



The Church of
St. Bernard of Clairvaux
and
St. Stanislaus Kostka

Church address: 1235 George Street
Offices and mailing: 368 Sumner Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07062
908-756-3393 · Fax: 908-756-3059
Website: <http://www.bestchurch.net>
e-mail address: office@bestchurch.net

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

SUNDAY: 9:00AM and 1:00 PM in English,
11:00 AM in Polish
WEEKDAYS: Mon. - Sat. 9:00 AM
SATURDAY: 5:00 PM for Sunday obligation
HOLY DAY: Vigil is in English 7:00 PM
HOLY DAY: 9:00 AM and 12 noon in English
7:00 PM bi-lingual English and
Polish

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 4:30 PM
DAILY AND SUNDAY: after each Mass
Special Penance Services Scheduled
Seasonally in English and Polish

TEACHING THE GOOD NEWS

Pre-K and Kindergarten - Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:30 PM (seasonally)
Levels 1 - 8 - Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:40 PM
For information regarding Parish Sacrament Preparation
Classes, which are held separately on Sundays, please call the
Catechetics Center.

CATECHUMENATE (RCIA)

A process of faith building for those who would like to
become members of, or for all who have not received full
initiation into, the Roman Catholic Church. Please call the
Catechetics Center for more information.

BAPTISM

Celebrated throughout the year in accordance with the policy
of the Archdiocese and to accommodate the needs of our
Parish Family. Attendance at a preparation session may be
required. You must be a registered and active family for at
least 90 days before a date for Baptism will be scheduled.
Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

**We,
the people of
St. Bernard of
Clairvaux
and St. Stanislaus
Kostka
are a living Christian
Community who,
through worship,
education and service,
proclaim
our faith in God
and
in our heritages.
We are a "Living
Mosaic of God's
People"
who seek His promise
of salvation.**

Served By

Rev. Frank Rose, Pastor
frfrank@bestchurch.net

Rev. Jan Krzysztof Lebdowicz, Parochial Vicar
jklebdo@hotmail.com

PARISH STAFF

John & Martha Nowik, *Directors of Music
and Divine Worship.* music@bestchurch.net
Linda Knowles-Mayers, *Director of Rel. Ed.*
religiously@bestchurch.net
Karole Lechowski, *Office Reception*
office@bestchurch.net
Mary Ellen Chanda, *Trustee*
Johnny Skalski, *Trustee*
Frank S. Kazmierski, *Advisor*
Justine Birotte-Sanchez, M.D.
Family Medicine Specialist
908-822-9700; www.faimfamilyhealth.org
Cathleen M. George, LCSW, LLC
Parish Mental Health Specialist
cgeorgelcsw@yahoo.com; 201.400.4651

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made with a priest as
soon as possible. One year prior to marriage
or as soon as Engagement is announced is
recommended.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

In the event of serious illness or when
someone is hospitalized, the parish office
should be notified. The Eucharist and the Sacrament of the
Sick will be celebrated with anyone requesting them.
Remember, the Hospital cannot notify us on their own.

YOUTH MINISTRY

The Youth Mass is at 9:00 AM on Sundays and "Get-A-Grip,"
grades 7-12, meets for Liturgy of the Word during the Mass
on the first Sunday of the month. Youth in grades 9-12 meet
at scheduled intervals.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

For information or help, call 609-455-2738

OFFICE HOURS

Address: 368 Sumner Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07062
Sunday: 9:00AM – 12 noon
Monday thru Friday: 9:00AM – 2:00PM
Saturday: closed or by appointment

CHOIR

We are fortunate enough to have a Parish Choir that has a full multi-lingual repertoire, as well as a Junior Choir. The Choir rehearses on Thursday at 7:30 PM, and the Junior Choir on Thursday at 6:30 PM.

Instrumentalists are welcomed, either to play solo or with our choir. A parish orchestra made up of children and adults rehearses and performs several times during the year. For more information, or to volunteer, please call John or Martha Nowik after Mass or at the Parish Office.

PARISH REGISTRATION

New parishioners are most welcome and are encouraged to call the parish office and make an appointment to register. When you are moving from the parish, please notify the parish office.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Call the Office during regular hours.



Mass Intentions

Saturday – April 14

9:00AM...Maria Tokarczyk, req. Marta Lompard Family
5:00PM...Mary Casendino, req. MaryEllen and Bob Chanda

Sunday – April 15..Third Sunday of Easter

9:00AM...Mary Mosley, req. Mosley Family
11:00AM...21st Birthday of Carolina Radecki, req. Parents
1:00PM...Robert, Mary and Ryan Keller, req. Joan Keller

Monday – April 16

9:00AM...Angela Apisa, req. Lucia Simeone

Tuesday – April 17

9:00AM...Antonio Simeone, req. Maria Perina

Wednesday – April 18

9:00AM...Vera Musick, req. Olga Skolka

Thursday – April 19

9:00AM...Mario and Linda Cavaliere, req. Daughter

Friday – April 20

9:00AM...May Coburn-Kavanagh,
req. Doreen and Bill Kruse

Saturday – April 21

9:00AM...Lina Ciallella,
req. Santoro and Zimmerman Family
5:00PM...Tony Arcuri, req. Olga Skolka

Sunday – April 22..Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00AM...Onyehialam, req. Stella Njoku
11:00AM..God's Blessing and Good Health for
Oliver, Hanna, and Adrian
...Baptism of Oliver Stanley Perlak
...Baptism of Hanna Emilia Pajdak
...Baptism of Adrian Marcel Swierski
1:00PM...Michael Onuska, req. MaryEllen and Bob Chanda

Recognized



in the breaking of the bread

STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

Stewardship calls us to freely give of our time, talent, and treasure for the good of our parish family and community.

God gives us everything! I give Him back my tithes. Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God – 5% for your parish church and 5% for other charities.

VOCATIONS

Those who are recognizing the call to the priesthood, deaconate, or the religious life are invited to speak to a priest or contact the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365, or at www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains NJ
908-322-4265 OR WWW.STBACADEMY.ORG

The **Tabernacle Candle** will burn this week **For Blessings for Carolina Radecki on her 21st Birthday.**

The **Bread and Wine** used at Mass for the month of **April is In Memory of the Skolka and Melnik Families** at the request of **Olga Skolka.**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Irene Busher, Horace Ricks, Raymond Stives, Maureen Watkins, and Kathi DeLuca.**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the faithful departed especially **Kevin Burke.**

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Peter reminds the people that they allowed Jesus to be killed, and preferred to allow a murderer to be released. But God raised him from the dead as had been prophesied. Therefore, all people should believe and turn to God, that their sins might be forgiven.

Second Reading: I John 2:1-5a

Jesus was offered up for the sins of the world. The only way to prove true faith in him, is to honor his commandments. Anyone who claims to believe, yet does not keep his word, does not truly believe.

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

Jesus appeared to two disciples, though at first they feared he was a ghost. Jesus ate with them to prove he was not a ghost. He explained that he had fulfilled the prophets words about him. He also explained that in his name they must preach doing penance for the forgiveness of sins.

The Book for Reserved Masses for 2019
is now open. You are welcome to
reserve Masses for 2019.

Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki



Proboszcz Parafii

Ks. Frank Rose

E-mail: f frank@bestchurch.net

Duszpasterz Polski

Ks. Jan Krzysztof Lebdowicz

Cell: 908 405 8030

Tel: 908 756 3393 ext. 33

E-mail: jklebdo@hotmail.com

Kancelaria Parafialna

368 Sumner Avenue

Plainfield, NJ 07062

Tel: 908 756 3393

Fax: 908 756 3059

E-mail: office@bestchurch.net

Strona internetowa: www.bestchurch.net

Godziny otwarcia:

Niedziele - 9:00AM do 12:00PM

Od Poniedziałku do Piątku - 9:00 rano do 2:00 po południu

Soboty - nieczynna

Umówione spotkania poza godzinami.

Msze Święte Niedzielne

5:00PM (*msza wigilijna w soboty*) - w języku angielskim

9:00AM - z liturgią słowa dla dzieci - w języku angielskim

11:00AM - z liturgią słowa dla dzieci - **w języku polskim**

1:00PM - w języku angielskim

Liturgia Słowa dla dzieci tylko w czasie roku szkolnego.

Msze Święte w dni powszednie - w języku angielskim:

Od poniedziałku do soboty o godz. 9:00AM.

Przed mszą świętą o godz. 8:30AM odmawiany jest różaniec.

Msze Święte w Pierwsze Piątki Miesiąca

7:00PM - w języku polskim

Msze Święte w święta kościelne

W wigilię uroczystości:

7:00PM - w języku angielskim

W dzień uroczystości:

9:00AM - w języku angielskim

12:00 w południe - w języku angielskim

7:00PM - w języku angielskim i polskim

Spowiedź Święta

Ze spowiedzi świętej można skorzystać w soboty od godz. 4:30PM

w języku angielskim i polskim oraz w niedziele po mszy świętej o godz.

9:00AM (*ok. 10:00AM*).

W razie potrzeby proszę poprosić księdza przed lub po mszy świętej lub umówić się telefonicznie.

Sakrament Chrztu Świętego

Udzielany jest we wszystkie niedziele roku. Rodzice wraz z chrzestnymi powinni uczestniczyć w nauce przed chrztem dziecka, na którą należy uprzednio się umówić.

Zgodnie z zaleceniami Archidiecezji Newark rodzice dziecka powinni być zapisani do parafii na co najmniej 90 dni przed planowanym chrztem dziecka.

Sakrament Małżeństwa

Narzeczeni zamierzający przyjąć ten sakrament powinni zgłosić się do księdza na rok wcześniej, aby odbyć odpowiednie przygotowanie.

Duszpasterstwo chorych

Prosimy o powiadamianie parafii o tych, którzy z powodu wieku czy choroby - na stałe czy czasowo - skazani są na pobyt w domu lub w szpitalu i nie mogą uczestniczyć w liturgii Mszy Świętej w kościele. Chcemy ich odwiedzać, zanosić komunię świętą, służyć spowiedzią, czy sakramentem chorych.

Katechizacja

Rodzice dzieci w wieku szkolnym zobowiązani są do posyłania ich na katechizację w ciągu roku szkolnego. Istnieje też możliwość nauki dla dzieci przedszkolnych. Katechizacja odbywa się w środy każdego tygodnia w godzinach od 6:30 do 7:40PM.

Katechumenat (RCIA)

Także dorośli, którzy chcieliby przyjąć sakramenty inicjacji chrześcijańskiej (chrzest, bierzmowanie, eucharystię) powinni odbyć odpowiednie przygotowanie.

Spotkania młodzieży

Młodzież klas 9-12 spotyka się w niedziele na mszy świętej o godz. 9:00AM, w czasie której ma specjalną liturgię słowa. Inne spotkania według ustalanego rozkładu.

Liturgia Słowa dla dzieci

Odbywa się ona w każdą niedzielę roku szkolnego podczas mszy świętych w języku polskim lub w języku angielskim. Prosimy o zgłaszanie dzieci do udziału w tej formie katechizacji.

Chóry parafialne

W naszej parafii działają Chóry Parafialne prowadzone przez Panią Martę Nowik. Prosimy chętnych - zarówno dzieci jak i dorosłych - o zaangażowanie się w tę działalność. Mile widziane są osoby grające na instrumentach.

Chór Dziecięcy - próby odbywają się w środy po lekcjach religii

Chór Dorosłych (anglojęzyczny) - próby w czwartki, o godz. 7:30PM

Chór Polski - próby w poniedziałki, godz. 8:00PM

Zapisy do parafii

Zachęcamy nowych parafian do zapisania się do parafii. Potwierdzenie przynależności do parafii poprzez zapisanie się do niej jest rzeczą ważną, gdyż zaznacza naszą obecność we wspólnocie oraz wyraża wolę jej budowania. Prosimy również o powiadamianie parafii o zmianie miejsca zamieszkania czy numeru telefonu.

Wspieranie parafii

Jesteśmy wezwani do dobrowolnego poświęcenia swego czasu, talentów i dóbr dla dobra rodziny parafialnej i wspólnoty. Bóg daje nam wszystko! My winniśmy oddać Mu coś od siebie! Parafianie zapisani do parafii proszeni są o używanie otrzymywanych kopert do składania datków na tacę. Mogą oni otrzymać zaświadczenia o składanych na parafię ofiarach. W tej sprawie prosimy o kontakt z kancelarią parafialną.

Powołania

Osoby, które rozpoznają w sobie powołanie do kapłaństwa, diakonatu, czy życia zakonnego zapraszamy do rozmowy z księdzem lub do kontaktu z Archidiecezjalnym Referatem Powołań, tel. 973 497 4365, albo na stronie internetowej www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm.

Szkoła Polska

Zajęcia w Polskiej Szkole działającej przy naszej Parafii odbywają się w każdy poniedziałek w okresie roku szkolnego od godz. 5:30 do 8:00PM.

Kontakt: polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com

Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat

Tel. 732-266- 4310

Masz problem z alkoholem - Ty lub Ktoś z twoich bliskich?

Anonimowi Alkoholicy mogą Ci pomóc!

Zadzwoń - tel. 609-455-2738

Zobacz broszki w przesłonkach kościoła.

LITURGIA

UROCZYŚĆ BOŻEGO MIŁOSIERDZIA

03 NIEDZIELA WIELKANOCY

15 kwietnia 2018

W Ewangelii z dzisiejszej niedzieli spotykamy zatrwożonych i wylęklonych uczniów. Kontakt z Jezusem przekonuje ich o zmartwychwstaniu. Przypomnieli sobie pisma Starego Testamentu i uwierzyli. Najważniejsze zdanie z Ewangelii wypowiedziane jest chyba na samym końcu. Pan Jezus - jakby ukazując konsekwencje ich wiary - przekonuje i zachęca zarazem: wy jesteście świadkami tego. Z historii Kościoła dowiadujemy się, że uczniowie pojęli swoje posłannictwo. Poszli do wszystkich narodów i męczeńską śmiercią potwierdzili wielki radykalizm swojej wiary. Dziś nikt nie wymaga od chrześcijan tak wielkiej ofiary. Nie trzeba umierać za Zmartwychwstałego. Jednak im więcej beznadziei i rozczarowania, tym większe zadanie odpowiedzialności i świadczenia.

Już uczestnictwo w tej Eucharystii dla świata jest pewnym znakiem. Oby nasze zaangażowanie wynikało ze świadomości tego znaku.

16 kwietnia - Poniedziałek

Wspomnienie św. Bernadety Soubiroux (1844-79)

Urodziła się w Lourdes. Jako kilkunastoletniej dziewczynce, 11 lutego 1858, objawiła się jej po raz pierwszy Matka Boża. Zmarła jako zakonnica Zgromadzenia Sióstr Miłości i Wychowania Chrześcijańskiego.

17 kwietnia - Wtorek

Wspomnienie św. Roberta (+1067)

Był Francuzem, założycielem i opatem Cystersów.

18 kwietnia - Środa

Wspomnienie św. Apoloniusza

Był senatorem rzymskim. Wydany przez swoich własnych niewolników został ścięty za wiarę ok. 190 roku.

19 kwietnia - Środa

Wspomnienie św. Leona, papieża (1002-1054)

Należy do najwybitniejszych papieży. Zreorganizował kurie watykańską.

20 kwietnia - Piątek

Wspomnienie św. Teodora (+613)

Był biskupem Anastezjopola.

21 kwietnia - Sobota

Wspomnienie św. Anzelma (1033-1109)

Pochodził z Włoch. Zastąpił jako Prymas Angli (dwukrotnie wypędzany za obronę praw Kościoła) i uczony Benedyktyn. Uważany jest za jednego z ojców scholastyki.

Z ŻYCIA WSPÓLNOTY PARAFIALNEJ

Pierwsza Komunia Święta

- Spotkania przygotowawcze w niedziele 15 i 22 kwietnia od godz. 10:00 do 11:00 przed południem
- Rekolekcje przed I komunią, najbliższa sobota, 14 kwietnia, od godz. 9:30 rono do 12:30 po południu
- Spotkania przygotowawcze w niedziele 15 i 22 kwietnia od godz. 10:00 do 11:00
- Próba przed I komunią dla dzieci przystępujących na mszy polskiej – piątek, 27 kwietnia, o godz. 6:00 wieczorem
- Pierwsza Komunia w niedzielę, 29 kwietnia na mszy świętej o godz. 9:00 i 11:00 przed południem

Polski Chór

Prosimy chętnych do przyłączenia się do śpiewania w polskim chórze. Próby odbywają się w poniedziałki, o godz. 8:00 wieczorem.

Obchody Jubileuszy Małżeństwa

Ja co roku w katedrze w Newark, odbrawiane będą przez Księdza Kard. Józefa Tobin msze święte dla jubilatów świętujących rocznice swego małżeństwa.

Zapraszamy:

- małżeństwa obchodzące 5, 25 rocznicę w niedzielę, 29 kwietnia, o godz. 3:00 po południu.
- małżeństwa obchodzące 50 rocznicę w niedzielę, 6 maja, o godz. 3:00 po południu.

Małżonków pragnących wziąć udział w tych uroczystościach prosimy o złożenie tego, w kancelarii parafialnej, byśmy mogli powiadomić organizatorów .

Zbiórka żywności

Nadal zbieramy żywność dla potrzebujących. Chodzi o żywność, którą da się przechować; która nie ulegnie szybko zepsuciu się. Prosimy ją składać w nawie bocznej kościoła. Dary te przekazywane są Armii Zbawienia, z którą nasza parafia od lat współpracuje, aby docierać z pomocą do potrzebujących na naszym terenie.

Refleksja

„Zabiliście Dawcę życia, ale Bóg wskrzesił Go z martwych”.

(Dz 3,15)

Zastanówmy się chwilę nad kontekstem dzisiejszego czytania. Piotr właśnie uzdrowił chromego od urodzenia. Uradowany uzdrowieniem, człowiek ten zaczyna spontanicznie skakać i tańczyć w świątyni, gdzie gromadzi się wokół niego spory tłum. Wszyscy świadkowie tej niecodziennej sceny nie posiadają się ze zdumienia. A ściśle rzecz biorąc, wszyscy oprócz Piotra. „Dlaczego dziwicie się temu?” *(Dz 3,12)* - pyta. Jest oczywiście uszczęśliwiony, ale wydaje się bardziej zaskoczony zdziwieniem zebranych niż cudem, którego właśnie dokonał!

Dlaczego Piotr nie był zaskoczony? Odpowiedź znajdujemy w jego własnych słowach skierowanych do tłumu. Co najmniej trzykrotnie Piotr ogłasza coś o wiele bardziej zadziwiającego niż ten cud: Po tym wszystkim, co zrobiliśmy Jezusowi, Bóg wskrzesił Go z martwych i dał nam jako Zbawiciela!

„Zabiliście Dawcę życia, ale Bóg wskrzesił Go z martwych” *(Dz 3,15)* - oznajmia z mocą Piotr. Bóg odpowiedział na nasze okrucieństwo swoją miłością.

Dramatyczne wydarzenia Wielkiego Piątku, Niedzieli Wielkanocnej i Zesłania Ducha Świętego uświadomiły Piotrowi, jak wielkoduszny i miłosierny jest Bóg. Pamiętajmy, że Piotr zapał się Jezusa i uciekł przy Jego aresztowaniu. On, „Skala” Kościoła, trząsł się ze strachu. Jednak Jezus wybaczył mu i przyjął go z powrotem. Tak więc po tym wszystkim, co widział i czego doświadczył, Piotra nie było w stanie już nic zadziwić. Wiedział, że Bóg pragnie dla swojego ludu jedynie dobra. To zdumiewająca dobra nowina Ewangelii: Boże miłosierdzie jest niewyczerpane. Bóg wzięt na siebie nasze grzechy, zgładził je, a zamiast kary i odpłaty obdarzył nas uzdrowieniem i przebaczeniem.

Pamiętaj o tym podczas dzisiejszej Mszy świętej - nawet gdyby twoje grzechy były najgorsze, nawet gdybyś uważał, że nie zasługujesz już na nic, odpowiedź Boga jest jednoznaczna i zadziwiająca: jest On gotów ci przebaczyć i dać swojego Syna, Jezusa, w pokornej postaci chleba i wina.

„Dziękuję Ci, Ojcze, za to, że odpłacasz miłością za moje grzechy! Panie, chcę iść drogą Twojego miłosierdzia”.

WORD

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our Religious Education Sessions have concluded for this cycle. After taking a little break we will gear-up for the September cycle by sending out re-registration forms and you can sign-up any student from grade 1 – 8. If they are a new student then we will need a copy of their baptismal certificate. Any questions, please call Linda in the Religious Education Office.

A great debt of gratitude is owed to all those who gave so generously of their time for the sake of our students! If you are interested in giving a little of your time on Wednesday evenings to help out or be an instructor, or to help out at Liturgy of the Word on Sunday mornings, please contact Linda in the Religious Ed. Office. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

FIRST EUCHARIST

- The remaining First Communion Sessions are Sundays from 10-11am on April 15, and 22.
- The one and only rehearsal is on Thursday, April 26th from 4 – 5 in the afternoon in Church. We have made this rehearsal all-inclusive and we have made every effort not to interfere with everyone's busy schedule.
- First Communion will be on Sunday, April 29th at both the 9AM Mass in English and at the 11AM Mass in Polish. Relatives and friends are welcome!

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

- The Rosary Society will celebrate their Rosary Sunday Mass on Sunday, May 6th at the 9 AM Mass and no business meeting will follow.
- **Rosary Society Bake Sale** will be on the weekend of May 12th and 13th at all the Masses.

EMMAUS BOOK CLUB

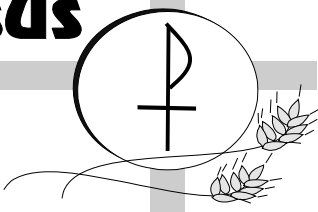
"A man's purpose is known only to God." What does it mean to be a man (person) of purpose? Starting in 1922 Count Alexander Rostov learns to live in the present moment and slowly discover the depths of his humanity while under house arrest in Moscow's grand Metropol Hotel. Join us on April 30 at 7:00 PM in the rectory as we discuss A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles. This book is currently popular, so be sure to get your copy!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- The next meeting will be held on this Sunday, April 15th after the 9AM Mass.
- The meeting for May will be on Sunday, May 20th after the 9AM Mass.
- The weekend of April 21st and 22nd we will be collecting to aid the developmentally challenged. Our men will be at the doors of the Church.

Know Jesus

in the breaking
of the bread....



Sr. Terry Rickard to speak at St. Helen's

Sr. Terry will explore seven awe-inspiring habits that will help you give humble witness to your faith and pass on its richness to your children, grandchildren and anyone who is seeking God.

Witness Made Simple:

Seven Awesome Habits for Sharing your Faith

Sr. Terry is a Dominican Sister and President and Executive Director of Renew International who is a nationally known retreat leader and speaker.

All are invited to attend on Friday evening, April 27th at 7:30PM at St. Helen's Church, 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield.

WORSHIP

CHOIR

♪ THE CHOIR...WHY NOT BECOME A MEMBER ♪

If you are interested in joining any of the Choirs, please contact John or Martha after Mass or at the Church offices at ext. 108, or by e-mail: music@bestchurch.net

- **ADULT CHOIR** meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30PM in Church.
- **JUNIOR CHOIR** rehearses on Wednesday after Religious education classes.
- **INSTRUMENTALISTS** Students or adults, we can use your talents!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:30 PM and on Sunday mornings after Masses as well as after weekday Masses simply by requesting the celebration of the Sacrament.

LITTLEWAY HOME SCHOOL CONCERT

On Saturday evening, May 12th at 6:30PM (after the 5PM Mass) the Littleway Home School will offer a concert of their musical abilities. You are welcome to attend their presentation.

VIGIL OF PENTECOST

Saturday, May 19th is the Vigil of Pentecost; 50 days after Easter. It is the second most important day in the liturgical calendar, second to Easter, itself. It is considered a sort of "birthday" of the Church. This celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and Our Lady and, in a sense, the reversal of the story of the Tower of Babel in that the Apostles were given the gift of tongues by which they could preach and be understood by anyone in any language. This Vigil resembles the Easter Vigil with the extended readings tracing the history of the meaning of Pentecost. It is a most beautiful and prayerful celebration and I encourage you to be part of it especially since it concludes the Easter Season. The Vigil is probably about 15 minutes longer than a usual Mass, so it is not really going to detain you, if that is a concern! Come and join us; the music is beautiful, the readings are very special and we share in the "breaking of the bread". Could there be anything better?

The Book for Reserved Masses for 2019 is now open. You are welcome to reserve Masses for 2019.

ST. ANNE SOCIETY

- The St. Anne Society is continuing with all their good works. They will meet in special session for fellowship on April 24th at Giovanna's Restaurant. Members of the Society who are interested, please contact Linda at the Parish Office.
- **St. Anne Society Calendar Meeting** will be on Tuesday, May 22nd to prepare the coming year of events.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Please pray for our Parishioners in the Military:

CCM Michael Dias, USAF
Nicholas Hogan, USN
Luke Adams, USN
SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army
Ryan Percy, USN

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 25th at 10:30 in the Parish Center and in the mean time they will continue making lap robes for Runnells and for our parishioners who are ill. If you would like to help or need yarn just contact Linda at the Parish Office. If you would like to learn to crochet or knit you are invited to come to any meeting.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

The Caregiver's Support Group will meet Monday, May 7th at 7:30 PM at St. Helen's Parish Center. This is a group for those caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones. For information, please call Marilyn Ryan at 908-233-8757.

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

All of the students have resumed classes after a spring break and now begin the big push to the end of the school year. Younger students look to be promoted and the 8th graders look to begin another phase of their ever-growing lives. The Academy is a perfect place for a Catholic Education founded on learning a true Catholic way of life and achieving excellence in academics. The students are nurtured and cared for. For information contact Maureen Doherty at: 908-322-4265 or www.stbacademy.org

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION

The food will go to those in our Plainfield area and will be distributed in conjunction with The Salvation Army here in Plainfield. You are encouraged to bring any non-perishable foods whose dates are current to the open area of the Church.

ANNIVERSARIES TO BE HONORED AT CATHEDRAL

Once again, the celebration of anniversaries of 5, 25, and 50 years of marriage will be celebrated by Cardinal Tobin at the Cathedral Basilica. Those celebrating 5 and 25 years of marriage will be recognized at Mass on April 29th at 3PM; and, those celebrating 50 years of marriage will be recognized at Mass on May 6th at 3PM. If you plan on attending please call the parish office to register so we can keep the Archdiocese informed.

"BESTCHURCH" SENIORS

Thursday, April 19th the Seniors will meet at 1PM in the Parish Center.

YOUTH

GET-A-GRIP:

Get-A-Grip will meet on Sunday, May 6th at the 9AM and 11AM Mass. For those anticipating receiving Confirmation this is a required part of the preparation. Students from 7th grade through High School are invited to attend.

UNION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

On Wednesday, April 25th, all 5th, 6th, and 7th Grade Students and Families are invited to come and get a sneak peek at all Union Catholic has to offer!

For more information, call 908-889-1600, ext. 302

SERVICE

STEWARDSHIP... "is what we do with what we have when we believe in God" –Cardinal Joseph Tobin, C.Ss. R. *"Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' But they were startled and frightened..." Throughout the day we have many opportunities to "see the face of Jesus" in others and to "be the face of Jesus" to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide "peace" to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength to live a "God-centered" life.*

FINANCE

Faith Giving for St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus

134 envelopes were used Sunday and contained \$4,475 which means 75% of the collection came from envelopes. There are 446 registered families who receive envelopes which means 312 families did not use envelopes.

The average gift from envelopes was \$32.40

For your information:

Faith Giving for April 8th...\$5979

5:00PM...\$1,351...9:00AM...\$2,417

11:00AM...\$1,159...1:00PM...\$1,052

Faith Giving for Easter...\$39,873

Gifts for Easter Flowers...\$1,641

For this week, our appeal to raise weekly revenue to \$5,600 is successful; on the average for the month we are successful. Your continued support is deeply appreciated.

TAX STATEMENTS

Anyone needing a statement of giving for tax purposes, please feel free to get in touch with the parish office and we will be happy to provide you with a statement.

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Call the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.

Calendar of Events

April 15..Third Sunday of Easter

9:00AM, 1:00PM Mass in English
Chapel and Liturgy of the Word; Get-A-Grip
Following 9AM Mass...Knights of Columbus Meet
in Parish Center

10:00AM – 11:00AM...First Communion Session

11AM Mass in Polish..Liturgy of the Word; Get-A-Grip

April 22..Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00AM, 1:00PM Mass in English
Chapel and Liturgy of the Word; Get-A-Grip

10:00AM – 11:00AM...First Communion Session

11AM Mass in Polish..Liturgy of the Word; Get-A-Grip

April 29..Fifth Sunday of Easter

**First Eucharist is Celebrated at the
9:00AM Mass in English; and, at the
11:00AM Mass in Polish**

9:00AM, 1:00PM Mass in English
11:00AM..Mass in Polish

May 6..Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rosary Society Sunday

9AM Mass and meeting in the Parish Center

9:00AM, 1:00PM Mass in English
Chapel and Liturgy of the Word; Get-A-Grip
11AM Mass in Polish..Liturgy of the Word; Get-A-Grip

MONDAYS:

April 16, 23, 30

5:30-8:00PM...Polish School

April 30

7:00PM...Emmaus Book Club meets in Rectory

TUESDAYS:

April 24

6:30PM..St. Anne Fellowship at Giovanna's

WEDNESDAYS:

April 18, 25

7:00PM..Junior and Adult Choir

April 25

10:30AM...Prayer Shawl Meeting in Parish Center

THURSDAYS:

April 19, 26

7:30PM Adult Choir

April 19

1:00PM..."Bestchurch" Seniors meet in Parish Center

April 26

4 – 5PM...First Communion Rehearsal in Church

FRIDAYS:

April 27

6:00PM...First Communion Rehearsal for Polish Mass

SATURDAYS:

April 14

9:30AM – 12:30PM...First Communion Retreat



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

You know, as believers we are not typical pilgrims. Instead we are disciples on the road to Emmaus where in our own grief, challenges and business, we often fail to recognize what is right in front of us.

The disciples lost hope and were confused as they walked the seven miles toward Emmaus. They were trying to make sense of what they had been told when Jesus appeared to them. They had no expectations of such a possibility and were not exactly sure if what they were seeing was real or to be trusted. Startled by these circumstances, they were unwilling or unable to believe, even though they witnessed his wounds with their own eyes. It wasn't until they shared hospitality and Jesus gave them food did their eyes open fully. Though it is not always that dramatic for us, Jesus can be present even in the mundane. In the ordinary action of living, life is found.

We meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus each time we attend the celebration of the Eucharist. We assemble as one body where we hear the word of God and the body and blood of Christ is shared as one community. We gather for a communal experience of a meal consisting of the blessed body and blood of Christ. Our eyes are opened, and we are called to go forth to spread the saving word in the world. Each eucharistic celebration brings us together as the body of Christ where we are reminded that we are the eyes, ears and hands of Jesus. We are called to do his work in community and as individuals. We are disciples on the road to Emmaus each time we gather in his name. A peace comes from sharing with and loving our sisters and brothers who walk among us, are with us, and are a part of us; just as Jesus walked with his disciples on the road initially as a stranger. He is real and he is among us.

Jesus is especially present in the poor and the marginalized, in the immigrant who is seeking a better life. It is in the hospitality shared with the least among us that he is most present and powerful. We share, we build relationships, and we nurture the call from Jesus to bring our faith to action. We don't flourish in a personal vacuum but rather thrive in a community of love, faith and hope. Our eyes are opened in faith, community, community, relationships and hospitality. Living out the call from the Lord means leaving our comfort zone and reaching out to touch the wounds of Jesus in those around us. Our conversion leaves us vulnerable and at times afraid. It is through that vulnerability that we experience forgiveness and repentance which leads to peace. The only way to bring peace is to be that peace and that takes risk.

We are part of an unfinished story that unfolds daily in our lives. Jesus is with us on the journey and exists in faith and through the gift of new eyes. The road to Emmaus continues through us.

*In the Love of God,
Fr. Frank*



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