

# PARISH STAFF 908-756-0633

PASTOR x125 REV. JOHN P. ALVARADO

IN RESIDENCE x126 REV. JAMES E. DE FILLIPPS

# DEACONS

D. GREGORY CARUSO **x145** D. WAYNE OTLOWSKI **x141** 

DIRECTOR SACRED MUSIC x139 DANIEL MAHONEY

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION x143** LOUISE TIMKO

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR x140 PAUL A. LORANCE

> PARISH FINANCES x114 JIM BUFIS

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR x110 LISA THOMPSON

PARISH LIFE COORDINATOR x142 RALPH A. QUAGLIA

**STAFF ASSISTANT x118** SR. NADINE BOYLE, RSM

> **SACRISTAN** MARIE DOLINSKI

HOLY REDEEMER CEMETERY LYNDA YELENOVSKY 908-822-5892

# Church of the **SACREDHEART** A Faith Community in the Roman Catholic Tradition Since 1905

# PARISH CENTER & MAILING ADDRESS

200 RANDOLPH AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080 PHONE: 908-756-0633 FAX: 908-757-5655 ONLINE: http://www.churchofthesacredheart.net

The Parish Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8AM - 4PM, Friday from 8AM - 2PM. Please schedule other times by appointment.

SACRED HEART CHURCH IS LOCATED AT 149 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE

We welcome all to join us for worship and invite you to become an active member of our parish family.

Sacred Heart Church is open every day as a quiet refuge for prayer and reflection from 6:00AM until 4:30PM.

# MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: 5:00PM – Saturday Vigil; Sunday – 9:00AM, 11:30AM
 Daily: 9:00AM – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 7:00PM – Monday
 Holy Day: 6:30AM, 9:00AM, 7:00PM

# EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday: 6:00-7:00 PM

# MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Monday: 6:45PM with Benediction and Saturday: following 9:00AM Mass

# **BAPTISM**

The sacrament is celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of every month at 1:00PM with the exception of the Season of Lent.

# RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 - 11:30AM and at other times by appointment.

# MARRIAGE

In conjunction with the policy of Marriage Preparation set forth by the bishops of New Jersey, couples should begin the process one year in advance of the planned date of marriage. Arrangements should be made with the Church before any other plans are set. All details and information will be gladly provided upon calling the Parish Office.

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, South Plainfield, NJ was established in 1905. We are a diverse community striving to foster spiritual growth and Catholic identity through liturgy, sacraments, service, education and our shared faith in God. We are committed to being an instrument of love, healing and hope by ministering to the needs of our parishioners & the larger community, while celebrating the Christ present in each of us.



#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 17**

5:00 PM MILDRED ABBRUZZESE, Req. by Loving Husband Guido

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18** 

#### THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

9:00 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11:30 AM CHARLES "BUD" MAHONEY, Req. by Family

#### MONDAY, JUNE 19 ST. ROMUALD, Abbot

- 6:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary
- 6:45 PM Miraculous Medal Novena, Benediction
- 7:00 PM TOM STANAWAY, Req. by M/M Michael Lauten, ROSEANNE SOMLOCK & DANNY SOMLOCK, Req. by Family, JOSÉ FIGUEROA SR., Req. by Grace Bertucci, BARBARA DORRLER, Req. by Fran Flannery

#### **TUESDAY, JUNE 20**

9:00 AM GINO LEONARDIS, Req. by Kerry & Joe Santamaria

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

#### ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA, Religious

9:00 AM CHARLOTTE MATTICOLA, Req. by Alberta Martino

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 22**

ST. PAULINUS OF NOLA, Bishop

ST. JOHN FISHER & ST. THOMAS MORE, Martyrs

9:00 AM ANNA DEMICO, Req. by Husband & Family

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 23

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

9:00 AM PETER ROMERI, Req. the Sacred Heart Adult Choir

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 24**

#### THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

9:00 AM EDWARD PUMM, Req. by Lorraine Beyer 5:00 PM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

# SUNDAY, JUNE 25

#### **12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9:00 AM THERESA DI SESSO, Req. Danielle Lacasale & Family 11:30AM STEPHEN BRAYNOCK, Req. by Mom & Dad



Wedding Banns

First Time: Aaron Bersin - Angela Perry

#### ALTAR FLOWERS for this week are in memory of

**BARNEY POLANSKI** 

Requested by Daughter Elaine Bolger & Family



# WEEKLY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE June 18 - 25

6/18 - Dt 8: -23, 14b-16a/1 Cor 10: 16-17/Jn 6: 51-58 6/19 - 2 Cor 6: 1-10/Mt 5: 38-42

6/20 - 2 Cor 8: 1-9/Mt 5: 43-48 6/21 - 2 Cor 9: 6-11/Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18 6/22 - 2 Cor 11: 1-11/Mt 6: 7-15 6/23 - Jud 13: 17-20;15:9/Lk 2: 46-51 6/24 - Jer 1: 4-10/1 Pt 1: 8-12/Lk 1: 5-17 6/25 - Dt 7: 6-11/1 Jn 4: 7-16/Mt 11: 25-30



► The daily Scripture references are printed here. If you find it helpful and have internet access, you can find the complete **DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS at http://www.usccb.org/nab/.** 

# WE OFFER OUR PRAYER

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially: Pauline Gillick, Dot Rotola, Michael Durning, Danielle Pepin, Prudence Capparelli, Anne Nagy, Eileen Walker, Daniel Hedden, Robert Larsen Jr., Brody Kasnowski, Georgie Martinkovic, Joan Sacko, Kevin Jones, Raul Rodriguez, Alyssa Ricciardi, Margaret Nichuck, Tina Bernauer, Thomas Buttery, Cathy Gary, Cheryl O'Brien, Hank Loeffler, Thomas Heim, Peter Romano, Patricia Lacasale, Margaret Smith, William Blair, Albertina Aguilar, Ed Curtin, Arthur Tinana, Ann Marie Lauten, Elizabeth Vargo, Edward Owsik, Barbara Calderoney, Roland Parker, Viola Pratt, Celeste Ginder, George Castagno, Rev. Charles Mingle, Nancy Stillman -Pender, Elizabeth Koznowicz, Garrett Barone, Guido Abbruzzese, Frank Smith.

### FOR THOSE IN HOSPITALS & NURSING HOMES,

**especially:** Bert Gartland, Lorraine Kick, Wilma Zielinski, Bill Keenan.

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, especially:** Doris Massaro, and the Faithful Departed of Sacred Heart Parish & their families who mourn their loss.

# VIRGIN MARY CANDLE

burns in memory of

#### **JOHN & EVELYN WOZNIAK**

Requested by Son Michael & Family

#### SACRED HEART CANDLE

burns in memory of BRIAN CAPPARELLI Requested by Newcott Family

#### SANCTUARY CANDLE

burns in memory of

#### **ALPHONSE PISANIELLO**

Requested by Donna & Anthony

#### **ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE: JUNE 24-25**

5:00 PM - J. Makoski, A. Ortega, O. Markus 9:00 AM - L. Flannery, F. Flannery, J. Chavez 11:30 AM - G. Ruzicka, G. Delacruz, Z. Policarpio, A. Fallet



We welcome everyone, especially those who are visiting and may be new to Sacred Heart Parish.

# **GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

We are a tithing parish & give thanks for God's gifts.

# **TITHING OR DONATION: CHURCH SUPPORT**

Whether you are tithing or donating, however you choose to monetarily support the Church, we need your contributions. Thank you for your financial assistance.

## Week Ending June 11, 2017

	2017	2016
Envelopes:	\$ 10,064.00	\$ 10,770.48
Loose:	\$ 1,877.00	\$ 1,527.00
On-line Giving:	\$ 2,572.00	\$ 2,463.00
Totals:	\$14,513.00	\$14,760.48

Major Repairs & Renovations to Date – \$127,590

**PASTOR'S COMMENT:** "St. Paul reminds us today that we are invited to participate in the Eucharist, and in so doing we share in the Body and Blood of Christ and are one in this sacred communion with the Lord and with one another ... in the suffering and sacrifice, in the joy and glory. We profess this in faith. Are we living it in the same faith?" — *Fr. John* 

**STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENT:** "Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness." — *Tobit 12:8* 

**CHRISTIAN COMMENT:** "Giving and receiving have a direct and immediate impact upon our relationship with the Lord." — *Anonymous* 

# **2017 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL** Ambassadors for Christ

It's not too late to participate in the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal. In addition to our parish goal, we are looking to achieve our non-monetary goal of 100% participation. A gift from every household, no matter the size, will make a powerful statement about our commitment to our faith. Please prayerfully consider a gift today.

Thank you for joining us as Ambassadors for Christ with your gift to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal.

#### MAIL YOUR GIFT TO:

Diocese of Metuchen, Bishop's Annual Appeal P.O. Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or *give online* at <u>www.diometuchen.org/BAA</u>.

PLEDGED TO DATE: \$104,713 - GOAL: \$89,000

Thank you to the 462 parishioners who have pledged BEYOND our BAA goal. We have 2,208 families in our parish. This is the opportunity when 50¢ on every dollar returns to Sacred Heart Parish. MAKE THE DIFFERENCE & GIVE! No gift is too small.

# **MONTHLY ANALYSIS FOR MAY 2017**

Weekly Collections On-Line Giving Easter Holy Day Gifts Fundraising Offerings (Funerals/Weddings) Religious Education Fees 2015-16 National/Missionary Diocesan Appeals Major Renovations & Repairs Bequests Other <b>Total Income</b>	58,405.00 13,667.00 1,128.00 1,720.00 1,375.00 7,968.00 1,573.00 399.00 4,090.00 2,500.00 3,006.00 <b>95,847.00</b>
Salaries Benefits Social Security (FICA)-Employer Utilities Repairs & Maintenance Administrative Costs Religious Education Expenses Diocesan Assessment Shared Facility Costs (Holy Savior Acad.) National/Missionary Dicesan Appeals <b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 30,893.00 5,804.00 1,939.00 6,572.00 1,186.00 4,688.00 17,868.00 17,868.00 11,900.00 818.00 1,000.00 <b>82,668.00</b>
Income Higher Than Expenses	\$ 13,179.00

# **GAS-UP RAFFLE -** This is the FINAL

**WEEK** to return your raffle tickets to support the Sacred Heart Music Ministry. Tickets can be returned via mail, in the offering baskets at Mass, or to the parish center. The drawing is on Sunday, June 25.



# How much of your personal finances do you already do online? SACRED HEART CHURCH

**OFFERS ONLINE GIVING** for parishioners who prefer to donate through automatic draft. Online Giving is a secure and personalized way to give to the parish.

In the convenience of your home you choose how much to give, how often to give, and what form of payment you wish to use.



Online Giving can stand on its own as a means of donation or can be used in conjunction with your offering envelopes. Sign up for Online Giving at our parish website: http://

www.churchofthesacredheart.net Have your weekly offering automatically debited from your checking account or credit card. If you have reward credit you can be earning points or cash back.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL DIOCESAN TOTALS TO DATE: Goal: \$7,000,000 Pledges: \$7,903,986 Paid: \$6,914,099 Donors: 26,680 % Pledged to Goal: 112.91% Thank you for joining us as Ambassadors for Christ with your gift to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal.

# WE PRAY FOR ALL SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Especially for our parishioners



Army Captain Cheryl Hoh, Pharm D Spc. Erik Sienkiewicz - US Army / Iraq Psc. Amanda Marie Morales - US Navy Marine Corp. Troy A. Benson/Japan Pvt. Alterreek Booker - US Army/KY Sgt. Zackeriah Romasz - US Marine Corp. Spc. Bryan Gutschall - US Army/Afghanistan Cpl. Nick Okoszko/US Army/No. Carolina LCdr. Edward Quaranta/ US Reserves Lt. Col. Dirk H. Smith/US Army, Washington, DC LCpl. Quinn Cochrane/US Marines, No. Carolina Pvt. Edward C. Forsthoffer/US Army

# May we work for Justice as we pray for Peace.

Visit our diocesan website at diometuchen.org, click Offices & Ministries, then click Military and Veteran Families and see

THE APOSTOLATE FOR MILITARY & VETERAN FAMILIES



# Respect for Life

Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.- Pope Francis

# SACRED HEART SOCIAL CONCERNS

#### June 2017

Thank you for responding to our request for toiletry items. These are products that cannot be obtained using Food Stamps. Your continued sponsoring of these items is very appreciated. We continue to be in short supply of pasta sauce and other tomato products. We also need canned fruits.

Since our vegetable garden was such a success last year it is back again this season. Plants are already growing at a good pace, especially with all the rain.

If you know of families in need, please have them call 908-756-0633 x112, Monday, Wednesday, & Friday between 9:00AM & 11:00AM. The primary source of funding is from the Poor Boxes located at all doors of the Church. Also, at all doors, bins are provided for you donations of nonperishable food items.





(Last Year)

(This Year)

Email: socialconcerns@churchofthesacredheart.net

# GOD OUR FATHER,

in Your wisdom and love You have made all things. Bless those fathers, who have taken upon themselves the responsibility of parenting. Bless those who have lost a spouse to death ... or divorce who are parenting their children alone. Strengthen them by Your love that they may become the living, caring persons they are meant to be.



May St. Joseph be their special intercessor and protector. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

> HAPPY FATHER'S DAY God bless our dads living and deceased.

# Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady

FATIMA, PORTUGAL *May-October* 1917-2017

"People must pray the rosary. If people do as I ask, many souls will be converted and there will be peace."





The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society invites you to pray the Rosary with them on the first Sunday of each month one half hour before all Masses.

# FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH

**BREAKFAST** - All are welcome to a complementary breakfast on Sunday, June 25, between the 9:00AM and 11:30AM Masses in the Holv Savior Academy Cafeteria. This breakfast is not only in celebration of our parish feast day, but is also in honor of our deacons: Gregory Caruso, Wayne Otlowski, and Frank Yuhas, who are celebrating their 10th year of ordination as Deacons.

**ARCHIVE FINDING AID:** The parish archives can be accessed via the parish website. Instructions for using the Finding Aid are included.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Any new family who has moved into the parish area and adult children 18 years of age and older, are invited to register as a parishioner. The definition of an active parishioner is: One registered, attending Mass weekly and contributing to the support to the church. There is a (3) month minimum registration requirement before registering for a baptism or requesting letters of eligibility/sponsorship.



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Louise Timko, Director 908-756-0633 x143

For more information please visit our web page

ww.churchofthesacredheart.net

or send us an email:

religiouseducation@churchofthesacredheart.net

# Everyone hears the Sunday Scripture readings proclaimed, but do we take time to think about their meaning in our lives?

▶ QUESTION OF THE WEEK – June 18

What do you expect from mass? What might God expect from you when you're at Mass?

**GIFT-** Registration for our monthly religious education program: **GIFT: Growing in Faith Together** has begun. The registration form can be downloaded from the parish website: www.churchofthesacredheart.net

# **RCIA** - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Would you or someone you know like to complete your Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation? We attend 9:00AM Sunday Mass and meet for a session afterward. Please contact Louise Timko 908-756-0633 x143 or via email: Itimko@churchofthesacredheart.net.

**BAPTISM/SPONSORSHIP CLASS** - Parents and godparents are required to attend one session before the child's baptism date can be confirmed. Sessions are held on **the FIRST Tuesday of every month at 7:00PM** in the Parish Center - 3rd floor. (Adults only - please, no infants or children.) Registration is required. Contact Sr. Nadine 908-756-0633 x118 to register for the class or with any questions.

SACRED HEART FREE SUMMER MUSIC CAMP - A

music camp with special emphasis on ringing handbells is set for July 18, 19 and 20, from 12:30-2:00PM in the church. No previous ringing experience needed. For information or to register, contact Dan Mahoney *via* email Dan410@aol.com or call 908-756-0633 x139. Class is limited to 15 participants.



Where academic excellence & Christ's presence come together

149 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE, P.O. BOX 1179 SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

908-822-5890 — HOLYSAVIORACADEMY.COM MRS. CAROL WOODBURN, PRINCIPAL

Holy Savior Academy is still accepting enrollment applications enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year.

# HOLY REDEEMER



Serving the funeral and burial needs of our Catholic Community with respect & dignity since 1919.

**OWNED & OPERATED BY THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART** 

# 1734 CLINTON AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080 908-822-5892

#### Website: www.holyredeemercemetery.net Email: shcemetery@comcast.net

Graves, Mausoleum Crypts & Cremation Niches

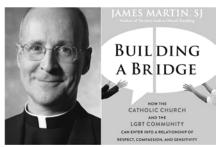
Inquire about brass military insignia and photoceramic features.

LYNDA YELENOVSKY, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

◆ CEMETERY HOURS ◆ 8:00AM - 4:30PM (SEPT 16 - APRIL 14) 8:00AM - 7:00PM (APRIL 15 - SEPT 15)

"I really only love God as much as the person I love the least." — Dorothy Day

**REV. JAMES MARTIN, SJ TO SPEAK** — Sunday, July 9 at 3:00PM, Fr. James Martin, SJ will speak on "The Church and LGBT Catholics" in conjunction with his new book *Building a* 



*Bridge*, here at the Church of the Sacred Heart. After the presentation, he will be available for questions and book signing as well. A number of his books will be available for purchase on the day of the event. Fr. Martin is editor-at-large of

America magazine, bestselling author (Seven Last Words, The Abbey, Jesus: A Pilgrimage) and consultor to the Vatican's Secretariat for Communications. This free event is sponsored by **In God's Image**, the faith-sharing group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Catholics and their loved ones. For more information, please visit churchofthesacredheart.net.

# IN GOD'S IMAGE: CATHOLIC FAITH SHARING FOR

LGBT PERSONS & THEIR FAMILIES - In God's Image, the Gay and Lesbian Faith Sharing Group at Sacred Heart Church, meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM in the Parish Annex (behind the school). Our next gathering will be Sept. 13. For information call 908-822-5895, OR contact Fr. John at 908-756-0633 x125 OR email: <u>sacredheartigi@gmail.com</u>. And look for the IGI icon on the parish website. All are invited to view and share the video presentation at OwningOurFaith.com.

# THIS IS OUR FAITH

# Fortnight for Freedom PART 1

**Religious Freedom** has recently become one of the major focal points in the conversation on how Americans can promote the common good. Our Catholic tradition has much to offer this conversation, especially in this time of increasing polarization in our culture.

**1. Respect:** Many religious freedom skeptics have plausible concerns. For example, they are concerned that all people should be treated with equal dignity. Indeed, the dignity of all people is the foundation for Catholic teaching on religious liberty. It is important that we not dismiss skeptics, but rather, that we listen to their concerns and take them seriously.

**2. A Fundamental Right:** Religious freedom is a fundamental right. It means that the government cannot coerce people into acting against their consciences. A government that makes one group choose obedience to the state over obedience to faith and conscience can force any group to submit to the state's demands. Religious freedom underlies all other freedoms for everyone.

**3. Space to Do Good:** People of faith need religious freedom to have the space to serve others. Oftentimes, religious liberty disputes arise when religious organizations are expected to sacrifice aspects of their faith in order to continue to serve the surrounding community. Take the *Little Sisters of the Poor*, who live out their Christian faith by serving the elderly poor.

These women have had to seek protection from a regulation requiring them to facilitate access to contraceptives, including abortion-inducing drugs and devices. Or, consider adoption services run by Catholic Charities, which simply seek to place children in homes with a married mother and father. Due to the redefinition of marriage in civil law, many Catholic Charities and other faith-based adoption agencies around the country have been forced to end their adoption and foster care services.

Challenges to religious freedom often come from a mistaken view of religion, a view that sees religion as good only if it conforms to every value that happens to prevail today.

> Congratulations and God's many blessings to our clergy and religious who serve in our parish.

> > **SR. NADINE M. BOYLE, RSM** 60 YEARS – SEPTEMBER 8, 1957

REV. JAMES E. DE FILLIPPS 5 YEARS – MAY 26, 2012

DEACON GREGORY CARUSO DEACON WAYNE OTLOWSKI DEACON FRANK YUHAS 10 YEARS – JUNE 9, 2007

**REV. JOHN P. ALVARADO** 29 YEARS – MAY 28, 1988

Happy Anniversary

# WE NEED YOU & WANT YOU ...

- ... as a member of this year's PICNIC PLANNING TEAM
- ... working with our CHURCH GARDENS & GROUNDS
- ... planning for the parish SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
- ... serving on our parish YOUTH GROUP TEAM
- Please call our Parish Life Coordinator, Ralph Quaglia at 908-756-0633 x142 for full details ... and say HERE I AM!

Your Stewardship of Time & Talent can be fun, motivational and inspirational. Take the time; make the time. God has given you the talent!

# PARISH STAFF POSITION Sacred Heart Parish Bookkeeper

Staff position, M-F, medical & insurance benefits. Requires: bookkeeping & accounting skills; payroll and accounts payable for parish (church and cemetery); manage employee medical insurance and other benefits; liaison in financial matters with our diocesan offices; member of the Parish Finance Council; computer literate and familiar with Word, Excel, QuickBooks, manage weekly Offertory collections.

#### SEND RESUMÉ & REFERENCES TO:

"Job Search: Bookkeeper," Church of the Sacred Heart, 200 Randolph Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

#### OR EMAIL:

jpa139rev@comcast.net with subjectline: BOOKKEEPER

**TRIP TO IRELAND -** Visit the beautiful isle of Ireland from April 2 -11, 2018. Visit Belfast, Armagh, Giant's Causeway, Knock (with Mass), Galway (with Mass), Connemara, Bunratty and Dublin. Brochures are available in the church and at the parish center. Join friends and fellow parishioners for the trip of a lifetime. Questions? Call Dan Mahoney 908-756-0633 xt139 or contact Peter's Way Tours 800-225-7662.

# THE PARISH MINISTRY GUIDE

is available on our parish website: www.churchofthesacredheart.net.

**THANK YOU** for your support of our annual Sisters of Mercy Treasure Chest Raffle. The total amount of all sales was \$70,650 and 50% of that was awarded as prizes as follows: First prize: \$17,662.50, Second: \$7,065, Third: \$3532.50, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth: \$1413 and last four \$706.50. Be assured of a remembrance in the prayers of our retired and infirmed Sisters and especially of mine for your generosity.

— In Mercy, Sr. Nadine

# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART WELCOMES ALL NEWCOMERS to the

parish. Please contact our parish secretary, Lisa at the Parish Office at 908-756-0633 x110 for registration information.
▶ If you are moving, please notify Lisa at the Parish Office so we can keep our parishioner records current. *Thank you*



**THANK YOU** from the folks at Life Choices Resource Center, Metuchen for your participation and generous donation of \$5,500 in our annual Baby Bottle fund raiser. God bless you all!

# YOUR RESPONSE IS REQUESTED -

Pope Francis has dedicated the **15th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops** to be focused on the theme of "Youth, Faith, and Vocational Discernment." It will be held in October 2018. "The theme, an expression of the pastoral care of the Church for the young, is consistent with the results of the recent Synod assemblies on the family and with the content of the post-Synodal apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*. Its aim is to accompany the young on their existential journey to maturity so that, through a process of discernment, they discover their plan for life and realize it with joy, opening up to the encounter with God and with human beings, and actively participating in the edification of the Church and of society."

Pope Francis has called for a meeting of bishops from around the world and they are asking Catholics and non-Catholics around the world to share their experience. A link is provided for this purpose.

As members of the Universal Church we have a non-delegable responsibility. Let us express our feelings. Let the 2018 Synod touch real and current experiences. Ensure that efforts are properly and responsibly directed. It is our opportunity to support the work of Pope Francis. Blessings!

#### Synod Survey in English:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YourVoice-Synod2018

#### Synod Survey in Spanish:

https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/2018SynodSpanish



# **MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP**

### On the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of His Ordination to the Priesthood, June 20

"First and foremost, I am grateful to God, for the gifts of life and faith, the gift of His mercy in His calling me to follow Him as one of his priests; I love being a priest. I am so grateful to God for His love and for His calling me to



be with Him and follow Him in holy priesthood. I am likewise grateful to God for the grace He has given me over these 25 years which has sustained me in being faithful to my priestly promises. I certainly pray that many more young men in our diocese will respond to God's call, and we need to make every effort to be sure our young people can hear that call and know what a blessed life it is to follow Him through a call to the priesthood or religious life.

As I celebrate this milestone anniversary, please continue to pray for me and know that I pray daily for you, too."

nm F. Chulm

Most Rev. James F. Checchio Bishop of Metuchen

#### Episcopal ordination and installation May 3, 2016

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord...because He judged me faithful and appointed me to His service... 1 Timothy 1:12

**Bishop Checchio** will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on June 20. All faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen are asked to remember the bishop in their special intentions.



**24 HOUR PRAYER LINE** - Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a 24 hour prayer line for those who desire prayer for special needs. If you, a family member or friend would like to be remembered in prayer for a temporary or permanent illness, please call us

and leave a detailed message at (732) 765-6431 or send an email to our office: catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com

#### More Resources for Persons with Disabilities

Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a Facebook page that provides daily updates with short

inspirational reflections for people with disabilities, family members and care givers. The site also provides endless resources for those with physical, emotional, cognitive, visual, auditory and other special challenges. To access our Facebook page (even if you are not a member of Facebook), type the following into your search engine:





Diocese of Metuchen Office for Persons with Disabilities

TO ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN, PLEASE CONTACT BON VENTURE SERVICES, 1-800-883-4343. Each year dioceses around the country arrange special events to highlight the importance of defending religious freedom. The Fortnight for Freedom is from June 21 — the vigil of the Feasts of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More — to July 4, Independence Day.

# MAY WE BE GOD'S SERVANTS FIRST

# Pray

Saints Thomas More and John Fisher, hat we would be servants of our country, but God's first.



# Reflect

 $\partial$ 

It is good to love one's country, but ultimate loyalty is due only to Christ and his king-dom. Nationalism becomes idolatrous when loyalty to the nation is more important than loyalty to Christ. Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher show us what faithful citizen-ship



looks like. They loved and served their country. But when they were forced to choose between God's Church and the king, they were faithful to the Church. May their example continue to illuminate the path for us, as we seek to faithfully serve our Church and country.

St. John FischerSt. Thomas Moore

# Act

Get together and celebrate religious freedom with a parish picnic or barbeque. Hand out religious freedom

conversation starters as a way to spur discussion about our first, most precious liberty. Or, host a movie night, and watch *A Man for All Seasons*, about the martyrdom of St. Thomas More.



Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty www.usccb.org/freedom| Twitter: @USCCBFreedom **Text "Freedom" to 377377** to receive updates



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