

*St. Elizabeth ~ St. Brigid
February 24-March 1 2008
Third Sunday of Lent*

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, February 25

8:15 AM (St. Elizabeth) Rosary
8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Anthony Nardi Gambale

Tuesday, February 26

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Thomas Dallessio

Wednesday, February 27

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

Thursday, February 28

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Vincent B. Murphy, Jr.

Friday, February 29

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Rosary for Vocations
9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Martha Prindaville
7:00 PM (St. Elizabeth) Stations of the Cross
7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Rev. Andrew J. Kalafsky

Saturday, March 1

4:30 PM (St. Brigid) Confessions
5:00 PM (St. Brigid) Mass: Albert Kalafsky
7:00 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions
7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: William Michael Sr.

Sunday, March 2
Fourth Sunday of Lent

MASSES:

7:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Fannie Telesco
8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Vincent & Joseph La Rosa
9:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: For the Parishioners
10:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Matthew Baumpane
11:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Carlo Finocchiaro

On Sunday, February 17th the name of the intention for the 10:30 Mass was mispublished in the Lector Book, however the Mass intention for Natividad Cardenas was fulfilled at that Mass.

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: *Walter Gronwald*

A time to die ... please pray for those who have recently passed away including: *Mary O'Rourke, William Gano, Patricia Ryan, and Mary F. Forte.*



LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES:

Parish Penance Service, Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 7 PM in St. Brigid Church. A number of priests will be available for confession.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 1

5:00 PM St. Brigid
(E) TBA (L) P. Cross (A) Z. Schwab

7:30 PM St. Elizabeth
(E) K. Howes (L) L. Teppiccione (A) W. Howes

Sunday, March 2

7:30 AM St. Brigid
(E) L. Teppiccione (L) S. Santucci (A) G. Henderson

8:30 AM St. Elizabeth
(E) K. Spinda (L) C. Miguez (A) B. Moreau

9:30 AM St. Brigid
(E) D. O'Callaghan (L) K. Hahn (A) G. Henderson
M. Grutta

10:30 AM St. Elizabeth
(E) P. Jibilian (L) D. Duffy (A) T & R Lynch
J. Zachman

11:30 AM St. Brigid
(E) Sr. Joan (L) A. Mc Intyre (A) E. & C.
C. Hickey Villagra



During LENT:

The Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday evening at 7:00 PM at St. Elizabeth Church. Mass will follow at 7:30 PM.

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

St. Elizabeth: February 16-17	\$ 3,024.00
Religious Education	\$ 1,460.00
St. Brigid: February 16-17	\$ 4,534.00
Religious Education:	\$ 1,122.00

For the Week of February 24-March 1

At St. Elizabeth:



The **Altar Bread** is offered in memory of F. Otto Linke from Deacon & Mrs. Duffy.

The **Sacramental Wine** is offered in memory of Mary Joan Errico from Deacon & Mrs. Duffy

The **Sanctuary Lamp** burns in memory of Mary Louise Linke from Deacon & Mrs. Duffy..



Congratulations to our new lector Lee Meyers who was recently installed to serve our parish, may she be blessed in her ministry.



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

**ST. ELIZABETH AND ST. BRIGID'S
INTERVAL BASED FITNESS CLASS**

"And on the seventh day... He worked out..."

A fun fitness class incorporating aerobics, toning, and stretching..

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

Where: Lower level Multi-Purpose room
in St. Brigid School

Cost: \$7.00 per class or ask about the monthly pass.

Bring: Water and a towel. Hand weights optional.

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

CATHOLIC MEN FOR JESUS CHRIST RALLY

Men, set aside Saturday, *March 1*, 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and come to the 11th Annual Spiritual Rally for Men held this year at St. Veronica's Gym, Route 9 North, Howell. This year, pro-life congressman Chris Smith, and former NFL player Kevin O'Brien, will provide uplifting and inspiring presentations. Bishop John Smith will celebrate our closing Mass. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Tickets: adults/\$20; students/\$5. Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians are free. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Visit www.CatholicMenforJesus.com for more information, or call 732-845-2999 and press #1 to speak to Bill Marshall.

**February is Catholic Press Month
Subscribe to THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT**

"We bring readers news of the Church from across the Country, around the globe and the Vatican, but at the heart of our newspaper are the people, parishes and ministries of our Diocese."- Kathleen Ogle, Managing Editor **To order your subscription call 732-562-2424.**

Almighty God, all that we possess is from your loving hand. We thank you for all you have given us. May we ever be generous in sharing your goodness, always remembering the account we must one day give to Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, our God, for ever and ever. Amen.

- Most Reverend Kenneth J. Povish (1992)

Bishop, Diocese of Lansing in Michigan

Love poured out



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

This story from Exodus reveals that the Israelites, after their escape from Egypt, cast all blame for their sufferings on Moses. In this instance, they were dying of thirst. When Moses appealed to the Lord, the Lord directed Moses to strike a rock and water would gush forth.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Paul reminds the Romans that because Christ died for all people, they are acceptable in God's sight.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Jesus converses with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well. When Jesus indicates that whoever drinks from the water He gives will never be thirsty again, the woman immediately answers, "Give me this water, sir..."

Jesus then reveals that she has had five husbands and tells her that He is the Messiah. The woman believes Jesus and proclaims this news to all the townspeople, who believe her and come to see Jesus.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

A make up parent meeting for children who will receive First Communion in May will take place on Wednesday, February 27th from 7:00-8:30 PM at the Parish Center Library. If you are unable to attend please contact Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
WITH OUR CHILDREN:**



Our Kindergarten and Grade 1 students will be acting out the Stations of the Cross. Rehearsal will be on Wednesdays from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM on the following dates: February 27th, March 5th, and March 12th. The children will

perform the Living Stations on Friday March 14th at 7 PM at St. Brigid Church.

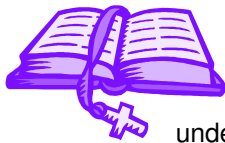
Our **Teenage Stations of the Cross** will take place on Friday, March 7th at 7 PM at St. Elizabeth Church. All are invited to attend. Any questions or concerns, please call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524.



MARCH FOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND

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

ADULT EDUCATION BIBLE STUDY



Our Bible Study Group will begin a look at the Letters of St. Paul on Tuesday, February 19th. This study 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. Come join us for video presentations, study, prayer, and discussion. Meetings will be every other Tuesday. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 4th after the 9 AM Mass in the Parish Library. All are welcome. For more information call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1265

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR FOR EASTER

Attention all children in Grades 1-8, in preparation for the 11:30 AM Easter Sunday Mass, the children's choir will be practicing every Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the Parish Center. It's not too late to join. Anyone interested in participating can e-mail Mark Filoramo at mfiloramo@hotmail.com or call at 908-625-8009. We look forward to seeing you there.



The Legal Center for Defense of Life will hold their semi-annual brunch fundraiser on Sunday, March 9th from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Madison Hotel in the Conservatory located at 1 Convent Road in Morristown. The speaker will be Phillip F. Lawler, Editor of Catholic World News. Tickets are \$55. Please RSVP by calling 973-984-0725.



The development of a culture of life requires that each of us, one by one, reject the response of Cain when God asked him about his brother Abel. In fact, we are our brother's keeper. When this is forgotten, when we value others only for their abilities or their usefulness to others, what follows is the supremacy of the strong over the weak which is the way of the long, dreary, blood drenched history of Cain and Abel rewritten daily. —Fr. Richard John Neuhaus

The Reverence for Life Group will meet on Saturday, March 1st at 1 PM in the Parish Center Library. All are welcome to attend.



Inspirational Spot ~ *There is no saint without a past, and there is no sinner without a future.*



CONGRATULATIONS

to
Gabriella Marie
Child of:
Megan and Lawrence Mongno
who received the Sacrament of Baptism
on February 17, 2008 St. Brigid Church.

ARE YOU A MARRIAGE PREPARATION TEAM COUPLE?

The Family Life Office of the Diocese of Metuchen recently introduced a marriage preparation supplement called *God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage*. If you belong to a marriage prep team (i.e. Pre-Cana) or would like to become a member of the diocesan team, this training program is for you. A training weekend will be held Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29, at the St. John Neumann Center, Piscataway. Contact Judy Psota at 732-562-2467 for more details.

INTERIOR REPENTANCE!

Mark 5:30

And Jesus, perceiving in Himself that power had gone forth from Him, immediately turned about in the crowd, and said, "Who touched My garments?"

Interior repentance is the most vital aspect of the sacrament of Confession. It is the secret of the soul known only to God. Like the woman who touched Jesus' garments in faith, the person who is interiorly repentant—sorry for his sin from his heart and seeking the grace to change—has the forgiving power of God leap from Heaven to his heart without fail and without delay. Power goes out from Jesus to forgive sin and into a genuinely penitent heart just as surely as electricity completes a circuit whenever we throw a switch. This does not mean, of course, that Confession is unnecessary. Our faith must be made flesh, and Confession is the way our Lord established so we could do that.

—A Word of Encouragement www.e3mil.com

IT'S NOT TOO LATE:

COME JOIN OUR PARISH SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB



When: Every Thursday starting February 21st

after the 9 AM Mass

Where: The Parish Center

Our first book: Tweleve Ordinary Men
by John Mac Arthur

Who were these men? What is most amazing of all is that Jesus selected them a handful of common fishermen, a hated tax collector, and an impulsive political zealot. When you take a fresh look at the disciples, you'll be faced with a stunning fact: Come meet the disciples face to face as you've never seen them before. You'll walk in their shoes and understand their doubts and hopes and hear the power of Jesus' words in a whole new way. The message of Tweleve Ordinary Men is clear, if Christ can accomplish His purposes through the lives of common men like these, imagine what He has in store for us. Come join us for reading, reflection, and shared prayer. Please call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1265 to register.

**WE THE PEOPLE OF THE BEATITUDES
BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS
FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD**

Our lives are often characterized by a “we-they” mentality. Diversity or pluralism is not seen as an enriching gift, but as a divisive factor. Emphasis seems to be based on the “other” rather than on the “us”. Paul tells us, “we are one in Christ Jesus.” The role of disciple is to be a reconciler, to remove what divides and foster what unites. Jesus came to reconcile us to the Father. Paul’s mission, and ours, is to continue the work of Jesus. Peace is not the absence of hostility, but an attitude of oneness, appreciation and support. To assure that good prevails, people must do something. The peacemaker is one who strives relentlessly to resolve quarrels. At times this takes place through negotiation, sometimes through dialogue, always through the mediation of God’s grace. The promised reward is entitlement as “children of God”. The chosen people relished this name. They were special in God’s eyes, precisely because His favor rested upon them.

We too are ambassadors of peace, the instruments God uses to bring about peace in nonviolent ways in every avenue of our lives – at home, within the family, at places of employment, school – through the many ways the Lord wishes to use us. Like the saint of Assisi, we strive to be active instruments of His peace.

PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

ATTENTION PRAYERFUL SINGLE MEN!

St. Mary’s Benedictine Monastery in Morristown, NJ is having two exciting **Live-in Vocational Retreats**, *March 20-23* and *May 23-26*. Pray and work with the monks and hear the informative vocational talks. There is no cost but space is limited. Call 1-800-221-1807 for more dates and information.



HOLY HOURS FOR VOCATIONS

In response to Bishop Bootkoski’s announcement of a year dedicated to prayer for vocations to the Priesthood and consecrated Religious Life in our Diocese, various parishes throughout the Diocese will host *Holy Hours for Vocations* now

through November 2008. The Monstrances which will be used at these Holy Hours were blessed by Pope Benedict XVI.

March 7 - Blessed Sacrament, Martinsville, 7-9 PM.

March 8 - St. Brigid, Peapack, 6:00 -7:30 PM. following the 5:00 PM Mass

March 13 – St. Joseph, Carteret, 11:30 AM

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

EASTER HAM ROUND UP



The Knights of Columbus will be collecting hams after the Masses at both parishes on Sunday, March 16th. Hams and turkeys that are frozen, fresh, canned or smoked will be accepted. They will be taken to the Food Bank on Sunday for distribution.

A Lenten Prayer called The Passion

Dear Lord Jesus,
by Your Passion and Resurrection
You brought life to the world.
But the glory of the Resurrection
came only after the sufferings of the Passion.
You laid down Your life willingly
and gave up everything for us.
Your body was broken and fastened to a Cross,
Your clothing became the prize of soldiers,
Your blood ebbed slowly but surely away,
and Your Mother was entrusted to the beloved disciple.
Stretched out on the Cross,
deprived of all earthly possessions and human aid,
You cried out to Your Father that the end had come.
You had accomplished the work given You,
and You committed into His hands,
as a perfect gift,
the little life that remained to You.
Lord, teach me to accept all afflictions
after the example You have given.
Let me place my death in Yours
and my weakness in Your abandonment,
Take hold of me with Your love,
that same foolish love that knew no limits,
and let me offer myself to the Father
with You so that I may rise with You to eternal life. Amen.

LENTEN INSTRUCTION

So that the Church of Metuchen may be spiritually one in a common observance of Lent, the following days of fast and abstinence are to be observed by all Catholics of the Diocese who enjoy the blessings of good health:

1. The days of fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
2. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.
3. From the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday until the celebration of the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday, the Easter fast should be observed so that, with uplifted and welcoming hearts, we may be ready to celebrate the joys of the Resurrection.

The obligation to fast applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. To fast in the Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal during the day hunger.

The obligation of abstinence affects all Catholics who have reached the age of 14. Abstinence in the Catholic tradition means to abstain from meat and all meat products.

The obligation of fast and abstinence, as a whole, is a serious obligation. While failure to observe any penitential day in itself may not be considered serious, the failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of them without good cause, would be considered a grave matter. Those unable to abstain for a valid reason on any given Friday of Lent are asked to perform some other penitential act, or to abstain on another day.

2007 Contribution Statements will be mailed upon request. Call the Parish Office at 908-234-1265.