



Spirit

The Newsletter of Resurrection Parish

Vol. 2 No. 4

December 2017

“The Church is holy, not just because ALL ARE WELCOME. The Church is holy because ALL BELONG!”
(Timothy Matovina + Pope Francis)

Welcome to *Spirit*, the newsletter of Resurrection Parish. In this issue we feature the Eucharistic Ministers. Also in this issue, we’re featuring an excerpt from the forthcoming book, *“Resurrection Parish - 40 Years of Ministry.”*

Pope Francis’ Corner



Sometimes we are tempted to find excuses acting as if we could only be happy if a thousand conditions were met. This is because our “technological society has succeeded in multiplying occasions of pleasure, yet has found it very difficult to engender joy”.¹ I can say that the

most beautiful and natural expressions of joy which I have seen in my life were in poor people who had little to hold on to. I also think of the real joy shown by others who, even amid pressing professional obligations, were able to preserve, in detachment and simplicity, a heart full of faith. In their own way, all these instances of joy flow from the infinite love of God, who has revealed himself to us in Jesus Christ.
Apostolic Exhortation *EVANGELII GAUDIUM* #7

Eucharistic Ministers

It is the responsibility of Eucharistic ministers to assist the priests and deacons at the Eucharist and to distribute communion to the faithful at the Eucharistic liturgy and to the sick. After completing the required training, each Eucharistic minister of the parish is commissioned as a “Special Minister of the Eucharist”. The liturgical Eucharistic ministers at our parish are usually scheduled to serve twice a month at Mass times they prefer. Other Eucharistic ministers serve as part of the Ministry to the Sick and Homebound.
Contact: Jim & Mary Tosso – 973-895-2026 or

mjtosso@verizon.net .

Required Ministry Training: “Theology of the Eucharist” – Attend one of the following Sunday opportunities from 8am to 9:15am in the Msgr. Rauscher Community Room: January 7th or 14th with Fr. Tarantino.

Resurrection Parish History

By the July 1979, the first full year of the parish, Shelia Lacouture reported in the *Randolph Reporter* that there were 650 families enrolled in the parish. There were 47 Baptisms, 6 Marriages, 21 Confirmations, 22 First Reconciliations, and 107 First Communions. “But we are not counting just to compile a box score,” she said. “Those numbers are a sign of a growth, and progress. What underlies these achievements is the Spirit of God moving and working among all of us.”

The parish population was growing as demonstrated by the children’s Christmas party. On December 16, 1979, from 2:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. over 200 children from kindergarten through the sixth grade, and 75 adults worked to put on and enjoy a Christmas party.

Finding Land to Build On

The parish approved the appointment of the committee to make recommendations on a land purchase, both in terms and price. The land committee had 10 steps to complete with a final decision resting with “a substantial majority of the voting parishioners.” Some of those steps included finding available land, agreeing on finance terms, formulating a contract within six months and to getting the parish community approval and the townships approval. Tests for land percolation, firmness and other tests were also needed.

Father Martin found finding a suitable tract of land a formidable challenge. In a 2004 interview he said, “The land they wanted us to buy was a tract of land on Morris Turnpike off Dover Chester Road where the *Omega House* was located.

That would have situated the church beneath a high-tension tower and on ground that was prone to flooding.”

Shortly afterward, the parish made a large investment. On December 28, 1979, the parish purchased 10 acres of gently sloping farm land from the Knothe family, along the west side of Millbrook Avenue.



They put down 20 percent of the \$120,000 purchase price, and planned to pay the rest of it off in quarterly installments at nine percent interest. It was

noted that they could pay it off early without a penalty. Under the terms of the payment plan it would take five years to pay it off. Father Martin said, "Due to your continued generosity, I feel we can pay off the land by December 1980. Right now, we are about halfway home. It will be a beautiful Christmas present that we can give ourselves this coming year."

In the months that followed, parishioners joined forces to help with every aspect of the project. They conducted fundraisers, designed art work, and did landscaping.

In May 1980, Father. Martin moved to a permanent Rectory at 107 Carrell Road a house purchased for the rectory. The earlier two rectories, on Park Avenue and Aldebaran Drive had been in rented homes.



This newsletter will publish excerpts of the 40-Years of Ministry in future editions.

Operation Appreciation - Supporting Our Troops

Every November, the Youth Enjoying Service (Y.E.S.) Ministry, at Resurrection Parish, launches Operation Appreciation in support our troops deployed overseas. This year the collection took place on Nov. 4th and 5th.

Lorraine Scandariato, Director of Religious Education at Resurrection Parish first brought the idea to the parish in 2009. In 2014, the Youth Enjoying Service Ministry took over

the challenge supported by co-ministers Beth Manzi and Jen Baxter.

Resurrection Parish participates by collecting donated items such as socks, cereal, snacks, gum, cookies (homemade and vacuum sealed or store bought individually packaged), playing cards, hand warmers, wet wipes - healthy snacks (beef jerky, tuna, protein bars, CLIF bars and hygiene products (shampoo, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste). The group then sorts the products, and until last year, assembled the "care" packages.



“YES, usually contributes supplies for about 275 individual boxes,” said Baxter. “Before last year, we would pack the boxes at church,

and then deliver them already packed to Brighton Cromwell who combines them with other donations, and then ships them all together.”

Brighton Cromwell, LLC is a certified small business supply chain integrator providing procurement, and logistics to the military. Each year they send over 1,000 “care” packages compiled from Operation Appreciation to the troops overseas.

“Last year, Brighton Cromwell initiated the event where all the charitable organizations, and school groups, came together on the same day, and worked on assembling the packages,” said Baxter. “They organize a town-wide collection. Last year was the first time they organized the event where we put 800 packages together at their Canfield Avenue facility. This year, we met at Brighton Cromwell on December 2nd,” said Baxter.

Last year, high school seniors Jack McConvery, and Jack Daleo organized the event and were chairing it.

“But these young men went off to college this year,” said Baxter, “so, the torch was passed along.

This is the first year that Jim McConvery, Jack’s younger brother and Andrew Daleo, Jack Daleo’s younger brother organized the effort.

Recent Videos

[Advent/Christmas Concert Adult Choir 2017](#)

[Advent/Christmas Children's Choir](#)



“I’ve been doing this since my freshman year,” said the 16-year-old McConvery. “I am a junior in high school now, and originally my older brother Jack and his friend Jack Daleo chaired Operation Appreciation.

So, I took over along with Andrew Daleo, when they left.”

Abby McConvery, Jim’s sister, is a freshman who has volunteered in two prior years. This year she’s co-chairing with her brother and Andrew Daleo.

“We also like to make sure that each box contains a handmade craft and a card or two,” said McConvery “We write the greeting cards, and encourage parishioners when they come to mass to write a card. We take raw stock paper and markers and craft items and create nice designs.

“We all feel this is a worthwhile effort to be involved with and we have the side benefit of having fun doing it.”

Noteworthy Teens

By Caileigh Cox

Noteworthy Teens is a new club sponsored by the Youth Enjoying Service (YES) program at Resurrection Parish. Nearly twenty teens volunteered their time in assisting our senior parishioners with writing personal and holiday cards. These teens also wrote personal letters to our homebound church members, hoping the letters would instill another line of connection with Resurrection Parish. Our newly Confirmed members wrote letters to Bishop Serratelli, thanking him for celebrating the Confirmation Mass with them.



And finally, our Noteworthy Teens created a buddy or pen pal program with the First Communion boys and girls of our Parish. These teens will give them advice and

encourage them to stay active in the Church.

Statistics on this year’s Thanksgiving Turkey & Food Drive

573 turkeys collected and delivered
 475 bags of non-perishable food prepped and delivered. The meal bags are a joint effort with St. Matthew’s contributing prepped bags, as well as the ones put together by Resurrection volunteers.

Over \$800 in cash donations were made that weekend, which enabled additional purchases of turkeys and non-perishables for the bags.

Holy Trinity Parish, in Passaic, received 259 turkeys and 250 bags of food.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, in Passaic, received 116 turkeys and 116 bags of food.

Our Lady of Victories, in Paterson, received 116 turkeys and over 100 bags of food.

St. Mary in Dover received 40 turkeys (they do their own food bags).

Morris County Housing Authority residents received 27 turkeys and bags of food.

Seven Samaritans’ clients received turkeys and bags of food. Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County received any late arriving food/turkey donations.

Over 40 volunteers (adults, children, and teens) from all different ministries were involved that Sunday sorting, counting, loading, picking up, driving, and delivering.

Truly amazing work! There were 573 families with food for Thanksgiving and beyond due to all of you. Thank you to everyone who shared time, talent, and resources in support of this year’s efforts!

A special thank you goes out to Wegman’s for stepping up at the last minute as an additional source of the needed smaller sized turkeys for us, in addition to Shop-Rite of Succasunna, who has participated for a number of years. Samaritans Tammy McConnell 973-895-4224 - Ext. 109

More Videos

[Women of Faith Christmas at Verona](#)

[Adult Choir Christmas Eve Preludes on Dec 24, 2017](#)

[Parish Day of Reflection Oct. 21, 2017](#)

[Tribute to Liz Kenny Click to play](#)

[Roast Beef Dinner Nov. 11, 2017](#)