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. Gerard Paderon, Parochial Vicar
Rev. John Kavas, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Edmund Luciano, III, 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.

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

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.

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

BAPTISM: 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.

Parish Contacts

- COORDINATORS -
  - Advocates for Disabled: Jane Conlon & Janet Onufer Michael (548-0100)
  - Lectors: Jerry LaPointe - pandj57@aol.com
  - Ushers: Tom Hansen (548-0100)

- PARISH GROUPS -
  - Adult Acolytes: John Grigo (548-0100)
  - Body of Christ Prayer Group: Pam Gendlek-pzgendlek@comcast.net
  - Cathedral Choirs: Folk - Steve Kirbos - steve@kirbos.net; Thom DeLessio:548-0100 x 235
  - Eucharistic Adoration: Marie D’Amico - dghmad@aol.com
  - Evangelization: Ralph Quaglia-rquaglia19@gmail.com
  - Filipino/American Families: Gil Vendola & Helen Vendola (548-0100)
  - Greeters: Robert/Susan Riolo (548-0100)
  - Home School Assn. Co-Presidents: Jenn Cacso/Kathleen Gwozdz - HSA@stfranciscathedralschool.org
  - Knights of Columbus: KofC3272.webs.com
  - Legion of Mary: Wed. 7:00 p.m.- Rod Altz (548-0100)
  - Marriage Encounter: Russ and Janet Baker - jnrbaker@optonline.net
  - Marriage Prep: Pam Schleck-schleckfamily@gmail.com
  - Mens’ Group: Tom Thomas-sfc.mensgroup@gmail.com
  - MOMS Group: Sandra Spinelli (548-0100)
  - Parish Historical Guild: Rod Altz (548-0100)
  - Parish Prayer Tree: Belinda Coakes-sfprayertree@msn.com
  - Rosary Altar Society: Carmela Guarnera (548-0100)
  - Scripture Study: Pat Morgan - (548-0100)
  - Widows/Widowers: naunijud@hotmail.com

- SOCIAL MINISTRY - 548-0100 x 225
- Support Groups (as scheduled):
  - Bereavement Separated/Divorced Caregivers Prayer Shawl Ministry
  - Pro Life: contact Elaine Yunker - elbo1974@yahoo.com
  - Nat Fam Planning Hotline- 800-334-0699/562-1990 x1623
  - Ozanam (Provide-A-Meal) Committee
  - Friendly Visitors (Visit with elderly or homebound)
  - Elizabeth Ministry (Share sanctity of life with mothers/mothers-to-be)
  - Social Concerns Committee (Serves the poor confidentially)
  - Intrfaith Network of Care (Volunteers for homebound/caregivers)
  - Unemployment Support Group (Networking)
Masses For The Week...

SUNDAY, December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent
7:30am - (Liv.) Int. Howard Lishinsky r/o Eileen Lishinsky
9:00am - Living & Deceased of Altz Family r/o Rod & Dolores Altz
10:30am - Florence & Dale Meek r/o Family
Noon - Living & Deceased St. Francis Parishioners

MONDAY, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
7:00am - Fr. John “Jack” Kennedy r/o Razal Family
8:00am - Kathleen Zipf r/o Brian, Lucy, Aubrey & Brian Freund
*9:00am* - *School Liturgy*
12:10pm - Sophie Sendziak r/o Jessica Rysz

TUESDAY, December 13 - Saint Lucy
7:00am - Josephine Silva r/o Marie Oliveira
8:00am - Kathy Zipf r/o Adeline Dohl
12:10pm - Jessica Rosamulia r/o Grandma & Grandpa

WEDNESDAY, December 14 - Saint John of the Cross
7:00am - Conor McCadden r/o Family
8:00am - Jose Gomes r/o Wife & Daughter
12:10pm - Anne Schrage r/o Licameli Family

THURSDAY, December 15
7:00am - Yolanda Seaman r/o Sam & Elaine Convery
8:00am - (Liv.) Int. Myrna de Luna r/o Husband & Daughter
12:10pm - Irene Kapsky r/o Donna Pinelli

FRIDAY, December 16
7:00am - Irene Gazda r/o Wynne & Bob Flaherty
8:00am - Al & Louise Serio r/o Family
12:10pm - Msgr. Richard Behl 50th Ord. Anniv. r/o Wynne & Gerardo

SATURDAY, December 17
8:00am - Msgr. Richard Behl 50th Ord. Anniv. r/o Pat Morgan
5:00pm - John Riggio r/o Bill & Christine Riggio
7:00pm - Al Kattenhorn r/o Wife Maureen

SUNDAY, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:30am - Tommasina Calello r/o Serafin Calello
9:00am - Lina Ong Tan r/o Tan Family
10:30am - Kathleen & A.W. Smelas r/o Family
Noon - Felicia Costanzo r/o Czochanski Family

The Sanctuary Candles for this week have been donated in loving memory of

**Gregory Smith**
by his mother **Mary Smith & Smith Family**
*(in the Cathedral)*
in loving memory of

**Msgr. Richard A. Behl**
on the 50th anniversary of his Priesthood Ordination
by **Evelyn Alleman**
*(in The Lady Chapel)*
PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

DECEASED: Former Rector Msgr. Richard A. Behl, Albert Morgan, Mildred Huxta, Stanley Glodek, Patricia “Tina” Felter, Mother of Marianne Smoke, Florence Grammer, Marcello (Jerry) Bozio

...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 memorial, 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.

GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

Tithing
Thank you for your generosity the weekend of 12/04:

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Envelopes &amp; Loose Cash</td>
<td>$22,406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Offerings</td>
<td>$ 5,449</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$27,855</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retired Religious Collection</td>
<td>$5,437</td>
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e-Giving
Please consider using our parish e-Giving program. To sign up, go to http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/FaithDirect

Youth Group News
– Dec. 11: MSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00pm, CYO. Write cards to Veterans. Please bring and wrap toy for needy children who live in Philadelphia, age 5 - 15. Thank you for your generosity.
– Dec. 16: MSYG Christmas Dance, 6:30 - 9:00pm. HSYG members can earn Service Hours for helping.
– Dec. 25: Christmas Day - no meeting
– Jan. 1: New Year’s Day - no meeting
– Jan. 6: Ice Skating at Roosevelt Park for both YG. Parents drop off at 5:00pm and pick up at 8:00pm. Cost p/p $5.50 to skate and $5 skate rental.
– Jan. 7: Foodbank in Hillside from 9:00am - 1:00pm to help the poor and those in need.
– Jan. 8: MSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00pm, CYO. Celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord with prayers and by bringing a wrapped gift for the poor children in Philadelphia.
– Rent-A-Team-Of-Teens: A volunteer program to help with 4-season indoor/outdoor clean-ups. It can be used for helping with fall/winter cleaning or chores. No cost to you but donations gladly accepted. Call Sister Maria Lan:732-770-2506.
Upon entering the Cathedral, please be kind enough to turn off all cell phones. Thank you.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

--THIS WEEKEND: *Scrip* will be available for purchase after Masses. Please support this fundraiser; *Baby Bottle Blessings* will take place. Empty baby bottles will be distributed at all Masses and we ask that you fill them with spare change/money. Proceeds will benefit *Life Choices Resource Center* in Metuchen.

--SUNDAY: *Family Centered Religious Education* Session takes place 9:15 - 11:30am in the Community Room; *Filipino American Community* gathers at 1:00pm in the Solarium; *First Penance Parents Meeting* at 5:00pm in Community Rm

--MONDAY: Students of SFCS will participate in a *School Liturgy* at 9:00am; *Prayer Shawl Ministry*, 7:00pm in SOL.

--TUESDAY: *Prayer Group* meets at 1:00pm, JPII Room. Following prayer is *Rosary Making* for anyone interested.

--WEDNESDAY: *MOMS’ Group* meets at 9:30am, Mary Room; *Mass at Senior Residence* will be celebrated at 1:30pm; *Legion of Mary* meets at 7:00pm in JPII Room; *SFCS Christmas Program* at 7:00pm in the Community Rm.

--THURSDAY: *Bible Study* at 1:00pm & 7:30pm in the JPII Room; *Advent Bread & Soup Dinner* will take place from 5:00 - 8:00pm in the Community Room and afterwards, the *Body of Christ Prayer Group* will have its Christmas Party.

--FRIDAY: *Youth Group Christmas Dance*, 6:30 - 9:00pm in the CYO.

--NEXT SUNDAY: *Community Christmas Breakfast* sponsored by our Knights of Columbus, 10:00am - 12:30pm in Community Room.

--Memorializing a Hymnal is a great Christmas present. It honors the person memorialized and brings joy to recipient. It is a gift that keeps on giving. Contact the Rectory (548-0100).

--Anyone wishing to *volunteer to water plants* during the Christmas Season should phone Rectory (732-754-9479).

--*Christmas Flower Envelopes* are available at Cathedral entrances for those who wish to contribute to the Christmas decorations. These donations may be made in memory of or in honor of a loved one or simply as a gift to the Church. Please indicate your intention on the envelope. The list will be published during the Christmas season.

**Christmas Eve Masses**

*Saturday, December 24*

4:00 p.m. (Children’s Liturgy)

6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.

10:00m p.m. *Service of Lessons and Carols*

10:30 p.m. *Most Rev. James F. Checchio, Bishop of Metuchen*, Celebrant/Homilist

**Christmas Day Masses**

*Sunday, December 25*

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon

New Year’s (Mary, Mother of God)

Eve: *Saturday, December 31*

Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Day: *Sunday, January 1*

Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m.; 12 Noon

Please check the Parish Bulletin for any changes in daily Mass schedule/devotions during Christmas Week.

**Attention Eucharistic Ministers:** If you are interested in serving at a Mass on Christmas Eve or on Christmas Day, please sign up in the Priests’ Sacristy. Regular Mass assignments will be in place for New Year’s Eve and Day. Thank you for serving.

**SAVE THE DATE: January 20, 2017**

SFCS School Open House
Classroom Visits at 1:00pm

**Community Christmas Breakfast:** Celebrate the spirit of this Holy Season by attending a Community Christmas Breakfast and support a great cause. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring this event on *Sunday, Dec. 18* from 10:00am - 12:30pm in the Community Room. Santa will be making an appearance and parents are asked to bring a wrapped gift for their own child(ren) and to bring a camera for a picture with Santa. Please donate an unwrapped toy or make a modest donation to Social Concerns for children in need. All profits will be donated to Social Concerns for the needy in our community. Cost: $5/person. Info: John Iacona:732-754-9479.
Baby Bottle Blessings
This weekend, December 10/11, empty baby bottles will be distributed at all Masses. We ask that you fill them with spare change/money during the Christmas season and return them by Jan. 8. Proceeds will benefit Life Choices Resource Center in Metuchen. Please pray for the women/children who will be helped by your donations.

Compassionate Friends...is a bereavement support group for those mourning the loss of a child. Its mission is to assist grieving families following the death of a child of any age, from any cause. Annually, on the second Sunday of December (today, Dec. 11th this year), at precisely 7:00 p.m. in every time zone, a candle is lighted by each family that has lost a child, in his or her remembrance. This effort is coordinated in a worldwide effort. As candles burn down in one time zone, they are lighted in the next, creating a 24-hour wave of light that encircles the globe. The motto of the group: “...that their light may always shine!”

HOW TO HEAL A FRACTURED LIFE
Today’s readings tell us about a God who helps broken lives to heal and be made whole, and who helps frightened hearts find courage. Are you longing to learn more about this God – His hope – His love – His forgiveness. Inquiry sessions exploring these and other faith issues in relation to our Catholic belief are held each week. Come and See (or bring someone you know who might be searching). Inquiry sessions DO 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 inquire, explore, and search for ways to grow in relationship with God. For more information, call Sara at RCIA – 732-562-1990 x 1633.

Young Adult Holy Hour
Young adults aged 18 - 39 are invited to a Young Adult Holy Hour on the second Sunday of the month at 6:00 - 7:00pm at St. Magdalen de Pazzi Parish, Flemington. The next one is today, December 11. The hour will include praise and worship, faith sharing and guest speakers. Reconciliation available. For info, Mary Ann Giannone: mgiannone@diometuchen.org.

Marriage Encounter
For a truly meaningful and long-lasting Christmas present, why not give your spouse the gift of a Marriage Encounter Weekend? Such a weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The Next WWMEW is January 13 - 15, 2017. Phone 732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

Online Catholic Gift Store
Ready, Set, SHOP!
Yes, SHOP! We have our very own Online Catholic Gift Store! With over 20,000 products, you can shop for everything Catholic from the #1 Catholic store on the Internet, The Catholic Company. Best yet, we receive a percentage of the purchase you make. So just go to our parish homepage on the web and click the SHOP NOW button to start your Catholic shopping experience.

Thank you for supporting Senior Religious. A Sister from Indiana writes, “Because of your kindness, our elderly sisters will have the comfort, security and joy of living out their remaining years here in their home. You truly honor them and their many years of service by your generosity.” Religious across the U.S. offer sincere thanks for your generosity to last week’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Light The Advent Wreath
Parishioners are invited to light the Advent Wreath before Mass at Saturday Vigils and Sunday Masses during the season of Advent. Individuals, families, organizations, engaged couples, etc. are welcome to volunteer. Please specify your choice of date and time by circling the form below. Please return the form to the Rectory or place it in the collection basket. If you have further questions, phone the Rectory at 548-0100. Thank you for volunteering.

Lighting The Advent Wreath
| Name ___________________________ |
| Daytime Phone No. ___________________ |
| E-mail address ___________________ |

4th Sunday, Dec.17/18

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<td>9:00am</td>
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“Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.”
— Isaiah 35:10a

I am sending my messenger ahead of you

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REASON TO REJOICE

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and “the coming of the Lord.” But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as *Gaudete* (Latin for “rejoice”) Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing.

Today’s first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God’s saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God’s presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah’s prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus’ presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: “The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” (Matthew 11:5).

PROMISE FULFILLED

Today’s readings address the faithful one, the one who waits on God but may not feel God’s presence. Every person who seeks God has at one time or another experienced the absence of God. Jesus Himself cried out during His dark night of the soul. The Epistle of James speaks to this. The author says that we must be as patient as the silent, fallow earth that awaits the slow, soaking rains of winter and the hard, necessary rains of spring. As the farmer is sure of the precious yield of the land, we can be sure of the precious yield of our patient waiting. God is never far away. The promise of Isaiah is fulfilled in Jesus. Wobbly knees and feeble hands are strong, the desert blooms, the savanna and steppe flower, the darkness is chased away.
Simbang Gabi... is a Philippine tradition of celebrating a novena of Advent Masses to heighten our preparation of the celebration of Our Savior’s birth. Simbang Gabi is coordinated by the Filipino Apostolate of the Diocese of Metuchen and is offered at various churches as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thu., Dec. 15</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>St. Magdalen, Flemington</td>
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<td>Fri., Dec. 16</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>St. Mary, Alpha</td>
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<td>St. Bernard, Bridgewater</td>
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<td>St. Bartholomew, E. Bruns.</td>
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<td>Sat., Dec. 17</td>
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<td>St. Thomas, Old Bridge</td>
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<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>St. Anthony, Port Reading</td>
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<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>O.L. Fatima, Piscataway</td>
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<td>Sun., Dec. 18</td>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Immac. Conception, Somvl.</td>
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<td>St. James, Woodbridge</td>
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<td>St. Bernadette, Parlin</td>
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<td>St. Matthias, Somerset</td>
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<td>Mon., Dec. 19</td>
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<td>St. Helena, Edison</td>
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<td>Tue., Dec. 20</td>
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<td>Annunciation, Bloomsbury</td>
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<td>St. Cecilia, Monmouth Jct.</td>
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<td>St. Matthew, Edison</td>
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<td>Wed., Dec. 21</td>
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<td>St. Cecilia, Iselin</td>
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<td>St. Ambrose, Old Bridge</td>
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<td>O.L. Victories, Sayreville</td>
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<td>Thu., Dec. 22</td>
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<td>Corpus Christi, So.River</td>
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<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>St. Augustine, Kendall Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri., Dec. 23</td>
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<td>St. Francis Cathedral</td>
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N.B: There will be an **early morning Mass (Misa de Gallo)**, Dec. 16 - 24 at **5:00am** at St. Ladislaus Church, 40 Plum Street, New Brunswick. Direct questions to Rev. Roberto Coruna (848-391-9955). All are welcome to celebrate Simbang Gabi, coordinated by Diocesan Filipino Apostolate.

**Men’s Group:** Members will gather for a **Christmas Social** at **Charlie Brown’s Steakhouse**, Edison on **Tuesday, Dec. 13** at **7:30pm**. Contact Tom Thomas at 732-692-4819.

**Union Catholic H.S. Blood Drive** on Thursday, Dec. 15, 7:45am - 1:45pm. E-mail Ed Thornton: ethornton@unioncatholic.org to make an appointment. Give The Gift of Life

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**Cathedral Christmas Concert**

Looking for a way to begin the New Year by sharing in an experience that draws family a little closer in love, values and faith? Enjoy the angelic harmonies of the St. Francis Cathedral adult, youth, children and handbell choirs at their annual Christmas Concert on **Sunday, January 8** at 6:30pm. With an entertaining mix of new songs and Christmas favorites, expect the whole family to feel their hearts warmed and spirits lifted. No tickets are required but a free will offering will be taken. For further information, see [http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/](http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/) or call 732-548-0100 x235.

**Pro Life Corner: Rally for Life**

The Diocese of Metuchen’s Respect for Life office will be running a **bus trip to Trenton** for the Rally for Life on Monday, January 23, 2017. This event is for those whose schedules do not permit an entire day in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 27. **There are two different days this year because of the timing of the Presidential Inauguration.** Passengers must reserve their seats for the bus ride which is free of charge. Travelers will board the bus at the Diocesan Center, Piscataway at 9:30am. The Rally at the NJ State House begins at 11:00am and ends at 1:00pm. The bus will return to the Diocesan Center between 2:00 & 2:30pm. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a seat, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org/ 732-562-1990 x 1543 or x1629.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Friday, January 27, 2017

**March for Life, Washington, D.C.**

Elaine Yunker: 732-754-3692

Accepting Reservations at this time

**Handel’s Messiah**

Come join the South Amboy/Sayreville community for the St. Mary Chamber Orchestra and Choral Society’s candelit presentation of George Frederick Handel’s timeless oratorio, **The Messiah** on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 7:30pm, St. Mary Church, So. Amboy. Free admission; $15 donation appreciated. Call 732-857-0202.

**Give The Gift of Faith:** More and more Catholics are responding to the idea of giving a gift that perpetuates faith. Please consider remembering **St. Francis Cathedral Parish** in your will. By doing so, you establish a legacy of love for others by enabling our Parish to respond to the needs of our faith community through its many ministries. For more information on naming St. Francis parish and/or the Diocese of Metuchen in your will, please call the diocesan Stewardship & Development Office at 732-562-2433.
Social Concerns

45 Library Place - Metuchen 08840 - Parish Center
732-548-0100 x225

–Christmas Food Baskets: Donations for our holiday food baskets may be brought to the Cathedral entrances. Suggestions: gift card, cereal, oatmeal, hearty soups, pastas and sauce, rice, instant potatoes, vegetables, sweet potatoes, stuffing, cranberry and apple sauce, gravy, fruit juice, sugar, powdered milk, evaporated milk, tea and coffee. Monetary donations may be sent to the above address.

–The Sharing Tree is located in the Cathedral vestibule throughout Advent. It is decorated with symbols representing antiphons prayed at Advent Evening Prayer. Please take a symbol and fulfill the request printed on the card.

–Gifts for patients at Roosevelt Care Center and Care One, The Highlands may be placed under the Sharing Tree. Please wrap and mark man or woman. Suggested: socks, toiletries, large print books/cards, rosary beads, candles, homemade cookies in reusable container, sugar free or regular candy, magnifying glass, sweater, sweatshirt, etc.

–Gifts for newborns and infants may be placed under the sharing tree. Clothing, blankets and especially diapers are very much needed by those who are struggling this Christmas season.

–We are grateful to and appreciative of the St. Francis Rosary-Altar Society for its generous donation of toys for needy children. The toys will help add joy and festivity to Christmas Day for many children.

Right To Life News: On the morning of the March for Life, Tony Melendez will perform at the 23rd Annual Memorial for the Pre-Born and their Mothers and Fathers from 8:30 - 10:30am, at Constitution Hall, 1776 D st., (18th & D St.), Washington, D.C. 20006. Pam Tebow, mother of Christian athlete Tim Tebow will also speak at the prayer service. Email Christa@nprcouncil.org to let us know you are coming.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Contact Margaret Manza (732-548-0100 x212) for initial information about celebrating weddings at the Cathedral. Proper preparation usually requires one year advance planning.


This Weekend: Scrip - Baby Bottle Blessings
SUN: - Family Centered CCD, 9:15 - 11:30am, CCR
- Filipino-American Community, 1:00pm, SOL
- First Penance Parents Meeting, 5:00pm, CCR
- MSYG, 6:30 - 8:00pm, CYO
MON: - SFCS School Liturgy, 9:00am
- Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7:00pm
TUE: - Prayer Grp., 1pm, JPII; Rosary making follows
WED: - MOMS’ Group, 9:15am, MR/SFR
- Mass at Senior Residence, 1:30pm
- SFCS Christmas Program, 7:00pm, CCR
- Legion of Mary, 7:00pm, JPII
THU: - Bible Study, 1:00 & 7:30pm, JPII
- Advent Bread & Soup Dinner, 5:00-8pm, CCR
- Body of Christ Prayer Group, 8:00pm, CCR
FRI: - YG Christmas Dance, 6:30 - 9:00pm, CYO
SUN: - Christmas Breakfast, 10:00am - 12:30pm, CCR

Eucharistic Ministers: December 17/18

5:00pm N. Davis, M. Conroy, M. DePasquale, M. & A. Quizon, E. & J. Lyons, K. Garner
7:00pm E. Gutierrez, J. Pasquale, N. Cadorna, E. Lishinsky, C. Roberts, C. Evangelista
7:30am C. Kozak, D. Monek, M & J Cyran, B. & E. Cushing
9:00am M. Kushnerick, D. Heyden, J. Morrison, M. D’Amico, A. Bianchini, G. Monteleone, A. Major, S. Santangelo
10:30am E. Beyers, J. Kelly, R. Bonk, S. Francis, B. & E. Williamson, J. Bundoc
12:00pm K. Manchery, P. Morgan, T./N. Rossi, A. McGuire, R. Cron, E. & T. Pana, M. Licameli

Lectors: December 17/18

5:00pm Larry Mc Hugh/7:00pm: Jack Swartz
7:30am: Eileen Lishinsky/9:00am: Elizabeth Rooney
10:30am: Boris Moczula/Maureen Varley 12pm:M.K.Cranley

Altar Servers: December 17/18

5:00pm Team 10 7:00pm Team 11
7:30am Team 12 9:00am Team 13
10:30am Team 14 12:00pm Team 15

There will be Sign-Ups for Christmas Eve&Christmas Day

Anyone wishing to bring up the gifts during the Offertory of the Mass (especially if the Mass Intention is for a loved one) should see one of the Ushers before Mass.