

CHURCH OF ST ELIZABETH

BAPTISM OF THE LORD JANUARY 12, 2014

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners:

Our own day is marked by progress and achievement more dramatic and rapid than at any other time in history. But the pace of progress places profound moral challenges before us. As we achieve so much in so many areas of life we can become immune to the moral questions at stake in our personal and social lives. In a secular age and culture our moral commitments can be readily set aside in favor of what is popular and expedient. Whether it is the economy, politics, laws, human life or sexuality, values rooted deeply in our human nature are intended to guide our thoughts and actions.

These days we hear of human trafficking and its potential impact around the Super Bowl; a young girl hospitalized and in the middle of a debate about the obligation of medical treatment, the contraception mandate in the Health Care Act, and the spread of pornography. The economy and the unemployment, and the pursuit of peace in the face of terrorism, all weigh on our moral conscience. Catholic values and moral principles shed light on our responses to life around us each day.

This month we highlight our pro-life teachings. At the heart of Catholic teaching are the value and dignity of every human person. This God-given status demands our reverence and respect for each person's life at every stage of development.

The annual Pro-Life March later this month includes people from around the country including our parishioners. At the heart of our efforts is the issue of abortion. The personal witness of so many individuals in the March, especially young people, gives hope that our society will come to see that taking unborn life erodes our moral character and blinds us to moral growth.

John Paul II in his "Gospel of Life" wrote:

All this is causing a profound change in the way in which life and relationships between people are considered. The fact that legislation in many countries, perhaps even departing from basic principles of their Constitutions, has determined not to punish these practices against life, and even to make them altogether legal, is both a disturbing symptom and a significant cause of grave moral decline. Choices once unanimously considered criminal and rejected by the common moral sense are gradually becoming socially acceptable. Even certain sectors of the medical profession, which by its calling is directed to the defence and care of human life, are increasingly willing to carry out these acts against the person. In this way the very nature of the medical profession is distorted and contradicted, and the dignity of those who practise it is degraded. In such a cultural and legislative situation, the serious demographic, social and family problems which weigh upon many of the world's peoples and which require responsible and effective attention from national and international bodies, are left open to false and deceptive solutions, opposed to the truth and the good of persons and nations.

The end result of this is tragic: not only is the fact of the destruction of so many human lives still to be born or in their final stage extremely grave and disturbing, but no less grave and disturbing is the fact that conscience itself, darkened as it were by such widespread conditioning, is finding it increasingly difficult to distinguish between good and evil in what concerns the basic value of human life.

As our Christmas season concludes with the Lord's Baptism, John Paul's words give us direction and challenge. Let us pray for the gift of human life and work to increase our respect and reverence for all.

With every good thought and prayer,

Jr. Harahan

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Observance of Martin Luther King Day



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 20st

One Mass only at 9am

Parish Center will be closed.

The office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 21st.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS NOT A SPORT Super Bowl 2014

Human slavery- also known as human trafficking is still happening today!

An estimated 21 million people, including children as young as age five, are trafficked for commercial sex or forced labor across our world today.

Large sporting events such as the Super Bowl are known to provide a lucrative market for human traffickers. During the days leading up to the Super Bowl event, Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities will conduct surveillance operations in an attempt to prevent human traffickers from conducting their "business."

Faith communities and many civil society groups have been active educating hotel staff and the wider public about human trafficking. It is our hope and prayer that Super Bowl XLVII will be a big win in our nation's effort to end human trafficking.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Holy Hour Friday, January 17

Next Overnight Adoration February 14

Holy Hour will take place on Fridays from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Overnight Adoration, will take place on the 2nd Friday of the month, from 7:00pm until benediction just prior to the 9:00am Mass on Saturday. This new schedule increases the hours available to pray before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Please consider a once a month commitment and sign up for a specific overnight hour on 2nd Friday of the month. Families, couples, parish ministries, teens and individuals are all invited. Graces and blessings await you.

SPECIAL THANKS...

Thanks to all our parishioners whose presence and support always make our experience of faith prayerful and profound, especially at Christmas. Thanks also to all whose gifts at Christmas made the season special for us. I am grateful to our priests and staff for all their efforts during the busy time of Advent & Christmas. The Music Ministry under Carl Bolleia's direction provided inspiring music and a nice evening of music with our choirs. The church looked beautiful thanks to Brianne, Brigid & Colleen Wright, Rosann Roglaski, Dottie Van der Horn, Rob Ringley, Jim Townley and Kathy Greenwood.

Joe Costanzo did a great job on all the outside decorations. (Thanks to all who left strings of lights that added so much.) And during Advent, Laurie and Dan Kocher, the confirmation candidates and all who helped with the Giving Tree. Best wishes to all in the New Year!



We wish Fr. Paul well as he begins his new assignment Feb. 1st at St. Mary's, Star of the Sea, 326 Avenue C, Bayonne, NJ 07002. We will miss him, but also with you I am grateful for his enthusiasm and priestly dedication. We pray for Fr. Paul in his transition to his new parish.

Fr. Helber will begin his new assignment as Pastor of St. Mary's 209 Third Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302, on Feb. 1st. We congratulate Fr. Helber on his appointment and pray for the continued fruitfulness of his priestly ministry. Ad multos annos to these priests and friends

FATHER PO UPDATE...

Your Donation has made a difference to the families in the Philippines Father Po is very grateful for all the generous donations to help those who lost their homes in the Philippines.



The above photo shows Fr. Po giving a tent to a family who lost their home.

MASSES FOR 2015

Masses for next year (2015) are now available at the Parish Office. Remember your loved ones in a special way, have a Mass said for them.

"To everything there is a Season and a Time for every Purpose under heaven."

Ecclesiastes 3:11

"A time to be healed..."

Please pray for: Joan Domm, Germaine March, Caryl Colombo, Brian Nagotko

"A time for joy..."

Recently Baptized: Cameron Concha, Luke Merse, Nicholas O'Brien, Avery Renshaw

"A time to mourn..."

Recently Deceased: Barbara Kennedy, Thomas Vinci

"A time for war and a time for peace..."

For national and world leaders and for those in the Armed Services: Jessica DeRosa, Major Christopher Crotty, Miguel Tully, John Paul Phillips, Jennifer Smolinski, Michael Zahorniak, LT. Brendan McGovern, Captain Colin McNulty, Captain Luke Walsh, Major Raymond G. Tierney, Capt. Brian Donlon, USMC, Major Brian Ferguson, US Marines P.F.C. Martin E. Koerner Jr. Major Mark Wimmer, 2nd LT. Nolan Dunn. **Amen.**

VAN DRIVERS & HELPERS NEEDED



Please consider donating some of your time to St. E's "Van Ministry." We are looking for men and women willing to join the group of dedicated parishioners who visit pre-selected local food stores and receive food donations and then drive the food to soup kitchens and food pantries for the poor. If not picked up the food items would have been discarded and thanks to our ministry they benefit families and individuals in need. The group works Tuesdays-Fridays. Please contact Gene O'Rourke at 201-906-3040.



ST. MARTIN'S SOUP KITCHEN

On Saturday, January 25, we will be serving chicken legs and thighs (Original Shake and Bake), mixed vegetables. If you can donate food, contact Peter Ingrasi, 201-493-0870 or pingrasci@optonline.net. It would be very helpful for planning if you could call by Tuesday, January 21.

SAVE THE DATE

Bishop Hebda

will be joining us here at St. Elizabeth's on Sunday, February 2, 2014 at the 10:30am Mass.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

Catholic Schools Week January 26-February 1

Our students believe fully in God's unconditional love. They are taught to respect differences, to act with kindness, to forgive readily, to build community and to bridge disunity. Our students led prayer services and liturgies give testimony to these beliefs and provide an opportunity for students to grow spiritually. During the course of the year the children gather to honor St. Elizabeth of Hungary, to pay tribute to the men and women who have sacrificed for our country on Veterans' Day, to remember the importance of peaceful dissent on Martin Luther King Day and there will be many other gatherings for either joyful or solemn prayer. We invite all parishioners to check the website; you are welcome any time to join us as we gather together in church.

St. Elizabeth School is often recognized for its record of academic excellence. Students consistently rank in the top quartile, both nationally and locally, for the Terra Nova standardized tests. Our eighth graders have an incredibly high acceptance rate and receive thousands of dollars in scholarships from area Catholic high schools, including Regis, Delbarton, Don Bosco, Bergen Catholic, IHA, AHA, Mary Help, St. Joseph's, and DePaul. Alumni are known to be well-grounded in the tenets of their faith, public speaking, writing proficiency, technological expertise and logical thinking....all skills which will serve them well during secondary school and beyond.

Faculty, students and parents collaborate throughout the year on service projects for inner city Catholic schools, our troops overseas, homes for mothers and children in crisis, the homeless, the Little Sisters of the Poor, and disaster relief both in our country and across the globe. Each year we collect and distribute over eight thousand dollars in goods and monetary contributions. It is our hope that these children will develop a lifelong commitment to social justice issues and to volunteerism.

The success of our school is due to an exceptionally well qualified faculty completely devoted to our mission, a parent community whose commitment to Catholic education manifests itself in time, talent and treasure, a pastor who is recognized as an advocate for Catholic schools, as well as, the generosity of you the parishioners. We are very grateful and know that in the future you will look with pride upon our graduates as they reap the dividends of St. Elizabeth School and proclaim the Good News in all they say and do.

Come visit and see students empowered and engaged by a Christ-centered curriculum. **We invite you to our Open House from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Sunday, January 26. Please note that we will have an additional Open House for interested parents only on Wednesday, January 29th, for Grades 1 to 8 from 8:55 AM until 10:25 AM and Pre-K and Kindergarten from 10:00AM until 11:00 AM.** Registrations for the 2014-2015 school year will be available starting January 26.. Please consider St. Elizabeth School when making a choice regarding your child's education....it is an investment that is sure to pay **dividends**. May God bless you!

RESPECT LIFE NEWS

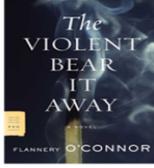
On January 14, the Archdiocese of Newark will be sponsoring a free movie screening of the movie "Gimme Shelter". This movie will be released in theaters on January 24. The movie stars - Vanessa Hudgens, Brandon Fraser and James Earl Jones. We would like to invite you and the pro-life directors of your parish to attend this screening. The screening will be held in the auditorium 7pm at Paramus Catholic High School, 425 Paramus Rd.

RESPECT LIFE NEWS



How many of you can claim to know the inspiration behind a major motion picture? Friend of our parish, Kathy DiFiore of Several Sources Shelters in Ramsey, is the subject of the movie "Gimme Shelter", set to release nationwide on January 24, 2014 via Roadside Attractions. Based on inspiring true events, the movie centers on the courageous story of Apple Bailey (played by Vanessa Hudgens) and her incredible path to motherhood as a pregnant, homeless teenager. Other stars include Rosario Dawson, Brendan Fraser and James Earl Jones. This film has been given glowing endorsements by Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Priests for Life, and the Pontifical Academy of Life in the Vatican. Please look for the film in theaters throughout NJ. Visit the website www.gimmeshelterthemovie.com for more information.

BOLD youth ministry 	HIGHLIGHT March for Life & Youth Rally Tues-Wed, Jan 21-22 Washington, DC For info...Email bflanagan@fiatventures.com
Don't miss BOLD this Winter!	
TNL's Tuesdays 7:30-9:00pm TNL = Teen Night Life (regular High School meeting) January 7, 21 February 4, 25 March 11, 25	Other High School Dates to Remember: Ski Trip 2014 January 24-26 Okemo, VT SIGN UP NOW!!!! Forms in Narthex! BOLD Retreat 2/28-3/2
	BOLD Middle Youth Ministry (for all 6th, 7th & 8th Graders) Saturday, 1/11 BRIDGES Prep Time & Place TBA Friday, 1/17 8:00-10:00 pm Tubing @ Campgaw
for more information, email jcamiola@saintelizabeths.org	

 connecting adults to christ and their catholic faith
Faithful Readers
Join us to discuss this tremendous author and book!

The VIOLENT BEAR IT AWAY By Flannery O'Connor
Wed, January 29 9:30 AM in St. Francis Room Books at Parish Office—\$15 Questions? Ask Jonathan (201) 891-3262

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 12, 2014**



After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Mt 3:16-17

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30

OTHER PRAYER EXPERIENCES

Miraculous Medal Novena – Thurs. after 9 am Mass
Novena to the Divine Mercy – Fri. after 9 am Mass
Men's Sharing – Elizabeth Rm. Sat. 7 am
Morning Prayer – Mon.-Sat. 8:40 am
Rosary- Each day after 7:00 & 9:00 am Mass

SUPPORT FOR OUR PASTORAL ACTIVITIES



"And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'"
 Matthew 3:17

At the Baptism of Jesus, God made it clear that He was giving us the greatest gift He could give. He was giving us His only Son. When you really think about the magnitude of that gift of Jesus sent to save us, plus all of the many other blessings that God has entrusted into our hands, it is very humbling. God has given us so much. What do we give in return?

The gift of treasure for last week was \$25,447 (of which \$4,130 was from online giving) vs. our weekly budgeted amount of \$24,235. Year to date collections amounted to \$610,582 vs. our year to date budget of \$654,345.

RENEW YOUR MAGNIFICAT

Our subscription to the *Magnificat* expires at the end of January 2014. As you may know, *Magnificat* is a monthly prayer book that contains the prayers and readings for daily Mass, brief introductions on the feast or a short biographical sketch of the saint of the day, meditations on the liturgy well as the Liturgy of the Hours (abbreviated.) In addition to these, the *Magnificat* has spiritual reflections and beautiful reproductions of religious art along with a commentary on it. Regular subscription is \$44.95; but because we will be ordering in bulk, the cost is much less. If you are interested in renewing your subscription or ordering a new subscription, please bring \$30.00 to the Parish Office and put your name on the list **on or before January 23.**



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat.	Jan. 11	5:00 PM	Susan Villano
Sun.	Jan. 12	7:30 AM	Jack Horan
		9:00 AM	People of the Parish
		10:30 AM	Carol Zabik
		12:00 PM	Joseph & Emily Shadiack
Mon.	Jan. 13	St. Hilary	
		7:00 AM	Helen Stanczak, Ann T. Corbett
		9:00 AM	Colette Liddy
Tue.	Jan. 14	7:00 AM	Carmela Capellini
		9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Members of the D'Ura & Gringeri Families
Wed.	Jan. 15	7:00 AM	Mary Ryan
		9:00 AM	Mary Ryan
Thu.	Jan. 16	7:00 AM	James McMichael
		9:00 AM	Maureen D'Arienzo Grace DiSalvatore
Fri.	Jan. 17	St. Anthony	
		7:00 AM	Al Ferraro
		9:00 AM	Rita Laubersheimer
		7:00 PM	Holy Hour
Sat.	Jan. 18	9:00 AM	Memorial Mass
		Third Sunday Ordinary Time	
		5:00 PM	Alfred Cipolletti, 4 th Anniv.
Sun.	Jan. 19	7:30 AM	Ann Corbett
		9:00 AM	Tony Beahan
		10:30 AM	People of the Parish
		12:00 PM	Julia McNamara

**MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF
JANUARY 12, 2014**

Flowers in the Sanctuary:
In Memory of The McNamara & The Villano Families,
Given by: Joan & Henry McNamara.

Word of life...

"Human life must always be defended from its beginning in the womb and must be recognized as a gift of God that guarantees the future of humanity." — Pope Francis, Letter to Brazilian families for National Family Week, August 6, 2013

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