

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080



# 7th Annual Golf Outing

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

*Registered to play?  
Call today!*

**908 -  
822 -  
5893**

*Visit us online  
at:*

[golf@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:golf@churchofthesacredheart.net)

\$225 per Golfer, \$900 per Foursome



**THIS YEAR AT THE  
METUCHEN GOLF  
& COUNTRY CLUB**  
EDISON, NEW JERSEY

**FOR DETAILS AND REGISTRATION, VISIT US AT:  
[www.ChurchoftheSacredHeart.net](http://www.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 meetings will resume  
on September 14.** For more information call 908-822-5895, OR  
contact Fr. John at x125 OR email: [sacredheartigi@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartigi@gmail.com).  
And look for the IGI icon on the parish website. All are invited to  
view and share the video presentation at [OwningOurFaith.com](http://OwningOurFaith.com).

## CROP WALK

Sunday, October 23

**Help stop hunger here  
and 'round the world.**



**JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF** - A program for those  
who have recently experienced the death of a loved one (parent,  
child, friend, spouse) is being formed at the Cathedral. The  
support group will meet (8) Wednesdays beginning October 5, at  
7:00 P.M., in the St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral Parish Center, 45  
Library Pl., Metuchen in the Solarium & Joseph Room. There is  
no fee but pre-registration is required by calling Jessie 732-895-  
2563 or Jo 732-548-0100 x225.

**THE OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
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 & leave a detailed message at 732-765-6431.



**DIVORCE AFFECTS EVERYONE ... IT HAPPENS, AND  
IT HURTS** - The Family Life Office is sponsoring "The  
Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide" a program for men and  
women seeking healing from divorce. The program is based on  
the teachings of the Catholic Church and is open to anyone who  
needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. The group will  
meet Wednesday evenings beginning October 19, from 7:00-  
8:30 PM, in the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway.  
The topics will include shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt,  
forgiveness, children, annulment, sexuality, re-marriage and  
more. Space is limited to 12 participants. For information or to  
register, call Ro Bersch 908-313-5947 or 908-470-0678. The  
fee is \$25 per person. Pre-Registration is required by October 9.



BISHOP JAMES CHECCHIO is enjoying  
celebrating Masses and greeting people around the  
diocese. To access the bishop's schedule, visit  
<http://diometuchen.org/bishop/schedule>

### 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

# WITNESSES TO FREEDOM

## SAINTS FELICITY & PERPETUA



*“For this cause we came willingly unto this, that our liberty might not be obscured; for this cause have we devoted our lives, that we may do no such thing.”*

Northern African Christians faced severe persecution during the third century. Even when it was not widespread, Roman governors made examples out of some Christians, particularly converts. St. Felicity was a catechumen, while St. Perpetua was a woman of noble birth, whose father was a pagan. They were killed in the amphitheater of Carthage in AD 203.

The story of their suffering amazes us because of these women’s courage and boldness. They did not shrink back at all, telling the crowds who witnessed their executions that God would judge them. Wild animals were released upon them, and they contended with the beasts before being put to death by the swords of Roman soldiers.

Perhaps the most riveting aspect of the story is the role of family. Perpetua was a mother of a small child, and Felicity gave birth during her imprisonment. We would

sympathize with a mother who feigned allegiance to a governor, so that her children would not grow up without a mother. Furthermore, Perpetua’s father visited her in prison, imploring her to sacrifice to the emperor so that he would not have to watch her die. At one point, the father himself was physically punished, merely because of his association with his daughter.

On the other hand, Felicity, Perpetua, and their companions supported one another. Their suffering strained the bonds of biological family, but it strengthened the bonds of spiritual family. When we are baptized, we are born into the family of God, and this is the family against which all others are measured.

Certainly, a supportive, Christian mother and father is ideal. Perpetua shows us a woman who contended with an unsupportive father. Both martyrs put loyalty to Christ above all other duties. In the face of adversity, Sts. Felicity and Perpetua clung to Jesus.

Let us remember that we are family, and we owe one another support. Let us pray in solidarity with Christians who suffer persecution so that, when persecutors tempt us to compromise, we can as one family of God say, “We may do no such thing.”

*Saints Felicity and Perpetua, pray for us!*



**Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty**  
[www.usccb.org/freedom](http://www.usccb.org/freedom) | Twitter: @USCCBFreedom  
Text “Freedom” to 377377 to receive updates

**PRAY FOR PEACE,  
UNITY,  
FREEDOM**