
From the Pastor



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Dear Parishioners,

Inserted in this weekend's bulletin is our Year-Ended Financial Report (June 30, 2005). The good news is that we are not in the red. I want to thank you for supporting our parish with your time, talent and treasure. Your example of Christian Stewardship is extraordinary and the fruits from it are too abundant to recount in this article. Thank you for making St. Agnes fiscally sound.

As you will see, we have a net surplus of \$21,773.00. The staff has been working hard to decrease spending because of all of the projects that are currently underway. Please know that the parish Finance Council has worked hard to ensure that we have a physically sound budget for this year. I am grateful to the Finance Council and the Pastoral Council for their expertise and guidance in steering our mission ship into the future.

The inserted report is a report prepared by our contracted accounting firm, J.H. Cohn. As always, if any parishioner desires detailed information or explanation on any of the figures reported, please contact me and I will be happy to answer your questions.

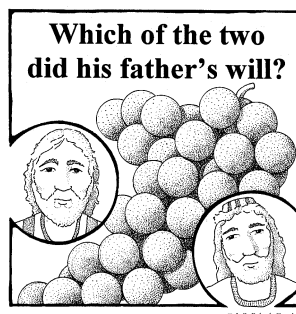
In the not too distant future, I will address parishioners regarding the financial status of Phase I construction projects, and preliminary plans for Phase II construction. DON'T WORRY – this portion is part of a future plan.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Rev. James S. Choma
Pastor

Reflection on today's readings . . .

God gives us free will to choose. We can choose to say "yes," or we can choose to say "no." The most saintly among us will say "yes" right away and go to work in the field at once. Others of us say "no," but change our minds and hearts and try to live God's command to love one another. Still others of us say "yes" but do nothing. We are lazy, stubborn, or have a well-worked list of excuses for not showing our love. By giving us free will, God shows us unconditional love. WE are responsible for ourselves and our own actions, but with unconditional love God embraces us and our mistakes with mercy and pardon.



**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 **\$12,184.00.**
Thank you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



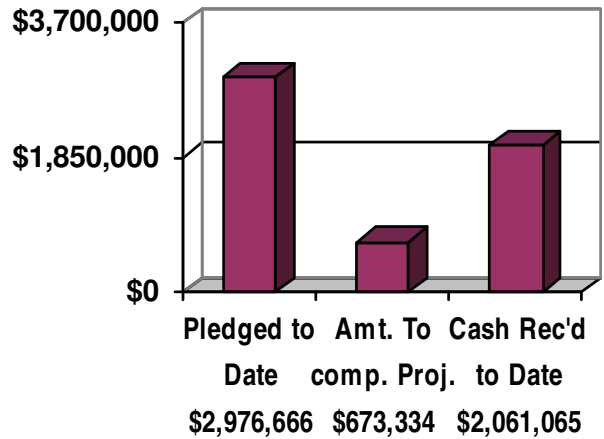
Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
 Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13
 Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22
 Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45
 Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32



**HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TEST
PREP COURSE**

This course offered at St. Joseph High School, Metuchen is intended to prepare boys and girls for both high school entrance examinations and scholarship competitions. The focus is to provide an opportunity for students to acquire greater expertise in verbal and mathematical skills. Please call (732) 549-7600 ext. 221 for more information.

■ 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.





RECYCLE!

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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 . . .

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 Dattilo at (908) 486-4480 (daytime) or email jeff.dattilo@baywaylumber.com.

VISIT OUR RECYCLE WEBSITE

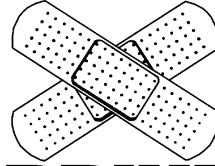
www.stagnesschool.com/PrintCartridgeRecycle.htm

GUARDIANS FOR VALUABLE SOULS

So valuable to heaven is the dignity of the human soul that every member of the human race has a guardian angel from the moment the person begins to be.

– St. Jerome

BLOOD



DRIVE

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ATTENTION ST. AGNES PARISHIONERS!

Let's do something for the survivors of Hurricane Katrina. Blood drives are held every fourth Thursday of the month at the Clark First Aid Squad, Raritan Rd., Clark. I am making an urgent call to all St. Agnes' Parishioners who have donated blood at our drive, and to all others who have not donated, try to make an effort to come out to one of the drives. Hours are from 3 PM to 8:30 PM. Platelets are also done at these drives with an appointment, which I can schedule. St. Agnes Church will be given credit if you mention you are from our church. Their next drive is scheduled for October 27th. Thank you.

Lee Kelemen
732-713-0951

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 # _____

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.



Tricky Tray Gift Auction

will be sponsored by Cub Scout 30 on Friday, October 7th in the auditorium of St. John the Apostle Church on Valley Road in Clark near Stiles Street. Grand Prize is a new computer system. Kitchen opens at 5:30, doors open at 6:30 p.m. and drawings will begin at 8:00 p.m. Donation is \$6 in advance/\$8 at the door and refreshments will be available. For ticket information please call (908) 925-1099. Proceeds from this event support Scouting activities throughout the year and your support is greatly appreciated. Adults over 18, please.

Feast of St. Michael

St. Michael's School Grounds
Sept. 29 & 30, Oct. 1 & 2

Rides ☺ Games ☺ Food ☺ Live Entertainment
Fun for the Whole Family

Thurs. Fri. Sat. Sun.
6-10 6-11 1-11 1-6

www.feastofstmichael.org



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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.

Archdiocese of Newark
Office of the Archbishop

SOLEMN OBSERVANCE OF THE . . .

10th Anniversary of the Pastoral Visit of Pope John Paul II and the Designation of the Metropolitan Cathedral as a Minor Basilica

Closing of the "Year of the Eucharist"

October 9, 2005

On Sunday, October 9th, Archbishop John J. Myers will be celebrating mass at the Cathedral Basilica at noon in joyful observance of this anniversary. Everyone is invited to participate in all or in part of the liturgical commemoration of these historic events. Following the "prayer after communion" at the 12 noon Mass, there will be a procession with the Blessed Sacrament to Saint Lucy Church. Eucharistic Benediction will take place on the plaza in front of the church at about 1:45 p.m.

"May Sunday, October 9th, be an occasion for us all to remember the visit of the late Holy Father and to express corporately the grateful love and devotion of this local church for the wondrous mystery of Christ's presence in our midst."

– Most Reverend John J. Myers
Archdiocese of Newark

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2005**

5:30 Mauro & Joao Pires - Family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2005

7:30 Dominick Piizi - Kugelman Family
 9:00 Helen & Samuel Gianti - Sam & Mary
 10:30 Donato & Nick Toto - Crescenza Toto
 12:00 People of the Parish

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

7:00 Anthony Pecoraro - John & Karen DeMarco
 9:00 Robin Helminski - Joe & Marian Heelan

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2005

7:00 Francis Bud Cusick - Tom & Polly Stapleton
 9:00 Robin Helminski - Donna & Otto Isidron

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

7:00 Merryl Loconte - Pete & Lori Karnaug
 9:00 Geraldine g. Buser - Phil & Donna LaPelusa

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

7:00 Claire Coughlin - Donna Catrone
 9:00 Michael Versusky - Louise Regeci

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

7:00 Joanne Brehm - King Family
 9:00 Gerard Pastor - The Dougherty Family

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2005

8:30 Memorial Mass -Special Intention, Joseph Mlynarski - For his health and recovery, Elizabeth Cordes, Pietro & Nunzie Cupo
 5:30 Geno Cicchetti - Angela Cicchetti & Family

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25

9:00 AM Religious Education

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 26

3:30 PM Religious Education
 7:00 PM Religious Education
 7:30 PM Scripture Sharing - Teachers' Lounge

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 27

7:00 PM Religious Education

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 28

4:40 PM Brownies - Kindergarten
 7:30 PM RCIA - Rectory Living Room

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29

7:30 PM Bereavement
 7:30 PM HSA Meeting
 7:30 PM Adult Choir - Classroom
 7:30 PM RCIA Inquiry - Teachers' Lounge

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1**RESPECT LIFE WEEKEND**

8:30 AM Memorial Mass

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2**RESPECT LIFE WEEKEND**

SANCTUARY LAMP will burn in memory of Michael Versusky during the week of September 25th at the request of the Family.



ALTAR FLOWERS that decorate our sanctuary this weekend are in memory of Sebastian Crescenzi at the request of Craig & Arlene Allen.



BREAD & WINE will be offered in memory of Michael Versusky at the request of the Family.

Altar & Rosary Society

TRAVELING MADONNA - Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be in the home of Angie Plesh during the week of September 25th.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Who Have Died

Mary Kennedy, George Gonder

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 Pugnet, Florence Kempinski, Bart Zucosky, Stefan Nowak, Barbara Slack, Joseph Mlynarski, Theresa Hanselman, Elizabeth Bell, Marie Telesco

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-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 25, 2005**

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

- Philippians 2:9

