

Saint Peter, the first pope, was a fisherman from Galilee. Jesus invited him to follow him, saying: "I will make you a fisher of men." Peter was a simple, hard-working man. He was generous, honest and very attached to Jesus.

This great apostle's name was Simon, but Jesus changed it to Peter, which means "rock." "You are Peter," Jesus said, "and on this rock I will build my Church." Peter was the chief or prince of the apostles. When Jesus was arrested, Peter became afraid. It was then that he committed the sin of denying Our Lord three times. Fear for his safety got the best of him. But Peter repented totally. He wept over his denials for the rest of his life. Jesus forgave Peter. After his resurrection he asked Peter three times: "Do you love me?" "Lord," Peter answered, "you know all things. You know that I love you." Jesus truly did know! Peter was so right. Jesus said kindly: "Feed my lambs. Feed my sheep." He was telling Peter to take care of his Church because he would be ascending into heaven. Jesus left Peter as the leader of his followers.

Peter eventually went to Rome to live. Rome was the center of the whole Roman Empire. Peter converted many nonbelievers there. When the fierce persecution of Christians began, they begged Peter to leave Rome and save himself. It is said that he actually started out. On the road he met Jesus. Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered, "I am coming to be crucified a second time." Then St. Peter turned around and went back. He realized that this vision meant that he was to suffer and die for Jesus. Soon after, he was taken prisoner and condemned to death. Because he was not a Roman citizen, he, like Jesus, could be crucified. This time he did not deny the Lord. Peter asked to be crucified with his head downward since he was not worthy to suffer as Jesus had. St. Peter was martyred on Vatican Hill. It was around the year 67. Emperor Constantine built a large church over that sacred location in the fourth century. Recent archaeological findings confirm these facts.

We can learn from St. Peter that when we make Jesus the center of our hearts and our lives, everything else will work out.

### ***St. Paul***

Paul is the great apostle who first persecuted the Christians. Then he was converted. We celebrate Paul's conversion on January 25. At the time of his conversion, Jesus had said: "I will show him how much he must suffer for me." St. Paul loved Jesus very much, so much, in fact, that he became a living copy of our Savior. All his life, during his many missionary trips, St. Paul met troubles and went through dangers of every kind. He was whipped, stoned, shipwrecked, and lost at sea. Many, many times he was hungry, thirsty and cold.

Yet he always trusted in God. He never stopped preaching. "The love of Jesus presses me onward," he said. In reward, God gave him great comfort and joy in spite of every suffering.

We read about his marvelous adventures for Christ in Luke's Acts of the Apostles, beginning with chapter nine. But St. Luke's story ends when Peter arrives in Rome. He is under house arrest, waiting to be tried by Emperor Nero. A famous early Christian writer, Tertullian, tells us that Paul was freed after his first trial. But then he was put in prison again. This time he was sentenced to death. He died around the year 67, during Nero's terrible persecution of the Christians.

Paul called himself the apostle of the Gentiles. He preached the Gospel to the non-Jews. That took him to the whole known world. Because of Paul, we, too, have received the Christian faith. Sometimes we realize that our faith is not strong enough. It is then that we can pray to St. Paul. He will help us believe in and love Jesus as he did.

**STEWARDSHIP  
&  
FAITH**

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

Saints Peter and Paul worked tirelessly to spread the Gospel. Not all can be apostles, but we, too, must be good stewards of our vocations, using the gifts we've been given in the service of God's kingdom.

Your Stewardship in Treasure  
last week was **\$12,331.00.**  
Thank you.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

Monday: Am 2:6-10, 13-16; Mt 8:18-22  
 Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Mt 8:2-27  
 Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24; Mt 8:28-34  
 Thursday: Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29  
 Friday: Am 8:4-6, 9-12; Mt 9:9-13 or, for  
 Independence Day, any readings from the  
 Mass "For Public Needs," nos. 882-886, or  
 "For Peace and Justice," nos. 887-891  
 Saturday: Am 9:11-15; Mt 9:14-17  
 Sunday: Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145; Rom 8:9, 11-13;  
 Mt 11:25-30

**PETER AND PAUL**

Today is something of a rarity: the celebration of a saint's day that replaces the Sunday liturgy. Only a handful of these days, given the official rank of "solemnity," are considered so foundational and primal to the mission of the Church that they can interrupt the Sunday sequence. And so it is with Peter and Paul today.

In a way, they each have personality traits with which we can identify. They are both impetuous, sometimes acting or speaking thoughtlessly, contradicting the spiritual gifts given to them by God. At such times, they might receive a nudge from God, much the same as many of us experience. On the positive side, these men were deeply rooted in their faith in Christ, tireless and fearless in living out their call to spread the Good News of his death and resurrection. Perhaps we might identify more with one or the other, but the essential truth we celebrate today is this: Through the Spirit, Christ built and continues to build the Church and make the kingdom known through fragile, remarkable human beings, each graced in a particular way for the work of the reign of God.

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**BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT  
AS OF 06/23/08**

**Total Pledges** **\$3,312,980.50**

**Pledges Collected** **\$3,156,973.31**

**Outstanding Pledges** **\$ 156,007.19**

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**Total Building Costs** **\$3,830,672.97**

**Interest on Loan** (+) **\$ 19,887.27**

**Pledges Collected** (-) **\$3,156,973.31**

**Mtge. Reduction  
Collections** (-) **\$ 168,467.50**

**Funds from Savings** (-) **\$ 250,000.00**

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**Remaining Debt** **\$ 275,119.43**

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***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 June, the Elijah Cup will be in the homes of the following parishioners:

- |         |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| July 6  | Diane DeJesus               |
| July 13 | Eleanor & Joseph Parlacoski |
| July 20 | Elli Bordynko               |
| July 27 | Bob Vislocky                |

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

**VIRTUE**

Wisdom is knowing what to do next. Skill is knowing how to do it. Virtue is doing it.  
- Thomas Jefferson



**Rite 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 Sessions will take place on Monday, July 14th and Wednesday, August 13th at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Lucy Room, which is located on the lower level of the parish center. If you need any additional information, please call Sr. Margaret at (732) 388-2560.

**ST. AGNES  
SUMMER BIBLE CAMP**



**July 21 – July 25**

St. Agnes Church  
332 Madison Hill Road, Clark

**Time: 9:00 – 12:00**

**ALL CHILDREN AGES 4 – 8**  
(Age 4 by July, 2008)

For more information or registration form,  
please call (732) 388-7852.



We wish to  
following who

**WELCOME** the

have entered into the faith community through  
the sacrament of Baptism:

**ENZO ANTONIO PIMENTA**

Son of Ricardo and Resa

**JENNA SORCE**

Daughter of Joseph and Karen

**ST. AGNES  
SIXTH ANNUAL  
JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> TAILGATE PICNIC**



Come celebrate with us. The picnic is scheduled from 6 to 10 PM on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. Parish will provide the D.J. for musical entertainment.

**FIREWORKS  
BEGIN AT 9:15 PM**



Everyone is asked to bring their own food,  
beverages, chairs, etc.



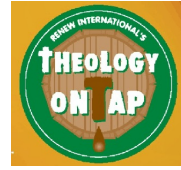


## The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

### Why Does the Church Teach About Issues Affecting Public Policy?

The Church's obligations to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, a part of the mission given to us by Jesus Christ. Faith helps us see more clearly the truth about human life and dignity that we also understand through human reason. As people of both faith and reason, Catholics are called to bring truth to political life and to practice Christ's commandment to "love one another" (Jn 13:34). According to Pope Benedict XVI, "charity must animate the entire lives of the lay faithful and therefore also their political activity, lived as 'social charity'" (*Encyclical Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).

The United States Constitution protects the right of individual believers and religious bodies to participate and speak out without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should recognize and protect the Church's right and responsibility to participate in society without abandoning our central moral convictions. Our nation's tradition of pluralism is enhanced, not threatened, when religious groups and people of faith bring their convictions into public life. The Catholic community brings to the political dialogue a consistent moral framework and broad experience serving those in need.



### What is Theology on Tap?

Theology on Tap aims to provide a casual gathering space for young adults to discuss their faith and the issues that shape and impact our private, social and professional lives today.

#### **July 2008 Gatherings**

##### **Morris Theology on Tap Grasshopper off the Green**

41-43 Morris Street  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
(973) 285-5150

Tuesday, July 15, 7:30 p.m.  
"Catholic Principles in the Public Square"  
Presenter: Jay Webber, 26<sup>th</sup>  
Legislative District Assemblyman

Tuesday, July 22, 7:30 p.m.  
"The Green Church – The Catholic Church  
and the Environment"  
Presenter: Anne Marie Treger

##### **Essex Theology on Tap The Cloverleaf Tavern**

395 Bloomfield Ave.  
Caldwell, NJ 07006

\$15/pp for Your Favorite Starters  
Buffet/Complimentary Soft Drinks

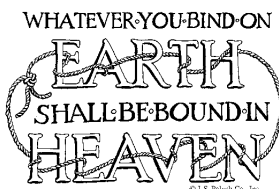
Monday, July 28, 7:30 p.m.  
"Faith in Politics"  
Presenter: Paul Snatchko  
"Faithful Citizenship"  
A Presentation on the U.S. Catholic Bishops'  
Statement on Voting & Political Engagement

Check for updates on the website:

[www.newarkoym.org](http://www.newarkoym.org)



The Benedictines of Newark Abbey invite all members of St. Agnes parish family to celebrate the feast of St. Benedict at the "Monkfest" on **Sunday, July 13, 2008**. This is our annual family outdoor festival of fun, barbeque food, music, games, and tours of the monastery at 528 M.L. King Blvd. It begins at 2:00 p.m. and ends with 6:00 Vespers. Admission is free – just bring a favorite picnic dish, and RSVP (973) 643-4800, ext. 1173 by July 11.



Mass Schedule

This Week

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2008**

5:30 People of the Parish

**SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2008**

7:30 Anna Reichenstein - St. Agnes Rosary Society  
9:00 Declan Mulcahy, Jr. - Cancro Family  
10:30 Barney Clarke, Angelina, Felice, Charles & John Perriello - Dolores Clarke  
12:00 Anthony Migliore - Wife Shirley & Family

**MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2008**

7:00 Ernesto & Rosa Marticorena - Marticorena Family  
9:00 Declan Mulcahy, Jr. - Mr. & Mrs. Richard Sullivan

**TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2008**

7:00 Fred Miller - Karen & Don Segro  
9:00 Mary Segreto - Terry & Joe Segreto

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2008**

7:00 Mildred Melsheimer - Carol & Rick Lindemann  
9:00 Florence Kempinski - Albert T. Kanyuck

**THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2008**

7:00 Louis Iozzi - Karen & Don Segro  
9:00 Edward Wisnowski - Bob & Jane Horsch

**FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2008 - INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**1 MASS ONLY**

9:00 Rose Mangiavillano - Jean & Michael Palumbo

**SATURDAY, JULY 5, 2008**

8:30 Memorial - Teresa Hanselman, Margaret Cafiero, Declan Mulcahy, Jr., Josephine Smith, Carmela Cannizzaro  
5:30 Lawrence Peluso - Frances Palmucci

**“MEET AND GREET” FR. COHAN - GYM (AFTER ALL MASSES)**  
**SUNDAY JUNE 29**  
**“MEET AND GREET” FR. COHAN - GYM (AFTER ALL MASSES)**  
**SATURDAY JULY 5**  
9:00 AM St. Joseph Soup Kitchen

*Altar & Rosary Society*

**TRAVELING MADONNA** - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Helen Paulkowitz during the week of June 29th.



**SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn in memory of Bart Zucosky during the week of June 29th at the request of Marie & Mike Mega.



**ALTAR BREAD AND WINE** for the week of June 29th were donated in memory of George E. Finger at the request of Wife-Irene.

 **SOUP KITCHEN**  
Volunteers will be going to St. Joseph’s Soup Kitchen on Saturday, July 5th. Donations of baked goods will be greatly appreciated. Please drop them off at the St. Agnes kitchen Friday or before 9 a.m. Saturday morning. For more information please call Dee Memmer at 732-381-8956.

**SATURDAY JUNE 28**  
**Parish/Rectory Office Summer Hours**  
Effective Friday, June 6th, and continuing throughout the summer months, the parish/rectory office will be closing at 4 p.m. on Fridays. Thank you.

*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!



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

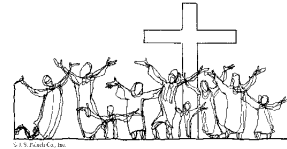
Edwin Pfister

***Those Who Are Sick***

Mary Zelanko, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Joe & Irene Margeton, 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, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, Louise Venezia, Lucia DeCristofaro, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Giovanna Tripicchio, Marie Cerone, Daniel Palumbo, Jim MacConchie, Eileen Imbriaco, Josephine Zbikowski, Antonina Manto, Warren Sidney, Kenneth McLoughlin, Elizabeth Kate Chern, William Miskovich, Zackary Infante, Angela Decker, Vincent Flanagan, Helen Kiemista, Carmelina Giacobbe, Marie Farese, Joseph Loria, Rose Gerhardt, Robert & Esther Quinlivan, Mariani Rocco, Dominic Preite, Marge Geist Gais, Jerry Vezza, Brenda Vermeal, Angie Plesh, Gabriella Giordano, Mary Marciano, Mary Gianti, Joao Faria, Maria Dietrick, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Shipe, Katherine Franceski, Richard Ciccone, Nancy Reuter, Joseph Fabijanczuk, Jennifer Concalves, David Shea, Joey Santillo, Josephine Kane, Sergio Ricciardi, Kevin Keating, Michael Denora, Nicholas Maculoso, Edward Nicholson, Jeanmarie Stewart, Michael Joseph Anderson III, Joseph Santillo, Josephine Pipa, Neil Boyle, Jr.



*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*



**St.. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles**  
**June 29, 2008**

Through all the earth their voice resounds,  
 and to the ends of the world, their message.

– Psalm 19:5