

# Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be transformed  
renew your mind



**August 31, 2008**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY August 30

5:00 PM ANTHONY S. SIRIANNI  
r/o Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Flaherty

### SUNDAY, August 31

8:00 AM HERBERT & RUTH McSKIMIN  
r/o Rick & Elaine Hardy

10:30 AM PETER ALBANO JR.  
r/o Mary & Phil Koskoff

### MONDAY, September 1

8:30 AM FRANK ROCHE JR.  
r/o Fr. Anthony

### TUESDAY, September 2

8:30 AM GEORGE REYNOLDS & PATRICK KANE  
r/o Susan Reynolds

### WEDNESDAY, September 3

8:30 AM ANGELICA MARONE  
r/o Roseann Marone

### THURSDAY, September 4

8:30 AM ELEANOR D. WASSMUTH  
r/o Matthew Wilmot

### FRIDAY, September 5

8:30 AM No Mass

### SATURDAY September 6

5:00 PM ED, BREAN, SCOTT, & DOT WYKER  
r/o Wyker Family

### SUNDAY, September 7

8:00 AM MARY FALVO  
r/o Daughters, Mary & Barbara

10:30 AM GEORGE REYNOLDS  
r/o Susan Reynolds

“On the eve of the Pope’s visit to the United States, it was reported that he had experienced the horror of the Holocaust first hand, in the death at Nazi hands of a cousin with Down Syndrome. A Holocaust expert has noted that the medical crimes of the Holocaust “started with the acceptance of the attitude basic to the euthanasia movement, that there is such a thing as a life not worthy to be lived.” Dr. Leo Alexander, NEJM article, 1949)

**Can you save your marriage?** If your marriage has become unloving or uncaring, or if your relationship has grown cold and distant, if you are thinking of separation or divorce, or if you are already separated or divorced, but both of you would like to try again, then RETROUVAILLE may help you. The next program begins Sept. 19-21, 2008 with six follow-up sessions. No group discussions and all inquiries are confidential. Call 732-562-1990 ext. 1624.

Dear Parishioners,

Matthew 16:21-27 The gospel of Christ is a coin with two sides: the cross and the crown. If we try to embrace one side, the glorious side, and reject the other, the suffering side, we falsify the gospel. The same Jesus who said, “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28) also said, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it” (Matthew 16:24-25). Do we come to Jesus then to be freed from our burdens or do we come to Jesus to take on the cross? We come to Jesus to be freed from our meaningless and futile burdens and, in its place, take on the cross that leads to salvation and glory.

Today’s gospel challenges us to say no to the very attractive but one-sided worldly gospel of instant glory, a sugar-coated gospel that offers the false promise of “all crown and no cross.” Did you ever hear it on the television: “Only believe and everything will go well with you?” It did not all go well with Jesus; he still had to endure the cross. It did not all go well with Mary; a sword of sorrow still pierced her soul. It did not all go well with the countless men and women saints who have gone before us. Why then should it all go well with you and me? In the face of disappointment, bereavement, sickness, ingratitude and failure, our faith response should be, not to question “Why me?” but to recognize that these crosses and contradictions are the necessary condition for our future glory. The world is the place for the cross. The place for the crown is heaven.

In Christ,  
Fr. Zenek

### VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP AT ST. THEODORE

The weekend of Sept 6/7 marks our annual Volunteer Weekend. There are many ministries that support our parish and I invite each of you to consider joining one and giving of your time and talent. Sign-up sheets will be in the Parish Center after the Masses.

Fr. Zenek

### **Altar Rosary Society Education Award Fundraiser**

This year St. Theodore's Altar Rosary Society is inviting parishioners to attend the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Dinner Theater as their fundraiser for next year's Education Award. We will attend a matinee performance of "My Three Angels" on Saturday, October 18, 2008. Doors open at 11:00 AM. Tickets are \$60.00/per person (on sale in the gift shop) and must be purchased no later than August 31. For more info, call Helene Picht at 908-537-4754 or Ann Morpeth at 908-852-6406

### **R.C.I.A.—ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?**

Or perhaps you are a baptized Catholic who never completed the Sacraments of Initiation (**Eucharist and Confirmation**). The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is just for you! Gather with others who desire to know the Lord Jesus Christ in the truth of the Catholic Faith, as we undergo catechesis, reflect on the scriptures, and contemplate our call to faith in Christ in preparation for **Baptism** and/or reception and completion of the Sacraments of Initiation. Meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. beginning September 9. If you are interested please see Deacon Don DeLorenzo after mass or contact parish office at 908-689-8318 (**Be sure to leave your name and telephone number.**)

### **Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

You are warmly invited to celebrate your 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen on Sunday, October 19, 2008 at 4:00pm. Application forms may be secured from the parish office or from [www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.org). Forms must be signed by your pastor and returned by October 1, 2008. For more information call 732-562-1990 ext.1624

### **Cathedral Pipe Organ 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert**

**Sunday, September 14 at 4 p.m.**

**St. Francis Cathedral, Metuchen**

In honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of the beautiful Schantz pipe organ at St. Francis Cathedral, Thomas DeLessio, Diocesan & Cathedral Director of Music and Organist, will perform with the Tim Keyes Consort in a concert of organ and orchestral music. The popular 'Symphony no. 3' by Camille Saint Saens features the pipe organ in a truly spectacular way. An organ concerto by Handel and an organ sonata by Mendelssohn will round out the program. The concert will be performed on Sunday, September 14 at 4 p.m. in St. Francis Cathedral, 32 Elm Ave. Metuchen. No tickets are required but an offering will be taken to help defray expenses.

### **Critical Life Issues Conference 2008**

On Saturday, October 25, 2008, the Diocese of Metuchen will be sponsoring this important conference. The conference will address many of the critical life issues which face us today including: imitating Jesus when debating the life issues, making sense of the media, the impact of abortion on men, 3- and 4-D ultrasound and dealing with a difficult pre-natal diagnosis. The conference will feature dynamic and inspirational speakers from across the country. It will be held at the St. John Neumann Conference Center, Piscataway from 8:30-3:30pm. Registration is \$40.00 for general admission and \$20.00 for clergy, religious and students. This fee includes lunch and handouts. To register, please call 732-562-1990 ext. 1629

### **SEAMTRESS SERVICES**

If you have clothing requiring alterations or items in need of repair, this service is available from a parishioner. For information, please call the Parish office 689-3818, Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## **MINISTRIES**

### **ALTAR SERVERS**

- Aug. 30 Sean Flaherty, Austin Viotto
- Aug. 31 Mackenzie & Robert Mason (8am)  
Kaitlyn Gaglino, Gianna Orrechio, Miranda Vargo  
(10:30am)
- Sept. 6 Evan & Ryan Moran
- Sept. 7 Robert Capaldo, Austin Viotto(8am)  
Angelica Jackson, Justin Watt, Melissa Cairo  
(10:30am)

### **LECTORS**

- Aug. 30 Fran Licciardiello
- Aug. 31 Ken Moschetti (8am)  
Bob Gagliano (10:30am)
- Sept. 6 Christine DeLellis
- Sept. 7 Theresa Lucas (8am)  
Denise Moran (10:30am)

### **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

- Aug. 30 Denise Flaherty (C) Tim Flaherty(C)  
Charlie Shipley (E)
- Aug. 31 Emily Cirone (C) Joan Capaldo (C)  
Nadie Hill (E) (8am)  
Mary Koskoff (C) Phil Koskoff (C)  
Joy Haag (E) (10:30am)
- Sept. 6 Ginny Moran (C) Tim Moran(C)  
Ray Vonderheide(E)
- Sept. 7 Bill Supple (C) Eileen Mattison (C)  
James Mattison(E) (8am)  
Tina Jackson (C) Helene Picht (C)  
Jane Labato (E) (10:30am)

