

A CALL FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS...

*“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.”*

There are many messages that we can draw from the Gospel passage today. Clearly, one of the main themes is that Christ expects us to “labor” on his behalf. Faith is never about sitting back and letting Christ do all the work. We are called to nourish our faith and the faith of others through action in ministry and in daily life. With this in mind I would like to call your attention to a ministerial need that we have in our parish. As we anticipate the return to our newly renovated church, the Liturgy Committee has determined that we are in need of volunteers to assist in the various ministries at Sunday Mass. These would include Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Music Ministers. (New Altar Servers will be recruited in the spring.)

In our new worship space, the committee anticipates assigning 6 Eucharistic Ministers and 2 Lectors to each mass. This makes for a monthly need for 120 Eucharistic Ministers and 40 Lectors. Our current roster has approximately 50 Eucharistic Ministers and 20 Lectors! Ideally ministers would only assist at mass about once a month. Even now we have ministers who help out every week! Our Ushers/Greeters could also use some new volunteers as some masses are extremely short-handed. And our Music Ministry is always looking for both voices and instrumentalists to add to an already strong sound of praise and worship.

So ask yourself... Are you a gifted public speaker or one who likes to tell a good story? Think about becoming a lector. Do you have a love of the Eucharist? Think about being a Eucharistic Minister. Maybe you prefer to become an usher/greeter, where one works “behind the scenes,” greeting with a smile and helping the mass to go smoothly. Or perhaps if you enjoy singing at home, you would like to share that voice in our choir! For any of these ministries you can be male or female, young or old. The only requirement is that you be a catholic in good standing and a regular mass attendee. The commitment is not that great. I would like to have enough involved so that each person can attend the mass where they routinely worship.

Finally, DON'T HESITATE TO RECOMMEND OTHERS! If you think you know someone who is good for a particular ministry please let us know. The liturgy committee and I would be happy to contact them and invite them to serve. Often a personal invitation is the best way to involve talented people.

Training sessions will take place in the coming months (based upon the progress of the church renovation). If you are interested please fill out the form below and drop it off at the rectory or in the collection basket. In addition, members of our liturgy committee will be at the doors of the church next weekend to answer any questions you may have. Please spend some time this week in thoughtful prayer over this opportunity. You are also welcome to call me with any questions at 732-388-7852. Thanks and God bless you! Fr. John

Liturgical Ministry Registration

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Yes, I am interested in Sunday Mass Ministries. Please contact me with more information:

I am interested in becoming a: Please check one

Lector ***Eucharistic Minister*** ***Music Minister*** ***Greeter/Usher***

I am unavailable at this time but would recommend:

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Kindly drop this off at the rectory or in the collection basket next week. Families may fill out one form (we'll try to schedule you together).

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

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

Your Stewardship in Treasure last week was **\$12,490.00.**
Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

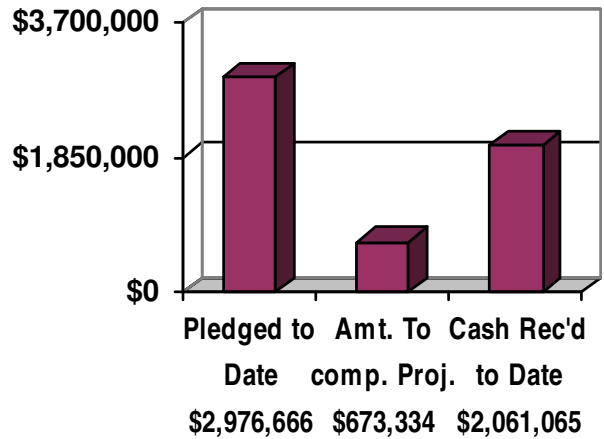


- Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
- Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
- Wednesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13
- Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
- Friday: Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22
- Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45
- Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32

Archdiocese of Newark

Attention all 6th through 8th graders and parents! Looking for a high school? Come to the Archdiocesan Center in Newark on Tuesday, September 20, 2005, from 7-9 PM to meet representatives from many Catholic High Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark. Admissions Directors and high school student-ambassadors will answer your questions in an informal setting. No pre-registration is required and siblings are welcome. For directions and a list of participating schools, visit our website at www.rcan.org/schools or call (973) 497-4258.

■ Campaign Progress - Phase I



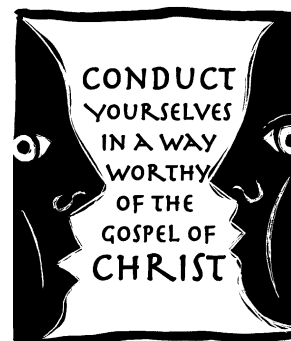
Total Cost of Project: \$3,700,000

Memorial incentives. Anyone who donates \$3,000 or more will be entitled to one memorial listing, in a decorative display, to be displayed in a public location, at a future date.

The following memorials are available for substantial donations (other larger memorial naming rights have already been secured):

- Church Organ \$100,000
- Tabernacle & Marble Base 50,000
- School Classroom 50,000
- Parish Multi-Purpose Room 100,000
- Parish Conference Room 75,000
- Parish Meeting Room 50,000

If you are interested in a memorial or would like further information, please contact the Rectory at (732) 388-7852.



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ROSARY SOCIETY



COMMUNION BREAKFAST

will be held

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2nd

at

THE GRAN CENTURIONS

following the 9:00 a.m. mass

Father Donald Hummel will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Please call Rose at (732) 574-0023 or the Rectory at (732) 388-7852 for tickets and more information.

THE DEADLINE FOR PURCHASING TICKETS IS SEPTEMBER 26th. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER THAT DATE.

Young Adult Series



Fall Programs

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Real questions...real answers...on issues REALLY important to young adult Catholics. If you are in your 20's or 30's, single or married, join us for *Spirituality on Tap*, October 3, 10, 17 and 24, 7:30-9:30 PM each evening at JJ Bittings, 33 Main Street, Woodbridge. For more information go to www.geocities.com/liftyourheart/YAM.html. Please pre-register via email: tregewitz@yahoo.com.

The Gospel today speaks of the laborers in the vineyard. In this story there is the perfect parallel to the Christian life—some live their whole lives in a good and holy way, others convert moments before death. In both of these instances, like the Master, a priest or religious is there along the way to help and assist the person in preparing to meet the triune God. Do you feel called to lead people to Christ in the elevated call to priesthood or religious life? Please call the Vocations Office at (973) 497-4365 or email kellybar@rcan.org.

Music Ministry



Summer is over and our music ministry is ready to resume singing. If you love to sing, and are high school age or older, please consider joining our adult choir. We meet on Thursdays, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Our first meeting will be on September 22nd, in the 8th Grade classroom. All are welcome!

The children's choir is open to any parish child in second through eighth grade. Those rehearsals are on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 in the temporary church space and begin on October 13th.

Finally, if you play an instrument and are looking for a chance to share your talent, we would love to have you as part of our music ministry. Think it over and let either Mary Ellen Theel or Kevin Daly know of your interest.

Remember what St. Augustine said: "He (or she) who sings, prays twice!"

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN!!



The Saint Agnes Women's Commission will be sponsoring a Women's Mini Retreat on Saturday, October 15th 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 "God's Mercy as seen Through the Eyes of Women." 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 insure a place. The deadline is October 8th. 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.

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

Women's Retreat, October 15th

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Catechetical Sunday

Sunday, September 18th we will celebrate Catechetical Sunday. Religious Education teachers, St. Agnes Grade School teachers, Baptismal Teams and RCIA Sponsors will be blessed and commissioned at all masses.

Benefit Concert

On Friday, September 30th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Cassian Roman Catholic Church, 187 Bellevue Avenue, Upper Montclair, NJ, the Metropolitan New Jersey Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present the ensemble NEOS, a contemporary jazz/fusion quintet featuring organ, violin, bass, and two percussionists. The public is cordially invited to attend. All proceeds from this concert will be sent for relief aid to victims of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. There is a suggested donation of \$15 per person. On-site parking is available and the church is handicapped accessible.



Archbishop's Annual Appeal

It is not too late to make a contribution to the 2005 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. The AAA supports Catholic Charities and its many programs that help the poor, the sick and the elderly. If you have already made your pledge to the 2005 AAA, please use the reminder envelopes mailed each month to make your payment. All contributions received by December 31st will be credited towards your parish's goal. Any parish exceeding its goal will receive a rebate based on the amount collected. Thank you for your commitment and support.

**ST. AGNES TRICKY TRAY
OCTOBER 6, 2005
GRAN CENTURIONS
IS SOLD OUT!**

Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care Journey Through Grief Series

Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care will offer a four-week lecture series entitled "Journey Through Grief". It is designated to assist those who have experienced the death of a loved one. It will take place each Tuesday night September 20 – October 11 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The lecture series will be held at the Center's information office located at 1900 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains. The program is non-denominational and no pre-registration or admission fee is required. Guests are invited to bring family members and friends. For further information, please call (908) 654-3711.



SOUP KITCHEN

Volunteers will be going to St. John's Soup Kitchen on Saturday, September 24th.

Donations of baked goods will be greatly appreciated. Please drop them off at the St. Agnes kitchen Friday or before 9 a.m. Saturday morning. For more information please call Dee Memmer at 732-381-8956.

Feed a Hospice Resident Feed Your Soul

Livingston, August 2005. All it takes is compassion and a little time to become a volunteer feeding assistant for VITAS Innovative Hospice Care® of Livingston, N.J.

Volunteer feeding assistants provide the gifts of sustenance and companionship to terminally ill nursing home residents, who often need more time and assistance than other residents to finish their meals.

The time commitment from the volunteer can be as little as one hour, yet the reward is instant gratification. The volunteer becomes an integral part of the nursing home team as well as the hospice team.

For information or to attend an orientation class, please call Etta Nappi, Volunteer Manager, at (973) 994-4738.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2005
5:30 Cindy Rasmus - Paul, Justin, Alex & Miranda
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2005
7:30 Helen & Christopher Koscica - Peter & Lucy Koscica
9:00 Rose & Salvatore Loprete -Dorinda & Joseph Loprete
10:30 People of the Parish
12:00 Elizabeth & George Vanner - Anne Zambolla
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2005
7:00 Ignatius Kamieniecki - Wife & Sons
9:00 Frank Comer - Betty Comer
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2005
7:00 Mary Sterphone - Bill & Ronnie Duffy
9:00 Robin Helminski - Joe & Helen Suszko
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2005
7:00 Michael Evanko - John & Bridie Smith
9:00 Rhoda Nanartowicz - Joan & Chrissy Nanartowicz
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2005
7:00 Michael Evanko - John & Karen DeMarco
9:00 Catherine Robinson - Colleen & Peter McGreevy
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2005
7:00 Frank Garilis - Barbara Arnold
9:00 Kathleen Clancy Smith -Joan Raszkowski & Family
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2005
8:30 Memorial Mass -Special Intention, Joseph Mlynarski - For his health and recovery, Catherine Farin
5:30 Mauro & Joao Pires - Family

SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 17
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 18
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	
CATECHETICAL SUNDAY	
9:00 AM	Religious Education
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 19
3:30 PM	Religious Education
7:00 PM	Religious Education
7:00 PM	Confirmation Parent Meeting
7:00 PM	Sandwiches - Team 2A
7:30 PM	Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 20
7:00 PM	Religious Education
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 21
7:30 PM	RCIA - Rectory Living Room
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 22
7:30 PM	Bereavement
7:30 PM	Back to School Night - K-5
7:30 PM	Adult Choir
8:15 PM	Back to School Night - 6-8
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 24
8:30 AM	Memorial Mass
9:00 AM	St. John's Soup Kitchen



SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Mauro Pires during the week of September 18th at the request of the Family.



ALTAR FLOWERS that decorate our sanctuary this weekend are in memory of Ignatius Kamieniecki at the request of wife and sons.



BREAD & WINE will be offered in memory of Jane Howell at the request of the Howell Family.



TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Betty Comer during the week of September 18th.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Who Have Died

James Breslin, Chester Krupinski, Judith Plesh

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., Louise Venezio, Jean Williams, Mary Lawrence, Ann Miller, Wayne Tribble, Linda Ruth, Vincent Flanagan, Barbara Rygiel, Anna Reichenstein, Gene Andre, Henry Latch, Thaddeus Zbikowski Sr., Vickie Tomasco, Mary Marrin, Maria Conforti, Alice Triano, Barbara Guinta, Alice Bartlomiejczyk, Ronald Francisco, George Stanka, Earl Miller, Margaret Shea, Hank Kaczka, Edward Alfano, Robert McKeon, Michael Newman, Andre Kovacs, Patrick Miller, Louise Regeci, Cecelia Smentkowski, Wendy Sullivan, Jean Subliskey, Robert Palumbo, Josephine Pugno, Florence Kempinski, Bart Zucosky, Stefan Nowak, Barbara Slack, Joseph Mlynarski, Theresa Hanselman

Atlantic City Bus Trip

WHEN: October 20, 2005

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 388-2315

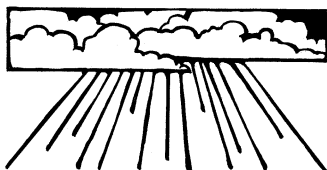
Joe 381-3395

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

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 18, 2005**

Turn to the LORD for mercy;
to our God, who is generous and forgiving.

– *Isaiah 55:7b*



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