Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA  
Bishop of Metuchen  
Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, D.D.  
Bishop Emeritus  
Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Zamorski, Rector  
Rev. John Werner, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. David J. Wejnerowski, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Timothy A. Christy, In Residence  
Deacon J.P. Saggese  
Deacon Rick Fortune  
Deacon Emeritus Frank J. Cammarano  
Deacon Emeritus Paul G. Licameli  
Deacon Emeritus Guido J. Brossoni  
Deacon Emeritus Ed Olegario, M.D.  
SCHOOL 528 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840  
BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL  
Ann Major, Principal (732-548–3107)  
www.StFrancisCathedralSchool.org  
WEEKEND MASSES  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 and 7:00 pm  
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am; 12:00 noon  
HOLY DAY MASSES  
Feast Day 7:00, 8:00 am; 12:10, 7:00 pm  
WEEKDAY MASSES  
Monday-Friday 7:00, 8:00 am; 12:10pm  
(Rosary 11:45 am)  
Saturday 8:00 am  
MORNING PRAYER Monday-Friday 7:40 am  
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 7:00am—11:00pm  
(Monday—Friday) Lady Chapel - Parish Center  
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Penance)  
Saturdays 1:00-2:00 pm and 6:00-6:30 pm  
or by appointment.
NEW PARISHIONERS are welcome to register by completing a form available in our Parish Office as soon as possible after moving to the area.

EUCHARIST FOR SICK/HOMEBOUND: Phone Rectory (548-0100) and arrangements will be made.

BAPTISM: 1:30pm by appointment only (celebrated on most Sundays)
Baptismal Seminar: Pre-registration is required. Attendance during pregnancy is preferable. 7:45 pm, Rectory Meeting Room.

MARRIAGE: Registered parishioner(s) preparing for marriage should contact the rectory one year in advance.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: Mon, Thurs: 4:00 - 5:05 pm.; Tuesday evening (8th grade): 6:30-7:35 pm.

MARIAN NOVENA/ROSARY: Saturdays after 8:00 am Mass.

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) - Those wishing to learn more about/be received into the Catholic Faith - please phone 548-0100. (Sara Sharlow).

SPONSORSHIP: Active practice of the faith, together with registration, is needed for sponsorship certificates and, possibly, the administration of some sacraments.
Masses For The Week...

SUNDAY, September 23 - Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am  - Jim DeMary r/o Jamie & Otto Guevara
9:00am  - Shuk Lan Koh r/o Barbara & Stephen Reilly
10:30am - Victoria & John Jaje r/o Daughter Nancy Conroy & Family
Noon   - Daniel Langan r/o Sister

MONDAY, September 24
7:00am  - Grace Knox r/o Family
8:00am  - Gerard Quigley r/o Pat Walsh
12:10pm - Norberto & Xiena Reyes r/o Manny & Nuvia Reyes

TUESDAY, September 25
7:00am   - John Bender & Michael DeAugustine r/o Bednar Family
8:00am   - (Liv.) Int. Emma Desa r/o Mom & Dad
12:10pm  - Juan Delsasi r/o Kean Family

WEDNESDAY, September 26 - Saint Cosmas & Saint Damian
7:00am   -(Liv.) In Thanksgiving Bong & Vina Regis r/o Regis Family
8:00am   - Elizabeth Mogyorosie r/o Carol & Ron
12:10pm  - David Casper r/o Kara Kwiatkowski & Family

THURSDAY, September 27 - Saint Vincent de Paul
7:00am   - Michael Dolan r/o Gina Bonavia
8:00am   - Living & Deceased St. Francis Parishioners
12:10pm  - Emeteria Dela Cruz r/o Dela Cruz Family

FRIDAY, September 28 - Saint Wenceslaus & Saint Lawrence Ruiz
7:00am   - Linda Hiller r/o David & Kathleen Kleman
8:00am   - Vincent LaStella r/o Richard O’Hal
12:10pm  - Jessica Rosamilia r/o Grandma & Grandpa
*7:30pm  - Diocesan Hispanic Mass

SATURDAY, September 29
8:00am   -(Liv.) Int. Josefina Trillana r/o Family
5:00pm   - Msgr. Michael J. Alliegro r/o Sam & Elaine Convery
7:00pm   - James, Irene & Jimmy Gower r/o John & Marianne Dabal

SUNDAY, September 30 - Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am   - Antonio Calello & Rosalia Fiamingo r/o Serafina Calello
9:00am   - Bill Schueller r/o Conrad, Discretion & Honor Winter
10:30am  - Michael & Mary Rapach r/o Maureen Rapach
Noon    - John & Laura Romanowski r/o Family
*4:00pm  - San Lorenzo Ruiz Mass

The Sanctuary Candles for this week have been donated in loving memory of
Cackowski, Majewski & Burchock Families
by Mary Ann Cackowski
(in the Cathedral)

in honor of Miguel Cruz
on the occasion of his 107th Birthday
by Debbie Schurko & R.E.A.P. students
(in the Lady Chapel)
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Middle East: Jamie Lewandowski, Walker Luck; for all those serving in Covert Operations


DECEASED: Betty Marquard, Allison Weissenburger Georgianna, Frank Cimmino, Peter Barnes, Jr., Kathline Dadon, Mark Annichiarico, Teofilo Macalintal...and all those recommended in the Book of Intentions

GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

Tithing

Thank you for your generosity on the weekend of 9/16

Envelopes & Loose Cash $16,551
Electronic Offerings $ 8,815
Total $25,366

e-Giving: Please consider using our parish e-Giving program. Sign up at: http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/FaithDirect

Pipe Organ Restoration Photos

Numerous captioned photos of the inner workings of our pipe organ before disassembly and during the restoration process are now available on Facebook. Search for “St. Francis Cathedral Concerts,” like the page, and share with your contacts. A few representative photos will be at https://www.stfranciscathedral.org/musicministry

Open House at Mother Seton Regional High School today at 1:00pm for girls in Grades 5 - 8. Call 732-382-1952 or see www.motherseton.org.

Opportunities For Memorials

Did you know that in addition to Mass intentions for your loved ones you may remember them through the following memorial opportunities:

– Cathedral Vestsments Fund: St. Francis Cathedral Parish is in need of Mass and other liturgical vestments: each vestment will be memorialized by embroidery either In Memory of, In Honor of, In Thanksgiving for, etc.. Each vestment begins at $1,000. Vestments needed are:

4 Priest Concelebration Chasubles
4 Dalmatics (for Deacons)
1 or more Ceremonial Cope(s) and Humeral Veil(s)

Please contact our Cathedral Parish Executive Assistant, Kara Kwiatkowski, for more information.

– Sanctuary Candles: Available weekly in the Cathedral and The Lady Chapel. Donation: $20. Please enclose in an envelope with information and place in collection basket or mail or bring to Rectory.

– Msgr. Behl St. Francis School Endowment and The St. Francis Scholarship Fund: Memorial gifts may be made to either of these funds which are used to enhance the academic excellence of the parish school and offer tuition assistance. Please inquire at the parish or school office for further information.

Life In The Spirit

“I have come that you might have life and have it abundantly” – John 10:10

Life in the Spirit Seminars present the basic Gospel truths: God loves you and Jesus died for your sins. It invites you to experience new life in Christ...abundantly. The seminars include dynamic teaching and powerful testimonies. They take place on Thursday evenings at 8:00pm in the Cathedral Community Room through October 25. Contact Tom Mockoviak at 732-549-4740 mockofam@optonline.net for info. These seven Thursdays will change your life!

– Oct. 13: Women’s Fall Spiritual Day - If you’re looking for more balance and peace in your everyday life, come and receive refreshment of spirit, mind and body as you surrender to our gentle God. The day includes prayer and a variety of ways to learn to achieve serenity. Meeting time is 9:30am - 2:30pm at Munt St. Mary House of Prayer. Cost: $45 - $55 as you are able.
Parish Notes...

--SUNDAY: HSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00pm, SJB Room.

--THIS WEEKEND: The state of Kerala, India, which has the largest Christian population in the nation, has recently been devastated by the most extreme flash flooding and landslides in nearly a century. According to reports from Catholic Relief Services, “hundreds of people are dead.” and about 1,000,000 people have been displaced by the catastrophic flooding and are in desperate need of food, clothing, potable water, medicine and shelter. This weekend we participate in a Diocesan Second Collection to assist in this relief effort. We encourage your generosity to this call. Go to www.diometuchen.org and follow link for Kerala Flood Relief. Thank you for your assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters.

Scrip will be available for purchase after Masses.
Boy Scouts Popcorn Sale after Masses.

--MONDAY: Baptismal Seminar for new parents at 7:45pm in Mary Room for those who have registered.

--TUESDAY: Our weekly Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm in the Joseph Room; Protecting God’s Children session is offered at 7:00 - 9:30pm in the Solarium. Men’s Group, meets at 7:30pm in the Joseph Room.

--WEDNESDAY: Our Bereavement Program, Journey Through Grief begins at 7:00 - 9:30pm in the Solarium/ Joseph Room.

--THURSDAY: Bible Study continues The Story of Salvation at 1:00pm in Joseph Room and 7:15pm in JPII Room; Life in the Spirit meets at 8:00pm in the Community Room.

--FRIDAY Legion of Mary at 11:00am in the JPII Room; the annual Diocesan Hispanic Heritage Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. All are most welcome.

--NEXT SUNDAY: The Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz, the first Filipino Saint, will be celebrated at a Mass in the Cathedral at 4:00pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Please Note: Due to the re-installation of our Cathedral Pipe Organ, all daily Masses (7:00am, 8:00am, 12:10pm) including Rosaries, will be celebrated in The Lady Chapel from now until Wednesday, October 31.

Banns of Marriage

1 Denise Patawaran/Mark Gundayao

Hispanic Heritage Mass

All are invited to attend the Hispanic Heritage Mass on Friday, September 28 at 7:30pm in the Cathedral. Fr. Kevin Kelly will be the celebrant and Fr. Juan Gaviria will concelebrate. As we come together to celebrate Hispanic heritage in the Diocese of Metuchen, we continue to be inspired by the words of Pope Francis which he wrote in a letter to the U.S. Bishops about V Encuentro: “We need to become ever more fully a community of missionary disciples, filled with love of the Lord Jesus and enthusiasm for the spread of the Gospel.” Please contact the Diocese of Metuchen’s Hispanic Ministry at 732-243-4573.

FEAST of SAN LORENZO RUIZ

The St. Francis Cathedral Community of Filipino-Americans, along with other Filipino groups, invite you to celebrate the feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila (the 1st Filipino Saint) & Companion Martyrs on Sunday, September 30 at 4:00pm Mass in the Cathedral. Fellowship and refreshments will follow immediately in the Community Room. Join us.

Registration Forms for Middle School Youth Group and High School Youth Group are in the pamphlet racks at the Cathedral entrances. Registration will be accepted through the end of October. No Registrations will be accepted after October 31. Thank you, parents, for all your support! --Sr. Maria Lan

Children, especially, set their watches by our clock.
--Anonymous
Eucharistic Adoration 15th Anniversary

All are invited to come on October 7 and celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Eucharistic Adoration in our parish. Fr. David Wejnerowski will celebrate the 12:00 noon Mass, followed by an outdoor Eucharistic procession, ending at the Lady Chapel - Parish Center. Adorers are always needed. Please prayerfully consider committing to one hour weekly. Adoration Hours are Monday - Friday, 7:00am - 11:00pm. Experience the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Help us to assure that Eucharistic Adoration continues for another 15 years!

“The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white host” — Venerable Fulton Sheen

Men’s Group: Come together with parish men of all ages to share and discuss topics pertinent to our Catholic faith. Old and new members are invited to our meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 7:30pm in the Joseph Room. Info: Tom Thomas (732-692-4819) or on Facebook at SFC.MensGroup

Golden/Silver Wedding Anniversaries

Couples observing 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversaries are cordially invited to celebrate with the Church of Metuchen. Renew your marriage vows at a special Evening Prayer Service celebrated by Bishop James Checchio here in the Cathedral on Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. Application forms may be secured by contacting your parish office or by logging on to the diocesan website: www.diometuchen.org/silver and gold. The system will automatically send a confirmation message for your records. Applications will be ONLINE ONLY. People without access to a computer must call their parish secretary or Family Life Office to register. Applications will be accepted by the Family Life Office until the deadline for registration, Wednesday, October 3rd. A confirmation letter with further details will be sent once your application has been processed. Although there is no fee, many Jubilarian couples wish to give a donation of gratitude to the Church on this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude can be made online or by calling 732-243-4582, Monday through Friday during business hours. For additional information, please call Aida Matos at 732-243-4573 or amatos@diometuchen.org

2018 Critical Life Issues Conference

Every Life: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

The goal of the conference this year is to discuss the message of Pope Paul VI’s famous encyclical, Humanae Vitae, which is rooted in the way men and women are made by God, who is love. It is a message of humanity, totality, faithfulness and fecundity. The conference will explore whether or not the teaching in Humanae Vitae is relevant in today’s changing culture. It will encourage reaching out to the vulnerable, including the unborn, the terminally ill, the frail elderly and those living with disabilities, because doing so helps to build a better world where human life is always loved and respected. It will take place at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway from 8:30am-3:30pm on Saturday, October 20. Presented by the Diocese of Metuchen and the Archdiocese of Newark.

2018 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner

Thursday, October 18
The Palace at Somerset Park
6:30pm Cocktails, 7:30pm Dinner

Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for the 2018 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner. Champions for Catholic Charities is a community of individuals and corporate benefactors who support the vital services provided by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen for our neighbors in need. Always honoring the right of every person to be treated with dignity and respect, Catholic Charities serves people from all walks of life, all races, all religions and all economic levels. The dinner is an opportunity for us to publicly recognize worthy individuals while raising much-needed funds for our less-fortunate neighbors. The 2018 Champion Medal will be presented to David & Debra Samuel and to Rev. Msgr. John N. Fell for their civic and pastoral endeavors. For dinner reservations and information, email champions@diometuchen.org.

50/50 Raffle

$100 per ticket

2 Grand Prize Winners

By entering our Champion 50/50 Raffle, you are helping our neighbors in need and you just may win one of the two grand prizes. The prize for last year’s raffle was $30, 500 each for 2 lucky winners. With your participation, we are hoping for even greater success this year. Thank you and Good Luck!
“The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace
for those who cultivate peace”

–James 2:5

Anyone who
wishes to be first
must be the servant
of all

THE MEANING OF DISCIPLESHIP

The geography of today's Gospel is significant. Jesus is completing His ministry in Galilee and beginning His journey to Jerusalem, where He will meet both death and resurrection. The prediction of His death placed here is the second of three in Mark's Gospel, and as usual it is the occasion for an important teaching on the part of Jesus. Today that lesson is tied to the need for His disciples to embrace a ministry of service. A play on words in Aramaic would have linked the words "child" and "servant," thus turning Jesus' gesture of placing a child in their midst into an illustration of His understanding of Himself as the Servant of the Lord. It is that same awareness of the meaning of their ministry that Jesus (and Mark) wishes to instill in the disciples. Theirs must be a ministry of service if they are to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. And that service might even require of them that they be "handed over" to death. What would have been – in the culture of Jesus' day – an ordinary discussion of social status ("who is the greatest") becomes in Mark's context a key insight into the meaning of discipleship for the disciples and for us.

HOW DO WE TREAT THE MESSENGER?

Let's not be too hasty in defining who is "the wicked one" and who (namely us) is just! We are very quick to label others as evil, because we tend to label ourselves as good guys. We don't like it when we are brought up short by a prophetic voice that brings us some bad news about our own behavior. We don't like to be reproached for transgressions of the law or charged with violations of our training.

We may condemn and abuse those who bring us up against these truths about ourselves when, if we were really good, we would thank them for helping to keep us on the right path. This is the way they treated the prophets and the way they treated Jesus. Is this also the way we treat those whose message we don't like?
Paint Party Night
Sister Maria Lan invites ADULTS to Paint Party Night, Friday, Nov. 9, 5:00-8:00pm, Community Room. A professional will instruct all to paint Christmas Twilight. Food available 5:00-6:00pm: fried egg rolls, fried shrimp wonton, spring rolls, barbecued pork, hoisin sauce, mint, all prepared by Sr. Maria Lan. BYOW/drinks/glasses to enjoy while painting. Paint/Dinner:$45pp; Paint w/o Dinner:$35pp. To benefit Youth Group for Steubenville. Sister: 732-770-2506/smlorchid@hotmail.com

Public Square Rosary Rally
Our Lady Queen of All Hearts Legion of Mary Praesidium at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral invites you to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, October 13 at 10:30am on the Cathedral steps. Please join us in offering reparation for the sins and offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to fervently pray for the conversion of the United States.

Walk for Life
Take a Walk, Save a Life!
Make a difference in the LIFE of an unborn child. Walk for Life on Saturday, October 13, 9:00am - 12:00pm at Merrill Park, Iselin (Rain or Shine). Donations will benefit the lifesaving work of Life Choices Resource Center. There will be a DJ, refreshments, games - - all kinds of family fun. No distance or time restrictions! Confirmation Service Hours will be provided for attending. Register or Donate today at www.LifeChoicesRC.com or download a pledge form. $200 raised provides 1 FREE ultrasound! Call 732-516-0811/TEXT to 848-229-7634.

Protecting God’s Children
Our parish offers an opportunity to attend the “Protecting God’s Children” workshop which is designed for anyone who has significant contact with children. Therefore, new faculty, CCD Teachers, Coaches, Scout Leaders and all other new volunteers must register for one Protecting God’s Children session. Participants are asked to register online at www.virtus.org, then follow the directions to register. You may also phone 732-767-0415 with question.

Upcoming Cathedral Session in the Solarium:
Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7:00 - 9:30pm

Calling New Altar Servers
Calling 5th Graders and up!!!
Serving at the Altar during Mass is a great way to develop boys’ and girls’ faith and service to the Church. If this is for you, please fill out the attached form and send it to the Rectory, give it to your homeroom teacher (for SFCS students) or email information to Deacon JP at jpsaggese@verizon.net Mark the email NEW ALTAR SERVER.

Name______________________________
Address______________________________
Tel#____________________Grade_____
School______________________________
Parents’ email_________________________

Training dates & time will be determined after sign-ups If you have any questions, please contact Deacon JP at jpsaggese@verizon.net.

Youth Group News
– Sept. 23: HSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00pm. Meet at Adoration Chapel. Later discuss Steubenville Trip. Parents and HS students invited.
– Sept. 29: MSYG & HSYG Family Trip to harvest vegetables at America’s Grow-A-Row, 150 Pittstown Road, Pittstown, 08867. 9:00am - 12 noon. Bring lunch. Contact Sr. Maria Lan for all events: 732-770-2506/ smlorchid@hotmail.com
– Oct. 7: At 2:00pm, MSYG & HSYG Family Trip Giammarese Orchards, pick your own nectarines, peaches, apples, pumpkins.
– Oct. 8: No Meetings - Columbus Day holiday weekend. Oct. 9: MSYG & HSYG Family Trip for Gleaning Apples 2:30 - 6:00pm at Long Meadow Farm, 561 Hope Blairtown Rd, Hope, NJ. Leave CYO at 2:20pm.
Social Concerns

–Food Donations: Our Food Pantry is in need of supplies. Please bring donations of food to the Cathedral entrances. We are very grateful for your generosity, as are the people who receive your gifts.

“Journey Through Grief”: A non-denominational program for those who have recently experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child, friend or any loved one is being formed at the Cathedral. The Support Group will meet 8 Wednesdays.
DATE: September 26    TIME: 7:00pm
PLACE: Parish Center - Joseph Room/Solarium
CONTACT:  Jessie Flynn (732-895-2563)
Mary Beth Connolly (732-512-8901)
There is no fee - Pre-registration is required.

–Middlesex County College offers General Admission Information Sessions on the main campus on Woodbridge Avenue in Edison. First complete an online application, then attend one of the sessions as follows: Tuesday, October 30 at 10:00am
Wednesday, November 28 at 5:30pm
Thursday, December 20 at 5:30pm
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019 at 3:00pm
A Health Programs information session will be offered on Mondays, Sept. 24 at 6:00pm, Oct. 19 at 3:00pm, Dec. 10 at 6:00pm. A STEM session will be offered on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 6:00pm. A session on Education, Criminal Justice, and Social Science will be offered on Wed., Nov. 7. They also offer guidance on choosing a career and financial aid information, as well as information for international students. Go to www.middlesexcc.edu.

Celebration of Marriage Retreat
The weekend of September 28 - 30 is intended for couples married at least 10 years. It takes place at the Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape May Point. We strike a deliberate balance among participation/liturgy, reflection, free time, and plenty of “couple time” for walks on nearby beaches. Cost: $270 per couple, includes all meals, room and program. Sign-up online at www.capemaymarianists.org or call 609-884-3829.

Eucharistic Ministers - Sept. 29/30
5:00pm: K.Konick, E. Dick, E. Yunker, L. Dalton, N. Davis, C. Tomaro, K. Garner, P. John
7:00pm: M. Brossoni, R & K. Aiello, D. Reilly, D. Zensky, F./ M. Firmansjah
7:30am: A. Pecht, S&D Kovach, E. Lishinsky, A. McCadden, D. Monek
9:00am: M.A. & R. Lawyer, R. Altz, A. Major, K. Kwiatkowski, J. Morrison, K. Schreck
10:30am: R/M. Fuchs, R. Bonk, J.& J. Grigo, J. Bundoc, F. Belmont, R. Baran, F. Corrente, M. Garm
12:00pm: A. Bautista, D. Rossi, J.& R. Baker, C&C Evangelista, L. Moriarty

Lectors - Sept. 29/30
5:00pm: Al & Judy Kendziora
7:00pm: Kieran Esposito
7:30am: Eileen Lishinsky
9:00am: Kathleen Burke
10:30am: Michael McCluney
noon: Catherine Murphy-Barron

Altar Servers - September 29/30
5:00pm Team 9 7:00pm Team 10
7:30am Team 11 9:00am Team 12
10:30am Team 13 12:00pm Team 14