The Parish Family of St. Anthony of Padua

Parish Office: 436 Port Reading Ave., Port Reading, NJ 07064
Phone: 732-634-1403 • Fax: 732-602-0119 • www.saintanthonypadua.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Whatever your present status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race or color, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at the Parish Family of St. Anthony of Padua.

There are no Strangers at St. Anthony’s - Only Friends We Haven’t Met

FATHER WILLIAM J. SMITH, K.C.H.S. PASTOR
FATHER LAURO C. SEDLMAYER, PAROCHIAL VICAR
MICHAEL BRUCATO, DEACON  JOEY PERLAS, DEACON  PETER BARCELLONA, DEACON

St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site
436 Port Reading Ave., Port Reading, NJ

The Holy Eucharist
Saturday, Evening: 4:00 PM
Sunday, 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM
Daily: Tuesday & Wednesday: 7:30 AM
Thursday: 7:00 PM
Tuesday—Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal following 7:30 AM Mass
Thursday—Novena to St. Anthony following the 7:00PM Mass
Liturgy of the Hours - Prayed 20 minutes before Daily Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Thursday Evening: 6:30 PM
Saturday: 3:15 PM

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site
280 Amboy Ave. (Rt.35), Woodbridge, NJ

The Holy Eucharist
Saturday, Evening: 5:30 PM
Sunday, 9:30 AM Rosary prayed in Hungarian before Mass.
Divine Mercy Chaplet prayed after Mass.

Daily: Monday, Friday & Saturday: 8:00 AM
First Friday of the Month Devotions to the Sacred Heart Following the 8:00 AM Mass
First Saturday of the Month Devotions to Mary following Mass

Liturgy of the Hours - Prayed 20 minutes before Daily Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 4:45 PM

Parish Office Hours
Monday 8:30AM—3:30PM
Tuesday, 10:00AM—3:30PM
Wednesday 8:30AM—3:30PM
Thursday 8:30AM—5:30PM; 6:30PM—9:00PM
Office is CLOSED on Fridays
Closed for lunch each day at 12:45PM—1:30PM

www.saintanthonypadua.org
CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!

EMAIL:
Office: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Religious Education: religioused.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Bulletin bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com
Study Hall studyhalloffice@gmail.com or studyhalldirector@gmail.com
Youth Ministry jaamyouthministry4@gmail.com

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 17, 2017
Prayer for Catechists

O God, our Heavenly Father, you have given us the gift of these catechists to be heralds of the Gospel to our parish family.

We lift them up to you in thanksgiving and intercede for them concerning their hopes and needs.

May we be attentive to the presence of your Word in them, a Word that lifts up and affirms, calls forth and challenges, is compassionate and consoled.

We pray that our parish family will always be blessed with those who have responded to the call to share in Christ’s prophetic mission as catechists.

May we too be open to the universal call to service that Christ addresses to all of his disciples, contributing our gifts to the communion of faith, the Church.

We ask this in Jesus’ name.

Amen

This Week’s Scripture Readings

Sunday: Sirach 27:30–28:7
Psalms 103:1–4, 9–12
Romans 14:7–9
Matthew 18:21–35

Monday: 1 Timothy 2:1–8
Psalms 28:2, 7–9
Luke 7:1–10

Tuesday: 1 Timothy 3:1–13
Psalms 101:1b–3ab, 5–6
Luke 7:11–17

Wednesday: 1 Timothy 3:14–16
Psalms 111:1–6

Thursday: Ephesians 4:1–7, 11–13
Psalms 19:2–5
Matthew 9:9–13

Friday: 1 Timothy 6:2c–12
Psalms 49:6–10, 17–20
Luke 8:1–3

Saturday: 1 Timothy 6:13–16
Psalms 100:1b–5
Luke 8:4–15

Next Sunday: Isaiah 55:6–9
Psalms 145:2–3, 8–9, 17–18
Philippians 1:20c–24, 27a
Matthew 20:1–16a

Mass Intentions

at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

Tuesday, September 19th

7:30AM Susie Pelo
req. by Violet Pattay

Wednesday, September 20th

and Paul Chung Ha-sang and Companions

7:30AM Patricia Williams
req. by Joan Ballance & family

Thursday, September 21st

7:00PM Marty Nolan
req. by Brenda Cuntala

Saturday, September 23rd

4:00PM Nora Mazey (Birthday)
req. by her sister, Carmella & Nick Iannitto

Sunday, September 17th

25th Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00AM Donald Hahn (14th Anniversary)
req. by his wife, Dee

9:30AM Michael & Lillian Boris
req. by their daughter, Janice Martino

11:30AM Stella Wincek
req. by Margie Drobniwska & family

at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Worship Site

Monday, September 18th

8:00AM Maria & Frank Kozo
req. by Magdolna Herczeg

Friday, September 22nd

8:00AM Respect for Life in All Its Stages

Saturday, September 23rd

St. Pius of Pietrelcina

8:00AM Araceli Bernabe (Birthday)
req. by The Bernabe Family

5:30PM People of the Parish Family

Sunday, September 24th

25th Sunday In Ordinary Time

9:30AM Stephen & Julia Sziinske
req. by their grandchildren

Respensorial Psalm in Hungarian for September 17, 2017

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Irgalmas a mi Urunk, Istenünk: könyörületre hajlik sızve.
ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
SINGERS WANTED!!
OLD FACES!!!
Be an important part of the Eucharist Celebration!

All students in 3rd through 8th grade are invited to join the St. Anthony Children’s Choir.

Choir practice is every Tuesday afternoon at 4:30pm in the church. We sing at the Family Mass each month as well as on holy days and special occasions. Our first practice is Tuesday, Sept. 19th. It is truly a fun and rewarding way to serve God. Remember… “HE WHO SINGS, PRAYS TWICE.”
Votive candles burn constantly as a form of prayer and adoration. The candles burning this weekend are dedicated at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

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Pray for our brave soldiers & their families, our parishioners residing in nursing homes and care centers, the sick and homebound of our parish family, especially:

- Matthew Ackerman
- Celia Arroyo
- Noemi Arroyo
- Joseph Baumlin
- Lydia Bellino
- William Bunagave
- Marie Cacace
- Anthony Carreira
- Alexis Cavaciuti
- Alice Cavaciuti
- Elizabeth Clark
- Rosa Claudino
- Mario Coppola
- Michael DeFilippo
- Josephine Dellaguzzo
- Linda Drakoulis
- Richard Emory
- Veronica Evans
- Mikaela Febres
- The Fenyar Family
- Donna Furago
- Frank Grossman
- Joseph M. Hale
- Kim Hickman
- Jake Honig
- Brody Kasnowski
- Chris Killmurray
- Anna Kowalewski
- Robert Kowalewski
- Ronald Kutsy
- Evelyn Lamberti
- Rose Lagan
- Cynithia Larsen
- Josie LaSpina
- Kitty Lessuk
- Veronica Lisco
- Paul Marini
- Jean Martino
- Richard Martino
- Louis Masters
- Beverly Mayte
- Dorothy McDermott
- Thomas McNamara
- Joseph Mikos
- Tom Miller
- Evaristo Morales
- Mindy Nagy
- Paul Naumyik
- Jordy Pavey
- Robert Pavey
- Taylor Pavey
- Joan Petro
- Richard Petrowski
- Laura Poland
- Patsy Renaldi
- Peter Reuben
- Virginia Reuben
- John Sabin
- Michele Santamaria
- George Seibert
- Jackson Silva
- Natalia Sosnin
- Joseph Strunak
- Stanley Szymanik Sr.
- Francis Tierney
- Thomas Tiplady
- Maria Vieira

Let us join with Pope Francis I's prayer intention for Evangelization, September 2017...

That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.

Flowers
this weekend at
St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

Happy Birthday in Heaven
to our “Grandpa” Joseph Cunningham

Love & miss you,
your loving grandchildren & great-granddaughter

If you would like flowers for the altar for your special intention at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site or Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Worship Site please call the Parish office.

ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS are invited and encouraged to share Coffee & Conversation
on the first Sunday of the month,
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1st
In Father Milos Hall after the 8:00AM and 9:30AM Mass
Come share your vacation stories...
Come meet your neighbor....
Come join in fellowship....
Come—be a part of the “family”

ShopRite Gift Cards
At St. Anthony’s we have an ongoing fundraiser, ShopRite Gift Cards. When purchasing ShopRite gift cards, our Parish receives 5% of the proceeds. Gift Cards come in a variety of denominations and can be purchased in the Parish Office. Please consider helping St. Anthony’s the next time you shop.

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**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH**

**Next weekend’s second collection will be for our Utility Fund. Please be as generous as your means allow.**

“For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s.”

- Romans 14:8

*This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He wants you to use the gifts He has given you.*

**COUNTING TEAMS**

**MONDAY, September 18th**
- Team #8  R. Simeone, R. Sorbanelli

**MONDAY, September 25th**
- Team #1  P. & R. Sierminski

**BINGO**

**MONDAY, September 18th**
- 12:30PM  Bingo Team #3  Captain: R. Simeone  
  Caller – M. Oddo  
  Kitchen - J. Ballance, B. Walliser, D. Bortner

**FRIDAY, September 22nd**
- 7:30PM  Bingo Team #4  Captain: R. Sorbanelli  
  Caller – M. Oddo  
  Kitchen - J. Ballance, B. Walliser, D. Bortner

**SUNDAY, September 29th**
- 7:30PM  Bingo Team #3  Captain: R. Simeone  
  Caller – M. Oddo  
  Kitchen - J. Ballance, B. Walliser, D. Bortner

**LIFE CHAIN**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017  2:00 PM—3:30 PM**

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by participants of all faiths, especially the Christian community, that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

**Nearest Locations:**
- New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy 732-442-0512  
  Contact: Fr. Gordon  
  Janice O’Brien 732-727-1879  
  For more information contact the Office of Respect for Life Diocese of Metuchen at 732-562-1990 ext. 1543 or 1629 amarshall@diometuchen.org or www.diometuchen.org
Liturgical Minister Schedule

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA WORSHIP SITE

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday 09/23/17
4:00PM Volunteer Needed

Sunday 09/24/17
8:00AM Volunteer Needed
9:30AM K. Martino
11:30AM C. Greener, E. Roche

*STEP UP...When you come for Mass if you notice that there is no altar server, please volunteer to substitute. Just speak to Fr. Smith. Extra Albs are available.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Homebound Ministers 09/23/17—09/24/17
H. Pagliuca

Saturday 09/23/17
4:00PM J. Barcellona, J. Kondrk, H. Pagliuca

Sunday 09/24/17
8:00AM J. Pannullo, C. & E. Weiman
9:30AM D. & M. Martino, G. Pronti
11:30AM C. Coppola, B. Cuozzo, J. Kisielewski

READERS
Saturday 09/23/17
4:00PM R. Simeone

Sunday 09/24/17
8:00AM M. Russo
9:30AM S. Martino
11:30AM L. Emory

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL WORSHIP SITE

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday 09/23/17
5:30PM C. Torres

Sunday 09/24/17
9:30AM Volunteer welcome

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday 09/23/17
5:30PM G. Golden, M. Pereira

Sunday 09/24/17
9:30AM A. & V. Rabago

READERS
Saturday 09/23/17
5:30PM L. Quiray

Sunday 09/24/17
9:30AM V. Clarke

ST. ANTHONY STUDY HALL PROGRAM

ST. ANTHONY STUDY HALL
BEFORE AND AFTERCARE SERVICES FOR 2017 / 2018

Child Care ages 5-13
Before Care $7     After Care $12.50  Register Now
What’s Included?

Open 6:30am-6:30pm           Payment plans available
Open for delayed            Accepts Community Child-
openings and half days       care  Solutions
CPR & First Aid certified    NO REGISTRATION FEES
staff
Breakfast and snacks        NO DEPOSIT
included
After school homework help    Full month registration
provided
Indoor and outdoor          not required
activities
Low child to staff ratio    Discounts available
Conveniently Located to
NYC Transportation.

Transportation to and from: Port Reading School #9, Matthew Jago School #28, Mawbey Street School #1, Ross Street School #11, Avenel Middle, Woodbridge Middle, Columbus School, Minue School, Nathan Hale Carteret, Carteret Middle School, St. James Woodbridge, St. Joseph Carteret, Fords Middle, Ford Ave #14, Lafayette Estates #25

For more information contact them at: 732-634-6800 or email at studyhalldirector@gmail.com.

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

Please join us for a free Pasta Dinner at The Deacons’ Table!

Located at the Most Holy Rosary Worship Site of the Good Shepherd Parish
625 Florida Grove Rd., Hopelawn

Meals are offered every Wednesday 4:00-5:30PM!!!
Please join us and bring your family and friends!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:
BUS DRIVER

Part Time Bus Driver—2 to 3 hours a day. Must be 21 years of age or older. Will train and pay for licensing.

Before Care Help—We need 2 adults to work from approximately 7:00AM to about 9:00AM helping children with breakfast, games, and getting them off to school and on the appropriate buses.

All inquiries to Frank Cacace, Director
Study Hall Office: 743-634-6800   Cell: 732-754-8401
A JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

The eight (8) week sessions will start on Wednesday, September 27th at 7:00pm, in the Parish Center. Anyone who has suffered a loss and is in the healing process is welcome.

PLACE: Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi Parish
DATE: Wednesday, September 27, 2017
TIME: 7:00P.M.
CONTACT: Jessie Flynn 732-895-2563 or Jo Flanigan 732-548-0100 x225

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUND-RAISER
Thursday—October 5, 2017
4:30PM—7:00PM
Serving 4:30pm until 6:30pm
Bishop Ahr High School Cafeteria
One Tingley Lane, Edison

BGA STARS

David Santos
Sadie Ally
David was born with congenital heart problems. Not yet 1 year old and has had 2 open heart surgeries.
4 year old with a Wilms tumor She continues to undergo treatments.

ADULTS—$10.00
STUDENTS—$7.00
CHILDREN (under 12) - $4.00
For tickets call: 732-549-1108 ext. 648 or pick up their flyer from our narthex information desk.

Knights of Columbus—Middlesex Council #857 proudly presents the 2017 Oktoberfest
Saturday, October 7, 2017
7:00PM—12:00AM
Tickets: $35.00 per person
includes: German food, Beer, Wine, Soda, Dessert & Coffee
Entertainment by the “Cheers” Oompah Band
Real German music—Musicians proudly wear lederhosen
Vocals are in German as well as English.

Call: Ray Bober 732-636-5058 or Ed Kuchie 732-501-4482
Or send an email to Event.info.kc857@gmail.com and an order form will be sent to you.

Senior Bible Classes
Wednesdays through November 15th
10:30am—12:30pm
St. John Neumann Pastoral Center
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway
Topic: “Studying the Bible in Preparation for Sunday Mass”
Presented by Fr. Greg Uhrig
Fee: $5.00 per session Bring Your Bible.

ST, JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL
ALUMNI DINNER DANCE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 2017
Alumni Mass 5:30pm Dinner Dance 6:30pm Keating Gym
Honorees Nancy Bader Drumm ’73 Deacon Peter Barcellona ’75
For more information contact Bob Golden Class of ’77 by email at robertgolden@topproducer.com or by phone at 732-562-2463 or visit http://diomentuchen.org/2017-blue-mass.

16th Annual blue Mass for Law Enforcement
Bishop James F. Checchio cordially invites ALL the faithful in the Diocese to join him at the annual Blue Mass to pray for and with police officers and law enforcement personnel from the communities and towns from across Middlesex, Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren counties. Come to represent your parish and town, to support and pray for all our dedicated local, county, state and federal law enforcement officials and to honor those officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice through their service to others. For more information, call 732-562-2463 or visit http://diomentuchen.org/2017-blue-mass.

BUS IS SOLD OUT

Appearing at Monmouth University
Thursday, October 26th
Fee: $40 includes ticket & round trip transportation. Bus leaves 5:30pm from the parking lot across from Monmouth University Fire House.
However we are creating a WAITING LIST for those interested. If you’d like to drive down yourself or car pool you can purchase tickets by calling the University’s Box Office at 732-263-6889.
For further information call CAROL 732-969-1565.
**Fire Upon the Earth: a ‘New Evangelization’ Course**

Beginning in October the Diocese of Metuchen will be offering a nine month course to form people for the mission of evangelization in two locales—the St. John Neumann Center in Piscataway and St. Joseph Church, Washington. The classes will take place one Saturday per month from 9:00am—12:00pm. This course is a basic introduction to the ‘New Evangelization’ spoken of so often by our popes in recent years. The classes teach the fundamentals of evangelization as well as assist the participants to become evangelizers. An evangelistic retreat is incorporated into the content as well as different methods and practical tools available for use in the mission of evangelization.

*Fire Upon the Earth* is open to anyone who wants to understand what evangelization is and can commit to a 3-hour class once a month from September/October through May/June. In particular, parish evangelization team members, catechists, adult faith formation leaders, parish council members, priests, deacons and all those interested in fulfilling their baptismal call to spread the Good News of Jesus to the ends of the earth are invited to participate.

**Registration is required.** For more information go to: www.diometuchen.org/evangelization or contact the Office of Evangelization at 732-562-2469 or at evangelization@diometuchen.org.

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**You’re Invited**

*2017 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner*

Monday, October 16th, 2017

The Palace at Somerset Park

6:30 p.m. Cocktails

7:30 p.m. Dinner

Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for the 2017 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner where you will hear how American Standard, the well-known plumbing supply company that is part of LIXIL, joined forces with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen to renovate Naomi’s Way giving 12 low-income families a safe and attractive place to call their own. The dinner is an opportunity for us to publicly recognize our corporate partners while raising much-needed funds for our less-fortunate neighbors.

For dinner reservations and sponsorship opportunities, call 732-562-2438 or visit www.diometuchen.org/champions.

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**The 16th Annual CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE.”**

Saturday, October 14, 2017 8:30 am – 3:30 pm.

sponsored by the Diocese of Metuchen in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Newark

St. John Neumann Conference Center, Piscataway

Registration: $25.00. Fee includes lunch and handouts.

Expert speakers will address a variety of life issues including: “Abortion and the Art of Communicating Truth,” “Evangelization and Building a Culture of Life,” “Breathing Underwater – A Caregiver’s Journey of Hope” and “Organ Donation – The Gift of Life in the Midst of Sorrow”.

The speakers will give practical information as well as thought-provoking testimony of real life experiences. The Conference will also feature exhibits of products and services which pertain to some of these issues.

To register please visit [http://diometuchen.org/critical-life](http://diometuchen.org/critical-life) or call 732-562-1990 ext. 1629 or 1543. Seating is limited.
Foster a Child! Become a Treatment Home Parent with Catholic Charities Diocese Of Metuchen.

Treatment Parents are volunteers who provide consistent, flexible, and loving parenting to school age children in foster care who have histories of abuse and/or neglect. They work with Catholic Charities staff to become licensed by the State and receive ongoing training in areas such as behavior management, suicidal ideation, and drug/alcohol abuse. Treatment Parents are members of a professional team who work closely with their Catholic Charities Clinician to learn new behavior management techniques and therapeutic parenting skills. They provide a safe treatment home environment where they foster children by helping them heal from their past trauma. To become a Treatment Parent, applicants complete a screening process that includes fingerprinting, local police checks, interviews, home visits and reference checks. The TFH Program also arranges for pre-service education (PRIDE training) and ongoing training of all parents in the program.

If you are interested in becoming a Treatment parent and fostering a child, call 1-866-247-HOME if you are interested in fostering a child through this specialized program.) Thank you!

NJ CATHOLIC ADVANCE DIRECTIVES FOR HEALTH CARE FORM

The New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) Advance Directives for Health Care forms are available by contacting the Respect Life Office at 732-562-1990 ext. 1629 or 1543. An English of Spanish copy can also be downloaded from the NJCC website:

http://www.njcathcomf.com/content/respect_life_living_will.php

In addition, A Catholic Guide to End-of-Life Decisions is a resource made available by the National Catholic Bioethics Center. This document provides a clear explanation of the Church’s teaching on end-of-life care, including advance directives and physician assisted suicide. Individual copies of this guide can be ordered and downloaded online at www.nebcenter.org by clicking on “publications.”

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ~ DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Please consider supporting our local poverty relief services by donating gently used clothing, shoes, household items and small appliances to Catholic Charities-Diocese of Metuchen.

Clearly marked donation boxes are available in more than 30 locations throughout our four-county diocese including:

- St. John Vianney, Inman Ave., Colonia;
- O.L. of Most Holy Rosary—Florida Grove Rd. Hopelawn;
- Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Elm Ave., Metuchen
- St. James, Grenville St., Woodbridge

For a complete list of drop-off locations, visit http://www.ccdom.org/how-you-can-help/clothing-donation-drop-boxes.

If you have an item that is too big to fit in a donation box, call 877-343-3651 to arrange for a free pick up at your home.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT!

URGENT!

Take action to Oppose Assisted Suicide Bill—Update

New Jersey Senate bill S2474, the Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act, may be voted on in the next few weeks. An identical bill, A2451, passed the General Assembly on October 20th. If passed, this bill would allow physicians to prescribe drugs to end the lives of terminally ill patients who have been diagnosed with six months or less to live.

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

The facts are clear - in California, Vermont and Oregon - states that have passed assisted suicide bills - insurance companies have denied individuals healthcare coverage but offered them low cost drugs to end their life. One such example is Stephanie Packer, a young mother of four from California. Stephanie was recently denied insurance coverage for her new chemotherapy treatment but suicide drugs were approved by her insurance with a nominal co-pay of $1.20.

Other reasons to oppose assisted suicide legislation include:

- A six-month prognosis for a terminal illness is not always accurate. Often, with treatment, patients survive well beyond their prognosis.
- S2474 would allow the death certificate to list the cause of death as the underlying terminal disease - not assisted suicide. The cause of death should be listed as self-administered drugs that ended life. Why not tell the truth?
- Legalized assisted suicide would send the wrong message to vulnerable groups such as our troubled youth and to our veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Studies have shown that in states where assisted suicide has been legalized, overall suicide rates increase.
- There is no requirement for a physician to be present when the patient takes the lethal prescription. In fact there is no supervision of the drugs once they leave the pharmacy. Our society should embrace what Pope John Paul II called “the way of love and true mercy” —a readiness to surround patients with love, support, and companionship, providing the assistance needed to ease their physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering. Our duty is to assist those who are dying-not kill them. Please contact your state Senators today and urge them to oppose S2474 by visiting: http://njcatholic.org/faith-in-action. Also, contact Governor Christie (609-292-6000) and ask him to veto the bill if it reaches his desk.