

NEWSLETTER



**NOVEMBER
2006**

ST AGNES' HOLIDAY DINNER-DECEMBER 3RD

Celebrate the holidays with you church family at the parish holiday dinner on Saturday December 2nd. There will be two seating's, 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM. The menu will include roast pork tenderloin, vegetables, roasted potatoes, salad, coffee/tea and homemade desserts. The price is \$14.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children 5-12. Reservations are required and should be made by November 26th. To make your reservation and buy tickets speak with Pat Keating or Wendy Drake-Schneider after services on Sunday.

Many hands are needed to prepare and serve this wonderful dinner. If you can help please sign up on the sheets in the parish hall or call Pat and Wendy. Bakers are needed for the dessert table, if you can help please sign up. If you are kind enough to bake, please be sure and label your contribution, including whether the dessert includes any nuts or nut products.



**NAMES OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
ADDED TO THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE**

In honor of the Feast of All Saints, November 1, the names of St. Agnes' active members who have departed this life since All Saints Day 2005 have been inscribed on the memorial plaque in the nave.

Karen Thomas
Hannah Wild
Dorothy Rombough
Carl Picazio

The plaques in the nave bear the names of all who have departed this life since 1960. The Feast of All Saints Day is the annual celebration of all members of The Body of Christ who have gone before us and with whom we are linked in the communion of saints. We Christians always worship surrounded by so great a cloud of witness. In St. Agnes', their names surround us as a reminder.

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Little Falls Clergy Association is sponsoring a Thanksgiving service on Wednesday 23 November 2005 at 7:30 PM. The service will be held at The First Reform Church in Little Falls. Please make an effort to come out and support this service.

ECW NOTES

Regular Meeting News

The ECW is throwing a BABY SHOWER for North Porch in Patterson. All parishioners are encouraged to place an unwrapped gift in the receptacle in the parish hall. Gifts should be delivered no later than November 11th. On Saturday November 11th the ECW will hold it's regular business meeting at 10:00 AM. This will be followed by a speaker from North Porch who will talk about their ministry and accept the baby shower gifts along with the receipts from the summer outreach.

December 9th will be the date for the ECW December meeting. This regular meeting will be followed by the Christmas Social. There will be a gift exchange, carol singing and lunch. Everyone attending is asked to bring a gift worth \$5-\$6. Marion Patrick and Rita Elliott are coordinating the luncheon.

Special Projects

UTO Blue Boxes: November and December are the months when Blue UTO Boxes are collected. Please bring your box to church and place it in the collection plate or bring it to the church office. Betsy Allen will be coordinating the collection of boxes and preparing them for the in-gathering at Convention in January.

Seamen's Church: The institute is in need of men's warm jackets and warm sweaters for some men from tropical nations coming into Port Newark in the winter months. They can also use National Geographic magazines, traveler's toiletries and calendars. All of our knitted scarves and hats will be given to them as well.

FROM THE RECTORS DESK

In light of the fact that the pedestrian crossing sign in front of St. Agnes was stolen on the night of October 30th (sometimes called “mischief night”) Fr. Dwight chose to reprise his article from the November 2003 newsletter.

I have a concern and a complaint. It has to do with Halloween. I do not like Halloween. Do not miss understand me. I certainly realize that some children enjoy dressing up in silly and scary costumes and roaming the neighborhood asking for treats and threatening tricks. To the best of my knowledge the dressing up began somewhere in the Middle Ages to scare away the evil spirits prior to the celebration of All Saints Day. According to my sources the commemoration of all saints on November first began in Ireland and then spread to England and eventually to Europe. It was adopted in Rome in the early ninth century and is documented in a letter from Pope Gregory the 4th to Emperor Louis “the Pious” urging that this feast be celebrated throughout the Holy Roman Empire. Actually the observance of this feast may be as old as about 270 as there is a reference by Gregory ?Thaumaturgus celebrating a festival of all martyrs. So what is my complaint and concern. Well look around. There is little emphasis of the “Feast of All Saints” and a great deal of interest and investment in the costumes, the decorations and the “I want and I should get” mentality. I am amazed at the elaborate decorations that I see throughout so many neighborhoods. I am surprised that the retail industry reports Halloween sales are second only to Christmas. My concern also centers on on the violence and destruction of property that goes along with the so-called celebration. I seems to be guised in what is called “mischief night” a time that is delegated for irresponsible behavior. Pumpkins get smashed, cars are egged, and sometimes worse things happen. The other concern about violence is that all the booty children bring home has to be carefully screened lest anyone attempted to bring harm to our children with poisoned candy or razor blades stuck in apples. Why are we sending our children out to “trick or treat” if such danger lurks so near?

I have no answers just a complaint or two and some real concern. I only hope we can instill in our children a sense of the importance of our liturgical and spiritual observance of All Saints.

Peace and Grace,
Fr. Dwight +

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Altar Guild is offering two types of Christmas poinsettia donations. The first is a customary donation to memorialize a deceased loved one. The second is a donation made as a thanksgiving for loved ones in our present lives. All donations will be used for the poinsettias and other seasonal decorations in the church. The price of this year's poinsettias will be available in late November. If you would like to place an order please call Andrea Dransfield (973-256-0292) or Nina Grimm (973-256-4440). Orders must be received by Wednesday, December 13th.

FOOD GIFTS SPECIAL IN NOVEMBER

Our food pantry at St. Paul's, Paterson will be providing traditional Thanksgiving food to families for their November 23rd celebration. Last year St. Paul's packed 300 turkey dinners. Supermarkets have begun their special free turkeys for register receipts. Please consider donating your extra turkey or purchasing a turkey to make another family happy. Along with the turkey, donations of canned vegetables, pumpkin, mincemeat, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, spices, bouillon cubes, raisins, nuts and pie crust, would be appreciated. A team of volunteers will deliver this bounty prior to Thanksgiving Day. If you have a turkey to donate please bring it to the church kitchen the **weekend prior** to Thanksgiving. We will provide room in the freezer or refrigerator. The turkeys and food gifts will be delivered to St. Paul's in the morning on Monday November 20th. If you need assistance getting the bounty to St. Agnes' please contact Linda Barnett (973-239-8521), **before Monday November 20th** to have it picked up. Thank you for your generosity, it will brighten many Thanksgiving tables.

November Birthdays

8	Harold Smith	22	Winifred Kelley
10	Stan Witzel	25	Doris Hengeveld
21	Sean Jenkins		

ST. AGNES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH **65 UNION AVENUE, LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY 07424**

Wardens and Vestry: Michelle Borden, Shirley Cox (Warden), Pat Keating (Warden), Robert Patrick, Ann Picazio, Thomas Ploch, Wendy Drake Schneider, Daphne Thomas
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