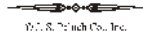


From the Pastor



Dear Parishioners,

The news of Father John's departure is beginning to sink in. We realize what a loss this is to St. Agnes. However, we are happy for Father as he prepares for his new ministry in formation at the Josephium Seminary. Please keep Father John in your prayers.

Many parishioners have inquired about a farewell celebration for Father John. Father's last Sunday is June 18th. The new associate will begin on Wednesday, June 21st. Hence, Father John's farewell Mass will be at **noon, on Sunday, June 18th**, followed by a reception in the gym. We realize that this is Father's Day weekend and the Feast of Corpus Christi. However, weddings and other schedule conflicts left us with no other option. Due to Father's farewell Mass and reception, there will be no Eucharistic Adoration after the noon Mass.

Many people have expressed their desire to plan Father John's farewell reception. I have asked Father to provide me with the names of parishioners who have worked closely with him on committees. I will be asking them and our parish hospitality committee heads to set things in motion.

Out with the old and in with the new – ha! Many parishioners have been asking about Father John's replacement. This is what I know. We are on the list to receive a priest. There are 10 priests in the transfer cycle and 30 parishes in need of priests. There will also be 18 newly ordained priests that will be directly appointed by the Archbishop. I have completed the interview process and have submitted recommendations for the priest personnel director's consideration, but ultimately, any appointment is in the hands of the Archbishop. We probably will not know who is coming until early June. Please pray that the right person be sent to us. God has been gracious all along. I'm confident he will not let us down now.

This is the last weekend for First Communions. Children receiving Eucharist is a great time in parish life. It energizes me, especially when I recognize faces of children who attend Mass regularly with their family. Their excitement for First Communion inspires me to have a greater appreciation for the power of this Sacrament. Congratulations First Communicants!

Lastly, we are hoping to have a *temporary certificate of occupancy* (TCO) for our school expansion in a few weeks. Once the TCO is granted the administration wing of our school and Religious Education Office will be able to begin moving into the new building. However, for all practical purposes, full occupation and operation will not occur until September. Please pray for our committee and me as we work feverishly to make sure that the construction is completed on time and to satisfaction.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Jim
Pastor

STEWARDSHIP

&

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

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, "leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the wolf."

Your Stewardship in Treasure

last week was **\$12,387.00.**

Thank you.

BUILDING FUND

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

\$584,634.00

*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: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10
 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
 Wednesday: Acts 12:24 -- 13:5a; Jn 12:44-50
 Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20
 Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14
 Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22; 1 Jn 3:18-24;
 Jn 15:1-8

THE DaVINCI CODE: FACT or FICTION?

Join us for an evening presentation and discussion on The DaVinci Code, by Rev. Tom Dente, Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Divine Worship. Father Tom is an engaging and insightful speaker on many topics and this one is sure to be an eye opener! Mark your calendars for, Tuesday, May 16th at 7:30 PM, in St. Helen's Church, 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ. Directions to the church can be found at: <http://westfieldnj.com/sthelens/direct.htm>. This event is being sponsored by the Men's Ministry of the Community of St. Helen. All are welcome!

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

This Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally referred to as "Good Shepherd Sunday." Today we listen to the words of the Lord as he refers to himself as the "good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep." It is sometimes so difficult for us to grasp the reality that anyone would lay down his or her own life for the sake of someone else. This is especially true in a society that places high value on power and personal advancement, often at the cost of "trampling" on other people in order to climb the ladder. Today's scriptures point to the one we are called to emulate--the one who lays down his life for his sheep. Today's scriptures challenge us to discover ways to bring life to those around us--to build up rather than to tear down.

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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.

SIX-DAY DIRECTED 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.

May 19-26. Begins 7 p.m. on opening day concludes at 11 a.m. (\$350/week). Registration required.

**Sunday, May 21st, 3:00 p.m.
Organ Dedication**

Please join us for this special event. Along with our organist, Mr. Kevin Daly, Mr. Richard K. Fitzgerald, Assistant Director of Music at The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. will be our feature organist. Afterwards, please join us for fellowship and light refreshments in the gymnasium.

Saint Agnes Parish & School Presents
Celebrity Night
 \$10,000.00* Grand Prize!
REVERSE 50/50 Raffle Drawing and Buffet.
Tickets - \$100 each. Only 50 Left!



RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!

Our collection drive is off and running for the third year. The success has been better than expected. Remember, this is a fund raiser that does not cost anything . . .

Grand Prize Winner - 40% of Proceeds (up to \$10,000*)
 Awarded to LAST Ticket Drawn.
 Runner up Award - 4% of Proceeds (up to \$1000*)
 Awarded to
 NEXT TO LAST Ticket Drawn. Five Additional
 Prizes totaling 6% of Proceeds (up to \$1500*) to be Awarded.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO? Simply collect any used inkjet/laser print cartridges, copier toner containers, and cell phones from your house, from your place of business, and from your family/friends.

WHERE DO YOU BRING THEM? Any school, Religious Education day, send them to St. Agnes with your son or daughter and your child can simply drop them in the specially marked container located in the gym, next to the stage on the window side. (PLEASE REALIZE THAT WITH THE CONSTRUCTION GOING ON, THE COLLECTION BOX MAY BE RELOCATED AT ANY TIME.)

CAN YOUR COMPANY PARTICIPATE? Yes, we can also arrange for you to bring a specially marked box to your place of business and have the cartridges shipped "PREPAID UPS" directly to the recycling company. **IF YOU WANT TO USE YOUR OWN BOX FOR SHIPPING, WE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH JUST THE PREPAID SHIPPING LABELS.**

Please keep the items coming because every single one counts. Thank you for all the support. Any questions, please call Jeff Dattillo at (908) 486-4480 (daytime) or email jeff.dattilo@baywaylumber.com.

To benefit Saint Agnes Parish & School :

- Complete the form below.
- Mail it with a check (\$100 per ticket) to the address on the form.
- You will be mailed your Raffle Ticket and Invitation for **Two** to the:

"Celebrity Night" Party on Saturday, May 27th, 2006
At the Saint Agnes Auditorium, Clark, NJ at 7 PM.
You are the Stars of this Event !

See you on the Red Carpet
For more information call - (732) 574-3011

Yes! I want to support St. Agnes Parish & School.
 (Please print)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Zip: _____
 Phone:(_____)_____

Number of Tickets _____
 x \$100

Check Amount: _____

Mail to: St. Agnes Rectory
332 Madison Hill Road
Clark, NJ 07066
Attn: "Celebrity Night"

Vocations Reflections

"I lay down my life in order to take it up again." These words from Sacred Scripture in today's Gospel have special meaning in the life of the Priest. Many people will ask a young man that is entering the seminary how he can give up his whole life. In today's society, that is exactly how it seems. However, the life of the ordained priest or consecrated religious allows the person to take up their life in a new and profound way. The priest becomes united to Christ in a way that only the ordained can be, and because of this it completely transforms him spiritually. Today, Good Shepherd Sunday, is a day that we from the Office of Vocations would ask you to pray to the saints to intercede and encourage young people to consider Priesthood or Religious life. If you or someone you know may have a vocation, do not be afraid to follow the Good Shepherd. Call the Office of Vocations at (973) 497-4365 or email kellybar@rcan.org.



**IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION
NOTICE!! HURRY!!!**

Time is running out! Registration and re-registration has been in progress for a month already. Please mail in your re-registration forms as soon as possible. New student registration takes place in the Religious Education Office at the Rectory. Due to increasing numbers and scheduling of classes, your cooperation would be greatly. Any questions please call or e-mail the Religious Education Office (732-388-2560 or stagnescdd@comcast.net)



Holy Hour for Life

The Holy Hour for Life, including Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, will be celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Scotch Plains on Wednesday, May 10th at 7:30 p.m.

Come for an hour of prayer before Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament to help atone for the millions who are killed each year by abortion, for the elderly and terminally ill who are exposed to the threat of euthanasia, and for our handicapped newborns who are denied treatment because of their afflictions – and to pray that our country will return to reverencing and protecting all human life.



***ST. AGNES SCHOOL
PRE-K OPENINGS
2006-2007***

We have limited openings in our
4-Year Old Program
AM and PM Sessions

(Must be 4 years old by October 1st)

**If you are interested, please call the
school at 732-381-0850.**

High School Open Houses

Mount St. Dominic Academy
Spring Open House
For girls grades 6-8 and their families
May 10, 2006, at 6:30 p.m.
Call (973) 226-0660, ext. 22

**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. Joseph High School, Metuchen

**11th Annual Brother Bernardine, SC,
Memorial Golf Classic**

Monday, May 15, 2006

Registration: 10:30 a.m.

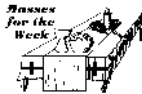
Golf: 1:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Forsgate Country Club, Monroe Township
To support scholarship, financial aid,
program upgrades & technological improvements
If interested, please contact
Jerry Pawlowski at (732) 549-7600 ext. 228

St. Agnes Holy Name Society is pleased to announce its guest speaker for the **Tuesday, May 9th** meeting, Fr. William Cogan, Jesuit Priest. For over 450 years Jesuit priests and brothers have lived an amazing story of serving the Church in new and unexpected ways. Jesuits are men on the move, ready to change place, occupation, method--whatever will advance their mission in the Church. All men of the parish are invited to attend. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. and refreshments will be served.





SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2006
5:30 People of the Parish
SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2006
7:30 Gerard Corrado - Rita Ann Corrado
9:00 Adam Plawischak - Wife, Betty
10:30 Philip Loria - Jo & Charles Vincenti
12:00 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Miloscia - Miloscia Family
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006
7:00 Donna Froehlich - Peg Shea
9:00 Alice Hart - Hart Family
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2006
7:00 Robert Howarth - John & Bridie Smith
9:00 Veronica Harrison - Arlene & Bob Firestone
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2006
7:00 Mary Mele - Leona Kamieniecki
9:00 Joan Perrini - Kathy & Jeff Merrill
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006
7:00 Dr. Victor Garra - Sister
9:00 Martin Rudnicki - Mrs. Rudolph Pikna & Family
FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2006
7:00 Donna Froehlich - Mr. & Mrs. R. Zych
9:00 Joan A. Perrini - Mary & John Mayo
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2006
8:30 Memorial Mass - Joseph Zucaro, Cecilia Smentkowski, Mark Albert Costa, Joseph Heelan
5:30 Alice Hart

SATURDAY	MAY 6
5:30 PM Mass - First Eucharist with Bell Choir	
SUNDAY	MAY 7
9:00 AM Mass - First Eucharist with Bell Choir	
12:00 PM Mass - First Eucharist with Bell Choir	
1:30 PM Baptism	
7:00 PM CYO	
MONDAY	MAY 8
6:00 PM Sandwiches - Team 1B	
7:30 PM Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge	
TUESDAY	MAY 9
7:30 PM Holy Name Society - Gymnasium	
WEDNESDAY	MAY 10
4:30 PM Brownie Meeting - Kindergarten	
5:30 PM Girl Scouts - 6 th Grade	
THURSDAY	MAY 11
3:30 PM Children's Choir	
7:00 PM Technology Meeting	
7:30 PM Adult Choir	
7:30 PM HSA Executive Board Meeting	
FRIDAY	MAY 12
9:00 AM Mass - School May Crowning	
12:00 PM Dismissal - Faculty Meeting	
SATURDAY	MAY 13
8:30 AM Mass - Memorial	
SUNDAY	MAY 14
MOTHERS' DAY	
10:30 AM Mass - May Crowning	



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Lucy Koscica during the week of May 7th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Alice Hart during the week of May 7th at the request of the Hart Family.



St. Helen's Caregiver Support Group
Westfield, NJ

A support group for those caring for the elderly or chronically ill loved ones meets on the first non-holiday Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m. in the parish center of St. Helen's Church on Lamberts Mill Road in Westfield. These are information and sharing sessions. For more information, please call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 233-8757. The next meeting is on Monday, June 5th.

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

May They Rest in Peace

Those Who Are Sick

Aileen Sasala, Florence Iasello, Mary Zelanko, Joe & Irene Margeton, Ann & Michael Dudek, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Anna Manigold, 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, Craig Allen, James MacConchie, Louise Venezio, Lucia DeCristofaro, Patricia Zych, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Hazel McGuinness, Marian Heelan, Giovanna Tripicchio, Sam Roglieri, Pauline Liotti, Marie Cerone, Josephine Stefanik, Betty Breslin

**Atlantic City Bus Trip****WHEN: May 18, 2006****TO: Caesar's****TIME: 11:30 AM Coffee & Buns**

**LEAVE: 12:30 PM From Gran Centurions
Parking Lot. Please park in back of lot.**

COST: \$23.00**For reservations call:****Tony (732) 388-2315****Joe (732) 381-3395**

**WE WILL BE RUNNING 1 BUS.
PLEASE CALL EARLY TO RESERVE
A SEAT. BRING A FRIEND.**

Fourth Sunday of Easter**May 7, 2006**

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.

- 1 John 3:1