

***“On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue,  
and many who heard him were astounded.”***

Now that I have unpacked my boxes, hung my pictures and am settling into my new parish home, it's time for me to start working. First I would like to thank all parishioners of St. Agnes who have made me feel welcome my first week. Your kindness and words of support are most comforting to me.

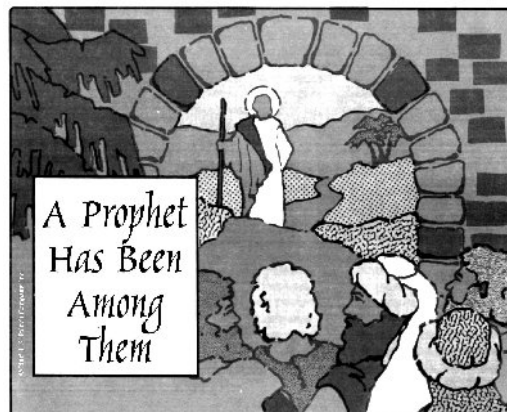
In our Gospel today the people of Nazareth were amazed and astonished at Jesus and His teaching. Despite his knowledge and the miracles he worked, they did not believe and “took offense at Him” (Mark 6:3). They made up every excuse to reject him. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him?” (Mark 6:3). It is sad but true that sometimes someone who has rejected the word of God will make up any excuse in order not to open their heart to God. Again in Nazareth the rejection of God brings a punishment, Jesus is “not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.” (Mark 6:5-6).

I am very excited about the opportunity to serve you, the people of St. Agnes Parish. My hope is that together we can grow closer to God and to one another, and be able to continue to build and strengthen our community with Christ as the center of our lives. It is a privilege and an honor for me to work and to learn from Monsignor Choma and Father Hummel and all the wonderful staff at this great parish. Thank you for accepting me as part of this beautiful family.

You will always be in my prayers and I hope I am in yours.

In Christ,

Fr. Nuno



**STEWARDSHIP**

&amp;

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

This weekend as we celebrate the Independence of our country, we will do well to echo the Psalmist, saying, "Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy." May we always recognize and use wisely the gifts of freedom and abundance He has showered upon us.

Your Stewardship in Treasure  
last week was **\$10,771.50.**  
Thank you.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Mt 9:18-26  
 Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Mt 9:32-38  
 Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Mt 10:1-7  
 Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Mt 10:7-15  
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Mt 10:16-23  
 Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Mt 10:24-33  
 Sunday: Am 7:12-15; Ps 85; Eph 1:3-14 [1:3-10];  
 Mk 6:7-13

Mt. St. Mary House of Prayer

Mount St. Mary House of Prayer, Watchung, will offer the following program. **To register** please call 908-753-2091 or e-mail: [msmhope@att.net](mailto:msmhope@att.net)

**SIX-DAY RETREAT**

An experience of personal prayer based on Scripture. Daily spiritual direction. Atmosphere of prayerful quiet. Adaptable to the needs and desires of each individual.

July 18-25 - \$350

*Non-refundable deposit \$75 (registration required)*

*Arrival: 7 p.m. Departure: 11 a.m.*

**BUILDING FUND**

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

**\$562,232.00**

*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.*

Baptisms

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

**EMILY MARIE DYNAK**  
Daughter of Richard and Karen

**KRISTA LAUREN LA BIANCA**  
Daughter of John and Lori

***“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](mailto:jeff.dattilo@baywaylumber.com)




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### *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!

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### **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.



## *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 Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Interested people can meet in front of the church. If you need any additional information, please call the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.

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### *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)

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

**ST. AGNES  
SUMMER BIBLE CAMP**

**July 24<sup>th</sup> – July 28<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Time: 9:00 – 12:00**

**ALL CHILDREN AGES 4 – 8  
(Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.**



**It's Back . . .and it's a FIESTA!!  
Where kids are fired up about  
Jesus!**

Our next Bible Camp meeting will take place on Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the gym.



**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!**



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

**Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 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.



*This Week*

**SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2006**

5:30 Regina Bladzinski - Clark Girls Traveling  
Basketball Team

**SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2006**

7:30 Cabrina Bacchetta - Lisa & Mark Orlowski  
9:00 Louis & Dina Talamo - The Children  
10:30 Dorothy & Paul Hampson - Mary Beth Hampson  
12:00 People of the Parish

**MONDAY, JULY 10, 2006**

7:00 Christopher Bonner - The Seebode Family  
9:00 Michael Arthur Flanagan - Vincent & Betty  
Flanagan

**TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2006**

7:00 Patricia Leonardis - Aunt Mary  
9:00 Anthony & Sarah Lombino - Rose Brinker

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2006**

7:00 Christopher Bonner - The Kania Family  
9:00 Stanley Niemczyk - The Niemczyk Family

**THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2006**

7:00 Grace Biglasco - Children  
9:00 Frank Elischberger - Susan Delaney

**FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2006**

7:00 Christopher Bonner - The Streisel Family  
9:00 Special Intention 61<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
Charles & Esther Ziobro - Helen Pipala

**SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2006**

8:30 Memorial Mass - Margaret Firestone, Rachel  
Traina  
5:30 People of the Parish

**MONDAY JULY 10**

7:00 PM Bible Camp Meeting - Gymnasium

**WEDNESDAY JULY 12**

7:30 PM RCIA Inquiry - Church

**SATURDAY JULY 15**

**MAINTENANCE COLLECTION**

8:30 AM Mass - Memorial

**SUNDAY JULY 16**

**MAINTENANCE COLLECTION**

*Altar & Rosary Society*

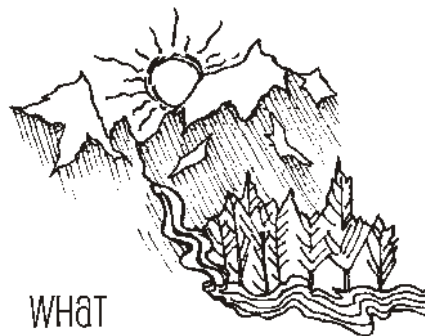
**TRAVELING MADONNA** - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Helen Paulkowitz during the week of July 9<sup>th</sup>.



**SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn in memory of Patricia Leonardis during the week of July 9<sup>th</sup> at the request of Aunt Mary.



**ALTAR BREAD AND WINE** for the week of July 9<sup>th</sup> were donated in memory of George Finger at the request of his wife, Irene.



WHAT  
MIGHTY DEEDS  
are WROUGHT BY HIS HANDS!

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**ONLY HALFWAY**

You can only go halfway into the darkest forest; then you are coming out the other side.  
- Chinese Proverb

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

Marie "Mickey" Aznar

***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

**FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST**

Mark's Gospel account today is built on a double astonishment or amazement: the neighbors and family of Jesus are astonished that he taught in the synagogue with wisdom and worked powerful signs. Jesus, in turn, is amazed that they have no faith in him because they know his origins, not because of any fault with his teaching or ministry. As with many of Mark's passages, we get a rather intimate glimpse here of the human part of Jesus' two-fold nature. To reinforce his point, Mark tells of Jesus' return to his native place, and further points out that he is in the midst of his own family members there. From the very people he expected the most, Jesus received the least. In the day of the Gospel's writing, Mark was attempting to illustrate a lesson to the house of Israel: the God of the covenant expected the greatest faith from the house of Israel, but often received the least. This is a good source for reflection on our part, we who are Jesus' followers today. For the wisdom of Christ to continue and for our lives to be seen as signs of his power, he must expect and be able to find great faith among us. Will he? Can he? Does he? Or is he, once again, amazed by its absence?

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**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 9, 2006**

I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses,  
in order that the power of Christ  
may dwell with me.

– 2 Corinthians 12:9

