



*This Week*

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Jan. 23 - Vigil</b>
5:30PM	Arthur and Eleanor King (Living) 50th Wedding Anniversary
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jan. 24 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
7:45AM	Nora Sheehan
10:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12 Noon	Gary Hahn
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Jan. 25 - The Conversion of St. Paul</b>
7:00AM	Mary Supple
8:45AM	Michael McCormack
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Jan. 26 - Sts. Timothy and Titus</b>
7:00AM	Mary McCarthy
8:45AM	Allen Hayes
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jan. 27 - Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Joan Wiese
8:45AM	Deceased Members of the O'Neill Family
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Jan. 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas</b>
7:00AM	Anthony Palmiere
8:45AM	Giacomina Barbera
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Jan. 29 - Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Luzonica Gregorio
8:45AM	John Moran
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Jan. 30 - Weekday</b>
8:30AM	Dennis Dalton
5:30PM	Thomas E. Dore
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jan. 31 - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
7:45AM	Dennis Dalton
10:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12 Noon	Joyce Brandfino

**Sunday – Jan. 24**

8:30AM Rel Ed PACT Saints Session LC/School  
9:00AM 10:00AM Adult RCIA RCA  
11:00AM-12:00PM Kids RCIA Class SFC  
11:00AM-12:00PM Teen RCIA Youth Room

**Monday – Jan. 25**

After 9:00AM Mass Rosary LC  
7:00PM Rel Ed PACT Angels Session UC/School

**Tuesday – Jan. 26**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
9:30AM Parents Group B05  
3:30PM Rel Ed PACT Angels Session UC/School  
6:00PM-9:00PM Basketball SH  
7:00PM-9:00PM Adult Choir

**Wednesday – Jan. 27**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
4:00PM-5:00PM Children's Choir  
5:00PM-6:00PM Bell Choir UC  
7:00PM OLPH Novena LC  
7:00PM Knitters and Crocheters Youth Room  
7:30PM-9:30PM Line Dancing SH

**Thursday – Jan. 28**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC

**Friday – Jan. 29**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC  
6:00PM-9:00PM Basketball SH  
7:30PM Rosary for Peace UC

**Saturday – Jan. 30**

After 8:30AM Mass Rosary UC

**Sunday – Jan. 31**

9:00AM 10:00AM Adult RCIA RCA  
11:00AM-12:00PM Kids RCIA Class SFC  
11:00AM-12:00PM Teen RCIA Youth Room  
2:00PM-6:00PM Couples for Christ (Mitch) SFC

**Relief for Haiti**

Thanks to those who dug very deeply into their treasure and offered what they could to ease the overwhelming suffering of the people of Haiti, especially in their capital city, Port-au-Prince. Due to the generosity of so many last weekend, we raised \$7,132.00 from the collection we took up. Others have come in to the rectory this past week and offered a donation. From the Emergency Fund from the money we tithe from our Sunday collection, we will add another \$5,000.00. We will therefore be sending \$12,132.00, so that as much food, water, medical supplies and whatever else is needed in Haiti can be sent. The money that we received will go to Catholic Relief Services, the social service agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. **All that you have done or will do is most urgently needed and sincerely appreciated by those who are helped by your generosity.**

**Men's Spirituality Group**

Our parish Men's Spirituality Group will next meet on Friday, Feb. 5, at 8:00 PM, in the meeting room (the former school library) next to the Religious Education Office in the school building. We spend about 90 minutes in prayer and discussion and we hope that more of the men of our parish may join us for this time together.

**Feb. 13-14 – World Marriage Weekend**

On Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 13-14, we will be celebrating World Marriage Weekend and honoring the men and women of our parish who live each day the sacrament of marriage. That weekend, at all Masses, we will ask God's blessing on married couples and honor at each Mass the couple married the longest. We also will pray for those who have lost a spouse and who grieve that loss; we will pray for couples experiencing difficulty in their marriage; and we will pray for couples whose marriages have experienced the pain of separation or divorce.

**Bible Study Session**

Our next Bible study session will be on Thursday, March 11, 2010, at 7:30 PM, in the rectory. We will continue looking at the letters in the New Testament. All parishioners are welcome, whether or not you have been with us before. Just bring a Bible with you.

**Offerings Still Available**

Bread and Wine - Feb. 7, 21, & 28.  
Sanctuary Lamp - Feb. 14, 21, & 28.

***In Loving Memory***

The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Donald Murray requested by Elaine Murray.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in thanksgiving offered by the Asistin family.

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased parishioner Nettie N. Masella.

**Pray for our Sick**

If you would like our parish to continue to pray for family, friends or loved ones who are ill and in need of prayer, please call the rectory office – 201-384-0557. We will put their names on the sick list once again and continue our prayer for them. If you want their name to be added to our Prayer Chain, please let us know that as well.

Peter Ramzi..Marie Woehrle..Joan O'Leary-Rella..Margherita Bonaldo Ann Youngsworth..Debra Portillo..Marie McDermott..Barbara Fawcett Woke Family..Pat O'Connor..Alicia McMahon..Mary M..Eileen O'Leary Ann O'Neil..Anthony Matarazzo..Ben Zangoglia..John R..Maria Cruz Frank Farrell..Genevive DeVirgilis..Hyde Family..Bob Jackson Carolina Aspiras..Peter Post..Larry Frisby..Carlos Cunha

**Daily Rosary**

We wanted to announce that each day, following the 8:45 Mass, a group of parishioners stay in church to pray the rosary. If you would like to be part of this group, each day or only periodically, simply come to the church for 8:45 Mass or come once Mass is over.

**2011 Mass Book**

The Mass book for 2011 will open on **Monday, March 15, at 9:00 AM**. We will soon be receiving requests for when Masses will be available for 2011, so we wanted our parishioners to know ahead of time.

**Correct parking in the upper lot**



As we have announced, parishioners are required to park within the lines designated as a parking space. The white lines mark parking spaces and blue lines designate spaces for parking for the disabled. **If you park any place else, especially where there are yellow lines, you are violating fire regulations and may receive a summons and fine.** Parishioners are requested to park only in the correct places.



*My brothers and sisters in Christ,*

This Sunday, we are happy to welcome Rev. Peggy Hayes to St. Mary's. Rev. Hayes is the pastor of Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, our neighbors to the north on Washington Avenue. As we bring **The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** to a close on this Sunday, Jan. 24, she will be preaching at our 12:00 Mass at St. Mary's and I will be going to preach at the 10:15 service at Our Redeemer Lutheran. This "pulpit exchange," as it is often called, is a way of acknowledging that, although there are differences between the different Christian religions, especially in some areas of dogma, we can find ways to show that we do share a common belief in Jesus Christ as savior and Lord. Although I am not sure as I write this column, I am also hoping that our choir will sing with Our Redeemer's choir at their 10:15 service and that their choir will come and sing with ours at the 12:00 Mass.

I cannot let this week's column go by without speaking of the tremendous devastation that has taken place in Haiti, especially in their capital city. No one can see the pictures of the unspeakable hardship and suffering that the Haitian people are enduring without being deeply touched by what they see. Buildings in complete collapse, dead bodies lying in the street, adults and children covered in bandages, people crying out for help, doctors and other health professionals trying to heal broken bodies and search-and-rescue works trying to reach those still trapped or those who have already died – these are all the signs of a catastrophe that seems to go beyond our ability to comprehend.

This disaster is complicated by the fact that 80% of the people of Haiti live below the poverty level. They are the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Historically, they have had to deal with governments that are riddled with corruption and some leaders who have plundered what little assets the country and its people have. Their infrastructure – roads, bridges, and transportation – has all been compromised to the point that it may take years to recover.

One big problem is the devastation. Another, however, comes from the fact that, due to all that is happening in our world and in our nation, the nations of the world may quickly forget the incredible need in Haiti. Some national or international crisis may soon surface and people in the world and in our own nation may quickly focus on that situation and Haiti and its needs may be put onto "the back burner."

It isn't that people will no longer care; they will just have some other problem that will command their immediate attention. They aren't apathetic; they simply will be preoccupied with another issue that has surfaced. I know that our resources, like so many in the world, are limited. But, we have homes, we have food, we have water, we have medical assistance. The people of Haiti have lost all of these and more. Hopefully, they will never loose our commitment to act, to do something significant for them.

**Love,  
Fr. Bob**

**Archbishop's Annual Appeal**

For the 2009 AAA, the Office of Development for the Archdiocese of Newark reduced our goal since we are in the redemption phase of our Capital Campaign. The pledges made to the 2009 AAA by families of St. Mary's allowed us to receive a rebate check from the archdiocese recently in the amount of \$4,905.00. We thank every family who made a pledge to the 2009 AAA. **Our goal for the 2010 AAA is \$37,558.00.** Once again this year, the archdiocese has reduced our goal significantly – approximately 50% - since we are continuing in the redemption phase of our own campaign. We will soon be sending out letters to our families, asking those families who can to make a pledge to the AAA. Whatever you are able to do, thanks for your ongoing generosity to the AAA and our own campaign.

**Our Ministry at St. John's**

Thanks to all those who continue to bring in clothing that we can then take to St. John's in Newark when we go on the second Friday of each month. **The special need there, especially in winter, is white socks.** Those who come for a meal need the socks to keep their feet warm and dry. **They also need back packs. Sadly, they need these simply to keep their possessions in them.** If you can help with these items – white socks and back packs - that would really do so much good.

**God's Plan for Giving** – "The measure of your free-will offering shall be in proportion to the blessing the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you."

*(Deuteronomy 16:10)*

Collection for Jan. 16 & 17 \$9,905.00  
 Total for same weekend in 2009 \$7,367.00  
**From our children's weekly envelopes last weekend - \$3.80**  
 Campaign donations received thus far in December \$16,366.94

Here are some of the good deeds that the children of St. Mary's did as a way of showing their love of God and of our parish. We hope that they will always know how important what they do for God and for us truly is. Even though they are still young, they can give us a wonderful example to follow.

"I said my prayers." "I studied for a big test."  
 "I babysat for my brother." "I cleaned up."  
 "I helped my grandma set the table."

**"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..."** from the book of the prophet Nehemiah. Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. However, he expects us to share our blessings with those who are in need. *This is perhaps even significant at this point in time as we continue to see the devastation and the sufferings of the people of Haiti.*

**Ministry – Health Ministry**

As you may remember, several years ago, we did have a parish Health Care Ministry. Nurses and others health care professionals would have blood pressure screening on a monthly basis and offered sessions to help our parishioners deal with health-related issues. Unfortunately, that ministry has not been evident for several years now and we are hoping that we might be able to re-establish it. If you are a health care professional and would like to be a part of a parish Health Care Ministry, please call the rectory (201-384-0557) or e-mail Fr. Bob (frbob@stmarysdumont.org) and we will see how we can re-establish this important ministry in the parish. It will take some organization and it will certainly require a donation of time; however, we can do it if we can simply get a few health professionals who are willing to offer their time and their expertise. **Let's see if we can re-establish this ministry and help our parishioners maintain good health.**

**Tithing the Tithes – 2009**

For the month of December, our parish was able to tithe a total of \$1,252.00 from what we received in our Sunday collections. We have sent checks to the following people/groups in the following amounts:

- Nelson Bayona – Newark seminarian - \$278.00
- St. John Food Pantry, Newark - \$278.00
- Missionaries of Charity, Newark - \$278.00
- Emergency Fund - \$418.00

**Stewardship Prayer**

Dear Lord,  
 I pray that you will give me the wisdom to guide me on this faith journey of stewardship. Help me to understand that everything that I have is a gift from you. Open up my heart and my mind so that I may use these marvelous gifts to give back to you here on earth. I pray, Lord, that you will welcome me into your kingdom at the end of my life and that you are pleased with what I have done with all your gifts. Amen.

**Funeral Mass vs. Funeral Service**

Recently, we are finding that the families of a person who has died are opting to have a service in the funeral home rather than a funeral Mass at church. This trend is rather disturbing. Although it is not something that we find pleasant to discuss, we are encouraging our parishioners to make it known to your families that, when you pass away, you want your body brought to the church for a funeral Mass. There is a simple reason for this. A Mass celebrates the death and resurrection of the Lord, something that is important for us to remember at a time of the death. Our prayers, songs and readings at a funeral Mass all point to the eternal life for which we await. That is not the case when you have simply a service in the funeral home. This is important for the family to hear, especially when they are experiencing the loss of a loved one. **Please – tell your family that this is what you want.**





PACT/Religious Education Program Updates

Monday and Tuesday PACT Program Parent Meetings

Weekday (Not Sunday) PACT parents attend one of the following: Monday, 02/01/10 at 7:00 pm Tuesday, 02/02/10 at 3:30 pm Monday, 02/08/10 at 7:00 pm Tuesday, 02/09/10 at 3:30 pm

Confirmation

Save the date! Confirmation Retreat here at St. Mary's Saturday, February 27, 2010 10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Candidates should be participating in service projects at this time. Check in around our bulletin for parish events and projects to help with.

Service projects may also be worked on in schools, nursing homes, hospitals, aftercare programs, special needs programs, and other places where service is provided for those who need our help.

TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY Rallies to Support the HAITIAN RELIEF EFFORT

"IF MY WORDS ARE WITHOUT ACTIONS, I AM NO MORE THAN A CLANGING BELL"...St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians

Three days after the devastating earthquake in Haiti the students and faculty of Transfiguration raised \$1,000 which was sent to Catholic Relief Services to help the Haitian disaster recovery effort.

While our prayers and thoughts are with the victims and their families, medical supplies and basic necessities are needed to alleviate the victims' immediate suffering. After the initial surge of support on-going needs must continue to be met. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is a most reputable charitable organization and has already pledged 5 million dollars toward this effort. Much more will be needed and we recommend that donations to help in this humanitarian effort be sent to CRS. To Donate:

Via Phone: 1-877-Help - CRS Online: www.crs.org

Mail/Check: Catholic Relief Services P.O. Box 1709 Baltimore, Md. 21203-7090 (Memo portion of Check to read: Haiti Earthquake.)

Catholic Schools Week

Planning for next school year is also in full swing. Catholic Schools Week begins on Sunday, the 31st of January. This is the premier marketing effort for Catholic Schools nationwide. Traditionally, it also marks the opening of our Registration rolls for next year.

In order to prepare properly for the next academic year, we need to know, as accurately as possible, our expected enrollment. We no longer can assume that students will automatically return! In years past, parents and administration made that assumption.

I would like to emphasize that this practice is no longer acceptable. We have already received a number of requests for registration forms and anticipate slots will fill quickly so we urge you to register early.

You are our best advertisers. So, I ask you to get the word out.

"Together We CAN Achieve the Extraordinary."

4th Annual Big Breakfast

Breakfast will be served on Sunday, January 31 at the Lower Campus, Conlon Hall in Bergenfield following the 9:00 mass in St. John's until 12:00. The Upper Campus in New Milford will be holding a Continental Breakfast following the 9:00AM mass in Ascension Church until 1:00PM. Please call the school offices, Bergenfield Campus 201-384-3627, New Milford Campus 201-836-7074 or Irene Sander 201-264-9258 for more information and to purchase advance tickets.

International Night

It will be held on Saturday February 6th, 6:30 - 10:00, at St. John's Conlon Hall, Bergenfield. Advanced tickets are available at the School offices, Lower Campus 201-384-3627, Upper Campus 201-836-7074 and the Rectories of St. Johns, St. Mary's and Ascension, or by calling Irene at 201-264-9258. Full tables of 8 or 10 are also available for purchase. Reserve your tickets early.

Theology on Tap sessions

A session for Theology of Tap for young adults in the Bergen County area will be held on Wednesday evenings, at 7:00 PM, on Jan. 27th at Carucci's Restaurant, 495 Saddle River Road, Saddle Brook. Go to the website for the Archdiocese of Newark - www.rcan.org - for more information.

St. Mary's Youth Ministry (SMYM)

Working With Our Parish Community to Help Our Teens, 7th - 12th Grade, Become Better Versions of Themselves: Physically, Emotionally, Intellectually, & Spiritually

Upcoming Youth Ministry Events:

Sunday, January 24th - "WAY OF THE CROSS 2010 AUDITION & FRISBEE FOOTBALL": (6:30 - 8:30p in Spiritual Formation Center & Szelest Hall) The auditions will begin in the Spiritual Formation Center at 6:30p. Once a few people are done, we'll go upstairs to the gym and play Frisbee Football-probably around 7:00p. Everyone is invited.

Sunday, January 31st - "WAY OF THE CROSS REHEARSAL #1": (6:30 - 8:30p)

Sunday, February 28th - "YOUTHVEST": is the Archdiocesan Youth Rally designed for HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS held at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny. The Day includes a General Session Keynote Talk, Workshops on Teen Topics, Mini Keynote Talks, Prayer, Music, Mass and More!! You can view the flier at http://www.newarkoym.org/forms/Youthfest2010flier.pdf.

What Have We Done Recently?



On Sunday, January 10th, we had our 2nd Annual Baskets For Babies basketball competition in honor of the 37th March for Life. 22 teens and three young adults helped us earn \$65 for the Turning Point Crisis Pregnancy Center in Bergenfield. We divided the teens into four groups, by age and gender, and the winners are pictured to the left.

Want To Learn More?:

"Priests Serve Gladly But Not Without Criticism":

http://www.cny.org/archive/tcolumn/tmd011410.htm

"Jesus Comes To Transform":

http://www.archny.org/media/homilies/Audio%20%2D%2001.17.10.mp3

Need To Talk To Us? You can meet us at the music platform after the 7:45 and 10:00 Masses, call us at (201) 385-2936, or e-mail us at youthmin@stmarysdumont.org.

We'll see you at Mass! Charlie & Lesa

Young Adult Ministry

January is Young Adult Month. There are three Theology on Tap sessions scheduled for Bergen County, with many others in neighboring counties. Check the YAM section of the parish website for the dates and locations. Contact Brian O'Dowd at 201-385-2859 or email yam@stmarysdumont.org for more information.

Young Adult 2010 Retreat

A retreat, sponsored by the Young Adult Council of the Archdiocese of Newark, for single and married young adults in their 20's & 30's, will be held from Jan. 29-31 at the Archdiocesan Retreat Center in Kearny. The retreat begins with Mass at 7:00 PM on Friday evening and ends with lunch on Sunday at 12:00 PM. The cost is \$85.00 per person. Sometimes, life moves so quickly that we can barely keep pace. Come, join other young adults from the area as we seek to grow in faith and fellowship, to know God in our midst, the God of this city.

Knights of Columbus Events:

Sat. Jan. 30 - Basketball Free-throw Competition. Boys & girls ages 10-14 are eligible. 8:30AM at St. John's Conlon Hall. Contact Ivan Hannibal at 646-528-9592

Sat. Jan. 30 - Fr. Murray Scholarship Dance - 7-11PM - Contact Charles Hollis at 201-387-9750 (Press #3) for reservations. \$27 Pp.

Sun. Jan. 31 - Corporate Communion at St. Mary's Church - 7:45AM Mass. Breakfast to follow at the Council

Feb. 13, 2010 - Let the Good Times Roll

On Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010, the Saturday before Ash Wednesday, our parish will have its first Mardi Gras celebration entitled Let the Good Times Roll. That night, we will have a beefsteak dinner and karaoke for entertainment. The beefsteak dinner will be provided by Nightingale's and the karaoke allows individuals or groups to go up on stage and sing. It's a lot of fun and a great evening. The cost is \$30.00 per person and tickets are on sale in the rectory office. There are a limited number of tickets available, so get yours right away. You can reserve a table for your group if you would like to sit together. Just tell the secretaries when you buy your tickets.