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. Antony Arockiadoss, Parochial Vicar
Rev. John Werner Parochial Vicar
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Celano, 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

EUCARISTIC 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, August 20 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am  -James Palumbo r/o Anne & Steve Curto
9:00am  -Mary Reilly r/o Reilly Family
10:30am -Halina Nowakowski r/o Husband Marian
Noon   -Yolanda Avaltroni r/o Family

MONDAY, August 21 - Pope Saint Pius X
7:00am   -Eleanor Bordieri r/o Linda & Ralph Borrello
8:00am   -(Liv.) In Honor of Patricia & Jerry LaPointe r/o Patty & Rich Ackerson
12:10pm  -Clarita Bernas r/o Deacon Ed & Amy Olegario

TUESDAY, August 22 - Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00am   -Henry Steele Miller r/o Christina Lombardi
8:00am   -Angelo, Paula & Ronald Clericuzio r/o Frank & Naomi Clericuzio
12:10pm  -Amelia Mamrak r/o John & Robin Grigo

WEDNESDAY, August 23 - Saint Rose of Lima
7:00am   -Pablo Dizer, Jr. r/o Daughter
8:00am   -Amy Policastro r/o Cindy Gustitis & Family
12:10pm  -Matthew Martin r/o Martin Family

THURSDAY, August 24 - Saint Bartholomew
7:00am   -Robert Sullivan r/o Dolores Duncan
8:00am   -Carol Gronroos r/o Alycia & Don Sachau
12:10pm  -James Keane, Jr. r/o Sardone Family

FRIDAY, August 25 - Saint Louis & Saint Joseph Calasanz
7:00am   -Anna May Moisewicz r/o Janet Moisewicz
8:00am   -Harry Panagos r/o Mary & Fred Carpene
12:10pm  -Eric Malinowski r/o Carol & Lenny

SATURDAY, August 26
8:00am   -Fr. Joseph J. Connolly r/o Cathedral
5:00pm   -Dolores Porpora r/o John & Millie Porpora
7:00pm   -Sally & Jim Conlon r/o Conlon Family

SUNDAY, August 27 - Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am   -Anastasia Lanning r/o Verna & Lori Sandbeck
9:00am   -Carmine DiMeglio r/o Carol & Lenny
10:30am  -Pablo Labao & Ernesto Almeda r/o Ernie & Nenet Almeda
Noon    -Thomas McEvoy r/o Alisa Stephens

The Sanctuary Candle for this week
has been donated
in loving memory of
Stella Cackowski
by Henry & MaryAnn Cackowski
(in the Cathedral)
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Korea: Ryan McCadden; and for all those serving in Covert Operations


DECEASED: Jerry Young, John Witkowski, Mother-in-Law of Theresa Lamberti, Viola Skeba, Eileen Tighe, Frank Coleman, Betty Razal, George Terwilliger, Jr., Laszlo Varga

…and all those recommended in the Book of Intentions

**GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tithing</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Offers</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

**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 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 of these opportunities, please phone the Rectory at 732-548-0100 x210.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Before arranging the reception date, contact Margaret Manza (732-548-0100 x212) for initial information about celebrating weddings at the Cathedral. Proper preparation usually requires one year advance planning.

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.

**Sisters of Mercy Golf Classic**

The 23rd annual Sisters of Mercy Golf Classic will take place on Tuesday, September 26 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.
Parish Notes...

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**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.

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**THIS WEEKEND:** *Scrip* is available for purchase in the breezeway after Masses. Please support this fundraiser which benefits SFCSchool with no additional cost to the purchaser.

--TUESDAY: **Feast of the Queenship of Mary.** In 1982 then-Bishop Theodore McCarrick placed our diocese under the patronage of Mary, our Queen. On this feast day, let us each individually place ourselves in the arms of Mary, our Queen and Mother and ask for her help and protection.

  *Prayer Group* meets at 1:00pm in the Joseph Room;

- **Parish Blood Drive** from 3:00 - 8:30pm in the Community Room. Give the Gift of Life!

--THURSDAY: **Catechist Meeting** is being held from noon - 7:00pm in the Solarium and the Joseph Room. Religious Education volunteers for the upcoming school year are expected to attend and pick up their supplies for the new semester; **Body of Christ Prayer Group** meets at 7:30pm in the Community Room. Give the Gift of Life!

--FRIDAY: Members of the **Legion of Mary** meet at 11:00am in the JP II Room; Rectory Office closes at noon. **Charismatic Core** meets at 8:00pm in Joseph Room.

--SATURDAY: A session of **Protecting God’s Children** will be held from 9:00am - 12:00pm in the Solarium. All those who have significant contact with children, and have not yet gone to a session, are required to attend

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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 from June through the end of October. No Registrations will be accepted after October 31, 2017. Thank you, parents, for all your support!  

--Sister Maria Lan

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**NEXT WEEKEND:** Tickets will be available for the Philippine Madrigal Singers’ concert, *Instruments of Peace*, which will be held in the Cathedral on **Sunday, September 24** at 4:00pm. Admission Cost: $30. First come, first seated. A reception in the Community Room will follow the concert.

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**A Fond Farewell**

Father John Kavas will leave for India on September 11th. In order to express our gratitude to Father John for his years of service and friendship at our Cathedral parish, a **Farewell Reception** will be given for him on **Sunday, September 3rd**. The reception will take place in the Cathedral Community Room following Noon Mass. We hope that many parishioners will come out to wish Father John well and Godspeed on his journey.

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**St. Francis Cathedral Parish Picnic**

**Sunday - September 17**

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. Lots of games and activities for children. The Parish Picnic is always a great day of camaraderie among our parish family. Join us.

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**Protecting God’s Children**

Our parish offers opportunities to attend the “Protecting God’s Children” workshop which is designed for anyone who has significant contact with children. Therefore, new faculty, CCD Teachers, Coaches, Scout Leaders and all other new volunteers must register for one **Protecting God’s Children** session. Participants are asked to register online at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org), then follow the directions to register. You may also phone 732-767-0415 with questions about registering. Upcoming Cathedral Sessions, all of which will be in the Solarium:

- **Saturday, Aug. 26** from 9:00 - 12:00pm
- **Wednesday, Sept. 6** from 7:00 -10:00pm
- **Saturday, Sept. 9** from 9:00am - 12:00pm

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**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.
METUCHEN CURSILLO WEEKENDS
The Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Metuchen will be holding Cursillo Weekends at the Blue Army Shrine in Washington, NJ. The Women’s Weekend is scheduled for October 26 – 29. The Men’s Weekend is TBA. Weekends start on Thursday evening and end on Sunday afternoon. Cursillo, (pronounced “kur-see-yo”) is a Spanish word meaning “short course,” — a short course in Christianity. A Cursillo Weekend is an “Encounter with Christ.” It is not a retreat. Rather, it is something which will strengthen your faith and bring you closer to Jesus.

If you are interested in making a Cursillo Weekend, you may obtain an application from our website at www.metcursillo.org or contact the Pre-Cursillo Chairperson, Lorri DeNoyelles at, ldenoyelles@yahoo.com or (732) 738-1796. You may also contact Lucille Hess, Lay Director, at Lhess@metcursillo.org.

WANTED: VICTIMS OF DISCRIMINATION
Today’s Gospel talks about discrimination. We all know what the Canaanite woman felt. All of us are victims of discrimination in one way or another. We have all been “turned away” from some place at some time in our lives. If you, or someone you know, would like to know more about a God who opens His arms to all and a Church that welcomes all nations, come to an Inquiry Session, held every Wednesday evening, 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Participation in a session does not require a commitment to belong to the Catholic Faith Family. Anyone who is unbaptized, baptized into a non-Catholic Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but never received First Eucharist and Confirmation, is invited to come and inquire about the God to whom we can entrust our burdens and the Catholic faith community who can help us to develop a relationship with God. For more information call RCIA – 732-562-1990 x 1633.

Catholic Rural Life Mass
Bishop Checchio will offer Mass for all those engaged in farming and agricultural related businesses on Sunday, August 27 at 5:00pm at St. Ann Parish, 6 Church Street, Hampton. Coordinator of the newly created Catholic Rural Life Ministry is Fr. Michael Saharic, pastor of St. Ann Parish. Families and individuals who are involved in all aspects of agricultural production and services, such as tree farmers and nursery, horticultural, landscapers and lawn care service providers and home or community gardeners and bee keepers are invited to attend. Fellowship and light reception will follow Mass.

Give Our Catholic Schools A Try
Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Metuchen link living our faith with academic excellence. It’s a proven formula that leads to success in the classroom and in life. If you are new to this area or desire a faith-filled school experience for your child, we invite you to learn more about the Catholic school advantage. In the Diocese of Metuchen, we are proud to offer 23 Catholic elementary schools and four Catholic high schools located throughout Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren counties. Enrollment is available for students in Pre-k through Grade 12. Learn more and find a complete list at: http://diometuchen.org/schools

If you are looking for a quality Pre School Program for your 3 or 4 year old, look no further than St. Francis Cathedral School! We offer a two half-day program for 3 year olds and three and five full-day programs for 4 year olds. Please call our school office at 732-548-3107.

Diocese of Metuchen Catholic Cemeteries invites you to the Dedication Mass of the Mausoleum of the Holy Spirit on Saturday, September 9 at 10:00am at Resurrection Cemetery, Piscataway. Most Rev. James Checchio, Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, will be the presider. Refreshments will be served following Mass. Call 800-943-8400.

Marriage Encounter
With summer winding down, why not consider treating yourselves to the special gift of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? This weekend will give you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next WWMEW will be held October 13 - 15. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Phone 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for information.

Mother Seton Gala Evening
Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark announces the 2017 Gala Evening of Celebration and Recognition. Alumnae, family and friends are invited to attend. The festivities will include cocktail hour, hors d’oeuvres, a pasta station and carving station. A Silent Auction is also planned. The event will be held on Friday evening, September 22 from 6:30 - 10:30pm at The Westwood in Garwood. For info or to purchase tickets, contact school at 732-382-1952 x175 or email: Gala@motherseton.org.

“In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don’t.”
–Blaise Pascal
“Observe what is right, do what is just; 
for my salvation is about to come, 
my justice, about to be revealed.”

— Isaiah 56:1

WHY PRAY?

The "foreigners" as Isaiah calls them, the "Gentiles" as Paul calls them, or the "Canaanites" as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today's readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with Him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely "knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend," but also to "break, blow, burn, and make me new" (Holy Sonnets, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, "Knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today's Gospel, the results will follow.

CALLED TO ACT IN GOD'S NAME

"Let all the nations praise you!" (Psalm 67:4) today's psalm response exclaims. In the psalms and other Hebrew scriptures, this kind of invocation is actually an invitation to God to act, to intervene in human lives in a manner that will cause everyone--not just the Chosen People--to give praise. Stated a bit more strongly, it is something of a "put up or shut up" challenge to God, the sort of strong statement the psalmists of Israel, trusting in their intimate and loving relationship with God, were not afraid to make.

The Gospel has its own exclamation, announcing the appearance of the Canaanite woman with "Behold!" (Matthew 15:22) "Behold!" is a scriptural flag that tells us that God is about to act or announce something through an individual or a situation. As for us, it becomes our calling, our duty (as it was for Jesus) to behold the situations and persons of our daily lives so that God can act through us, so the Kingdom can be announced through our living.
Girl Scout News
Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts are invited to join our summer session to get a head start on your Spirit Alive Award. It will take place at the SFC Parish Center Solarium today, Sunday, August 20, 1:30 - 5:00pm. Cost of $5 covers snacks and beverages. Topic: Where Life is Taking You. We will also begin service project planning. Contact DOMgirls scouts@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.

Resources for Persons with Disabilities
Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a 24-hour Prayer Line for those who desire prayer for special needs. Call 732-765-6431/ email:catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com. In addition, the Office has a Facebook page that provides daily updates with short inspirational reflections for people with disabilities, family members and care givers. The site also provides endless resources for those with physical, emotional, cognitive, visual, auditory and other special challenges. To access our Facebook page, even if you are not a member of Facebook, type the following into your search engine: Diocese of Metuchen Office for Persons with Disabilities.

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.

Community Calendar
– Aug. 20: Grief Recovery at Mount St. Mary House of Prayer, Watchung, 1:00 - 5:30pm, $45 - $55 as you are able. Gentle process of learning to deal with grief, 908-753-2091.
– Sept. 29: Day of Prayer at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, Washington, NJ, 10:00am - 3:00pm. See the replica of the Chapel of Apparitions at Fatima. Call 908-689-1700.
– Nov. 6 - 16: Pilgrimage to Italy with Fr. David Kosmoskiof St. Andrew Church, Avenel. Visit Venice, Pisa, Florence, Assisi, Rome, daily Mass, most meals for $3079 from Newark. Call 732-634-4355.

St. Francis Cathedral School
Tentative Calendar 2017 - 2018
Please Note School Hours: 7:50 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

30, 31 AUGUST - In Service - No School

SEPTEMBER
4 Labor Day - No School
5 School Opens for 1st - 8th grades. Noon dismissal
Before & After Care begins
6 1st day Pre-K & K; Full Day Pre-K - 8th grades
6 Hot Lunch Program begins
8 Noon dismissal
13 Middle School Back-to-School Night - 7pm
20 K - 5 Back to School Night - 7pm

OCTOBER
6 Noon dismissal
9 Columbus Day - No School
22 Noon dismissal
23-24 Thanksgiving Holiday No School

NOVEMBER
21 Noon dismissal
22 Noon dismissal - P/T Conf
25-29 Christmas Holiday - No School

DECEMBER
8 Immaculate Conception - No School
22 Noon dismissal
25-29 Christmas Holiday - No School

JANUARY
1 Noon dismissal
2 School Re-opens
5 Noon dismissal
15 M.L. King, Jr. - No School

FEBRUARY
2 Noon dismissal
16 Spirituality Day
19 President’s Day - No School

MARCH
2 Noon dismissal
28 Student Spirituality Day - Noon dismissal
29-30 School Closed

APRIL
2-6 Easter Holiday - No School
13 Noon dismissal

MAY
4 Noon dismissal
25 Professional Day - No School
28 Memorial Day - No School

JUNE
7 8th Grade Graduation
8 K Graduation; Pre-K 4 Yr. Formal Promotion
11 New K & Pre-K Orientation
12 DARE Graduation
13-14 Noon dismissal
15 Last Day - 10:30am dismissal
Please Note: Some Noon dismissals are on Fridays
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 (548-0100 x225). Your generosity to this effort every year is very much appreciated.

Blood Services Reports a BLOOD SHORTAGE! Keeping our blood supply healthy takes all types. There is no substitute for human blood. One person in three will need blood some time during their lifetime. Blood lasts only 42 days, so it has to be replenished constantly. Your donation is critically important.

What Does It Take To Be A Blood Donor? Blood donors must be at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and not have donated blood within the last 56 days. Sixteen-year-olds must present signed parental consent form, go to www.nybloodcenter.org to obtain the form. People aged 76 and older can donate blood if they meet all criteria and present a physician's letter each year. Our next Parish Blood Drive will be on Tuesday, August 22, 3:00pm - 8:00pm in the CCR.

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.

JOB BANK: Pick up students from school and watch them from 3:00 - 6:00pm, Monday - Friday, call 732-672-6405.

Certified Nurse’s Assistant seeking morning home care, call Social Concerns (732-548-0100 X225); woman seeking position as live-in, call Social Concerns.

Diocesan Position: Administrative Position in Office of Worship, assisting the director in preparing diocesan liturgical celebrations. The ideal candidate will be a practicing Catholic with communications/organizational skills and computer proficiency. Cover letter/resume: HR@diometuchen.org

Misc.: Woman seeking home in 2-family house with private entrance and cooking facilities, Soc. Con.:732-548-0100 x225

Traveling? If you are heading out for a weekend trip or going away on an extended vacation, you can retrieve information nationwide about times of Masses, Church location, telephone/fax numbers and handicapped accessibility by going to a great website: Masstimes.org

You can also find out this information by looking in the Yellow Pages under “Churches - Roman Catholic.”