

St. Elizabeth ~ St. Brigid
February 2-9, 2008
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, February 4

8:15 AM (St. Elizabeth) Rosary
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: For the Special Intention
 of Miss Madeline Perrone

Tuesday, February 5

St. Agatha

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Josephine Kuligowski

Wednesday, February 6

Ash Wednesday

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: For the Parishioners
 Noon (St. Elizabeth) Mass: For the Parishioners
 4:30 PM (St. Brigid) Liturgy of the Word
 Distribution of Ashes
 7:00 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions
 7:15 PM (St. Elizabeth) Evening Prayer
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Rose D'Allesio
 Novena

Thursday, February 7

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Brian McAteer

Friday, February 8

St. Jerome

St. Josephine Bakhita

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

Saturday, February 9

4:30 PM (St. Brigid) Confessions
 5:00 PM (St. Brigid) Mass: Helen Pote
 7:00 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Albert Kalafsky

Sunday, February 3

First Sunday of Lent

MASSES:

7:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Friedrich Gliebe
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: For the Parishioners
 9:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Kenneth Van Arsdale
 10:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Joe Tozzi
 11:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Florence McDermott

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: Christopher D'Ambrosi; Walter Gronwald

A time to die ... please pray for those who have recently passed away including: Cameron J. Calabrese

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, February 9

5:00 PM St. Brigid

(E) P. Cross (L) D. Cross (A) Z. Schwab

7:30 PM St. Elizabeth

(E) L. Teppiccione (L) J. Skinner (A) A. Skinner
 E. & C. Villagra

Sunday, February 10

7:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) L. Teppiccione (L) B. Henderson (A) G. Henderson

8:30 AM St. Elizabeth

(E) K. Spinda (L) D. Duffy (A) TBA

9:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) D. O'Callaghan (L) C. Miguez (A) P. Sweeney

10:30 AM St. Elizabeth

(E) M. Nucci (L) M. Fernando (A) B. Moreau
 T. & R. Lynch

11:30 AM St. Brigid

(E) Sr. Joan (L) B. Cozza (A) TBA

PLEASE NOTE: All Lectors and Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are asked to check in with the priest before Mass begins so that they are know who will be assisting them at the Mass. Thank You

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

St. Elizabeth: January 26-27:	\$ 3,777.00
Foundation for Catholic Education:	\$ 839.00
St. Brigid: January 26-27:	\$ 4,303.00
Foundation for Catholic Education:	\$ 1,589.00



For the Week of February 3-10

At St. Brigid:

The **Sanctuary Lamp** burns in memory of Helen Moran from Johanna D'Amico.

Inspirational Spot



*..I asked for bread and received a stone.
 I used the stone to grind the grain. That
 made the flour to form the bread. Instead
 of asking God to give us the things for
 which we pray, all that we need to ask is this:
 show us the way.*

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



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

LIVING IN LOVE



A mini-retreat workshop for married couples designed to energize the romance and renew the excitement of being in love will be held Saturday, February 9 and Sunday February 10, at St. John Neumann Diocesan Center,

Piscataway (includes a Romantic Candlelight Dinner on Saturday). Cost: \$125 per couple.

This weekend offers a series of presentations followed by questions for reflection and discussion so that couples can explore the topics together in complete privacy. There is no group discussion or counseling. For additional information and/or registration, contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1990.

OPEN YOUR HEART & YOUR HOME



Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen's Therapeutic Foster Care Program is seeking warm, supportive individuals and families to serve as Resource families to children in need. Many of these children are innocent victims of abuse and neglect. Children of all ages and backgrounds are in need of loving, nurturing homes. Be a Valentine to a child in need. **CALL TODAY!** 1-866-247-HOME (4663). You Can Help!

Dear Friend in Christ,

For gifts, large or small, please consider, if possible, blessing me with your support through the purchase of my handwork. You are welcome to take both brochures as you leave Church or visit the Our Lady of Tenderness Website (www.ourladyoftenderness.com). I very well know that all of us struggle to support ourselves and those in our care. No purchase is too small or insignificant; each is an outreach of love.

Please know that I hold you close to my heart. Never hesitate to send your intentions, allowing me the privilege of joining you in prayer to the Lord. Prayer is my primary ministry and my handwork allows me to remain within the silence and solitude of the hermitage workings and praying for you and yours.

With gratitude and love in Christ Jesus,

Sister Wilma



Blessed are you

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Zephaniah prophesies that the Lord will punish wicked nations along with Jerusalem, but he will shelter from his anger those who practice justice and humility and do no wrong.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Paul tells the Corinthians that God prefers the humble, the weak, the lowly of station — people like themselves. In Christ Jesus they will find wisdom, honor and justice.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus teaches the Beatitudes in his Sermon on the Mount. He extols those who are merciful, peaceful, lowly, poor in spirit and promises them that "the reign of God is theirs."

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Our Parent Meeting for children who will receive First Communion in May will take place on Wednesday, February 20th from 7:00-8:30 PM at the Parish Center Library. One parent is required to attend this important meeting. If you are unable to attend please contact Sr. Joan. A make-up meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 27th from 7:00-8:30 PM. Any question please contact Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524.

First Penance will be celebrated on Saturday, February 9, 2008 at **11 AM** in St. Elizabeth Church. Practice will be on Thursday, February 7, 2008 at 4:30 PM. Any questions contact Sr. Joan at 908-234-1265.

A "WALK" THROUGH SALVATION HISTORY

Jeff Cavins, a renowned theologian, scholar, speaker and writer of the Great Adventure Bible Study will lead you on a "walk" through Salvation History. The day will start at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, 35 Mountain Ave., Somerville, on *February 23*, with registration at 7:30 AM., Mass at 8:00 AM, Jeff's presentation at 8:30 AM, concluding at 4:30 PM Cost: \$45 per person - includes all materials, breakfast and lunch. For more information or to register please call 908-725-1112 ext. 1124.

DIOCESAN FESTIVAL AND YOUTH CHOIRS

The Diocesan Office for Music Ministry is currently forming a Diocesan Youth Choir of 100 singers for the fall Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC. They are also forming an enlarged choir of adults and students for the closing Eucharist of the July Regional Convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, the annual Chrism Mass, and the fall Pilgrimage. Pilgrimage rehearsals are TBA. Chrism Tuesday rehearsals begin February 19 from 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway. Contact Lisa Mary Andrade at 732-562-1990 x1634 for further information. Please RSVP by February 18.

RESPECT LIFE NEWS



"Baby Hope was a patient in our emergency department, a perfectly formed newborn, entering the world too soon through no choice of her own. She had no voice to tell us that she needed our help that early morning, because others had decided for her that she was worthless and removed her from the ultimate and perfect life support equipment—her mother's womb," stated the nurse who held this victim of a partial-birth abortion attempt until the baby died.

Prayer begins by talking to God, and it ends by listening to Him.

PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS



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.

February 18 - Immaculate Conception, Somerville, 7:30 PM

February 23 - Sacred Heart of Jesus, Manville, 8 PM.

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

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

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

WE THE PEOPLE OF THE BEATITUDES BLESSED ARE THEY WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR HOLINESS THEY SHALL HAVE THEIR FILL

With food in such abundance and a broad variety of beverages to drink, few of us know what it means to be hungry or thirsty. Surely in less blessed parts of the world, it is a reality that is quite different. We might find it difficult to understand the full significance of the words of this saying of Jesus and might prefer to look for others to describe our pursuit of holiness.

To be holy is to be one with God. To be holy is to allow the Lord to permeate our existence and direct our life. To be holy is simply to be a saint. All of us, without exception, are called to be holy. It is the living out of our baptismal call, God's gracious invitation to share in His own life. We are created in His image and likeness. It does require some action on our part, to begin each day saying "I will find ways to be more aware of God today" to "discover moments when God can speak to me" to "allow God to speak through me."

May our daily prayer be: "Lord allow me to love you better today than I did yesterday."

Daughters of Mary Something Wrapped in Red FUNd Raising Event

Thursday, February
21, 2008

St.
Patrick's Hall
7 PM-9
PM

Refreshments

All the women in the parish are invited to bring a gift wrapped in red. (It need not be expensive.)

Friends are welcome to come with a gift or just to bid on the gifts. Gifts will be auctioned

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: Twelve 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: The men the Savior chose were ordinary and hopelessly human. They were remarkably unremarkable. But they were available and obedient to the Master's call. Under Jesus' ministry they became a force that forever changed the world. 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 Twelve 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.

ADULT EDUCATION BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study Group will begin a look at the Letters of St. Paul on Tuesday, February 19th. Not to study the writings of St. Paul is to overlook almost half of the New Testament. 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, starting February 19th after the 9 AM Mass in the Parish Library. All are welcome. For more information call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1265

St. Elizabeth Parish, Far Hills

And

St. Brigid Parish, Peapack

Lenten Parish Mission

February 11th, 12th, 13th, 2008

Presented by: Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR

Fr. Glenn is one of the original members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal with Fr. Benedict Groeschel. The friars work with the homeless in the Bronx and in other areas of the world. They recently opened a Friary in Newark. Fr. Glenn has worked with the new members of the community in their formation and training..

Monday, February 11, 2008 at St. Elizabeth Church 7:00 PM

Topic: Faith and Religion: What's the difference?

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at St. Brigid Church at 7:00 PM

Topic: Healing Presence of the Eucharist

Christ Truly wants to make us whole and holy.

Blessing with the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at St. Brigid Church at 7:00 PM

Topic: Mary, a love beyond all telling.

Concluding Mass

Fellowship will follow in St. Patrick's Church Hall.

Blessed are they who are what they are and do what they do *for the sake of the kingdom!* The Gospel today assures good stewards that their suffering and their service on behalf of the kingdom will be rewarded!

TICKETS FOR POPE BENEDICT'S MASS

The Diocese of Metuchen has announced that each parish in the diocese will receive three tickets for the Papal Mass at Yankee Stadium on Sunday, April 20, 2008. Given the small number of tickets there is no fair way to distribute them except by way of a lottery. Parishioners wishing to attend the Mass are asked to fill out the attached form and return it to the parish office by Monday, February 4th. Please know that the short notice is unavoidable. Three parishioners will be randomly selected to represent St. Elizabeth-St. Brigid Parish at Pope Benedict's Mass. The Diocese is arranging for bus transportation to the Mass from various points in the Diocese. All receiving tickets are asked to make contribution of \$40 to offset the cost of the bus. Those attending the Mass will be required to furnish a government issued Photo-Id (e.g. passport, driver's license).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Parish: _____

ASHES will be distributed on ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Masses:

9:00 AM: St. Brigid Church

Noon: St. Elizabeth Church

7:30 PM: St. Elizabeth Church

Liturgy of the Word and Distribution of Ashes:

4:30 PM: Children's Liturgy, St. Brigid Church

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.

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.



YOUTH GROUP BREAKFAST

Join the Youth Group after Mass on Sunday, February 10th in St. Patrick's Hall from 8 AM to 1 PM for bagels, muffins, juice, and coffee. All proceeds will support their Habitat for Humanity Service Project.

He has no hands but our hands to do His work today; He has no feet but our feet to lead others in His way. He has no voice but our voice to tell others how He died; He has no help but our help to lead them to His side.

The Church is a Place of Prayer. Out of respect for those who wish to pray in silence please remain quiet when you are in the Church. Also, please turn your

beepers and cell phones off or put them in the silent mode. Thank you.