

## RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW

The call of God in our lives is at once a call to the most profound and to the most practical. Though the invitation of God is that we give our whole selves, the way in which we do this is usually focused on small, specific, concrete actions—right where we are. To what, then, in my life do I need to say: “Here I am, Lord” ?

- To the child who’s having a rough time in school or with friends, and could use loving attention
- To the lonely neighbor who could use a kind friend to listen patiently to the details of his or her life
- To letting go of an old resentment that is poisoning my heart
- To the challenge of forgiving someone who hurt me; or to the task of apologizing to someone I have hurt
- To a distant relative who would love to get a cheery letter, card, or e-mail
- To a situation I’ve been procrastinating about that needs me to be strong and courageous
- To the inner voice of creativity that feels stifled
- To a recurring habit of sin that I need to bring into the light of God’s love

Like Isaiah, Paul and Peter in today’s Readings, we all feel unworthy to the task to which God calls us. But we are not alone. With God’s help, we can do whatever we are called to do. Be not afraid.

Tom McGrath  
*Prepare the Word*

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 7, 2010

### St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Robert Quinn at the  
Request of his wife, Regina

#### TUESDAY, February 9

8:00AM – Robert Quinn  
req. by his wife, Regina

#### SATURDAY, February 13

8:00AM – Charlie Lombaerde  
req. by his wife, Carol

#### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

##### February 14

8:00AM – Marie Most  
req. by the Cerra Family

11:30AM – Freddy Hall  
req. by Yvette & James Hall

#### ST. JAMES THE GREATER

**\$1,484.00 – Regular Collection – January 31, 2010**  
**\$ 643.00 – Heat Collection**  
**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
\$1,551.00 – Regular Collection – February 1, 2009

#### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

**\$2,454.00 – Regular Collection – January 31, 2010**  
**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
\$3,184.00 – Regular Collection – February 1, 2009

#### TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Bree Andrews, Vickie Bennett, Joseph Bruno, Eric Cerra, Jerry Cooper, Jason DeLorenzo, Geri Fawyer, Ronnie Ferriere, Nancy Green, Eric Harper, Horace Harper, Sharon Hubbell, Peter Jaycay, Sharon Johnson, Chuck Lombaerde, Florence Majewski, Karen Morgan, Richard Nowicki, Joseph Peraino, Flo Puccio, Evelyn Schweer, Deena Slain, Bill Sousa, Catherine Vecharello, Lisa Vergona, Tarra Wagner and Gabriel Wyzga

#### PILGRIM VIRGIN OF FATIMA STATUE

This beautifully adorned statue is a visible reminder of the love God has shown in the Blessed Mother. Placing such a beautiful image in your home turns hearts to prayer and brings grace to those who open their hearts to any image of God's love. If you would like to have the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in your home, please contact Diana, Legion of Mary at 973-948-7601. *Pray the Family Rosary*

### St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Joseph Wolf at the  
Request of Dave & Marion

#### MONDAY, February 8

9:00AM – Mary Carroll  
req. by Sr. John Marie

#### TUESDAY, February 9

9:00AM – Gail Hathaway  
req. by Peggy & Richard Gray  
- Shannon Wortman  
req. by her parents

#### WEDNESDAY, February 10

9:00AM – Leonie Flaskamp

#### THURSDAY, February 11

No Mass

#### FRIDAY, February 12

9:00AM – Joan Spoolstra

#### SATURDAY, VIGIL, February 13

5:30PM – Gloria & Bob Fichter  
req. by the Wainwright Family

#### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

##### February 14

9:30AM – Bernie Reich  
req. by his wife, Grace  
- Bill Monk  
req. by his wife, Ginny

#### Helping Haiti

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic Church, is responding to victims of the massive earthquake in Haiti. To donate, please call 1-877-HELP-CRS, donate online at [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) or send a check to Catholic Relief Services, PO Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21203-7090. In the memo portion of your check, please write: Haiti Earthquake. For more information, go to [crs.org](http://crs.org) and [crspanol.org](http://crspanol.org).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### Confirmation Preparation Session Change of Time for Today

Today, February 7<sup>th</sup>, our class time has been changed to 12:30PM until 2:00PM for all to enjoy the Super Bowl.

### Parents Formation Session for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Our next sacramental formation session will take place on Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center for parents who are presenting their children for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. Sister Theresa Kelly, FMA of the Sacred Heart Center will be our presenter. This is a mandatory session required by the Diocese of Paterson for all parents presenting their children for the sacraments of the Church.

### Catechist Lenten Presentaation

All catechists are reminded about our Lenten Presentation on Tuesday (Mardi Gras), February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center. Tom Brown, Director of Catechetics for the Diocese of Paterson will be our presenter.

### From the R.C.I.A.

As we begin the Season of Lent, final preparation for our R.C.I.A. Catechumens and Candidate also begins.

On February 13, at the 5:30pm Mass, our two Catechumens, Jim & Bill, will participate in the Rite of Sending to their Election by the Bishop at the Cathedral. This Rite of Sending takes place within the faith community as the community expresses its approval of the Catechumens and sends them forth assured of the Parishes care and support.

On February 20, all R.C.I.A. participants are invited to retreat. The topic for retreat is *Reconciliation*, and the presenter will be Bishop Emeritus Frank Rodimer.

The following day, February 21, the Catechumens will travel to the Cathedral for the Rite of Election at 4:00pm with Bishop Serratelli.

On February 27, the Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion will be celebrated with our Candidate, John, at the 5:30pm Mass.

We ask that all our Parishioners remember in prayer in a special way our Candidate, John, and Catechumens, Jim & Bill, as they continue on their journey to Full Initiation into the Catholic Church.

All adult parishioners continue to be welcome to participate in the R.C.I.A. process.

Peace be With You, Patricia Hope,  
Coordinator for the R.C.I.A.

### Spud Potato Fundraiser

The Columbiettes of Msgr. James F. Gacquin Auxiliary will be sponsoring a "Spuds Spectacular" on February 13<sup>th</sup> following the 5:30pm Mass in the Father Lewis Center at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. This event will feature a baked potato bar with all the fixin's. Cost is \$7.00 per person and \$5.00 for each additional potato. Tickets may be purchased before February 10<sup>th</sup> by calling Donna Lewandowski at 973-293-3706. Reserve your potato today for the ultimate "Spuds Spectacular".

### Friday Soup Suppers

Each Friday during Lent, the Columbiettes will be serving a meatless **Soup Supper** at the Father Lewis Center from **5:00PM to 7:00PM**. Sign up sheets will be available at both churches if you plan to join us for soup and fellowship. The first Friday Soup Supper will be on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Following the meal, **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed at St. Thomas at 7:00PM.

### Sometimes they do listen

A Letter from our New Jersey Legislature:

Dear parishioners of St. Thomas and St. James Churches,

Thank you again for your ... communications to our office expressing your opposition to same-sex marriage. Due to the strong advocacy of so many like you, we were able to defeat the attempt by Governor Corzine and the leaders of the State Legislature to make same-sex marriage a legal institution in New Jersey.

Like you, we believe in the sanctity of marriage and forcefully defended its traditional definition in the face of what we believe would be a radical social change in our society. ... We have again introduced legislation, ACR-14/SCR-11, which proposes ... that only the union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as marriage. On such an important cultural issue, the courts should not be the final arbiter, but rather the people of this state.

Again, thank you for your strong support ...  
Sincerely, Steven V. Oroho, Senator; Alison Littell McHose, Assemblywoman; Gary R. Chiusano, Assemblyman

### Christmas Card Fronts

Thank you for answering the request for Christmas card fronts. Four full boxes were sent to St. Jude's Ranch for Children in the name of our parishes. Thanks to Chris Higgins for coordinating this good work.

## **Beyond the Parish**

### **Dinner Dance/Auction:**

Saint Joseph Regional School will hold its annual Dinner Dance/Auction at Perona Farms on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. The cost of the tickets is \$75.00 per person. All proceeds will directly benefit the building of a new library/media center for the school. Anyone interested in attending should contact Jessie Martin at 973-948-0373. All are welcome.

### **Raffle Tickets:**

Saint Joseph School is selling raffle tickets for an entertainment package that includes a 52" Sharp Aquos LCD flat screen T.V. with JVC 1,000 watt iPod-iPhone digital DVD home theater system (total value \$2,400.00). Tickets are \$25.00 each or 5 for \$100.00. The winner will be drawn at the SJRS Dinner Dance/Auction on 2/27/10. Winner need not be present. Raffle tickets can also be purchased by contacting Julia Campbell at 973-383-8084.

## **THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES**

STC -- St. Thomas Ch. or Fr. Lewis Center

SJC -- St. James Ch. or Church Hall

REC -- Fr. Gacquin Religious Ed. Center

### **Sunday, February 7, 2010**

8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass.

9:30 a.m. STC & REC Gr. 6-7-8 Mass & Class

9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.

11:30 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass.

12:30 p.m. REC Confirmation Prep.

### **Monday, February 8**

7:00 p.m. REC Parents' Sacramental Mtg.

### **Tuesday, February 9**

10:00 a.m. STC Reflection on Readings

4:00 p.m. REC Gr. 1 & 2

### **Wednesday, February 10**

4:00 p.m. REC Gr. 3, 4 & 5

### **Thursday, February 11**

9:30 a.m. STC Moms & Tots Group

### **Friday, February 12**

All day: STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

3:00 p.m. STC Chaplet of Divine Mercy

4:00 p.m. STC Evening Prayer & Benediction

### **Saturday, February 13**

9:30 a.m. REC Legion of Mary Mtg.

6:00 p.m. St. James Venison Dinner at  
Port Jervis Naval Ship

6:30 p.m. STC Columbiettes' Spuds Spectacular

### **Sunday, February 14, 2010**

#### **St. Valentine's Day**

#### **Future Events**

**Sat. Mar. 6** STC 10 a.m. – 12 Noon  
Women's Morning Retreat

**Our Thanks** to the children of the late Burnham Reich for their gift of two benches to St. Thomas Church in his memory. Unbenownst to their mother, Grace, they arranged for the cedar benches to be made in Tennessee, and placed at the entrance of the church. Our thanks for their thoughtfulness in this tribute to their father.

**For Women Only:** A dynamic Catholic speaker and author, Genevieve Kineke, will be visiting our area on **Sat. March 6<sup>th</sup>**. She will be leading a **Women's Morning of Reflection** at St. Thomas Church. The hours are 9 a.m. till 12 Noon. Genevieve is the author of a very insightful book: *The Authentic Catholic Woman*, which shows in many surprising ways how women's faith can be expressed in everyday life. Plan now to take time out to be refreshed by her perceptive observations and suggestions. Cost will be: \$ 5.00, collected at door. Bring a friend. Call Lucy VanderPloog at 973-948-2250 for more info. Refreshments will be served.

**Our Why Catholic? program** begins next week with the onset of Lent. The six-week series is a combination of evangelization and continuing education for adults. This season we consider: "*The Sacraments: the Celebration of Christian Mystery*" You will come to understand better how each of the sacraments brings Jesus' very actions into the world today. This would be an excellent way to use your time during the Lenten Season. Call the Office to register.

**Do you know someone** experiencing grief, divorce, financial stress, spiritual crisis, cancer diagnosis, job loss, chronic illness, loneliness ? Would you like to know how to help them and what to say ? The Sacred Heart Center in Newton is hosting a half-day **Workshop sponsored by the Stephen Ministry**, which works to minister to people in distress. The date is **Sat. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m.** Our parishes will pick up the \$ 15 cost for any parishioners who wish to attend. Simply call the Office at 973-948-2296 to register.

**A Catholic Men's Conference 2010** is set for **Sat. March 13<sup>th</sup>** at Seton Hall U. It is entitled: "Champions of Faith" and will bring men together to form a brotherhood to strengthen faith, family, and your identity as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Thousands of Catholic men will gather and hear some of the most dynamic Catholic speakers in the country, incl. Joe Klecko, former Jet, and Fr . Benedict Groeschel. Begins 8 a.m. with reg. & breakfast. Closes with Mass at 4 p.m. with Archbishop Myers of Newark. Cost \$ 20 (seniors and students: \$ 15) Confessions available throughout day. Register online at [www.rcan.org/menscommission](http://www.rcan.org/menscommission)