

### **Presentation of the Gifts at the Offertory of the Mass -**

You are invited to bring forward the gifts of bread and wine for consecration at Sunday Eucharist. If the Mass intention is for a family member or friend, this is a wonderful way for you to participate and represent our entire parish family as these gifts are brought forward. Speak with the ushers before Mass begins and let them know that you are present and wish to do this.



### **PAPAL QUOTE AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL**

#### **TEACHING - THEME 6: Care for God's Creation:**

We show our respect for the Creator by our *stewardship of creation*. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

"In this Encyclical, I would like to enter into dialogue with all people about our common home.... In 1971 Blessed Pope Paul VI referred to the ecological concern as "a tragic consequence" of unchecked human activity: "Due to an ill-considered exploitation of nature, humanity runs the risk of destroying it and becoming in turn a victim of this degradation" (Apostolic Letter - *Octogesima Adveniens* (14 May 1971). He spoke in similar terms to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations about the potential for an "ecological catastrophe under the effective explosion of industrial civilization", and stressed "the urgent need for a radical change in the conduct of humanity", inasmuch as "the most extraordinary scientific advances, the most amazing technical abilities, the most astonishing economic growth, unless they are accompanied by authentic social and moral progress, will definitively turn against man"..." #3 and #4, *ENCYCLICAL LETTER, Laudato Si', On Care For Our Common Home*, Pope Francis I, May 24, 2015.

***"Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies." — St. Teresa of Calcutta***

### **Congratulations**

To our parish couples who this year celebrated their **SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES** with Most Rev. Bishop James Checchio, October 30, at St. Francis Cathedral:

❖ **Nicola & Patricia DeSantis - 25 Years**  
(pictured right)

❖ **Anthony & Denise Spinella - 25 Years**



### **THE ORCHESTRA OF ST. PETER BY THE SEA -**

St. Ann Parish presents their 13th Annual Christmas Concert with Father Alphonse Stephenson on Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 2:00PM, at the Somerset County

Vocational & Technical School, 14 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater. Advance Tickets Only are available now by calling the Rectory Office at 908-725-1008 x104 to reserve your ticket.

# **Legislative Action Alert!**

## **URGENT! TAKE ACTION TO OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL.**

New Jersey Senate bill S2474, the Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act, may be voted on in the next few weeks. An identical bill, A2451, passed the General Assembly on October 20th. If passed, this bill would allow physicians to prescribe drugs to end the lives of terminally ill patients who have been diagnosed with six months or less to live.

Doctor-assisted suicide is a direct threat to anyone viewed as a cost liability to an insurance company. In an era of cost containment and managed care, patients with lingering illnesses may be branded as an economic liability, and decisions to encourage death could be driven by cost.

The facts are clear - in California, Vermont and Oregon - states that have passed assisted suicide bills - insurance companies have denied individuals healthcare coverage but offered them low cost drugs to end their life. One such example is Stephanie Packer, a young mother of four from California. Stephanie was recently denied insurance coverage for her new chemotherapy treatment but suicide drugs were approved by her insurance with a nominal co-pay of \$1.20.

Other reasons to oppose assisted suicide legislation include:

A six-month prognosis for a terminal illness is not always accurate. Often, with treatment, patients survive well beyond their prognosis. S2474 would allow the death certificate to list the cause of death as the underlying terminal disease - not assisted suicide. The cause of death should be listed as self-administered drugs that ended life.

Why not tell the truth?

Legalized assisted suicide would send the wrong message to vulnerable groups such as our troubled youth and to our veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Studies have shown that in states where assisted suicide has been legalized, overall suicide rates increase.

There is no requirement for a physician is to be present when the patient takes the lethal prescription. In fact there is no supervision of the drugs once they leave the pharmacy.

Our society should embrace what Pope John Paul II called "the way of love and true mercy"—a readiness to surround patients with love, support, and companionship, providing the assistance needed to ease their physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering. Our duty is to assist those who are dying- not kill them.

Please contact your state Senators today and urge them to oppose S2474 by visiting: <http://njcatholic.org/faith-in-action>. **Also, contact Governor Christie (609-292-6000) and ask him to veto the bill if it reaches his desk.**

# Thanksgiving

✱ I am thankful for the mess to clean up after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends.

✱ I am thankful for the taxes I have to pay because it means I have a job and I am employed.



✱ I am thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have had enough to eat.

✱ I am thankful for the lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.

✱ I am thankful for all the complaining I do about the government because it means we have freedom of speech.

✱ I am thankful for the parking spot I find at the far end of the lot because it means I am capable of walking.

✱ I am thankful for my big heating bill because it means I am warm.

*(I love this one. Don't look around. Don't turn. Just listen.)*

✱ I am thankful for the lady behind me in Church who sings off-key because it means I can hear.

✱ I am thankful for the piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby.

✱ I am thankful for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.



And finally,



✱ I am thankful for the alarm that goes off early in the morning because it means that I am still alive.

*Fr. Brian Joyce*



*Give the Gift of Travel*



**PARISH PILGRIMAGE**  
**THE HOLY LAND: In The Footsteps of Jesus.** March 19 thru 28, 2017; travel with Rev. John Alvarado on the journey of a lifetime. For full details, pricing and itinerary pick-up a brochure in Church or at the Parish Center or visit us anytime online at [churchofthesacredheart.net](http://churchofthesacredheart.net) (click on the travel icon).  
**Don't delay, we are booking NOW and taking registrations.**

*Are you praying your Morning Offering?*

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM – SACREDHEARTSPNJ

**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*

## DAILY INTENTIONS

<b>Sunday</b>	That the Gospel message of Joy, Mercy and Reconciliation, may open hearts and minds to Christ Our Savior
<b>Monday</b>	<b>For the Sick and Persons with Disabilities</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	For Those who Suffer Discrimination regardless of its source (Age, Gender, Race, Religion, Disability, National and Ethnic Origin, Sexual Identity, Social Status)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>For Military &amp; Emergency Response Services Personnel</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	For all Pregnant Mothers and their Unborn Children
<b>Friday</b>	<b>For all Civil and Religious Leaders</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	For our Families, our Bishop James & his intentions, and the intentions written in our Parish Intention Book

## THOUGHTS ON PRAYER:

### PRAYER TO CHRIST THE KING

O Jesus Christ, I acknowledge Thee as universal King.

All that has been made, has been created for Thee.

Exercise all Thy rights over me.

I renew my baptismal vows, renouncing Satan, his pomp and his works; and I promise to live as a good Christian.

In particular, I pledge myself to labor, to the best of my ability, for the triumph of the rights of God and Thy Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus, to Thee I offer my poor services,

laboring that all hearts may acknowledge

Thy Sacred Kingship, and that thus the reign

of Thy peace be established throughout the whole universe.

Amen.

