Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi

32 Elm Avenue  Metuchen, NJ 08840

Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA  Bishop of Metuchen
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

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: 1:30pm 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.

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

- PARISH GROUPS -
- Adult Acolytes: John Grigo (548-0100)
- Body of Christ Prayer Group: Pam Gendlek-pzgendlek@comcast.net
- Cathedral Choirs: 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-Presidents: Angela Kelly/Brooke Garcia - HSA@stfranciscathedralschool.org
- Knights of Columbus: KotC3272.web.com
- Legion of Mary: Fri. 11:00am - Rod Altz (548-0100)
- Marriage Encounter: Russ and Janet Baker - jnrbaker@optonline.net
- Marriage Prep: Pam Schleck-schleckfamily@gmail.com
- Mens’ Group: Tom Thomas:sfc.mensgroup@gmail.com
- MOMS Group: Sandra Spinelli:sandra@spinelli.us
- Parish Historical Guild: Rod Altz (548-0100)
- Parish Prayer Tree: Belinda Coakes-sfrayertree@msn.com
- Rosary Altar Society: Carmela Guarnera (548-0100)
- Scripture Study: Pat Morgan - (548-0100)
- Widows/Widowers: naunijud@hotmail.com

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

**SUNDAY, March 4 - Third Sunday of Lent**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Regina Grace r/o Ed &amp; Jean Lyons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Lenny Klein r/o Roubo Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Peter Joyce r/o Mom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Dolores Schneller r/o Eileen Phillips</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MONDAY, March 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>Linda Ann Capps r/o Noel, Sarah, Brynn Naughton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Giuliana Velona r/o Nicole, Robert &amp; Gabriella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10pm</td>
<td>Clara Targonski r/o Trish Wechter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TUESDAY, March 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>((Liv.) In Thanksgiving Juanito &amp; Veronica Tan r/o Tan Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Emil DePasquale r/o Wife &amp; Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10pm</td>
<td>Salvatore D’Amico r/o Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEDNESDAY, March 7 - Saint Perpetua & Saint Felicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>James DeMary r/o Diane Baralecki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Mariusz Malinowski r/o Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10pm</td>
<td>Shawn Juchnewicz r/o Aunt Joan, Tom &amp; Izabell Juchnewicz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THURSDAY, March 8 - Saint John of God**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>Timothy Horan r/o Michael White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Marie Pereira r/o Pereira Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10pm</td>
<td>Lea Liparini r/o Peluso Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FRIDAY, March 9 - Saint Frances of Rome**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>Stephen Crosby r/o Sabrina Burnett Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Caterina &amp; Antonio DeBartols r/o Agostino &amp; Maria Pugliese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10pm</td>
<td>Florencia &amp; Rufino Samson r/o Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SATURDAY, March 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Eileen Moore r/o Margaret Manza &amp; Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Joseph Yoschak r/o Daughter Joanne Yoshak Franklin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Al Cocozziello r/o Riggio Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUNDAY, March 11 - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>Jim DeMary r/o Jane &amp; Art Paltz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Jim Davis r/o Patricia Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Joseph Wojciechowski r/o Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Ernesto &amp; Benilda Almeda r/o Ida Flores <em>Second Scrutiny</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

The Sanctuary Candle for this week has been donated in loving memory of Joseph Thang by The Cummings Family (in the Cathedral)

---

**Attention Altar Servers:** There will be Sign-Ups for all the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Contact Deacon J.P. Saggese at jpsaggese@verizon.net.
SERVING OVERSEAS: In Bulgaria: John Paul Moore II; and for all those serving in Covert Operations

SICK: Sr. Dolores Lew, Jovencio Cabanday, Pamela Ross, Frank Belmont, Ann Guarino, Wayne Tickenor, Blanca Sanchez, Genevieve West, John Mac, Elizabeth Murray, Irene Daly, Mark Annichiario, Rodolfo Alvarez, Jeanine Kachersky, Father of Chrissy Jurcsek, Philip Bruno, Dolores Hicks, Annie Bier, Lucille Falbo, Baby Genevieve Bonk, Margaret Swarbrick, Kathy Byram, Nadia Ruiz, Mary Anne Hale, Peter Barnes, Sr., Kathleen Carroll, Patricia Mulkerin, Kathleen Cremone, April Quinn, grandson of Sue & Bill Martin, Janice Grigo, Amy Olegario

DECEASED: Eileen Lee, Kathleen Stoffers, Roseann Grauso

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

GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING
Tithing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes &amp; Loose Cash</td>
<td>$16,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Offerings</td>
<td>$ 8,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$24,470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**e-Giving:** Please consider using our parish e-Giving program. Sign up at: [http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/faithdirect/](http://www.stfranciscathedral.org/faithdirect/)

Bible Study -- Untold Blessing
A new Bible Study has recently started. 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.

“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow mindedness....” —Mark Twain

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:

– **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.

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 today, **March 4**.

Successive Dates are: April 15 and a weekend retreat from June 15 - 17 to end the series. Suggested Donation for the Sunday afternoons is $10, which will help cover costs. Go to [www.diometuchen.org/young-adult-retreats](http://www.diometuchen.org/young-adult-retreats) or [www.loyola.org](http://www.loyola.org) /973-539-0740.

Mary's Way of the Cross
Come join us on this solemn journey as seen through the eyes of Mary, the Mother of Jesus as she follows her Son on His way to Calvary. Feel prayerful repentance and grateful redemption as we walk Jesus’ last steps. Feel Mary's sorrow, confusion and helpfulness, as well as her ever-present faith and unwavering loyalty while she witnessed her Son’s intense suffering. It will take place in the Cathedral on Friday **March 23** at 7:30pm, hosted by Rosary Altar Society.
Parish Notes...

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

–MONDAY: Catechist Training, 7:00pm, Joseph Rm.

–TUESDAY: Prayer Group meets at 1:00pm in the JPII Room; Journey Through Grief II, 7:00pm, Solarium; Men’s Group meets at 7:30pm in Solarium.

–WEDNESDAY: MOMS’ Group meets at 9:15am in the Mary Room/SFR; HSA General Meeting & Family Reading Night at 7:00pm in the CCR; Bereavement continues at 7:00pm in the Joseph Room; Provide-A-Meal & Social Concerns meet at 7:00 and 7:30pm respectively in the Solarium; CYO Board, 8:00pm, CYO

–THURSDAY: Bible Study of Untold Blessings continues in the JPII Room at 1:00pm or 7:15pm as you prefer; Body of Christ Prayer Group at 7:30pm in CCR

–FRIDAY: 24-Hours for the Lord begins in Cathedral; 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; SFCSchool Stations will be prayed at 1:30pm; Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner from 5:30 - 7:30pm in the Community Room.

–SATURDAY: 24-Hours for the Lord concludes.

–NEXT SUNDAY: Family Centered Religious Education Session takes place 9:15 - 11:30am in the Community Room; Filipino American Community gathers at 1pm in the Solarium; Parents of children who will receive Holy Communion in the spring are required to attend a mandatory Parents Meeting at 5:00pm in the Community Room.; MSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00pm, CYO.

–NEXT WEEKEND: Daylight Saving Time begins. Don’t forget to set your clock ahead one hour on Saturday night; Scrip will be available for purchase.

–Easter Flower Envelopes are available at Cathedral entrances. Donations may be made in honor of or in memory of a loved one, or simply as a gift to the Cathedral. Please be sure to indicate your intention on the envelope.

24 Hours for the Lord
“With you is forgiveness”

Once again, Pope Francis has called the Church to a more intentional and serious walk with the Lord during this holy season of Lent. He announced in his 2018 Lenten Message that March 9 and 10 would be designated as a special time called “24 Hours for the Lord.” Now in its fifth year, the theme of the 2018 worldwide observation is “With you is forgiveness” [Psalm 130]. Sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization, the initiative is simple, but profound. Every diocese in the world is asked to have at least one Church open for a 24-hour period with Eucharistic Adoration and times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In the Diocese of Metuchen, the following parishes are sponsoring this great opportunity to deepen our friendship with the Lord:

St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen
St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Bridgewater
St. Joseph, North Plainfield
St. Philip & St. James, Phillipsburg

In each of these parishes, located throughout the four counties of our diocese, the Church will be open from 9 a.m. Friday, March 9 through 9 a.m . Saturday, March 10. Each of the parishes will provide several opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance. At St. Joseph, North Plainfield and at St. Philip and St. James, Phillipsburg, confessions will be available in Spanish as well as English.

By uniting with Pope Francis’ universal call, we hope this will be a blessed opportunity of great renewal and conversion to the Lord during this holy season of Lent. The schedule for confessions at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi:

3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.; 6 a.m. to 8 a.m.

For more information, contact the parish directly or the Office of the Vicar for Evangelization and Communication, Diocese Metuchen: 732-529-7932.

2018 Bishop’s Annual Appeal
Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2018 Bishop’s Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen, Bishop’s Annual Appeal, P.O. Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000.
FYI: If you are suffering after an abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available. Experience God’s merciful love and begin the healing journey: Project Rachel -877-877-4300.

FYI: JFK Hospital in Edison is in need of volunteers. If you can give some of your spare time, please contact Margaret Wagner at 732-321-7000 x68342.

Paschal Meal
A Re-Enactment of the "Seder" in the context of the Last Supper will be held in the Community Room on Tuesday of Holy Week (March 27) at 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we celebrate a living Passover Meal - like that attended by Jesus and His Apostles. Share with your Parish Family an evening of food and prayer.

Reservations are necessary (use form below). Minimum donation: $8/Adults, $5/children under 12. If you can volunteer to help, phone Aileen McGuire (732-494-7080). Attention Teenagers: If you need Service Hours, your help with this event will be greatly appreciated. Phone Mrs. McGuire for the details.

Tear off and return to Rectory (or place in Collection Basket).

THE PASCHAL MEAL

Name______________________________
Phone No.__________________________
Adults______________
Children______________
Amount enclosed $__________

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.

R.C.I.A.
This week at the 7:00pm Vigil Mass, the first of three scrutinies will be celebrated with DANA ABBEY the elect of our parish (who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil Mass). The scrutinies afford the elect and the community the opportunity to examine our hearts and minds by the light of the gospel. Scrutinies are intended to heal what is weak, defective and sinful, and to protect the elect from temptation and allow us to encounter the sins that prevent us from quenching our thirsts with the "Living Water", who is Jesus our Redeemer. Please pray for DANA as she journeys towards baptism. Next Saturday she will celebrate the second scrutiny at the Noon Mass. Please remember to pray for our elect, DANA, as she prepares to receive Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. If you have not had an opportunity to take a prayer card and spiritually sponsor DANA during Lent, please take one from the doorways of the Church. A small note, or card, indicating your support, will help make her feel welcomed into our community. Bring it to the rectory, or drop it in the collection basket, addressed to the DANA ABBEY c/o RCIA.
A light reception will follow the Easter Vigil to welcome DANA into our Catholic family. All are invited! We would greatly appreciate any donation of cookies, brownies, or finger cakes for the reception. Please call Sara Sharlow @ 732-562-1990 x 1633 if you would like to contribute to the celebration.

Youth Group News
--On Sunday, May 20 our Youth Groups will be going to Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson for NJ 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.

--Gazillion Bubble Show, The Next Generation: On Thursday, April 5, travel by train to NYC, 9:15am leave CYO, return 7:00pm. The SHOW is at 11:00amat 340 West 50 street, NYC. Cost: $55 before March 22; $60 after March 22. First Come, First Served - Only 25 tickets available.

--Mar. 16, 23: YG Living Stations of the Cross, 5:00-7:00pm in Church. Dinner provided afterward.

--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: HSYG Pilgrimage Tour of SFCathedral, 6:30-8:00pm, followed by pizza.

--Mar. 25: YG Presentation of Living Stations of the Cross on Sunday at 7:00pm in the Cathedral.
"I, the Lord, am your God...  
You shall not have other gods besides me."

-- Exodus 20: 2a, 3

Keep Holy The Sabbath

There’s no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten Commandments (not the movie, the book). The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the most ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath.

If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift: one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims: “The law of the LORD is perfect, / refreshing the soul” (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.

Casting Out

All of us wish we could be holy, if only Jesus would come and do to the temple of our faith what He did to the temple of Israel's faith: cast out what doesn't belong. We don't seem to be able to do it for ourselves, at least not with much effectiveness. We try to pray and find ourselves daydreaming about what to make for supper, about the latest family argument, about the meeting we're going to attend, about where we're going to spend our money. We try to simplify, but we also like our lives the way they are. We like the cut of style, the thick of our lawn, the escape of vacation, the high from shopping or chocolate or daytime soaps or whatever catches our fancy. We wish we would love better, care better, have more compassion or patience, be more generous, but original sin always gets in the way--only we don't call it original sin. We say we don't have willpower or the energy.

So what are we to do? John's Gospel promises that God will come and drive such stuff from our lives. In fact, the promise is that God will do it whether we wish God to do it or not, which is probably a good move on God's part simply because most of us are a bit fearful of what God may clear away. --Rev. Joseph J. Jukniali
**Steubenville Retreat**
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. Our Star 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 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! Steubenville 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.

**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. 732-512-8332.

**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!

**Knights of Columbus Comedy KNight**
Our St. Francis Knights of Columbus are hosting a Comedy KNight on Thursday, March 22, proceeds from which will benefit our Cathedral Pipe Organ Restoration Fund. Doors open at 7:00pm and the show starts at 7:45pm at the KofC Hall, 24 Patrick Street, Edison. This is a BYOB event and light refreshments will be served. The night will feature Clean Comedy Only for those 21 years and over. Cost: $20 in advance; $24 at the door. Seating is limited. RSVP to Steve at: sjurcek@yahoo.com.

**Summer Camp 2018 Has Arrived!** Camp will run for eight weeks beginning on June 18 and ending on August 10. Our program is open to all children ages 4 - 13. 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 missed the Camp Information Night and have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rizzo at 732-548-3107/ RizzoM@stfranciscathedralschool.org. All forms are available at www.stfranciscathedralschool.org under the parents/students tab, then go to summer camp.

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.

**Lenten Opportunities**
- Take advantage of the many opportunities offered at the Cathedral for spiritual renewal during LENT.
- **Daily Mass:** Monday - Friday, 7:00, 8:00am; 12:10pm; Saturdays at 8:00am.
- **Lenten Morning Prayer:** Monday - Friday, 7:40am.
- **Rosary:** Monday - Friday, 11:45am; Saturday, 8:45am, preceded by Novena to Our Lady.
- **Bible Study:** Thursdays, 1:00pm & 7:15pm, JPII Room
- **Lenten Mission:** March 19, 20 & 21 directed by Sister Miriam Heidland, SOLT. Sr. Miriam is a renowned speaker - don’t miss your chance to hear her.
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Lady Chapel, Monday through Friday, 7:00am - 11:00pm.
- **Friday Stations of the Cross:** 12:50pm and 7:30pm; March 23 at 7:30pm is Mary’s Way of the Cross.
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Sundays, 1:00 - 2:00pm & 6:00 - 6:30pm or by appointment; not on Holy Saturday.
- **Living Stations of the Cross:** Presented by the Youth of the Cathedral Parish on Palm Sunday, March 25, 7:00pm.

**Call Me By Your Name:** Please join Church of the Sacred Heart, So. Plainfield which sponsors the In God’s Image Group, and other LGBT-welcoming parishes for a Lenten Afternoon of Reflection on Sunday, March 18, 1:30 - 6:00pm at San Alfonso Retreat House, Long Branch. The day, which is for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Catholics and their loved ones, will include Mass celebrated by Rev. Francis Gargani, C.Ss.R. To reserve a space or for more information, contact 908-822-5895 or email:SacredHeartGL@gmail.com.
**Social Concerns**

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

--Food Donation This 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.

--First Holy Communion Day is coming up. We are requesting First Communion dresses and suits for families in need. Veils, tights, socks, prayer books and rosaries are also appreciated. Make a difference in a child’s life on this very important day! Call Social Concerns: 732-548-0100 x225.


**Counseling Services Available**
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, offers Counseling & Wellness Services. Individual and family therapy is available for children and adults. If you, or someone you know, is in need of counseling, or has been impacted by addiction, we can help. Call 800-655-9491.

**You Might Be Interested In...**

--The Wood and The Stone, a workshop for those suffering from Grief, to be held at Mount Saint Mary Parlor, Watchung on Friday, March 9, 7:00 - 9:00pm. Call 908-753-2091.

--Catholic Men’s Conference at Seton Hall University on March 10, 8:00am - 4:30pm, Breakfast, Confessions, Music, Fellowship, Holy Hour, Adoration, www.njcatholicmen.org.

--Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape May Point offers weekly retreats in summer for families. Retreats focus on spirituality, as well as allowing time for attendees to enjoy the sunshine and seashore where the Retreat Center is located. Call 609-884-3829 for information on availability and pricing.

**Travel Opportunities**

--Poland’s Best with Fr. Joseph Kubiak, August 9 - 18, 2018, $2,950 from Newark includes airfare, surcharges, taxes, hotels, meals, entrance fees.St.JohnVianneyChurch at 732-574-0150.

--Faith and fun-filled Trip to Eastern Canada this summer, led by Fr. Jim Badeaux of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church. Fly from Newark. Call 908-725-0615 for information.

--Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, November 6 - 16, 2018

**Eucharistic Ministers: March 10/11**

5:00pm: K.Konick, E. Dick, E. Yunker, L. Dalton, N. Davis, C. Tomaro, K. Garner, P. John
7:00pm: M. Brossoni, R & K Aiello, D. Reilly, D. Zensky F./M. Firmanjah
7:30am: A. Pecht, S&D Kovach, E. Lishinsky, A. McCadden, D.Monek
9:00am: M.A. & R. Lawyer, R. Altz, A. Major, K. Kwiatkowski, J. Morrison, K. Schreck
10:30am: R.M. Fuchs, R. Bonk, J. & J. Grigo, J. Bundoc, F. Belmont, R. Baran, F. Corente, M. Garmi
12:00pm: A. Bautista, D. Rossi, J. & R. Baker, C & C Evangelista, L. Moriarty

**Lectors: March 10/11**

5:00pm: Kieran Esposito 7:00pm: Paul Zensky
7:30am: Ralph Quaglia 9:00am: James Dudley
10:30am: Marty & Mary. E. Malague 12:00pm: Catherine Barron

**Altar Servers: March 10/11**

5:00pm Team 13 7:00pm Team 14
7:30am Team 15 9:00am Team 16
10:30am Team 17 12:00pm Team 18