

Sunday

April 8, 2018



Mass Intentions

Monday, 4/9

7:00 a.m. Julie Delbave Vita by the Vitas

Tuesday, 4/10

7:00 a.m. Eleanor Church by Rosary
Altar Prayer Group

Wednesday, 4/11

7:00 a.m. Joseph Maurigi & family by
Josephine Salerno & family

Thursday, 4/12

7:00 a.m. Umberto Saverino by
Saverino family

Friday, 4/13

7:00 a.m. In honor of Ramune
Petraviciene by
Amuras Petravicius

Saturday, 4/14

5:00 p.m. Dorothy Trice by Ann M. Hill

Sunday, 4/15

8:30 a.m. Butch Spagnola by
the Nowicki family

10:30 a.m. Edgar Geigel by
Geigel children

*This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of John
Carlisle by mother Barbara.*

Sacrificial Offerings 2018

Sunday, March 26

Average needed from weekly offerings to
cover expenses **\$7,000.00**

Regular Collection: \$5,682.66

Children's: \$ 31.52

Under: \$1,317.34

Diocesan Collection: \$1,176.25

Poor Box Collection

Monies collected in the poor boxes located in the
Church entryway are used for the needy in our parish.
Your generosity is greatly appreciated. **Please be as
generous as your means allow.**



Coffee & Doughnut Reception

The monthly Coffee &
Doughnut reception will take
place this **Sunday, 4/8, after the 8:30 and
10:30 Masses in the Church auditorium.**
All are welcome to join us!

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

To date, the Development Office has
received pledges totaling \$22,904.92 and
payments totaling \$19,820.26 from 113
parishioners. This represents 71.6% of your
\$32,000.00 goal. Thank you for your
efforts!

*This week our Chapel candle is lit in memory of Mary
Lou D'Andrea by Nina DiZuollo.*

St. John Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry for those less fortunate is in need of the following food products: Dry pasta, cereals, tomato sauce, canned soups, canned meats, canned fruit and juice. Please note that all foods that are donated to St. John's will be brought to the FISH Food Pantry located on New Market Rd., Piscataway. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

Social Concerns

Do you know a needy person or family? Could one of your neighbors benefit from assistance with food and/or other essentials? Please call the Pastoral Center, 732-968-2621, in confidence, and we will do whatever we can to help. Please continue to bring men's toiletries, tooth brushes, and large and medium thongs or slippers for the Ozanam Men's Shelter. Articles may be left in the vestibule. Thanks for not forgetting the "guys"

Time, Talent and Treasure



Fostering stewardship is a way of life. Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure. We gratefully acknowledge and salute:

Rosemary Deene and her team for working on the Calendar Raffle

Thank you for your participation!

Calendar Raffle

The winner of \$50 for Week One is: **John and Annie DiMatteo.**



**Pray
for the
Military**

Prayers for Our Service Members

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

U.S. Navy Lt. Michael Bartilotti
U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney
U.S. Army Pvt. Raymond C. Pizzigoni
U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Paul Frabizzio
U.S. Marine Lnc. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak
U.S. Army Pfc Sean Parente
U.S. Marine Pvt. Dante Parente

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

Latino American Breakfast

The Shrine of St. Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, is holding a Latino American Breakfast on **Sunday, 4/8, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the **Auditorium.** Come and try our "delicacies" of Central & South America. Adults \$10, Children under Five \$5.

Bishop Ahr High School

Spring Open House

Bishop George Ahr High School, One Tingley Lane, Edison, will be holding a Spring Open House on **Tuesday, 4/17, beginning at 7 p.m.** All are welcome! Meet our faculty, tour our facility, hear about our technology, and learn about our sports, clubs and organizations. Brochures available. Refreshments served. Call Bishop Ahr High School for further information or directions: (732) 549-1108, x. 620. Or visit us on the web at bgahs.org.

**St. Pio Comes to
The Diocese of Metuchen**

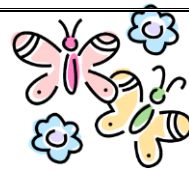
Come and venerate the official relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his passing, **Tuesday 4/17 from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.** in the **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, 32 Elm St., Metuchen.** Bishop James F. Checcio will lead a prayer service at 1 p.m. A Mass in honor of St. Pio will be celebrated at 7 p.m. by Fr. Timothy A. Christy, Vicar for Evangelization and Communications for the Diocese. For information about the public veneration, please call 732-548-0100 or email info@stfranciscathedral.org.

Marriage Encounter

Now that Spring is finally approaching, why not shake off those winter blues and pump some new life into your marriage? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held **April 20-22.** Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Phone **1-732-904-9636** for registration and information. Visit us at: www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for more information.

**Bishop Ahr High School
Designer Pocketbook Bingo**

Bishop Ahr High School is having its Annual Designer Pocket book Bingo Fundraiser on **Friday, 4/27.** **The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the games begin at 7:30 p.m.** There are a limited number of tickets being sold, please don't wait until the last minute! Order forms can be found on the Bishop Ahr High School website, www.bgahs.org, or by contacting Barbara Herbert at 908-403-2642.



**Holy Savior Academy
Spring Splendor Tricky Tray**

Win Disney Hopper Passes, gift cards, designer bags, American Girl, QVC studio tour, housewares, jewelry and more. **Saturday, April 21, doors open at 6PM.** Admission: \$25/per person and includes: 25 level 1 tickets, water, coffee/tea & dessert. Raffle value ticket pack presale for \$30 (\$35 at door) includes: 1 sheet level 2 tickets, 10 level 3 tickets and 1 level 4 ticket. For admission tickets or value packs see Mrs. Haluszka in the school's office or mail a check for Holy Savior Academy (please include "For Tricky Tray committee", your name and phone number/email address in the envelope) to Holy Savior Academy, 149 South Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield NJ 07080. For seating arrangement requests or questions, email: trickytrayhsa@gmail.com

**NJ Right to Life
Annual Banquet Dinner**

New Jersey Right to Life, the state's largest pro-life organization, will hold its Annual Banquet Dinner on **Friday, 4/20** at the **Hyatt Regency, New Brunswick.** The evening's event begins at **6:30 p.m.** and will feature 2008 Republican Vice Presidential Candidate and Governor of Alaska (2006-2009), Sarah Palin. A 5:30 p.m. photo opportunity with the Speaker is also available. Registration for the Banquet and/or VIP Reception must be made in advance and seats are on a first come, first served basis. Registration forms can be printed from the NJRTL website, www.njrtl.org. Registrations can also be taken by phone with a credit card by calling the NJRTL office at 732-562-0562 Monday through Friday during regular business hours. Please register now to reserve a seat! Thank you.



In the beginning...

Baptism Part I

There are so many spiritual things to write about. One could write a book (hint). Since I can't write a book in the bulletin we'll have to settle for a series. This one will be on the Sacraments...Deacon Phil style. Ready? Here we go! I love baptizing children, the smiles, the cooing, sigh...and the crying. The joy of the parents and God parents, it's just wonderful. It's also one of the most misunderstood, least respected and easily forgotten of the Sacraments. Yet, all the other sacraments begin with it. I'd like to take my time with this one and share some insight.

Misunderstood ...Why do we ask for baptism? Um yes you heard right... ask. Most people do not realize that although baptism is a Rite, it is not a Right. Even as I speak (or write), hundreds of thousands of Catholics all over the world are demanding, not asking, demanding, that their children be baptized into a faith that they don't even participate in. Wow, now why would we want someone baptized into a faith we don't even believe in, or participate in? In the Rite of Baptism for Children (here after abbreviated as ROBFC), the second question asked by the Priest or Deacon is, "What do you ask of God's Church for...?" C'mon folks any light bulbs clicking on? This is a challenge question! Did Jesus "demand" baptism from John the Baptist or did he ask? Baptism at that time was a public denouncement of sin and a turn to repentance. From the Apostles time to today amongst most Christian faiths it includes accepting Jesus as the risen Lord and Savior and publicly denouncing sin. In the case of a baby, Mom, Dad, the God Parents **and** the Church community are proxy for the child since the baby can't speak for itself. The idea is that the parents, God Parents and Church community are going to help raise this child in faith. Um, by

the way, those present at a private Baptism are the Church community. (Shucks, and here we thought we were just guests with no responsibility). Actually that baby becomes **all** our responsibility in helping raise him or her in the faith. It's a Club and not everyone's invited. (Remember the Pharisees?) Don't forget, to become a Christian one had to **believe** in Jesus Christ as Savior and be baptized. For those who were martyred it was a steep price to pay and wasn't taken lightly. It wasn't by them and shouldn't be by us.

Until next time...may Jesus keep you smiling, may God's grace shine on you and always pray for our Pastor ...he loves us and so do I!

Deacon Phil

Whole Community Catechesis

Readings for Sunday, 4/8:

First: Acts 4:32-35;

Second: 1 John 5:1-6;

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Reminder:

Our April monthly session will take place this Monday & Tuesday @ 6pm.



Thanks, thanks, and more thanks! We were able to fill 63 Easter Blessing Bags for the residents of McCauley Hall Healthcare residence.