

St. Elizabeth ~ St. Brigid
 August 31, 2008-September 6, 2008
 Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, September 1
Labor Day

8:15 AM (St. Elizabeth) Rosary
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Michael Farrell

Tuesday, September 2

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Llawayne Diety

Wednesday, September 3
St. Gregory the Great

7:00 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions
 7:15 PM (St. Elizabeth) Evening Prayer
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Walter Dzitko
 Novena

Thursday, September 4

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Helen Pote

Friday, September 5
Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Rosary for Vocations
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: The Di Lullo Family

Saturday, September 6

4:30 PM (St. Brigid) Confessions
 5:00 PM (St. Brigid) Mass: Albert Kalafsky
 6:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Ray Goger
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions

Sunday, September 7

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASSES:

7:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Charles Wilcock
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Thomas & Patricia
 Finnegan
 9:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Michael Bocchino
 10:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Rose Bergamo
 11:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Anna Crispo



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.

THIS 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.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, September 6

(E) M. Guido (L) L. Treppiccione (A) T., R., & J. Lynch

6:30 PM St. Elizabeth

(E) R. Goger (L) TBA (A) Z. Schwab

Sunday, September 7

7:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) F. Grigini (L) R. Crane (A) L. Crane
 G. Henderson

8:30 AM St. Elizabeth

(E) K. Spinda (L) D. Duffy (A) M. Lagana

9:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) B. Carlson (L) C. Hickey (A) S. & G. Henderson

10:30 AM St. Elizabeth

(E) S. Grutta (L) M. Nucci (A) M. Grutta

11:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) P. Cross (L) D. Cross (A) A. Caccavale

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

St. Elizabeth Aug 23-24: \$ 3,138.00

St. Brigid Aug 23-24: \$ 4,032.00



For the Week of August 31-September 6
At St. Elizabeth: The *Altar Bread* is offered for the repose of the souls of Stanley & Sophie Sawiski from their daughter Laura Sawiski.

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.

Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2008 in observance of Labor Day.



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.

In today's second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Romans to total stewardship. Brothers and sisters, he urges, ". . . offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God."
~Romans 12:1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Registration for 2008-2009

Registrations for the 2008-2009 school year are still being taken for our Religious Education Program. If you have attended another program or Catholic School please call Sr. Joan to schedule an appointment. Any questions please contact Sr. Joan in the Religious Education Office at 908-234-1524.

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.

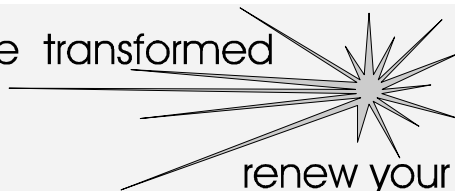
Classes for our Religious Education Program will begin on **Sunday, September 14th**. Our early **morning session** will begin at **8:15 AM and end at 9:20 AM**. Our **second session** will begin at **10 AM and end at 11:10 AM**. On Sunday September 21st, we will be celebrating Catechetical Sunday at 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.

We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop. —Mother Teresa

Be transformed



renew your mind

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

In this particularly poetic passage, Jeremiah complains that while teaching the Lord's word, he is subjected to insults and derision. He determines to remain silent, but he cannot because the desire to speak the Lord's name is "like a fire burning in my heart."

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Paul tells the Christians to make sacrifices to avoid the trappings of the times, and to do God's will.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus tries to make his disciples realize that by following him, they will endure suffering, degradation, and death. He tells them that they must deny themselves and take up the cross in order to be his disciples.

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.

SAVE THE DATE:

Pauline Book and Media Fair September 20-21. An excellent opportunity to purchase from a large selection of books and movies to deepen and enrich our faith.

Dear St. Elizabeth and St. Brigid Parish,

Thank you so much for the Baby Bottle drive for our mothers and their babies. They are in need of so much and your generosity is so appreciated.

Thank you for all your support that makes our Pro Life mission possible. We were able to start over 30 years ago with the help of your parish. We will never forget your help. You are in our prayers of thanks.

The Volunteers of the Pregnancy Aid & Information Center, Raritan.

351 bottles were taken by parishioners for collections with 201 being returned. Contributions totaling \$4,170.40 have been sent to the Center to date.



"The most fundamental building block of a just social order is respect for human life. Until men and women individually and collectively make a profound commitment to the value and dignity of all human life, we will never find the true peace, justice and reconciliation God desires for us. —*Standing for the Unborn*, statement by the Jesuit Conference Board, March 25, 2003



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOOD DRIVE SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2008

This food drive benefits the Consolidated Food Bank Network of Somerset County. The Food Bank is always in need of canned and powdered milk, canned and bottled tomato products; peanut butter, jelly, complete meals in a can, bulk items (rice, sugar, beans; canned tuna, canned fruits and vegetables; detergents; household cleaners, soap, toilet paper, diapers, and hygienic supplies. Your donation of any amount of food or money is always appreciated and welcomed. Please bring your donations to Church next weekend.

THE CATHOLIC VOTER: FORMING CONSCIENCE & FORMING SOCIETY

The Diocese of Metuchen presents a symposium on "The Catholic Voter: Forming Conscience & Forming Society," Tuesday, September 16, 2008 7:30-9:30 PM in Bakita Hall at the St. John Neumann Pastoral center, Piscataway. The program will examine the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' document, "Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States," the role of Catholics in the public square; and how to form and exercise one's conscience in preparation for the November elections. Featured speakers will include Joan Rosenhauer, Associate Director of the USCCB's Department of Justice, Peace, & Human Development, and Fr. John Fell, Moral Theologian and Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bernardsville. The public is invited to attend this free symposium. Please pre-register by calling 732-562-2424.

Something to think about. . .

If God seems distant to you. . .who moved?



ST. ELIZABETH & ST. BRIGID'S FUN FITNESS CLASS

A fun fitness class incorporating Aerobics, athletic, dance, kick boxing, toning and stretching moves.

When: Monday & Thursday evening 6:30-7:30 PM

Starting: September 15, 2008

Where: Multi-Purpose room in St. Brigid School
Enter from the lower level

Cost: \$45.00 Monthly Pass

Bring: Water and towel

Contact Lauren Boesch at 908-507-0610 for more information. Fully Insured and AFFA Certified Instructor and Personal Trainer.

Internationally known speaker, Christopher West, presents *The Gift - free, total, faithful, fruitful*. The 'gift' refers to the overflowing exchange of love within the Trinity that brought us into being. God created man, not in servitude, but in freedom to live in this overflowing exchange of love. With this freedom comes special responsibility. What is this special responsibility? Come and find out. *October 24*, 6-9 PM and *October 25*, starting with 8 AM Mass followed by a presentation 8:45 AM to 5 PM at Immaculate Conception Church, Somerville. Cost: \$40/includes lunch and materials (\$35/ if paid by September 28); \$20/full-time student with i.d. For more information call 908-725-1112 ext. 1124.

Cathedral Pipe Organ 25th Anniversary Concert

Thomas DeLessio, Diocesan and Cathedral Director of Music, will perform with the Tim Keyes Consort in a concert of organ and orchestral music. The Concert will be performed on Sunday, *September 14*, at 4 PM in St. Francis Cathedral, 32 Elm Ave., Metuchen. No tickets are required, but an offering will be taken to help defray expenses.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Our parish offers the process by which adults come into the Church has come to be known as "the RCIA", which is short for "The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults."

This process is for:

1. **The unbaptized:** The primary focus of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is on those who are not already Christian and have not been catechized.
2. **Baptized but uncatechized:** Those who have been baptized either as Roman Catholics or as members of another Christian community but did not receive further catechetical formation or instruction. These typically have also not celebrated confirmation nor Eucharist.
3. **Those seeking full Catholic Communion.** These are baptized, practicing Christians from other denominations who seek entry into the Catholic Church.

For more information about becoming a Catholic please contact the Parish Office at 908-234-1265. Our sessions will begin on Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 4 PM in the Parish Center Library.