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. David J. Wejnerowski, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Edgar A. Madarang, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Timothy A. Christy, V G, In Residence

Mr. David Keyes, Seminarian

Deacon J.P. Saggese
Deacon Rick Fortune
Deacon Kenneth T. Hamilton
Deacon Retired Frank J. Cammarano
Deacon Retired Paul G. Licameli
Deacon Retired Guido J. Brossoni
Deacon Retired 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

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 6:00pm
                                    or by appointment.

How To Report Sexual Abuse: You are encouraged to contact the Diocesan Response Officer- 908-930-4558
(24 hours/7 days a week) or visit the diocesan website: https://diometuchen.org/report-a-suspected-abuse.
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: 1:30 pm 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, August 18 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Anne & John Doherty r/o Family
9:00am - Eileen Schreck r/o Flaherty Family
10:30am - Joan Belmont r/o Rod & Dolores Altz
Noon - Emil DePasquale r/o Wife & Family

MONDAY, August 19 - Saint John Eudes
7:00am - Bob Luczak r/o Russ & Janet Baker
8:00am - Rose Monschauer r/o O’Neil Family
12:10pm - Cesar Jazmin r/o Deacon Ed & Amy Olegario

TUESDAY, August 20 - Saint Bernard
7:00am - Rose Alagna r/o Joe & Gerry Monteleone
8:00am - Eleanor Schuermann r/o Joie Morrison
12:10pm - Margaret Swarbrick r/o Shane, Melody & Girls

WEDNESDAY, August 21 - Pope Saint Pius X
7:00am - Michelle Olivo r/o Pat Walsh
8:00am - Josephine Permely r/o Keane Family
12:10pm - Joseph Cackowski r/o Cackowski Family

THURSDAY, August 22 - Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00am - Antoinette Chichele r/o Frank & Eileen Ello
8:00am - Patricia Wiley r/o Ed & Marguerite O’Brien
12:10pm - Henry Cackowski r/o Wife Mary Ann Cackowski

FRIDAY, August 23 - Saint Rose of Lima
7:00am - Pablo Dizer, Jr. r/o Razal Family
8:00am - Doris Margaret Jaegar r/o Morrison Family
12:10pm - Matthew Martin r/o Coreschi Family

SATURDAY, August 24 - Saint Bartholomew
8:00am - Thomas Murtaugh r/o Ann & Paul Battaglia
5:00pm - Mom & Dad r/o Joan & Family
7:00pm - David Bixel r/o Bixel Family

SUNDAY, August 25 - Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Elizabeth Bauman r/o Dennis Reilly
9:00am - Sister Patricia Meidhof r/o Rod & Dolores Altz
10:30am - Pablo Labao & Ernesto Almeda r/o Family
Noon - Patricia Wiley r/o Elaine & Bob Yunker

The Sanctuary Candles for this week have been donated
in loving memory of
Stella Cackowski
by Mary Ann Cackowski
(in The Cathedral)

in loving memory of
Edwin Williamson
by Jack & Susan Swartz
(in The Lady Chapel)
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Africa: Capt. John F. Dalton IV; for all those serving in Covert Operations


DECEASED: Jane Burke, Randy Frye, Mary Anne Hale, Estella Hernandez, Asaiah Lawton, Kathleen Mahon, Vincent Naselli, Patricia LaPointe, Joseph Markano, Louise Ray, Florentina Villar, John Vochecowiecz

... all those recommended in the Book of Intention

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 Rectory Office for details.

—Sanctuary Candles: Available weekly in the Cathedral and The Lady Chapel. Donation: $20. Enclose in an envelope with information and put 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.

Saint Peter’s Gianna Center is located in New Brunswick. The Center is dedicated to offering truly prolife women’s healthcare including infertility services, general gynecological care and more. All services are provided in accordance with United States Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. Visit www.saintpetershcs.com/GiannaCenter/732-565-5490.

GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

Tithing

Thank you for your generosity on recent weekends:

Aug. 4: Envelopes & Loose Cash $14,454

Electronic Offerings $ 9,116

Total $23,570

Aug. 11: Envelopes & Loose Cash $13,024

Electronic Offerings $ 9,116

Total: $22,140

e-Giving: Please consider using our parish e-Giving program. Sign up at: http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/FaithDirect/
Upon entering the Cathedral, please be kind enough to turn off all cell phones. Thank you.

**Parish Notes...**

**Rectory Summer Hours**

Throughout the summer, the Rectory Office will be open Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00am - 5:00pm; on Fridays from 9:00am - noon.

–**TUESDAY:** Our weekly *Prayer Group* meets at 1:00pm in Joseph Room.

–**WEDNESDAY:** Every Wednesday, following 12:10pm Mass, parishioners gather in front of the Cathedral to pray the Rosary for the intention of the Year of Consecration to Our Lord through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe; *Charismatic Pastoral Team* meets at 8:00pm in the JPII Room.

–**THURSDAY:** *Body of Christ Prayer Group* gathers at 8:00pm in the Community Room.

–**FRIDAY:** Members of the *Legion of Mary* gather at 11am in the JPII Room; Rectory Office closes at noon.

**Dear Monsignor Bob and Parishioners,**

Our Youth Group *Steubenville Trip* on July 19 - 21 was awesome! My sincere thanks for your loving support and prayers. The Holy Spirit was present and we felt it. We were so grateful to have the opportunity of such a grace-filled time for students and chaperones.

A special “Thank You” to the parents for encouraging your child/children to join us. It was very important for them to experience the love of God and see that other teens are longing for His love.

It was a renewal for all of us. It helped us to understand more about our faith and how much Jesus loves us, no matter what. It helped us appreciate and understand more about Mass and the power of God through Adoration.

May Jesus and Mary continue to bless you for your generosity. Please know our prayers are with you always.

Much gratitude,

*Sister Maria Lan*

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**Lighting Hearts On Fire**

*Diocesan Marian Consecration Preparation Year*

*December 12, 2018 - December 12, 2019*

Bishop Checchio will consecrate the Diocese of Metuchen to Our Lord through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 2019. A year-long preparation process was launched December 12, 2018, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, with Evening Prayer at the Cathedral. Bishop Checchio’s intention for this year is that each one of us opens our heart wide to God’s grace so that authentic spiritual renewal can take place. We implore Our Lady’s intercession on our behalf.

During this year of preparation, our Diocese has planned several events that offer an opportunity to “light hearts on fire.” One of these opportunities is the *Traveling Prayer Kit*. It includes a framed image of Our Lady, a crucifix, a votive candle, holy water, rosary beads and prayer cards. Individuals/families are urged to prepare for consecration by hosting a traveling image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in their homes for a week. Kits are handed out at the Mass of your choosing. Fill out the form below or Sign up at: info@stfranciscathedral.org.

**Hosting The Traveling Prayer Kit**

| Name __________________________ |
| Daytime Phone No. __________________________ |
| E-mail address __________________________ |
| Date You would like to Host __________________________ |
| 5:00pm | 7:00pm | 7:30am |
| 9:00am | 10:30am | 12:00noon |

**Walking Pilgrimage**

*The Way of St. Juan Diego*

On **Saturday, September 21** a one-day, 9-mile Walking Pilgrimage will take place in our diocese 10am - 8:00pm in preparation for the *Consecration of the Diocese of Metuchen to Our Lady of Guadalupe*. All families, youth, and people of faith are invited. The walk will begin and end at Immaculate Conception Parish, 316 Allerton Road, Annandale, Rain or Shine. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James Checchio. Cost is $20 by August 30 or $25 thereafter. Registration is required. See www.LightingHeartsOnFire.org/walking-pilgrimage or obtain forms at the Parish Office or go by bus with Sr. Maria Lan at 9:00am. Bus requires $10 extra money. Register by September 13.
Are You Being Called To The Diaconate?
The Diocese is looking for men who are interested in becoming Permanent Deacons. A new diaconate formation class will begin in spring 2020. Applications for that class will be accepted near the end of this summer. If you are between the ages of 35 and 60, and you believe you are being called to this ministry, please let us know of your interest by contacting the Diocesan Diaconate Office (732-562-2423).

Stress in Your Marriage!
Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrovaille is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience, Friday night to Sunday afternoon, for couples (no group discussions) and six follow-up sessions. During the weekend, presentations are made by three married couples and a priest. Techniques of communication that enable a couple to examine their relationship are presented. All inquiries are confidential. Next Session: August 23 - 25, 2019. Phone the Diocesan Family Life Office (732-562-1990 x1543) for more information or Rich & Annette Colasuonno (732-236-0671) or email 3024@retrovaille.org.

IS FOLLOWING JESUS ALWAYS PEACEFUL?
People are in need of comfort when facing illness, loss of a loved one, or some other misfortune. Many Christians affirm that religion is one of their greatest comforts in life. But we Christians ought never to expect that discipleship makes life "comfortable" and easy. To follow Jesus is to carry significant responsibilities, and to risk being misunderstood. Are you feeling "uncomfortable" about inviting someone who seems to be searching for God or Jesus? Take the risk - invite them to join us at an Inquiry Session, which DOES NOT assume a commitment to join the Catholic Faith family. Inquiry sessions are opportunities to ask questions about God, Jesus, the Catholic Faith. All who are unbaptized, baptized into another faith denomination, or baptized Catholic but have not received Eucharist or Confirmation, are invited. Inquiry Sessions are for those who wish to grow in relationship with God. Call 732-562-1990 x 1633.

Silver/Gold Anniversary Celebration
You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral on Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 4:00pm. Registration is required. Please register online at diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold or Family Life Office (732-562-1543). Registration closes October 11. There is no fee, but in the past, many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online or by calling 732-562-1543.

Mother Seton H.S. Gala
Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark is pleased to announce the 2019 Gala Evening of Celebration and Recognition. Alumnae, family and friends are invited to attend. Festivities will include cocktail hour, hors d’oeuvres, a pasta station and carving station. A Silent Auction is also planned, along with a Gift Basket Raffle. It will take place on Friday, October 4, 6:30 - 10:30pm at The Westwood, Garwood. Tickets/Info, contact school at 732-382-1952 x175 or email Gala@motherseton.org.

Bishop George Ahr- St. Thomas Aquinas H.S.
50th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, September 28, 2019
Family Open House - 10:00am - 2:00pm
Cost: $5.00 per person
Mass with Bishop Checchio at 4:00pm
(Ticketed event - No Cost)
50th Anniversary Gala & Awards - 5:30pm
$100 per person - only 300 tickets
All events take place at the school
Visit www.bgahs.org/50th
Direct questions to jroche@bgahs.org
“Jesus endured the cross, despising its shame,
and has taken his seat at the right
of the throne of God.”

–Hebrews 12:2

THE COSTS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Today's responsorial psalm, Psalm 40, is more familiar to us with the refrain "Here am I, Lord." This "Here am I" is Jeremiah's great prophetic response to God's call. But today's story of Jeremiah and the refrain "Lord, come to my aid!" remind us that there are always two sides to following the call of God. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews knew this, too. He reminded his readers that even weighted down with burdens and sins, we can still persevere by keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, who himself knew the shame and pain of the cross, but saw beyond it to the joy of sitting at the right of the throne of God.

Jesus himself gave the disciples a "sneak preview" of a baptism that would not be as wondrous as the one in the Jordan that inaugurated His ministry, but would be one of fire and anguish. Today's words from scripture may not be terribly soothing, but in their honesty and strength we can acknowledge the difficulties of daily discipleship, and take comfort in the assurance of our own salvation in Christ.

“Faith makes all things possible - - it does not make them easy.”

–Anonymous
NJ Independent Victim Compensation Program
As announced in February, the Diocese of Metuchen established an Independent Victim Compensation (IVCP) Program to compensate those who, as children or young adults, were sexually abused by a priest or deacon of the Diocese. The IVCP has been open to claims since June 15 and will conclude on December 31, 2019. All individual claims must be submitted during this period. Victims of clergy sexual abuse of a minor can begin the process of utilizing the program by going to www.njdiocesesivcp.com and reviewing the protocol for submitting a claim. IVCP is an important step in aiding victims in seeking justice and healing as we journey together as a Church toward a new day.

SMARTER START
The Diocese of Metuchen has schools near you! From Pre-K to 8th Grade, we offer a Smarter Start in school and in life. Call 732-562-2446/metuchencatholicschools.org/schools/

Sisters of Mercy Golf Classic
The 25th annual Sisters of Mercy Golf Classic will take place on Tuesday, September 24 at beautiful Spring Lake Golf Club. “Fore” all the details on this event, which benefits our retired Sisters, please call Linda Cavallo at 908-756-0994 x4006 or email: lcavallo@mercymidlantic.org.

Eucharistic Adoration in the Lady Chapel
Keep Jesus Company and help sure that Eucharistic Adoration remains ongoing at St. Francis Cathedral. Hours lacking committed adorers are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:00, 11:00</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wed’day</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:00, 11:00</td>
<td>3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00</td>
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Emboldened hours are the most critically in need of adorers. If you can help please contact Marie D’Amico at 732-906-6537/dghmad@aol.com.

St. Francis Cathedral School
Tentative Calendar 2019 - 2020

Please Note School Hours: 7:50 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER
2 Labor Day - No School
3 School Opens for 1st - 8th grades; Noon dismissal
   Before & After Care begins
4 School Opens for Pre-K & K; Noon Dismissal Pre-K - 8
5 Pre-K - 8 Full Day/Hot Lunch Program begins
11 Middle School Back-to-School Night - 7pm
18 K - 5 Back to School Night - 7pm

OCTOBER
4 Noon dismissal
14 Columbus Day - No School
24 No School - Teacher in-service
27 Noon Dismissal
28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

NOVEMBER
25 P/T Conferences 5-8pm
26 P/T Conferences 5-8pm
28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER
6 Noon dismissal
20 Noon Dismissal
23-31 Christmas Holiday - No School

JANUARY
1 No School
2 School Re-opens
10 Noon dismissal
20 M.L. King, Jr. - No School
31 Noon dismissal

FEBRUARY
1 No School
14 Noon dismissal
17 President’s Day - No School

MARCH
6 No School - Professional Day

APRIL
6 Noon Dismissal for Pre-K - 8
8 Student Spirituality Day - Noon dismissal
9-17 Easter Holiday - No School

MAY
1 Noon dismissal
25 Memorial Day - No School

JUNE
5 Noon dismissal
16 Noon dismissal
17 Last Day - 10:30am dismissal

Please Note: Some Noon dismissals are on Fridays
Social Concerns
45 Library Place - Metuchen 08840 - Parish Center
732-548-0100 x225

–Our **Food Pantry** is open for people who are in need. Please call the above number. Please place donations in the Social Concerns Bin located in Cathedral vestibule. For information, call the above number Thank you.

–**School Backpacks** are requested for our annual distribution to children and families in need. Backpacks may be filled with some of the following: binders, filler paper, folders, notebooks, day planners, pencils, pens, colored pencils, markers, highlighters, glue sticks, scissors, rulers, erasers. Please drop off at Social Concerns in the Parish Center. We appreciate your generosity every year.

–**Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Blood Drive** -
**Tuesday, August 27, 3:00 - 9:00pm** in the Cathedral Community Room.

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. Please call Social Concerns at 732-548-0100 x225.

People aged 76 and older can donate blood if they meet criteria and give a physician’s letter each year.

–**Friendly Visitors:** Looking for volunteers to be part of the Social Ministry as Friendly Visitors to the elderly. This entails a once or twice a week visitation to the Veterans Home and/or Roosevelt Hospital Care Center. Call Social Concerns at 732-548-0100 x225.

–Life Choices Resource Center, Metuchen is seeking a volunteer **bl-lingual interpreter (English & Spanish)** to help with clients. Call 732-548-0100 x225.

–SFCathedral seeking a **Volunteer Facilitator** for its Separated & Divorced Ministry. The right person will be empathetic and exhibit acceptance of those who are divorced. Candidate must have correct knowledge of the Church’s teaching regarding divorce/remarriage. Candidate must be a good listener, since participants want to share their journey with others, without advice or criticism. If interested, call 732-548-0100 x225.

–**For Families Affected by Mental Health Issues**
A Catholic Prayer & Support Group for Families Affected by Mental Health Issues will take place at St. Patrick Church, Belvidere on **Wednesday, September 4 at 10:00 - 11:30am AND 7:00 - 8:30pm**. The group will meet the first Wednesday of each month and will offer spiritual support and tips on how to cope with this health issue that is still misunderstood in our culture. Info: 732-765-6432 or catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com.

–**Miscellaneous:** Gentleman seeks **Private Room** to rent in Parsonage area, Edison. Call 732-548-0100 x225.

FYI: Come to Mt. St. Mary House of Prayer for an evening of **sacred gazing or Visio Divina** to see how God reveals beauty in art and nature, on **Wed., Aug. 21, 7:00 - 9:00pm**. Call 908-753-2091.