

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Most of you have noticed that there is more steel being added to our new Church Structure. By the end of this month the builders hope to have all the structural steel in place. They have begun work on the roof, and hope to have the church roof completed by the end of October. The roofing of the entranceway, chapel, and meeting room areas of the structure will occur in November. During October they will start to install side walls, and the masonry work will commence when these side walls are complete. This means we could start to see some stone exterior by the beginning of November.

The current work you see occurring in the front of the Church is the foundation for the entrance plaza and covered walkways. This will continue while the other work is going on. The landscaper is also installing as many trees and shrubs as possible before the cold weather, so the islands in the parking lots will start to look much fancier.

**Something that will affect us all:** The new exits at the ends of the north and south parking lots will be completed. When this occurs, the present entrance will be just an entrance, and you will be asked to exit by the new exits. Signs will be placed to assist us in this. Trees will be removed from along Route 82 to give everyone a better sight line when exiting. **This will happen in the near future.**

We are also making decisions on the interior of the Church. We are coming to an agreement on the altar, ambo (pulpit), the tabernacle stand, and the baptistry. Pictures of these designs can be seen in the lower church today.

**PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK**

If you are sick, homebound or in the hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or would like a pastoral visit please contact Deacon John by calling 223-8410 and leave a detailed message or the Church Office at 227-1710. If you prefer, you may e-mail Deacon John at [JBarone49@gmail.com](mailto:JBarone49@gmail.com).

**HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!**

Our very popular **LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN** begins next week at the 9am Mass. Children age 3 to age 8 are invited to go downstairs and hear the Bible readings at their own level of understanding in three groups: Pre-schoolers, K and First, Second and Third.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful ministry, call Ann Marie Burnell at 227-2791 or Ellen Stack at 473-7487. You and your children will enjoy doing this.

**TODAY-DOMINICAN SISTERS RAFFLE**

Our Blauvelt Dominican Sisters, who have served St. Denis-St. Columba School since 1965, will be selling chances for their annual Fall Festival Raffle after Masses today. Chances are \$2 for a single ticket and \$5 for a book of three. The grand prize is \$2,500. Please support this worthy cause.

**HELP NEEDED FOR COFFEE HOUR**

Blessed Kateri has a wonderful tradition of hosting a coffee hour after the 10:30am Mass each Sunday. To continue this ministry, we need three families or individuals to volunteer to provide juice and donuts and to do some light set-up and clean-up. The goal is to have at least six families volunteer to take ownership of this program so that each family would have this responsibility only once every six weeks. If you are interested, please contact Monsignor or leave your name at the rectory.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

This week our 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes will receive their Bibles at a **Bible Presentation Ceremony** held in the church at the beginning of class. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents are invited to attend for the first ½ hour of class. Please note that the Wednesday evening class will start at 7 pm instead of the usual 7:15 pm.

Our program is grateful not only for the 50 catechists who were honored last week, but also for the many **assistants** who help the classroom run smoothly. These wonderful people include Ashley Mona, Jessica Duffy, Lisa Walczyk, Nancy Anderson, Harley Martino, Ginger Fisher, Peter Criscione, Christina Mazzarella, Betty Perrino, Diana Schopen and Kathryn Fisher. Thank you!!

Finally we wish to express our appreciation to the **volunteers** who gave up several hours of their time earlier this month to help collate and distribute Parent Handbooks and to fold our prayer sheets, thereby saving the office many hours of tedious work. Those responding generously to our plea for help include Beverly Austin, Bob and Phyllis Cross, Grace Gleason, Kay Gore, Dave Heagney, Norma Kraus, Frank Jablecki, Sally Mastreani and Renee Scire. You're the best!!!

**SAINT DENIS CEMETERY**

In an effort to grant a dignified resting place for our loved ones and to provide for the safety of our groundskeepers, we recently sent out a letter outlining the longstanding guidelines for the maintenance of St. Denis Cemetery. We would like to remind all those who have loved ones buried in St. Denis cemetery that all items listed in the guidelines are required to be removed by September 30<sup>th</sup>. After that time the groundskeepers will remove the restricted items and will store them for an additional 15 days. Thank you for your help and support in making St. Denis Cemetery a dignified place of rest for all of our beloved deceased. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Stan at 226-6818.

**AUTUMN DAY FOR GOLDEN AGERS**

The Mount Saint Alphonsus Retreat Center is pleased to offer "Autumn Day for Golden Agers" on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, from 10am to 3pm. This day of reflection will focus on St. Alphonsus: Who is he, and what does he offer today's Christians? For information, call Mt. St. Alphonsus at 384-8000 or [www.msaretreathouse.org](http://www.msaretreathouse.org). The cost is \$20 and includes lunch.