They made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, “John is his name,” and all were amazed. - Lk 1:62-63

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

A Prayer for Graduates of 2018

Father, I have knowledge, so will You show me now, how to use it wisely and find a way somehow.

To make the world I live in a little better place, and make life with its problems a little bit easier to face.

Grant me faith and courage and put purpose in my days, and show me how to serve Thee in effective ways.

So my education, my knowledge and my skill may find their true fulfillment as I learn to do Thy will.

And may I ever be aware in everything I do, that knowledge comes from learning, and wisdom comes from You.

Amen

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!

Office: info.StAnthony1@gmail.com
Religious Education: religiousestäntony1@gmail.com
Bulletin bulletin.StAnthony@gmail.com
Study Hall studyhalloffice@gmail.com or studyhalldirector@gmail.com
Youth Ministry jaamyouthministry4@gmail.com
This Week's Scripture Readings

**Sunday:**
- Isaiah 49:1-6
- Psalms 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15
- Acts 13:22-26
- Luke 1:57-66, 80

**Monday:**
- 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18
- Psalms 60:3, 4-5, 12-13
- Matthew 7:1-5

**Tuesday:**
- 2 Kings 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36
- Psalms 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11
- Matthew 7:6, 12-14

**Wednesday:**
- 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3
- Psalms 119:33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40
- Matthew 7:15-20

**Thursday:**
- 2 Kings 24:8-17
- Psalms 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9
- Matthew 7:21-29

**Friday:**
- Acts 12:1-11
- Psalms 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
- 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
- Matthew 16:13-19

**Saturday:**
- Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19
- Psalms 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21
- Matthew 8:5-17

**Next Sunday:**
- Psalms 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13
- 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
- Mark 5:21-43

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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.

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**Mass Intentions**

**at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site**

**Tuesday, June 26th**
- 7:30AM Antonio Prestien Lopez
  req. by Carmella Giordano

**Wednesday, June 27th**
- 7:30AM Barbara Krissak (3rd Anniversary)
  req. by her loving family

**Thursday, June 28th**
- 7:00PM St. Anthony Parish Family—
  Thank You for Your Prayers for our son, Chris
  req. by The Killmurray Family

**Saturday, June 30th**
- First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
  4:00PM Frank & Anna Sciscilo
  req. by their daughter, Terri Heil

**Sunday, July 1st**

**13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
- 8:00AM Maureen Kaehler Bellasalmo
  req. by Jo & Nick Cinelli
- 9:30AM Christopher Killmurray
  req. by his loving parents, Frank & Lynn
- 11:30AM Margaret Van Pelt
  req. by Carol & Lewis Huber & family

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**Prayer Time with Father Smith for the people of the parish and the needs of the parish**

**Thursday, June 28th**
- 3:00PM at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

**Thursday, July 12th**
- 5:30PM at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

No “Prayer Time” the week of July 1st

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**Responsorial Psalm in Hungarian for June 24, 2018 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

Az Úrnál az irgalom, és bőséges a megváltás nála.
To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling $27,577.00 and payments totaling $23,212.75 from 219 parishioners. This represents 114.9% of our $24,000.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts!!

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
...an hour with JESUS

We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration at St. Anthony of Padua through June 28th, from 2:00PM to 9:00PM. The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary are prayed at 3:00PM. All are welcome!

As we have done in the past years, we will not have Adoration during July and August. Adoration will resume on Thursday, September 7th.

Many thanks to all for your devotion to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. May you and your families be blessed with a Happy, Safe & Restful Summer!

PILGRIM STATUE OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA is being honored this coming week, Thursday, June 28th—Tuesday, July 3rd at the home of Kaveen Benedict

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH FEAST DAY RAFFLE WINNERS

DRAWING...JUNE 13, 2018 828 TICKETS SOLD 17 WINNERS

GRAND PRIZE (40%)..........$4,140.00 #2029 Margaret Moricz
2ND PRIZE (20%)……$2,070.00 #1578 Dave & Sue Weidele
3RD PRIZE (4%)……$414.00 #2121 Joe & Debbie Caffarelli
4TH PRIZE (4%)……$414.00 #0920 Garret Sutphen
5TH PRIZE (4%)……$414.00 #2134 Mrs. Bridget Oberhuber
6TH PRIZE (4%)……$414.00 #2938 Ruben Rivera
7TH PRIZE (4%)……$431.50 #0707 The Koblis Family
8TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #0602 Ann McDonald
9TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #1794 Joan Menichiello
10TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #0470 K. Masarik
11TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #0387 Nancy Jacob
12TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #0187 Maria & Peter Ryan
13TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #1007 Ermy O. Bonus
14TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #2747 Rosalie Rogan
15TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #1833 Helene Pozarycki
16TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #2242 Albina D’Alessio
17TH PRIZE (2%)……$207.00 #2040 Terri Heil

Please plan ahead….
St. Anthony of Padua parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.
Thursday, July 5th the office will be open 8:30am—3:30pm. No Evening Hours.
We congratulate our graduates

Avenel Middle School
Avenel, NJ
Nicholas G. DiLauro
Child of Cassie & Nicholas J. DiLauro

Carlstadt Public School
Carlstadt, NJ
Daniel Hugo Pronti
Nephew of Gloria Pronti

Cross Roads South Middle School
South Brunswick, NJ
Nicholas R. Lagomarsino
Grandchild of Ed & Vera Lagomarsino

Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School
Freehold, NJ
Jordan Isabella Gere
Grandchild of Annamae Zeher

Edgar Middle School
Metuchen, NJ
Haley Sullivan
Grandchild of Herb & Bette Sullivan

Katie Sullivan
Grandchild of Herb & Bette Sullivan

New Egypt Middle School
New Egypt, NJ
Matthew Dammann
Grandchild of Elizabeth “Betsy” Dodd

Notre Dame Catholic School
Bethlehem, PA
Jake Costello
Grandchild of Herb & Bette Sullivan

St. Jane Frances de Chantal
Easton, PA
Ronald “RJ” Farina, Jr.
Child of Amy (Russo) & Ronald Farina
Grandchild of Pat & Al Russo

St. John the Apostle School
Clark, NJ
Madison Kologi
Child of the late Gloria (Sabol) Kologi
Grandchild of Gloria & the late George Sabol
Grandniece of Susan & Michael Burns

Randolph Middle School
Randolph, NJ
Drew Hull
Child of Robyn (Aversa) & Richard Hull
Grandchild of Bob & Diane Aversa

Woodbridge Middle School
Woodbridge, NJ
William Dempsey York III
Child of Linda & William York
Great-grandchild of Violet Vidal
Grandchild of Ernest & Roseann Margiottio

Academy Way D. Morrow High School
Englewood, NJ
Charles Sorbanelli
Nephew of Robert Sorbanelli

Beckton High School
East Rutherford, NJ
Anthony Pronti
Nephew of Gloria Pronti

Bethlehem Catholic High School
Bethlehem, PA
Sean Costello
Grandchild of Herb & Bette Sullivan

Bishop Ahr High School
Edison, NJ
Robert Mark DeSantis, Jr.
Child of Robert & Maryann DeSantis
Grandchild of Jackie & the late Paul DeSantis
Grandchild of Burt & Maureen Trebour

John Francis Obolsky, II
Child of John F. Obolsky
Brother of Samantha Obolsky
Hannah Skarzynski
Grandchild of Marie Muller

Carteret High School
Carteret, NJ
Bryan Thomas App
Child of Thomas & Kelly App
Grandchild of Deacon Mike & Roni Brucato

Dumont High School
Dumont, NJ
Lawrence J. Miloscia
Grandchild of Lawrence Miloscia

Hillsborough High School
Hillsborough, NJ
Nicolas James DeFilippo
Child of Michael & Lisa DeFilippo
Grandchild of Barbara & the late James DeFilippo

Manalapan High School
Englishtown, NJ
Joseph H. Oberhuber
Grandchild of Angela & Francis Fowler
Nephew of Justin Oberhuber

Ashley Tulko
Grandchild of Dolores Tulko

Monroe High School
Monroe, NJ
Michael W. Rucando
Grandchild of Marcella & John Rucando

St. John High School
Shrewsbury, MA
Vincent K. Lagomarsino
Grandchild of Ed & Vera Lagomarsino

Sussex County Technical School
Sparta, NJ
Jesse Gene Freeland
Great-grandchild of Violet Vidal
Grandchild of Roseann & Ernie Margiottio

Venture Program High School
Hackensack, NJ
Noelle Lyback
Niece of Robert Sorbanelli
Woodbridge Senior High School  
Woodbridge, NJ  
**Jordan Nicole Cinelli**  
Child of Mark & Sandra Cinelli  
Grandchild of Nicholas & Josephine Cinelli  
Grandniece of Rosanne & Tom McNamara  

**John Joseph Drost, Jr.**  
Child of Karen Torkildsen  
Grandchild of Carmen & Peggy Margiotto  

**Jarrett Michael Dulemba**  
Godchild of Ernie & Roseann Margiotto  

**Andrew Joseph Galvach**  
Child of Ken & Christine Galvach  
Brother of Vanessa Galvach  

**Samantha Lynn Nedza**  
Child of Dennis & Judi Nedza  
Sister of Kevin & Sean Nedza  

**Allison Pagliuca**  
Grandchild of Eleanor & the late Carmen Pagliuca  

**Kendall Riscoe**  
Child of Bob & Danielle Riscoe  
Grandchild of Bob & Diane Aversa  

**Kellie Ann Walsh**  
Child of Michael & Geralyn Walsh  
Sister of Christopher M. Walsh  

**Bloustein School @ Rutgers**  
New Brunswick, NJ  
**Nicole Pagliuca**  
BA—Public Health  
Grandchild of Eleanor & the late Carmen Pagliuca  

**Caldwell University**  
Caldwell, NJ  
**Rebecca Santin**  
Masters—Art Therapy  
Niece of Robert Sorbanelli  

College of New Jersey  
Trenton, NJ  
**Anthony Michael DeFilippo**  
BA—Interactive Multi-Media  
Child of Michael & Lisa DeFilippo  
Grandchild of Barbara & the late James DeFilippo  

**Kathleen Dispoto**  
BS—Women’s & Gender Studies  
Certificate—Women in Learning & Leadership  
Grandchild of Frank & Grace Dispoto  
Niece of Michele Dispoto  

**Columbia University**  
New York, NY  
**Danielle Nicole Pagliuca**  
Masters Degree—Health Administration  
Child of Holly & John Pagliuca  
Grandchild of George & Teresa Seibert  
Grandchild of Eleanor & the late Carmen Pagliuca  

**East Stroudsburg University**  
East Stroudsburg, PA  
**Brianna Reckfort**  
BS—Athletic Training  
Great-niece of Herb & Bette Sullivan  

**Fairleigh Dickinson University**  
Hackensack, NJ  
**Alexandra Gezzo**  
BS—Micro Biology & Medical Research  
Grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Bela Gezzo  

**Johnson & Wales University**  
Providence, RI  
**Jennifer Rose Miloscia**  
Summa Cum Laude  
BS—Food Service Management  
BA—Baking & Pastry Arts  
Grandchild of Lawrence Miloscia  

**Kean University**  
Union, NJ  
**Anthony Carmen Pagliuca**  
Magna Cum Laude  
BA—Business Management  
Child of Jeff & Nancy Pagliuca  
Grandchild of Eleanor & the late Carmen Pagliuca  

Montclair State University  
Montclair, NJ  
**Juliani Rae Barcellona**  
Cum Laude  
BS—Business Administration  
Child of Deacon Peter & Karen Barcellona  

**Ryan Corcoran**  
BS—Biology  
BA—Business Management  
Child of Annette & James Corcoran  
Brother of Matthew Corcoran  

**Samantha Russo**  
BA—Anthropology & Nutrition  
Child of Vincent Russo  
Grandchild of Alfred & Patricia Russo  

Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, NJ  
**Obioma (Obi) Amuzie**  
BS—Applied Mathematics  
Child of Michael & Chinyere Amuzie  
Brother of Uzodinma “Uzo” & Ocheze  

Stevens Institute of Technology  
Hoboken, NJ  
**Samantha Storm Martino**  
BS—Chemical Biology  
AST—Science & Technology  
Child of Dawn & Michael Martino  
Sister of Heather & Katelyn Martino  
Grandchild of Janice Martino  

University of Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, AL  
**Joseph M. Pronti**  
Summa Cum Laude  
BS—Finance & Economics  
Nephew of Gloria Pronti  

University of Colorado  
Boulder, Colorado  
**Adam G. Sheridan**  
BA—Communications  
BA—Business  
Grandchild of Joe & Magda Mikos
**VOTIVE CANDLES**

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 Danielle (D’Orsi) & Brian Caynor
req. by Richie & Adrienne

In Loving Memory of Elizabeth “Betty” LoBianco
req. by Millie & Garry Sutphen

**GOOD SHEPHERD**

In Loving Memory of Gordon & Ann Ur, John Patrick & Owen
req. by their family

In Loving Memory of Charles Edward Kot
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Masarik

**CROSS OF SAN DAMIANO**

In Loving Memory of George A. Dwyer
req. by Richie & Adrienne

Happy Birthday in Heaven, Aunt Jay!
Love always, Angie


Let us join with Pope Francis I in his Universal Intention for June, 2018....Social Networks:

That social networks may work towards that inclusiveness which respects others for their differences.

**PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

June 25  Msgr. Joseph Kerrigan
Rev. Marco Caceres

June 26  Rev. Patrick Nwachukwu, SDV
Rev. Matthew Paratore

June 27  Rev. Michael Bihuniak
Rev. Stanislaw Slaby, CSsR

June 28  Rev. Charles Kelly
Rev. Thomas Nduviledathu, SDV

June 29  Our Holy Father, Pope Francis I

June 30  Rev. Arlindo DaSilva
Rev. Sabinus Iwuchukwu, SDV

July 1  Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, DD
Bishop Emeritus of Metuchen Diocese

**FOOD DRIVE MINISTRY**

Our monthly food drive will be held the weekend of July 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 Milos Hall at 10:00 am on Sunday morning. The members working this month are:

N. Ackerman
Delivery: H. Sullivan (Tuesday, July 10th)

**Attention Business Owners, Professionals, Self Employed and Families!**

Bulletin advertising Opportunities Available!

Donna Delgrosso from our publisher LPi, will be in our office this week (June 25th, 2018) working on securing new ads for the advertisement section of our bulletin. We need your help! Please consider purchasing an ad. Your ad and participation makes our Bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

Advertisements can be purchased for a business, a family, a charity, “In Memory of” a loved one or to support the church or a community service organization like the Holy Name, Knights of Columbus, Columbiettes, emergency pregnancy counseling, the March of Dimes, etc.

If you would like to run an ad or would like more information, please call Donna before her visit. She can be reached directly at 1-646-359-0254, or via e-mail at ddelgrosso@4lpi.com.

**As of Sunday, July 1st, our UPDATED Prayer List will be published.**

Please contact Jackie at the parish office NO LATER THAN MONDAY, JUNE 25th if you or a loved one needs to remain on or be placed on our list for prayers. Call the parish office at 732-634-1403 or contact her via email at bulletin_StAnthony@verizon.net subject: Prayer List.
One man’s garbage is another man’s treasure!

St. Anthony’s Study Hall’s Summer Break Program needs your garbage!

We have special art projects in mind but need your help with the supplies. If you could please save your paper towel rolls, small boxes from cereal, & cracker boxes & donate them to the “Summer Break Program.”

There will be a receptacle in the narthex for you to place your donation.

Thank you for your continued support.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
Liturgical Minister Schedule

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA WORSHIP SITE

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday 06/30/18
4:00PM Volunteer Needed

Sunday 07/01/18
8:00AM A. Weiman
9:30AM Volunteer Needed
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
Saturday 06/30/18
5:30PM M. Amaya, M. Torres

Sunday 07/01/18
9:30AM C. Gumapac, A. Rabago

READERS
Saturday 06/30/18
5:30PM B. Perlas

Sunday 07/01/18
9:30AM M. Poos

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STUDY HALL

Program

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA WORSHIP SITE

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday 06/30/18
5:30PM C. Torres

Sunday 07/01/18
9:30AM Volunteer Needed

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday 06/30/18
5:30PM M. Amaya, M. Torres

Sunday 07/01/18
9:30AM C. Gumapac, A. Rabago

READERS
Saturday 06/30/18
5:30PM B. Perlas

Sunday 07/01/18
9:30AM M. Poos

ST. ANTHONY’S STUDY HALL

Program

Field Trips, Sports, Arts & Crafts, Dance Parties, & other Special Events

The committee for St. James Parish 29th Annual Street Fair on Saturday, September 15th, 2018 from 10:00am-5:00pm is looking for VENDORS!

For information please email the Street Fair Committee: St.JamesSF@gmail.com

DON’T MISS OUT! Thursday, August 23rd
$60.00 Admission & Transportation
TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE
For Tickets or Information Call CAROL 732-969-1565 or 732-841-2930

The Diocese of Metuchen’s Family Life Office will sponsor a Mass for the Mercy of God

For Healing from the Effect of the Opioid Epidemic

Rev. Timothy A. Christy, Celebrant
THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018 7:00PM
St. John Neumann Pastoral Center Chapel
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854

Any person or family whose life has been touched by the pain of addiction or loss, or who seeks the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the struggle to recovery is welcome.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow the Mass.

For information visit: diometuchen.org/healingmass
Email: family.life@diometuchen.org Call: 732-243-4573

Bulletin—In an effort to keep the cost of our bulletin within reason, we’re trying to only include inserts when its absolutely necessary. To view the bulletin in its entirety, see our website: www.saintanthonypadua.org click on the Parish Life tab; select Bulletin from the drop down; then View the bulletin of your choice.
CIRCLES OF GRACE: IMPRESSIONISTIC MANDALAS
Presenter, Linda Howe, an artist, storyteller, poet, naturalist, brings her experience and love of Touch Drawing to this program. Participants, through prayer and reflection, will create a Mandala using the medium of Touch Drawing.

No artistic ability needed! Art materials provided.
Wednesday, June 27th 7:00-9:00pm $35-45 As You Are Able

MAN TO MAN
Men have unique roles in life...husbands, fathers, grandfathers, the single life and religious life...We’re pushed and pulled in a thousand directions by responsibilities, stress, loss and by joys. Where can we find time to reflect on the loss and gain of our lives? For all men-young, old and in between.

Join our group over coffee or tea for life affirming discussions and prayer to find God in our lives and to make a difference in our own worlds. The facilitators are Jerry McKenna, environmentalist & teacher & Bob Christie, academic & administrator

We gather on the 4th Tuesday monthly. We will meet again on June 26th at 7:00pm (until 9:00pm.) 1 Free-Will Offering

PILGRIMAGES
THE BEST OF GREECE & THE GREEK ISLANDS
sponsored by St. Andrew the Apostle Parish
March 19th—29th, 2019 $3,159 (11 Day Trip)

Travel in the footsteps of St. Paul to Greece. Start in Athens and see the acropolis...visit Corinth where he lived with Priscilla and Aquila...take a three-day Greek Isles cruise to picturesque Mykonos...tour ancient Ephesus and the House of the Virgin Mary...visit the Monastery of St. John on Patmos...stop in Crete and beautiful Santorini...then visit Thessaloniki and Philippi, where Paul first preached the Gospel in Europe. Please call 732-634-4355 for a brochure.

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS
The Diocese of Metuchen has begun a major effort to make people in Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties aware of the outstanding Pre-K and Kindergarten programs offered by our schools. They feature certified teachers, a foundation in faith, and pricing competitive with independent preschools. We invite you to learn about a Catholic school near you!

For more information visit metuchencatholicschools.org/schools or call 732.562.2446 to learn how Catholic schools in the Diocese of Metuchen offer students a SMARTER START in school and in life!
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 lifesaving 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.

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.njccathcomf.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.ncbcenter.org by clicking on “publications.”

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.
Laudato Si’: the first papal encyclical devoted to the environment has now been released. Start reading Pope Francis’ document at www.vatican.va and take up the pope’s urgent call for dialogue on the future of our common home. For related information visit the diocesan website at http://diometuchen.org/pope-francis-encyclical-laudato-si/

Is Catholic Charities Connections Program looking for volunteers, both men and women to participate in one-to-one activities and become a mentor to the youth of Middlesex County and Franklin Township.

Do you:
- Have a minimum of three hours a week to offer to a child?
- Like having fun?
- Want to make a difference in a child’s life?
- Enjoy being a positive role model?

Then call Jeanette Cullen at 732-738-1323 or email her at jcullen@ccdom.org. for more information.

Are you suffering after an Abortion? Help is available!

If you or someone you know is suffering after an abortion, confidential, nonjudgmental 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 individual 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/action-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 inner 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 Couragerc.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.