

From the Pastor

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy Mothers' Day! It is only fitting that we make time to honor our mothers today. The vocation of motherhood is not an easy one. Expectations abound and there are far too many pressures nowadays. Yet, it never ceases to amaze me how mothers in our parish accomplish all that you do – in your families and for our parish community. You are truly an inspiration.

During the month of May the Church increases her devotion to the Blessed Mother. Mary knows of the expectations placed upon mothers throughout all generations. She also testifies to the power of faith that comes from trusting in God. Mary's fiat led her to becoming the *Mother of God* and the *Mother of the Church*. Simply put, Mary is the mother of Jesus and our mother too.

Mothers of St. Agnes, and all parishioners, draw close to our Blessed Mother. Let her intercede on your behalf before the throne of God. Her prayers are very powerful. My own mother, God rest her soul, had a powerful devotion to Mary. I used to tease Mom and ask her why she didn't go directly to Jesus in prayer? She would always respond, "What good son would not listen to his mother and do whatever she asked of him?" Then I would playfully declare, "I don't always do what you ask of me!" To which my mother would wittedly respond, "Who said that you are always a good son?" Make no doubt about it – Jesus is a very good son, Mary an extraordinary mother, and her prayers are indeed heard. Blessed Virgin Mary, pray for us!

Before closing, I just want to remind everyone that we will have a special visitor among us next Sunday. Archbishop Migliore, *Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations* will be celebrating our 10:30 a.m. Mass. What a special blessing it is to have the Holy Father's Ambassador to the United Nations celebrate Eucharist for us. Please join us if you can.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Msgr. Jim
Pastor

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

*Loving God,
as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children,
so you watch over your Church.
Bless these women,
that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honor them always
with a spirit of profound respect.*



--Book of Blessings, no. 1728

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

Today's reading from Revelation offers a vision of the City of God, the new Jerusalem. "But," the bishops' pastoral on stewardship reminds us, "that 'life to come' is in a continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now."

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$12,240.00.**
Thank you.

TODAY'S READINGS

Monday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Jn 16:12-15
 Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53 (for Ascension); otherwise Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23
 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28
 Sunday: Acts 7:55-60; Ps 97; Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20; Jn 17:20-26; or, for Ascension, Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20

DIALOGUES OF THE CARMELITES



A fully-staged production of this opera by Francis Poulenc will take place in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Thursday, May 24th at 7:30 p.m. This opera tells the story of 14 Carmelite nuns who were executed during the French revolution because they refused to deny their faith. The performance features members of the Cathedral Choir accompanied by the Cathedral Symphony Orchestra. One performance only. Tickets are \$40, \$30, and \$20 and are available at www.cathedralbasilica.org.

**BUILDING FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF 5/07/07**

Total Pledges	\$3,250,961.55
Pledges Collected	\$2,974,247.96
Outstanding Pledges	\$ 276,713.59

Total Building Costs	\$3,830,672.97
Interest on Loan	(+) \$ 2,655.14
Pledges Collected	(-) \$2,974,247.96
Mtge. Reduction Collections	(-) \$ 72,282.77
Funds from Savings	(-) \$ <u>250,000.00</u>
Remaining Debt	\$ <u>536,797.38</u>

**CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS FOR
MINISTRY PROGRAM**

Saint Agnes Parish will be one of the designated sites for the CFM Archdiocesan three-year program. Courses in Old and New Testament, Sacraments, Morality and Liturgy will prepare individuals for ministry in the parish and diocese. Classes will be held every Thursday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., September to May in the St. Lucy Filippini Meeting Room which is located on the lower level of the new building. For further information, please call Sister Margaret at (732) 388-2560.

THE NAME FOR GOD

Mother is the name for God on the lips and
in the hearts of little children.
— *William Makepeace Thackeray*



Spiritual Book Club

Are you interested in learning more about your faith? Do you wish to refresh your memory on all the teachings you've forgotten, or to learn about the changes which have been made? Under the auspices of the book club, a group will be studying the Catechism for Adults. We will be meeting every other Monday in May and June. The meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the St. Thomas Room, which is on the lower level of the parish center.

Topic:	5/21	Chapters 5 & 6
	6/4	Chapters 7 & 8
	6/18	Chapters 9 & 10

If you have any questions, please call Grace Bradley at (732) 388-3754.

Send a City Child to Camp!

Your donation can make a difference in the life of an inner city child!

The Eddie Gray Camp Fund is seeking funds to send inner children to summer camps in New Jersey. Some camps are able to give us discounted prices. We have to pay at least \$75 per child for a week at camp. Donations of any amount will be gladly accepted for this purpose. Children will be selected through St. Joseph Social Service Center, the Elizabethport Presbyterian Center and other non-profit agencies in Elizabeth. Please make checks payable to the **Eddie Gray Camp Fund**, and mail them to:

**Sister Jacinta Fernandes O.S.B.
812 Rebecca Place
Elizabeth, NJ 07201**

Thank you for providing a healthy and happy experience for our children. We are grateful for all your support now, and in the past.



ASCENSION THURSDAY

Thursday, May 17, is Ascension Thursday, a holy day of obligation. Masses are as follows:

Wednesday, May 16 - 7 p.m. Vigil Mass; Thursday, May 17 - 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**Saint Agnes Parish & School Presents
Star Spangled Celebration**
\$10,000.00 Grand Prize!
REVERSE 50/50 Raffle Drawing and Buffet
Tickets - \$100 each. Only 40 Available!
To benefit Saint Agnes Parish & School
**"Star Spangled Celebration" Party on
Saturday, May 26th, 2007
Saint Agnes Auditorium at 7 PM**

For more information call - (732) 574-3011

NURTURING YOUR MARRIAGE

**An Invitation to Couples with
Children with Developmental Disabilities**

Sunday, June 10

**Archdiocesan Center, Newark
171 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ**

Pre-registration by Monday, June 4th. More information, including registration form and directions are available at the rectory office. Offered by the Department for Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with Family Life Ministries and New Day Community. Any questions, please call Judy Miller at (973) 497-4309.

Baptisms

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

ALYSSA BARBARA MARTUCCI
Daughter of Richard and Lori

BRADYN COLE WEBER
Son of Jason and Patricia

JACQUELINE RIBEIRO CASIMIRO
Daughter of Jose and Ana



ST. AGNES SUMMER BIBLE CAMP July 9th – July 13th

St. Agnes Church
332 Madison Hill Road, Clark

Time: 9:00 – 12:00

ALL CHILDREN AGES 4 – 8
(Age 4 by July, 2007)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

Any questions, or if interested in volunteering, please call Melody at (732) 396-1512.

(Please look for registration form in 5/20 bulletin.)



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!**



FLOOD INFORMATION

Anyone who has been impacted by the flood and/or has storm inflicted damage should register now with:

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at:
1-800-621-3362.**

The American Red Cross hotline number for Assistance is: 1-866-438-4636

**Catholic Charities Social Service helpline is:
1-800-227-7413.**

*"Our times call for a new readiness to assist our neighbors in need."
(#30a) Deus Caritas Est: Pope Benedict XVI*

Whoever loves me
will keep



my word

Mass Schedule



SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2007	
5:30	Ruth Christensen - Faith, George, Gerard & Marylou
SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2007	
7:30	Cecilia Smentkowski - Zbigniew & Elizabeth Lachowski
9:00	Helen Parrillo & Eleanor Palmquist - Parrillo & Palmquist Families
10:30	People of the Parish
12:00	Mauro Pires - Family
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2007	
7:00	Antonette Canzonieri - Mary Bove
9:00	James Carlin - Claire Mihalko
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2007	
7:00	Florence Iasello - Sr. Claire Ouimet
9:00	John & Anna Mauriello - Daughters
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2007	
7:00	Bokenko & Morahan Families - Barbara & Ed Morahan
9:00	Joseph Heelan - Ann & Ivio Bevacqua
7 PM	Josephine Stefanik - Alexandria Rudnicki
THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2007 - ASCENSION OF THE LORD	
7:00	Antonette Canzonieri - Mary Bove
9:00	Mary & Konstanty Milek - Joe & Helen Suszko
7 PM	Joseph Heelan - Mr. & Mrs. Albert Longhi
FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2007	
7:00	Margaret Keaveney - Lasinski Family & Lisa Nied
9:00	Joseph Heelan - Anne Marie Leone
SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2007	
8:30	Memorial Mass - Stella Kozlowski, Shirley Hoelzer, Joseph Grillo, Joan Sansone
5:30	Santa Lombardo Caruso - Jeffrey & Concetta Sinoradzki

SUNDAY	MAY 13
MOTHERS' DAY	
10:30 AM	Mass - May Crowning
MONDAY	MAY 14
6:00 PM	Sandwiches - Team 2D
7:00 PM	Scripture Sharing - St. Jude Room
WEDNESDAY	MAY 16
7:00 PM	Vigil Mass
THURSDAY	MAY 17
ASCENSION OF THE LORD	
3:30 PM	Children's Choir
7:00 PM	CFM Program - St. Lucy Room
7:00 PM	Mass - Ascension of the Lord
7:30 PM	Adult Choir
FRIDAY	MAY 18
7:30 PM	Girl Scouts - 5 th Grade Classroom
SATURDAY	MAY 19
VFW POPPY DRIVE	
8:30 AM	Mass - Memorial
5:30 PM	Mass - CYO Mandatory
SUNDAY	MAY 20
VFW POPPY DRIVE	
8:30 AM	CYO Trip - Great Adventure
10:30 AM	Mass - Archbishop Migliore - Adult & Children's Choir

Altar & Rosary Society

TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Mary Garra during the week of May 13th.



Sunday, May 13th after 10:30 mass.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of "Tutu" Urso during the week of May 13th at the request of Grandsons, Nathaniel and Jacob.



Devotional area flowers for the week of May 13th are in memory of Santa L. Caruso, a gift from Jeffrey & Concetta Sinoradzki.

STEWARDSHIP CLASSIFIED

The Rosary Makers Committee is looking for volunteers to help with this ministry. Training is available. Rosaries sent to troops overseas, hospitals and nursing homes among other organizations. Please call the rectory office at (732) 388-7852 if interested. Thank you and God bless.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Who Have Died

Lawrence Peluso, Allen Buhl, Sr.

Those Who Are Sick

Aileen Sasala, Mary Zelanko, Joe & Irene Margeton, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, Ann Lesko, Irene Sisko, Noel Stevenson, Leilla DiLeone, Mary Morelli, Anthony Szablowski, Robert Szabo Jr., Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Linda Ruth, Barbara Rygiel, Henry Latch, Vickie Tomasco, Mary Marrin, Barbara Guinta, George Stanka, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Robert Palumbo, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, Louise Venezia, Lucia DeCristofaro, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Hazel McGuinness, Giovanna Tripicchio, Sam Roglieri, Pauline Liotti, Bart Zucosky, Marie Cerone, Andy Pavelko, Dolores Acquisto, Daniel Palumbo, Jim MacConchie, Victor Fernandes, Sr., Eileen Imbriaco, Josephine Zbikowski, Geraldine Disano, Antonina Manto, Warren Sidney, Kenneth McLoughlin, Elizabeth Kate Chern, William Miskovich, Zackary Infante, Rita Corrado, Angela Decker, Vincent Flanagan, Helen Kiempista, William Feury, Carmelina & Andrew Giacobbe, Marie Farese, Joseph Loria, Mary Gianti, Rose Gerhardt, Robert & Esther Quinlivan

THE GIFT OF PEACE

We are offered another vision in today’s second reading, a vision of the New Jerusalem, “coming down out of heaven from God” (Revelation 21:10). Read between the lines describing the radiant city, and we find that the greatest beauty revealed is the beauty of perfect symmetry and order, a city founded on the faith of the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve Apostles, lit only by the glory of God.

The first reading and the Gospel are linked to this idealized description of the New Jerusalem. In both we read of distress and disturbance countered by the gift of peace. “[M]y peace I give to you,” Jesus assures his disciples at the Last Supper (John 14:27). In keeping with that gift, the apostles and elders, in the reading from Acts, decide not to disturb the peace of new Gentile believers. The undue burden of circumcision will not be imposed on them.

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**Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 13, 2007**

May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you!

– Psalm 67:6

