

**SAN LORENZO RUIZ DE MANILA & COMPANION MARTYRS FESTIVAL** — The Filipino Apostolate of the Diocese of Metuchen cordially invites you to a festival in honor of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila & Companion Martyrs on Sunday, October 4, at 4:00PM at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, 32 Elm Avenue, Metuchen. The Most Rev. Bernardito Auza, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, will be the Principal Celebrant & Homilist. In preparation for this celebration, Triduum (3-day) Masses will be held at 7:30PM at the following churches: St. Matthias Church in Somerset (October 1), Our Lady of Fatima Church in Piscataway (October 2), and Immaculate Conception Church in Annandale (October 3). For more information, contact Fr. Roberto D. Coruna at 908-479-4905 and/or Paz Gatchalian at 908-812-5130.



**FAASH 25TH ANNIVERSARY** - The Filipino American Association of Sacred Heart (FAASH) of South Plainfield, founded in 1990, will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary at a formal dinner dance fundraising event on Saturday, October 31 at *The Imperia* on 1714 Easton Avenue in Somerset, from 7-11:00PM. Everyone is welcome to join us celebrate this momentous occasion. A donation of \$60 is requested for each adult guest, \$20 for children 12 years and below. Net proceeds will go towards the various parish and community projects of FAASH. For more information or to RSVP, please contact William Co 908-912-4567, Beth Delacruz 908-412-1648, or Pat Lapitan 908-906-7245). Check us out on Facebook (find "FAASH South Plainfield") or at [www.facebook.com/faash.southplainfield](http://www.facebook.com/faash.southplainfield)



**MOMS** - Are you a mom seeking to connect with other Catholic moms, deepen your faith and find support in your vocation as a mother? The St. Francis MOMS Group (Ministry of Mothers Sharing) meets twice a month on Wednesday mornings at St. Francis in Metuchen. Join us for prayer, guest speakers, sharing and talks on topics that relate to you as a Catholic mom. FREE CHILDCARE is available during the meetings. For more information contact Sandra at 732-494-0265.

**2015 BLUE MASS** - Monday, October 26, at 10:30AM, at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. Assembly of Officers and Procession begin at 9:30AM. Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski invites all the faithful in the Diocese to join him at this Blue Mass to pray for and with police officers and law enforcement personnel from communities and towns from across the Diocese. Come to represent your parish and town to support and pray for all our dedicated law enforcement officials and to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice through their service to others. There will be a special tribute to fallen State Trooper Anthony Raspa. Luncheon in the Cathedral Community Room following the Mass. For more information email: [communications@diometuchen.org](mailto:communications@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-2463.



**CATHOLIC CHARITIES CONNECTIONS PROGRAM** - is currently seeking volunteers for the **Connections Program**. This program provides positive adult role models for children who have suffered loss or who have special needs. If you have a minimum of three hours a week to offer a child, like having fun, enjoy being a positive role model, and want to make a difference in a child's life, call Jeanette Cullen 732-738-1323 or for more information email: [jcullen@ccdom.org](mailto:jcullen@ccdom.org)

**MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS** - Our **Parish Middle Choir** is scheduled to resume rehearsals this Tuesday, September 29. The Middle Choir rehearses from 3:30-4:15PM, in the church every other Tuesday. The Choir sings at the 9:00AM Mass on the second Sunday of the month. The Choir is for those in grades 3-8. If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact Dan Mahoney via email: [dmahoney@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:dmahoney@churchofthesacredheart.net) or call 908-756-0633 x139, or Mrs. Debbie Metz 732-689-4043.



The newly formed **Multigenerational Handbell Choir** is beginning rehearsals Thursday, October 1, at 7:00PM in Church. This choir is for anyone from Freshman year in high school to Adult who would like to ring. The group will rehearse Thursday evenings from 7:00-7:50PM., The Multigenerational Handbell Choir will ring once a month. For more information please contact Dan Mahoney 908-756-0633 x139, or via email: [dmahoney@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:dmahoney@churchofthesacredheart.net)

### **SCHEDULE: 2015 APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF POPE FRANCIS TO THE USA**

*Here is the schedule for Pope Francis' September 2015 Apostolic Journey to the USA as released by the Vatican on June 30, 2015. All times listed are Eastern Daylight Time.*

#### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 (NYC, PHILADELPHIA)**

- 8:40AM Departure from JFK International Airport
- 9:30AM Arrival at Atlantic Aviation, Philadelphia
- 10:30AM Mass at Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul
- 4:45PM Visit to Independence Mall
- 7:30PM Visit to the Festival of Families Benjamin Franklin Parkway

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 (PHILADELPHIA)**

- 9:15AM Meeting with bishops at St. Martin's Chapel, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
- 11:00AM Visit to Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility
- 4:00PM Mass for the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families, Benjamin Franklin Parkway
- 7:00PM Visit with organizers, volunteers and benefactors of the World Meeting of Families, Atlantic Aviation
- 8:00PM Departure for Rome

**CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE** — On Saturday, October 24, the Diocese of Metuchen will be sponsoring a conference with expert speakers who will address a variety of life issues including: *Corragio!* The Courage to Honor Sickness, Disability and the End of Life, Modern Prenatal Care, Pornography's Attack on Marriage, Family and Life, Hope for Healing the Culture. The speakers will give practical information as well as thought-provoking testimony of real life experiences. The conference will also feature exhibits of products and services which pertain to some of these issues. At the St. John Neumann Conference Center, Piscataway, 8:30AM-3:30PM. \$25 fee includes lunch and handouts. To register please visit <http://diometuchen.org/critical-life> or call 732-562-1990 x1629 or 1543, Limited seating.



**THE DIOCESE OF METUCHEN ANNUAL GIRL SCOUT GATHERING** - Saturday, October 10, from 9:00AM to 2:00PM, St. John Neumann Diocesan Center in Piscataway. Scouts will complete activities for their respective Catholic medals:

- Juniors:** I Live My Faith Medal
- Cadettes:** Marian Medal
- Senior/Ambassadors:** Spirit Alive Medal



Cost: \$15.00 includes materials for activities, continental breakfast and lunch (sandwich, chips, drink); those with dietary restrictions may bring their own food. **Register by October 1!** Registration forms and information can be found on the Diocese of Metuchen's website: <http://diometuchen.org/offices-and-ministries/education/catholic-committee-on-scouting/girl-scout-ministry/> or Call Mary Jane Boyle at 732-529-7928.

**DIVORCE AFFECTS EVERYONE...IT HAPPENS, AND IT HURTS** - This program, based on the teachings of the Catholic Church is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. The group will be meeting Wednesday evenings for eleven weeks at St. James Church, Pastoral Center, 184 S. Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge. Dates: October 21, 2015 to January 27, 2016. Time 7:00 - 8:45PM. Contact: Ro Bersch 908-313-5947 or 908-470-0678. The fee is \$25.00 per person. Pre-Registration is required.

**A RETREAT FOR THOSE FACING SERIOUS ILLNESS** - Gennesaret, a retreat designed to provide a spiritual and temporal oasis for men and women suffering with a life changing illness, will be held the weekend of October 16, 17 & 18, at the Archdiocesan Retreat Center in Kearney. The retreat will begin Friday at 1:30PM, and end with a closing prayer service Sunday at 1:30PM. There is no cost for the retreat. For more information call Hilare 732-566-7237 or Peggy 908-499-7677.

**NEW JERSEY ADOPTION LAW HAS CHANGED – What You Need to Know:** For well over a century, the Catholic Church in New Jersey has provided adoption services. Throughout all those years, the Church promised to honor the privacy of birth parents and adoptees. That promise of privacy also was assured by law and affirmed by the State Superior Court. Those promises can no longer be kept. On May 27, 2014, a new law took effect that will allow adoptees and certain relatives to request and obtain the names of their biological parents beginning **January 1, 2017**.

Any birth parents who wish to preserve their privacy must submit a **Redaction Request Form** to the New Jersey Department of Health no later than **December 31, 2016**. By filing this form, birth parents will be able to keep their names off any documents provided by the State to adoptees or anyone else. The State made the **Redaction Request Form** public on August 3, 2015. The form can be downloaded at <http://nj.gov/health/forms/reg-36c.pdf>

If you know a person who placed a child for adoption, please tell them that if they do not file a **Redaction Request Form**, their name and other information could be given to the adoptee. Anyone needing assistance can call a HELPLINE AT 609-989-4809.

**TICKETS ARE ON SALE** - For the Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 20, at the Somerset County Vocational & Technical School, North Bridge St., & Vogt Dr., Bridgewater. Advance tickets \$35/\$30. Sponsored by St. Ann Parish in Raritan. Call 908-725-1008 x104 to reserve your ticket!

**RETREATS FOR ADULTS IN THEIR 20s & 30s** - Are you in your twenties or thirties? Looking to deepen your faith & create lasting connections? Join us for Seekers Retreat II: What's Next? Listen to peers share how they find God in their lives, in their relationships, and in their work. Have conversations in small groups, enjoy some quiet time, or connect with old friends or meet new ones. The retreat(s) will take place over the course of four Sunday (2:00-7:00PM) gatherings on the following dates: September 27 & December 6, 2015 and February 7 & April 3, 2016. These retreat gatherings will take place at Loyola Jesuit Center, 161 James Street, Morristown. A suggested \$10 donation will be collected at the end of Mass to help cover the costs of food and retreat materials. Sponsored by the Diocese of Metuchen Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and the Loyola Jesuit Center. For more information, visit [www.diometuchen.org/seekers](http://www.diometuchen.org/seekers) or contact [young.adult@diometuchen.org](mailto:young.adult@diometuchen.org).



## SILVER & GOLDEN

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen. Renew your marriage vows and receive a personalized certificate from Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski at a special Evening Prayer Service in the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen.



#### Sunday, October 25, 2015 at 4:00PM

Application forms may be secured by contacting the parish office or by logging on to the diocesan website: [www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.org). Forms must be signed by a pastoral minister and returned to the Family Life Office by the parish office. Application forms will be accepted by the Family Life Office until the **deadline for registration Monday, October 5**. A confirmation letter will be sent once your application has been processed. Formal invitations and seating tickets will be mailed approximately two weeks prior to the celebration. Tickets are not required for guests. Everyone is welcome to attend this joyous event.

For additional information call the Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen (732) 562-1990 x 1705.

## Late Nite Catechism<sup>®</sup>

By Vicki Quade & Maripat Donovan



*Time to laugh your sins off!*

"A habit forming hoot"  
— *The Catholic Explorer*

"An uproarious piece of interactive theatre!"  
— *The NY Times*

**OUR LADY OF MT. VIRGIN PARISH**  
600 Harris Avenue, Middlesex  
Saturday, October 17, at 7:00PM  
Tickets \$30 at the OLMV Parish Center  
For more information call 732-356-2149.