The Parish Family of St. Anthony of Padua

Pray for and donate to The 2017 Bishop’s Annual Appeal be Ambassadors for Christ

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

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FE  B R U  1 9 , 2 0 1 7
Prayer for Our Government
by Archbishop John Carroll (1791) First Bishop of the U.S.

We pray, O almighty and eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed thy glory to all nations, to preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith in the confession of your name.

We pray O God of might, wisdom and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgement decreed, assist with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the president of these United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness and be eminently useful to your people over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality.

Let the light of your divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge; and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We pray for all judges who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by your powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend likewise, to your unbounded mercy, all fellow citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of your most holy law; that they may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Mass Intentions

at St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

Tuesday, February 21st
7:30AM Anastasia Voutsas
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony D’Orsi

Wednesday, February 22nd
Chair of St. Peter, the Apostle
7:30AM Respect for Life In All Its Stages

Thursday, February 23rd
St. Polycarp
7:00PM Genevieve A. Antonelli
req. by Port Reading / Sewaren Seniors

Saturday, February 25th
4:00PM Jean Bucket
req. by Father William J. Smith

Sunday, February 26th
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00AM Richard Wyzykowski
req. by his wife, Dorothy, children & grandchildren
9:30AM John Mansfield
req. by Genevieve Antonelli
11:30AM People of the Parish Family

at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Worship Site

Monday, February 20th
8:00AM Imre (Jim) Herczeg, Jr.
req. by Lenke Bognar

Friday, February 24th
8:00AM Anthony Poos
req. by Herb & Bette Sullivan

Saturday, February 25th
8:00AM Elaine Boback
req. by Maria Herczeg & family
5:30PM Jennie Marchitello
req. by Nancy Dekonski

Sunday, February 26th
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30AM Julie Errigo
req. by Ray & Cherie Gumapac

Responsive Psalm in Hungarian for
February 19, 2017 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Irgalmas a mi Urunk,
Istenunk,- könyörületre hajlík szive.
**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SCHEDULE**

**6:30pm**

- Communion Levels 1 & 2: Wednesday, February 22nd
- Confirmation Levels 1 & 2: Wednesday, March 22nd
- Confession: Wednesday, March 29th

**G.I.F.T.**

6:00PM

Monday, March 6th / Wednesday, March 8th

**MENU**

Stuffed Shells, Salad, Roll, Dessert

**EUCHARISTICADORATION**

an HOUR WITH JESUS

We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration at St. Anthony of Padua every Thursday at 2:00PM until 9:00PM. The Divine 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.

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH OFFICE & STUDY HALL**

**CLOSED**

MONDAY, February 20th in observance of Presidents’ Day

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday, February 20th Closed
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

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**OUR LADY OF FATIMA PILGRIM STATUE**

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of Mary’s appearances to the children of Fatima.

On Sunday, February 19th the pilgrimage statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at St. Cecelia’s Church, Iselin from 7:30AM to 7:30PM.

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**THE PARISH FAMILY of St. Anthony of Padua**

welcomes

**Kate Lucia Iacovou**

Child of Nicholas & Daniela (Jara) Iacovou who received the Sacrament of Baptism, a sacrament of promise and welcome on February 12, 2017

We thank their parents for choosing life.

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**A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER**

“Mary Crowned with Glory” is the final presentation of this series.

Tuesday, February 21st @ 10:00am or Wednesday, February 22nd @ 7:00pm

You are welcome to attend even if you have not been able to come to a prior session.

For more information contact: Beverly at 732-636-2487

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**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**COMING SOON**

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 19th through Sunday, May 21st, 2017.

The cost is $210.00 for the whole weekend (meals are included) a $50.00 Non-refundable deposit is required by April 19th.

For information call Colleen Coppola at 732-331-4151.
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 Olga & John Kalina Sr. req. by Jackie, James, Andrea, Andy, Max & Kaela
In Loving Memory of Nancy Kuchma req. by Herb & Bette Sullivan

GOOD SHEPHERD
In Loving Memory of Gordon & Ann Ur, John Patrick & Owen req. by their family
May God’s Healing grace be bestowed upon Veronica Lisco req. by her Best Friends

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: an anonymous request; Matthew Ackerman, Joseph Baumlin, Lydia Bellino, Marie Cacace, James Calimano, Anthony Carreira, Alexis Cavaciuti, Alice Cavaciuti, Elizabeth Clark, Gary Clark, Rosa Claudino, Mario Coppola, Michael DeFilippo, Josephine Delliguzzo, Richard Emory, Mikaela Febres, The Fenyar Family, Frank Grossman, Joseph M. Hale, Kim Hickman, Brody Kasnowski, Chris Killmurray, Anna Kowalewski, Robert Kowalewski, Rose Kutney, Ronald Kutsy, Evelyn Lamberti, Rose Lagan, Josie LaSpina, Jackson Silva, Natalia Sosnin, Joseph Strunak, Stanley Szymanik Sr., Francis Tierney, Thomas Tiplady, Paul Tuyp, Stella Wincek.

Let us join with Pope Francis I in his Universal prayer for February, 2017....
Comfort for the Afflicted. That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

ALTAR FLOWERS
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.

PALMS NEEDED
In preparation for Ash Wednesday (March 1st) we ask that you bring in any old palms you might have at home. There is a basket in the narthex for you to place the palms or you may bring them to the parish office during office hours. Thank you for your cooperation.

To St. Anthony’s Church:
Thank you for your donations to our children at our Acelero Learning Head Start—Carteret Center. We greatly appreciate it. The children and families loved the gifts.

My apologies for the late response.
Thank you again for your donations.

Sincerely,
Jessica Alicea
Health & Disability Advocate

FOOD DRIVE MINISTRY
Our next Food Drive is the weekend of March 4th & 5th
I. Daley, L. Tierney
Delivery: S. Gurney (March 7th)

ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY
Calling all boys and girls 3rd grade or higher!

We need your help! Please consider joining this wonderful and rewarding ministry.

Altar servers are very important to our parish. They assist a member of the clergy (bishop, priest, deacon) during Mass. Please have your parents contact the parish office at 732-634-1403 with any questions. Forms are available at the information desk at both worship sites. Ask them to fill out form and drop it in the collection basket at Mass or drop it off at the parish office. You will be notified when the training sessions will begin.
**Applications are available in**

At St. Anthony of Padua Worship Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, February 20th</th>
<th>Parish Office &amp; Study Hall Closed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bingo (doors open 10:30am)</td>
<td>12:30PM Fr. Milos Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Name Society Meeting</td>
<td>7:00PM Fr. Milos Hall</td>
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</tbody>
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**Tuesday, February 21st**

| Study Hall | 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall |
| BibleWalk with Mary-nvd | 10:00AM Chapel |
| Children Choir Rehearsal | 4:30PM Church |
| Adult Choir Rehearsal | 6:30PM Church |
| Boy Scouts | 7:00PM Rec. Mtg. Rm. |
| AA | 7:30PM Fr. Milos Hall |

**Wednesday, February 22nd**

| Study Hall | 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall |
| Sac. Prep. (Communion) | 6:30PM Fr. Milos Hall |
| Biblical Walk with Mary-nvd | 7:00PM Chapel |

**Thursday, February 23rd**

| Study Hall | 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall |
| Eucharistic Adoration | 2:00PM Chapel |
| Divine Mercy Chapel/Rosary | 3:00PM Chapel |
| Confessions | 6:30PM Church |
| AA | 8:00PM Fr. Milos Hall |

**Friday, February 24th**

| Study Hall | 6:30AM Fr. Milos Hall |
| Bingo (doors open 6:00pm) | 7:30PM Fr. Milos Hall |

**Saturday, February 25th**

| Confessions | 3:15PM Church |
| Family G.I.F.T. Mass | 4:00PM Church |

**Sunday, February 26th**

| God’s Little Helpers | 9:30AM Fr. Milos Hall |

**at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Worship Site**

**Friday, February 24th**

| Holy Family Prayer Group | 8:00PM Church Basement |

**Saturday, February 25th**

| Confessions | 4:45PM Church |

**HOLY FAMILY PRAYER GROUP OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL**

The Holy Family Prayer Group invites you to join them at their Prayer meeting each Friday at 8:00PM in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School. Each First Friday they welcome you to join them in the celebration of Mass at 8:00PM. (Rosary recited 7:30PM.)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**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.

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

Offertory for February 12, 2017 $5,316.00
Diocesan Winter Collection $1,879.00

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

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you…” Matthew 5:44

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from “me” and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for “our ene-my”. When we pray for others, even “our enemies”, maybe it softens their hearts as well.

**COUNTING TEAMS**

**SUNDAY, February 19th**

| Team #2 | C. Botwin, B. Neveil |

**SUNDAY, February 26th**

| Team #3 | N. Ackerman, C. Ellis, D. Gallo |

**MONDAY, February 20th**

| Bingo Team #3 | Captain: R. Simeone |
| Caller | M. Oddo |
| Kitchen | J. Ballance, B. Walliser, D. Bortner |

**FRIDAY, February 24th**

| Captain | C. Volk |
| Caller | M. Moricz |
| Kitchen Team | B. Silvaney, M. Gesso |

**MONDAY, February 27th**

| Bingo Team #4 | Captain: R. Sorbanelli |
| Caller | M. Oddo |
| Kitchen | J. Ballance, B. Walliser, D. Bortner |

**FRIDAY, March 3rd**

| Captain | C. Volk |
| Caller | M. Moricz |
| Kitchen Team | B. Silvaney, M. Herczeg, A. Czum |

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2017-2018 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 now do so. The application process is online through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. Online applications must be completed (including supporting documentation) by no later than Friday, March 31, 2017. Applications are available in English and Spanish.

Families that need assistance completing the online application, or need access to the technology to apply, may register for one of the five Application Workshops, which will be held in four locations within the Diocese in February and March by going to www.diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance and following the Workshops link.
Liturgical Minister Schedule

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA WORSHIP SITE

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday 02/25/17
4:00PM  S. LaMorte, V. Lamorte

Sunday 02/26/17
8:00AM  T.B.A.
9:30AM  K. Martino
11:30AM  O. Amuzie

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Homebound Ministers 02/25/17—02/26/17
B. Barsi, V. Mudrak

Saturday 02/25/17
4:00PM  M. Balint, J. Bamber, D. Caffarelli, H. Pagliuca

Sunday 02/26/17
8:00AM  A. & D. Anderson, B. Lasek, C. Miloscia
9:30AM  M. Mitterando, J. Mulvaney, V. Reuben
11:30AM  M. Amuzie, L. Palasits, J. Sciandra, B. Sorbanelli

READERS

Saturday 02/25/17
4:00PM  [Family G.I.F.T. Mass]

Sunday 02/26/17
8:00AM  L. Miloscia
9:30AM  S. Martino
11:30AM  C. Amuzie

*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.

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL WORSHIP SITE

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday 02/25/17
5:30PM  C. Torres

Sunday 02/26/17
9:30AM  T.B.A.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday 02/25/17
5:30PM  B. Perlas, M. Torres

Sunday 02/26/17
9:30AM  C. Alcobendas, C. Gumapac

READERS

Saturday 02/25/17
5:30PM  M. Pereira

Sunday 02/26/17
9:30AM  V. Clarke

ST. ANTHONY STUDY HALL PROGRAM

LOST & FOUND

There is a box on the shelf in the hallway by the restrooms with items that have been forgotten here at St. Anthony’s. They will be held for 30 days, after which they will be donated to a local charity. Items such as cell phones, jewelry, keys, etc. are held in the parish office.

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

Before Care Help—2 adults are needed for this position. Hours are approximately 7:00AM to 9:00AM helping the children with breakfast, games and getting them off to school and on the appropriate buses.

All inquires contact Frank Cacace at 732-754-8401

TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The St. Anthony Study Hall is looking for a few good volunteers. Are you between 12 and 15 years young? Do you like playing/working with younger children?

We are looking for you to work the Summer of 2017. The hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 12:30 to 4:30 and every other Friday from 8:30 to 4:30. I need for the 9 weeks we are open or any part of the summer. We will be starting training in May and June which will include but not limited to CPR and First Aid. This could lead to a paid position in September if openings are available.

Please contact Frank Cacace @ 732 754 8401 or see our website under the Study Hall tab for Employment Opportunities.
DIVINE MERCY PARISH
ANNUAL GIFT AUCTION
Sunday, March 5th, 2017
(snow date—March 12th)
PARISH CENTER
213 Pershing Ave., Carteret
Doors will open at 11:30AM. First number will be called at 2:00PM
GREAT PRIZES AND GOOD FOOD! 50/50 DRAWING!, Super Stages and Mystery Baskets among the many drawing.
Admission: $10.00 per person
(NO ONE UNDER 18 years of age will be admitted.)
For tickets or information call Lori at 732-541-5616.

MOUNT SAINT MARY HOUSE OF PRAYER
1651 U.S. Highway 22, Watchung, NJ 07069
908-753-2091 * msmhope@msmhope.org
LIVING WITH A LENTEN HEART
This day will invite us to explore what we need to fast from or let go of, and also how we can be nourished by the deep desires of our heart that are part of God’s dream for our world.
Saturday, March 4, 2017 11:00AM—5:00PM
Mass at 4:00PM. Lunch included $45—$55 As You Are Able

CATHOLIC CHARITIES CONNECTIONS PROGRAM
Is looking for volunteers, both men and women to participate in on-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 jeullen@ccdom.org, for more information.

DR. SEUSS FAMILY NIGHT
Where: St. James School
Date: Tuesday, February 28th
Time: 7:00pm—8:00pm
Grades Pre K—2nd
Story Time, crafts & snacks
Grades 3—5
Gym games & snacks
For more information email Lori Jensen at ljensen@sj-school.org
www.sj-school.org

HISTORY OF OUR DIOCESE’S BEGINNINGS
On November 19th, 2016, the Diocese of Metuchen celebrated the 35th Anniversary of its founding by Pope St. John Paul II. Msgr. John Szymanski, who served then-Bishop McCarrick as chancellor and, later, as vicar general in the early years of the Diocese, has written a history of how the Diocese came to be established and a chronicle of its first five years. Entitled, The Lighting of the Watch Fires, it is available for purchase for $25. Send your check to: Rev. Msgr. John B. Szymanski, The Maria Regina Residence, 5 Dellwood Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873.

WONDER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING
IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD & OUR DIOCESE
Pick up a copy of the flyer on the desk located at the entrance of both worship sites. Thank you.
**In Our Neighborhood & Our Diocese**

**CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS (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 5 afternoons of prayer between October and June, the series has been revitalized from previous years and each afternoon will focus on one aspect of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. Suggested Offering for Sunday afternoons $10. The next in the series will be on **Sunday, March 19, 2017** at **2:00 to 7:00pm** the Topic: **The Examen.**

All retreats will be held at Loyola Jesuit Center 161 James Street, Morristown, NJ.

To register, please call 973-539-0740, email: retreat@loyola.org or visit www.diometuchen.org/young-adult-retreats

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**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's local toll-free helpline number: 877-877-4300. or visit HopeAfterAbortion.org. (Spanish-speakers may visit EsperanzaPosaborto.org, or email: hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org, call Sisters of Life at 866-575-0075.)

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**Marriage Encounter Weekend**

**Friday, April 28th—Sunday, April 30th, 2017**

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

Early registration is advisable as space is limited.

Phone 1-732-904-9636 for registration and information

Visit us at: www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for more information.

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**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 caregivers. 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

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**PILGRIMAGES**

**FATIMA**

with **ST. ANDREW PARISH, Avenel**

Father David Kosmoski of St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church is hosting a pilgrimage for the...

**JUBILEE YEAR IN FATIMA**

100th Anniversary of the Apparitions

May 10th—May 20th, 2017

Stay in a hotel next to the plaza. In Fatima 3 days and three nights for the Jubilee celebration with Pope Francis. Tour Portugal and Southern Spain, including Madrid, Seville, Granada, Avila and much more. All inclusive including daily Mass.

$3,695 from Newark / $2,695 land only

For more information please call St. Andrew Church, 244 Avenel Street, Avenel, NJ 732-634-4355. Visit their website www.standrewparish.com.

Arrangements by: Select International Tours 1-800-842-4842

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**POLAND OR FATIMA**

with **ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH, Colonia**

Father Joseph Kubiak of St. John Vianney Catholic Church is leading two pilgrimages in 2017.

**Poland—May 26th through June 4th, 2017**

Cost: $2,950 (double occupancy) includes land, air fair and 3 meals a day.

**Fatima, Lourdes with Barcelona—October 15th, 2017**

Cost: $3,299 (double occupancy) includes land and air fair

For more information please call:

Fr. Joseph Kubiak at 732-574-0150 or
Mrs. Phyllis Gomulka at 732-566-4115.

Website: http;/www.sjvianney.com

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**THE COMMUNITY HOUSE AT ST. THOMAS**

"Community House at St. Thomas, in Old Bridge NJ, 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."
**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 accurately. With treatment, patients often outlive their prognosis.
- 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.