

THOUGHTS ON PRAYER

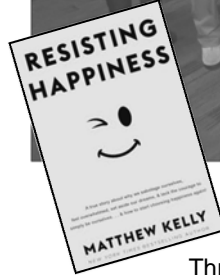
Epiphany Prayer



O God

Who by a star
guided the wise men
to the worship of your Son
we pray you to lead to yourself
the wise and great of every land
that unto you every knee may bow,
and every thought be brought into captivity

Through
Jesus
Christ
our Lord.
AMEN.



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Through the generous sponsorship of many parish individuals and groups, the Parish Pastoral Council has been thrilled to present this Christmas gift to our parish families and friends. Matthew's Kelly's, "Resisting Happiness" is a true story about why we sabotage ourselves, feel overwhelmed, set aside our dreams, and lack the courage to simply be ourselves... and how to start choosing happiness again! If you missed receiving your copy this Christmas, please be sure to take one from the basket at the parking-lot side entrance of the church, while supplies last. Share it with a friend if you are able to let it go!

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS WHO HELPED BRING THIS GIFT TO YOU — The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus and Squires, The Sacred Heart Altar Rosary Society, FAASH (Filipino American Association of Sacred Heart) and several generous individuals asking to remain anonymous. *Thank you. May God bless you with happiness and peace.*

CATHOLIC CHARITIES - is seeking volunteer mentors to participate in one-to-one activities and be a role model to young people. Do you have a minimum of 3 hours per week to offer a child? Like having fun? Reside in or near Middlesex County or Franklin Township? Want to make a difference in a child's life? Call 732-738-1323 or jcullen@ccdom.org for information.



Our parish program of **Whole Community Catechesis** brings families together monthly for a meal, prayer, community and faith sharing. If you are not part of this, see what you're missing. Visit us online at the **Rel Ed** link at churchofthesacredheart.net



This weekend, through the mandate of our bishop, we commission our sisters and brothers serving the People of God in liturgical ministries — Ministers of the Word / Readers; Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: *In-Church and to the Homebound*; Music Ministers: *Cantors, Choir Members, Musicians*; Altar Servers: *Youth & Adult*, and Ministers of Hospitality: *Ushers and Greeters*.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication. May your continued service be a humble witness that leads others to a deeper appreciation of God's love for us and an ongoing call to holiness.

May God bless you now and always.



BUS TRIP TO THE RALLY FOR LIFE IN TRENTON

JANUARY 23, 2017 - The Diocese of Metuchen's Respect for Life Office will be running a bus trip to **The Rally for Life in Trenton**, on Monday, January 23. The bus ride is free of charge, but as space is limited all passengers must reserve their seats. Passengers will board the bus at the Diocesan Center in Piscataway at 9:30AM. The Rally at the State House begins at 11:00AM, and ends at 1:00PM. The bus will bring everyone back to the Diocesan Center at 2:00-2:30PM. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a seat, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1990 x1543 / 1629.



Due to the inauguration, the March for Life in Washington, DC will be held on Friday, January 27. For more information visit: www.marchforlife.org.

GIANNA CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH & FERTILITY

Many couples struggle with the pain and feelings of emptiness from infertility and don't know that there are alternatives to in vitro fertilization. At the National Gianna Center for Women's Health & Fertility, 222 Easton Avenue, New Brunswick, we offer two options in women's health care - The Creighton Model Fertility Care System and NaProTechnology. Both options allow our physicians to offer women natural, restorative approaches to monitoring their health and managing their fertility. Through these techniques, our physicians diagnose and treat the underlying causes of infertility to help couples conceive naturally. To learn more about the center visit www.saintpetershcs.com/giannacenter.

HISTORY OF OUR DIOCESE'S BEGINNINGS



On November 19, the Diocese of Metuchen celebrated the 35th Anniversary of its founding by Pope St. John Paul II. Msgr. John Szymanski, who served then-Bishop McCarrick as chancellor and, later, as vicar general in the early years of the Diocese, has written a history of how the Diocese came to be established and a chronicle of its first five years. Entitled, *The Lighting of the Watch Fires*, it is available for purchase for \$25. Send your check to: Rev. Msgr. John B. Szymanski, The Maria Regina Residence, 5 Dellwood Lane, Somerset, New Jersey 08873.

THE DIOCESE OF
Santa Rosa de Lima
GUATEMALA, CENTRAL AMERICA

is our sister diocese in a relationship initially forged by Catholic Relief Services, International nearly 10 years ago.

We pray for one another and remember at Mass Bishop Bernabe de Jesús Sagastume of Santa Rosa.

If you are interested in where we are in our relationships and missionary effort, google the

Catholic Charities Solidarity Team of the Diocese of Metuchen

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #6203

will be having a membership drive next weekend, January 14 & 15. Members will be available at the entrances of the church with more information about becoming part of this Catholic service organization. If you have any questions, please call , Harold Bolton 908-380-3363. Any males 18 years of age and are practicing Catholic's are invited to become part of an organization that is the right arm of the church and a brotherhood that will last a life time.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP

ESSAY CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED - The Knights of Columbus, South Plainfield Council, #6203, awarded the first place prize for their annual Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest to Mikayla Thompson. The topic was, *"The Importance of Religious Freedom."* Mikayla was presented with a \$50.00 check from the Knights of Columbus who sponsored the contest at December 6 meeting.

After receiving the top prize, Mikayla read her essay to the Knights at the meeting and received a very hearty applause.



From left to right: Fr. John Alvarado, Knights of Columbus Chaplain and pastor at Church of the Sacred Heart, Mrs. Thompson, winner Mikayla Thompson, Knights Family Director Tom Walsh and Grand Knight Joe McGeehan .

The contest judging was done by Knights, Tom Walsh, Family Director, Joe McGeehan, Grand Knight and Charlie Butrico, Treasurer of South Plainfield

Council #6203. A special thanks goes out to Religious Education Director, Louise Timko and Parish Center Office Administrator, Lisa Thompson for their help with getting the word out throughout our parish.

► Our next contest will be coming up in the Spring which is the annual **Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest**. We encourage our South Plainfield youth to enter the poster contest. Prize money will be awarded. More info to follow in the coming months.



The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.9 million members in over 14,500 local councils. Last year, Knights and their families donated 73.5 million volunteer hours and \$175 million to charitable and benevolent causes, sponsoring projects to benefit their Church, councils, communities, Culture of Life, families and young people.

+++ My Morning Offering +++

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings
of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart,
in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
offered throughout the world, in
reparation for my sins, for the
intentions of all my relatives and
friends, and also for the intentions of our
Bishop James and the Holy Father. Amen.



"Anything we do, without offering it to God, is wasted."
St. John Vianney