

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**AUGUST 23, 2009**



**MONDAY**

**7:00 AM Anne Zielinski by Joe and Marion  
England**

**TUESDAY**

**7:00 AM Barbara Bieniek by Jean and Henry  
Hodulik**

**WEDNESDAY**

**7:00 AM Eugene Brewer by Anita Brewer**

**THURSDAY**

**7:00 AM Emile Lemay by Colette Lemay and  
Family**

**FRIDAY**

**7:00 AM Edward Marren(2<sup>nd</sup> Annv.) by wife,  
Joan**

**SATURDAY**

**5:00 PM David C. Clark (1<sup>st</sup> Annv.) by Dianne  
(VIGIL) and Ray Applegate and Family**

**SUNDAY**

**8:30 AM The Parishioners of St. John's**

**10:30 AM Edward Mattingly by Bob Zednick**

**SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS 2009**

Average needed from Weekly Offerings  
to cover expenses \$6,800.00  
Collection, August 16, 2009 \$5,526.26

**UNDER \$1,273.74**

Children's Collection for last week amounted to \$28.25.

The collection for the ASSUMPTION FEAST DAY was \$456.00.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
GENEROSITY.**

**ROSARY CORNER**



The Rosary is prayed every weekday  
following the 7 AM Mass and Novena.

**ALL ARE INVITED:**

**BLOCK ROSARY:**

Monday, 7:00 PM at 515 Lincoln Avenue  
Wednesday, 8:00 PM at 607 Third Street

**WHAT IS A BLOCK ROSARY?** Neighbors gathering in  
each other's homes for a half-hour to pray the Rosary for  
Peace in the World, for the Local Community and for  
each other's intentions. Please consider having a Block  
Rosary in your home. For more information, call  
Maureen Shea at 968-0136.

**BLUE ARMY ROSARY CELL**

Where: 511 Lincoln Ave., Dunellen

When: Every Tuesday – 10:00 AM

All are welcome. Bring your children & grandchildren.  
For more information, call Maureen Shea 732-968-0136.

**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  
fish, canned vegetables and 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.

**ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED**

Those parents that have children who show an  
interest in being Altar Servers contact Deacon  
Michael Gleason at the Pastoral Center, 732-968-  
2621.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS**

**NEEDED: ROOM AT REASONABLE RATE, MATURE ADULT WOMAN OFFERING COMPANIONSHIP/LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING. PLEASE CALL PARISH OFFICE 732-968-2621.**

**SPREADING THE WORD –TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 23, 2009**

*In today’s first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God’s faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, “we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.” May we too, be mindful of God’s gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve Him with grateful hearts.*

*(See Joshua 24:18)*

**ST. JOHN MINISTRY FAIR**

**Have You Been Called?**

**Find Out on September 20<sup>th</sup>!**

**ST. JOHN BUS TRIP  
BETHLEHEM, PA**

St. John Church will be hosting a bus trip to the Sands Casino in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The bus will depart from St. John Parking Lot at 9:00 AM sharp and return at 6:00 PM. The cost is \$30.00 per person with \$20 in coin return. Note: Casino requires ID. To reserve a seat, please call Jane at 732-752-4741.

**QUAD GOLF OUTING  
RAFFLE DRAWING**

There will be a 50/50 Raffle Drawing on Sunday, October 4th during the Quad Golf Outing. There are ONLY 1000 raffle tickets being sold prior to the outing. The tickets are \$5 each and will be available before and after all Masses. The cash prize is \$2500.00.

**ST. JOHN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

**NEW AMOUNTS FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AS OF 7/21/09:**

AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$301,105.00  
PLEDGE PAYMENTS: \$255,926.08  
BALANCE: \$ 45,178.92  
DONATIONS/FUNDRAISING: \$ 17,435.00  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**THE SECOND COLLECTION FOR THIS WEEKEND AUGUST 22/23 WILL BE OUR PARISH COLLECTION TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF OUR INSURANCE AND ASSESSMENTS....THE SECOND COLLECTION FOR NEXT WEEKEND AUGUST 29/30 IS FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE TO HELP US MEET OUR OBLIGATION TO THOSE FAMILIES WHO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS....THE DIOCESE ASSESSES EACH PARISH THAT DOES NOT HAVE A SCHOOL TO AID THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO OPT TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO CATHOLIC SCHOOL WITHIN THE DIOCESE....PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOUR MEANS ALLOW....**



**TIME, TALENT & TREASURE**

*Fostering Stewardship as a way of life.  
This week’s Stewardship of Time & Talent Salute.*

*Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure, we gratefully acknowledge and salute:*

*The Activities Committee*

*Thank you again for your participation!*

**THE DIOCESE OF METUCHEN**

**“CALLING ALL ANGELS”**

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen is calling on you to become a resource parent to one of New Jersey’s 11,000 children in the 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 TODAY! 1-866-247-HOME (4663). You Can Help!

**“PREPARE TO LEAD”**

Prepare to Lead is a Catholic Bible Study Training Course sponsored by the Office of Evangelization. The course offers a basic introduction to the Sacred Scriptures for people who desire to understand the bible better and /or may wish to facilitate Bible Studies. The classes lay a foundation in the Catholic approach to reading and interpreting the Word of God. Anybody who is interested in growing in their knowledge and love of Scriptures is invited to participate. The course will be offered in several locations in the diocese and will begin in September and run through May. Registration is required (download registration form at [www.diometuchen.org/deptsministries/evangelization/formation-training](http://www.diometuchen.org/deptsministries/evangelization/formation-training)). For further information contact the

Office of Evangelization at: 732-562-2469 or [lrhnsted@diometuchen.org](mailto:lrhnsted@diometuchen.org).

**SEEKING: ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

The Diocese of Metuchen serves a Catholic community of nearly 600,000 people throughout Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties. Presently, our Youth and Young Adult Office seeks an Associate Director.

- Education/Experience: B.A. in religious education, Catholic theology or equivalent; or five to seven years related experience in Youth Adult Ministry; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Religious Requirement: must be a practicing Roman Catholic who upholds the teaching and traditions of the Catholic Church and who possesses a sound working knowledge of the Catholic faith and Church hierarchy.
- Compensation: Competitive salary and full benefits package
- Location: Piscataway, NJ
- Environment: Professional Office, non-smoking

Interested candidates should forward their resume to [HR@diometuchen.org](mailto:HR@diometuchen.org) or mail to: Human Resources Director, Diocese of Metuchen, P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840-0191. Please note that due to the anticipated level of response, we will only contact those candidates who we are interested in pursuing. No phone calls please. **APOLOGETICS 101: PART 2 – KNOW YOUR FAITH TO SHARE IT!**

*“I believe in order to understand; and I understand, the better to believe.”* A seven-week course that will be held on Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 PM beginning September 24<sup>th</sup> at the St. John Neumann Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway. For information and registration: [www.diometuchen.org/deptministries/evangelization/formation-training](http://www.diometuchen.org/deptministries/evangelization/formation-training) or 732-562-1990 ext. 1824 [lrhnsted@diometuchen.org](mailto:lrhnsted@diometuchen.org).

**MOUNT ST. MARY**

Mount St. Mary House of Prayer, Watchung will offer the following programs. Registration required; call 908-753-2091 or e-mail: [mshhope@mshhope.org](mailto:mshhope@mshhope.org)

**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN – HOW DOES IT SPEAK TO US TODAY?**

The Gospel of John emerges as the most unique Gospel in the New Testament. How is this so? Why does Jesus dialogue so much more and share so deeply with others, especially women? This presentation will address such questions and offer insights into the relevance of this Gospel for today. Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 11:30 AM (\$15). Dr. Judith Schubert, RSM Author of The Gospel of John: Question by Question

**CENTERING PRAYER**

Pray this ancient form of prayer and breathe in God’s peace. Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina, Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:30 – 9:00 PM. Free-will offering.

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
NORTH PLAINFIELD**

Do you want to Read the Bible, But Don’t Know How to Begin? If you have ever wanted to read the Bible, but did not know where or how to begin, then “The Bible Timeline” Parish Study is for you. “The Bible Timeline” makes reading the Bible not only easy, but exciting. In this study, you will learn the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible – getting the “big picture” of salvation history. Perhaps for the first time in your life, you will understand the overview of the Bible story. This then makes your Bible reading and even the Sunday Mass readings come alive like never before. “The Bible Timeline” is basic enough to suit those who haven’t studied the Bible before while at the same time offering ways to go deeper that will challenge the Bible Study veteran. Please join us on Tuesdays starting September 29<sup>th</sup> from 7:15 – 9:15 PM in the Church Hall at St. Joseph’s Church, North Plainfield. Bible Study Kits need to be ordered by September 13<sup>th</sup>. Call Gayla at 908-668-0266 to register.

**OUR LADY OF MT. VIRGIN SCHOOL  
MIDDLESEX**

Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Catholic Elementary School, accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges, is accepting applications for our Small Blessings Pre-School (3 and 4 year old programs) and our Kindergarten. Limited availability exists in grades 1 through 6. OLMV boasts a state-of-the-art Technology Program, an upgraded Science Curriculum with lab and an accelerated Math Program in the Middle School. Before and After-Care is available. OLMV has extensive extra-curricular and sports program. For information or to arrange a tour of our facilities, please contact Mrs. Ann Major, Principal at 732-356-6560 or [amajor@olmv.net](mailto:amajor@olmv.net). Please visit our website: [olmv.net](http://olmv.net).

***WEDDING  
BANNS***

***I***

***Justin DeNapoli***

***&***

***Emilie Vargo***



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL**  
**SOMERVILLE**

Do you have a child entering Kindergarten or First Grade in September? It is not too late to register your child at Immaculate Conception School in Somerville for the upcoming school year. Teaching the Catholic faith is the central mission of Immaculate Conception School, a co-ed grammar school serving students in grades pre-K (age 4) through 8. ICS, located at 41 Mountain Avenue in Somerville, provides a Christ-centered education that fosters creativity and responsibility, and encourages students to be the very best they can be. We offer full-day Kindergarten classes, a challenging core curriculum that is consistent with the requirements prescribed by the State of New Jersey, state-of-the-art technology and a wide range of extra-curricular activities. To learn more about ICS, you may visit our website at [www.icsschool.org](http://www.icsschool.org). For registration information, or to schedule a tour, please call the school at 908-725-6516.

**COLLEGE OF ST. ELIZABETH**  
**MORRISTOWN**

Sr. Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking*, will give the reflection at the Evening Prayer of the Holy Spirit. The service is part of the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the College of Saint Elizabeth, 2 Convent Rd., Morristown. It will take place on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in the Holy Family Chapel, located on the college campus. The event is open to the public. A dessert reception, sponsored by the Alumnae Association, will follow at 8:30 PM. Sr. Helen will also be signing her books.



**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN**  
**ORDINARY TIME**  
**DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday**

Rv 21: 9b-14; Jn 1: 45-51

**Tuesday**

1 Thes 2: 1-8; Mt 23: 23-26

**Wednesday**

1 Thes 2: 9-13; Mt 23: 27-32

**Thursday**

1 Thes 3: 7-13; Mt 24: 42-51

**Friday**

1 Thes 4: 1-8; Mt 25: 1-13

**Saturday**

1 Thes 4: 9-11; Mk 6: 17-29

**METUCHEN CURSILLO MOVEMENT**

The Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Metuchen, along with the support of Bishop Paul Bootkowski, will be holding the Metuchen Cursillo Weekends at The Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Washington, NJ. Bishop Bootkowski supports the Cursillo Movement and has also made a Cursillo Weekend. The Men's Weekend is scheduled for September 17, 18, 19 & 20, 2009. The Women's Weekend is scheduled for November 5, 6, 7 & 8, 2009. Both Weekends begin on Thursday evening and end on Sunday afternoon. To obtain an application, log onto our website at [www.metcursillo.org](http://www.metcursillo.org). Click onto ABOUT CURSILLO (upper left-hand corner), next click onto DOWNLOAD (found in the drop down), then click onto Candidate application. You may also contact Dr. Tony Tangorra, Lay Director, at 908-766-1900 or [drtangorra@yahoo.com](mailto:drtangorra@yahoo.com)

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS**  
**OF THE AMERICAS**

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Regina Coeli #940 is a national Catholic organization dedicated to prayer, good works and the helping of others less fortunate. CDA is an opportunity to make new friends, to have fun while enriching your life as well as the lives of those less fortunate, and to engage in spiritual activities. Regular meetings take place once a month, September to June, on the second Tuesday of the month. They are held at 7:30 PM in the Church Auditorium. The first meeting of the 2009/2010 year will be held on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please call: Audrey Spenard 908-561-8050 or Beth Willoughby 732-752-8392.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**→ DON'T FORGET!**

**August 24<sup>th</sup>.....Stewardship Meeting,**

**Parish Center, 7:30 PM**

**August 30<sup>th</sup>.....Installation Mass of**

**Fr. Jay Siceloff as Pastor, 10:30 Mass, Church**

**September 2<sup>nd</sup>....Catechist Meeting, Church**

**Auditorium, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**September 8<sup>th</sup>.....Catholic Daughters Meeting, 7:30, Church Auditorium**

**September 14<sup>th</sup>...Altar Rosary Prayer Group, Chapel, 7:00 PM followed by meeting in church auditorium**

**September 16<sup>th</sup>...St. John Bus Trip to Sands Casino,**

**Bethlehem, PA, St. John Parking Lot, 9:00 AM**

**September 20<sup>th</sup>...St. John Ministry Fair, 9:15 &**

11:15 AM, Church Auditorium  
September 27<sup>th</sup>...St. John Parish Picnic, 12 NOON

4 PM, St. John Parking Lot

## Executive Summary of the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey's Message on Marriage

Prepared by the New Jersey Catholic Conference

August 22, 2009

In the face of the attempts to establish same sex "marriage", the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey have issued a comprehensive message, "The Call to Marriage is Woven Deeply into the Human Spirit." The Bishops' message calls upon all Catholics to:

Protect and promote marriage.

Hold firm to the Church's teaching on marriage and the complementarity of the sexes.

Support all family members, including those who choose to remain single.

Help those entering marriage to prepare for the challenges, sacrifices and joys to come.

Reach out with the special compassion of Christ to those married couples and families experiencing difficulties, anxiety, and illness.

The Bishops emphasize that the Church has always and everywhere taught that marriage is the union of one man and one woman as husband and wife. This great truth about marriage is not some obscure doctrinal fine point but a fact of human nature, recognized from time immemorial by people of virtually every faith and culture.

The Church teaches that man and woman are equal. However, man and woman are *different from each other but created for each other*. This complementarity, including sexual difference, draws men and women together in a mutually loving union that always should be open to the procreation of children (see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1602-1605).

The Church asks Catholics to become involved in how government treats marriage because civil authorities are charged with protecting children and the common good, and marriage is indispensable to both purposes. The Bishops also note that Catholics have the right and responsibility to oppose laws and policies that unjustly target people as bigots or that subject people to charges of unlawful discrimination simply because they believe and teach that marriage is the union of man and a woman.

The stable, life long loving relationship of a mother and father, found only in marriage, provides the ideal conditions for raising and socializing children. All available empirical evidence indicates that marriages with a mother and father are the gold standard for insuring optimal outcomes in a child's development.

The Bishops recognize that some children are raised in situations other than the traditional two-parent family and that responsible loving single parents, and other family members make important and valuable contributions to the welfare of these children. But supporting single parent families, as a just and compassionate society must do, is far different than deliberately creating motherless and fatherless families and holding them out to be the same as marriages.

In the Church's view, same-sex "marriage" is not a civil right. A strong desire does not make a civil right. Every man and every woman has a right to enter into marriage, but marriage as an institution can only be between a man and a woman. Governments do not have the power to define marriage otherwise, because it is a permanent human institution that does not owe its existence to governments. Marriage as a union of man and woman existed long before any nation, religion, or law was established. In fact, the marital union is the human and social institution upon which civilization has always been structured.

Same-sex "marriage" is not a civil right because same-sex couples cannot fulfill the core public purpose of marriage: protecting children by bringing men and women into the only kind of union that can bring new life into the world, and give children mothers and fathers.

In New Jersey, what is the debate on same sex marriage all about? In New Jersey, the debate is *not* about benefits and rights. The Civil Union Act [N.J. Statutes 37:1-31(a)] settled that issue once and for all. In New Jersey, same sex couples have every benefit, right and protection whether these rights derive from statute, administrative or court rule, public policy, common law or any other source of civil law, as are granted to spouses in a marriage. The same sex "marriage" political initiative is an attempt to change the historic structure of marriage as a union only of a man and a woman. This initiative ignores human nature, because throughout all of human history marriage has required the complementarity of man and woman.

Same sex civil unions may represent a new and a different type of institution, one in which government grants to same sex couples benefits and protections, *but* same sex unions are not marriage.

The Bishops' message is not just a brief in opposition to same sex "marriage." Citing secular scholars at Rutgers University, the Bishops note that the crisis in family life that society faces today has deep roots in a broad cultural shift away from religion and social traditionalism and toward faith in personal independence and tolerance for diverse life styles known as "secular individualism." This cultural shift has led to increases in divorce, non-marital cohabitation and out-of-wedlock childbearing as well as the current call for same sex "marriage."

Fundamentally, the Bishops' message is a call for a cultural awakening and an increased recognition of the importance of stable marriages in which mothers and fathers willingly commit themselves to each other and to openness to children. The Bishops call for people to reject "secular individualism" and to embrace and support the historic role of marriage which includes spouses sacrificing self-interest to foster long term commitment to each other, to children and to the future of our society.

