Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi

32 Elm Avenue  Metuchen, NJ 08840

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

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

WEEKDAYMASSES
Monday-Friday  7:00, 8:00 am; 12:10pm
(Rosary 11:45 am)
Saturday  8:00 am

MORNING PRAYER Monday-Friday 7:40 am

EUCHARISTICADORATION  7:00am—11:00pm
(Monday—Friday) Lady Chapel - Parish Center

SACRAMENTOFRECONCILIATION (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:** 1:30pm 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 - 5:05pm; 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 8 - Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Kevin Adams r/o Chuck Gryczkowski
9:00am - Elizabeth Breen r/o Children
10:30am - Mary Wojciechowski r/o Family
Noon - Charlayne Gutierrez r/o Mom & Dad
MONDAY, September 9 - Saint Peter Claver
7:00am - Dulce Alfonso r/o Liantonio Family
8:00am - (Liv.) Int. Maddox Gutierrez r/o Mom & Dad
12:10pm - Speckin Family Deceased r/o Family
TUESDAY, September 10
7:00am - Robert Poandl r/o Jo-Anne & David Cascia
8:00am - Kevin Hamilton r/o Maureen Varley & Boris Moczula
12:10pm - Kenneth Burke r/o Wife & Family
WEDNESDAY, September 11
7:00am - Joaquin Cardoso r/o Dennis Reilly
8:00am - Peter Pinizzotto r/o Wife & Family
12:10pm - Msgr. John Szymanski r/o Sam & Elaine Convery
THURSDAY, September 12 - The Most Holy Name of Mary
7:00am - Keith Pahira r/o Mary & Marc Roth
8:00am - Peter Barnes, Jr. r/o Akey Family
12:10pm - Thomas Romond r/o Sister Wilma
FRIDAY, September 13 - Saint John Chrysostom
7:00am - William Waldron, Sr. r/o Morrison Family
8:00am - George O’Kane r/o Heyden Family
12:10pm - Irene Burchock r/o Daughter, Mary Ann Cackowski
SATURDAY, September 14
7:00am - Dionisia Plaras r/o Marisa Plaras
8:00am - Armando Alvira r/o Lucy & John Sivertsen
12:10pm - Diego Lumauig r/o Lumauig Family
SUNDAY, September 15 - Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - John Willis r/o Willis Family
9:00am - Vincente Siriban, Jr. r/o Lee Family
10:30am - Eric Malinowski r/o Family
Noon - Dorothy Huffman r/o Family - *Catechist Commissioning

The Sanctuary Candles for this week
have been donated in The Cathedral
in honor of
Tom Hansen
by Winnie Flaherty
in loving memory of
Eleanor Brennan
by Donna Ann Flaherty
(in The Lady Chapel)
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Africa: Capt. John F. Dalton IV; for all those serving in Covert Operations

SICK: William Carroll, Joseph Cash, Beatrice Ehling, Thomas Eisenhart, Dolores Forziati, Marty Gallagher, Robert Hamlet, Maria Harrison, Carol Kuligowski, Brother of Sister Maria Lan, Jerry LaPointe, Deacon Paul Licameli, Eva Luccioni, Michael McCauley, Michael Meehan, Baby Lorelai Pepin, Edmund Pianko, Beth Price, Ralph Quaglia, Pamela Ross, Mother of Sandy Rosamilia, Julie Rowe, Rosemary Sardone, John Sayers, Francis Schwartz, James Sisk, Jr., Liam Stitt, Michaela Stoecker Kathy Werner, Joseph Wejnerowski, Sister and Brother of Bidgie Williamson

DECEASED: Tomas Arocho, Marie Braga, Gloria Brislin, Richard Egan, Josepha Flanigan, Beverly Genovese, Dorothy Koller, Kathleen Mahon, Guy Messina, Helen O’Malley, Rose Pollifrone, Antony Ponnanikal, Irena Trzcina (Grandmother of Fr. David), Mother of Maureen Varley, Florentina Villar, John Vochemowicz

... all those recommended in the Book of Intention

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 / metuchencatholiccschools.org/schools/

Anyone wishing to bring up the gifts at the Offertory of the Mass should see one of the Ushers before Mass.

God’s Plan For Giving

Tithing
Thank you for your generosity the weekend of 9/01:
Envelopes & Loose Cash: $14,650
Electronic Offerings $ 9,343
Total $23,993
e-Giving: Please consider using our parish e-Giving program. Sign up at:
http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/FaithDirect/

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.

The Gift of the Holy Spirit is Yours!

Come Unwrap the Gift


This weekend the Altar Flowers have been donated in loving memory of

Ruth Varley
by her Family

“It is never the wrong time to do the right thing.”
—Anonymous
Upon entering the Cathedral, please be kind enough to turn off all cell phones. Thank you.

Parish Notes...

–THIS WEEKEND: The MOMS’ Group will have a Welcome Table in the breezeway after all Masses. Stop by and learn about the camaraderie and support which these women provide for each other. New members are always welcome; Annual Peter’s Pence Collection will be taken to provide the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, natural disasters. Join with Pope Francis and be a witness of charity to needy brothers and sisters.

–SUNDAY: Rosary Altar Society members gather in the Solarium after 10:30am Mass for their monthly meeting. New members are always welcome to join the Rosarians; Filipino-American Community meets in the Solarium at 1:30pm.

–TUESDAY: Our weekly Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm in the Joseph Room; Journey Though Grief Step II meets at 7:00pm in the Solarium.

–WEDNESDAY: The MOMS’ Group meets at 9:30 am in the Mary Room/St. Francis Room; 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; Middle School Back-to-School Night, 7:00pm, CCR

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

–FRIDAY: Members of the Legion of Mary gather at 11am in the JPII Room.

–SATURDAY: K of C Men’s Breakfast with Deacon Rick, 9:30am in the Community Room.

–NEXT SUNDAY: We celebrate Catechetical Sunday with the Commissioning of Catechists taking place at noon Mass; the first session of this year’s Family-Centered CCD takes place from 9:00am - noon in the Community Room; Parish Picnic from 1:00 - 5:00pm on the grounds of St. Joseph High School.

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 and families are urged to pray and 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 and return to the Rectory or Sign up at: info@stfranciscathedral.org.

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**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

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Men’s Breakfast Featuring Deacon Rick

Our Saint Francis Knights of Columbus is hosting a Men’s Breakfast on September 14, 9:30 - 11:30am in the Community Room. Suggested Donation is $5. Our own Deacon Rick Fortune will be speaking. If you have not heard his story - - Don’t Miss It! RSVP to Conrad at conrad@conradwinter.com so we can make sure we have enough pancakes for everyone.

“God dwells wherever we let God in.”

–Ancient Jewish Saying
St. Francis Cathedral Parish Picnic
Sunday - September 15
1:00pm - 5:00pm
Grounds of St. Joseph High School

All parishioners are invited to an afternoon of good food, fellowship, music and fun for all ages. There will be barbecued burgers and hot dogs, soft drinks and fun! Lots of games and activities for children. Music provided by a D.J.. The Parish Picnic is always a great day of camaraderie among our parish family. Join us. Information: Tom Thomas, 732-692-4819 or sfc.mensgroup@gmail.com.

Catholic Divorce Survival Guide
The Diocesan Family Life Office is pleased to announce an exciting ministry to men and women who are seeking healing from the pain and loneliness of divorce. It is a 12 week program, beginning on October 8, and it meets on Tuesdays from 7:00 - 9:00pm at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway. The program features a thirty-minute DVD session each week that covers topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, children, the courts, the ex-spouse, annulment, dating, sexuality, spirituality, re-marriage or staying single and much more. This program, based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, contact Ro Bersch at 908-313-5947 or 908-470-0678.

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

Choices Matter - Critical Life Conference
A new venue for this event - - The Catholic Center at Rutgers University will host this year. Bishop Checchio will celebrate Mass at 8:00am at St. Peter the Apostle Church, 94 Somerset St., New Brunswick. This year’s speakers: Leah Darrow, from Top Model to Role Model; Patricia Sandoval, Escape from Homelessness, Addiction and the Back Doors of Planned Parenthood; Dr. Anthony & Ceil Levatino, Ripple Effect of Choice from an Abortionist and his wife. For information about the conference call 732-562-1990 x1543.

Youth Group News
–Sept. 15: Parish Picnic - All are welcome. Service Hours: Meet at St. Joe’s High School at 10:30am to set up. Picnic begins at 1:00pm and ends at 5:00pm. 5:30 - 6:30pm on 9/15: Adoration at St. Joseph H.S. Chapel for all high school students and 8th grade students. Join us for Reflection, Scripture Sharing, Meditation.
–Sept. 18: Babysitting for k - 5 Back-to-School-Night. Suggested Donation: $10, to benefit Steubenville 2020 and for Jo Flanigan’s grandson Keith to join us next year.
–Sept. 21: All youth and families are invited to the diocesan Walking Pilgrimage in preparation for our diocese to be consecrated to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Contact Sr. Maria Lan for all events: 732-770-2506.

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.

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.njidiocesesivcp.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.
“Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, 
that we may shout for joy and gladness 
all our days.” –Psalm 90:14

ATTITUDE CHANGE
Today's readings ask us to re-think our attitudes and ways. The passage from the book of Wisdom reminds us that, when it comes to understanding, even the wisest person barely scrapes the surface of things. In Paul's provocative little letter to Philemon, the apostle praises Philemon for his understanding of the social order—which included slavery—and for his good treatment of Onesimus. Then Paul goes on to drop his bombshell. He tells Philemon that Onesimus is now a Christian and should be treated as such—as a brother, an equal. What was Philemon to think?

Today's Gospel tells us that if we are to follow Jesus, we must do some serious planning. Then, once all our planning is complete, we have to be willing to accept the fact that our plans are never enough.

INVITED
The Good News is that we have all been invited—invited to the Kingdom, invited to be disciples. It’s a life-changing invitation, and like so many other such invitations, it requires a great deal of deliberation and discernment. Whether we choose marriage, ordination, single life, or community life, we know the serious planning and consideration that accompany these profound decisions. Like the tower-builder in the Gospel, we have weighed both the monetary and emotional cost. We have pondered and planned our lives in the direction to which we believe God has called us. And while we pray for guidance and acceptance of God’s will, we often fail to understand so much. Like Solomon, we turn to God for wisdom and counsel in our life-changing decisions.
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 $25. Registration is required. Visit www.LightingHeartsOnFire.org/walking-pilgrimage or obtain forms at the Parish Office. Register by September 13.

Hispanic Heritage Mass
You are to attend the Hispanic Heritage Mass on Fri., September 20 at 7:30pm in the Cathedral. As we celebrate Hispanic heritage, we also come together to prepare for spiritual renewal as we await the consecration of our diocese to Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Celebrant and Homilist will be Rev. Fr. Timothy Christy, Vicar General of the Diocese of Metuchen. You may contact the Diocese of Metuchen’s Hispanic Ministry at 732-243-4573.

San Lorenzo Ruiz & Companions Festival
The Filipino Apostolate of the Diocese of Metuchen is celebrating the feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila (the 1st Filipino Saint) & Companion Martyrs on Sunday, September 29 at 4:00pm Mass in the Cathedral. Principal Celebrant will be Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Kerrigan, Pastor of Holy Family Parish in New Brunswick (also, former Director of Catholic Campaign for Human Development and Catholic Relief Services).

In preparation for the main event, Triduum Masses will be celebrated at the following churches: St. Cecelia, Iselin (Sept. 26, 7pm; St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Bridgewater (Sept. 27, 7:30pm); Our Lady of Fatima, Piscataway (Sept. 28, 7:30pm). For more information, contact Rev. Fr4. Gerry Paderon, Filipino Apostolate Coordinator at 609-799-7511. All are welcome.

St. Thomas Aquinas H.S. AHR STAR Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
October 3, 2019 - 4:30 - 7:00pm
STA/BGA High School Cafeteria
Proceeds to benefit two severely ill children with rare diseases. Adults: $10; Students: $7; under 12: $4. For tickets, call 732-549-1108 x648.

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 are being accepted now. 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 Diocesan Diaconate Office: 732-562-2423.

Mother Seton H.S. Gala
Mother Seton Regional High School announces 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.
–On behalf of St. Francis Cathedral and the Social Concerns Ministry, our heartfelt thank you to all of you who donated backpacks and school supplies to help the needy school children in Perth Amboy. Your continuous support of our Social Ministry is greatly appreciated.

–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 so much.

–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.

–Help Support Catholic Charities: Please support our local poverty relief services by donating gently used clothing, bedding, shoes, small household items and small appliances. A Drop Box is located in our CYO parking lot and at Edison Family Service Center, 26 Safran Avenue, Edison. Contact 1-877-343-3651.


Comedy Knight Returns September 19
St. Francis Knights of Columbus invite you to a night of clean comedy featuring past-favorite Doug Karpf. Join the Knights on Thursday, Sept. 19 the Knights Hall, Patrick Avenue, Edison. Doors open at 7:15pm; shows starts at 8pm. BYOB. Cost is $20/advance; $25 /at door. RSVP tp Steve at sjurcsek@yahoo.com.

Office of Worship Offering
The Diocesan Office of Worship is providing a formation opportunity for those who serve as Readers. It will take place at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center on Saturday, Sept. 14, 10:00am - noon. Learn and explore more about your ministry. Call 732-765-6438.

Next Weekend: Peter’s Pence Collection
MOMS’ Group Welcome Table
SUN: - Rosary Altar 10:30Mass; meeting after, SOL
- Filipino-American Community, 1:30pm, SOL
TUE: - Prayer Group, 1:00pm, JR
- Journey Through Grief Step II, 7:00pm, SOL
WED: - MOMS’ Group, 9:30am, MR/SFR
- Rosary for Year of Consecration, 12:45 pm
- Middle Scl. Back-to-School Night, 7pm, CCR
THU: - Body of Christ Prayer Group, 8:00pm, CCR
FRI: - Legion of Mary, 11:00am, JPII
SAT: - K of C Men’s Breakfast, 9:30am
SUN: - Family Centered CCD, 9am - noon, CCR
- Commissioning of Catechists, noon Mass
- Parish Picnic, 1:00 - 5:00pm, St. Joe’s HS

Eucharistic Ministers: September 14/15
5:00pm: N. Davis, M. DePasquale, M. & A. Quizon, E. & J. Lyons, J. Bundoc, K. Garner
7:00pm: E. Gutierrez, J. Pasquale, N. Cadorna, C. Roberts, C. Evangelista, E. Swan
7:30am: C. Kozak, D. Monek, B&R. Cushing, T&J Sharlow
9:00am: D. Heyden, J. Morrison, M. D’Amico, E. Fortune, G. Monteleone, A. Major, D. Reilly, S/MSantangelo
10:30am: P. Bixel, E. Beyers, J. Kelly, R. Bonk, S. Francis, B&E Williamson, A. Bianchini, L. Taylor
12:00pm: L. Moriarty, K. Manchery, T./N. Rossi, A. McGuire, R. Cron, E & T. Pana, M. Licameli

Lectors: September 14/15
5:00pm: Larry McHugh
7:00pm: Cheryl Saggese
7:30am: Eileen Lishinsky
9:00am: Elizabeth Rooney
10:30am: B. Moczula & M. Varley
12:00pm: Catherine Murphy-Barron

Altar Servers - September 14/15
5:00pm Team 4
7:00pm Team 5
7:30am Team 6
9:00am Team 7
10:30am Team 8
12:00pm Team 9

R-E-G-I-S-T-E-R: New parishioners - - and those who have not already registered - - are asked to come in or phone the Rectory. Without such registration, sponsorship certificates, etc., may not be issued.