

Dear Parishioners,

We have been worshipping in our renovated church since last November. Now our school expansion and parish-meeting center are open for business. All parishioners are invited to tour the new facilities after Masses this weekend. Refreshments will be served in the gymnasium afterwards.

It is my hope that you are pleased with what we have accomplished. We now have a fine school facility and an extraordinary parish-meeting center. No more classes in trailers. And the parish center can accommodate numerous meeting groups at the same time.

A detailed financial report will be presented to parishioners at a future date, but the estimates that follow are fairly accurate. We spent roughly \$3.7 million on the project. The Trustees, Finance Council & Pastoral Council approved a recommendation from the Building Committee to replace the original windows and doors in the old school building for an additional expense of \$115,000. Therefore, the grand total is \$3,815,000.

Pledges for our Building Campaign total \$3,147,399. An expected redemption rate for a campaign like ours is 96%. Pledges paid to date equal \$2,589,912. Outstanding pledges total \$557,487 (to be collected). It is very important that remaining pledge balances be paid in a timely manner.

Assuming that all pledges are eventually paid in full, the debt for our construction will be roughly \$675,000. We are planning to reduce this amount by using \$250,000 from regular parish savings. Arrangements have been made for St. Agnes to carry a 10-year Mortgage (5.25%) in the amount of \$425,000. It is the goal of parish leadership to pay off all debt in less than ten years, because there will be a financial strain on the parish until doing so.

Right now, with pledge payments still owed, our debt stands at \$1,232,487, minus \$250,000 from savings, for a current debt of \$982,487. As you can see, it is very important that everyone fulfill pledge obligations in a timely manner. Debt reduction is going to be a priority for us here at St. Agnes over the next several years. After all pledges are redeemed, it should not take too long to eradicate a \$425,000 balance. This is our plan:

1. The monthly maintenance collections will be used for mortgage reduction. We are hoping that parishioners will be as generous as possible and the debt will rapidly decline.
2. A second collection will be taken on Christmas and Easter to reduce the debt. This is not intended to burden those who practice Christian Stewardship on a regular bases. The second envelope is being sent in the hope of soliciting support from parishioners who frequent our church around the holidays.
3. Many new families have joined our parish over the past three years. We will be inviting them to make a financial donation toward our building fund.
4. Some parishioners fulfilled their original pledge and made extra contributions to the building fund. Parishioners who have been monetarily blessed by the Lord may choose to do the same.

A \$425,000 construction debt is not unmanageable for a parish our size. It is true that normal operations will be financially strained until we eradicate the debt, but it is well worth the sacrifices for making dreams come true. Let us make our home parish our favorite charity until the mortgage is paid in full. Thank you in advance for your support.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Fr. Jim
Pastor

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

The good steward must not show favoritism. The rich may have many material gifts to share, but St. James reminds us in the second reading that God has chosen the world's poor to be rich in faith and inheritors of God's kingdom.

Your Stewardship in Treasure
last week was **\$11,670.35.**
Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Lk 6:6-11
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11; Lk 6:12-19
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26
 Thursday: Nm 21:4b-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
 Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Jn 19:25-27 or
 Lk 2:33-35
 Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Lk 6:43-49
 Sunday: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116; Jas 2:14-18;
 Mk 8:27-35

**“The Elijah Cup”
Is Coming!**



BUILDING FUND

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

\$552,600.00

*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.*

**CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS FOR
MINISTRY PROGRAM**

Saint Agnes Parish will be one of the designated sites for the CFMArchdiocesan 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. The first class will be September 14th in the St. Joseph Conference Room which is located on the lower level of the new building. For further information, please call Sister Margaret at (732) 388-2560.

Vocation Reflections

“Be Opened”. In today’s Gospel, we hear an account of one of the miracles Christ really and actively performed during His public life. Just as Christ opened the ears and restored the speech of the man in the Gospel, so also does Christ use the priest and religious to open men’s hearts to Him through the Church. Are you willing to lead souls to the openness of Divine love? If so, pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the divine home of love and openness, then contact the Office of Vocations at (973) 497-4365 or email kellybar@rcan.org.

**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!**

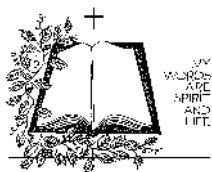


***Right of Christian
Initiation of Adults***

- *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 Session is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, September 12th at 7:30 p.m. in Our Lady of Guadalupe Room which is located on the lower level of the new building. If you need any additional information, please call the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.



ATTENTION ALL WOMEN!!

The Saint Agnes Women's Commission will be sponsoring a Women's Mini Retreat on Saturday, October 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The retreat will take place at Saint Joseph's Convent in Roselle, N.J. The theme will be "Fruits of the Holy Spirit." Sister Margaret will direct us through this prayerful experience. The cost of the retreat will be \$20.00. Lunch will be provided. Please respond as early as possible to ensure a place. The deadline is October 12th. If you are interested, fill out the bottom portion and mail with your \$20 check made out to "Cash" to:

Arlene Firestone
51 Lexington Boulevard
Clark, N.J. 07066

Any questions please call (732) 388-2560, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

WOMEN'S RETREAT, OCTOBER 21ST

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Eighth Graders and their families interested in attending a Catholic high school in September 2007

THE COOPERATIVE ADMISSIONS EXAMINATION for participating Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of Newark will be administered on Friday, November 10, 2006

Application forms and Handbooks for this test and a listing of all Catholic High Schools and their admission requirements are available from:

- C.B./McGraw-Hill at their Web site, www.ctb.com/coop or email coop@ctb.com
- Catholic Elementary Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark
- Catholic High Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark

QUESTIONS? Please call 1-800-569-2667 or visit www.ctb.com/coop



**Ah! For the lazy days of summer!
Sand and Sea give way to pencils & books!**

Sunday, September 10th at 9:00 a.m.
Classes begin for Grades K through 2

Monday, September 11th at 3:30 p.m.
Classes begin for Grades 3 and 4

Monday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m.
Classes begin for Grades 5 and 8

Tuesday, September 12th at 7:00 p.m.
Classes begin for Grades 6 and 7

All students will enter through the set of doors closest to the playground. Monday and Tuesday students will be released through the same doors. Sunday morning students will be released from the gymnasium.



BACK TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 7 PM
IN THE GYMNASIUM**

AT LEAST ONE PARENT MUST ATTEND



St. Agnes Holy Name Society's first general meeting of the new year will be on Tuesday, September 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Joseph's Conference Room which is located on the lower level of the new building. All men of the parish are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served

PART-TIME CUSTODIAN POSITION AVAILABLE. St. Agnes School, M-F, 5:30 to 10:30 PM. Duties include cleaning of school classrooms and bathrooms. Anyone interested should call the Rectory at (732) 388-7852 to set up an interview.

**Saint Agnes Tricky Tray
Walt Disney World
Vacation Package Raffle**



7Days/6 nights at Disney's Port Orleans Riverside Resort* For a Family of Five
Plus Five 6-day Park Hopper Passes
Drawing to be held at the Tricky Tray on October 5, 2006 at 11 PM

Winner need not be present.

**\$50 per ticket
Get your tickets early.
Only 300 tickets will be sold!**

Tickets may be purchased at Saint Agnes Rectory or by calling Cheryl Fiumefreddo at (732) 259-4088

ROSARIANS BAGEL SALE!



**SEPTEMBER 17, 2006
AFTER ALL MASSES**

We offer the following varieties:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Plain | Russian |
| Cinnamon/Raisin | Salt |
| Poppy Seed | Pumpernickel |
| Sesame Seed | Onion |
| Everything | Egg |
| Garlic | Wheat |

Cost: .60 each

\$7.20 per dozen (bakers' dozen - 13 bagels)

Thank you for your support!!

Mass Schedule

This Week

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2006	
5:30	Cidalia Jesus Oliveira - Leonor & Family
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2006	
7:30	Stanley Stefanik - Josephine Stefanik
9:00	Edward Martucci - Doris & George Allen
10:30	People of the Parish
12:00	Barney Clarke, Angelina, Charles & Felice Perriello - Dolores Clarke
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2006	
7:00	Elizabeth Cordes - Family
9:00	Pablo Oropeo - Alma Oropeo
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006	
7:00	Jennie DeAsio - Henry & Angela Maulbeck
9:00	John Delaney - Spiritual Book Club
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2006	
7:00	Josephine Francaviglia - Lucille Leone & Family
9:00	Rose Mangiavillano - Jean & Michael Palumbo
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2006	
7:00	Pietro & Nunze Cupo - Norah Weed
9:00	Stanley Rutkowski - Mary Rutkowski
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006	
7:00	Gelsomina Spadaro - Joseph & Cecilia DiBella
9:00	Sarah Lombino - Rose Brinker
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2006	
8:30	Memorial Mass - Jerry E. Donovan, Eugene R. Sands, Jack Safchinsky
5:30	Samuel & Helen Gianti - Sam & Mary Gianti

SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 9
EUROPEAN RELIEF COLLECTION TOUR OF NEW FACILITY AFTER MASS	
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 10
EUROPEAN RELIEF COLLECTION TOUR OF NEW FACILITY AFTER MASSES	
9:00 AM	Religious Education
1:30 PM	Baptism
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 11
3:30 PM	Religious Education
6:00 PM	Sandwiches - Team 1A
7:00 PM	Religious Education
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 12
7:00 PM	RCIA Inquiry - OLG Room
7:00 PM	Religious Education
7:30 PM	Holy Name Mtg. - St. Joseph Conference Room
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 13
7:00 PM	Back to Religious Education Night - Gymnasium
7:30 PM	HSA Executive Board Mtg. - Faculty Room
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 14
7:00 PM	CFM Program - St. Joseph Conference Room
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 15
9:00 AM	Mass - School
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 16
8:30 AM	Mass - Memorial
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 17
CATECHETICAL SUNDAY BAGEL SALE AFTER ALL MASSES	
9:00 AM	Religious Education

Altar & Rosary Society

TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Marge Elko during the week of September 10th.



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Stanley Stefanik during the week of September 10th at the request of Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Hoehn.



REMEMBER 9/11

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

May They Rest in Peace

Those Who Are Sick

Aileen Sasala, Mary Zelanko, Joe & Irene Margeton, Michael Dudek, Frank LaVerda, Alvera Martin, 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, 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, Marie Telesco, Annette Drake, MaryLou Loffa, James MacConchie, Louise Venezio, Lucia DeCristofaro, Patricia Zych, Barbara Steinberg, Nancy Liberti, Hazel McGuinness, Marian Heelan, Giovanna Tripicchio, Sam Roglieri, Pauline Liotti, Bart Zucosky, Marie Cerone, Josephine Stefanik, Andy Pavelko, Richard O'Lenick, Declan Mulcahy, Jr., Dolores Acquisto, Daniel Palumbo, Jim MacConchie, Victor Fernandes, Sr., Eileen Imbriaco, Josephine Zbikowski

**"BE OPENED"**

The miracle that Jesus performs in today's Gospel is intimately linked with the proclamation of the first reading from Isaiah. The prophetic signs of God's coming to save the people include the rejoicing of all of nature: its dry places become gardens and its deserts pools of water. Those who are deaf will hear and the mute will sing God's praises. For Isaiah these are messianic signs, signs that God has come among us.

Jesus heals the deaf man and enables him to hear and speak. This is not just an individual healing, but a prophetic sign that God has come to save us. The Hebrew version of Jesus' name is Yeshua, "God saves." He comes not only to heal physical ailments, but to open the ears of those who cannot or will not hear the saving word of God. He comes to open our eyes to the saving action of God and to open our lips to proclaim praise.

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**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 10, 2006**

Did not God choose those
who are poor in the world to be rich in
faith and heirs to the kingdom?

– James 2:5