

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

June 1, 2025

Phone: 908-756-3393

Fax: 908-756-3059

E-mail: office@bestchurch.net

Website: www.bestchurch.net

The people of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka are a "Living Mosaic of God's People," who seek salvation through worship, education, stewardship and service, proclaiming our faith in God and in our heritages.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Marcin Fuks

Pastor

pastor@bestchurch.net

908-756-3393 Ext - 101

Rev. Bernardo Garcia

Parochial Vicar

vicar@bestchurch.net

908-756-3393 Ext - 102

Karole Lechowski

Secretary

office@bestchurch.net

908-756-3393

General Mailbox ext. 100

Iveth Parada

Religious Education

bestreligioused@gmail.com

908-756-3393 Ext - 103

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM - English

10:30AM - Polish

12:00PM - English

1:30PM - Spanish



CONFIRMED in the *Faith*

Munachi Akunna

Daniel Szejepanski

Elvis Catalan-Carrera

Ryan Szejepanski

David Grzyb

Nicole Tchorzewski

Filip Kierzkowski

Alexandra Lily Thomas

Mackensie Lillia

Jessica Tokarz

Julia Nowak

Liam Veras

Alexis Reid

Natalia Zielonka

CHURCH ADDRESS

1235 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

Saturday and Sunday: Closed
or by appointment

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am-2:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATIONS

Saturday: 4:15 pm

By request: After Mass

Sunday - Saturday: Mornings

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday – May 31...The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00AM...People of the Parish

5:00PM...+ Maureen Watkins, req. Family

Sunday – June 1...Seventh Sunday of Easter Celebrating the Ascension of the Lord

9:00AM... + Rita Cook, req. John and Kyle Boegel

10:30AM... + Ann i Marian Nawrocki, od Córki Martha

+ Józef Górka (1. Rocznica), od Żona i Rodziną

+ Andy i Jolanta Solgan, req. od Rodzina

12:00 Noon...**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES**

1:30PM+ God's Mercy for the Starving Palestine People
in Gaza, req. Jolanta Soljan

Monday – June 2... Sts. Marcellinus and Peter

9:00AM...+ Arline Sheats, req. Karole

Tuesday – June 3... St. Charles Lwanga

9:00AM... Peach Smith, req. in Thanksgiving from Students
and Parents of Sacred Heart Co-op

Wednesday – June 4... Easter Weekday

9:00AM...+ Doris and Grace Forte, req. Johanna Merkle

Thursday – June 5... St. Boniface

9:00AM... Margaret Mary Lacko, req. Karole and Eddie

Friday – June 6... St. Norbert

9:00AM...+ Maria Elbert, req. Helga Gilligan, Sister

7:00PM (Pol.)

Saturday – June 7...Easter Weekday

9:00AM...+ People of the Parish

5:00PM...+ Andrew Błazynski, req Wisniewski Family

Sunday – June 8...Pentecost Sunday

9:00AM... + George Polizzano, req. Johanna Merkle

10:30AM... + Żofia i Paweł Dżuba, od Córki i Rodziny

+ Lucyna Watroba (1. rocznica), od rodziny Zielonka

12:00 Noon...Birthday Blessings for Paul Amadin,
req Mom Esther

1:30PM+ Virgilio Martinez, req. Daughter

CHOIR

Rehearsals are at 7:00PM on Thursdays in the church. If you are interested in more information, please call the office or stop by after church to talk to our choir members.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:15PM and on Sunday mornings after Masses as well as after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the Sacrament.

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week in **Memory of all our Parish Deceased.**

The Bread and Wine for the Month of June is in **Memory of Jovito Imperial** at the request of the Wong Family.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Cathy and Jack Rooney, Marian Parcinski, Olivia Schiffer, Al Caraldo, and Margaret Macknowsky.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the **Faithful Departed** especially **Geralyn Boccher.**

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1, 1-11

Jesus had appeared many times to his disciples after his resurrection. On this final occasion, Jesus' departing message is that they will soon receive the Holy Spirit to strengthen them in their work. No sooner does he say this, he is taken up to heaven before their eyes.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1, 17-23

Paul prays that God may grant wisdom and enlightenment to the Ephesians so that they may know the great hope to which they are called. Every power has been given to Christ who now reigns in heaven. He is the "head of the church, which is his body."

Gospel: Matthew 28, 16-20

Jesus told his disciples to go to the mountain in Galilee. Upon seeing the disciples, Jesus told them to go to all nations to make new disciples and spread the teachings of the Lord. Jesus also reassured them of his presence, until the end of the age.



Confirmation

Today!!!

Sunday, June 1

12:00PM Mass



Religious Education 2025 - 2026

Early Registration: May 1- June 30

Late Registration: August 18–September 8
-Plus, Late fee of \$20-

Registration received after September 8, will incur a late fee of \$50.

Where:



Online

In Person: Pick up a form at the Parish office.

Registration Fees

One Child: \$90.00
First Communion: \$35.00
Two Children: \$150.00
Confirmation: \$45.00
Three Children: \$190.00

Sacramental Fees

Office:
Cash/Check

Payment: Online
Parish





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

WNIEBOWSTĄPIENIE PAŃSKIE

Kazanie św. Augustyna, biskupa

W dniu dzisiejszym nasz Pan, Jezus Chrystus, wstąpił do nieba: podążajmy tam sercem razem z Nim. Posłuchajmy Apostoła, który mówi: "Jeśliście więc razem z Chrystusem powstali z martwych, szukajcie tego, co w górze, gdzie przebywa Chrystus, zasiadając po prawicy Boga. Dążcie do tego, co w górze, nie do tego, co na ziemi". Chrystus wstąpił do nieba, ale nie odszedł od nas. Tak i my, już tam jesteśmy razem z Nim, choć jeszcze nie spełniło się w naszym ciele to, co jest nam obiecanie.

Chrystus już jest wyniesiony ponad niebiosy; cierpi jednak na ziemi, ilekroć my, Jego członki, doznajemy utrapień. On sam daje tego dowód, gdy woła z niebios: "Szawle, Szawle, dlaczego Mnie prześladujesz?", oraz: "Byłem głodny, a daliście Mi jeść".

Czemuż to i my tak nie wysilamy się tu na ziemi, aby dzięki wierze, nadziei i miłości, które łączą nas z Nim, z Nim też radować się pokojem niebios? On, który tam przebywa, jest również i z nami; a my, którzy tu jesteśmy, i tam razem z Nim jesteśmy. Chrystus jest w niebie w swoim Bóstwie, mocy i miłości; my nie możemy tam przebywać tak jak On, jednakże możemy tam być naszą miłością, ale w Nim.

Nasz Pan nie opuścił niebios, gdy stamtąd przyszedł do nas; nie opuścił też i nas, kiedy znowu wstąpił do niebios. O tym, że tam przebywał, gdy był z nami tu na ziemi, On sam stwierdza tymi słowami: "Nikt nie wstąpił do nieba oprócz Tego,

który z nieba zstąpił - Syna Człowieczego, który jest w niebie".

To zaś zostało powiedziane dla zaznaczenia jedności: On jest naszą Głową, a my Jego Ciałem. Tak więc nikt nie wstąpił do nieba, jak tylko On, bo i my Nim jesteśmy dzięki temu, że stał się Synem Człowieczym dla nas, a my synami Bożymi przez Niego.

Tak więc mówi Apostoł: "Podobnie jak jedno jest ciało, choć składa się z wielu członków, a wszystkie członki ciała, mimo iż są liczne, stanowią jedno ciało; tak też jest i z Chrystusem". Nie jest powiedziane: "Tak też jest z Chrystusem", lecz: "Tak też jest i z Chrystusem". Chrystus więc ma wiele członków, ale jedno Ciało.

Chrystus zstąpił z nieba przez miłosierdzie i wstąpił tylko On sam, a my w Nim przez łaskę. I tak tylko Chrystus zstąpił i tylko Chrystus wstąpił. Przez to nie utożsamiamy bynajmniej Chrystusa, jako Głowy, z Jego Ciałem, lecz stwierdzamy nierozdzielność jedność Ciała z Jego Głową.

LG tom II: Wniebowstąpienie Pańskie, str. 719-720

Szkoła Polska Doksztalająca

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



Polska Szkoła Doksztalająca
im. Juliana Ursyni Niemcewicza

365 Emerson Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07062 adres szkoły
1231 George Street, Plainfield, NJ 07062 adres korespondencyjny
E-mail: polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com Telefon (Dziwisko): 732 266 4310



zapisy do polskiej szkoły

Odkryj bogactwo polskiej kultury i języka!

Zapisz się już dziś i bądź częścią naszej szkolnej rodziny!

Kontakt: polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com
Tel. (732) 266-4310

Oferujemy:

- Zajęcia w poniedziałki 5:30 – 8:00 pm
- Klasy: Przedzkoła - Liceum (klasa maturalna)
- Aktywna społeczność: uczniowie, rodzice i nauczyciele
- Przedstawienia, konkursy, warsztaty, wycieczki szkolne, wspólnie wydarzenia z okazji Święt Bożego Narodzenia i Wielkanocy, bal karnawałowy, piknik szkolny oraz dużo więcej!
- Prawie 25 lat doświadczenia z wykwalfikowaną kadrą pedagogiczną

Oferujemy:

- Zajęcia w poniedziałki 5:30 – 8:00 pm
- Klasy: Przedzkoła - Liceum (klasa maturalna)
- Aktywna społeczność: uczniowie, rodzice i nauczyciele
- Przedstawienia, konkursy, warsztaty, wycieczki szkolne, wspólnie wydarzenia z okazji Święt Bożego Narodzenia i Wielkanocy, bal karnawałowy, piknik szkolny oraz dużo więcej!
- Prawie 25 lat doświadczenia z wykwalfikowaną kadrą pedagogiczną

The Saint of the Week

St. Charles Lwanga and Companions

June 3

The Society of Missionaries of Africa (known as the White Fathers) had only been in Uganda for 6 years and yet they had built up a community of converts whose faith would outshine their own. Many of these converts lived and taught at King Mwanga's court.

King Mwanga was a violent ruler and pedophile who forced himself on the young boys and men who served him as pages and attendants. The Christians at Mwanga's court tried to protect the pages from King Mwanga.

The leader of the small community of 200 Christians, was the chief steward of Mwanga's court, a twenty-five-year-old Catholic named Joseph Mkasa (or Mukasa).

When Mwanga killed a Protestant missionary and his companions, Joseph Mkasa confronted Mwanga and condemned his action. Mwanga had always liked Joseph but when Joseph dared to demand that Mwanga change his lifestyle, Mwanga forgot their long friendship. After striking Joseph with a spear, Mwanga ordered him killed. When the executioners tried to tie Joseph's hands, he told them, "A Christian who gives his life for God is not afraid to die." He forgave Mwanga with all his heart but made one final plea for his repentance before he was beheaded and then burned on November 15, 1885.

Charles Lwanga took over the instruction and leadership of the Christian community at court -- and the charge of keeping the young boys and men out of Mwanga's hands. Perhaps Joseph's plea for repentance had had some affect on Mwanga because the persecution died down for six months.

Anger and suspicion must have been simmering in Mwanga, however. In May 1886 he called one of his pages named Mwafu and asked what the page had been doing that kept him away from Mwanga. When the page replied that he had been receiving religious instruction from Denis Sebuggwawo, Mwanga's temper boiled over. He had Denis brought to him and killed him himself by thrusting a spear through his throat.

He then ordered that the royal compound be sealed and guarded so that no one could escape and summoned the country's executioners. Knowing what was coming, Charles Lwanga baptized four catechumens that night, including a thirteen-year-old named Kizito. The next morning Mwanga brought his whole court before him and separated the Christians from the rest by saying, "Those who do not pray stand by me, those who do pray stand over there." He demanded of the fifteen boys and young men (all under 25) if they were Christians and intended to

remain Christians. When they answered "Yes" with strength and courage Mwanga condemned them to death.

He commanded that the group be taken on a 37 mile trek to the place of execution at Namugongo. The chief executioner begged one of the boys, his own son, Mabaga, to escape and hide but Mbaga refused. The cruelly-bound prisoners passed the home of the White Fathers on their way to execution. Father Lourdel remembered thirteen-year-old Kizito laughing and chattering. Lourdel almost fainted at the courage and joy these condemned converts, his friends, showed on their way to martyrdom. Three of these faithful were killed on road.

A Christian soldier named James Buzabaliawo was brought before the king. When Mwanga ordered him to be killed with the rest, James said, "Goodbye, then. I am going to Heaven, and I will pray to God for you." When a griefstricken Father Lourdel raised his hand in absolution as James passed, James lifted his own tied hands and pointed up to show that he knew he was going to heaven and would meet Father Lourdel there. With a smile he said to Lourdel, "Why are you so sad? This nothing to the joys you have taught us to look forward to."

Also condemned were Andrew Kagwa, a Kigowa chief, who had converted his wife and several others, and Matthias Murumba (or Kalemba) an assistant judge. The chief counsellor was so furious with Andrew that he proclaimed he wouldn't eat until he knew Andrew was dead. When the executioners hesitated Andrew egged them on by saying, "Don't keep your counsellor hungry -- kill me." When the same counsellor described what he was going to do with Matthias, he added, "No doubt his god will rescue him." "Yes," Matthias replied, "God will rescue me. But you will not see how he does it, because he will take my soul and leave you only my body." Matthias was cut up on the road and left to die -- it took him at least three days.

The original caravan reached Namugongo and the survivors were kept imprisoned for seven days. On June 3, they were brought out, wrapped in reed mats, and placed on the pyre. Mbaga was killed first by order of his father, the chief executioner, who had tried one last time to change his son's mind. The rest were burned to death. Thirteen Catholics and eleven Protestants died. They died calling on the name of Jesus.

When the White Fathers were expelled from the country, the new Christians carried on their work, translating and printing the catechism into their native language giving secret instruction on the faith. Without priests, liturgy, and sacraments, their faith, intelligence, courage, and wisdom kept the Catholic Church alive and growing in Uganda. When the White Fathers returned after King Mwanga's death, they found five hundred Christians and one thousand catechumens waiting for them.

PLAY & PRAY

With Fr. Bernardo

Even though the Religious Classes are finished we invite our students and their parents this Wednesday, June 4th, at 6:30pm for an evening of fun and faith with Fr. Bernardo.

Liturgy of the Word **for young children**

Classes will resume in the fall. We need volunteers to assist once a month at the 9AM Mass starting in September. Lesson plans and training will be available. If you are interested in helping **next season**, please contact Karole the office for more information.

ALTAR SERVERS

Be joyful to serve at the altar, to be closer to Jesus!

Summer is on the way - we will still need Altar Servers for Sunday Masses during the Summer. If you are interested in helping out as an altar Server, please contact Fr. Bernardo.

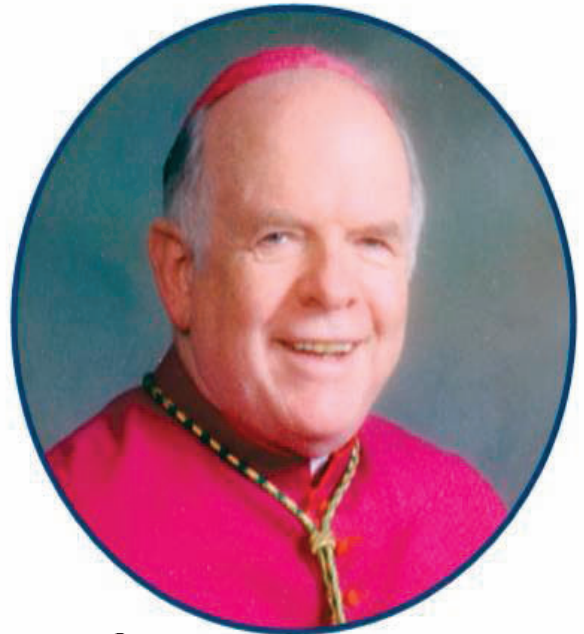


ROSARY SOCIETY

The Rosary is prayed every day before the 9AM Mass followed by the Divine Mercy

Payers. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on Thursdays after the Rosary concluding with Benediction at 11.45.

There will be a Pot Luck Supper for the Rosarians in the Conference Room of the Parish Office at 5:30PM on Thursday, June 5th.



*This weekend we welcome
Most Reverend John W. Flessey.
Bishop Flessey will be confirming our
Confirmation Candidates on
Sunday
as they receive the Holy Spirit.*

CHAIR EXERCISE for Seniors

A gentle practice in which postures are performed while seated with the aid of a chair.

Last class is Tuesday at 1:30PM. Patty Casterline leads the group with relaxing exercises that can also be followed at home. If you would like to do some exercises on your own, you are still welcome to come and Patty will show you how to accomplish them.

Stewardship

The Ascension of the Lord

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." (REVELATIONS 22:13)

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – putting God first in all that we do. Not only when I am at Mass and parish activities, but when I am in the world, at work, or at school. Living gratefully and generously is an intentional lifestyle. Every decision you make either moves you closer to God or farther away. Choose wisely!

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ APPEAL

We are grateful to share that we have already received **\$23,503.00** in pledges—thank you to all who have given so generously! Your support of the 2025 Annual Appeal helps sustain the mission of Christ in our Archdiocese. Please help our parish reach our goal by June 30 and possibly receive financial incentives!

Our goal is **\$30,181.02**. If you have not yet made your gift, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so. To make an online gift, please visit rcan.org/sharing.

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your faithful support of our Catholic mission.
May God bless you abundantly!



ONLINE GIVING

IT IS POSSIBLE TO AUTOMATE YOUR FAITH GIVING TO
"PARISH GIVING." SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION.

COLLECTION FOR MAY 25TH

ONLINE	\$ 1,093
IN PEW	\$ 3,086
TOTAL	\$ 4,179

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today as we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, we have joy in welcoming Bishop John W. Flesey, who will confirm 14 confirmation students. Bishop Flesey, as a newly ordained priest, was assigned to St. Bernard, and spent the first years of his priestly ministry here in our parish. We welcome him back and pray together for the Cofirmandi and their families.

The Gospel reading narrates the final apparition of the Risen Christ to the disciples. The earthly life of Jesus culminates precisely with the Ascension, which we also profess in the Creed: "He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father."

Jesus says to His friends: "I send the promise of my Father upon you". He is talking about the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, He who will accompany them, guide them, support them in their mission, defend them in spiritual battles. We thus understand something important: Jesus is not abandoning the disciples. He ascends to Heaven, but He does not leave them alone. Rather, precisely by ascending towards the Father, He ensures the effusion of the Holy Spirit, of His Spirit. Thus, ascending to Heaven, instead of remaining beside a few people with His body, Jesus becomes close to all with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit makes Jesus present in us, beyond the barriers of time and space, to make us His witnesses in the world.

Christ raises His hands and blesses the apostles. It is a priestly gesture. Ever since the times of Aaron, God had entrusted the task of blessing the people to priests. The Gospel wants to tell us that Jesus is the great priest of our life. Jesus ascends to the Father to intercede on our behalf, to present our humanity to Him. So, as He makes his "exodus" to Heaven, Christ "makes way" for us. He goes to prepare a place for us, and from this time forth, He intercedes for us, so that we may always be accompanied and blessed by the Father.

Brothers and sisters, let us think today of the gift of the Spirit we have received from Jesus to be witnesses of the Gospel.

Fr. Marcin

MEMORIAL
FUNERAL HOME
Thoughtful care—Compassionate service
Owned and managed by the Keiser family since 1928
Thomas M. Keiser, Jr., Owner
NJ License No. 3844
Laura E. Mann, Executive Director
NJ License No. 4947
155 South Avenue • Fanwood, NJ 07023
908 322-4350
www.fanwoodmemorial.com

McCriskin-Gustafson
FAMILY OF FUNERAL HOMES
INDEPENDENT & LOCAL
2425 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-561-8000
James A. Gustafson
President/Manager
NJ License #4205
Richard W. McCriskin II
Vice President
NJ License #4564
Scan to visit our website
www.mccriskinfuneralhome.com
Pre-Arrangements • Cremation Services
S/S Medicaid Protection

SMOKEY
ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

Watchung Dental Care PC
COSMETIC • IMPLANT • FAMILY DENTISTRY
Sang H. Moon D.D.S., F.I.C.O.I.
Caroline Hanna, D.M.D.
1801 East 2nd Street
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
908-322-6090 • www.watchungdentalcare.com

GOD BLESS AMERICA

**ROOFING • CHIMNEYS
MASONRY • GUTTERS**

We Find & Fix Leaks!
ROYAL PRO CONSTRUCTION
Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200, Bonded & Insured • 20+ Yrs.
732-589-9967 *Serving All of New Jersey*

\$1100 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement
20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

If the lights are flashing,
no passing.
It's Not a Suggestion, It's the Law.

READY.GOV
Don't be afraid...Be Ready

Act now to help end hunger.
In the United States, one in nine people face hunger.
feedingamerica.org
FEEDING AMERICA

SPRING INTO ACTION:
GIVE BLOOD NOW
American Red Cross

Always be alert for pedestrians.
Safe Drivers Save Lives
NHTSA

Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself
Patronize your local businesses

Every Veteran has earned help and support.
Don't wait. Reach out.
VA.GOV/REACH
ad COUNCIL **VA** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

CALL US TODAY!
YOUR AD HERE!
Reserve Your Space Today!
• Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
• Build Trust and Credibility • Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
• Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls
Contact our advertising team at **800-883-4343**.
Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in our community.

Protect yourself and your community.
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION CONSUMER ADVICE
Consumer Alerts
Learn more about the latest consumer advice and scams — and what you can do to protect yourself.
consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts

WWF
Help build a future where people live in harmony with nature.
www.worldwildlife.org

Higgins
HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.
established 1868
Stephen D. Szczubelek
Manager Watchung Lic. #4446
908-756-0017
www.higginsfuneralhome.com
752 Mountain Boulevard • Watchung, NJ 07069

NEED A LAWYER? INJURED?
★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★
MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.
973-326-8902
• Personal Injury
• Workers' Compensation
• Social Security Disability
lawmarcbrenner.com • marc@lawmarcbrenner.com
222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ 07927