

St. Elizabeth ~ St. Brigid
August 24-August 31, 2008
Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, August 25

St. Louis of France and St. Joseph Calasanz

8:15 AM (St. Elizabeth) Rosary
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Robert Moran

Tuesday, August 26

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Cooper.

Wednesday, August 27

St. Monica

7:15 PM (St. Elizabeth) Evening Prayer
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Communion Service:
 Walter Gronwald

Novena

Thursday, August 28

St. Augustine

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Louise & Peter Cipparulo

Friday, August 29

Martyrdom of John the Baptist

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Rosary for Vocations
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Ronald Duffy

Saturday, August 30

4:30 PM (St. Brigid) Confessions
 5:00 PM (St. Brigid) Mass: Frank Brach
 6:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Luigi D'Amico
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions

Sunday, August 31

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASSES:

7:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Charles Wilcox
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Andrew Pote
 9:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: For the Parishioners
 10:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Dr. Angelo Bergamo
 11:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Agnes B. Carlone



For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven ...”
A time to heal ... please pray for the sick of our parishes including *Emilie Lemmons, Chris Martin, Joe Orlando, Cathy Sabatino, and Al Richards.*

A time to die ... please pray for those who have recently passed away.

In today's reading, St. Paul reminds the Romans — and us — that all things come from God: “For from Him and through Him and for Him all things are.” Good stewards understand that all is gift and share generously the gifts of time, talent, and treasure with which they've been blessed. Romans 11:36

Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed on Monday September 1st in observance of Labor Day.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, August 30

(E) E. Van Arsdale (L) R. Fielding (A) Z. Schwab
 L. Da Silva

6:30 PM St. Elizabeth

(E) L. Treppiccione (L) TBA (A) TBA

Sunday, August 31

7:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) TBA (L) TBA (A) H. & T. Lallis

8:30 AM St. Elizabeth

(E) K. Spinda (L) D. Duffy (A) S. Marki

9:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) R. Schwab (L) TBA (A) P. Sweeney

10:30 AM St. Elizabeth

(E) M. Nucci (L) D. Martin (A) TBA

11:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) TBA (L) L. Meyers (A) K. & J. Mahala

CONTRIBUTIONS

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
 TO YOUR CHURCH AND PARISH**

St. Elizabeth Aug 16-17:	\$ 3,443.00
Feast of the Assumption:	\$ 990.00
St. Brigid Aug Aug 16-17:	\$ 4,469.00
Feast of the Assumption:	\$ 1,259.00



Altar Bread, Sacramental Wine, and Sanctuary Candle Intentions

Offerings are now being taken for the Sanctuary Candle intentions at each Church and weekly Altar Bread and Sacramental Wine for a special intention, in thanksgiving, or for a loved one (living or deceased.) Please contact the Parish Office for additional information.

SUMMER ENVELOPES

We sincerely thank our parishioners who will mail or deliver your weekly envelopes to the parish office while you are out-of-town on vacations this summer. As many of you understand, our parish expenses and obligations do not take a vacation when you do, so it is very helpful to be able to rely on your continued support even when you cannot personally attend Mass here.



Remember in your prayers the members of our Armed Services, especially Patrick Blankenship of the USMC & Ryan O'Connor of the US Army, close friends of Jean Fall; Timothy Callahan of the US Marine Corps, son of Marie Callahan; Brendan Patrick Duffy of the U.S. Army, son of Deacon Larry & Denise Duffy, grandson of A.J. Errico; Michael Ferreira of the US Army, grandson of Anne & Bob Butler; Amanda Loomis of the US Army, cousin of Grace Ann McKeon; Maj. Seth Lucente of the US Army, brother-in-law of Philip & Kimberly Hahn; Michael Mattessich of the US Army, nephew of Tom O'Callaghan; & Jordan Weaver of the Air Force, husband of Christy (LaPointe) Weaver.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Registration for 2008-2009

Registrations for the 2008-2009 school year are now being taken for our Religious Education Program. If you have attended another program or Catholic School please call Sr. Joan to schedule an appointment. A letter from the previous program and sacramental certificates must be submitted. Any questions please contact Sr. Joan in the Religious Education Office at 908-234-1524. Returning students who did not register by May 4th should include a late fee of \$35.00 with the registration.

Calling All Kindergarten and Grade 1 Students: All children going into First Grade in September 2008 should be registered in our Religious Education Program in order to receive First Communion in Grade 2. Please call Sr. Joan to set up an appointment. We are also taking students for our Kindergarten class.

Classes for our Religious Education Program will begin on **Sunday, September 14th**. Our early morning session will begin at **8:15 AM and end at 9:20 AM**. Our second session will begin at **10 AM and end at 11:10 AM**. On Sunday September 21st, we will be celebrating Catechetical Sunday at the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses where the catechists will be introduced and each will receive a blessing. Please join us with your families at the conclusion of each session for Mass. For more information, please contact Sr. Joan.

ATTENTION ALL CATECHISTS

Our Catechist In-service meeting will take place on Thursday, September 4th from 7 PM-9 PM in the Parish Library. Class lists will be distributed. This is a very important meeting. Anyone not able to attend, please call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524 to arrange an alternate meeting. Please bring your teacher manuals.

NEW CATECHISTS

On Tuesday, August 26th from 7 PM-9 PM we will have a special meeting for new catechists in the Parish Library. Please bring your teacher manual. Anyone not able to attend, please call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524 to arrange an alternate meeting.



Blessed are you, Peter.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

This passage refers to the use of authority and indicates the Key as the symbol of authority. The words "open" and "shut" refer to the power that will eventually be given to Peter.

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

Paul writes ecstatic and praise-filled words about God's plan for his people. In him, he writes, "all things are."

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter exclaims, "You are the Messiah!" Christ then declares that Peter is the "Rock" upon which he will build his Church, promising him the power "to bind" and "to loose."

24th Annual Flame of Charity Dinner

The **24th Annual Flame of Charity Dinner** will take place on Thursday evening, **October 23, 2008** at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick. Two important members of the clergy of the Diocese of Metuchen are being honored this year:

HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

The Most Reverend Paul G. Bootkoski
Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen

COMMUNITY SERVANT

Reverend Joseph J. Kerrigan
Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in New Brunswick

The proceeds from this event help support the many social service programs of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. Some of the programs funded include homeless shelters, health clinics, youth programs and low income housing.

The Flame of Charity Dinner Committee is proud of what has been accomplished over the years. This could not have happened without the generosity and continued support of people like you! Please contact us at 732-562-2438 if you would like more information on underwriting and sponsorships or to order tickets.

SAVE THE DATE! – The Diocese of Metuchen will be hosting a **Critical Life Issues Conference - Trust and Hope in Life** on *Saturday October 25*, from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM at the St. John Neumann Conference Center, Piscataway. The Conference will address a wide spectrum of issues. Please call the Respect Life Office at 732-562-1900 ext 1629 or 1543 for more information or to reserve a seat. Tickets, including lunch: \$40; students - \$20.

PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

HOLY HOURS FOR VOCATIONS

This year 2008 marks a year dedicated to prayer for vocations to the Priesthood and consecrated Religious Life in our Diocese. *Holy Hours for*

Vocations will be held at the following parishes:

September 11- St. James, Basking Ridge, 4:30 PM

Visit www.diometuchen.org/vocations, for the complete schedule.

Golden and Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration

You are warmly invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen. Renew your marriage vows and receive a personalized certificate from Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski at a special Evening Prayer Service in the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen, on **Sunday, October 19, 4:00 PM**. The prayer service does not fulfill your Sunday obligation.

Applications may be secured by contacting the Parish Office or by logging on to www.diometuch.org/familylife (click on the Silver/Gold Application icon). Forms must be signed by Fr. Puleo and returned to the Family Life Office by the Parish Office. *Application forms will be accepted by the Family Life Office until Wednesday, October 1.* A confirmation letter will be sent once your application has been processed. To ensure your reservation please fill out an application ASAP. For additional information call the Family Life Office at 732-562-1990 x 1624.

ADULT EDUCATION

BIBLE STUDY

Our bible study will resume Tuesday, September 16th, meeting every other Tuesday following the 9 AM Mass. All are welcome to attend. We will continue our study of the Letters of St. Paul. We will go behind the scenes to understand the person, life and times of the devout Pharisee who became the Apostle to the Gentiles. In many ways, the theology of St. Paul has contributed as much to the formation of Christianity as the Gospels themselves. The issues raised in these simple letters will challenge and inspire us. For more information, please contact Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our parish will be joining Bishop Bootkoski for a Diocesan Pilgrimage for Vocations to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, October 18, 2008. Plans are being made to join Blessed Sacrament in Martinsville for bus transportation. If you are interested in joining us for the day please contact Sr. Joan at 908-524-1524. There will be a minimal cost to attend. Everyone is welcome to join us for this Pilgrimage to represent our parishes as we pray for vocations and celebrate vocations.

SENIORS — Age 55+

ARE YOU STUCK IN A RUT? BORED? INTERESTED IN FINDING WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR ATTITUDE AND FEEL GOOD ABOUT YOURSELF, YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OTHERS?

The Family Life Office, Diocese of Metuchen, is sponsoring an exciting new series of 'classes' that is guaranteed to put a positive and spiritual light on the aging process! The twelve sessions begin with a Scripture quotation and a theme. Subjects such as celebrating your faith, discovering the deeper meaning of life, and connectedness are just a few of the topics to be explored.

Wednesdays: September 17 - December 10
(excluding November 26)
10:30 AM to 12 noon

Includes Continental Breakfast
\$5 per session or \$40 for all 12 sessions
(Financial assistance available upon request)
St. John Neumann Pastoral Center
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ
For further information or to register, contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1990 ext. 1624.

COME JOIN OUR PARISH SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

When: Every Thursday starting September 18th, after the 9 AM Mass

Where: In the Parish Center Library

Our Book: My Life with the Saints by James Martin SJ

James Martin has led an entirely modern life: from a lukewarm Catholic childhood, to an education at the Wharton School of Business, to the executive fast track at General Electric, to ministry as a Jesuit priest, to a busy media career in Manhattan. But at every step he has been accompanied by some surprising friends – the saints of the Catholic Church. For many, these holy men and women remain just historical figures. For Martin they are intimate companions. They pray for him, offer him comfort, give him examples of discipleship, and help him along the way. The author is both engaging and specific about the help and companionship he has received. When his pride proves troublesome, he seeks help from Thomas Merton, the monk and writer who struggled with egotism. In sickness he turns to Therese of Lisieux, who knew about the boredom and self-pity that comes with illness. Joan of Arc shores up his flagging courage. Aloysius Gonzaga deepens his compassion. Pope John the XXIII helps him to laugh and not take life too seriously. Martin's inspiring, witty and always fascinating memoir encompasses saints from the whole of Christian history. Come join us as the saints help us find our way in this world. Please call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524 to register.

No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

(Matthew 6:24)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Jesus asked His disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ ‘But who do you say that I am?’... Simon Peter said in reply: ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God...’ and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the nether world shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven...”

Our friend Peter said some foolish things, but also spoke profound truths. He sometimes challenged the Lord when he walked toward Him on the water, and failed the Lord’s challenge in the patio at Jesus’ trial. We are Peter!

The conversation, the catechism question of Jesus to the disciples offered opportunities to speak of Jesus’ reputation. How was He known? The responses perhaps describe the works of earlier prophets, great persons with special missions. The follow up question required a deeper response. But YOU, who do YOU, say I am? Peter responded with an act of faith and statement of Jesus’ role as the Christ, the anointed one of God, the Messiah.

The same question is asked of us today. Who is Jesus for me? I move from the Christ of history to the Anointed One asking me to respond today in my parish community. The kingdom, also expressed by the word “power” or “grace” of the Lord is present in my life and in our community of faith. The same Jesus, who promised to be with the apostles all days until the end of the world, is the Christ present to guide, guard and nourish us in our parish. This is not just a place to worship our God, it is something more. It is where we encounter the living Christ who spoke to Peter, formed His friends, and then sent them to continue His work. We are the building, the dwelling place of God.



“The common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights – for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture – is false and illusory if the **right to life**, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination. ... The human being is entitled to such rights, **in every phase of development** – from conception until natural death; and in every condition, whether healthy or sick, whole or handicapped, rich or poor.” –Pope John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation *Christifideles Laici*, no. 38 (1988)



Inspirational Spot ~ *Our Father, when we long for life without trials and work without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure. With stout hearts may we see in every calamity an opportunity and not give way to the pessimism that sees in every opportunity a calamity.*

NEXT WEEKEND there will be a **Missionary Appeal** made by Sr. Aurora de la Cruz, MM on behalf of the Maryknoll Sisters at all of the Masses. We welcome Sr. Aurora as she shares her story of the work of the Maryknoll Sisters who serve in 31 countries around the world. A special collection will be taken, thank you for your generous support of the Missions.

St. Elizabeth & St. Brigid Parish Picnic

Registration deadline: August 31, 2008

Date: Sunday, September 7, 2008

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Place: St. Brigid Church Grounds

Menu: Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Sausage and Peppers, Salads, Corn on the Cob, Watermelon, Beverages and Coffee

Food, Fun and Fellowship
Bring a favorite dessert to share!

6th, 7th, and 8th graders needed for organizing and planning games.

Please call Sister Joan (908) 234-1524 to volunteer and receive community service hours.

**-Family - Fellowship - Great Food - Fun Games -
Spacewalk - Face Painting -**

Registration Form

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

No. Adults and children ages 11 and older:

_____ x \$12.50 = \$ _____

No. Children ages 5 to 10:

_____ x \$ 5.00 = \$ _____

No. Children Ages 4 and under: _____ Free

Total No. Attending = _____ Total \$ _____

Form of Payment - Cash _____ Check _____

(Make checks out to St. Brigid Parish)

Please return in an envelope to Parish Office or place in weekly collection basket by August 31, 2008. Tickets also will be available after Mass this weekend. Thank you!