

Dear Parishioner,

An Invitation



How many times in Scriptures has our Lord invited us?

He invited Mary to be His mother.

He invited the Apostles, "Come follow Me."

He also invited them in His agony: "Come, pray with Me."

He has invited us daily to His Banquet, "Do this in remembrance of Me."

He is the gate and He is inviting us in.

Let us accept His invitation to come pray to our heavenly Father for the many intentions of the world, our families, and our Church.

Thursday, May 7, 2009 at noon, is the National Day of Prayer. All the nation will pray on this day. Won't you come and join us?

If you hear the bells tolling that day, they are inviting you to come and pray with us.

For all those unable to attend, please keep this prayer at hand to be said on May 7th.

2009 Prayer for the Nation

Father in Heaven, we lift our eyes toward your Home, where you reign in righteousness. Your Word assures us that when Your people cry out in sincerity and humility, You will never turn a deaf ear to us. We call upon You now, seeking Your forgiveness and favor. Look over this fevered landscape and heal us, Lord. Drop knees to the floor and raise eyes to the sky, for we know where our help comes from. Unite these states again in devotion to You, and blur every dividing line. Do not give us over to our sins. Give us over instead to passionate prayer that moves Your heart. May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You. In the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen

Prayer can make a difference not only in individual lives, but in the moral course of our country.

The G.I.F.T. Committee





**HOUSE OF CHARITY/
BISHOP'S ANNUAL
APPEAL**

I am happy to report that as of April 27, 2009, we have received \$75,975 toward our parish goal of \$100,000. We received a total of 167 gifts from the more that 1,500 families contacted. Percent participation is 11%. The number of people seeking help from charitable entities such as the House of Charity has increased dramatically this year. Locally, the Cherry Hill Food Pantry has been inundated with requests for food. This is another appeal and reminder to anyone in a position to help to please do so. Additional pledge cards are available in the Gathering Space. Our "in pew" collection is scheduled for all Masses on May 9th and 10th.

Gratefully, Fr. John, Len Bednar,
Tom Milan, Kate Sheerin

 **BAPTISM**



- Sunday, May 10, 2009 1:00PM
- Sunday, June 21, 2009 12 Noon
- Sunday, July 19, 2009 12 Noon
- Sunday, August 16, 2009 12 Noon

BAPTISM PREPARATION: *All Baptism Preparation sessions are held on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00PM-8:00PM in the Parish Center Meeting Room. Parents must attend. Sponsors are welcome. Please call the Parish Center to make arrangements.*

IMPORTANT NEWS!

Because of the joyous celebration of the Ordination of Larry Polansky on Saturday, May 16, 2009, 10:30AM, at St. Peter Celestine Church, we will not have confessions from 10:00 to 10:30AM.

OFFERING REPORT

April 27, 2008	\$9,856.00
April 26, 2009	\$10,248.00
Increase \$392 or 3.82%	
Envelopes: 268	
Weekly expense:	\$ 11,000.00
Parish Indebtedness:	\$107,805.00

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Monday, May 4, 2009

8:00 AM **Geremia Bontempo**
by: The Kurtz Family

Tuesday, May 5 2009

8:00 AM **Jerry Murray**
by: Scott and Kathy Lewis

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

8:00 AM **Joan Friel**
by: Augie and Sally Campiglia

Thursday, May 7, 2009

8:00AM **People of the Parish**

Friday, May 8, 2009

8:00 AM **Ray Palombo**
by: Wife, Ines
Elizabeth Brennan
by: Ashli and Madyson Helfrich
Joe Gorman
by: Ed Polansky

Saturday, May 9, 2009

5:00 PM **Richard Schmitz Jr.**
by: Barbara and Ginny Reilly

Sunday, May 10, 2009

8:00 AM **People of the Parish**
10:00AM **Pedro and Martina Abadilla**
by: Ted, Trix and Children
11:30 AM **Elizabeth Hudson**
by: Mark and Deborah Wilson and Children

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Ruben N Alvarez, John & Mary Lou Baird, Tate Balcarek, Marie Bantivoglio, Dolores Bauer, Elizabeth Belli, John Brach, Jim Brady, Walter Burnes, Roger Butler, Mary Byrne, Nemesio Cabalo, Connie Chiolo, Anthony Ciarroccki, Jimmy Contento, Pam Crocetti, Kayla DeFeo, Frank Dolan, Eileen Edwards, Catherine Faccine, Helen Galiano, Terri Gannon, Brian Geary, Joe Garofalo, Michael Garrity, Colin Patrick Grady, Lucille Gross, Maria Harper, Michele Hayes, Laurie James, Dolores Kozielski, Fred La Rosa, Julie Leonard, Ingrid Lodato, Caitlin Martin, Ann McIlroy, Tom McKenna, Perfecto Moulic, Michael Piazza, Patty Plunkett, Baby Bryanna Ramirez, Jim & Tony Ray, Kathy Roman, Carolyn Rutkowski, Anthony Russo Sr, Joseph Ragusa, Marie Smith, Helen Szymczak, Dr Edgar Valle, Robert Waite.

KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS

Our prayer shawl circle is going strong and we'd love to have more members. We meet in the Parish Hall (Room 103) typically two Thursdays a month from 1:00PM - 3:00PM. Upcoming dates are as follows: May 7th and 21st. Come share your talents with this wonderful ministry. If you have any questions, please call Lisa O'Shea at 856 874-9396.

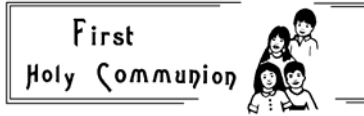
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



“Go therefore and teach all nations....”

You are invited to come serve our parish as a Catechist (Teacher) in our Religious Education Program for the 2009-2010 year. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry to model Christ’s teachings for our children. Details regarding the “open” grade levels and days will follow in the coming weeks’ bulletins.

For more information, please call (856) 424-2679 or email stmaryreligiouseducation.verizon.net



Congratulations to our children who received First Communion on Sunday, April 26, 2009:

Megan Adams	Jake Andrey	Nicole Arzylowicz	Stephen Baratta
Victoria Benigno	Samantha Dayton	Caleb Furrow	Colin Gale
Sarah Gale	Anthony Gambino	Mia Gambino	Blake Hausler
Jack Henson	Erin Hurley	Nicholas Jester	Andrew Koch
Rachel Martin	Sean McKenna	Katelyn Morgan	Liliana Pugliese
Morgan Quirk	Dominic Seta		



Congratulations to our Catechists who completed the “Scripture” module of the Echoes of Faith Plus Program for Parish Certification:

Sandra Cowley	Gerald Miller	Rita Murphy	Janice Rueppel	Cherry Tiu
		Joan Weinhofer		



Religious Education News

Classes for 2009 – 2010, Grades 1 to 7, will be held in St. Mary Hall Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 4:30PM to 5:30PM and 6:30PM to 7:45PM. Grade 8 will meet on Monday, from 6:30PM to 8:00PM. Pre K and K will be held on Sundays at 10:00AM in the Hall.

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- May 2, 2009** FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION
5:00PM Mass. Students report to the hall by 4:40PM.
- May 3, 2009** FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION
11:30AM Mass. Students report to the hall by 11:15AM.
- May 4, 2009** 7:00PM **End of program Mass.**
- May 15, 2009** 6:00PM 8th Grade Confirmation Mass/Retreat
- May 16, 2009** 5:00PM **May Procession (immediately following Mass)**
- May 31, 2009** 2:00PM Confirmation

IMPORTANT NEWS

Remember: Classes are assigned on a first-come, first serve basis.

Registration for St. Mary Religious Education program for the 2009-2010 sessions is already underway. Registration forms have been mailed to all registered families with children currently enrolled as well as those with children ready to begin the program. Extra copies of the registration form are also available in the Gathering Space



for May 9th – May 10th

5:00 PM Fr. John

Altar Servers: E Hallinan, M Keen, E Sands

Lectors: S Helfrich, J Lynch

Special Ministers of Holy Communion: B Datto, B Gannon, N Sands, J Waite, E Yoo

8:00AM Fr John

Altar Servers: J Furrow, B Morgan, R Morgan

Lectors: A Domingo, C Domingo

Special Ministers of Holy Communion: C Chiolo, M Dell, J Fallon, Q Harper, K Sheerin

10:00AM Fr. John

Altar Servers: J Decker, A Mora, C Stewart

Lectors: B Moeller, G Principato

Special Ministers of Holy Communion: M Borinski, J Plunkett, M L Schoen, B Schulze, G Walsh, J Walsh, R Whitty

11:30 AM Fr. John

Altar Servers: G Miller, M Miller, D Murphy

Lectors: D Desrochers, C Cirillo

Special Ministers of Holy Communion: S Cowley, S Czerniakowski, M Gilbert, L Hyland, M O'Shea

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

US Army: Col. Lars Braun, Capt. Alex F. Katauskas Sgt. David Marnell, Sgt. Frank Renna, Infantry, Sgt. Peter Roethke, Ranger, Capt. Doug Sackett, PFC Christopher Vassey, Sgt. John David Vozzelli, Lt. Joseph Weston, Jr., LTC Sherene L Williams, Pvt. Christopher Worthington,
US Navy: E4 Bob Moeller, Ryan E. Gager, Lt. Grahm Gill JG
USAF: Thomas Clerici, Capt. John W. Ginn (Pilot), David J Wagner, Jr.
USMC: PFC Ryan Bridge, Thomas Grace, Michelle I. Ryan, Sean P. Ryan, Adam Ardire, Justin Keleher

If you have someone's name you would like added to this list, please call 856-424-1454

DON'T FORGET

R.C.I.A. AND Adult Faith Enrichment

Our R.C.I.A sessions are open to all parishioners who want to deepen their personal understanding of our faith. We meet on Wednesday evenings, at 7:30PM, in the Chapel

May 6th : Our Topic:

**"Discernment and Your Special Gifts"
 Hope to see you there!**

Personal Note.....

My dermatologist has prescribed a pre-cancerous cream for me called CARAC. I must apply it daily for 3 week. It will cause an ugly scaling after 3 weeks of use. Be forewarned that it is not leprosy or swine flu And, is not contagious.

Fr. John

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

If this year, January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, you are celebrating your 25th Wedding Anniversary, 50th Wedding Anniversary, or more than 50 years of marriage, please join us in celebrating at a special Mass on Sunday, May, 17, 2009 at 3:00PM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 591 New Jersey Avenue, Absecon, NJ. There will be a light reception following the Mass.

Resurrection School Registration

2009-2010 Registrations are now being accepted for Kindergarten thru 8th Grade. K thru -8th grade tours are given on Thursdays, at 9:30AM. Preschool Tours are given on Wednesdays, at 9:45AM . Please call Mrs. Alli Smith in the Advancement Office for an appointment at (856) 667-3034, ext. 227.

Mother's Day Carnation Sale

The Respect for Life Committee of St. Mary needs volunteers to sell carnations for 1st Way of Collingswood, NJ after the weekend masses of May 9 and 10. This will only take about 15 minutes after each Mass. We also need help in handing out the baby bottles this same weekend to be returned on Father's Day. Please call Michele or Linda Reale, (856) 983-8070 to volunteer for one of the Masses. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Respect for Life Committee

We would like to expand the Respect for Life Ministry at our parish to promote the understanding of the Church's teaching on sacredness of human life from conception until natural death. As Catholic Christians, we have the opportunity to work with our Diocese to preserve the ethical system which respects and values every human life. We are looking for input from our community on what kind of activities you would like to participate in with regard to Respect for Life. These activities could include bus trips, prayer chains or special services. Please join us in achieving these goals. Call Sandra at (856) 424-9146 or Linda at (856) 983-8070 with your input and suggestions.

SENIOR SOCIAL GROUP



"AND ALL THAT JAZZ"

TUESDAY, MAY 12TH @ 1:00 PM
 (Parish Hall)

The Beck Middle School Symphonic Jazz Band, directed by our own **Jim Rabic**, will entertain us with some great jazz favorites.

Plan to join us!

Light refreshments to follow.

Beck Band Parents are invited to attend. For more info, please call Donna 856-424-2085.

Parish Calendar of Events

May 4, 2009	1:00PM G.I.F.T. Movie Club, (Mary Magdalene), Room 102, (Hall) 7:00PM Youth Group Meeting, Room 104, (Hall) 7:00PM Religious Education Program Closing Mass, (Church)
May 5, 2009	7:00PM Baptism Preparation Class, Meeting Room 7:30PM Youth Ensemble Rehearsal,
May 6, 2009	7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal, (Church) 7:30PM RCIA, "Discernment and Your Special Gifts"(Chapel)
May 7, 2009	12:00 NOON NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, (Church) 1:00PM Prayer Shawl Meeting, Room 103, (Hall)
May 10, 2009	Baby Bottle Distribution (All Masses) Blessing of Mothers (All Masses) 11:30AM Youth Mass
May 11, 2009	6:00PM Appreciation Party Jr. Choir/Altar Servers, Rooms 103 & 104, (Hall) 7:00PM Youth Group Meeting, Room 104, (Hall) 7:30PM Social Justice Meeting, Room 103, (Hall)
May 12, 2009	1:00PM Seniors Social, "All That Jazz", (Hall) 8:00PM Knights of Columbus Meeting, Room 105, (Hall)
May 13, 2009	7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal, (Church) 7:30pm RCIA, "Conversion: A Life-Long Process"(Chapel)
May 14, 2009	10:00 – 11:15AM Christian Yoga, (Chapel) 7:30PM Finance Committee Meeting, (Meeting Room)
May 15, 2009	6:00PM 8 th Grade Confirmation Mass/Retreat
May 16, 2009	10:30AM Ordination of Larry Polansky, St. Peter Celestine 5:00PM May Procession (Immediately following Mass)
May 17, 2009	11:30AM Fr. Larry Polansky "First Mass" Celebration
May 18, 2009	7:00PM Youth Group Meeting, Room 104, (Hall)
May 19, 2009	7:30PM Pastoral Council, Meeting Room
May 20, 2009	7:00PM – 8:15PM Christian Yoga, (Chapel) 7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal, (Church)

Parish Nursing Ministry May is Mental Health Month

"What's wrong with me, I just can't snap out of it". Does this sound familiar? Is it "The Blues" or clinical depression? Some of the warning signs of clinical depression are loss of interest or pleasure in your family life, or sex life, difficulty concentrating, sleeping too much or sleeplessness, loss of appetite, frequent or unexplainable crying spells, and recurrent thoughts of death. Depression is not a character flaw or a sign of weakness. It is a medical condition that can affect anyone. Your doctor can refer you to a mental health counselor or prescribe medication to relieve symptoms. The good news is that depression, over time, is easily treatable. Sirach 31:32-22"*Do not give in to sadness, torment not yourself with brooding; gladness of heart is the very life of man, cheerfulness prolongs his days.*"

STUDENT CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Saturday, May 9, from 11 AM. to 2 PM there will be a Car Wash , sponsored by the 5th grade class from Cooper Elementary School, 1960 Greentree Road, (856) 489-9589. Please come out to support the fifth grade class at this car wash, rummage sale, and bake sale. Proceeds will be used to fund the fifth grade class trip. Rain date is May 16.

Cherry Hill Food and Outreach Council – Food Drive

May is St. Mary's turn to collect non-perishable food for the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. Items always needed include: peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, canned tuna, canned chicken, canned salmon, beef stew or other meals in a can, hearty soups, spaghetti sauce, cereals (Cheerios, Rice Krispies, Special K, Raisin Brain, Corn and Rice Chex), pancake mix, maple syrup, jelly, potato buds, juices, cream of mushroom or chicken soup, rice, rice meals, pasta, spaghetti, The Cherry Hill Food Pantry often has requests for personal items such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo and toilet paper. Your donations are greatly appreciated. On April 25th, at the annual Cherry Hill Food Pantry Appreciation Dinner at St. Mary's, the 2008 statistics were given. Total client visits increased from 910 in 2007 to 2751 in 2008. The number of children served increased from 330 in 2007 to 565 in 2008. The total number of bags distributed increased from 3,640 in 2007 to 9,900 in 2008. Each of you are a part of this worthwhile community service project. Thank you for your continued participation.