



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 USMC, son of Marie Callahan; Brendan Patrick Duffy of the US 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; Michael Mattessich of the US Army, nephew of Tom O'Callaghan; Jordan Weaver of the Air Force, husband of Christy (LaPointe) Weaver and Timothy Donovan of the US Navy, close friend of Tom Gioino.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING

Parents of our Grade 7 Students will attend a Confirmation Meeting which will take place on Tuesday, October 21st from 7-8:30 PM in the Parish Center Library. Our Confirmation handbook will be distributed and an explanation of our Confirmation Program will take place. One parent is required to attend this important meeting. If you are unable to attend please call Sr. Joan at 908-234-1524 to set up another appointment.

In today's second reading, St. Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!

FEAST OF ALL SOULS

On Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 6:30 PM in St. Elizabeth Church we will have a Mass of Remembrance to remember those who have died in our parish and our families during the past year. If you would like your

loved one's name read during the Mass of Remembrance, please return this form by October 28th so that your loved one's name may be included. For more information, please call the Parish Office at (908) 234-1265.

**FEAST OF ALL SOULS
MASS OF REMEMBRANCE**

PLEASE RETURN TO THE
PARISH CENTER BY OCTOBER 28, 2008

Name of Deceased : _____

Date of Death: _____

Parishioner Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

The God of hosts will provide for all peoples



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a

This passage describes the new Jerusalem as a heavenly banquet on the mountain with the Lord God wiping away all tears.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

In simple, direct words, Paul thanks the Philippians for alleviating his hardships. He stresses, though, that he is as accustomed to poverty as to abundance and finds all his strength in Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Once more speaking to the chief priests and the elders, Jesus relates the parable of the wedding banquet. A King, preparing a wedding banquet for his son, summons all the invited guests. When, after several invitations, no guests arrive, the King commands his servants to "go out into the byroads and invite anyone you come upon." Again, Jesus warns the elders, "the invited are many, the elect are few."

The **24th Annual Flame of Charity Dinner** will be held on **October 23**, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick. **Reverend Joseph J. Kerrigan**, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in New Brunswick, will be honored as the *Community Servant* and **The Most Reverend Paul G. Bootkoski**, Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, will be honored as the *Humanitarian of the Year*. The proceeds from this event help support the many social service programs of Catholic Charities including: homeless shelters, health clinics, youth programs and low income housing. This could not have happened without the generosity and continued support of people like you! Please call 732-562-2438 if you would like more information on underwriting and sponsorships or to order tickets.

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. If you are interested or need more information please contact Sr. Joan at 908-524-1524. There will be a minimal cost to attend. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

The Orchestra of Saint Peter by the Sea,
Conducted by Rev. Alphonse Stephenson

♪♪**Sunday, November 30**, at 3 PM. Sacred Heart Church, 149 Randolph Ave., South Plainfield. General admission: \$25 (\$30 at the door); Seniors and Students: \$20 (\$25 at the door). For tickets call 908-756-0633 ext. 10.

PRAY AND FAST FOR VOCATIONS

Do You Want to Serve the Lord?

Is priesthood or religious life a possibility for you?

If so, consider joining our monthly discernment group, which is open to men, ages 18-50, who wish to discern God's will and find out more about priesthood and consecrated religious life. The group will meet at St. John Vianney House of Discernment, Hopelawn, on *Tuesdays: October 21, November 25, and December 9*, at 7:30 PM. For more information call 732-562-2457.



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:

October 20 – Most Holy Rosary, Hopelawn, 7:30 PM

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

Internationally known speaker, Christopher West, presents ***The Gift - free, total, faithful, fruitful.*** The program will be on *October 24*, 6-9 PM and *October 25*, starting with 8 AM Mass followed by the presentation until 5 PM at Immaculate Conception Church, Somerville. Cost: \$40/includes lunch and materials \$20/full-time student with i.d. For more information call 908-725-1112 ext. 1124.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality of your marriage. The next weekend will be held *November 7-9*. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. For registration or additional information, visit www.wmcentralnj.org or call 1-888-827-NJME.



WANTED: BOYS AND GIRLS TO BE ALTAR SERVERS

Training Sessions to start on Saturday, October 25th at 11 AM in St. Brigid Church. Trainings will be on Saturday mornings.

The role of the altar server is to assist the Priest and Deacon during the celebration of the Eucharist. This ministry is open to children who have received their First Communion through High School. To pre-register please complete the following form and return it to the Parish Center by Friday, October 24th:

Name: _____

Age: _____ Grade _____

Phone Number: _____

Parents Names: _____

For more information please call Margaret Mulrooney at the Parish Office 908-234-1265.

2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal Continuing the Mission of Christ

Your gift to the 2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal supports diocesan sponsored programs that promote Catholic values that enhance human life and spiritual growth, providing families with opportunities for enrichment, education and healing. If you have already made your gift or pledge to this year's Appeal, thank you! If you haven't done so yet, your help is still very much needed. Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal is crucial to our Church's ability to serve God's People in need.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Domestic violence is a pattern of intimidation, coercion, and violence that is used to achieve power and control over a partner. Over time, this pattern often increases in frequency and severity. The abuse can be physical, verbal, sexual, emotional, or economical. Domestic violence does not discriminate. A victim can be of any age, race, class, culture, religion, occupation, or sexual preference. If you have experienced this by a person who you date(d) or live(d) with, you may be a victim of domestic violence. Domestic violence is likely to continue and escalate without professional intervention. *For additional information or assistance call the Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-572-7233.*

CATHOLIC GIRL SCOUT NEWS

Catholic Girl Scouts who wish to earn **Religious Recognition Medals** through programs provided by the Diocese of Metuchen may participate in the following programs: Brownies - *Family of God*; Juniors - *I Live My Faith*; Cadettes - *Marian Medal*; Seniors - *The Spirit Alive*. Workbooks for these medals are \$6 and are available from: Diocese of Metuchen, St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, NJ, 08840, Attention: Girl Scout Ministry.

The **Twenty Sixth Annual Catholic Girl Scout Gathering** will be held on *November 1*, at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, from 9 AM to 2:30 PM. Registration will start at 8:30 AM. Cost: \$12 - includes program supplies, patch and lunch. *Reservations and payment are due by October 24.* For registration forms or additional information call Judy Orgonas at 732-562-2446.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

October 19, 2008 at 10:45 AM

Meet: St. Francis Cathedral CYO Hall Metuchen

Walk: "Going the Extra Mile for Kids in Need of Jesus" Through the neighborhood and back

Celebrate: St. Francis Cathedral, Noon Mass with Bishop Bootkoski

Share: A simple Mission Lunch in the Cathedral Cafeteria and listen to guest speaker Jodie D'Angiolillo, Office of Evangelization, tell us about her mission trip to the Sudan.

For additional information call 732-562-1990 ext 1707

An Election Day Prayer to Mary

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God’s law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life.



It is a mistake with grave moral consequences to treat the destruction of innocent human life merely as a matter of individual choice. A legal system that violates the basic right to life on the grounds of choice is fundamentally flawed. –USCCB, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* (Nov. 14, 2007)

From the pastoral letter Bishop Joseph Martino of Scranton released for Respect Life Sunday 2008:

My dear friends, I beg you not to be misled by confusion and lies. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, does not ask us to follow him to Calvary only for us to be afraid of contradicting a few bystanders along the way. He does not ask us to take up his Cross only to have us leave it at the voting booth door. Recently, Pope Benedict XVI said that “God is so humble that he uses us to spread his Word.” The gospel of life, which we have the privilege of proclaiming, resonates in the heart of every person -- believer and nonbeliever -- because it fulfills the heart’s most profound desire. Let us with one voice continue to speak the language of love and affirm the right of every human being to have the value of his or her life, from conception to natural death, respected to the highest degree.

For the complete text of Bishop Martino’s Pastoral Letter www.dioceseofscranton.org

Raffle Tickets for a 2009 Volvo V50 AWD Sport Wagon valued at \$35,000 will be sold after all the Masses on the weekend of October 25-26. Cost: \$10. Proceeds will benefit *New Jersey Right to Life*, the State’s oldest and largest organization dedicated to protecting all human life from conception to natural death. Please show your support for **LIFE** by buying a raffle ticket.

CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE

On Saturday, October 25, 2008, the Diocese of Metuchen will sponsor the “2008 Critical Life Issues Conference - *Trust and Hope in Life*, at the St. John Neumann Conference Center, Piscataway from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Registration is \$40 for general admission and \$20 for clergy, religious, and students, fee includes lunch and handouts. To register, please call at 732-562-1900 ext 1629.

EXPLORING RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

Ministering to Those from Diverse Religious Traditions

Date: October 25, 2008

Time: 10 AM-Noon

Where: Immaculate Conception Church
The Mary House
316 Old Allerton Road
Annadale, NJ 108801

Presenter: Monsignor Michael J. Alliegro

They may be Buddhists, Muslims, Jews, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists ... and they come seeking sacramental initiation. How can we best minister to those coming from so many different religious traditions? Monsignor Alliegro will discuss the principles and tenets of the various religious traditions and how we can be sensitive to the similarities and differences as we welcome our brother and sisters and bring them to the Lord’s Table. To respond please call Sara Sharlow at 732-562-1990 ext 1633

BLOOD DRIVE October 18-19, 2008

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Blood Drive for the benefit of the New York/New Jersey Blood Center, to be held in St. Patrick’s Hall beneath St. Brigid Church. Donors may give during the drive hours **on Saturday, October 18th, from 3.30PM until 6:30PM; and on Sunday, October 19th, from 7:30AM to 1PM.**

You are asked to fill out the form below scheduling an appointment on one of these days. The completed form may be put in the collection basket or returned to the Parish Office. When using the form, schedule yourself on the quarter hour, e.g. 8:15AM.

Thank you for your continued generosity to others.

ATTENTION KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

I WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER TO GIVE BLOOD DURING THE DRIVE OCTOBER 18-19.

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Home/Cell

Time I would like to give blood:

Saturday October 18th at _____

Sunday, October 19th at _____