

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

Dear St. Agnes Parish Family,

“He’s coming . . . let’s go see what it’s all about!” WHO is HE? What’s the big deal? Wow! He must be something special . . . look at the crowds . . . I want to get a look at him, maybe He really is the Messiah we’ve been waiting for. . .”

Are YOU curious enough to make a special effort to “see what it’s all about?”

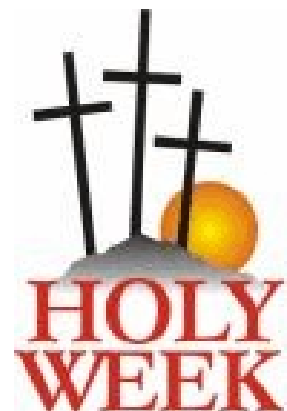
Lent 2008 is almost over. Has it made a difference in YOUR life? How have you done with your Lenten “discipline”? Will Easter be just another holiday for bunny rabbits, jelly beans and chocolate? Or will you personally rejoice at the Rising of the SON from the grave?

This time of year is a particularly rich and meaningful one for the church. The liturgies of the TRIDUUM (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter) are profound and powerful laden with deep levels of spiritual contact with our Saving Lord. We hope and pray that you will make a concerted effort to join us for these celebrations. In addition, we are also involved in our traditional St. Joseph Novena (a long-standing devotion here at St. Agnes). We also continue that other powerful reflection THE SEVEN LAST WORDS on Good Friday afternoon. As you can see, there are many opportunities to walk with Jesus to the Cross that you may more fully celebrate His Resurrection.

May the journey be a blessed one for you and those you love.

In Him who gave His Life that we might Live!

Fr. Don Hummel



**STEWARDSHIP**

&amp;

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

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" shout the crowds in today's Gospel. May we be always ready to share our blessings when we are sent in His name!

Your Stewardship in Treasure  
last week was **\$12,097.00**;  
Peter's Pence **\$3,578.00**.  
Thank you.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**Gospel at the Procession with Palms** — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11).

**First Reading** — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

**Psalm** — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

**Second Reading** — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

**Gospel** — The account of Christ's passion according to Matthew (Matthew 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 03/10/08**

**Total Pledges** \$3,312,892.50

**Pledges Collected** \$3,152,320.31

**Outstanding Pledges** \$ 160,572.19

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

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

**Pledges Collected** (-) \$3,152,320.31

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

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

**Remaining Debt** \$ 303,072.43

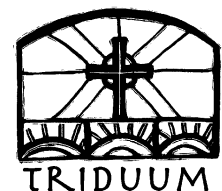
### *Good Friday Collection*

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Your financial contribution helps to support the struggling Christian community and to protect Christianity's holiest places. Thank you for your generosity and support.

### *Elijah Cup Program*



Please prayerfully consider taking the Elijah Cup into your home for a week of prayer for vocations. 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.



**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. Thank you.



Registration for new students (including Kindergarten) will begin Monday, March 24, and will conclude Thursday, April 17. You may register in the Catholic Faith Formation Office located in the school anytime between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, or 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday (**CFF office closed on Fridays**). Evening registration will take place in the school office March 21 and April 1, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Please try to register early since classes reach their quota rapidly. You must bring a copy of your child's **baptismal certificate**. The fee for all students new to the program (grades 1-8) is \$100 per child; Kindergarten is \$50. Family re-registration discounts do not apply.

**Easter 2008**

**Holy Thursday, March 20th**  
Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper  
- 7:30pm

Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament concluding with Night Prayer  
Service at 10pm

**Good Friday, March 21st**  
Seven Last Words Service - 12 Noon to 3pm  
Main Service - 7:30pm  
Solemn Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord Jesus

**Holy Saturday, March 22nd**  
Blessing of Food - 11:00am  
Solemn Easter Vigil Mass - 8:00pm

**Easter Sunday, March 23rd**  
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 12 noon

**The Chrism Mass**

**Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 PM**  
**Cathedral Basilica of the  
Sacred Heart in Newark**

**Congratulations and Thank You!**

The past two Saturdays 101 children made their First Penance. We wish to thank their teachers for preparing the girls and boys. Thanks to Sister Margaret, Sister Claire, Mrs. Maria Guarraci, Mrs. Ann Maria Nenortas, Mrs. Lori Knorowski, Mrs. Karen Cundari, Mrs. Lisa Hofschneider and Mrs. Judith Rowlands.



## 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 29<sup>th</sup>** 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.

### Attention All Men of St. Agnes Parish!!!

Our next Men's Spirituality Group meeting for Lent will be Wednesday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fr. Whelan Center. Our topic in this Lenten season is "Conversion of the Heart."

Our Catechism references are #1847-1848. The Scripture reference is 2 Timothy 1:8-10. Questions for sharing will show us small steps to transform our weaknesses into opportunities to grow in our faith!

Coffee will be served after the meeting. For more information, please call Walter Borowski at (732) 381-0586 or email at [comunioncbm@yahoo.com](mailto:comunioncbm@yahoo.com).

## 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.)

## 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:

3/16 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 at 7 PM 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**

### ***Annulment Information Evening***

An Annulment Information Evening is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 2008. A canon lawyer from the Archdiocese of Newark will discuss the most recent theology, guidelines and requirements for obtaining a Church annulment. A question and answer period will conclude the session. Pre-registration not necessary. This information evening will be held at St. Theresa's RC Church, 541 Washington Ave., Kenilworth at 7:30 p.m. For additional information, please call the Office of Family Life Ministries at (973) 497-4327.



<b>SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2008</b>
5:30 People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2008</b>
7:30 Pauline Gessler - Christine & Charlotte Gessler
9:00 Mary & John Porcelli - Grace & Nicholas Antonelli
10:30 Thomas Long, Sr. - Dorothy Long & Family
12:00 Peter & Jeanette Ciavarella - Anthony & Angie Plesh
<b>MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008</b>
7:00 Stephan Talina - Mrs. Mildred Golaszewski
9:00 Castellano Family - Adele & Joseph Castellano
<b>TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2008</b>
7:00 Paul Lontka - Christine & Charlotte Gessler
9:00 Dominick Bucca - Toni Bucca
<b>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008</b>
7:00 Felicia Ulisse - Joe & Cecilia DiBella
9:00 Elizabeth O'Donnell - Mr. & Mrs. S. Gonczlik
<b>THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008 - NO MORNING MASS</b>
7:30 Mass of the Lord's Supper - No Intention Adoration Concluding with Night Prayer at 10 PM
<b>FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2008 - NO MORNING MASS</b>
12-3PM 7 Last Words
7:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy - No Intention
<b>SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2008</b>
11:00 AM Blessing of Food
800 PM Easter Vigil - No Intention

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 15</b>
7:00 PM St. Joseph Novena	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 16</b>
7:00 PM St. Joseph Novena/Social	
7:00 PM No CYO	
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 17</b>
<b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b>	
3:30 PM CFF Classes	
6:00 PM Sandwiches - Team 2D	
6:30 PM CFF Classes	
7:00 PM St. Joseph Novena	
7:30 PM Sports Executive Board Mtg. - St. Lucy Room	
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 18</b>
6:30 PM CFF Classes	
7:00 PM St. Joseph Novena	
8:00 PM Adult Choir - Church	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 19</b>
9:00 AM School Mass	
12:00 PM SAS Early Dismissal	
7:30 PM Men's Spirituality Mtg. - Fr. Whelan Center	
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 20</b>
7:00 PM St. Joseph Novena	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 22</b>
<b>MORTGAGE REDUCTION COLLECTION</b>	
9:00 AM Decorating Church	
9:00 AM St. John's Soup Kitchen	
11:00 AM Blessing of Food - Church	
8:00 PM Easter Vigil	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 23</b>
<b>MORTGAGE REDUCTION COLLECTION</b>	

**Altar & Rosary Society**



**SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn in memory of Lawrence & Josephine Plesh during the week of March 16th at the request of Anthony & Angie Plesh.



**ALTAR BREAD AND WINE** for the week of March 16th were donated in honor of Saint Anthony at the request of Angie.



We are in need of people to assist in decorating the Church for Easter. Flowers and plants will be delivered on Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Thank you in advance for helping to make our Church look beautiful for the Easter Season.



*Christ became, for our sake, obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross.*  
Philippians 2:8

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

Dorothy Ann Schaeffer, Alice Baran

***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, Andrew Stewart



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**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*

**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**  
**March 16, 2008**

God greatly exalted [Christ] and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

– *Philippians 2:9*