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. John Werner, Parochial Vicar
Rev. David J. Wejnerowski, 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.

Barbara Stevens, MS, Principal (732-548–3107)
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

EUCHARISTICADORATION 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.

SCHOOL  528 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840
BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL
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 needed 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 Gendleken-pzgendleken@comcast.net
-Cathedral Choirs: Thom DeLessio: tdelessio@diometuchen.org, 548-0100 x 235 Folk - Steve Kirbos - steve@kirbos.net;
-Eucharistic Adoration: Marie D’Amico - dghmad@aol.com
-Evangelization: Ralph Quaglia-rquaglia19@gmail.com
-Filipino/American Families: Gil Vendiola & Helen Vendiola (548-0100)
-Greeters: Robert/Susan Riolo (548-0100)
-Home School Assn. Co-President: Angela Kelly/Brooke Garcia - HSA@stfranciscathedralschool.org
-Knights of Columbus: KofC3272.webs.com
-Legion of Mary: Fri. 11:00 am - Rod Altz (548-0100)
-Marriage Encounter: Russ and Janet Baker - jnrbaker@optonline.net
-Marriage Prep: Pam Schleck-schleckfamily@gmail.com
-Moms’ Group: Tom Thomas:SFC.mensgroup@gmail.com
-Parish Historical Guild: Rod Altz (548-0100)
-Parish Prayer Tree: Belinda Coakes-sfprayer@msn.com
-Parish Religious Guild: Carmela Guarnera (548-0100)
-Scripture Study: Pat Morgan - (548-0100)
-Widows/Widowers: naunijud@hotmail.com

-SOCIAL MINISTRY - 548-0100 x225
-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)
- Intrafaith Network of Care: Volunteers for homebound
- Unemployment Support Group (Networking)
Masses For The Week...

SUNDAY, February 25 - Second Sunday of Lent
7:30am -Bernardine Franklin r/o Son John Franklin, Jr.
9:00am -Msgr. Richard A. Behl r/o Lombardi Family
10:30am -Mildred D’Aloisio r/o Napolitano Family
Noon -James Wall r/o Family

MONDAY, February 26
7:00am -James DeMary r/o 7:30 Ushers
8:00am -Agostino Pugliese r/o Vinci Family
12:10pm -John Frank Dedina r/o Long Family

TUESDAY, February 27
7:00am -Francesco Pontoriero r/o Mr. & Mrs. Pasquale Calello
8:00am -Michael Rebovich r/o Lewandowski Family
12:10pm -Marilyn Dunne r/o Frank Dunne & Family

WEDNESDAY, February 28
7:00am -Richard Podlaski r/o Chris DeBrossy
8:00am -Margaret Saggese r/o Saggese Family
12:10pm -(Liv.) Int. John & Mary McCabe 60th Wedding Anniv. r/o Family

THURSDAY, March 1
7:00am -Eileen Moore r/o Doug & Maryann Ulbrich
8:00am -Joseph Thang r/o Josephine Kwok
12:10pm -Mildred D’Aloisio r/o Barbara Speckin

FRIDAY, March 2 - First Friday
7:00am -James Watson r/o Popino Family
8:00am -Joan Latham r/o Robert & Karen Yackel
*9:00am -School Liturgy
12:10pm -Lenny Klein r/o Ann & Jim Reilly

SATURDAY, March 3 - Saint Katharine Drexel
8:00am -Maria Coquia r/o Coquia Family
5:00pm -Ralph Ferraro r/o Elaine & Bob Yunker
7:00pm -Grace O’Hal r/o Meredith Inverso *First Scrutiny*

SUNDAY, March 4 - Third Sunday of Lent
7:30am -Regina Grace r/o Ed & Jean Lyons
9:00am -Lenny Klein r/o Roubo Family
10:30am -Peter Joyce r/o Mom
Noon -Dolores Schneller r/o Eileen Phillips

The Sanctuary Candle
for this week
has been donated
in loving memory of
Michael Onuska
by The Fedun Family
(in the Cathedral)

Saturday Enrichment Program: Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark is offering an Enrichment Program for girls in Grades 5 - 8 on Saturdays, March 3, 10, & 24. If interested, call 732-382-1952/admissions@mothersonseton.org.
**SERVING OVERSEAS:** In Bulgaria: John Paul Moore II; and for all those serving in Covert Operations

**SICK:** Elizabeth Murray, Irene Daly, Mark Annichiarico, Rodolfo Alvarez, Jeanine Kachersky, Father of Chrissy Jurcsek, Philip Bruno, Dolores Hicks, Annie Bier, Lucille Falbo, Baby Genevieve Bonk, Joyce Martin, Rose Abatemarco, Margaret Styner, Kathy Phillips, Jean Sherna, John & Mary McCabe, Edmund Pianko, Cathy Byram, Karen Kovach, Marilyn Barrett, Margaret Swarbrick, Nadia Ruiz, Peter Barnes, Sr., Mary Anne Hale, Kathleen Carroll, Patricia Mulkerin, Kathleen Cremone, April Quinn, grandson of Sue & Bill Martin, Janice Grigo, Amy Olegario

**DECEASED:** Mother of Martha Nowik, Eileen Lee, Kathleen Stoffers, Roseann Grauso

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

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**GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING**

**Tithing**

Thank you for your generosity the weekend of 2/18:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes &amp; Loose Cash</td>
<td>$ 17,087</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Offerings</td>
<td>$ 8,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,420</strong></td>
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**e-Giving:** Please consider using our parish e-Giving program. Sign up at:


**Bible Study -- Untold Blessing**

A new Bible Study starts this week when Bishop Barron paints a beautiful and mysterious image of what it takes to be a follower of Jesus Christ. He lays out 3 paths to holiness: Finding the Center, Knowing You’re a Sinner, and Realizing Your Life is Not About You. He shares practical approaches to enhance the journey along these 3 paths. Listen to Bishop Barron’s suggestions as you join us on **Thursdays after the noon Mass or at 7:15pm** in the downstairs meeting rooms of the Parish Center. Pat Morgan (732-548-9743) will lead afternoon sessions and Art Paltz (732-494-5221) will lead the evening sessions.

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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:

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**The Cathedral Pipe Organ Restoration Fund:**

Memorials in the name of loved ones may be made to support the restoration of the Cathedral pipe organ. Memorial pipes of various sizes are available for $ 100, $ 300, $500, or $ 1,000. Major gift opportunities also are available. Please inquire at the Rectory Office at 732-548-0100 x210.

**Altar Flowers:** Available weekly in the Cathedral at the High Altar for memorials, weddings and other occasions. Please contact Rectory Office for details.

**Sanctuary Candles:** Available weekly in the Cathedral and The Lady Chapel. Donation: $20. Please enclose in an envelope with information and place in collection basket or mail or bring to the 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.

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**Calling All Young Adults Ages 18 - 39**

What is your deepest desire? Is it to live a happy and meaningful life? This retreat series is for all young adults who want to live life to the fullest in peace and joy! Consisting of afternoons of prayer, each session will focus on one aspect of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. Sessions take place on Sundays from 2:00 - 7:00pm at Loyola Jesuit Center, 161 James Street, Morristown. All Sunday afternoon retreats include Mass and dinner. The upcoming topic is **“God Shows Me His Love Through Life Events”** and it will take place on **March 4**. Successive Dates are: **April 15** and a weekend retreat June 15 - 17 to end the series. More information about the retreat will follow. Suggested Donation for the Sunday afternoons is $10, which will help cover costs. Go to www.diometuchen.org/young-adult-retreats or www.loyola.org /973-539-0740.

**St. Ann School** in Raritan is having a **Garage Sale** on **Saturday, March 3**, 9am - 4pm. Proceeds to educate students of St. Ann School. Leftover items will be donated to Pregnancy Aid Center in Raritan and Catholic Charities in Flemington. Please lend your support.
Upon entering the Cathedral, please be kind enough to turn off all cell phones. Thank you.

Parish Notes...

--We congratulate the children who celebrated First Penance this weekend. They will receive Holy Communion for the first time in the spring. Pray that Jesus may enter their hearts and remain there throughout their lives.

–SUNDAY: MSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00pm, CYO

SFCSchool Book Fair This Week in CCR

–MONDAY: Catechist Training, 7:00pm, Joseph Room; Book Fair extended hours: 2:30 - 4:30pm.

–TUESDAY: Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm in the JPII Room.

–WEDNESDAY: Book Fair extended hours: 5:00 - 7:00pm; Bereavement continues at 7:00pm in the Joseph Room/Solarium.

–THURSDAY: Rosary Altar Executive Board meets at 9:00am in the Solarium; Bible Study of Untold Blessings begins in the JPII Room at 1:00pm or 7:15pm as you prefer; Lenten Bread & Soup Dinner takes place 5:00 - 8:00pm in Community Room; SFCS HSA Board Meeting at 7:00pm in School; Body of Christ Prayer Group meets at 8:00pm in Community Room.

–FRIDAY: The students of SFCSchool participate in School Liturgy at 9:00am; Legion of Mary meets at 11:00am in the JPII Room; Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12:50pm and 7:30pm. Join us as we journey with Christ to Calvary; YG Living Stations practice takes place at 5:00 - 7:00pm in church; Widows & Widowers Group meets at 7:00pm in Solarium.

–SATURDAY: The RCIA First Scrutiny takes place during 7:00pm Mass.

–SUNDAY: After attending 10:30am Mass, Rosary Altar Society members gather in the Solarium for their monthly meeting. New members are most welcome.

2018 Bishop’s Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

This weekend, parishes throughout the Diocese of Metuchen are celebrating Bishop’s Annual Appeal In-Pew Weekend. Our goal is for every family to participate. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Together, we are working to become kindling that is set aflame by the Holy Spirit, allowing God’s love and power to burn more brightly here in the Diocese of Metuchen. Thank you for actively participating in this mission by your financial support.

Dear St. Francis Parishioners,

Thank you so much for your amazing support of our Baby Bottle Blessings Fundraiser held in December of 2017. Because of your generosity, we raised $4,794.00. We are so grateful for your friendship and support! Rest assured that when a mother chooses life, she has an army of angels like St. Francis Cathedral parishioners behind her. You have helped to provide FREE pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, counseling, adoption information and referrals along with material aid to mothers and families in difficult times. Your donations are helping us thrive so that we can serve families and save babies, lending a hand of hope and friendship while building up a culture of life, right here in our own back yard. May God bless you always and everywhere! We appreciate you! --Your friends at Life Choices Resource Center

Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner

On Friday, March 9 from 5:30 - 7:30pm in the Community Room, St. Francis K of C will host a Spaghetti Dinner. The menu will consist of Salad, Garlic Bread, Spaghetti or Linguine, Marinara or Clam Sauce and Dessert. Cost is $10/per person; $20/family of 4; $9/Senior Citizen. The proceeds will be donated to the SFC Organ Restoration Fund. Call Eric at 732-512-8332.

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.
CHRISM MASS
On Monday, March 26 Bishop James F. Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Diocese. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils which each priest receives for the rites of anointing. Saint Ambrose [340 - 397] began this custom - - which we now call the Chrism Mass - - in his Cathedral in Milan. These Holy Oils, which are used to sanctify the Faithful, have been channels of holiness for centuries! The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint infants and adults before their Baptism; the Oil of the Sick is used on the forehead and hands of the infirm in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and Sacred Chrism is used to anoint the head of the newly baptized, the foreheads of confirmandi, the hands of a priest at his ordination, the head of a bishop at his ordination, and the altar and walls of new churches. At the Mass, all priests make a Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service, recommitting themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry to God and His People; the Bishop and all Priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are strongly encouraged to join in the ancient, grace-filled Chrism Mass at the Cathedral at 7:30pm.

KILLING ONE’S SON?
Do you think that it was an odd request that God made to Abraham – go kill your only son? Do you think it was odd that Abraham would so easily comply with that request? How would you have responded? If you, or someone you know, has questions about God, Jesus, faith, the Catholic Church, come join us at an RCIA Inquiry Session – held weekly. All who have not been baptized, have been baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but have never received First Eucharist and Confirmation are invited. No commitment is required – just come and see. Call RCIA: 732-562-1990 X 1633

Living Stations of the Cross
Next Saturday, March 3 at the 7:00pm Mass, our elect, DANA ABBEY will celebrate the FIRST SCRUTINY. The scrutinies are among the most ancient prayers in the Christian liturgical tradition. As early as the second century, Christian communities would help those who had been chosen for Baptism to prepare for their initiation by laying on hands and by prayers for protection and deliverance from evil. At that Mass, we will use the Lectionary’s “scrutiny readings” from cycle A.

SPIRITUAL SPONSORS: Please remember to pray for DANA, our elect, as she prepares to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. If you have not received a Spiritual Sponsor Prayer Card, more are available at the Church entrances. Please share your support for DANA by sending her a small note of encouragement. Write her name on the front of the envelope c/o RCIA and deliver it to the rectory or place it in the collection basket anytime before Easter.

RECEPTION: There will be a light reception to welcome DANA into our parish community after the Easter Vigil Mass. Any donations of cookies or brownies, or finger cake would be greatly appreciated. Please call Sara Sharlow @ 732-562-1990 x 1633 if you would like to make a donation of baked goods.

NJ Catholic Youth Rally
On Sunday, May 20 our Youth Groups will be going to Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson for the Catholic Youth Rally. We leave the CYO parking lot at 9:00am and return at 8:00pm.

NJYR Package A includes Transportation, Admission, Wild Safari, Bounce-back ticket, All-you-can-Eat Buffet for $65 before April 28/ $70 after April 28 (saves you $130). Season Pass Holder Package B includes All-you-can-Eat Buffet, Bounce back ticket for $35 before April 28/$40 after April 28. Season Pass Holder Package C is without meals for $20 before April 28/ $25 after April 28. Everyone must attend Sunday Mass with the Youth group on that day! Call Sr. Maria Lan at 732-770-2506 with any questions.

Living Stations of the Cross
Middle School & High School Youth Group
Living Stations of the Cross will be presented on Palm Sunday, March 25 at 7:00pm in the Cathedral. Please encourage your children to participate in and be committed to this project. The Living Stations will give everyone a chance to pray, reflect and meditate on the love Jesus has for each of us as shown through His suffering and death on the cross. A light supper will be provided for the children after each practice and parents are invited to volunteer to prepare a meal by giving name/phone # and date to Sister. Practices, all from 5:00 - 7:00pm will be in the Church, on March 2, 9, 16 (dress rehearsal) and March 23 (dress rehearsal). On Sunday, March 25, meet in Church at 6:00pm. At this point is time, parts have been given out. Contact Sister Maria Lan at 732-770-2506/sml@stfranciscathedral.org for information or to volunteer to help with what is needed.

Youth Group News
–Feb.25: HSYG members will attend the Life Choices Resource Center Banquet at the Pines Manor to Stand Up for Life.
–Mar.2 & Mar. 9, 16, 23: YG Living Stations of the Cross practice, 5:00 - 7:00pm in Church. Dinner provided afterward.
–Mar. 3 & Mar. 24: HS & MSYG visit FoodBank, Hillside, leave CYO at 8:30am, return at 12:00 noon, earn Service Hours.
–Mar.4: HSYG Pilgrimage Tour of SFCathedral, 6:30-8:00pm followed by pizza.
–Mar. 11: MS Meeting with speaker Brother Thomas who will talk about Lent.
–Mar. 17: HS & MSYG visit St Vincent De Paul (SVDP)in New Brunswick, 8:30am - 1:30pm, earn Service Hours.
–Mar. 25: YGPresentation of Living Stations of the Cross

Senior Bible Study Classes
As a way of ministering to maturing adults, Fr. Greg Uhrig will offer a program of “Spring Bible in preparation for Sunday Mass.” Fr. Greg enjoys working in Catholic adult faith formation. His teaching will cover all three readings of the following Sunday’s liturgy, as well as how to use the Bible as a prayer book. The program, sponsored by the Family Life Office, Diocese of Metuchen, takes place at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center on Wednesdays through March 21 from 10:30am - 12:30pm. Registration fee: $5.00 per session. For info, email: amatos@diometuchen.org/732-562-1990 x1705.
"If God is for us, who can be against us?"
-- Romans 8:31b

HISTORY OF SALVATION
The first reading today continues the "history of salvation" narrative that we hear throughout Lent. Today's story was among the best-loved in the Jewish tradition (surely Joseph told the story to young Jesus as he formed Him in the ways of their faith); the early fathers of the Church were very fond of it as a means of explaining the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The overall tone of the first reading, psalm, and second reading seems a little incongruous with the dazzling Gospel, until we remember that the Transfiguration was placed as the Gospel for this Sunday precisely to remind us of the glory that awaits those who live faithfully and obediently to the will of God. In the life of Jesus, it is a preview of the glory of His resurrection; for us it is a glimpse of the destiny of those who continue, as we heard in last week's Gospel, to repent and believe in the Good News.

LISTEN AND FOLLOW
"This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him." And listen they did. From that moment on, Peter, James, and John were ardent followers, forsaking everything to follow in their Master's footsteps. Like the psalmist crying, "O Lord, I am your servant," the three disciples committed themselves to lives of incredible hardship and indescribable joy. After that day on the mountain, they never again wavered in their chosen vocation.

Though our tests may not be as severe as Abraham's and our peak experiences not as dramatic as the Transfiguration, we all face the daily challenges of walking "before the Lord in the land of the living." As we follow our varied calls to love and serve, let's be comforted by Paul's reminder to the Romans: "If God is for us, who can be against us?"
Life Choices Peer Counselor Training

Are you a good listener? Have a good perception of people? Do you believe life has value, from conception to natural death? Is God calling you to serve in a life-saving ministry? Do you feel today’s culture has not enough “Pro Human Dignity” and too much Pro Me?” You can be the instrument of God’s love to someone in need. Life Choices is a Pregnancy Help Center that assists women and families faced with an unexpected pregnancy. We are also developing a Men’s Program, so men volunteers (especially deacons) are welcome to participate. We welcome clients of every age, ethnicity, background and religious conviction. While we do provide free services such as pregnancy tests and ultrasound imaging, our greatest need is for peer counselors.

Are you ready for a life challenge? Consider joining us for our Spring Training Sessions (4 classes over 8 weeks) which will take place from April 4, 2018 through May 19, 2018 on a Wednesday evening or a Saturday morning (you choose the day). There is a cost of $20 for The L.O.V.E. Approach manual. Additional materials will be provided. If you are interested in participating in a ministry that is challenging but also fulfilling and rewarding, please call Carolyn at 732-516-0911 or cell: 973-349-4626 or email: lifechoices@optonline.net to learn more. The rewards you receive will surprise you! Join us for an Introductory Meeting April 4, 2018, 7:00 - 9:30pm OR April 7, 2018, 9:30am - 12:00pm.

Steuenville... A weekend getaway for high school teens (8 - 12 grade), highly recommended, inspirational, grace-filled gathering of 5,000 youth from all over U.S. Ours will be held at St. John’s University (8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens NY 11439) on July 20-22, 2018. Cost for the weekend prior to May 15 is $375; after May 15 it is $400. Cost includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, coach bus, tips, conferences. Leave CYO parking lot at noon on Friday, 6/20 and return 2:30pm on Sunday, 6/22. Parents, please encourage your child to join us to build his or her relationship with Jesus! Steuenville helps to ensure that all teens have an encounter with the God who loves them through Gospel message, prayer and fellowship. Provide email/phone # to Sister Maria Lan for permission slip. View inspirational website of conferences: https://stheureferences.com/youth

FYI: Anyone wishing to bring up the gifts at the Offertory of the Mass, (especially if the Mass is for one of your loved ones) should speak with one of the Ushers beforehand.

Cathedral Lenten Retreat

Write these dates down on your calendar: March 19, 20 & 21 at 7:00pm in the Cathedral. That is when Sister Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, will speak to us about The Transforming Power of Authentic Love. Have you ever longed for something “more” in your life? Would you like Jesus to encounter you in a deep way this Lent? During this mission, Sister Miriam will help us delve into powerful truths of Christ’s love for us, His desire to heal us and set us free, and how He empowers us to bring His love to others. Through Scripture, catechism, art, and beauty, we will journey to the heart of our deepest desire: communion with the One who loves us. Sister Miriam is quite an engaging speaker with a powerful message to deliver. In addition to speaking, she works on Steubenville Conferences, Focus’ SEEK Conference, National Catholic Youth Conference and the USCCB Catholic Convocation to name a few. She is the author of Loved As I Am and has her own podcast: AbidingTogetherPodcast.com. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear Sister speak. She has a lot to say!

Marriage Encounter

This month we are celebrating Valentine’s Day and observing the holy season of Lent. Why not give your spouse a gift that he or she can enjoy when these observances are over? Treat your spouse to 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 April 20 - 22, 2018. Phone 732-904-9636/ www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

Religious Education News

Registration for 2018 - 2019 school year is currently open. Please make sure to re-register your child(ren) as soon as possible, especially if you need a certain program model. Registration forms are sent home with the students and can also be found online at the Parish website (www.stfranciscathedral.org. - - click on the Religious Ed tab). If you have any questions, please call the Office at 732-548-0100 x226 or email us at ReligiousEd@stfranciscathedral.org.

Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration has begun in the chapel at the St. John Neuman Pastoral Center, Piscataway. Volunteer adorers and intercessors are needed Monday through Friday 9:00 - 11:45am to pray for the intentions of our diocese. Daily Mass is held at 11:45am. Info: Laura at 732-529-7932/evangelization@diometuchen.org.

Submit prayer requests via email: sfprayertree@msn.com. We will pray for your requests for 2 weeks.
Social Concerns
45 Library Place - Metuchen 08840 - Parish Center
548-0100 x225

Food Donation Next Weekend: Please bring your donations to the Cathedral entrances to keep our Food Pantry well stocked for the needy. Consider making this gift a part of your Lenten routine.

Join us at the Lenten Bread and Soup Dinner
Thursday, March 1
5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Cathedral Community Room

Come and enjoy a meal of delicious homemade soup and a bountiful assortment of breads.
All Are Invited To Attend!
Free will offering for those in need.
Pots of Soup AND Volunteers WELCOME
Please contact Social Concerns 548-0100 x225


Catholic School 2018-2019 Tuition Assistance
Online Application Process OPEN
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 Saturday, March 31, 2018.
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 two Application Workshops, which will be held in 2 locations in February www.diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance and follow the Workshops link.

Eucharistic Ministers: March 3/4
5:00pm C. Coleman, M. Perullo, L. Dalton, S. Francis, D. Reilly, C. Saggese, S. Tamasco, J. Franklin
7:00pm J. Pasquale, J.G-Campbell, M.&W. Manza, N. Davis, J. Bundoc
7:30am S. Roolo, J.K. Burke, C. Kozak, D. Monek, J. Carey, R. Dowdy,
9:00am P. Zensky, R. Altz, R. Quaglia, P. John, D. Reilly, A. Carelli, T./N. Rossi
10:30am F. Belmont, D. Pappalardo, M. Garni, A. Bianchini,
R&R Coquia
12:00pm E. Swan, S. Fernandez, J.& M. Hernandez,
R. Cron, M. Kolomatis, D. Rossi

Lectors: March 3/4
5:00pm: Al & Judy Kendziora/7:00: Jerry LaPointe
7:30am: Kathleen Burke/9:00am: Russell Lawyer
10:30am: Michael McCunney/12:00pm: Joachim Licameli

Altar Servers: March 3/4
5:00pm Team 7 7:00pm Team 8
7:30am Team 9 9:00am Team 10
10:30am Team 11 12:00pm Team 12

Keep Up with Bishop Checchio by going to Diocesan Website: http://diometuchen.org/bishop/