

*From the Desk of
Rev. Donald K. Hummel*

Dear St. Agnes Parish Family,

Many of you stopped on the way out of mass last week and asked how my first week as administrator went. While my responses varied, depending on circumstances, please let me sum it up – somewhere between crazy and chaotic! Several folks asked if my pay was doubled . . . are you for real? This IS the church! No way. Some wondered if my “other” job would somehow demand less time and energy . . . not exactly . . . but . . . this is a GREAT parish! God is so very alive and real here . . . and it’s not so much the beautiful church building but the faith-filled children of God in Jesus Christ that make the building alive . . . that’s YOU that make it a place every priest would want to serve. And I am grateful that you who welcomed me to the family so warmly three years ago to live, have now once again thrown open your hearts as I assume the awesome responsibility as your shepherd – at least for the foreseeable future. I pray the Lord fan in my soul the flames of Servant Leadership to serve you well.

The responsibilities of leadership can range quickly from the mechanical – new leases to be studied for duplication machines, broken elevator, burnt out light bulbs, etc. – to ministerial – already a wake (at a funeral home I had never heard of) and an emergency anointing at the hospital – to personal – people who are upset, happy, sad, giddy, angry, bored, excited and so on . . . the special moments like our little ones who experienced God’s mercy and grace in First Penance and our candidates Angelo and Kelly who will soon be received into the fullness of church fellowship.

There will be so much more to come. But now, allow me to ask – How will you mark the remainder of Lent this year? Are you planning to make the St. Joseph Novena? (all the nights?), pray the “Seven Last Words” on Good Friday? Participate actively in the magnificent and moving Liturgies of the Triduum – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter (maybe even the Vigil this year?) You can choose to finish your Lenten journey with a renewed appreciation of what the Lord, Jesus has done for us . . . for YOU!!!

Will you be there?

He will . . . and He’s looking for YOU.

In the Lord’s Service,

Fr. Don Hummel

**STEWARDSHIP
&
FAITH**

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

When Jesus heard about the illness of His friend, Lazarus, He responded, "This illness is not to end in death; rather it is for God's glory, that through it the Son of God may be glorified." Every aspect of our lives – our gifts as well as our sufferings – can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessing for ourselves and others.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$11,514.00.**
Thank you.

TODAY'S READINGS

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];
Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession);
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22; Phil 2:6-11;
Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]



**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, April 14th and Thursday, May 15th 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.

**BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF 03/03/08**

Total Pledges \$3,312,832.50

Pledges Collected \$3,151,287.31

Outstanding Pledges \$ 161,545.19

Total Building Costs \$3,830,672.97

Interest on Loan (+) \$ 19,887.27

Pledges Collected (-) \$3,151,287.31

Mtge. Reduction Collections (-) \$ 145,167.50

Funds from Savings (-) \$ 250,000.00

Remaining Debt \$ 304,105.43

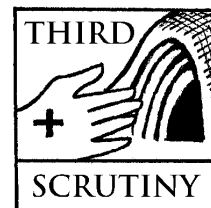


Elijah Cup Program

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

March 2	Phyllis Cupo
March 9	Rose & Ed Zukowski
March 16	Carmen & Dave Esteves
March 23	Clark-Barnes Family
March 30	Grace Bradley

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



ATTENTION ALL WOMEN!!**WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT**
April 18-19, 2008**"Follow Me"****An invitation to attend a faith enriching experience.**

The Women's Cornerstone Retreat for 2008 will be held at St. Agnes Church beginning at 6 p.m. (with a light meal) and will adjourn about 10 p.m. The group will reconvene on Saturday at 8 a.m. starting with breakfast and end with Mass in the evening at 5:30 p.m., followed by a gathering with family and friends, where light refreshments will be provided. The retreat will not require staying over.

For more information or to obtain a reservation form, please call the Parish Office at (732) 388-7852.

Attention 6th and 7th Graders and Parents

Now is the time to start planning for Catholic High School! Come join us at High School Expo. The Catholic Secondary Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark are traveling to your area. School personnel and student-ambassadors will answer your question in an informal, "college-fair type" setting. Ten to twenty-five schools are represented at each night. These nights will be held on: April 8 (Visitation Academy, Paramus), April 9 (St. Aloysius Elementary School, Jersey City), April 10 (Queen of Peace Elementary), April 15 (St. John The Apostle School, Clark/Linden), April 16 (Our Lady of Sorrows School, South Orange), and April 17 (Archdiocesan Center, Newark). All nights are held from 7 PM until 8:30 PM, no pre-registration is required, and siblings are welcome. For directions and further information visit our website at www.rcan.org/schools or call (973) 497-4258.

**CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION**
RE-REGISTRATION
INFORMATION

Re-Registration forms for CFF classes will be arriving at your home within the next two weeks. This registration is **only** for students already enrolled in the program. Please return the form as soon as possible. Due to the increasing number of students, we need teachers and substitutes. If you are a practicing Catholic and willing to give an hour and a half of your time weekly, please call the Catholic Faith Formation Office at (732) 388-2560. Please see future bulletins for new student registration information.

Reception to Honor Parishioner Legacies

Each spring, Archbishop John J. Myers hosts a prayer service and tea reception to honor all those who have included their individual parish or the Archdiocese of Newark in their will, or have made some other type of planned gift. This year's Legacy Circle Tea will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at 2:00 PM at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. A reception hosted by Archbishop Myers will take place immediately following the prayer service in the Residence. Anyone who has named the parish in his or her will is eligible to be enrolled in the Legacy Circle Planned Giving Society. If you have named the parish in your will, or are considering doing so, please contact the Planned Giving Office at the Archdiocese of Newark at (973) 497-4048. Legacy Circle members receive special invitations to Archdiocesan events held throughout the year as well as important updates and information.

The Chrism Mass

Monday, March 17th, 8:00 PM
Cathedral Basilica of the
Sacred Heart in Newark

If you are interested in attending the Chrism Mass, please call the Parish Office at (732) 388-7852 so that we can arrange for car pools and sit together in the cathedral.



EASTER EGG HUNT

For several years now the young people of the parish have enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt. This year the hunt will be held on the **SATURDAY after EASTER, MARCH 29th** at 11:00 AM weather permitting. There are two prizes available, in addition to the wonderful various plastic eggs filled with goodies and pennies. This year our own CYO will be running the hunt.

Donations of plastic eggs, pennies and goodies would be greatly appreciated. [Please be mindful of the concern of peanut allergies when selecting your goody donation.] Donations can be dropped off at the parish office. Thank you.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

St. Agnes Bereavement Support Group will be held:
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24 and May 8. All sessions are held on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 PM in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Room (Lower level of Parish Center)

(Please call the Parish Office at (732) 388-7852 for more information or to register for the group.)



The Holy Name Society will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 11, in the Fr. Whelan Center immediately following the St. Joseph's Novena. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All men of the parish are welcome to attend.



ROSARIANS BAGEL SALE!

**MARCH 9, 2008
AFTER ALL MASSES**

ST. JOSEPH NOVENA



A great opportunity for spiritual enrichment is to participate in our annual St. Joseph Novena. The Novena begins March 10th and ends on March 18th. The guest speakers and topics for the Novena are as follows:

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 3/10 Light of the Patriarchs | Msgr. B. Worry |
| 3/11 Spouse of the Mother of God | Rev. Luke Tran |
| 3/12 Foster-Father of the Sod of God | Rev. Alex Cruz |
| 3/13 Joseph Most Valiant | Rev. B. McBride |
| 3/14 Hope of the Sick | Rev. J. Sheehan |
| 3/15 Patron of the Dying | Rev. N. Rocha |
| 3/16 Joseph Most Faithful
Novena/Social | Rev. D. Hummel |
| 3/17 Joseph Most Obedient | Rev. S. Nadres |
| 3/18 Pillar of Families | Deacon M. York |

Plan to be with us each evening and make this a Lenten Devotion for yourself.

ST. AGNES



**SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2008
RAIN OR SHINE
9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM**

ALL CLOTHES MUST BE BAGGED OR BOXED.
NO HANGERS PLEASE.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.
CLOTHING, LINENS, PLUSH TOYS.
NO HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.

Any questions please call Adele at 732-382-8332

PALM SUNDAY, 10:30 MASS

As has been customary before the start of the 10:30 Mass, we will begin the mass with a procession with palm. Parishioners will gather in the gymnasium and then process outside and enter the front of the church. For this mass only, parishioners are asked not to park their cars in the front circular driveway of the church. Thank you.



SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2008	
5:30	Traci Roman - Betty & Dominic Massarelli
SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2008	
7:30	Mr. & Mrs. John Bielecki - The Bielecki Children
9:00	Rita Pinho - Kevin & Virginia Resinger
10:30	William S. Murphy, Sr. - The Matthews Family
12:00	People of the Parish
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2008	
7:00	Jim Ross - Gina & John Ross
9:00	Mary Balandis - Hart Family
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008	
7:00	Sister Giovanna Sabia - Sister Claire & Mrs. Ouimet
9:00	Joseph Kulbaba, Jr. - Hedy Ott & Dorothy Long
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008	
7:00	Ronald Rodd - Mr. & Mrs. R. Zych & Family
9:00	Mary & John Porcelli - Grace & Nicholas Antonelli
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008	
7:00	Agnes MacDonald - Marie Andrews
9:00	Gloria Zirpolo - Susan, Matt & Eric Delaney
FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2008	
7:00	Mary Rivera - Marie Andrews
9:00	Mary & Konstanty Milek - Jose & Helen Suszko
SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2008	
8:30	Memorial - Patricia Ellen Leonardis, Harold Hopley, Andy Pavelko, Noelia Ouimet, John Grieves, Irene Donatelli, Jessie Westerman, Brian Dunn Priestley
5:30	People of the Parish

SATURDAY	MARCH 8
PETERS PENCE COLLECTION	
SUNDAY	MARCH 9
PETERS PENCE COLLECTION ROSARY BAGEL SALE	
8:45 AM	CFF Classes
7:00 PM	No CYO
MONDAY	MARCH 10
3:30 PM	CFF Classes
6:00 PM	Sandwiches - Team 1D
6:30 PM	CFF Classes
7:00 PM	Book Club - St. Thomas Room
7:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena
7:30 PM	Boardwalk Meeting - St. Lucy Room
TUESDAY	MARCH 11
6:30 PM	CFF Classes
7:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena
8:00 PM	Holy Name Society Meeting - Fr. Whalen Center
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 12
7:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena
7:30 PM	RCIA - OLG/St. Joseph Room
THURSDAY	MARCH 13
3:30 PM	Children's Choir - Music Ministry Room
7:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena
7:30 PM	Adult Choir - Music Ministry Room
FRIDAY	MARCH 14
7:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena
7:30 PM	Girl Scouts - 5 th Grade Classroom
7:30 PM	St. Agnes School Board Mtg. - St. Joseph Room
SATURDAY	MARCH 15
FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH	
9:15 PM	Missal Changing
7:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena



Thank you for the wonderful response to our Stewardship Ministry Fair. Volunteers are working hard inputting the hundreds of names and information into our database. Updated lists will be mailed to Ministry Coordinators. Please be patient as volunteers will be receiving phone calls in the next few weeks.



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Angie Plesh during the week of March 9th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Cecilia Smentkowski during the week of March 9th at the request of Linda & Michael Milken.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Who Have Died

Josephine Vicente, Walter Serafin

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, 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 Venezio, Lucia DeCristofaro, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Giovanna Tripicchio, Marie Cerone, 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 Veza, Brenda Vermeal, Angie & Anthony 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, Michael Readie

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2008

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD:
LORD, hear my voice!

– Psalm 130:1

