

Saint Cecilia Parish

70 Church Street
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Rectory: 973-627-0313

FAX: 973-627-4811

internet: www.st-cecilia.org

To Contact: Fr. Zig, ext. 11 or speplowski@optonline.net; Fr. Jean Claude, ext. 12 or robil2004@gmail.com;

Fr. Pawel, ext. 17 or frpawel@yahoo.com

Convent: 973-627-6533

School: 973-627-6003

CCD Office: 973-252-0760

Rev. Sigmund Peplowski,
Pastor

Rev. Jean Claude St Martin,
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Pawel Szurek
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Jack Taylor

Deacon Paul Willson

Seminarian Aleksander
Bialas

Sr. Mary Martha Garzon,
Pastoral Associate

Sr. Jeanette Szyzputowski
Pastoral Associate

Sr. Marie Elise Briel,
School Principal

Mrs. Kathy Fochesto,
Director of Religious Education

Mr. Lyle Leeson,
Director of Music

Mr. Brian Callahan,
Youth Minister



MASSES

Weekends:

Saturday: 4:30, 7:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00, 9:15,
10:45 AM and 12:15 PM
5:00 PM (Vietnamese)

Holydays: 6:30, 8:00 AM
and 7:30 PM

Summer

Weekday Schedule:

Thursday, Friday
and Saturday: 8:00 AM
(Mon., Tues., Wed.:

8:00 AM at Sacred Heart of
Jesus Parish, Rockaway

Confessions:

Saturdays 3:30 to 4:00 PM and
after the 7:00 PM Mass
Any time by appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

A Pre-Baptismal Class is held the second Monday of each month at 8:00 PM in the school library. Both parents are encouraged to attend the class before the birth of the baby. Please register for the class by calling the rectory office. The Sacrament of Baptism is administered on the first and third Sunday of the month after the 12:15 Mass, with a limit of 4 babies at each Baptism. One baby can be Baptized during the 12:15 Mass on any Sunday.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements are to be made at least ONE YEAR in advance. The date should not be set until the priest has been consulted.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night. If there is anyone at home who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or old age, please inform one of the priests.

PARISH PRAYER LIFE:

NOVENA: OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA: Saturday morning after the 8:00 AM Mass.

BIBLE STUDY will resume after Labor Day on the 1st & 3rd Monday evenings at 7:30 PM and Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM in Hayes Hall.

PRAYER GROUP: Tuesday evenings at 7:45 PM in Hayes Hall

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Mon. – Sat., 7:40 AM, Mon. 11:45 AM

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP: Wednesday 7-8PM in the cry room of the Church

BULLETIN E-MAIL ADDRESS: stceilianews@optonline.net.
DEADLINE: Monday 12 Noon

RECTORY HOURS: Mon-Thursday 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-3pm

OUR MUSIC PROGRAM:

The Adult Choir sings at the 10:45 Am Mass on Sunday, the Contemporary Group sings at the 9:15 AM Mass on Sundays. All rehearse on Thursdays, resuming in September. New members are welcome and should speak to our Music Director, Lyle Leeson after Mass

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: All adult Catholics should officially register in the Parish. Young adults of working age should register independently of their parents. In order for us to testify to your ability for sponsorship in Baptism, Confirmation or witness to a Catholic marriage, it is necessary to be a registered member of this parish. Also, please notify the Parish Office of any changes in address, or if you are leaving the Parish.

Name

Address

Phone #

Check: New Reg. Moving Change of Address

Please cut out and return to the rectory or place in the collection basket and a registration form will be mailed.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saint Cecilia Parish



MONDAY – September 6 – Weekday Labor Day

8:00 am John Greier r/b Traino Family

TUESDAY – September 7 – Weekday

6:30 am John & Margaret Holleran

8:00 am Esther Maioran r/b Jeanne O'Carroll

12:00 pm Salvatore Arnoa r/b Georgina Arnoa & Family

WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 8 – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 am Holy Souls in Purgatory r/b Gambetta Family

8:00 am Esther Maioran r/b Catherine Isherwood

THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 9- St Peter Claver, priest

12:00 pm Rose Marie Claus r/b her sister, Marge Ballard

FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 10, St Gregory the Great, pope and doctor of the church

6:30 am For the People

8:00 am Dr. Joseph Thomson r/b Gambetta Family

Bill Lenahan r/b Eleanor Lenahan

SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 11 – Weekday

8:00 am Esther Maioran r/b Rosary Society

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 12 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm Robert Phil Hofman r/b Martha Hofmann

William Kelly r/b The Ferrone Family

7:00 pm For the Intention of the parents of Krysta Bingham-Slusser r/b Theresa and Annie Slusser

Joyce Defranco r/b The Bartholomew Family

8:00 am Mario W. Bevaqua r/b The Palisi-Reynolds Family

Theresa O'Brien r/b The Milovie Family

9:15 am Leo P Vitcusky r/b his daughter, Roberta

Al King r/b Norma King

10:45 am Ralph Amato r/b Jeanne & Bill Gallagher

Anthony & Alice Aquino r/b Sister Mildred Calella

12:15 pm Esther Maioran r/b Susan Nedo

Dr. Joseph Thomson r/b Rambetta Family

The people of St. Cecilia Parish are asked to pray for the following people serving our country in the armed services: **Major Glenn E. Martinez, SGT. Brian Whalen, General Raymond Odierno, Capt. Anthony Odierno, Cpl. Kong V. Nguyen, Cpl. Jim Van Valen, LCPL Anthony Eresman, SGT. Paul J. Willson, PFC Cano Janeth, SGT Bob Autrey, Col. William Paliwada, SGT 1st Class (E7) Sam Colon, PFC Marylyn Rivera-Sachez, Cpl. Edward C. Thompson, PFC Melissa Corbo, Major Kevin M. Nash, Lt. Amy Cronin, Major John L. Medeiros, Jr., SGT Daniel Healy, Pvt. Robert Moran, Capt. Martin L. Robbins, SGT Spencer Lopez, PFC Taryn Kemp, Jeffrey Braunhausen, E7 Joseph Grimsey, LTC Brian Bosworth, Bill Maloney, Greg Bloete, Gian Carlo Bruzzese, Spc. Christopher Little, PFC Brittany Martindell, Capt. Adam T. Lusardi, T4 Matthew Fitzgerald, SA Justin C. White, Matthew & Daniel Rosica, Pvt. Benjamin Kehoe, Mark Leonard, Sr. Armn. Ashley Valetta, SGT John Wisnofsky, LCpl. T.J. Finn, Sean Killeen 1st Class Airman, Sgt. Kristopher Faber, Spc. 4 John Pietrowski, Spc. 5 Connor Sauve, 2 LT. Vincent Presto and Airman First Class William Kussler. We ask God the Father of us all, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces, to bless them in their efforts toward bringing peace and justice to our world. May they be brought back safely to those they love.**



TITHING UPDATE

Pastor's Thank You

STEWARDSHIP: Our tithes and offerings are the spiritual sacrifices we offer to the Lord. They are accompanied with our prayers which praise God for His goodness. **Fr Zig**

The SUNDAY COLLECTION, August 29, 2010 - \$14,487.00

The SUNDAY COLLECTION, August 30, 2009 - \$12,525.00

THE WORD OF GOD

Here are the readings for next Sunday

Exodus 32:17-11, 13-14 Psalm 51:3-4,12,13,17,19

1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary Frank & MaryAnn Votapek

ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIAL: The flowers placed by the Tabernacle can be donated to remember that special birthday or anniversary or to honor a loved one living or deceased. The intention will be printed in the bulletin. The cost is \$25.00 per arrangement. Interested? Call the rectory at 973-627-0313.

NEWS

THIS WEEKEND THE CHALICE WILL BE GIVEN TO: THE SPATARO FAMILY

TRAVELING CHALICE: Families pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life by hosting the Traveling Chalice in Their home for one week. The sign-up sheet is on Mary's altar if you would like to participate.

SUPPORT ST. CECILIA SCHOOL AND HELP OUR PARISH!

When you purchase Grocery Gift Cards you support St. Cecilia School and the religious enrichment of all parish children at no additional cost to you. **The next sale date is after all Masses is September 11 & 12.** We offer gift cards for A&P, Shop Rite, Acme, Sussex Meat Packing, Kohl's and Stop and Shop. CERTS are also available at the rectory during regular business hours. Thank you for your support of this important fundraising program.

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR SEPARATED OR DIVORCED-A Weekend Retreat for separated or divorced

will be given on October 15,16,17, 2010 in Newton, NJ by a Franciscan Retreat Team. For more information call: Fr. Tom Kelly, OFM(973) 985-9736 or Deacon Milt (973) 271-5097



YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE BENEFACTORS OF OUR CHURCH, OUR PARTNER CHURCH SAINT GEORGE IN PATERSON AND FOR

THE SICK OF THE PARISH: Elizabeth McGowan, Jeffrey Jerz, John Daly, Peggy Eileen Miars, Ray Kenney, Richard Corcoran, James Whalen, Adam Rosowicz, Lorraine Gerber, John Generoso, Kathy Wagner, Madison Rose Leslie and Kelly Harty.

PARISH EVENTS

A CCD TEACHERS' MEETING will take place on Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 PM in the school library. We are still in need of CCD Teachers for Sept. 2010 for the Monday and Wednesday sessions. Please call Kathy Fochesto at 973-252-0760 if you are able to help the children of our parish.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP SERIES

St. Cecilia's Bereavement Support Ministry invites those who have suffered a loss and are grieving to a journey towards healing. The series of nine weekly sessions will begin on Thursday evening, September 16, 2010 from 7:00 PM—9:00 PM, at St. Cecilia Convent, 90 Church Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866.

Please contact Joan Landry Haltigan or Tom Haltigan at 973-586-0185 for additional information and to register. Advanced registration is required. There is no charge for this series. Confidentiality will be observed at all times and sharing is optional. Light refreshments will be served.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

The Day is Almost Here!!!!

Please join our parish for the diocesan pilgrimage to the **Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.** on Saturday, September 18, 2010. The cost for the bus trip is \$40.00. **The deluxe buses will depart from St Cecilia's parking lot at 7:00 am** and bring a bag lunch. There will be Mass with the Bishop at 2:00 PM. We will depart for home at around 4:00 PM and there will be a stop for dinner. Make plans to join us for this faith filled day as we honor the Blessed Mother as the patroness of the Church in the United States. There is also an overnight trip available. Please leave completed forms and payment at the parish office. Questions???, contact Karen Florance 973-627-7266 or kdflorence@optonline.net.

PRO-LIFE COMMUNITY EVENING

The 2nd Annual Pro-Life Community Evening, *Stepping Up to Save Lives*, will be hosted by St. Cecilia's Church Pro-Life Ministry, **Friday, October 1, 2010, 7PM to 9 PM in Hayes Hall.** The invited guest speakers are **Kristan Hawkins, Executive Director, Students for Life of America;** and **Mary Kominsky**, a member of the *Silent No More* awareness campaign. Hawkins is a frequent guest on CNN, Fox News and the Christian Broadcasting Network. Her motivational *Call to Action* will offer young people and adults alike practical ways they can help to end abortions in America. **Kominsky** is a New Jersey resident who spoke out against abortion in EWTN's *Defending Life Series*. She will offer her own abortion testimony and journey through healing. Questions & Answers will follow. Light refreshments served. Admission is free.

PARISH PICNIC

IT'S A FUN DAY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

The parish picnic with Sacred Heart of Jesus will be held September 19th at Fireman's Field from 1-5 pm and it is fast approaching. Volunteers are needed.

PLEASE CALL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AND HELP THAT DAY

Please contact the rectory or Jim Gallaher 973-366-9699

PRE-CANA 2010: Please save the date when Sacred Heart and St. Cecilia Parishes will hold the next Pre-Cana session on November 6, 2010. Please get a registration form from the rectory if you plan to get married in 2011.

PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS will be held on Monday, September 13 at 8:00 pm in the school library. Please call the rectory office at 973-627-0313 to register

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE—Owen Mills has notified us that the Directories will be shipped mid September. Stop by the Rectory after 9/27 for your copy if you participated.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

The next free blood pressure screening will be held this weekend—Saturday evening 4:30 PM Mass (Cry Room or Reconciliation Room) and Sunday morning (September 5) after all Masses (back of Hayes Hall)

RCIA to begin Oct 10: When I was in college and newly married Jesus changed my life. My soul was yearning for God like a deer that yearns for running streams, even though I did know it. When I found His Words I devoured them and then He satisfied my thirst through the Sacraments of the Church. Are you thirsting, is God calling you to hear His Word, to receive His Sacraments, to be a Catholic? Come Oct 10 at 1130 am to learn about the Catholic faith. Our first meeting will be in St. Cecilia school, but thereafter the meetings will be in Hayes Hall, the basement of St. Cecilia Church.

Deacon Paul

THE CHRISTIAN CARE COMMITTEE - will meet on

Monday, Sept 13, at 8:45 am in the Convent Dining Room. Any parishioner who has a little free time and would be able to assist the home-bound is welcome to attend. Eucharistic Ministers are especially needed. Questions regarding this ministry may be directed to Sister Mary Martha at 973-627-6533. .

'HOLY ROLLER BOWLING LEAGUE'

Sunday's at 7:00 pm

Rockaway Lanes

\$13.00 per week/35 Weeks

90% Handicapped/4 Bowlers Per Team

To register your team call 973-627-5800

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

THE SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY OF MENDHAM, are restoring gardens and creating an Arboretum walk and a permanent outdoor labyrinth which has been funded by generous donations, for use by retreatants and visitors. Along with these projects, local Boy Scouts are working on Eagle Scout Badges by constructing Blue Bird Houses, restoring the Villa Pauline Gardens and plan to put permanent markers identifying the plantings and trees. Contributions to the Arboretum Project may be sent to S. Joseph Marie, Director of Development, Sisters of Christian Charity, 350 Bernardsville Rd., Mendham, NJ 07945 or contact sjmscc@hotmail.com, or call S. Joseph Marie at 973-543-6528X313, to discuss other gifts for the Mission of the Sisters.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TRAINING PROGRAM Sept. 2010-May 2011 at Carmel Retreat. This 8 month - 17 session program includes basic skills, theology, supervision, case conferences & practicum. Visit www.carmelretreat.com or call 201-327-7090 for details

FILIPINO CELEBRATION

The **DIOCESE OF PATERSON, NJ** cordially invites you to the celebration of the 23rd year sainthood of **SAN LORENZO RUIZ** (the first Filipino saint and martyr) on **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2010. HOLY MASS** at 2:00pm at the **SAINT JOHN CATHEDRAL**, Paterson NJ. Bishop Emeritus **FRANK RODIMER** will be the main celebrant. **FELLOWSHIP** to follow at the Rodimer Center - please come and join.

WORLD YOUTH DAY: Fr. Jean Claude is organizing a trip for the youth of our parish to World Youth Day 2011, which will be taking place in Madrid, Spain on August 16 to 21. If you are interested in going on this trip as an attendee or chaperon, please e-mail Brian Callahan at bcallahan06@gmail.com. Please let us know you are interested, and we will e-mail you updates about the planning process and details about the trip. More information can be found at: <http://www.madridwyd2011.com>. Thank you!

FEIS (Irish Festival)

Sunday, September 12, 8am - 6pm
Sussex County Fairgrounds

Highlights: Bag Pipe Band Exhibition, Traditional Irish Music & Dance, Celtic Art, Irish Vendors, Food Vendors
Adm 18 & over \$12, Seniors \$10, 14-17 \$8 under 14-free

EVA'S VILLAGE 2ND ANNUAL 5K WALK/RUN
JOURNEY OF HOPE 5K WALK/RUN

September 25, 2010

Garrett Mountain Reservation

Register to participate, start a team or join a team. Donate to support an individual or team to Eva's Village in support of the Journey of Hope 5K. Become an event sponsor For more information call: 908-219-4142

SILVER AND GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: Couples, were you married in 1960 or 1985? You are warmly invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Paterson. Bishop Frank Rodimer will be the main celebrant at Mass in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Paterson on **Sunday, October 17, 2010 at 3:30 PM.** Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. Application forms are available through Monday, Sept. 20th. A confirmation letter will be sent from the Diocesan Center once your application has been processed. Bring family and friends to attend this joyous event.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SUNDAY
100 YEAR CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 26, 2010

One hundred years ago, 400 delegates from 24 states gathered in Washington, DC to form what is now known as Catholic Charities USA, a compassionate network of social justice advocates and caregivers, providing help and creating hope for millions of Americans each year. This centennial celebration of 100 years of Catholic Charities services to the poor and disadvantaged should be a source of pride for us all.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA CENTENNIAL PRAYER

God of Justice, ancient and new,
From the beauty of sacred creation,
Through the covenant to the cross,
The movement of your Spirit in history
Brought order out of chaos,
Voiced liberation for your people through the prophets,
And gave life through the suffering and death
Of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through the birth of your Church,
The movement of your Spirit in time
Brought forth a Body of faithful people,
Shaped by the story of your great love,
And commissioned for the service of justice and peace
We ask you to send this same spirit upon us
As we celebrate the Centennial of Catholic Charities USA
Form and fashion us to be the movement of your spirit,
Bringing your love to a weary and worn world.
Renew us in heart, home and heritage.
Deepen our commitment to serve those most in need
With the gifts and passion of staff, volunteers and Benefactors
Bless and bring all of us to the fullness of your love
That celebrates the life and dignity of all your people.
We ask this through our Savior Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you
In the movement of your Spirit,
One God forever, and ever, Amen.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Sunday,	September 5
8:00 am	Food Drive
Monday,	September 6
Parish Office Closed Monday in Observance of Labor Day	
Tuesday,	September 7
9:30 am	Bible Study (Hayes Hall)
11:00 am	Seniors (Hayes Hall)
7:00 pm	H S A Board Meeting (Faculty Room)
7:30 pm	Prayer Group (Hayes Hall)
Wednesday,	September 8
7:00 pm	Contemplative Prayer (Cry Room)
Thursday,	September 9
2:20 pm	Altar Server Training -St Cecilia Students (Church)
4:00pm	Altar Server Training - CCD Students (Church)
7:00 pm	CCD Teacher Meeting (School Library)
7:00 pm	Bagpipers (Hayes Hall)
Friday,	September 10
7:00 pm	Prayer Group Anniversary Cluster Mass
8:00 pm	Prayer Group Cluster Mtg (Hayes Hall)
Saturday,	September 11
8:30 am	Men's Society Meeting (Hayes Hall)
Sunday,	September 12
6:00 pm	Vietnamese Meeting (Hayes Hall)
7:00 pm	Youth Group (Gym)

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

There will be altar server training in the church for boys and girls in the fourth grade and above on Thursday, September 9th at 2:20 pm for the students of St. Cecilia and at 4:00 pm for the CCD students.

CYO BASKETBALL REGISTRATION - The 2010-2011 CYO Basketball season is right around the corner!!!! Registration for boys and girls, grades 4-8 will take place in St. Cecilia's Gym on Thursday, September 23 from 7-8:30 pm, and on Sunday, September 26th after each Mass. We are also looking for volunteer coaches. Please contact Mark Kelly at 973-586-0849 or kelmcgot@optonline.net if you have questions

THE ST. CECILIA YOUTH GROUP will be meeting next Sunday, September 12th at 7:00 pm in the Gym.

We are online: www.st-cecilia.org

REGISTRATION FOR ST. CECILIA SCHOOL

St. Cecilia School is accepting registration for the 2010-2011 School Year. Parents seeking admission for their children into our school program may stop in at the School Office between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and from 1:00 pm until 2:00 pm on school days. You may also call the office to arrange an appropriate time to register.

Pre K3 * Your child must be 3 years of age by October 1

Pre K4 * Your child must be 4 years of age by October 1

Kindergarten and Transfer Students

* The child must be 5 years of age by October 1 of the present year. The key date, which controls age requirement is the date designated by the Rockaway Borough.

At the time of registration, please present the following:

- * Immunization records for new kindergarten students
- * Birth Certificate
- * Certificates of any Sacraments the child may have received
- * Official Transfer from the school a child is leaving
- * Academic record from the school the child is leaving including the current report card and test results. In the best interest of your child, any special testing results should be shared with the teacher.
- * Health records from the previous school
- * Students seeking admission in grades 1-8 must present documentation as to their grade level. The student must prove his/her ability to function in St. Cecilia School before the admission process is complete.

St. Cecilia School serves students in Pre K 3 and 4, and in grades K-8 of all religious, racial, ethnic and income backgrounds. For more information on the curriculum, admission policies or registration, contact the school office at 973-627-6003 or visit www.stceciliaschool.net.

TEACHING THE GOOD NEWS

ST. CECILIA SCHOOL provides academic excellence, Christian values and religious formation in a caring community to grades Pre-K to 8. Call Sister Marie Elise Principal for information.

ST. CECILIA CCD

Public school students meet Sept. to May as follows: Kindergarten, Sun. 10:30 AM; Grades 1through 8, Sun. 10:30 AM and Mon. & Wed. 4:00 PM. Confirmation Classes are held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM. Call Kathy Fochesto, Director of Religious Education for information at 973-252-0760

Dear Parishioners,

As we gather to celebrate the Lord's Day we also come to the unofficial close of the summer season on this Labor Day weekend. With the vacation season coming to a conclusion we look forward to seeing more of our fellow parishioners at Holy Mass. Interestingly, September 1st began the New Year in Ancient and Christian Rome. This is the New Year for the Eastern Churches. The liturgical year concluded with the Feast of the Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John on August 29th and the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary on September 8th begins the Byzantine year.

We too experience a number of things beginning at this time of the year. Our parochial school opens for the new school year on Tuesday. We welcome our young people and staff who return in anticipation of another great year at Saint Cecilia School. Our 6:30 a.m. Mass returns to the weekday schedule of worship. In two weeks our CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) classes resume on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays. I am looking forward to teaching a CCD class on Wednesdays and having the opportunity of getting to know some of our kids. I hope to meet with our great CCD catechists on Thursday and to further discuss plans for an all ages learning event for the entire parish in the spring. I plan to address the CCD program in my pastor's article on the weekend of September 19th when these classes resume.

Wednesday, September 8th, the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God, is the one year anniversary of my appointment as Pastor. As I begin my second year as your pastor I ask that you continue to pray for me. Wednesday also marks the 10th anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of our Bishop, His Excellency, the Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli. I know the Bishop also asks for your prayers. On Wednesday evening all of us in the rectory will attend the ordination of four seminarians as transitional deacons. The ceremony will take place in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Boonton. Please remember these young men in your prayers as well.

Prayer is an important part of our life, individually and collectively. This Friday marks the 35th anniversary of "The Light of Christ Prayer Group" which meets every Tuesday evening for prayer and praise. On Friday evening the Holy mass will be celebrated at 7:30 by Monsignor William McCarthy, who along with our former Pastor, Monsignor Denis Hayes, founded the prayer group in 1975. We are blessed to have such a committed group of pray-ers in the parish who remember our intentions. We congratulate them on this anniversary.

God bless you! Father Zig

SAINT PETER CLAVER, PRIEST
FEAST: SEPTEMBER 9
PATRON OF THE BLACK MISSIONS

Saint Peter Claver was born at Verdu, Catalonia, Spain, in 1580, of impoverished parents descended from ancient and distinguished families. He studied at the Jesuit College of Barcelona, entered the Jesuit novitiate at Tarragona in 1602 and took his final vows on August 8, 1604. While studying philosophy at Majorca, the young religious was influenced by Saint Alphonse Rodriguez to go to the Indies and save "millions of perishing souls." In 1610, he landed at Cartagena (modern Columbia), the principal slave market of the New World, where a thousand slaves were brought every month. After his ordination in 1616, he dedicated himself to the service of the Black slaves – a work that was to last for 33 years. He labored unceasingly for the salvation of the slaves and the abolition of the slave trade, and the love he lavished on them was something that transcended the natural order. Boarding the slave ships as they entered the harbor, he would hurry to the revolting inferno of the hold, and offer whatever poor refreshments he could afford; he would care for the sick and dying, and instruct the slaves through Black catechists, before administering the Sacraments. Through his efforts 300,000 souls entered the Church. Furthermore, he did not lose sight of his converts when they left the ships, but followed them to the plantations to which they were sent, encouraged them to live as Christians, and prevailed on their masters to treat them humanely. He died in 1654 and was canonized in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII.

PRAYER: God, You conferred on Saint Peter Claver a remarkable love and patience to help Your enslaved people and bring them to a knowledge of Your Name, Through his intercession, help us to seek equality for all races. Amen. *Taken from, Lives of the Saints; Catholic Book Publishing Company, 1999; New Jersey.*