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

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Penance)
Saturdays 1:00-2:00 pm and 6:00-6:30 pm
or by appointment.
NEW PARISHIONERS are welcome to register by completing a form available in our Parish Office as soon as possible after moving to the area.

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

BAPTISM: 1:30 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, February 5 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Lena Tufaro r/o Teri & Jim DeMary
9:00am - Oliva Cervantes r/o Norma Luna
10:30am - Mary Rapach r/o Maureen Rapach
Noon - Barbara Ingemi r/o Cathedral

MONDAY, February 6 - Saint Paul Miki and Companions
7:00am - Teresa Nguyen r/o Family
8:00am - Poligena Balbido r/o Marisa Plaras
12:10pm - Rita Fredericks r/o Raymond Fredericks

TUESDAY, February 7
7:00am - Living & Deceased St. Francis Parishioners
8:00am - Marjorie Buckley r/o Mary Mulligan
12:10pm - Herminia Labao r/o Ernie & Nenete Almeda

WEDNESDAY, February 8 - Saint Jerome Emiliani & Saint Josephine Bakhita
7:00am - Anne & Thomas O'Brien r/o Anne & Daniel Furnari
8:00am - Patricia Mulligan Casey r/o Mary Mulligan
12:10pm - Betty Awn r/o Family

THURSDAY, February 9
7:00am - Richard Stafford r/o Mary Chan
8:00am - Francis Fandel r/o Janine Akey
12:10pm - Eugene Deehan r/o Halo Family

FRIDAY, February 10 - Saint Scholastica
7:00am - Peter Trecolis r/o Susan Marshall
8:00am - Ralph Battaglia r/o Ann & Paul Battaglia
12:10pm - John Varley r/o Maureen Varley & Boris Moczula

SATURDAY, February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes
8:00am - (Liv.) Special Intention r/o Frances
5:00pm - Ellen & Thomas Horan r/o Pat Walsh
7:00pm - (Liv.) Life Choices Resources Center - In Thanksgiving

SUNDAY, February 12 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Clifford Jenkins r/o Howard & Eileen Lishinsky
9:00am - Sophia Konick r/o Ann & Jim Reilly
10:30am - Anne Oghia r/o Son, Christopher Oghia
Noon - Edward & Kevin Blash r/o Doherty Family

The Sanctuary Candles for this week
have been donated
in loving memory of
Wendy Celi
by The Smith Family
(in the Cathedral)

in honor of
Eileen Lee
by The Swan Family
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Germany: John-David Rizzuto; and for all those serving in Covert Operations


DECEASED: Marisa Rose Tufaro, Margaret Cirillo, Brother-in-Law of Deacon Frank Cammarano, Margaret Finnegan, Marguerite Labadessa, Mother of Kathy Beck, Grace Letinski. Zaida Sontolongo

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

PARISHIONERS who are not receiving envelopes and would like to, please call the Rectory Office: 732-548-0100

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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 you are interested in any one of these opportunities, please phone the Rectory at 732-548-0100 x21

Youth Group News

– Feb. 5: Super Bowl - no meeting
– Feb. 11: Both YGs go to Veterans’ Nursing Home, Edison, 10:10am - 1:00pm, to spend time with and help our elderly.
– Feb. 12: MSYG Valentine Dance, 6:30 -8:30pm, CYO. HSYG members are invited to help for service hours.
– Feb. 12: HSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:30pm, CYO.
– Feb. 18: Elijah’s Promise soup kitchen, New Brunswick, 10:00am - 2:00pm.

President’s Day Weekend - no meeting.
– Feb. 26: HSYG Meeting, 6:30 -8:00pm, SJB - Topic: Surrender - - others before self and Christ above all.

Rent-A-Team-Of-Teens: A volunteer program to help with 4-season indoor/outdoor clean-ups. It can be used for helping with 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.

### Parish Notes...

**February** is Catholic Press Month. Please use your tithing envelopes, or your e-Giving, to donate to our diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Spirit. Thank you.

--**SUNDAY:** Rosarians attend 10:30am Mass and meet afterwards in the Solarium; **Boy Scouts** meet from 1:30 - 6:00pm in the Solarium.

—**THIS WEEKEND:** We celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life and thank those persons for living out their baptismal commitment in a special way. May they continue to respond generously to God’s gift of their vocation.; **Scrip** is available for purchase.

—**TUESDAY:** Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm, JPII Room. Following prayer is **Rosary Making** for anyone interested; **Journey Through Grief - Step II** meets at 7:00pm in the Solarium; **Men’s Group** meets at 7:30pm in the JPII Room.

—**WEDNESDAY:** Come visit Pilgrim Statue of Fatima, 11:00am - 4:00pm in the Cathedral; **Provide-A-Meal** and **Social Concerns** meet at 7:00pm in the Solarium.

—**THURSDAY:** Bible Study takes place at 1:00pm & 7:30pm in the JPII Room; **Body of Christ Prayer Group** meets at 7:30pm in the Community Room.

—**FRIDAY:** SFCS New Family Registration from 9:00 - 11:30am & 1:00 - 2:00pm in Community Room; **Legion of Mary** at 11:00am in the JPII Rm.

—**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; **MSYG Valentine Dance** takes place in the CYO from 6:30 - 8:30pm.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES SOLIDARITY TEAM**

Ash Wednesday is less than a month away, and with it means participation in Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl. This year’s nationwide theme is “Encounter.” CCST and Holy Family Parish, New Brunswick, are presenting a Mardi Gras Evening on **Tuesday, February 28** in the church hall of St. Ladislaus (corner of Plum & Somerset Streets), 8:00-11:00pm. No charge but all donations will benefit **CRS Rice Bowl.** RSVP to Renel Sevilla at 732-545-1681. The event will conclude with a First Ash Mass at midnight in St. Ladislaus Church.

### 2017 Bishop’s Annual Appeal

**Ambassadors for Christ**

Please watch your mailbox for a letter from Bishop Checchio coming to you this week announcing the 2017 Bishop’s Annual Appeal. You will be interested to know that Bishop Checchio, after a number of meetings and in consultation with many of the pastors and staff, has made some changes to the Appeal. The first, as you probably already noticed, the Appeal has been moved from the fall to a Lenten campaign. The active phase has been condensed and the number of solicitation mailings has been reduced. Another significant change is the reintroduction of Parish Rebates. To allow parishes to share in the success of the Appeal, Bishop Checchio is offering parishes a rebate of 50% of the amount collected over goal.

Through your support of the Bishop’s Annual Appeal you help those in our diocese whose needs are the greatest - - the poor, the homeless, and those struggling with illness or grief. Among other needed pastoral ministries, your gift also supports our priority ministries of evangelization, promotion and support of religious vocations and enhances the work of forming our youth. The many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen would not be possible without a generous contribution from every household. Please be as generous as your means allow.

**Catholic School 2017-2018 Tuition Assistance**

**Online Application Process**

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen Catholic elementary or high school may do so now. The application process is **online** through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. Online applications must be completed(including supporting documentation) by no later than Friday, March 31, 2017. Applications are available in English & Spanish.

Families that need assistance completing the online application, or need access to the technology to apply, may register for one of the **5 Application Workshops**, which will be held in four locations within the Diocese in Feb.and March. Go to **www.diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance** and follow the Workshops link.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Prior to setting the reception date, contact Margaret Manza (548-0100 x212) for initial information about celebrating weddings at the Cathedral. Proper preparation usually requires one year advance planning.
Summer Camp 2017
A Summer Where Friends Are Made!
Camp will run for eight weeks beginning on June 19 and ending on August 11. Our program is open to all children ages 4 - 13. There will be a Camp Information Night on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00pm in the Community Room - - please join us if you can. Campers will go on weekly trips, participate in daily activities and swim at the Metuchen Pool twice a week. They will also participate in arts & crafts, Gym, Computers and outdoor play. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rizzo at 732-548-3107 or email RizzoM@stfranciscathedralschool.org. All forms are available online at www.stfranciscathedralschool.org under the parents/students tab, then go to summer camp. Remember, spaces fill up quickly!

Marriage Encounter
No reason why Valentine’s Day should be just one day each year. Why not give your spouse a gift that lasts every day? A Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The Next WWMEW is April 28 - 30. Visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org /732-904-9636.

You’re Invited!

Life Choices Resource Center’s Annual Charity Banquet
“Grace & Glory”
Sunday, February 19, 2017 (4pm-8pm)
Pines Manor, Edison, NJ

INSPIRATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Rev. Stephen Imbarrato “The Protest Priest”

Tickets are $65.00 per person
For more information call: (732) 516-0911
Or Download a Reply/Sponsor Form
@ www.LifeChoicesRC.com
Booster & Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available

A Special Book For Sale
A special book is for sale at the Rectory for $15. It’s entitled The Lighting of the Watch Fires. Written by Msgr. John B. Szymanski, it tells the story of the HOW and the WHY of the founding of Diocese of Metuchen and how St. Francis Church became a Cathedral. The Diocese just celebrated its 35th anniversary. The book also contains the chronicles of the first five years of the Diocese of Metuchen.

Religious Education News
Family Centered Religious Education will take place next Sunday, February 12 at 9:15am in the Community Room. This month’s speaker is Allan Wright, the author of Praying, Reflecting and Sharing the Faith with the Questions of Jesus. Throughout the four Gospels Jesus asks over 100 questions. Allan Wright will speak about a few of these questions and how they can ignite and challenge our faith. All parishioners are welcome.

“Everywhere, wherever you may find yourself, you can set up an altar to God in your mind by means of prayer.”

--The Way of a Pilgrim
“Light shines through the darkness for the upright.”

--Psalm 112: 4

GOD'S CALL

The person who has been "saved," who has "heard the good news of salvation," still lives in an unsaved world, a world sadly oblivious to the presence of God. Today's readings outline how the disciple is present in the world.

The outline begins with Isaiah: "Share your bread . . . shelter the oppressed . . . clothe the naked" (Isaiah 58:7). Those who hear the word of salvation are not insensitive to the urgent needs of others. Then Paul reminds his flock that he brought Christ to them not in eloquence or wisdom, but by being with them in the "weakness and fear" of their daily lives (1 Corinthians 2:3). Finally, Jesus tells His disciples to go out into the gloom and darkness of the streets of the world and let God's light shine through their good deeds.

We disciples don't save the world. To the extent, however, that we have heard the word of God and been awakened to God's presence, we may spread that word and bring that presence to others.

GOD'S SUMMONS

If we are not able to witness concretely to the love of Christ in our lives, then we are truly salt that has gone tasteless. Our flavor and impact are lost. How difficult it is to get them back again.

In the late 1940s the Christophers movement began in the United States. The Christophers' motto, "It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness," attracted many through the Christophers' effective use of the media, advertising, and the encouragement of its members to proclaim Christ in the workplace.

Jesus calls us to be that candle and to set ourselves in the most visible place. Jesus, who brought eternal light to the world, tells us that we, too, are the light of the world. Through our words and actions we must let our light shine in the sight of all so that in seeing our good works, everyone may give praise to God.
Saint Francis Cathedral School
Registration for 2017 - 2018

The information below is for “New Families” to our school - - Pre-kindergarten - 7th grades. Please share this information with interested families. This applies to our current pre-k families as well. Thank you.

Registration Dates for New Families to our School
Friday, February 10, 2017
9:00am New Student Registration - - K - 7th
1:00pm New Student Registration - - Pre-K
Registration held in the Cafeteria - Community Room
SNOW DATE: Friday February 17, same time and place as February 10.

EVENING REGISTRATION - Tuesday, February 21
6:00 - 7:30pm Pre-K - 7th Grades
Registration held in the Cafeteria - Community Room
SNOW DATE: Tuesday, February 28, same time and place as February 21.

Oppose New Jersey Assisted Suicide Bill
Senate Bill S2474, the Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act, may be voted on in the near future. An identical bill, Assembly Bill 2451, passed the General Assembly on October 20, 2016. If the Senate bill passes, physicians will be allowed to prescribe drugs to end the lives of terminally ill patients who have been diagnosed with six months or less to live.

Doctor-assisted suicide is a direct threat to anyone viewed as a cost liability to an insurance company. In an era of cost control and managed care, patients with lingering illnesses may be branded as an economic liability, and decisions to encourage death could be driven by cost.

The facts are clear. In states that have passed assisted suicide bills, insurance companies have denied individuals healthcare coverage, but offered them low cost drugs to end their life. Please contact your state legislators and tell them that you oppose S2474. Please visit http://njcatholic.org/faith-in-action. Also, contact Governor Christie at 609-292-6000 and ask him to veto the bill if it reaches his desk.

Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima Statue
will be visiting the Cathedral on Wednesday, February 8 from 11:00am - 4:00pm. The world famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima is on an epic two-year journey across America, honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions at Fatima. It is part of the U.S. Tour for Peace. Experience the graces and blessings of Fatima by joining us on this day. Information: https://wafusa.org OR http://diometuchen.org/.

ESCAPE THE DARKNESS AND GLOOM
In today’s readings we are confronted with the fact that in living as a follower of Jesus our own experience of darkness and gloom will be lifted. Is there someone you know, someone who is not baptized, or who has been baptized into another Christian tradition, who would like to hear more about God, Jesus, the Catholic Church? Sessions exploring these and other faith issues in relation to our Catholic belief are held every Monday evening, 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm. These sessions are meant to help people to decide whether or not they wish to form a closer relationship with God/Jesus through the Catholic Church. Just suggest that they Come and See. For more info, call 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 the Diocesan Center Chapel, Piscataway. The next one is Sunday, February 12. The hour will include praise, worship and faith sharing. Fr. Mauricio Vasquez will lead a reflection on our journey with Christ. Reconciliation available. For info, Mary Ann Giannone: mgiannone@diometuchen.org.

Keep Jesus Company and help keep Eucharistic Adoration on-going at SFC. There are several hours lacking committed adorers, and those emboldened are especially Critical in that they have only one adorer.

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Contact Marie D’Amico: dgheadm@aol.com /732-906-6537

Homebound? Assisted Care Facility?
Do you know of any parishioners that have moved to a local assisted care facility, or are homebound? Please let us know by phoning the Rectory. This will allow us to assist them with any spiritual needs they may have. Our priests are available for administering the Sacraments of Reconciliation & Anointing of the Sick; Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist would be happy to bring them Eucharist. Maybe they would just like a friendly visitor. We are here: 732-548-0100 x307.
Social Concerns
45 Library Place - Metuchen 08840 - Parish Center
732-548-0100 x225

--Food Collection Weekend: Donations may be left at Church entrances. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to those in need. Students seeking service projects often conduct Food Drives; we welcome all.

--Journey Through Grief - Step II: Monthly meetings Tuesday evenings; next meeting: February 7 at 7:00pm in the Parish Center Solarium. Anyone who has suffered a loss and is in the healing process is welcome. Our facilitator is Jessie Flynn, a certified bereavement counselor for 25+ years.

“Journey Through Grief”
“Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted”
A program for those who have recently experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child or any loved one is being formed at the Cathedral. The Support Group will meet 8 Wednesdays.

DATE: February 15 TIME: 7:00pm
PLACE: Parish Center - Joseph Room/Solarium
CONTACT: Jessie Flynn (732-895-2563)
Jo Flanigan (732-548-0100 x225)

There is no fee - - Pre-registration is required.

--Letter Received from Roosevelt Care Center
Dear St. Francis Cathedral Social Concerns,

On behalf of the residents of Roosevelt Care Center, I would like to thank you for your generous Christmas donation. Our residents really enjoyed receiving all of the beautiful gifts you provided; you truly helped to make the holidays bright. We appreciate all you do to spread joy and holiday cheer.

Thank you for remembering us once again, and we wish you a happy, healthy new year.

—Joanne Franklin
Director of Recreation Therapy

—Thank you to SFCSchool for hats, gloves, mittens and scarfs donated to Ozanam Shelter and Perth Amboy Food Pantry.

—Mark Your Calendar: Next Parish Blood Drive: Tuesday, April 25, 3:00 - 8:30pm, Community Room.

JOB BANK: Pearl Street Parking Garage seeks Attendants and Customer Service Reps at $9.50 per hour for all shifts, and Maintenance Employee fro 11:00pm - 7:00am shift, call Hector at 732-906-1661. Licensed Real Estate Agents needed, Realty World, Edison, part time or full time, call 800-541-1999 or email: rwamerica@aol.com.

Diocese of Metuchen, Office of Cemeteries seeks Office Manager, email resume: HR@diometuchen.org

SAVE THE DATE
Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark is hosting a Tea Time Gift Auction at the school on Friday, March 3. Doors open at 5:30pm. For details, visit our MSR Special Events Facebook page or giftauction@motherseton.org.


This Weekend: Scrip

SUN: -Rosarians at 10:30 Mass; Meeting follows, SOL
-Boy Scouts, 1:30 - 6:00pm, SOL

TUE: -Prayer Grp., 1pm, JPII; Rosary making follows
-Journey Through Grief II, 7:00pm, SOL
-Men’s Group, 7:30pm, JPII

WED: -Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima, 11am - 4pm
-Provide-A-Meal/Social Con., 7:00pm, SOL

THU: -Bible Study, 1:00 & 7:30pm, JPII
-Body of Christ Prayer Group, 7:30pm, CCR

FRI: -SFCS Registration, 9:00am & 1:00pm, CCR
-Legion of Mary, 11:00am, JPII

SUN: -Family Centered CCD, 9:15 - 11:30am, CCR
-Filipino American Community, 1:00pm, SOL
-YG Valentine Dance, 6:30 - 8:30pm, CYO

Eucharistic Ministers - Feb.11/12

5:00pm: E. Yunker, S. Sweeney, L. Dalton, N. Davis, C. Tomaro, L. Zelesnick, K. Garner, P. John
7:00pm: M. Brossoni, R & K Aiello, D. Reilly, D. Zensky
7:30am: S&D Kovach, A. Ferrara, A. McCadden, D. Monek
9:00am: M.A. & R. Lawyer, R. Altz, K Kwiatkowski, A. Major, J. Morrison, K. Schreck

Lectors: February 11/12

5:00pm: John Porpora 7:00pm: Paul Zensky
7:30am: Ralph Quaglia 9:00am: James Dudley
10:30am: Marty & Mary Ellen Malague
noon: Catherine Murphy-Barron

Altar Servers - February 11/12

5:00pm Team 23 7:00pm Team 24
7:30am Team 25 9:00am Team 26
10:30am Team 27 12:00pm Team 28

Nails In The Wall Gallery

“Beautiful and Powerful Statements” is an exhibit that has recently opened at The Gallery at St. Luke’s, Oak Avenue, Metuchen. It features the arts of calligraphy and repurposed materials in nearly 70 pieces from allover the U.S. and as far away as Israel. Nails In The Wall is in its 5th year of presenting interfaith exhibits and hopes to create opportunities for generating a consciousness of the power of visual art in our homes and sacred spaces. It is open daily, M-F: 9am - 2pm; Sat: 4 - 6pm; Sun: 11am - 1pm, or by appointment.