The Parish Family
of
St. Anthony of Padua

Easter Sunday

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

APRIL 1, 2018
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

St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site
436 Port Reading Ave., Port Reading, NJ
732-634-1403  Fax: 732-602-0119

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

This is a traditional greeting and prayer between Christians during Easter Week.

Christ the Lord has Risen, Alleluia!
He Has Risen Indeed,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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
We’re on FACEBOOK, come and check us out!
Mass Intentions

at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Worship Site

Monday, April 2nd
8:00AM James E. Patten
req. by Herb & Bette Sullivan

Friday, April 6th
8:00AM Deceased Members of the former Rosary Society

Saturday, April 7th
8:00AM Paul Barrett
req. by George T. Miller, Jr.
5:30PM Betty Silvaney [Living Intention: 100th Birthday]
req. by David & Georgette Kalisch & family

Sunday, April 8th
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY
9:30AM Florencio Sy-Changco
req. by Ray & Cherie Gumapac
Responsorial Psalm in Hungarian for April 1, 2018 Easter Sunday
Ezt a napot a Úristen adta:
örvendjünk és vigadjunk rajta.

Mass Intentions

at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

Tuesday, April 3rd
7:30AM Louise Nicolich
req. by Susan & Elaine Sofman

Wednesday, April 4th
7:30AM Purgatorial Mass Society

Thursday, April 5th
7:00PM Frank, Helen & Nick Masters
req. by Rosemarie Masters

Saturday, April 7th
4:00PM Olga & John Kalina (on his 21st Anniversary)
req. by grandson, James Bamber

Sunday, April 8th
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY
8:00AM Louis Masters
req. by Ann Krystosiak
9:30AM George Sabol (Birthday)
req. by his wife, Gloria & children
11:30AM People of the Parish Family

Prayer Time with Father Smith for the people of the parish and the needs of the parish
Friday, April 6, 2018 8:30AM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site

The Parish Family of St. Anthony of Padua
Mission Statement

The Parish Family of St. Anthony of Padua
Is a diverse Community of Faith
Formed in July 2012 by the merging of
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Woodbridge (est. 1920)
with St. Anthony of Padua Church, Port Reading (est. 1904).
We proclaim the “Good News” of Jesus Christ
And the beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church.

We are committed to maintaining worship as a
Powerful experience of the presence of God through
Word, Sacrament, Music and Community.
We have a passion for Social Justice
and our duties toward all people.

We enrich the Faith of those in need through a
variety of ministries.
All are Welcome.

We strive to be a beacon of Faith, Hope and Love
while honoring God’s Presence in every person.

This Week’s Scripture Readings

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalms 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41
Psalms 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22
John 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10
Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26
Psalms 8:2, 5, 6-7, 8-9
Luke 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12
Psalms 118:1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27
John 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21
Psalms 118:1, 14-15, 16-18, 19-21
Mark 16:9-15

Psalms 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31

PARISH CONTACTS:

Office: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Bulletin: bulletin.stanthony@gmail.com
Study Hall: studyhalloffice@gmail.com or studyhalldirector@gmail.com

Religious Education: religoused.StAnthony1@gmail.com
CHRIST IS RISEN!

ALLELUIA!!!

On behalf of Father Lauro Sedlmayer,
Deacon Mike Brucato, Deacon Joey Perlas,
Deacon Peter Barcellona,
and myself
may you and those you love have a
Blessed, Peaceful and Joyous
Easter!

Father Smith

PASCHAL CANDLES
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Worship Site
was donated for
A Special Intention

Saint Anthony of Padua Worship Site
was donated in
Loving Memory of my Dad,
Carmen Pagliuca
Love, daughter,
Marie

The side Altar Candles
In Loving Memory of our Grandfather,
Carmen V. “Champ” Pagliuca
at the request of
Danielle, Nicholas & Amanda

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
….an HOUR WITH JESUS

We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration
at St. Anthony of Padua every Thursday
from 2:00PM to 9:00PM. The Divine Mercy
Chaplet and Rosary are prayed at 3:00PM.
Please consider joining us for the hour or even a half-hour. Please feel free to join us whenever and as often
as you wish. All are welcome!

From the Desk of Fr. Smith, k.c.h.s.

The parish office will be closed
Monday, April 2nd.
We wish you a Blessed and
Happy Easter.

GIFT MASS
April 28, 2018 4:00pm

The parish office will be closed
Monday, April 2nd.
We wish you a Blessed and
Happy Easter.

2,000 Hail Marys

During these times of turmoil and uncertainty, Pope
Francis urges us to pray more fervently and
consistently to bring about God’s peace and social
justice throughout the world. Since we believe that our
Blessed Virgin Mary is our greatest intercessor and our
Perpetual Help, we invoke her unfailing and powerful inter-
cession during these uncertain times.

Please join us in praying 2,000 Hail Marys at Our Lady of
Mt. Carmel Church EVERY FIRST SATURDAY OF
THE MONTH. Our next prayer session will be on
Saturday, April 7th. Prayers will begin at 9:00AM after the
8:00AM Mass. Come, stay for a half-hour, a hour or more
and you will be blessed. You may also send us your
personal intentions or petitions or drop them in a box at the
front of the altar and we will pray for them.

The Eucharist is a gift that we have been abundantly
graced with. Please join us in prayer and supplication, as
we strive to make the Eucharistic moment a moment of true
adoration and thanksgiving to our Lord Jesus Christ, who
is truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

FAITH FORMATION

G.I.F.T.
Monday, April 9th / Wednesday 11th

MENU
Hot Dogs, French Fries,
Salad, Dessert

Sacramental
Formation Program

All Students in Sacramental Formation are required to
obtain a bulletin, have it
signed by the celebrant or deacon
after Mass each weekend and submit it to their next
Sacramental Formation class. Be sure their name is on it.

Class Schedule:
Communion Level 1 & 2
Wednesday, April 18
Wednesday, April 25

Confirmation Level 1 & 2
Monday, April 23

G.I.F.T.
Monday, April 9

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as you wish. All are welcome!

FOOD DRIVE MINISTRY

Our monthly food drive will be held the weekend
of April 7th & 8th. Please be as generous as your
means will allow. Your donation of food items is greatly
appreciated and will enable us to provide for those in need.
Just a reminder...Please do not send in any perishable items.

The ministry members working are asked to be in the Father
Milo Hall at 10:00 am on Sunday morning.
The members working this month are:
J. Ballance
Delivery: H. Sullivan (Tuesday, April 10th)

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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.

**TABERNACLE**
In Loving Memory of our dear parents, Maria & Carmen req. by Albina & Victor D’Alessio
In Loving Memory of John J. Kalina Sr. as you celebrate your 21st Anniversary with our Lord req. by Jackie, James, Andrea, Andy, Max & Kaela
In Loving Memory of my husband, Joseph Cunningham req. by wife, Angela & family

**GOOD SHEPHERD**
In Loving Memory of Gordon & Ann Ur, John Patrick & Owen req. by their family
In Loving Memory on your 18th Anniversary in Heaven Mom, Lauretta Michels-Dato req. by daughter, Claire Miloscia

**CROSS OF SAN DOMIANO**
In Loving Memory of Frederick Harris req. by Claire & Larry Miloscia
In Loving Memory of my husband, Anthony “Nino” LaSpina celebrating your 4th Anniversary in Heaven req. by loving wife, Josephine


Let us join with Pope Francis I’s prayer intention for April 2018…For those who have Responsibility in Economic Matters.

That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

**PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Priest(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 2</td>
<td>All Priests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 3</td>
<td>Rev. Thomas Perunilam, Rev. James McGuffey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 4</td>
<td>Rev. Gerardo Paderon, Rev. Krzysztof Kaczynski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 5</td>
<td>Msgr. Seamus Brennan, Rev. Raymond Leonard</td>
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<td>Apr. 6</td>
<td>Very Rev. Robert Kolakowski, Rev. Michael Gromadzki</td>
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<td>Apr. 7</td>
<td>Rev. John Primich, Rev. Stanley Walega</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 8</td>
<td>Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, DD</td>
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**REST IN PEACE**
Please remember in your prayers the souls of:

**ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARIES:**
During the month of April, please remember those parishioners who died a year ago:

- Anniversary of Death
  - Barbara Ryan — April 4th

**MISSION MASS**
The souls of: Requested by:...
- Helene Joe, Mary & Tom Balint
- Raphaele Germinario, Mr. & Mrs. Vincent R. Martino
- A Mass will be offered in private.

**PURGATORIAL MASS SOCIETY**
The souls of: Requested by:...
- Veronica Seibert, Debra Stuart & Christina Burns
- John “Monty” Montecalvo, Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Martino
- Pearl Markowski, Peggie & Carmen Margiotto
- Francesco Losito, Sergio & Luz LoBasso
- Raphaele Germinario, Anthony & Cheryl D’Ori
- Raphaele Fraterolo Germinario, Joe & Ginny King & family
- John “Monty” Montecalvo, St. Anthony of Padua Parish Family
- John Misa, Deacon Mickey & Colleen Coppola
- Anthony Nardone, Anthony & Cheryl D’Ori

They have been enrolled into the St. Anthony’s Perpetual Mass Society. They will be remembered in a special Mass during the first week of the month alternating between our two worship sites. (Odd months on the First Saturday at 8:00AM at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel; even months on the First Wednesday at 7:30AM at St. Anthony of Padua.)

Within the next few weeks we’ll be updating our Prayer List. Please contact Jackie at the parish office if you or a loved one needs to remain on or be placed on our list for prayers. Please call the parish office at 732-634-1403 or contact her via email at bulletin_StAnthony@verizon.net., subject: Prayer List.
**The Week Ahead at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site**

**Monday, April 2nd**
Parish Office & Study Hall Closed

**Tuesday, April 3rd**
- Study Hall: 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall
- AA: 7:30PM Fr. Milos Hall

**Wednesday, April 4th**
- Study Hall: 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall
- Port Reading/Sewaren Srs.: 11:00AM Sycamore Center

**Thursday, April 5th**
- Study Hall: 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall
- Eucharistic Adoration: 2:00PM Chapel
- Chaplet / Rosary: 3:00PM Church
- Confessions: 6:30PM Church
- AA: 8:00PM Fr. Milos Hall

**Friday, April 6th**
- Study Hall: 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall
- Bingo: 7:30PM Fr. Milos Hall

**Saturday, April 7th**
Confessions: 3:15PM Church

**Sunday, April 8th**
- Coffee & Conversation after the 8:00 & 9:30AM MASS
- God’s Little Helpers: 9:30AM Fr. Milos Hall
- Holy Name A/C Bus Trip: 10:30AM Sycamore Center
- Private Prayer: 1:00PM Church
- Chaplet: 3:00PM Church

**The Week Ahead at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Worship Site**

**Friday, April 6th**
- Prayer Time / Fr. Smith: 8:30AM Chapel
- Novena (Sacred Heart of Jesus): 7:30PM Church
- **First Friday Mass**: 8:00PM Church
  *Followed by fellowship in Church basement*

**Saturday, April 7th**
- Mass followed by 2000 Hail Mary’s: 8:00AM Church
- Confessions: 4:45PM Church

**Stewardship: God’s Plan for Giving**

Due to our bulletin publisher’s holiday schedule the contributions for our Easter Flowers and Palm Sunday, March 25th will be published in an upcoming bulletin.

**COUNTING TEAMS**

**MONDAY, April 2nd**
- Team: Special Counting Team

**SUNDAY, April 8th**
- Team #3: N. Ackerman, C. Ellis, R. Kierstead

**ENCOUNTER THE RISEN CHRIST**

We prayed, fasted and gave alms—now we celebrate Easter joy! Our Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl ends as we encounter our Risen Lord. We reflect on our brothers and sisters we have walked with, and we commit to bringing Easter joy to each person we meet in our daily lives. Don’t forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl at St. Anthony of Padua / Our Lady of Mt. Carmel worship sites on the weekend of April 14th / 15th.

As a Parish Family we rejoice and celebrate the gifts of life and love that God has given to us all. We offer to all those celebrating their birthdays this month our best wishes and prayers that God may continue to bless them abundantly in the years ahead.

**St. Anthony of Padua Holy Name Society’s BUS TRIP to Caesars**

**Sunday, April 8, 2018**

$26.00 per person  —  $30 back to you in Casino money on arrival

Bus will depart at: 10:30AM *from the Sycamore parking lot on Old Road (just off Port Reading Ave.)*

For information contact: Garry Sutphen at 732-841-4618
**Liturgical Minister Schedule**

| **ALTAR SERVERS** |  
| **OUR LADY OF MT. CARME WORSHIP SITE** |  
| **Saturday** |  
| 04/07/18 |  
| 4:00 PM | Volunteer Needed |  
| **Sunday** |  
| 04/08/18 |  
| 8:00 AM | Volunteer Needed |  
| 9:30 AM | S. LaMorte, V. LaMorte |  
| 11:30 AM | A. Dohanyos, M. Dohanyos |  

**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** | 04/07/18—04/08/18 |  
| **K. Brenner** |  
| **Saturday** | 04/07/18 |  
| 4:00 PM | J. Bamber, K. Brenner, L. Casey, A. Fowler |  
| **Sunday** | 04/08/18 |  
| 8:00 AM | J. & M. Balanlayos, M. Balint, K. Masarik |  
| 9:30 AM | K. & M. Mitterando, O. & R. Sandoval |  
| 11:30 AM | C. Coppola, J. Kisielewski, J. Sciandra, F. Scognamiglio |  

**READERS**

| **Saturday** | 04/07/18 |  
| 4:00 PM | R. Leone |  
| **Sunday** | 04/08/18 |  
| 8:00 AM | T. Casey |  
| 9:30 AM | P. Emory |  
| 11:30 AM | M. Oddo |  

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**Do you need a quiet weekend away just to spend time with the Lord?**

Come and join us for a restful weekend at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch Friday, May 18th through Sunday, May 20th, 2018.

The cost is $220.00 for the whole weekend (meals are included) a $50.00 Non-refundable deposit is required by April 20th.

For information call Colleen Coppola at 732-331-4151.

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**CLOTHING DRIVE**

We’re collecting: Wearable & Useable Clothing; Shoes, Belts, Handbags, Linens (bedding, curtains, towels, etc), Stuffed Animals.

**PLEASE PLACE ALL ITEMS IN TIGHTLY TIED PLASTIC GARbage BAGS READY FOR PICK UP.**

**DROP OFF DATES:** You may drop off bags at the Parish Office (during Office Hours) or in the narthex on the weekends after Mass beginning **NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 9**

**THROUGH**

**SUNDAY, April 22nd**

See next week’s bulletin for more details.

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**NEED A GIFT IDEA? THINK SHOP-RITE GIFT CARDS.**

At St. Anthony’s we have an ongoing fund raiser, Shop-Rite Gift Cards. When purchasing Shop-Rite 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 next time you shop.
DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Commencing in the new year, Eucharistic Adoration will be held in the chapel at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway. Volunteer adorers and intercessors are needed Monday through Friday during business hours to pray for the intentions of the diocese. For information or to volunteer, call Laura at 732-529-7932 or email her at the following: evangelization@diometuchen.org.

DESIGNER POCKETBOOK FUNDRAISER
Friday, April 13th, 2018
Designer Pocketbooks—50/50 Raffle—Gift Basket Raffles
Mercy Hall—1645 US Highway 22, Watchung
Admission: $40 includes 20 Bingo Sheets
No Admission Tickets Sold at the Door
For an order form or for more details please pick up their flyer from the entrances of both worship sites.

7th GRADE FRESHMAN FOR A DAY
Students in the 7th grade are invited to spend the day at Union Catholic High School as a Freshman for a Day to get a first-hand look at what it is like to be a student at UC. Parents should call the admissions office at 908-889-1600 ext. 302

OPEN HOUSE - Wednesday, April 25th
Any questions please call the Admissions Office at 908-889-1600 ext. 302

BISHOP GEORGE AHR HIGH SCHOOL
One Tingley Lane, Edison
SPRING OPEN HOUSE
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018   7:00PM
MOTHER SETON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
One Valley Road, Clark   732-382-1952   www.motherseton.org
Advanced Placement & College Preparatory Curriculum
The future is MOTHERSETON!
OPEN HOUSE
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018   7:00PM
6th & 7th Graders—be a freshman for a day—the Mother Seton Way!!

MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN OFFICE OF CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION
HOW TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE
If you were sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement, through the diocesan website (www.diometuchen.org), or by calling Lawrence Nagle, Diocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection, (732) 562-2413.
COUNSELING AND WELLNESS SERVICES

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Metuchen is offering Counseling and Wellness Services. If you or someone you know needs counseling or is impacted by addiction, we can help. Individual and family therapy for children and adults is available. For an appointment, call (800) 655-9491.

Are you suffering after an Abortion? Help is available!
If you or someone you know is suffering after an abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available! Experience God’s merciful love and begin the journey of healing:

Call Project Rachel
local toll-free helpline number: 877-877-4300 or visit HopeAfterAbortion.org.
Spanish-speakers may visit EsperanzaPosaborto.org; call Sisters of Life at 866-575-0075; or email: hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org

Action Alert to Support DREAM Act of 2017
The Dream Act of 2017 (S. 1615 / H.R. 3440) was recently introduced in Congress as a bipartisan effort. The bills are intended to protect immigrant youth who entered the United States as children and know America as their only home. The bills offer qualifying immigrant youth “conditional permanent resident status” and a path to full lawful permanent residency and eventual citizenship. These bills would protect numerous youth, including the over 780,000 individuals who received temporary relief from deportation and employment eligibility through the Department of Homeland Security’s Deferred action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

The young people S. 1615 / H.R. 3400 seeks to protect are contributors to our economy, veterans of our military, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes and communities. As Catholics, we have long supported DREAMers as we believe in protecting the dignity of every human being, especially that of our children.

To make your voice heard visit: https://justiceforimmigrants.org/actions/alerts/action-alert-support-dream-act-2017/

24 HOUR HOT LINE

Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a 24 hour prayer line for those who desire prayer for special needs. If you, a family member or friend would like to be remembered in prayer for a temporary or permanent illness, please call us and leave a detailed message at 732-765-6431 or email our office: catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com

Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a Facebook page that provides daily updates with short inspirational reflections for people with disabilities, family members and care givers. The site also provides endless resources for those with physical, emotional, cognitive, visual, auditory and other special challenges. To access our Facebook page (even if you are not a member of Facebook), type the following into your search engine: Diocese of Metuchen Office for Persons with Disabilities.

EnCOURAGE….Courage is a spiritual support group helping Catholic men and women live in accordance with the Catholic Church’s teaching about same-sex-attraction and discipleship. Courage members strive to develop lives of interior chastity in union with Christ, through participation in the Sacraments, prayer, fellowship and moral support. Courage meets within the Diocese with a priest chaplain. EnCourage is a separate spiritual support group for family members and friends of loved ones with same-sex-attraction. For information about locations and meeting times for each of these groups call: 732-562-2476 for Courage (email: couragecnj@gmail.com) and 732-248-9460 for EnCourage. Also visit the national website at Couragecnj.org. All contacts are confidential.

THE COMMUNITY HOUSE AT ST. THOMAS

"Community House at St. Thomas, in Old Bridge, is a program managed by Catholic Charities and provides affordable, accessible housing for adults of very low income who have physical disabilities. Up to 8 physically challenged adults live together as a group, functioning to their individual level of independence, and with professional case management services provided. If you or someone you know is in need of this type of housing, please call Susan at 732-251-0022 or go to www.communityhouse-saintthomas.org for information. We look forward to hearing from you.

ST. PETER’S GIANNA CENTER

The Center is dedicated to offering truly prolife women’s health care, including infertility services, general gynecologic care, and more. All services are provided in accordance with the US Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. For more information visit: http://www.saintpetershcs.com/GiannaCenter/ or contact us at 732-565-5490.
Please Support A3452/S2026, the NJ Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act

There is substantial medical evidence that babies in the womb feel pain at a very early stage of gestation. Thanks to advancements in medicine, babies as young as 20 weeks post-fertilization can survive and thrive with appropriate care and treatment. Experts in the field of Maternal-Fetal medicine routinely administer pain medication as standard medical practice when performing fetal surgery because they recognize these babies as patients.

The NJ Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (A3452/S2026) will protect babies in the womb at 20 weeks and older who are capable of feeling pain and ensure that babies born alive during an abortion will be given the same proper life-saving medical care given to premature infants.

We are happy to report that A3452/S2026, the NJ Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act has been introduced in the NJ Legislature. We thank the sponsors of this bill for wanting to protect babies in the womb and the lives of women. This bill is modeled after H.R. 36, the Federal bill by the same name. Passing this legislation is part of the 2020 Project, a collaborative effort by pro-life groups in NJ to protect babies in the womb who are capable of feeling pain at 20 weeks gestation.

Take Action Now!

◊ Pray for the protection of babies in the womb and their families.
◊ Contact your NJ State Senator and Assembly Members and ask them to support A3452/S2026, the “Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.”

To find your NJ State Senator and two Stat Representatives by district/town, visit: http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/districts/municipalities.asp. For information on this initiative or to obtain a car magnet or sticker, please visit www.babiesinthewombfeelpain.com.

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.

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.njccatholic.org/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.ncbcenter.org by clicking on “publications.”