

**THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD**

JANUARY 3, 2010



MONDAY

7:00 AM Edward Sheenan by Dianne & Ray Applegate

TUESDAY

7:00 AM Joseph Sokolosky

WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM Margaret Johnson by Susan & Jim Lester & Family

THURSDAY

7:00 AM Michael LaRocca by Richard & Barbara Greninger

FRIDAY

7:00 AM Maria Filippa Finelli by Sue Confalone

SATURDAY

5:00 PM Eugene & Gene Keating & Laurie Petrolino by Wife & Mom (VIGIL)

SUNDAY

8:30 AM Gerald Varela by Joe & Marion England

10:30 AM The Parishioners of St. John's

SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS 2010

Average needed from weekly offerings to cover expenses \$6,800.00
Collection, December 20, 2009 **\$3,112.00**

UNDER \$3,788.00

Children's Collection, December 20th, amounted to \$12.00

Retirement for the Religious Collection amounted to \$1,004.00

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 at 968-0136.

ADOPT-A-PRIEST PROGRAM

Have you prayed for your priest today? To adopt a Priest or for more information, please call Maureen Shea 732-968-0136.

POOR BOX COLLECTION

Monies collected in the Poor Boxes located in the Church Entry Way are used for the needy in our parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

GIFT BEARERS

Please contact one of the ushers as you enter the Church if you would like to bring up the Offertory Gifts during a particular Mass.



I would like to thank our bulletin advertisers for their support and generosity this year! Without their advertisements our weekly bulletin could not be published.

Father Jay

VISITING THE HOMEBOUND

When a family member is ill, homebound, or in the hospital and would like a visit from our priest, please notify the Pastoral Center to make the necessary arrangements.

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-slippers for the Ozanam Men’s Shelter – Articles may be left in the vestibule – Thanks for not forgetting the “guys”.



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.

SPREADING THE WORD – EPIPHANY – JANUARY 3, 2010

The three kings in today’s Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?

BIBLE STUDY



ST. JOHN PARISH will be hosting BIBLE STUDY focusing on THE WRITINGS OF ST. LUKE classes will be held on Mondays at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center.

Jan 4th – introduction to the writings of St. Luke (Gospel and Acts)

Jan 11th – The Readings of the Lectionary, Cycle C (St. Luke’s Gospel)[The Mission of the Messiah]
Jan 18th – Acts of the Apostles
Presented by Paul Major, Our Lady of the Mount, Warren

ST JOHN’S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Capital Campaign is drawing to a close as of January 15, 2010. Any payments made after that date will be posted to our Facilities Improvement Account. Thank you for making our Campaign such a huge success!

ST. JOHN ACTIVITIES/FUNDRAISING

SCRIP FUNDRAISER

PLEASE NOTE: Scrip orders are due no later than NOON on Monday, January 11th and can be dropped in collection basket or brought to Parish Center. Use St. John Scrip Fundraiser to get gift cards for all your everyday expenses like food, clothing and other essentials. Script gift cards are perfect for those hard to shop for friends and family members. For more information call Pat Nagel at 732-718-5197 or Anne North at 908-616-1546.

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE!!!

Framed Picture THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS was won by our parishioner Lou DeRobertis. Congratulations to our winner.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNER

December 21, 2009 – \$200.00
John Fitzgerald

Congratulations to our winner!!!

YOUTH GROUP MINISTRY



St. John Youth Group will meet every Sunday in the church auditorium from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. For details please call Joe and Kathy DelVecchio at 732-668-6801.

THE SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 3/4 WILL BE OUR PARISH COLLECTION TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF OUR INSURANCE AND ASSESSEMENTS. THE SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 9/10 WILL BE THE DIOCESAN COLLECTION “TOGETHER IN CHARITY” TO HELP FUND THE PARISH EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. 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:

Our Homebound Ministers

Thank you for your participation!!!



The following people are presently serving in the United States Military: Private Jackelyn McCann, Lieutenant Elizabeth Kuhl and Lieutenant

Gregory Luttmann in the United States Army; Petty Officer Third Class Sean Bibby in the United States Navy; Private Jenna Margalis and Corporal Travis Novack in the United States Marine Corp....

Please keep them in your prayers as well as all men and women who are serving our country....If you know of a parishioner or family member of a parishioner who is currently serving in our Armed Forces please contact the Parish Center....

DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

2009 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL – BECAUSE WE ARE CHURCH

<u>GOAL</u> 29,800.00	<u>TOTAL PLEDGED</u> 24,457.99	<u>TOTAL PAID</u> 21,573.83
<u>SHORT OF GOAL</u> 5,342.01	<u>TOTAL DONORS</u> 184	<u>% PLEDGE TO GOAL</u> 82.1%

The campaign for the 2009 Bishop's Annual Appeal continues through the spring of 2010, so it's not too late to make a gift. One of the educational ministries your gift helps to support is the Office of Evangelization. This office assists in the formation of Parish Evangelization Teams and provides training in both English and Spanish for Bible Study Leaders. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

"Calling All Angels" 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!!

KEEP IN THE KNOW...

Learn about important legislative issues. Check out diocesan, office and parish events. Be inspired by articles in The Catholic Spirit. Over 18,000 people click on each month. Visit: www.diometuchen.org.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 4th.....Bible Study, 7:30 pm, Parish Center

Jan 12th.....CDA, Court Regina Coeli #940 Meeting, 7:30 pm, Church Auditorium

MOUNT ST. MARY

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

WEEKEND RETREAT JAN 8-10

An experience of personal prayer based on Scripture. Daily spirited direction. Atmosphere of prayerful quiet. Adaptable to the needs of each individual. Begins 7 PM on opening day; concludes at 2 PM. (\$120 weekend: Non-refundable deposit \$30) Registration Required.

GATHERING FOR MEN

Gain support and inspiration by focusing on spirituality and integration with daily life. Group discussion, reflection and prayer. Tues – Jan 12, 7:30 pm (\$15) Jerry McKenna, Al Berronio

PERSONAL RETREAT DAYS

Sacred Time, Sacred Space – A personal quiet day to enjoy God's presence. Day begins with communal prayer. January 13th, 9:30 am until 3:00 pm. Bring bag lunch (\$20)

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Court Regina Coeli #940 is a national Catholic organization dedicated to prayer, good works and the helping of other 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, Sept – June, on the second Tuesday of the month. They are held at 7:30 pm. in the Church Auditorium. The next meeting will be on Tuesday January 12th. For more information, please call; Audrey Spenard 908-561-8050, Beth Willoughby 732-752-8392 or e-mail bethlby72@verizon.net. All Catholic women 18 years and older are welcome.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 3, 2010

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

“God’s secret plan, as I have briefly described it, was revealed to me, unknown to men in former ages, but now revealed by the Spirit to the holy apostles and prophets. It is no less than this: in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews, members of the same body and sharers of the same promise through the preaching of the gospel.”

On this great day of The Epiphany, The Three Kings or The Magi, we celebrate the plan of God, the salvation of all humankind. The well known story of the journey, the meeting with the king, the guidance of the star, the presentation of three gifts are directed to one fact, which Paul calls “God’s secret plan.”

We may remember many details of the gospel occurrence and can fail to understand the full meaning of the event. The Word of God teaches us that God revealed Himself in the Person of His Son Jesus Christ. That revelation, His coming as Savior, was not restricted to that place outside of Jerusalem, or limited to those present at that time. Instead, we celebrate the fact that God used this event to tell us today, that He is our Savior, that Jesus Christ is the gift, that the light has come to guide us to the fullness of life, and because we believe, we offer Him homage.

Like the astrologers, we return to our world, enlightened and gifted by God’s grace, co-heirs, and members of His body and sharers of His promise as we live and proclaim the gospel.

