

Vibrant Parish Life

Diocese of Trenton

September 2010

(Information below is provided for individuals, bulletins, and public announcements.)

For Monthly UPDATES go to: www.dioceseoftrenton.org/spiritual/docs/vibrantparishlife.pdf

“...There is only one way to holiness: Jesus Christ and a personal relationship with him, convinced in faith as we must be that he alone is “the way, the truth and the life (John 14: 6).” All three make us holy. Jesus Christ is the Risen Lord. He triumphed over death and every suffering and evil.”

(Coadjutor Bishop David M. O’Connell, CM, “Episcopal Ordination Mass Address,” July 30, 2010, Trenton, NJ)

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Special Announcements

NEW! Recent Bulk Mailing

The Office of Evangelization & Parish Development recently mailed out our quarterly bulk mailing, which contained flyers and information about programs coming up in the next quarter. If you do not receive this hard copy mailing, you can reference the material that was mailed at: www.dioceseoftrenton.org/spiritual/docs/BulkMailing.pdf.

2010 Lab I: Communication Skills for Outreach & Evangelization

Lab I is a 40-hour training program to develop your ability to listen in an evangelizing way to others and to respond with the compassion of Jesus Christ. **Dates/Times: Sept 15, Sept 18, Sept 25, Oct 9, Oct 23, Oct 30, and Nov 13, 2010. Wednesday, September 15, 2010, 7:00 to 9:30 pm, Saturdays 8:45 am to 3:30 pm.** Location: Diocesan Pastoral Center, Lawrenceville. **Registration fee - \$200/per person**, includes manual and handouts. Registration due by **August 27**. For questions or to register, please contact Kathleen Golazeski 609-406-7400 x5605 or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! Parish Ministries: Working Together to Connect Others to Jesus

How can our groups, committees and ministries be more effective? How can we become bridges for others into parish life? Discover how to grow committees and ministries into “ministerial communities,” rooted in collaboration. Topics: “God’s Call to Serve Others,” “A Community of Disciples,” and “Maturity and Collaboration.” Includes: prayer, talks, and small group sharing. **Presenter: John J. Boucher.** John holds a Masters Degree in Religious Education and has served the Catholic Church in evangelization, spirituality and adult faith formation on parish, diocesan and national levels for over thirty-five years. **Date/Time: Saturday, September 18, 2010, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Cost: \$10.** Location: St. Peter Parish, Point Pleasant Beach. For more information: 609-406-7400 x5605, or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! Listening to the Voice and Activity of God within and Around You –

A Day on Discernment for Parish Pastoral Councils

Good discernment has to do with allowing our deepest attitudes, aspirations, values and relationships to come to the surface, to give shape and direction to our choices. It should lead us to question the usual assumptions and processes by which we do things. **Presenter: Sr. Marcy Springer, SSJ. Date/Time: Saturday, September 25, 2010, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Cost: \$15 –** includes program, refreshments and lunch. Location: St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Beach Haven. For more information: 609-406-7400, Terry Ginther x5543 or Carmen Macres x5613, cmacre@dioceseoftrenton.org.

When Someone Hurts: Offering Help Beyond a Spiritual Response

A workshop for professionals in ministry, pastoral care volunteers, and parish visitors of the sick and homebound. You will find explanations and resources for two of the most common mental disorders of our time, depression and anxiety, and you will be guided to enhance the Body of Christ through mediating acceptance of the past, appreciation for the present and hope for the future. **Presenter: Rev. Cesar Rubiano,** Secretary to the Bishop and Master of Ceremonies.

Date/Time: Saturday, October 2, 2010, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, West Trenton. **Cost:**

\$15. Includes coffee and bagels, beverages, handouts – bring a lunch. To register or for more information 609-406-7400 x5605 or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! Welcoming and Inviting – Intensive Evangelization Training for Parish Staffs and Leaders

Develop practical skills for sharing faith and the message of Jesus in everyday life and in parish ministry. Seek the Holy Spirit's wisdom on how to welcome, invite, and involve others more fully in parish life. Explore a selection of up-to-date Catholic resources. Sessions include: prayer, individual reflection, presentations, readings, small group work, and people/home work. **Speakers: John and Therese Boucher.** John is Director, Office of Evangelization & Parish Development. Therese is an author, adult faith formation speaker, and catechist trainer. Each holds a Master's Degree in Religious Education. **Dates/Times: 12:00 to 3:30 pm** – beginning with light lunch

- **Thursday, October 7, 2010 – *God's Call to Share Our Faith with Others***
All the Baptized are called to evangelize, to invite others to Jesus Christ and the Church. Explore Catholic teaching on evangelization. Learn practical skills for sharing faith on a person-to-person basis through daily life. Learn how to empower others to reach out to relatives, friends, and acquaintances in the parish, home, neighborhood, community and workplace.
- **Thursday, November 4, 2010 – *Catholic Vision of Evangelization***
Explore the uniqueness of Catholic evangelization – explore ways to sustain life-long and ongoing conversion to Jesus Christ and the Church. Diagnose particular needs for training in evangelization. Who are the people most open to being evangelized? How can we reach them? Special focus will be on key evangelistic listening skills.
- **Thursday, December 2, 2010 – *Sharing Our Stories of Faith***
Explore the importance of welcoming and hospitality as a key part of evangelization. Discover the many natural ways that Catholics can share faith with others in formal and informal settings. Unearth stories of how God has touched our lives and the lives of those in parish ministry, so that we will be ready to share with others when the opportunity arises.

Registration Fee: one participant – **\$50**; two or three participants from the same parish – **\$100**; additional participants from same parish – **\$30** each. Fee due by September 29, 2010. Fee covers course books, handouts and lunch. Location: St. Mary of the Pines Church, Manahawkin. For more information: 609-406-7400 x5605 or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org.

Volunteers: Recruiting and Empowering Them Like Jesus Did

How did Jesus recruit ministry volunteers? It seems that he was a “warm body” recruiter – considering the Apostles he chose. This is GOOD NEWS! If Jesus didn't recruit the most adept volunteers, then this should not be our first concern. How can we find more “warm bodies” and then prepare them for serving others, like Jesus did? **Speaker: Christopher Weber**, Director of the Mount Summer Office, Mount St. Mary's University, Emmetsburg, MD. He is author of the upcoming book, *Recruiting, Jesus Style*.

Dates/Times/Locations:

- **Friday, October 22, 2010, 12:00 to 3:30 pm**, Location: Church of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold
- **Saturday, October 23, 2010, 9:00 am to 12:30 pm**, Location: Church of St. Ann (Music Room), Lawrenceville (Space is limited)

Registration fee: \$30.00 due by **October 1**. Includes: refreshments, beverages, materials, and the book *Recruiting, Jesus Style*. For more information 609-406-7400 x5605 or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org.

Domestic Church Media Presents: All Day Conference with Fr. John Corapi

Join Domestic Church Media at an all day conference presented by **Fr. John Corapi**. **Date/Time: Saturday, October 30, 2010, 8:30 am to 6:00 pm**. The conference concludes with Mass at 4:30. Location: The Prudential Center, Newark. Cost: Varies depending on seat location. For more information visit www.domesticchurchmedia.org/Home/FrCorapiConferenceFlyer.aspx (Domestic Church Media runs WFJS 1260 AM, New Jersey's first full-time Catholic radio station. It's located in Ewing, NJ and they plan to soon expand to a second Catholic station, WSFS, 89.3 FM, in Freehold/Colts Neck.)

NEW DATE! We've Come This Far By Faith: Black Catholic History in America

An Overview of Black Presence in the Bible: Historical Perspectives, Global Statistics/Implications, Experiences, Sharing, Fellowship, Opportunities and Methods for Evangelization and Ministry. **Presenter: Ellie Ancrum**, Director of the Office of Black Apostolate. **Date/Time: Tuesday, November 16, 6:30 to 8:30 pm**. Location: Diocesan Pastoral Center, Lawrenceville. **Cost: \$10**. To register or for more information 609-406-7400 x5605 or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org.

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Online Evangelization Offerings

Seeking Christ: First Steps Toward Catholic Faith

Seeking Christ solves the problem many parishes face when people inquire about the Catholic Church, but there is no way to begin receiving them. It includes eight sessions that can be used to welcome and engage people who are inquiring about becoming Catholics (pre-catechumenal process). Includes DVD reflections, participant's book, guide for facilitators, and parish manual. For preview pack and materials go to www.pncea.org/store/main.aspx?departmentId=47.

Keys to Reaching Inactive Catholics – ONLINE Paulist Evangelization Institute

Many grandparents, aunts and uncles long to share faith and Sunday Mass with grown children and grandchildren. Catechetical and parish leaders are worried about those who have drifted away from our Catholic Faith. What can we do to reach the over 75% of Catholics who are not with us on Sunday? Over the six-week course, **John and Therese Boucher** will discuss ways to reach today's inactive, marginal and unchurched Catholics. They will explore six keys for developing a new model of everyday missionary outreach that goes beyond programs and relies on God's presence in each person's journey of faith. **Dates: October 4 to November 14, 2010.** To register, visit www.pncea.org/events/keystoreachinginactivecatholics.aspx.

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From the Office of Evangelization & Parish Development

NEW DATES! Human Formation Workshops

Develop core relationship skills for effective ministry: **Presenter: Sr. Rita Woehlcke, SSJ. Dates/Times:**

- **Wednesday, September 22, 2010 – *Collaboration in Ministry: The Body of Christ at Work.***
What is collaboration? What is its relationship to cooperation? What are the challenges and opportunities for conversion in choosing collaboration?
- **Saturday, October 16, 2010 – *Boundaries: Safeguarding the Life of the Minister & the Ministry***
All ministry positions are positions of power but they are also positions of vulnerability. Balancing both in the manner of Jesus requires self-knowledge and skills.
- **Saturday, November 6, 2010 – *Power and Powerlessness: Being Rooted in Clarity***
Knowing when to act, when to wait, when to surrender, when to engage, and when to let go requires a clear understanding of the use of personal power. For the minister called to act in the name of Jesus, that understanding keeps conflict creative, rather than destructive, and allows space for God's activity to flourish.

Sr. Rita holds masters degrees in literature and in pastoral counseling and a certificate in spiritual direction from Sacred Heart University. **Times: 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Cost: \$20/session.** Location: Diocesan Pastoral Center, Lawrenceville. Please bring a lunch. To register, contact Kathleen Golazeski, 609-406-7400 x5605 or kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org at least one week prior to each session.

NEW! SENT: Servant Evangelization Network of Trenton (Open to all interested)

The purpose of "S.E.N.T." is to promote Catholic evangelization as the primary mission of the Church. Meetings aim to affirm, motivate, and network personal, group, and parish evangelization efforts as called for in Led by the Spirit: A Pastoral Plan for the Diocese of Trenton (2009). Session includes: prayer and faith sharing, presentation, and group discussion about successes and failures in evangelization. **Next Meeting: Sunday, November 7, 2010, 2:00 to 5:00 pm,** Diocesan Pastoral Center, Lawrenceville. Topic: "Led by the Spirit: Missionary Evangelization in the Diocesan Pastoral Plan." **Presenter: John J. Boucher,** Director, Office of Evangelization & Parish Development. Pre-register (at no cost) by contacting: kgolaz@dioceseoftrenton.org, 609-406-7400 x5605.

"Christmas Carol Festival" (CCF) Training Workshop Draws 19 Parishes

Thank you to all those who helped with and participated in this year's training workshop for "Christmas Carol Festival: A New Way to Reach Inactive Catholics." With 50+ leaders from 19 parishes, we looked at how to make CCF an evangelizing event, reviewed the new video "Award Winning Christmas Carol Festival 2010" on www.youtube.com, and heard stories seven local parish efforts to engage in this annual outreach to marginal and inactive Catholics. More than 1600 people participated in the 2009 "Festivals." The following places have already posted their "Christmas Carol Festival" dates for pre-Christmas 2010:

- **Thursday, December 2, 7:30 to 9:00 pm** at Church of St. David the King, Princeton Junction.
- **Saturday, December 4, 7:30 pm** at Church of St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton Square.
- **Saturday, December 4, 7:30 pm** at Church of St. Veronica, Howell.
- **Sunday, December 5, 2:00 pm** at Divine Mercy Parish, Trenton.
- **Sunday, December 5, 3:00 pm** at St. Joan of Arc Church, Marlton.
- **Friday, December 10, 7:00 pm** at Church of St. Aloysius, Jackson.
- **Friday, December 17, 7:00 pm** at St. Mary of the Lakes, Medford.
- **Saturday, December 18, 2:00 to 3:00 pm** at Carlslake Community Center, Bordentown. (Hosted by St. Mary Church, Bordentown)

- **Saturday, December 18, after 5:00 pm Mass** at St. Benedict Church, Holmdel.
- **Saturday, December 18, 7:00 pm** at Resurrection Church – Holy Name Worship Site, Delran.
- **Date & time to be determined** at Church of St. Raphael-Holy Angels, Hamilton.
- **Date & time to be determined** at St. Catharine of Siena, Seaside Park.

To list your parish's "Christmas Carol Festival" in future Vibrant Parish Life newsletters contact John J. Boucher at 609-406-7400 x5590 or jbouch@dioceseoftrenton.org.

ILEM Blog

The growing numbers of lay leaders formed by the Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry (ILEM) have a new voice. Visit the blog for, by and about Lay Ecclesial Ministers (LEMs) in the Diocese of Trenton at www.lemsinthevineyard.org. There you'll find reflections about formation, information about lay leadership, news about the formation program and much more. Don't forget to hit the "comment" button and let us know your thoughts, too. For questions, please contact JoLynn Krempecki at jkremp@dioceseoftrenton.org or 609-406-7400 x5695.

Parish Partnership Program

Aware that travel distance is often a consideration when people are deciding whether or not to attend a workshop, we are pleased to inform you that the Office of Evangelization & Parish Development will COME TO YOU! Parishes or parish groups in the Trenton Diocese may invite members of our staff or other resource people to do parish-based talks, workshops, and retreats on topics with an evangelizing perspective. Right now we are scheduling events for 2010 and 2011. For a listing of available topics, see www.dioceseoftrenton.org/spiritual/parishpartnershipprogram.asp. For topics other than these, please contact John Boucher in the Office of Evangelization & Parish Development, 609-406-7400 x5590 or jbouch@dioceseoftrenton.org.

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Offerings in the Diocese

Faith Sharing Support Group – Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in Trenton

A group is being formed for sharing our faith and providing mutual support on life's journey. If you would like to be a part of this group which will meet in the **late afternoon on Sundays**, please contact Dana at 609-477-6453 or danamateikis@comcast.net to get on the list. There is no commitment to make it every Sunday, though fairly consistent attendance is beneficial. A starting day and time will be announced if there is enough interest.

Gospel of John – Bible Study

Presenter: Fr. Bill Halbing, internationally known for his exciting presentations on Holy Scripture and dynamic talks on Catholic teaching. **Dates/Time: every Wednesday (beginning on September 8, 2010), 9:30 to 11:30 am.** Bring a Catholic Bible, a notebook, nametag and pen. Babysitting services are now available. Contact Arlene Mora at 646-266-3804, 718-552-755 or dagodislove2@gmail.com. Location: Church of St Anthony of Padua, Red Bank. **Donation: \$10 to \$20.** Please make a reservation by emailing Tricia Hicks trixhix1@yahoo.com or call 732-212-0754.

Loving for a Lifetime – 6 Essentials for a Happy, Healthy Marriage

Presented by Deacon Robert Diehl, Spiritual Gerontologist. **Dates/Times: Sundays from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

- **September 12, 2010** at St. Ann Parish, Lawrenceville (Burlington and Mercer Counties)
- **September 19, 2010** at Sacred Heart Parish, Bay Head (Ocean and Monmouth Counties)

Registration Fee: \$10 per couple. For more information, contact Peg Hensler at phensl@dioceseoftrenton.org, or Janis Bell at jbell@dioceseoftrenton.org. or call 609-406-7400 x5573. Sponsored by the Office of Family Life.

Catholics Returning Home: An Invitation

Would you like to feel at home again in the Catholic Church? Please join us for our six-week program designed to reach out to non-practicing/inactive/questioning Catholics. Come to dialogue, to question, to explore the Catholic Faith, and to celebrate. ALL ARE WELCOME. **Dates/Times: September 13, 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2010, 7:30 to 9:00 pm** at St. Aloysius, Jackson. Topics are (respectively): Explanation of the Mass, The Church Today: Changes since Vatican II, and Creed: What Catholics Believe. For more information or to register, Joan Dwyer at jedrfe@gmail.com or The Church of St. Aloysius at 732-370-0500. There is no cost to attend.

NEW! Bible Study

The Catholic Bible Study Group at Holy Eucharist Parish in Tabernacle, led by Dr. Jim Bridges, will begin meeting weekly in the Children of Terezin Room. **Date/Time: Tuesday, September 14, 2010, 7:30 pm.** All are invited to join whether or not you have participated in the past. The study will include the prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah & Ezekiel, among others, as well as Psalms and Song of Songs. For more Information, call Shirley Howe at 609-263-1143.

NEW! Great Adventure Bible Timeline: 24 week course

If you have ever wanted to read the Bible, but did not know where or how to begin, then Jeff Cavins Bible study Program, The Bible Timeline is for you. This 24 week course makes reading the Bible not only easy, but exciting. Choose day or evening sessions. **Dates/Times: Tuesdays starting September 14, 2010 to March 15, 2011.**

- **12:00 to 2:00 pm** Location: St. Peter Rectory Office, Riverside
- **7:00 to 9:00 pm** Location: St Joseph School, Beverly

Cost: \$35.00, includes Study Guide Kit. If you are interested in attending or have any questions please contact Rick Benner at 609-781-0644 or rkb3058@comcast.net.

NEW! Couples' Retreat: Happily Ever After

This retreat for couples covers communication, resolving conflict, managing anger, healing past hurts and more. It includes lecture, interactive exercises, scripture, music, and discussion. **Presenter: Janet Pfeiffer**, Pres, CEO Pfeiffer Power Seminars, LLC; internationally known motivational speaker, award-winning author, founder of The Antidote to Anger support group. **Dates/Times: Friday September 24, 2010, 7:00 to 9:00 pm and Saturday September 25, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.** Location: Upper Kolbe Hall, St. Peter Church, Point Pleasant Beach. **Cost: \$159 per couple**, includes a copy of Janet Pfeiffer's *The Secret Side of Anger*. To register or for additional information contact Dawn Rusinko 732-892-0049 x23 or dawnrusinko@yahoo.com.

The Diocese of Trenton 5th Annual Charismatic Rally

The theme of this year's rally is "Led by the Spirit". **Presenters: Mark Nimo**, graduate student and working in two parishes of Chicago and **Caroline Gambale-Dirkes**, Coordinator of Evangelization at St. Joseph Church in Hillsborough and the Area Coordinator for LIFE TEEN in NJ and Eastern, PA. **Date/Time: Saturday, September 25, 2010, 8:30 am.** Lunch will be provided. Location: Holy Innocents Church, Neptune. For more information contact Santa Trombino, 609-581-8853, strombino1@verizon.net or www.heartsaflamenj.org.

NEW! Immaculee Ilibagiza to speak at St. Leo the Great

In 1994, **Immaculee Ilibagiza's** idealic world changed drastically. Her home country that she loved so much was devastated by genocide. Most of her family was brutally murdered. Miraculously, she survived in a cramped bathroom with seven other women for 91 days. During those endless hours of terror, Immaculee discovered the power of prayer and forgiveness. Come hear her story! **Date/Time: Monday, September 27, 2010 7:00 pm.** Location: St. Leo the Great Parish, Lincroft. For more information: 732-747-5466 or stleoslincroft@comcast.net.

NEW! Understanding Addiction and the Impact on the Family

Come and gain a better understanding of the addiction process; how it develops, progresses, and what those around the impacted individual can do to assist them in dealing with this most difficult issue. Discover strategies you can use today to help the addicted person get into, and sustain their recovery. **Presenter, John K. Kriger MSM, CPS, LCADC.** **Date/Time: Thursday, October 7, 2010, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.** Location: St. Mary of the Lakes Church, Emmaus Center, Medford. For further information, call 609-387-5226 or email at info@krigerconsulting.com.

NEW! Women's Fall Retreat – "Letting Go and Embracing"

Join women from the Church of St. David the King, Princeton Junction and other local parishes for a peaceful retreat at the Loyola Retreat House, in Morristown, New Jersey. **Presenter: Fr. Charles Moutenot, S.J.**, Director of Spiritual Programs. **Date/Time: Friday evening, October 8 through lunch on Sunday, October 11, 2010.** Transportation is available. Contact Dorothy Soi to register or for more information: 609-275-3837 (evenings), or dtkbiblestudies@aol.com.

NEW! Cosmic Christ with Fr. Richard Rohr

In this evening presentation, **Fr. Richard Rohr** offers an overview of how our very notion of Christ is intersecting with consciousness itself and with our much improved knowledge of the cosmos. Come hear how theology, scripture, psychology and quantum physics are revealing a truly cosmic notion of Jesus who revealed and personified "the Christ". Book signing and reception (light fare will be served) followed by Fr. Richard's presentation and question/response conversation. **Date/Time: Thursday, October 21, 2010, 6:00 to 9:00 pm.** Location: St. Paul Church, Princeton. **Cost: \$25 regular, \$12 students/fixed income.** Visit www.cacradicalgrace.org for online registration. Limited seating available – please **register by October 5**. Late registrations accepted as space allows.

NEW! Beginning Experience Weekend

Are you a widowed, separated or divorced person who seeks a new beginning in life? That desire could become a reality through the Beginning Experience program. **Date/Time: Friday, October 15 to Sunday, October 17, 2010.** Location: Stella Maris Retreat Center, Elberon. For more information contact Marilyn Schipp at 609-406-7400 x5557 or mschipp@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! Bereavement Ministry Training

Would you like to offer spiritual support and healing comfort to the bereaved of your parish? Plan to attend the two-day Bereavement Ministry training. Topics covered include the grief process, communication skills, and the facilitation of support groups. **Dates/Times: Friday, October 15 and Saturday, October 16, 2010.** Location: Church of St. Isaac Jogues, Marlton. For additional information, 609-406-7400 x5557/5573 or mschip@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! Men's Retreat

The Retreat Master will be **Henry Petri**, a Jewish Biblical Scholar and Hebrew Catholic. **Date/Time: Friday, October 15, 7:30 pm to Sunday, October 17, 2010, after 12:00 pm Mass.** Location: Church of Veronica, Howell (no overnight sleeping arrangements). **Cost: \$25.** To register: Elaine Tirella 609-693-9470 or jet81272@gmail.com.

NEW! Certificate Program in Pastoral Care:

Equipping God's People for Compassionate and Competent Care of the Sick and Dying

Includes training program, materials, books, coffee and lunches, from October 2010 to April 2011. Program Policy: Must complete all 36 hours of CPPC program. Missed sessions may be made up in the following calendar year when the same topic or topics are offered. **Dates/Times: Saturdays, October 16, November 20, 2010, January 15, February 19, March 19 and April 9, 2011, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.** Location: Church of St. Anselm, Wayside. **Cost: \$300.** For more information, Deanna V. Sass, MA-Director-Office of Pastoral Care: 609-406-7400, x5589, dsass@dioceseoftrenton.org, or www.dioceseoftrenton.org/justice/pastoralcare.asp.

NEW! Women's Retreat

The Retreat Master will be **Henry Petri**, a Jewish Biblical Scholar and Hebrew Catholic. **Date/Time: Friday, October 22, 7:30 pm to Sunday, October 24, 2010, after 12:00 pm Mass.** Location: Church of St. Veronica, Howell (no overnight sleeping arrangements). **Cost: \$25.** To register: Elaine Tirella 609-693-9470 or jet81272@gmail.com.

NEW! Leadership Formation for Parish Family Ministry

A training program for persons wishing to gain skills and understanding of ways to support families as they face the day-to-day challenges of Christian family living. Seminars will be held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Lawrenceville on **Oct. 30, Nov. 20 and Dec. 4, 2010.** **Registration fee of \$100** includes all three workshops, materials, continental breakfast and lunch. For additional details and registration information, call the Office of Family Life, 609-406-7400 x5558 or mroma@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! Vibrant Parish Pastoral Councils

Explore four vital principles for more effective Parish Pastoral Councils (PPCs) fulfilling the consultative role envisioned by the Church. Through experiences of prayer, learning, reflection, and small group sharing the PPC can begin or "go beyond the beginning" as a vibrant ministry in parish life. Topics include: Called to Be Servant-Leaders, The Mission that Has the PPC, What is Consultation? and Effective PPC Meetings. **Presenters: Mrs. Terry A. Ginther**, Director, Office of Pastoral Planning and **John J. Boucher**, Director, Office of Evangelization and Parish Development.

Date/Time: Saturday, November 20, 2010, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Location: Church of the Visitation, Brick. Please bring a lunch. **Pre-registration fee is \$5.00 per person** (includes morning refreshments and noontime beverages). SPACE IS LIMITED. (Parishes with more than 5 persons coming are asked to call for group arrangements.) For more information contact: Office of Pastoral Planning, 609-406-7400 x5613, Fax: 609-406-7407, email: cmacre@dioceseoftrenton.org.

NEW! SAVE THE DATE! Catholic Men's Rally 2011

Established in 1997, Catholic Men for Jesus Christ recognizes that true happiness can only be found in Jesus. It further recognizes that we are not meant to answer his call to "follow me" alone. CMCJ strives to bring men together to build each other up, support one another, and challenge one another on our spiritual journeys to become the men that we are created and called to be. **Date: Saturday, March 5, 2011** (first Saturday in March) at Mater Dei High School, New Monmouth. Check for updates: www.catholicmenforjesuschrist.org.

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Offerings from Retreat Houses

NEW! Spirituali-Tea

Come for an afternoon tea and enjoy refreshments of body, mind, spirit and the company of others. The time will include prayer and a brief spiritual reflection followed by a traditional high tea with assorted delectables. **Date/Time: Tuesday, September 14, 2010, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.** **Fee: \$25.** To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

NEW! Personal Retreat Days

Take a day away from the busyness of your life to rest awhile in the Lord and experience God's presence. Come for silence, personal prayer and optional Spiritual Direction. The day begins and ends with a brief prayer together. This is not a series. **Dates/Time: Wednesday, September 15, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2010, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. **Donation: \$10; \$40 with Spiritual Direction.** Please bring a bag lunch. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Monthly Spiritual Exercises

If you need or desire a retreat but simply cannot get away, please give yourself the gift of this retreat that invites you to pray with Scripture each day using the format of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. We will meet monthly for sharing and input on the next month's prayer. This is a wonderful way to experience the Spiritual Exercises. **Dates/Times: Wednesdays, September 15, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2010, January 12, February 9, March 9, April 6 and May 4, 2011, 3:30 to 4:45 pm. Cost: Love offering.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Meeting Christ in Prayer – 8-Week Experience of the Spiritual Exercises

This is another wonderful way to experience the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. You will be invited to pray about 30 minutes each day. If your relationship with God is pleading for attention and if you feel called by God to be more attentive and prayerful, please treat yourself to this 8-week retreat. You will learn to pray more deeply, grow in friendship with God, come to know Jesus more intimately and savor the Word of God as a primary means of recognizing the presence and action of God. **Dates/Times: Wednesdays, September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27 and November 3, 2010, 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Cost: Love offering.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Taste and See

Invite God into your relationship with food! This weekly gathering will help us eat healthfully, enjoy food as God desires and enjoy God even more than food! Are you willing? Pray for the grace and act as though you have it. We will also read *Addiction and Grace* by Gerald May and *Savor: Mindful Eating, Mindful Life* by Thich Nhat Hanh. **Dates/Time: Thursdays, September 16 to December 9, 2010, 8:45 to 9:45 am. Donation: \$100 for the series or \$10 single session.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Abandonment to Divine Providence

Spend the next few months being saturated with the words of Fr. Jean Pierre de Caussade, S.J. who insists, in his classic, *Abandonment to Divine Providence*, that abandoning ourselves to God and God's will for us changes anxiety into peace and fear into confidence. He teaches us how to give ourselves over to God and actually live in consolation and trust. **Dates/Times: Thursdays, September 16, October 14, November 11 and December 9, 2010, 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Donation: \$50** (includes book). Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Soul Searching: Merton Series

Merton speaks to the soul like no other. He gently leads us toward spiritual transformation and a more contemplative and peace-filled life. We will study Merton in these three sessions and let his pursuit of his true self in God foster our own search. You will receive a book each evening to lead you through your two weeks of prayer between sessions. **Dates/Times: Thursdays, September 16, 30, October 14 and 28, 2010, 7:00 to 8:30 pm.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. **Donation: \$50** for the series or **\$20** per session. Books included. Please attend the first one if possible. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Listen to the Masters – Friday Morning Retreats

We all need consolation. These readings provide just what we need for strength and encouragement on the journey. We will spend one morning each month together, and the rest of the month praying over the content of these treasures, allowing their words to saturate us with wisdom and peace. These retreat mornings provide time for private prayer and direct our prayer and reading for the month. Topics include: Francis of Assisi, Evelyn Underhill, The Cloud Unknowing, and Mother Teresa. Register for the series. **Dates/Time: Fridays, September 17, October 15, November 12, December 10, 2010, 9:30 am to noon.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. **Donation: \$150**, includes 4 books. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Spiritual Reading Group

Good spiritual reading is a must for spiritual growth. Companions on the journey help with the practice of this spiritual exercise. This will be fun as well as fruitful. Can you devote one Friday night a month to this pursuit? This year we will feast on a variety of spiritual gems: *Becoming Who You Are* by James Martin, SJ, *Mystical Hope* by Cynthia Bourgeault, *The Gift of Peace* by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin and *Faith in the Darkness* by Mother Teresa. **Dates/Times:**

September 17, October 22, November 19, December 10, 2010, January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1 and May 6, 2011, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Donation: \$150. Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Knitting and Prayer

Learn how to combine your knitting/crocheting skills, prayer and compassion and be rewarded with the satisfaction of creating a prayer shawl. Little or no experience required. Presenter: Lois Dougherty, spiritual director of the Upper Room and a very experienced knitter. **Date/Time: Wednesday September 22, 2010, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Fee: \$10 per session.** Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

NEW! Learning to Pray the Liturgy of the Hours

So many people say they have a desire to pray the Liturgy of the Hours, but find the book confusing to follow. This night at Francis House will clarify the method and make it possible for you to enjoy this wonderful way to pray throughout the day.. **Date/Time: Thursday, October 7, 2010, 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Donation: \$10 for the session; \$30 for the book if needed.** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. If you need the book, register by September 24 so it can be ordered To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Images and Prayer

There are so many ways to pray! This day will be an opportunity to consider creative journaling as a method to pray. We will create images through the use of pastels, water color and collage. These will be starting points for prayer. Come spend some creative time with God. No artistic skills are necessary. Supplies will be provided. Presenter: Sandy Carmichael. **Date/Time: Sunday, September 26, 2010, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Donation: \$25.** Please bring a bag lunch. Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Serenity to Accept, Courage to Change, Wisdom To Know

If we are willing to grow along spiritual lines, "Yes, we can" be granted the graces of the Serenity Prayer. Our Twelve Step Program of Recovery teaches us how to live with SERENITY, COURAGE, and WISDOM one day at a time. This workshop, on the Spirituality of the Twelve Steps, will look at the Serenity Prayer through the lens of the Twelve Step of Recovery. **Presenter: Maureen Murphy, OP**, Spiritual Director and has many years with the 12 Step Recovery and giving retreats. **Date/Time: Tuesday, September 28, 2010, 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Fee: \$25 - \$35.** Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

NEW! Introduction to Spiritual Direction: When it Comes to God, What do you Long for?

Today many Christians, serious about their relationship with God, looking for God in their life circumstances and desiring to deepen their prayer, participate in spiritual direction. During this program we will define spiritual direction, discuss what a person brings to it and model a session with a spiritual director. The process is simple and the journey is profound. **Presenters: Trudy Ahern, SSJ, & Anne Ryan.** Trudy is co-director of the Upper Room, and educator of spiritual directors. Anne is a spiritual director and educator of spiritual directors. **Date/Time: Tuesday, October 5, 2010, 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Fee: \$15 - \$25.** Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

NEW! Falling into the Arms of God – Study of St. Teresa of Avila

This 3-part program is for those who would like to read St. Teresa's Interior Castle but find it challenging. Megan Don, in *Falling into the Arms of God*, has simplified the task without diminishing this spiritual classic. If your prayer life needs a lift and you feel God's invitation to go deeper, please come. It is worth the effort to understand how God takes you through the seven dwelling places of your soul. **Dates/Times: Wednesdays, October 6, November 3, and December 1, 2010, 9:00 to 10:30 am. Donation: \$50 (includes book).** Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

NEW! Professional Day for Spiritual Directors: Freed to Follow the Breath of the Spirit

Most spiritual directors have training in the Ignatian model of discernment. How can other traditions of discernment, such as Desert Fathers and Mothers, Benedictine, Franciscan, Salesian, Vincentian, Feminist enrich our understanding and practice of discernment? **Presenter: Rev. Terrence Moran, C.SS.R.,** Spiritual Director, writer, retreat director, international speaker in over 25 countries; co-director of the Quellen Spiritual Direction Formation Program, Mendham. **Date/Time: Thursday, October 7, 2010, 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Fee: \$65 - \$75.** Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

NEW! Confronting Fear – The Root of Violence

Some say that there are only two things in the world: God and fear. Also, there is not a single evil in the world that you cannot trace to fear. Come and explore the truths that underlie these statements. **Presenter: Sister Sheila Holly, SSJ.**

Date/Time: Monday, October 11, 2010, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Donation: \$25. Please bring a bag lunch. Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

 **NEW! Knitting as a Time of Waiting: A Retreat Day**

Knitting provides the contemplative space and time to reflect on our inward journey as it unfolds and reveals God's love for us. Join us for this wonderful day as we gather to knit, pray, and reflect on our journey of life. Bring a project in process or simple patterns to share. **Presenters: Lois Dougherty and Mary Reidy.** Lois and Mary are spiritual directors at the Upper Room. **Date/Time: Wednesday, October 13, 2010, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Fee: \$50 - \$60** (Light lunch included). Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

 **NEW! Mary, a Woman of Faith**

As we ponder the mysteries of the Annunciation and Visitation, we witness Mary's contemplative approach to life. During our time together, we will reflect on the gift Mary offers us in our contemporary world. Our time will include prayer, reflection and ritual. **Presenter: Trudy Ahern, SSJ,** Upper Room co-director. **Date/Times: Thursday, October 14, 2010, 9:30 to 11:30 am** (followed by liturgy), **7:00 to 9:30 pm** (evening prayer). **Fee: \$25 - \$35.** Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

 **NEW! Landscapes of the Soul: A Spirituality of Place**

A new awareness of place is developing in those who are serious about their spiritual lives. This new awareness seeks to pay attention to how the ordinary places, the places where we live our everyday lives, shapes and forms our spiritual consciousness. Come to be with others who are experiencing this new awareness and to deepen this activity of God in you. These sessions will provide time for private prayer and will enrich our prayer and discussion. **Presenter: Sheila Holly, SSJ. Dates/Times: October 18, November 15, December 13, 2010, January 17, February 14 and March 14, 2011, 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. Donation: \$175** includes book. Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

 **NEW! Ageless in the Lord**

Have you considered Aging to be the opportunity of a lifetime? Discover the key to maturing in the way God intended. This program looks at aging and spirituality...aging with grace and verve, spiritual meaning and purpose. We will look at some of the myths we tell ourselves again and again and try to open our lives to "choose life" in its fullness of goodness and blessings. **Presenters: Nancy Bachman, Jackie Callahan, & Maureen Christensen, RSM.** Nancy is a Spiritual Director and Commissioned Lay Ecclesial Minister, Director of Adult Faith Formation at St. David the King, Princeton Junction. Jackie is a Commissioned Lay Ecclesial Minister, DRE and Pastoral Associate at St. Catherine's, Middletown. Maureen is Upper Room Co-director and spiritual director. **Dates/Times: Thursdays, October 21 and October 28, 2010, 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Fee: \$50 - \$60** (two evening sessions). Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

 **NEW! Directed Prayer Weekends**

A directed prayer weekend is an opportunity for individuals to spend time with God in a personal way. As well as enjoying an atmosphere of prayerful silence, each person meets with a spiritual director daily to share what happened in his or her prayer and dialogue with God. It is an occasion similar to the type that Jesus offered the disciples in the midst of their busy ministries and lives. **Dates/Times: Friday, October 22, 7:00 pm to Sunday, October 24, 2010 3:00 pm. Fee: \$150** (two nights). Deposit: \$75 (with reservation, non-transferable, non-refundable). Register one week in advance. Location: Upper Room Spiritual Center, Neptune. To register, email office@theupper-room.org with your full name and your phone number.

 **NEW! Directed Retreat Weekend**

Due to the frantic pace of contemporary life, it is essential for our spiritual and physical health to take time to pray. The Directed Weekend Retreat offers you the opportunity to experience the graced rhythm of life in which rest restores your body and God revives your soul. Liturgy and Spiritual Direction provided. **Dates/Times:**

- **Friday, October 29, 7:00 pm to Sunday, October 31, 2010, 1:00 pm**
- **Friday, November 12, 7:00 pm to Sunday, November 14, 2010, 1:00 pm**

Location: Francis House of Prayer, Westampton. **Donation: \$125/\$40** non-refundable deposit with registration. To register, 609-877-0509 or fhop@verizon.net.

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Offerings Outside the Diocese

NEW! Prepárate a Evangelizar: Cursos de Formación en la Fe

Spanish courses on the Scriptures and the sacramental life are being held in several locations this year to assist in the faith formation of evangelizers. For more information contact: Josue Arriola at 732-562-1990 x1823 or jariola@diometuchen.org

NEW! Prepare to Lead Bible Training Course

This course is a 9 month introductory course on the Bible for anyone who is interested in learning the Catholic approach to reading and interpreting the Sacred Scriptures. The course overviews the structure of the Bible, the narrative approach to salvation history, the development of the canon, how to pray the Scriptures, a bit of the geography of the Holy Land and some basic tools for Bible Study. It will be offered this year again in two locations **beginning in September** (St. James in Woodbridge and St. Philip and James in Phillipsburg). Registration is required. For details concerning dates, times and registration please go to www.diometuchen.org/deptsministries/evangelization/formation-training/bible-study.

NEW! Metuchen Cursillo Weekend

The Cursillo in Christianity is primarily a lay movement. It is an instrument of renewal by which Christianity can permeate, live and grow in today's world. It proposes no new type of spirituality but a method through which one's spirituality can be strengthened, lived and shared in all areas of one's environment. **Dates/Times:**

- Men – **Thursday, September 16 to Sunday, September 19, 2010**
- Women – **Thursday, September 30 to Sunday, October 3, 2010**

Location: Blue Army Shrine, Washington, NJ. For further information, visit www.metkursillo.org or contact Dr. Tony Tangorra at 908-766-1900 or drtangorra@yahoo.com. **Cost: \$225** for each weekend; \$100 deposit due at registration. Must be at least 18 years old to attend.

"My Lord and My God:" Engaging Catholics in Social Ministry

A keynote and working Session for parish social ministry leadership teams. **Presenter: Jeffrey Odell Korgen.** Learn to utilize a Christ-centered framework of invitation, conversion, and empowerment to grow ministries. Jeffrey Odell Korgen is Executive Director of the Department of Diocesan Planning for the Diocese of Metuchen. For ten years he staffed the Roundtable Association of Diocesan Social Action Directors at the National Pastoral Life Center. He is the author of *My Lord and My God: Engaging Catholics in Social Justice*, and *Solidarity Will Transform the World – Stories from Catholic Relief Services*, and co-editor of *Living God's Justice – Reflections and Prayers*. **Date/Time: Saturday, September 18, 2010.** Location: Annunciation Center, College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ. **Fee: \$15.** For more information 973-290-4354 or lbaratte@cse.edu.

NEW! Men's Conference: Men of Metuchen – A Call to Brotherhood

Come join other men for a day of encouraging talks, strengthening fellowship, and celebration of Mass as we strive to be better husbands, fathers, sons, friends, and parishioners. **Bishop Paul Bootkoski** invites and encourages you to join us on this special day designed to nourish and support men of all ages as they grow in and live their Catholic faith.

Date/Time: Saturday, October 9, 2010, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cost: \$25. Speakers, reflection, fellowship and Mass will be included. Location: St. Bernard of Clarivaux, Bridgewater. For more information: 732-562-1990 x1630 or mgiannone@diometuchen.org.

"The Art of Holy Listening"

Join us for a day of renewal and pastoral practice for bereavement ministers, chaplains, spiritual directors, parish nurses, and parish leaders. **Presenter: Mary Ann Collett, MA, MSW,** Pastoral Associate at the Church of St. Martha in Point Pleasant. **Date/Time: Saturday, November 6, 2010, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.** Location: Annunciation Center at the College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown. **Registration Fee: \$35.** For more information please call 973-290-4302.

NEW! SAVE THE DATE! A Bible Conference

Thomas Smith will discuss and reflect upon the Acts of the Apostles. **Date: November 13, 2010.** Location: Immaculate Conception Church, Somerville. For further information click www.immaculateconception.org or call: 908-725-1112 x1124.

NEW! Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catholic Life Congress

The theme this year is "Sacred Mysteries: Ever Ancient, Ever New". The focus this year will be on the preparation and reception of the revised translation of the Roman Missal. **Date/Time: Saturday, November 13, 2010.** Location: Archbishop Carroll School, Radnor, PA. For more information or to register: www.archphila.org/evangelization/index.htm or 215-587-5667.

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[Offerings from Colleges and Universities](#)

✚ NEW COURSE SCHEDULE! Georgian Court University –
Graduate and Undergraduate Programs in Religious Studies/Theology

Fall courses being offered:

- TH537 – Theological Liturgy
- TH551 – The Sacraments
- TH613 – The Gospel of John
- TH640 – Christian Morality
- TH650 – Christian Formation

For information contact Dr. Johann M. Vento at ventoj@georgian.edu, 732-987-2381 or visit www.georgian.edu.

✚ NEW COURSE SCHEDULE! La Salle University – Graduate Program in Theology and Ministry

Fall courses are starting now. Ritual & Sacraments RLE511 is being offered at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Lawrenceville. Hebrew Scriptures - RLE600 is being offered in Bucks County For more information, to register, or for a complete listing of classes (including classes at the Main Campus in Philadelphia) contact Fr. Frank Berna at 215-951-1335 or berna@lasalle.edu.

✚ Seton Hall University – Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology

For information on courses visit www.shu.edu/go/ccfs or contact Andy Saunders at 973-313-6335.

✚ Fordham University – MA in Pastoral Care

Fordham University Graduate School of Religion & Religious Education is offering a fully on-line Masters of Arts track in Pastoral Care (36 credits). For more information please access the following link:

www.fordham.edu/academics/colleges_graduate_s/graduate_profession/graduate_school_of_r/academics/degrees_certificate/pastoral_carecounsel/index.asp

✚ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School/UMDNJ – Clinical Pastoral Education

Clinical Pastoral Education is an accredited form of pastoral education for seminarians, clergy, and laity. CPE is inter-faith. It is required by many faith groups for ordination and by many professional certification bodies for clergy and laity who wish to serve as chaplains. For more Information and/or to participate contact: Rev. Bill Gaventa, CPE Supervisor 732-235-9304, gaventwi@umdnj.edu or visit the website: rwjms.umdnj.edu/boggsenter/student/Clinical_pastoral.html.

✚ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School/Hamilton – Part-Time Accelerated Clinical Pastoral Education

An accelerated part-time unit of CPE is being offered at RWJ Hamilton beginning this fall. This is a 1.5 unit program, running on a trimester schedule beginning the end of **September 2010 to June 2011**. There is no clinical requirement at RWJ Hamilton – all clinical work is done at your own, pre-approved site. You must be engaged at least part time in some aspect of pastoral ministry (congregation or institutional/clinical) and have completed one prior unit of CPE. For more information, contact Chaplain Tedford J. Taylor at 609-631-6980 or ttaylor@rwjuh.edu.

✚ Clinical Pastoral Education – Academic Year, October 2010 through May 2011

Members of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP) are spiritual pilgrims seeking a truly collegial professional community. Our calling and commitments are, therefore, first and last theological. We covenant to address one another and to be addressed by one another in a profound theological sense. If you would like more information or to schedule an interview please call Chaplain Stephen Faller at 609-394-4641 or sfaller@capitalhealth.org.

✚ Extended Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education

There are a few openings for the **September 2010 through April 2011** session at St. Mary's Medical Center in Langhorne, PA. This program would require you be available two days per week. One day is for Clinical Patient Visits and the other for Group Work, Supervision and Workshops. If interested please contact: Richard Brochu, administrator of Spiritual Care at St. Mary Medical Center in Langhorne, PA. rbrochu@stmaryhealthcare.org or 215-710-5140 for more information.

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