

*St. Elizabeth ~ St. Brigid*  
*March 23-March 29 2008*  
*Easter Sunday*

***Liturgical Schedule***

Monday, March 24

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

Tuesday, March 25

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Morning Prayer  
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Lucia Lembo

Wednesday, March 26

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

Thursday, March 27

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

Friday, March 28

8:45 AM (St. Brigid) Rosary for Vocations  
 9:00 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Kathleen Keane Lawton

Saturday, March 29

4:30 PM (St. Brigid) Confessions  
 5:00 PM (St. Brigid) Mass: William Mc Keon  
 7:00 PM (St. Elizabeth) Confessions  
 7:30 PM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Margaret Clarke

Sunday, March 30  
 Divine Mercy Sunday

**MASSES:**

7:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Charles Wilcock  
 8:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: For the Parishioners  
 9:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Carlos Hill  
 10:30 AM (St. Elizabeth) Mass: Dr. Cyrus Nucci  
 11:30 AM (St. Brigid) Mass: Arduina D'Amico



**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 Mary Evers and Howard Elder**

**A time to die ... please pray for those who have recently passed away including Llawayne L. Dietz.**

**For the Week of March 16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>**



**At St. Elizabeth:**

The **Sanctuary Lamp** is offered in remembrance of the Spinda and Walkowski Families and their extended families from

Kathy and Fred Spinda.

**At St. Brigid:**

The **Altar Bread and Sacramental Wine** are offered for the repose of the soul of Helen Moran from Margaret Mulrooney.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** is offered for the repose of the soul of John J. Kenney from Kathy Petagna.

***Liturgical Ministers***

**Saturday, March 29**

**5:00 PM St. Brigid**

(E) R. Fielding (L) D. McCarthy (A) A. Skinner

**7:30 PM St. Elizabeth**

(E) D. Martin (L) J. Zackman (A) Z. Schwab  
 S. Marki

**Sunday, March 30**

**7:30 AM St. Brigid**

(E) L. Treppiccione (L) R. Crane (A) L. Crane

**8:30 AM St. Elizabeth**

(E) K. Spinda (L) J. Morgia (A) B. Moreau  
 S. Butterfield

**9:30 AM St. Brigid**

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

**10:30 AM St. Elizabeth**

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

**11:30 AM St. Brigid**

(E) P. Jibilian (L) P. Richards (A) E & C Villagra

**EASTER PRAYER**

God our Father, Creator of all, today is the day of Easter joy. This is the morning on which the Lord appeared to men who had begun to lose their hope and opened their eyes to what the Scriptures foretold: that first He must die, and then He would rise and ascend into His Father's glorious presence. May the Risen Lord breathe on our minds and open our eyes that we may know Him in the breaking of bread, and follow Him in His risen life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

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

St. Elizabeth March 15-16: \$ 4,196.00

St. Brigid March 15-16: \$ 5,613.00

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

*The results are in to the survey regarding the Mass schedule for the Saturday Vigil Mass.*

*The 5 PM Mass at St. Brigid Church will remain at 5 PM.*

*The 7:30 Mass at St. Elizabeth Church will be moved to 6:30 PM.*

*This Mass change will be effective the weekend of April 5-6, 2008.*

*Fr. Puleo*



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

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** is a weekend program designed to help widowed, separated, and divorced persons make a new beginning in life through a powerful, intense and positive experience of hope and peace and is open to persons of all faiths. The Program includes presentations, personal, private reflection, and dialogue in small groups. The next weekend is scheduled for *April 11-13*. For additional information call Rosemarie at 732-681-1114.

**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.

**RETROUVAILLE - A Lifeline for troubled marriages**

Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring - your relationship grown cold, distant - thinking about separation or divorce? Retrouvaille may help you. Sponsored by the Family Life Office, Retrouvaille consists of a weekend experience for couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The next program begins the weekend of March 28-30. Call 732-562-1990 ext. 1624.

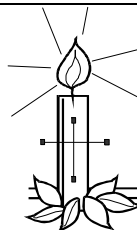
**Mount St. Mary House of Prayer**, Watchung, will offer the following programs:

**Weekend Retreat** - April 4-6. Atmosphere of prayerful quiet. Daily spiritual direction. \$110/weekend; (non-refundable deposit \$25).

**St. John of the Cross and the Human Journey** - A two-part series that will focus on the experience of darkness and how it can lead us to light in our journey of faith. April 2 and 9, 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM or April 18 and 25, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM \$30/series.

**Grief Recovery** - Gentle 4-step experiential process for resolving the grief caused by loss. April 13, 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM \$45.

For more information about these programs or to register, call 908-735 2091.



*Alleluia*

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43**

In this passage, Peter testifies that he and his followers saw the miracles performed by Christ, witnessed His death, and believe in His resurrection. Now they will proclaim to all that Christ is the Son of God.

**Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4**

Paul tells the Colossians that they will appear with Christ in glory. They should be mindful of things above rather than things on earth.

**Gospel: John 20:1-9**

In vivid detail, John tells us that when Mary Magdalene visited Christ's tomb, the tomb was empty. She told the apostles, who ran to the tomb, and saw the "wrappings" on the ground. The disciple who entered first "saw and believed."

**WE ARE NOT ALONE.** . . . *a day of respite for men and women of all ages suffering the effects from the death of a loved one or any major loss and for those who minister to them*, will be held on *Saturday, April 12*, 9:00 AM until 2:30 PM., at St. John Neumann Conference Center, Piscataway. Presenter, Brother André Mathieu, C.P. offers hope by demonstrating the importance of dealing with grief in a healthy way both emotionally and spiritually. \$30 registration fee - lunch included. For more information or to register call the Family Life Office at 732-562-1990 ext. 1624.



**ATTENTION ALL MOMS & TOTS:** Come share a cup of coffee and join in a playgroup which will meet on **TUESDAY** mornings after Mass from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM at the Parish Center. Contact Sharon Lynch at 234-2786 for more information.

**SPOTLIGHT ON CATHOLIC EDUCATION DINNER**



Wednesday, April 9; Pines Manor, Edison; Cocktails: 6 PM.; Dinner: 7 PM. The proceeds will benefit Immaculate Conception School, Spotswood, and St. James School, Woodbridge. Tickets: \$200. In conjunction with the Dinner there will be a **50/50 Raffle**. Tickets: \$50 - 1000 sold. To purchase tickets for the dinner or raffle, call 732-562-2429.

**Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration** is held at St. Francis Cathedral, Metuchen, in *The Lady Chapel* located in the parish center at 45 Library Place. All are welcome

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

## PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

St. Mary's Benedictine Monastery in Morristown, NJ is having an exciting **Live-in Vocational Retreat** for single men on **May 23-26**. There is no cost; space is limited. Call 1-800-221-1807.



### 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.

**April 4** – St. Frances Cabrini, Piscataway, 7 PM

**April 10** – Our Lady of Mercy, South Bound Brook, 8:30 AM to Noon

Visit [www.diometuchen.org/vocations](http://www.diometuchen.org/vocations), for the complete schedule.

The angel said, “Do not be afraid.” Trust that the Risen Christ empowers you to go and spread the Good News. (Matthew 28: 1-10)

### DIOCESAN YOUTH DAY ~ March 29

**Immaculata High School, Somerville – 11 AM-9 PM**

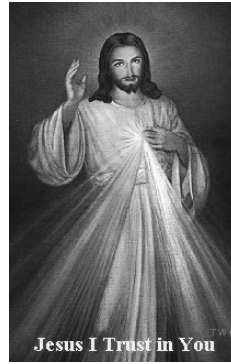
For all teens from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades: Join hundreds of teens from the Diocese and enjoy a day created just for you filled with Catholic faith, fun, music, skits, service projects, workshops, games, food, Saturday evening Mass with Bishop Paul Bootkoski, Confession, and Catholic devotions with Contemporary Catholic Music and Rock bands. For registration contact the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at 732-562-1990 ext. 1631.

### CHILDREN GROW BEST IN FAMILIES

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen is in need of Foster Parents for the 11,000 children in New Jersey's foster care system. Children of all ages and backgrounds are in need of loving, nurturing homes. Many of these children are **innocent victims of abuse and neglect**. **CALL 1-866-247-HOME (4663). You Can Help!!**

**TRUE LOVE WAITS 2** - LIFENET will be conducting an adult training seminar, “True Love Waits 2,” a new program to empower young adults to save sex for marriage. April 26, 8:45 AM. - 3:00 PM. at the CYO Youth Center, 499 Belgrove Drive, Kearny. Cost: \$90/before April 19; \$100/thereafter (includes continental breakfast, lunch, course curriculum and documents). Call 201-804-8331. This program is a sequel to the original True Love Waits Program, but is a stand alone program and attendance at the original seminar is not a pre-requisite.

*Almighty and ever-living God, give us new strength from the courage of Christ our Shepherd, and lead us to join the Saints in Heaven, where He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*



This year **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** will be celebrated on **March 30, the Second Sunday of Easter**.

*It is recorded in St. Faustina's Diary that Jesus requested the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena. The Novena began on Good Friday, March 21, and ends on the Feast of the Divine Mercy Sunday, March 30. The Novena booklets are available in the back of*

*the Church. The different souls prayed for on each day of the novena are:*

**DAY 1 ~ Good Friday** - All mankind, especially sinners.

**DAY 2 ~ Holy Saturday** - The souls of priests and religious.

**DAY 3 ~ Easter Sunday** - All devout and faithful souls.

**DAY 4 ~ Easter Monday** - Those who do not believe in Jesus and those who do not yet know Him.

**DAY 5 ~ Easter Tuesday** - The souls of separated brethren.

**DAY 6 ~ Easter Wednesday** - The meek and humble souls and the souls of children.

**DAY 7 ~ Easter Thursday** - The souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy.

**DAY 8 ~ Easter Friday** - The souls who are detained in purgatory.

**DAY 9 ~ Easter Saturday** - The souls who have become lukewarm.

Today, we gather to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have sung wonderful hymns that speak of our praise, adoration, and joy! But, in reality, every Sunday in the Christian Church is an Easter Sunday because we remember Christ's resurrection each week. Thank you for your generous weekly offerings, your stewardship of your time, your talent, and your treasure. They make it possible for *St. Elizabeth and St. Brigid* to be able to preach the Easter message every day.

### PILGRIMAGES

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to France** – September 24 - October 3, under the spiritual direction of Bishop Bootkoski. Cost: \$4850. For additional information call 732-562-1990 ext. 1634.

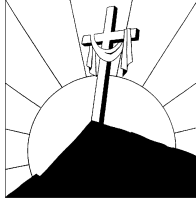
**Italy Pilgrimage** – November 10 - 20. Cost: \$2499. Visit: Venice, Padua, Florence, Pisa, Assisi and Rome. Trip includes most meals, professional tour escort, daily Mass, papal audience if available. Hosted by Fr. David Kosmoski, St. Andrew Church, Avenel. Call 732-634-4355.

### MORRIS CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS



Come join the MCYA for country line dancing on Wed., March 26, at the Colorado Cafe. Lesson begins at 7:30 followed by dancing. The event is free, however the Colorado Cafe does charge admission ([www.coloradocafe.com](http://www.coloradocafe.com)). MCYA is geared towards men & women in their 20s & 30s, both married and single. For more information e-mail us at [info@morrisatholicya.org](mailto:info@morrisatholicya.org)

## Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!



***“Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, has sinners to His Father reconciled.”***



Congratulations to *David Olivier* who completed the Sacraments of Initiation Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion and was received into full communion in the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. May he always feel close to our Lord as he continues to grow in faith and love for our Lord Jesus.

### **THE JELLY BEAN PRAYER**

**Red** is for the blood He gave.

**Green** is for the grass He made.

**Yellow** is for the sun so bright.

**Orange** is for the edge of night.

**Black** is for the sins we made.

**White** is for the grace He gave.

**Purple** is for the hour of sorrow.

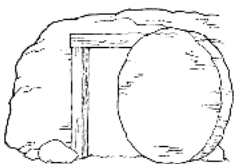
**Pink** is for our new tomorrow.

A bag full of jelly beans colorful and sweet,  
is a prayer, is a promise, is a small child's treat.



As we celebrate the gift of eternal life given to us through Christ's passion, death, and resurrection, it is an appropriate moment to renew our commitment to helping all pregnant women give birth to a new human life destined for life eternal.

Thank You for your generosity for the Ham Round Up for Easter a total of 48 hams, 13 turkeys and \$305.00 were collected. This brings the parish contributions to 5050 pounds of food and \$2983.00 to date. Please keep those in need in your thoughts and prayers. The next food drive will be on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.



Very early in the morning after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with precious oils. The reward of this good and conscientious steward was to be among the first to know that Jesus had been raised from the dead! Alleluia!

My dear friends in Jesus Christ,

On the first Easter Sunday, the women were hurrying to the tomb to anoint Christ's body. They had a great concern and were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" (Mark 16:3).

But when they arrived, they found the tomb open and the grave empty, and they were greeted with the words, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" (Lk 24:5) Jesus had risen from the dead, and through Him, the tomb became the fertile ground of life's victory over death, and our lives have been changed forever by His resurrection.

How good it is to hear this Good News and celebrate Easter once again. How much we need this assurance and encouragement! Today, we need a renewed sense of resurrection in our lives. Too many of us live entombed in the dark grave of our fears and anxieties, our rejection and anger, our despair and loneliness, our apathy and sins. Will we ever see the light again, we wonder? Is this all there is? As we make our way from day to day, we have the same haunting question as the women, "Who will roll back the stone for us?"

Easter tells us the Risen Lord will. We must grasp this truth with our whole being. For us who believe, Easter is a day of hope reborn, of love renewed, of faith restored. But the foundation of this fresh hope and rekindled love and re-awakened faith is not just sentiment or good feelings. Rather, it is our deepest conviction that Jesus is truly raised from the dead, and is now reigning as the Lord of life, who will make good on His promises. "If Christ has not been raised," says St. Paul, "then our faith is in vain and all our preaching is in vain." (1 Cor 15:14) But Christ is risen as He said He would. Therefore, our faith is justified and our preaching is attested by God's own word.

It is good to pause at Easter to recall these truths. It is good for each of us, so worried about our personal problems as well as those of society, to savor this season of confidence restored and courage rekindled. Easter is enduring proof that the evils we face are of this world and will pass. The cross which God permits for each of us is wooden and cannot last! The crown which God promises is of glory and lasts forever.

I ask you on this Easter Sunday to hear and accept this Good News. Stir up your faith and see the huge stone rolled back from the tomb of despair and the bright light of Christ's glorious victory shining before us, inviting us to share the joy and peace of the Lord's new life. This is truly Easter, this is our faith!

I wish a happy Easter to each of you!

In Christ Jesus Our Lord,  
*Father Puleo*

**PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday, March 24.**