Send a message. Mass is also a communal celebration. When you look nice in church, you send a message to your Catholic brothers and sisters that you value your time together in God's name.

Use this guideline. When deciding what to wear in Church, think about this: If it's something you would wear to a picnic, to play a sport, or to clean out the garage or house, don't wear it to church—even during the summer.

A Life-Changing Experience



Back by popular demand! Good News International is sponsoring its School of Catholic Lay Evangelization, which will take place Thursday, July 27th through Monday, July 31st at Georgian Court University, Lakewood, N.J. It's back-to-basics message of God's unconditional love for all of us is one that has to be lived and shared. You will be encouraged and challenged in your faith. As one participant described it, "This is like a Jesus boot camp! It was terrific!"

The speakers, presenters, and staff are all "graduates" of the school, in addition, John Boucher, the Director of Evangelization for the Diocese of Trenton will be conducting a session.

A room for 4 nights (double occupancy), 11 meals, all sessions and written materials are included in the cost of \$275. Space is limited.

Call Good News International at (732) 364-6158 or email goodnews@cybercomm.net. This school is nothing less than life changing!!

FOOD CERTIFICATES The Perfect Fund Raiser



- *No extra money out of your pocket*
- *We all need groceries each week anyway*
- *Shoprite, A&P, Foodtown, Pathmark all participate*
- *Our personal family food shopping will strongly benefit St. Agnes Community's financial need, since 5% goes back to St. Agnes*
- *PLEASE HELP US BY PURCHASING FOOD CERTIFICATES BEFORE OR AFTER MASS***
- *Call the Rectory office for more information (732) 388-7852***
- Thank you for your support!**



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IT'S A FIESTA!!!
Where kids are fired up about Jesus!



**ST. AGNES
 SUMMER BIBLE CAMP**

July 24th – July 28th

**St. Agnes Church
 332 Madison Hill Road, Clark**

Time: 9:00 – 12:00

**ALL CHILDREN AGES 4 – 8
 (Pre-K – 3rd Grade)
 (Age 4 by July, 2006)**

**REGISTRATION WILL BE ON A
 FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS
 (LIMITED TO 100 CHILDREN).
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE
 RECTORY AT (732) 388-7852.**



Holy Hour for Life

*Come join us for a
 Holy Hour for Life
 Praying before the
 Blessed Sacrament on
 Wednesday, August 2nd
 7:30 PM at
 Holy Spirit Church
 Suburban Ave., Union, N.J.*

Sponsored by:
 Holy Spirit Respect Life Ministry



***St. Michael Church
 Cranford, N.J.***

**Sunday, July 16th will begin the annual
 collection of NEW GIFT ITEM for
 BABIES with AIDS/HIV, at St.
 Michael Parish in Cranford.**

New gift items can be brought into the church and placed at the Special Shrine located in the middle of the church on the right side. All items received will be delivered to St. Claire's Home in Elizabeth. Last year donations overflowed six vans that were used for the delivery. We hope we can count on your support this year. Below is a "Wish List" of items needed to help in the care of these special children:

Disposable Diapers – small, medium and large
Clothing - New - undershirts (6 months and up) stretch suits, sweaters, hats, overalls, polo shirts, etc.
Baby Food – all types
Baby Care Items - baby powder, shampoo, lotions, wash cloths, brush and comb sets, Vaseline, etc.
Linens - new or excellent condition - crib sheets, towels, blankets, etc.
Toys New – music toys, mobiles, toys appropriate for infants and toddlers.
Miscellaneous Items – room monitors, potty seats, baby plates, training cups, diaper bags, etc.



**Triduum Services in Honor of St. Anne & St. Joachim
 Sunday, July 23rd through Wednesday, July 26th**

St. Michael Parish in Cranford will be conducting the annual Triduum in honor of St. Anne and St. Joachim, the parents of Mary and Grandparents of Jesus. All services on these nights will begin at **7 PM.**

On Wednesday, July 26th, the feast of St. Anne and St. Joachim, there will be special festival Liturgy conducted at 7 PM followed with light refreshments.

Yearly prayer services in honor of these saints have been conducted at St. Michael Parish for well over 100 years. Plan now to attend.

Candles are available at the Parish Center for the candle light procession & Triduum Shrine. If you would like to obtain one or for more information about the services, please call the parish office at (908) 276-0360.



SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2006	
5:30	People of the Parish
SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2006	
7:30	Patricia Leonardis - Bob & Rosalie McKeon
9:00	Dominick Velard - Wife
10:30	Vita Loria - Jo & Charles Vincenti
12:00	Barney Clarke, Angelina, Charles & Felice Perriello, Pat Bodner & Anna Johnson - Dolores Clarke
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2006	
7:00	John Delaney - Tereshko Family
9:00	Robert Aklonis - Jean & Lorraine
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2006	
7:00	Christopher Bonner - The Streisel Family
9:00	John Delaney - Arlene Wellbank
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2006	
7:00	Frank F. Lotano - Children
9:00	Cecilia Chieco
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2006	
7:00	Elizabeth Cordes - Family
9:00	Joseph N. Sinoradzki - Jeffrey & Concetta Sinoradzki
FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2006	
7:00	Grace Della Torre - Maryann Fresco
9:00	John Delaney - Helen & Joe Suszko
SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2006	
8:30	Memorial Mass - Joao Barreto, Robin Helminski, Lolita Tuvilla
5:30	Andrew Lopez - The Chavez Family

SATURDAY	JULY 15
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
SUNDAY	JULY 16
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
MONDAY	JULY 17
6:30 PM	Sandwiches - Team 2D
THURSDAY	JULY 20
7:00 PM	Bible Camp Meeting - Gymnasium
SATURDAY	JULY 22
8:30 AM	Mass - Memorial
SUNDAY	JULY 23
6:00 PM	Bible Camp Set-Up

Altar & Rosary Society

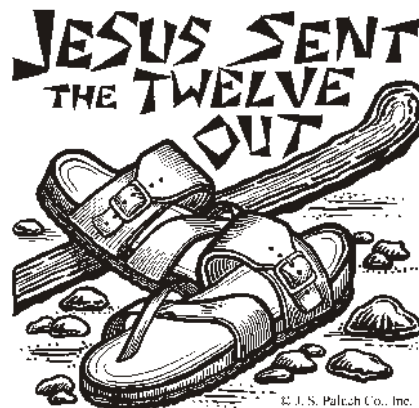
TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Helen Paulkowitz during the week of July 16th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of John Delaney during the week of July 16th at the request of St. Agnes Office & Staff.



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

Frances Giglio

Those Who Are Sick

Aileen Sasala, Mary Zelanko, Joe & Irene Margeton, Michael Dudek, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Ann Lesko, Irene Sisko, Noel Stevenson, Leilla DiLeone, Michael Denora, Mary Morelli, Anthony Szablowski, Robert Szabo Jr., Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Linda Ruth, 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, Robert McKeon, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Robert Palumbo, Florence Kempinski, Stefan Nowak, Barbara Slack, Theresa Hanselman, Elizabeth Bell, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, Mary Lou Loffa, James MacConchie, Louise Venezio, Lucia DeCristofaro, Patricia Zych, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Hazel McGuinness, Marian Heelan, Giovanna Tripicchio, Sam Roglieri, Pauline Liotti, Edward Alfano, Bart Zucosky, Marie Cerone, Josephine Stefanik, Andy Pavelko, Richard O'Lenick, Declan Mulcahy, Jr., Dolores Acquisto, Daniel Palumbo

SENT BY GOD

In Amos' time the vocation of prophet had achieved a very formal status in Israel. The prophets had arisen, originally, to act as God's voice when Israel was no longer led by the spiritual/civil figures known as "judges," but by monarchs. Over time, the monarchy had appropriated the offices of priest and prophet, established them into companies, and reserved the right to appoint courtly prophets. Then, as now, when those in power also got to choose who would act as their official conscience, things sometimes went awry. At such times, God raised up prophets from unlikely places, and this is how Amos received his vocation as prophet. In last week's Gospel we heard how Jesus was raised up as God's anointed from a place many viewed as unlikely. As we continue to discern our own vocation as baptized disciples, we can be assured that we are, in Paul's words, "chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will" (Ephesians 1:11).

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**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time****July 16, 2006**

Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

– *Psalm 85:12*