JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY  Beginning December 20, the Cathedral will remain open daily from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for parishioners of the diocese to make pilgrimages through the Holy Door.

WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday Vigil 5:00 and 7:00 pm
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am; 12:00 noon

HOLY DAY MASSES
Vigil 5:00 pm
Feast Day 7:00, 8:00 am; 12:10, 7:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday-Friday 7:00, 8:00 am;
12:10 pm (Rosary 11:45 am)
Thursday 7:30 pm Communion Serv. monthly
Saturday 8:00 am

MORNING PRAYER Monday-Friday 7:40 am

EUCARISTICADORATION 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.

BAPTMISM: 1:30 pm by appointment only (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 necessary for sponsorship certificates and, possibly, the administration of some sacraments.
Masses For The Week...

SUNDAY, October 23 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am  -Gregorio & Corazon Trillana r/o Family
9:00am  -Concetta Yacovino r/o Family
10:30am -Anna & Albert Belmont r/o Frank & Joan Belmont
*Noon  -Souls in Purgatory r/o Llyodon & Evita *World Mission Sunday*
MONDAY, October 24 - Saint Anthony Mary Claret
7:00am  -((Liv.) Int. Benson & Renna Del Rosario r/o Family
8:00am  -James Davis r/o Patricia Davis
12:10pm -Valentina Abrahams r/o Licameli Family

CONVOCATION OF PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE
TUESDAY, October 25
7:00am  -Communion Service
8:00am  -Communion Service
12:10pm -Communion Service
WEDNESDAY, October 26
7:00am  -Communion Service
8:00am  -Communion Service
12:10pm -Communion Service
THURSDAY, October 27
7:00am  -Communion Service
8:00am  -Communion Service
12:10pm -Communion Service
FRIDAY, October 28 - Saint Simon & Saint Jude
7:00am  -John Brossoni r/o Deacon Guido & Mary
8:00am  -((Liv.) Blessings for Msgr. Robert Jude Zamorski r/o Family
12:10pm -Dr. Hermogenes Ciocon r/o Locsin Family
*7:30pm  -*Hispanic Heritage Mass*
SATURDAY, October 29
8:00am  -James Ray r/o Louise Ray
5:00pm  -John & Josephine Lonczak r/o Grigo Family
7:00pm  -Sally Conlon r/o Conlon Family *Rites of Candidacy & Acolyte*
SUNDAY, October 30  - Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am  -Charles & Josephine Schwalje r/o Elaine
9:00am  -James J. Reilly r/o Family *Rite of Acceptance*
10:30am -Dennis Duffy r/o Frank & Joan Belmont
Noon  -Rev. Pius Abrahams, OFM r/o Licameli Family

The Sanctuary Candle for this week
has been donated in honor of

Special Intention of Sheila Tynday
by Mary Anne Hale
(in the Cathedral)
in loving memory of
Edward Rebar
by The Rebar Family
(In The Lady Chapel)
PLEASE PRAY FOR:

SERVING OVERSEAS: In Croatia: John-David Rizzuto; all those serving in Covert Operations


DECEASED: Ramona Loihle, Xuyendo La, George Chinchar, John Moy, Elizabeth Telleri

...and all those recommended in the Book of Intentions

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:

—Altar Flowers: Available weekly in The Cathedral at the High Altar for memorials, weddings and other occasions. (Please contact the Rectory for details and availability.)

—Sanctuary Candles: available weekly in The Cathedral and The Lady Chapel. (Donation: $20. Enclose in envelope with information and place in collection basket or mail 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.

—The Cathedral Music Ministry Fund: Memorials in the name of loved ones may be made to support the Cathedral music ministry and choirs. Memorialize a Hymnal at a cost of $20 per book. Please inquire at the parish office.

If interested in any of these, please phone the Rectory at 732-548-0100 x210.

Be A Champion for Catholic Charities

You are cordially invited to attend 2016 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner Thursday, November 10 - The Palace at Somerset Park

Special Honorees

The Honorable James M. Cahill
Mayor of the City of New Brunswick
Sister M. Michaelita Popovice, RSM
Program Director, Warren Basic Material Needs Catholic Charities Social Service Center, Phillipsburg

Please join us as we honor these two individuals for their exemplary work and servant leadership in the communities they serve. Your participation will help support the vital programs of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. For reservations and information call 732-562-2436/champions@diometuchen.org.

Please support our Champion 50/50 Raffle. For details visit: www.diometuchen.org/champions/732-562-2438.
Parish Notes...

**THIS WEEK: Priests’ Convocation**
Bishop Checchio has called a Convocation of all the priests of the Diocese to take place on Tuesday October 25, Wednesday October 26, and Thursday October 27. Because of the absence of priests from the parish, no Masses will be celebrated on those days; Communion Services will be held at the usual Mass times (7:00am, 8:00am, 12:10pm).

—Congratulations to the New Altar Servers who were commissioned on Saturday. May they enjoy many happy years in service to our Lord and to our parish.

—We congratulate former parishioner Rose Jannicola as she celebrates her 100th Birthday today!

—Sunday: World Mission Sunday will be celebrated in our parish by a Walk-A-Thon and 12:00noon Mass. This year’s theme is **Mercy Changes The World**. If you have not yet had a chance to contribute to this cause, we ask you to be generous; Pre Cana Team meets at 7:30pm in Joseph Room.

—TUESDAY: Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm in the JPII Room; Parish Blood Drive will be held in the Community Room from 3:00 - 9:00pm. Give the Gift of Life!

—WEDNESDAY: Bereavement program continues at 7:00pm in Joseph Room/Solarium; Legion of Mary meets at 7:00pm in the JPII Room.

—THURSDAY: Bible Study will not meet this week; Body of Christ Prayer Group will meet at 7:30pm in Community Rm.

—FRIDAY: MSYG Halloween Party will take place in the CYO from 6:30 - 9:00pm; Bishop Checchio will celebrate the **Hispanic Heritage Mass** in the Cathedral at 7:30pm and a Reception in the Community Room will follow; the Charismatic Core will meet at 8:00pm in the Joseph Room.

—SATURDAY: The **Rites of Candidacy and Acolyte** will be celebrated by Bishop Checchio during 7:00pm Mass.

—NEXT SUNDAY: Couples from around our diocese will celebrate their **Gold& Silver Wedding Anniversary** at a Prayer Service officiated by Bishop Checchio at 4:00pm in the Cathedral. We congratulate these couples and wish them many more happy years together.

—NEXT WEEKEND: All Souls Day Mass Remembrance envelopes may be put in collection basket or given to Rectory.

Banns of Marriage
II Serena Patel/Joby Varughese

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**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**
**Mercy Changes The World**

*October 23, 2016 - gather at 10:00 a.m.*

⇒ MEET: St. Francis Cathedral CYO, Main&Library Pl.
Fr. Emeka Okwuosa to kick off the Walk-A-Thon
⇒ WALK: 11:00am Walk-A-Thon Begins
—Through the neighborhood and back to Cathedral
Steps 11:45 - Bishop Checchio & Msgr. Behl welcome walkers and lead the *Hail Holy Queen* prayer
⇒ CELEBRATE: World Mission Sunday Liturgy - NOON
Most Rev. James Checchio
Celebrant & Homilist
Mass will immediately be followed by a Simple Mission Lunch in St. Francis Cafeteria

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This weekend the Altar Flowers have been donated in honor of Rose Jannicola on the occasion of her 100th Birthday

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We strongly urge all parishioners to register, to become informed on key issues, and to vote. The Church does not support or oppose any candidate, but seeks to focus attention on the moral and human dimensions of issues. We do not authorize the distribution of partisan political materials on parish property.

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All Souls Envelopes are available at the Cathedral entrances. All Masses on this feast, Wednesday, November 2nd, will be offered for the **Faithful Departed** and a novena of Masses will be celebrated for the repose of their souls.
2016 Critical Life Issues Conference
On Saturday, Oct. 29 the Diocese of Metuchen will sponsor the Annual Critical Life Issues Conference. Expert speakers will address pertinent issues. Fr. Tad Pachelczyk, Ph.D., Director of Education at National Catholic Bioethics Center, will present Grace and Mercy at the End of Life’s Journey; Renee Bondi, Singer and Author, will present Disability: God’s Mercy in Disguise; Theresa Flores, LSW, MS, Human Trafficking Survivor will present The Hidden Epidemic: Human Trafficking; David Hajduk, Ph. D. will present The Contraception-Abortion Connection. Speakers will give thought-provoking testimony of real-life experiences. It will be held at Saint John Neumann Center. Opening Mass at 8:30am will be celebrated by Bishop Checchio. Day ends at 3:30pm. Cost: $25 includes lunch and handouts. Registration: Call 732-562-1990 x1629 or X1543/amarshall@diometuchen.org.

How To Report Sexual Abuse
If you were sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement, through the diocesan website (www.diometuchen.org) or by calling Lawrence Nagle, diocesan office of Child & Youth Protection at 732-562-2413.

SFCSchool HSA announces second annual SUPER 50/50 SWEEPSTAKES! Tickets: $50.00
Prizes: Grand prize winner will receive 40% of winning share and 10 first prize winners will receive 1% of the winning share.
Winners will be chosen at 1:30pm on Sunday, November 20th in the Cathedral Community Room but need not be present to win. All proceeds will benefit SFCSchool. Tickets will be sold before and after select Masses in November. A limited number of tickets will be sold. Contact hsa5050@stfranciscathedralschool.org for more information.

Calling All Young Adults 18 - 39
What is your deepest desire? Is it to live a happy and meaningful life? This retreat series is for all young adults who want to live life to the fullest in peace and joy! Consisting of afternoons of prayer between November and June, each session will focus on one aspect of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. Sessions take place on Sundays from 2:00 - 7:00pm at Loyola Jesuit Center, 161 James Street, Morristown. Dates are: Nov. 6, Jan. 15, Mar. 19 and June 4. Suggested Donation: $10 will help cover costs. Go to www.diometuchen.org/young adult retreats or phone 973-539-0740.

Gold & Silver Wedding Anniversaries
Next Sunday, October 30 at 4:00pm, Bishop James Checchio will preside at an Evening Prayer Service for couples of the Diocese who are celebrating either their Twenty-fifth or Fiftieth Wedding Anniversaries during 2016. We congratulate the following from our Parish:
50th: Jerry & Patricia LaPointe, Bernard & Catherine Rafferty

Catholic High School Open Houses
Mount St. Mary October 23 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Immaculata October 23 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Mother Seton November 2 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
The placement test for Bishop George Ahr High School, Immaculata High School and St. Joseph High School will be given on November 5, 2016 from 8:00am - noon - Fee: $60. If your child does not already attend a Catholic school, call the high school of your choice to get an application form. Mail the completed application form to your first choice school. Be sure that your first quarter marks are on the form.
We welcome all newcomers to our learning communities.

Hispanic Heritage Mass
The Diocese of Metuchen invites all to the 2016 Hispanic Heritage Mass on Friday, October 28, 2016 at 7:30pm in the Cathedral. Bishop Checchio will celebrate this liturgy.
Theme: We celebrate our Faith! Sisters and Brothers Together! Sent forth to Evangelize! Hispanic Ministry Office:732-243-4573.

Youth Group News
-On Friday, Oct.28 there will be a MSYG Halloween Party, 6:30 - 9:00pm at the CYO. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative costumes. There will be food, a DJ and dancing, fun, Candy-grams ($1), Raffles, Pumpkin Jewelry and lots of fun. Pictures available: 4X6:$3; 5X&$:5; 8X10:$7. Cost before 10/14: $8; after 10/14:$12; At Door:$15. Members of the HSYG can help from 5:30 - 9:00 pm and earn Service Hours. For questions or to donate, call Sr. Maria Lan: 732-770-2506.
-Saturday, November 19: Leave CYO lot at 9:30am-7:30pm. Radio City Music Hall presents its Christmas Spectacular at 11:00am and a tour of this historic venue at 1:00pm. Cost: $95 p/p, $105 after 10/28, includes tickets for both events, coach bus, tips, drink and snacks. OR School of Rock, the Musical at the Winter Garden Theater, 2:00pm show. Cost: $80p/p, $90 after 10/28 includes show, coach bus, tips, drinks, snacks. We will meet at St. Patrick’s Cathedral for 5:30pm Mass and bus will pick us up there to go home.
“The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest until it reaches its goal, nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds.”

Sirach 35: 17 - 18a

GOD'S LOGIC IS NOT OURS
Nobody will ever mistake the Bible for a logic textbook. We need to remember this when we approach today's readings. How can a God who knows no favorites have a chosen people, or give us the disciplines of fasting and almsgiving and then instruct us not to talk about them? God, in love and tenderness, knows how quickly we can get "into a rut." The Spirit inspires passages like the instruction from Sirach and the parable in Luke to help drag us out of the rut of thinking that God's ways are our ways.
Sirach poetically uses contrast to answer the question, "Whose prayer will reach the lofty clouds of heaven?" The answer? Those who are lowly on earth. Jesus amplifies this in His parable of the Pharisee and the publican. It is Spirit-inspired illogic that communicates today's message: God hears the voices of those who are ignored by the rest of the world.

PERSISTENCE
As the end of the liturgical calendar draws near the liturgy focuses more and more on the end of time. This week we are reminded that God's ultimate victory may be a long way off. Perseverance in prayer, proclamation, and work will be needed along the way. The characters in today’s readings can serve as role models for us on the long journey of discipleship.
In the reading from Exodus Joshua does not give up fighting, Moses does not give up praying, and Aaron and Hur do not give up supporting him until the victory is won. In the Gospel story the widow does not stop begging until justice is done. As the letter to Timothy urges, we are to “be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient” until the coming of “Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead” (2 Timothy 4:2, 1).
NJ Right to Life Car Raffle

Please support New Jersey Right to Life’s Annual Car and Shop Rite Gift Card Raffle. Proceeds go to New Jersey’s largest prolife organization, whose work saves the lives of the unborn, elderly, and disabled from conception to natural death. Tickets are $10 each. 1st Prize - 2017 Volvo XC60 AWD SUV valued at $42,000; 2nd Prize - Shop Rite Gift Card valued at $1,000; 3rd Prize - Shop Rite Gift Card valued at $750; 4th Prize - Shop Rite Gift Card valued at $500. Tickets will be sold at Cathedral entrances on the weekend of November 5/6. Please take a chance and Stand Up for Life!

Year of Mercy 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration

Please join us on Friday, November 11 at 2:00pm as we begin a 24 hour period of Eucharistic Adoration in the Cathedral as we prepare for the closing of our Year of Mercy. The Year of Mercy will officially end on November 20, 2016. There will be periods of silence along with presentations (schedules posted) that will occur throughout the day and night. The 24 hour period of Adoration will end at 2:00pm on Saturday, November 12. What better way to end our year of Mercy than by spending time with Our Eucharistic Lord, fully present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Charismatic Mass with Prayers for Healing

But He was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins. Upon Him was the chastisement that makes us whole, and by His stripes we are healed.” — Isaiah 53:5

On November 3 at 7:30pm in the Cathedral, a Charismatic Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Joseph Meagher of St. Antoninus Parish, Newark. He will offer prayers for healing following Mass. Call Pam: 732-491-6042.

Relit: The Heart of Evangelization

This 3-day Evangelization Training is presented by Michael Dopp, co-founder of Mission of the Redeemer Ministries in Ottawa, Canada on Nov. 4 (7 - 9pm), Nov. 5 (9am - 8pm), Nov. 6 (9am). Mission is to proclaim Christ to the world. If a friend or family member asked you about your faith, would you know how to respond? Have you ever felt unequipped or unprepared to share your faith with others? If you answered “yes” to either of these questions, you are invited to attend an upcoming training program called: Relit: The Heart of Evangelization, where you will be equipped, prepared and formed for the work of evangelization. Registration is required. Go to www.diometuchen.org/evangelization or call 732-562-1990 x1634. This event is sponsored by Office of Evangelization, Diocese of Metuchen.

St. Francis Lazarus Ministry

Ninth Annual Mass of Remembrance

For the deceased of our parish
Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 4:00pm
Remembering those who have died from October 2015 - September 2016
To have your loved one’s name included at Mass if he or she was not a member of St. Francis Cathedral Parish, please call the Rectory office at 732-548-0100
Mass fulfills Sunday obligation

DOES GOD ANSWER OUR PRAYERS?

The Lord hears the cry of the poor!!! In these stressful times, more and more people are turning to God for help. How many times, over the last several months, have we heard the word "pray"? Most of us learned from the time we were children that prayer was not only a way to praise God, but a means of getting our needs met. The question is, are we justified in believing that prayer really works? Cannot we give many examples where our prayer wasn't answered? Does God really answer our prayers? If you, or anyone you know, who is unbaptized, or baptized but never received Eucharist and Confirmation in the Catholic Church are worshiping with us, we welcome you and encourage you to meet with us and bring those kinds of questions. Our sessions will not assume a commitment to join the Catholic Church. They are just a place to ask questions ABOUT the Catholic Faith. For more information, call Sara at RCIA Office 732-562-1990 X 1633.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Contact Margaret Manza (548-0100 x212) for initial information about celebrating weddings at the Cathedral. Proper preparation usually requires one year advance planning.
Welcome. What Does It Take To Be A Blood Donor? Blood donors must be at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and not have donated blood within the last 56 days. Sixteen-year-olds must present signed parental consent form, go to www.nybloodcenter.org to obtain the form. People aged 76 and older can donate blood if they meet all criteria and present a physician’s letter each year. Our next Parish Blood Drive will be on this Tuesday, October 25 from 3:00pm - 9:00pm in the Cathedral Community Room.

–The annual Coat & Blanket Drive will be held on Sunday, Oct. 30, 9:00am - noon. Donations of new or nearly new items may be dropped off at the side entrance of the CYO building. Children’s Coats especially needed. Label all items with size.
–Middlesex County College offers Admission Spotlight Events on the main campus on Woodbridge Avenue in Edison. All begin at 6:00pm.

Eucharistic Ministers: October 29/30
5:00pm C. Coleman, L. Dalton, S. Francis, D. Reilly, C. Saggese, S. Tamascio, J. Franklin
7:00pm J.Pasquale, J.G-Campbell, M.&W. Manza, N.Davis, J.Bundoc
7:30am S.Riolo, J.K. Burke, C. Kozak, D. Monek, J.Carey
9:00am R. Dowdy
10:30am: F. Belmont, S./A. Silva, C. Grant, D. Pappalardo, M. Garni, J.Duriair, R. & R.Coquia, A.Bianchini
12:00pm E. Swan, P. Morgan, S. Fernandez, J. Hernandez, M. Hernandez, R. Cron, M. Kolomatis, D. Rossi

Lectors - October 29/30
5:00pm:AI & Judy Kendziora/7:00: Jack Swartz
7:30am:Eileen Lishinsky/9:00am: Kathleen Burke
10:30am: Michael McCunney/noon: Catherine Murphy-Barron

Altar Servers - October 29/30
5:00pm Team 15 7:00pm Team TBD
7:30am Team 16 9:00am Team 17
10:30am Team 18 12:00pm Team 19
Oct. 30, 4:00pm: Silver & Gold Anniversaries - Team TBD

Sisters of Mercy Special Liturgy: All are invited to join the Sisters on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 2:30pm for their annual Mass of Remembrance which takes place in Immaculate Conception Chapel at Mount St. Mary, Watchung. Contact Sr. Marlene Fritz:908-756-0994 4007/mfritz@mercymidlantic.org

FYI: St. Helena Christmas Bazaar, 8:00am - 2:00pm on November 5 in school auditorium. Crafters of wood, wool, jewelry, etc., 50/50, great food and much more. Free admission and parking. Call Renee:732-259-9842.

Catholic’s Divorce Survival Kit
Sponsored by Family Life Office for men and women seeking healing from divorce. Based on teachings of Catholic Church. Open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after divorce. Meets Wednesday evenings, October 19 - January 18, 7:00 - 8:30pm at Pastoral Center, Piscataway. Call Ro at 908-313-5947.

SAVE THE DATE: January 27, 2017
Bishop James Checchio will concelebrate the Youth Rally & Mass for Life in Washington, D.C. Anyone wishing to attend must request tickets through the Respect for Life Office (732-562-1990 x1543.)