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. 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.

RECTOR Y 32 Elm Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840
Office Hours  Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Phone  732-548-0100
Emergency Phone  732-710-1416
Website  www.StFrancisCathedraLorg
Live Stream  http://cvp.telvue.com/player?id=T05325

SCHOOL  528 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840
Barbara Stevens, MS, Principal (548-3107)
Website  www.StFrancisCathedraLSchool.org

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.

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, September 3 - Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Bob Irizarry r/o Kathy Crusco
9:00am - Francis Domin r/o Christine Suchanek
10:30am - Halina Nowakowski r/o Husband Marian
Noon - Rose Lydia Cruz r/o Michele Buffa

MONDAY, September 4 - Civil Observance of Labor Day
*9:00am - Lenny Klein r/o Cathedral

TUESDAY, September 5 - Saint Teresa of Calcutta
7:00am - Peter Monteleone r/o Family
8:00am - Mary Domyan r/o Daughter-in-Law Lucille
12:10pm - Theresa Whiteklock r/o Pearsall Family

WEDNESDAY, September 6
7:00am - Octavio Madeira r/o Jane Burrows
8:00am - Anthony Cancela, Sr. r/o Maureen & Art Pech
12:10pm - Bobby Liparini r/o Diana, Vinny & Vincent Peluso

THURSDAY, September 7
7:00am - Doris Balland r/o Dennis Reilly
8:00am - Giuliana Velona r/o Velona Family
12:10pm - Alexsander Malinowski r/o Family

FRIDAY, September 8 - Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00am - Anna May Moisewicz r/o Janet Moisewicz
8:00am - Edith Altavilla r/o Ray & JoAnn Marino
*9:00am - School Liturgy
12:10pm - Charlayne Gutierrez r/o Mom & Dad

SATURDAY, September 9
8:00am - (Liv.) Int. Maddox Gutierrez r/o Grandma
5:00pm - Albert & Cecelia Cozzati r/o Children
7:00pm - Christina Vochecowicz r/o John & Johnny *Cub Scout Mass*

SUNDAY, September 10 - Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am - Curtis Clark r/o Kathy Crusco
9:00am - Shuk Lan Koh r/o Stephen & Barbara Reilly
10:30am - Our Grandparents r/o Doreen & Rick
Noon - (Liv.) Int. Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski - 20th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination

The Sanctuary Candle for this week
has been donated
in honor of
Msgr. Robert J. Zamorski
in honor of his 45th Anniversary of
Priesthood Ordination
by Joe & Carol Donahue
(in the Cathedral)
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Korea: Ryan McCadden; and for all those serving in Covert Operations

SICK: Carmine & Hilda Lamberti, Albert Musmanno, Ann Sadowsky, Edward Pianko, Marilyn Burlington, Georgean Pichalski, Mother of Elizabeth Savner, Eleanor Phelan, Kathleen Nielsen, Dr. Myrna DeLuna-Guerra, Joseph Papa, Janice Grigo, Amy Olegario

DECEASED: Robert Mattison, Valeria Dzubay, Kathleen Lorence, Douglas Viafora, Francis Berdel, Jerry Young, Jeremiah O’Sullivan, Husband of Debra Blaha, Mother of Judi Monteleone, John Witkowski, Mother-In-Law of Theresa Lambertoucci, Viola Skeba

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

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.

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, please contact Margaret Manza (732-548-0100x212) for initial information about celebrating weddings at the Cathedral. Proper preparation usually requires one year advance planning.

Keep Jesus Company and help keep Eucharistic Adoration on-going at SFC. There are several hours lacking committed adorers. Emboldened hours are especially critical. Can you commit to one hour per week?

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Contact Marie D’Amico: dghmad@aol.com/732-906-6537.
Parish Notes...

–This week the Rectory Office resumes its regular office hours of Monday through Friday from 9:00am - 5:00pm.

A special diocesan collection for the victims of Hurricane Harvey in Texas will be taken the weekend of September 16-17. Please pray for these displaced persons and give as generously as your means allow to alleviate their suffering.

–SUNDAY: Farewell Reception for Fr. John Kavas following noon Mass (see next column).

–MONDAY: The civil observance of Labor Day takes place. One Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 9:00am. The Rectory Office will be closed.

–TUESDAY: First day of school for 1st - 8th grades with a noon dismissal and Before&After Care in place; Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm in the Joseph Room; Men’s Group meets at 7:30pm in the JPII Room.

–WEDNESDAY: Provide-A-Meal & Social Concerns meet at 7:00 and 7:30pm respectively in the Joseph Room; a session of Protecting God’s Children is offered from 7:00 - 10:00pm in the Solarium; CYO Board Meeting at 7:00pm in the CYO.

–THURSDAY: Rosary Altar Executive Board meets at 9:00am in the Solarium; Body of Christ Prayer Group meets at 7:30pm in the Community Room.

–FRIDAY: SFCS School Liturgy at 9:00am to mark the opening of the new school year; Legion of Mary meets at 11:00am in JPII Room; Widows&Widowers meet at 7:00pm in Solarium.

–SATURDAY: A session of Protecting God’s Children is offered from 9:00am - noon in the Solarium; Members of Cub Scout Pack 15 will attend 7:00pm Mass.


Rosary Altar members attend 10:30am Mass, followed by a meeting in the Solarium; Filipino-American Community meets at 1:00pm in the Solarium.

–NEXT WEEKEND: 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. Through your generosity, we can cast the peace of Christ upon the world; Tickets will be available for the Philippine Madrigal Singers’ concert, Instruments of Peace, which will be held in the Cathedral on Sunday, Sept.24 at 4:00pm. Admission Cost: $30. First come, first seated. Reception in Community Room follows.

Banns of Marriage
I   Eva Dice/Joshua Marks
Christina Hall/Peter Baio

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 today, 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.

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, 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:

Wednesday, Sept. 6 from 7:00 -10:00pm
Saturday, Sept. 9 from 9:00 - 12:00pm
Saturday, Sept. 16 from 9:00am - 12:00pm

Calling New Altar Servers

Calling 5th Graders and up!!!

Serving at the Altar during Mass is a great way to develop boys’ and girls’ faith and service to the Church. If this is for you, please fill out the attached form and send it to the Rectory, give it to your homeroom teacher (for SFCS students) or email information to Deacon JP at jpsaggese@verizon.net Mark the email NEW ALTAR SERVER.

Name________________________________
Address________________________________
Tel#________________________ Grade_____
School________________________________
Parents’ email_________________________

Dates & time for training will be determined after sign-ups.
If you have any questions, please contact Deacon JP at jpsaggese@verizon.net.
**In God’s Image**

This GLBT Faith Sharing Group at Sacred Heart, South Plainfield meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm in the annex. **Our next meeting: September 13.** The group is open to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender adults, 18 and over, and their families. All are welcome for faith sharing, prayer, conversation and support. For more information, contact Fr. John: 908-756-0633 x125 or email sacredheartigi@gmail.com.

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**Life In The Spirit**

“Remember that the Church was born on Pentecost”

—Pope Francis

**What will your personal Pentecost do?** It can bring the scriptures to life for you, teach you how to love and forgive others as Jesus does, and help you possess the grace and courage to share the Good News. You can learn how to be filled with the Holy Spirit through a Life in the Spirit Seminar. It takes place on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm in the Cathedral Community Room beginning **September 14** and going through **October 26.** Contact Tom Mockoviak at 732-549-4740 or mockofam@optonline.net for more information. Remember, Pope Francis directs us to “share with everyone in the Church the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit.”

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**Retrovaille - - Ministry to Couples in Troubled Marriages**

**Thinking about Separation or Divorce? You Can Help Your Marriage.** Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Are you bored? Do you argue...or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? **Retrovaille** is sponsored by the Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen to help couples through difficult times in their marriages. A French word meaning “rediscovery,” Retrovaille helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that brought them together in the first place. It affords the couple the opportunity to examine and strengthen their relationship in a non-threatening faith environment. If your marriage has become unloving and uncaring, or if your relationship has grown cold and distant, if you are thinking of separation or divorce, or if you are already separated or divorced, but (both of you) wish to try again - - then the Retrovaille program may help you. It consists of a weekend experience, Friday night to Sunday afternoon, for couples (no group discussions) and six follow-up sessions. During the weekend, presentations are made by three married couples and a priest. Techniques of communication that enable a couple to examine their relationship are presented. All inquiries are confidential. Phone the Diocesan Family Life Office (732-243-4573) or Tom & Pat McTague (evenings - 732-583-4468) or Rich & Annette Colasuonno (732-236-0671). **Next Session: September 15 - 17, 2017.**

**Become A Cathedral Choir Member**

Cathedral Choirs are now beginning another season of musical excellence that enhances our worship at Mass. Junior Choir (grades 3 - 7) begins Sept. 19. Youth Choir (grades 8 - 12) begins Sept. 13. Cathedral Choir is now in session with Wednesday evening rehearsals. Youth Handbell Choir is under development for this fall. Kids of the Kingdom (grades K - 2) will begin in early October. For more information on the full range of options in Music Ministry, please see: http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/75. Contact Thom DeLession, Director of Music at tdelessio@diometuchen.org or 732-548-0100 x235.

**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 **September 10.** The hour will include praise, worship and faith sharing. Reconciliation will be available. Fellowship will be held at a local restaurant (individuals responsible for their own meal). Mary Ann Giannone: mgiannone@diometuchen.org.
"Be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect."

-- Romans 12:2

THE CROSS OF JESUS
The perception of a cross changed dramatically after Jesus’ crucifixion. Before that event, death on a cross was not only horrible, it was degrading. It was a penalty reserved only for the most wretched of criminals. The word “glory” would not have found its way into the same sentence containing the word “cross.” But all that changed with Jesus. Over time, believers began to venerate and honor the cross. They painted, sculpted, and carved images of it. Many lost their own lives for their association with it. Today our reverence for and relationship with the cross recalls little of the contempt originally associated with it. As it has been through the ages, it is our perception of the cross that determines how we follow Jesus.

DOING GOD’S WILL
The language of Jeremiah as he addresses his yearnings to God – he says, "You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped" (Jeremiah 20:7) – indicates a close and personal relationship with God. It is one the prophet obviously cherishes despite the derision and reproach it brings him. In the Gospel, Jesus indicates a similar bond with his Father. In spite of the difficult challenges presented by following God's will, Jesus is not deterred. Giving up our own worldly cares and dreams, even as we accept pain and suffering, is more than a fair exchange for doing the will of God. The only way to do God's will is offer our whole selves to God. As St. Paul writes in the letter to the Romans: "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind" (Romans 12:2a).
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.

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.

Catholic Center at Rutgers, New Brunswick
The Catholic Center at Rutgers strives to help students feel welcome and supported in an environment which is diverse, questioning and sometimes challenging to their faith. It is a home away from home where students can relax and enjoy friends, discuss issues, study and pray. The Catholic Center is located next to St. Peter’s Church at 94 Somerset Street, New Brunswick. Bishop Emeritus Paul Bootkoski referred to St. Peter’s as “the University parish for the Catholic Community at Rutgers.” The Church is undergoing interior renovations, so all weekend Masses will be celebrated in the Parish Hall. There is a 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass. Sunday Masses are at 7:00, 9:00, 11:00am. The 8:00pm Student Mass will change to 6:00pm beginning today, Sept. 3. There is also Sunday Mass at Noon Busch, Room 120ABC. Daily Mass in the Catholic Center is at 7:30am Mondays through Fridays and 12:15pm Mondays through Thursdays. Reconciliation on Saturday, 11:00am - noon or by appointment.

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
12 Noon dismissal
13-24 Thanksgiving Holiday - No School

NOVEMBER
21 Noon dismissal
22 Noon dismissal
22 President’s Day - No School

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

JANUARY
1 No School
2 Noon dismissal
5 Noon dismissal
15 M.L. King, Jr. - No School
18 President’s Day - No School

FEBRUARY
2 Noon dismissal
16 Spirituality Day

MARCH
2 Noon dismissal
19 President’s Day - No School

APRIL
2-6 Easter Holiday - No School

MAY
4 Noon dismissal
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.
Food Collection This Weekend: Please leave your donations at the Cathedral entrances. Thank you to all who regularly donate to keep our Food Pantry well stocked for the needy. Students seeking service projects often conduct Food Drives; we welcome all.

Blood Drive Update: 39 pints of blood were collected at our recent Blood Drive. We thank all the donors and the volunteers for their efforts in this most important appeal.

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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume after the summer break and have its first meeting of the new season on Monday, September 11 at 7:00pm in the Solarium.

Journey Though Grief Step II: A program that addresses the second phase of grieving a loss. It is a once-a-month program that helps people redefine their lives after loss. First Meeting of the New Season: Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00pm in the Solarium. Jessie Flynn (732-895-2563)/Jo Flanigan:548-0100 x225.

JOB BANK: Seeking p/t position as Nanny, Metuchen/Edison area, call Social Concerns, 548-0100 x225. Pick up students from school and watch them from 3:00 - 6:00pm, Monday - Friday, call 732-672-6405. Part-time after school child care, North Edison, 201-207-5184; 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.

Classic/Custom Cruise Night

Our Lady of Peace Church, Fords, is sponsoring a “Classic/Custom Cruise Night” on Saturday, September 16 at the Parish Center parking lot from 5:00 - 9:00pm. Admission is free and there will be great food, a DJ, and vendors is addition to beautiful autos. Call 732-738-7940 x27 with questions.

“Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else.” – St. Francis of Assisi