



OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH NEWSLETTER



Church of the Immaculate Conception (ICC), est. 1875

Church of Saint Joachim (SJC), est. 1901

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Volume 6 Issue 1

www.olatrenton05.org

December 2005

St. Joachim's Honors Maestre Pie Filippini



"This was an incredible tribute. I've never witnessed one like it."



"Who else would gift each sister with three gorgeous golden roses?"

"How do I say thank you for a memorable once-in-a-lifetime experience?"



"We could never thank you adequately for what you did for us."



"You and your parishioners were the perfect hosts.....we felt so welcome and cherished."



"What a celebration!....and I know you were the pilot of the ship."



"In my 55 years of religious life, we have never been 'Queens' for a day let alone a weekend!"



"The great MPF weekend will be in my memory a long long time."

St. Joachim's Honors Maestre Pie Filippini

Let's start from the beginning...no, not 95 years ago but two years ago when Fr. Jeff suggested a 95th Anniversary to honor the coming of the Maestre Pie Filippini to America and our parish. Fr. Jeff's idea—a weekend celebration with cocktail parties, a concert, accommodations at the Marriott for the sisters, portraits of the sisters, pianists, DJs, dinner at the Roman Hall, billboards on the highways and hundreds of guests, he took our breath away. So the journey began as always with the forming of capable committees, long grueling hours, disagreements, compromises and yes, doubts. Despite slow ticket sales in the beginning, Fr. Jeff was pumped and positive. He never once doubted the success of the weekend. Mama Rose in *Gypsy* sang "I had a dream" and Dorothy skipped down the yellow brick road in Oz clicking her heels saying "There's no place like home." Fr. Jeff had a dream and it was to be a sentimental journey and yes, the good sisters indeed said "there's no place like home." Little did we know what a fun-filled, fantastic weekend was in store for us.

Friday night opened the festivities with a bang. The staff at the Marriott Hotel extended themselves to our every need. They made the sisters feel at home and welcomed them with open arms. The cocktail party was beyond expectations—delicious food, great music and a packed dance floor. Everyone was schmoozing, mingling, laughing, hugging and kissing. There was plenty of activity for 400 people.

Saturday night was concert night. Another great crowd of 500 people filed into Patriots' Theatre. There was plenty of excitement in the air as our own Maestro Joseph Pucciatti, baton in hand, led the orchestra in a wonderful program celebrating both the past decades and our Italian heritage. Act I focused on Italian arias. Act II highlighted fabulous music from Broadway shows including the ever favorite..."The Impossible Dream." Act III brought us home with the beautiful strains of Italian songs filling the theatre. Three very talented soloists serenaded us. We listened, we hummed and then there was a moment of magic. Not too many of us have ever heard "Tu Scendi Delle Stelle" played by a 40 piece orchestra. As the beautiful Christmas carol was being played, the sisters and many in the audience quietly began to sing the familiar words. Even members of the Boheme Orchestra and soloists were enthralled by the moment.

Sunday was the culmination of the great celebration. Bishop Smith led us all in the beautiful, solemn liturgy of thanksgiving. After, we all walked to the Roman Hall where we were welcomed with a parade of delectable hors d'oeuvres including a porchetta—a roasted pig with crispy skin! Edible fresh fruit centerpieces set the stage for the delicious surf and turf entrée. The dinner was exceptional and the music friendly.

Thanks to Jean and Jim Ianni and all their committee members for an outstanding job in making the celebration the success it was. To Fr. Jeff, "Thank you for giving us a treasure of wonderful memories."



**Don't Forget to Visit Our Lady of the Angels on the Internet at:
www.olatrenton05.org Pay a visit and enjoy.**



Our Lady of the Angel's Parish Newsletter

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Christmas Schedule 2005

Fri Dec 16 - Advent Penance & Reconciliation Service with First Penance – 7pm (ICC)

Sat Dec 24 - Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Vigil)

Mass Schedule:

3:15pm Choral Concert (ICC) - 4pm ICC (Mass in English)

9pm SJC (Mass in Spanish)

12:00 Midnight SJC (English)

Sun Dec 25 - Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

Mass Schedule:

9:30am ICC (Mass in English)

11am SJC (Mass in English with readings in Italian)

12noon ICC (Mass in Spanish)

No 6pm ICC Mass in English

No 6:30pm SJC Mass in Spanish

Fri Dec 30 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

12:15pm SJC (Mass in English)

Sat Dec 31 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Vigil) – New Year's Eve Octave of Christmas

Mass Schedule:

4pm ICC (Mass in English)

10:30pm SJC (Mass in Spanish) – followed by Family Fiesta

Sun Jan 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – New Year's Day Octave of Christmas

Mass Schedule:

10am ICC (Mass in English)

12noon ICC (Mass in Spanish)

No 6pm Mass in English

No 6:30pm Mass in Spanish

Sun Jan 8 - Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord – Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Little Christmas Celebration for Children – 12noon ICC (Mass in Spanish)

Mon Jan 9 - Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – 12:15pm SJC (Mass in English)

Bacio del Bambino – 7pm SJC (Mass in English)

Parish Worship Schedule

(Provisional for 1 Year)



WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday 12:15 PM - English (SJC)

Monday 7:00 PM - English (SJC)

Tuesday 7:00 PM - Spanish (SJC)

Thursday 7:00 PM - Spanish (SJC) (Prayer Group)

Saturday 9:00 AM - English (SJC)

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM - English (SJC)

6:30 PM - Spanish (SJC)

Sunday - 9:30 AM - English (ICC)

11:00 AM - Italian readings (SJC)

12:00 PM - Spanish (ICC)

6:00 PM - English (ICC)

6:30 PM - Spanish (SJC)

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:00 PM - English (SJC)

Sunday - 5:30 PM - English & Spanish (SJC)

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

Monday after the 7:00 PM Mass (SJC)

A Christmas Tradition - Christmas would not be Christmas if during this Holy Season the beautiful words and melody of “Tu Scendi dalle Stelle” were not heard here at St. Joachim’s. Perhaps it was also heard at Immaculate Conception Church when the founder, Father Peter Jachetti was pastor, for it was and is Italy’s favorite Christmas Carol. Translated into English as “You Come Down from the Stars”, the hymn was written By Saint Alfonsus Maria de`Liguori, a Redemptorist priest who lived near Naples between 1696 and 1787. The hymn quickly became popular throughout Italy and was brought to our shores by the Italian immigrants of the early 20th century. To this day it is sung in Italian parishes throughout the world. The magnificent words tell the story of how the Eternal Son of God left the bosom of his heavenly Father to become one of us and suffer for love of us. Since many parishioners in our merged parish will be hearing it for the first time this Christmas, we have provided the translation that follows. It is a beautiful hymn even in English and we might do well to meditate on these words during this holy season of Advent. To all, Merry Christmas! Buon Natale! Feliz Navidad!

TU SCENDI DALLE STELLE

Text and Music of Saint Affonsus Maria de'Liguori

Tu scendi dalle stelle, o Re del cielo e
vieni in una grotta al freddo e al gelo e vieni in una grotta al freddo
e al gelo. O bambino mio divino io ti vedo qui a tremar
O Dio beato ah quanto ti costo l'avermi amato

A te che sei del mondo il Creatore,
mancano panni e fuoco, o mio Signore.
Caro eletto pargoletto, quanto questa povertà, più mi' nnamora,
giacché ti fece amor povero ancora.

Tu lasci del tuo Padre il divin seno,
per venir a penar su questo fieno.
Dolce amore del mio cuore, dove amor ti trasportò, o Gesù mio!
Perché tanto patir? Per amor mio!

Ma se fu tuo volere il tuo patire,
perché vuoi pianger poi, perché vagire?
Sposo mio amato Dio, mio Gesù, t'intendo sì, ah mio Signore!
Tu piangi non per duol, ma per amore!

Tu piangi per vederti da me ingrato,
dove sì grande amor, sì poco amato!
O diletto del mio petto, se già un tempofu così, or te sol bramo!
Caro, non pianger più, ch'io t'amo, t'amo

Tu dormi o Gesù mio, ma intanto il cuore
non donne, no, ma veglia a tutte l'ore.
Deh, mio bello epuro agnello, a che pensi dimmi tu? O amore im-
menso!
“A morire per te rispondi io penso.”

Dunque a morire per me, tu pensi o Dio
e chi altro, fuor di te, amar poss'io?
O Maria speranza mia, se poelamo il tuo Gesù, non ti sdegnare!
Amalo tu per me, s'io nol so amare!

O King of Heaven! from starry throne descending,
Thou takest refuge in that wretched cave:
O God of bliss! I see Thee cold and trembling.
What pain It cost Thee fallen man to save!

Thou, of a thousand worlds the great Creator,,
Dost now the pain of cold and want endure;
Thy poverty but makes Thee more endearing,
For well I know 'tis love has made Thee poor;

I see Thee leave Thy Heavenly Father's bosom,
But whither has Thy love transported Thee?
Upon a little straw I see Thee lying;
Why suffer thus? 'Tis all for love of me.

But if It is Thy will for me to suffer,
And by these sufferings my heart to move,
Wherefore, my Jesus, do I see Thee weeping?
'Tis not for pain Thou weapest, but for love.

Thou weapest thus to see me so ungrateful;
My sins have pierced Thee to the very core;
I once despised Thy love, but now I love Thee,
I love but Thee; then, Jesus, weep no more.

Thou sleepest, Lord, but Thy heart ever watches,
No slumber can a heart so loving take;
But tell me, darling Child, of what Thou thinkest.
"I think," he says, "of dying for Thy sake."

Is It for me that Thou dost think of dying!
What, then, O Jesus! can I but love Thee?
Mary, my hope! If I love him too little -
Be not Indignant - love him thou for me.

Parish Profile - Our Parish Secretaries

Anne Scaccetti Conte

Anne Scaccetti Conte, our parish secretary is a life-long resident of the city of Trenton. Anne is a graduate of Immaculate Conception Elementary School and St. Anthony High School. She has an Associate of Science degree in Business Administration. Prior to the consolidation, Anne was Administrative Assistant at Immaculate Conception Parish. Anne's parents, John and Carmela (Camera) Scaccetti were married in St. Joachim Church. Anne has been married to her husband Ralph for 18 years and they have three children, Domenic, Ralph and Alisa. Ralph works for the City of Trenton as a foreman and owns The Trenton Cigar Parlor. Anne enjoys reading, doing crossword puzzles, and playing board games with her children. Always ready to answer questions and be helpful to all who contact the parish house, Anne says she feels most welcomed in our parish family. And to Anne we say, "We are very happy to welcome you to our parish team. Buona Fortuna."

Felicita Martinez

Felicita Martinez is the new evening secretary at Our Lady of the Angels Parish. She is 43 years old and has lived in Chambersburg for more than 37 years. She is a single parent and proud mother of a son, Sergio Martinez, now in his sophomore year at Seton Hall University. Felicia, as she is known by most, was an active parishioner at Immaculate Conception Parish for 13 years and served in many capacities including lector and choir member. She is now an active member of Our Lady of the Angels Parish and as one of our secretaries she enjoys working with and meeting parishioners of our newly merged parish. Felicia has been employed at the New Jersey State Library for 25 years as Supervisor of the Acquisitions Unit and worked part-time at the Immaculate Conception Friary. Welcome Felicia . Benvenuta!

Sanctuary Guild Celebrates the 50s and the 50th

Can you imagine, our Sanctuary Guild Fashion Show and Disney World are 50 years young—50 years of magic! Back in the 50s and 60s our ladies had their own fashion show at mass. They were all dressed and wrapped in fur stoles sporting the latest in beautiful hats. My, my how times have changed!

Remembering those days, the theme of this year's Fashion Show was "Jukebox Memories" with special homage being paid to hats. Centerpieces were comprised of vintage and authentic hats and jewelry from the 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s.

To say this year's show was a social and financial success is an understatement as 310 women were ready to rock and roll with the 28 songs from the past decades. Journey Productions put on another fabulous show and the Roman Hall was buzzing with lines and lines and lines of women buying chances for the 50/50, Lenox, Linen Basket and gift auction. All the gifts were outstanding and the 50/50 was very generous. Marie Girard was the lucky winner of the exquisite Lenox prize. Once again, Roman Hall provided us with delicious food and the serving staff was wonderful.

After all was said and done, the committee members sat back and said: "Another great show." Congratulations to all the ladies who made this another great experience. Thank you for all your time, energy and talents.



PRAYER CORNER**AN ADVENT PRAYER**

O Jesus, I believe you were born of Mary and are the Son of God. Your mysterious coming is beyond understanding. Yet like your mother, Mary, I wish that you come to me, for you promised you will. Let me serve you in any way I can and be with me day by day as my life goes by. Like Mary, your mother, though I know you only by faith, may my whole being proclaim your greatness and my spirit rejoice in you. O Wisdom, holy Word of God, Jesus Christ, holding all things in your strong yet tender hands, come show us the way of salvation. Amen.

O Gesù, credo che sei nato da Maria e che sei Figlio di Dio. È impossibile comprendere la tua misteriosa venuta, eppure come la tua santa madre Maria, ti aspetto e ti desidero perchè hai promesso di venire. Vieni o Gesù e resta con me ogni giorno della mia vita. Fa che la mia vita proclami la tua grandezza e la tua gloria e che il mio spirito gioisca in te. O Verbo Divino, Cristo Gesù vieni e mostraci la via della salvezza. Amen.

O Jesús, creo que tú naciste de María y que eres el Hijo de Dios. Tu misteriosa venida está más allá del entendimiento. Sin embargo como tu santa madre, María, deseo que tú vengas para mí, como lo has prometido. Permíteme servirte de toda manera que pueda y quédate conmigo día tras día de mi vida. Como María, tu madre, aunque yo sólo te conozco por mi fe, que mi ser proclame tu grandeza y mi espíritu se regocije en ti. O Sabiduría, santo Verbo de Dios, Jesucristo, tú que sostienes todo en tus fuertes y amorosas manos, ven y muéstranos el camino de la salvación. Amén.

**We Celebrate Columbus Day**

Monday, October 10 was overcast and gray but inside a packed St. Joachim Church all was sunny and bright. The Knights of Columbus led the music troupe and dancers down the aisle to the accompaniment of drums and trumpets. Dressed in peasant and medieval costumes, two folk groups one from Reggio Emilia and one from Sicily, sang several times during the solemn and beautiful mass celebrated by Father Jeffrey Lee.

Afterwards the troupe assembled in the parking lot and colorful flag wavers and energetic folk dancers performed before a large enthusiastic crowd of parishioners. Even some of our parishioners joined in the festivities! After the performance, all joined in a wonderful luncheon at Roman Hall where even more songs and dances were performed.

Dr. Gilda Rorro-Baldassari, who serves as both chairperson of the NJ Italian American Heritage Commission and as Vice Consul for Italy here in Trenton, had worked all year with her committee including Dr. Frank Gargione organizing this meaningful day of culture in our Parish.

At the luncheon, Dr. Rorro-Baldassari welcomed students and faculty from Hamilton's Crockett Middle School who have been involved in a letter-writing campaign with students in Sicily. To date, 140 letters have been sent to students in Sicily. Through these letters students in both countries have been learning about each other's customs and culture. Dr. Rorro-Baldassari went on to explain how important it is to educate all young people and the community at large about the preservation of our Italian heritage.

What a splendid way to celebrate the legacy of Christopher Columbus and our ancestors!

See pictures on back page ..

A Message from our Pastor

Dear Friends:

The Season of Advent is upon us. The pace is picking up as we prepare for our Celebration of Christmas. The question is: Am I spiritually prepared to welcome the Christmas Season? Do I need to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation? Do I need to take inventory of my life and re-arrange my priorities? This is what Advent can be about. It does not have to be about pious nice-nice. It can be about interior growth and a re-ordering of what we might consider to be the status quo in our lives.

The Incarnation of Christ is probably the single most significant event in recorded history. Through this manifestation, first to the Jewish People (in the persons of the shepherds) and then to the Magi (representing the world) God has given us a tangible sign of what unconditional love is all about. Jesus Christ is truly God and truly human in the form of a male. Through Christ we have been given the promise of eternal life and the mandate of reconciliation. Let us pray for peace in our world, in our community, in our family, and in our own hearts. As always our sick and homebound parishioners have a special place in our communal prayer during this Advent-Christmas Season. May this Season of Grace be a time of renewal for you and your loved ones. May our community of Our Lady of the Angels joyfully witness to the revelation of God's love in the person of Jesus through our words and most especially our deeds. Peace!

Father Jeff

**Tiempo de adviento con amor latino — Por Carlos Ávila**

Estamos de fiesta, vivimos los momentos antes de la navidad y desde siempre hemos sentido esa alegría inmensa por celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús. Esta fiesta tiene que ver mucho con el reconocimiento gozoso al Padre por habernos concedido la encarnación de su hijo en el vientre de una joven campesina, hecho que llamamos respetuosamente la Inmaculada Concepción.

De ahí acá han pasado más o menos 2000 años y la celebración en todo el mundo cristiano católico, es lleno de tradiciones y costumbres propias que la gente disfruta intensamente.

En esta tierra, nuestra segunda patria los latinos tenemos una amplia variedad de costumbres navideñas que las revivimos todos los años y las transmitimos a nuestras nuevas generaciones, que a su vez las asimilan, creando con su poder un ambiente nuevo.

La música, la comida, la actitud de la gente, niños, jóvenes y más grandes, en la época navideña entre los latinos es maravillosa por ser similar, pero a la vez con características propias de cada nacionalidad. Para conocer de cerca salimos a dialogar con la gente para ver cuáles son sus costumbres. Carmen Hernández, de Puerto Rico dice que "las parrandas navideñas son muy conocidas y que aunque aquí también se realizan no son las mismas que suenan en la isla". Las alcapurrias y empanadas son sus comidas favoritas.

Para Quiana Ponton, joven de origen cubano dice que las navidades son muy especiales en su casa, "llegan familiares a pasar la noche antes de navidad, mi hermano toca el piano, cantamos juntos canciones de navidad, preparamos espagueti, lasaña, sopa y ensaladas, las galletas no pueden faltar". Alex Arias, de Costa Rica dice "el tico que no coma tamales en navidad no es tico. Por lo general allá la gente con meses de anticipación compra y cría su chanchito (cerdo) para la navidad, además es propio de los costarricenses el intercambio de tamales entre los amigos y familiares".

Finalmente una reflexión que nos dio el Padre René Pulgarín, en su sermón del domingo 20 de noviembre, es que los preparativos, fiestas y tradiciones en tiempo de adviento no cuentan si no recibimos la navidad del Señor como el nacimiento de Cristo Rey.

Columbus Day at Saint Joachim



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