

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

120 HOBOKEN ROAD, EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ 07073

## Pastoral Staff

Fr. Joe Astarita, Pastor

jastarita@gmail.com

Fr. Arokiadoss Raji, Vicar frdoss2010@gmail.com

sjffoffice@aol.com

Diana Belkowski, Director of Music Ministry

201-939-0457- ext. 311 stjoesmusicbel@gmail.com

## Faith Formation (Children & Adults)

Fr. Doss,

Director

Beverly Wurth,

Secretary

201-939-3441

sjffoffice@aol.com

Magdalena Gusciora (Polish FF) 201-893-1721

## Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 8:30am - 6:00pm

Friday: 8:30 am- 3:00pm

If you cannot make our office hours, please call  
and we will do our best to accommodate you.

We are closed Saturday and Sunday.

## Parish Directory

Parish Office: 201.939.0457

Emergency Line: 201.939.0391

Parish Fax: 201.939.4196

Parish website: [www.stjosepher.com](http://www.stjosepher.com)

Parish email: [StJoseph@aol.com](mailto:StJoseph@aol.com)

## Kazimierz Pulaski Polish School

Agnieszka Golonek:

201-615-9740

## Parish Registration

Registration forms are available at the parish  
office and at the parish web site.

## Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please contact Parish Office for pastoral visits in  
the hospital or at home. Pastoral ministers are  
available to visit the sick and homebound.

We offer a warm welcome to all our guests &  
newcomers! We at the Catholic Community of St.  
Joseph are pleased to have celebrated liturgy  
with you and we hope you will join us again.



## Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00pm Vigil Mass

8:00pm to 9:30pm Neo-Catechumenal Mass

Sunday: 8:00am 10:00am 12:00 pm

## Monday thru Friday

12:05pm

Civic Holidays—8:30am

## Sacrament of Penance

Saturday — 11:00am - 12:00 Noon

Other times by appointment.

## Sacrament of Baptism

Fourth Sunday of the month — 1:00pm

For information regarding baptisms  
please contact the parish office.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Plans are usually made one year in advance to  
prepare for marriage. Please call the parish  
office to schedule an appointment.

Devotions follow the 12:05 pm Mass

St. Anthony Novena—Every Tuesday

St. Joseph Novena—Every Wednesday

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament—Every  
Thursday.

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – July 13, 2014**

**SATURDAY, July 12**

5:00 pm + Christine Sottilaro

**SUNDAY, July 13**

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 am + Marianne Clancy

10:00 am + Gregory Barnes

12:00 pm + Marianne Clancy

**NO 7:30 AM MASSES IN JULY OR AUGUST**

**MONDAY, July 14**

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha**

12:05 pm + Peter Behan

**TUESDAY, July 15**

**St. Bonaventure**

12:05 pm + People of the parish

**WEDNESDAY, July 16**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

12:05 pm + Olga Rivera  
& Jose Cirilo Rivera

**THURSDAY, July 17**

12:05 pm + John Jay Fahy

**FRIDAY, July 18**

**St. Camilus de Lellis**

12:05 pm + William Lanzetta

**SATURDAY, July 19**

5:00 pm + Enidio Abreu

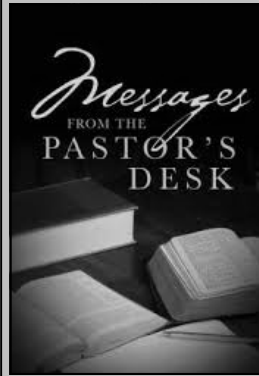
**SUNDAY, July 20**

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 am + Maureen Mucci

10:00 am + Anna Rosario

12:00 pm + Nikolas Didenko



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Parables are “examples” of stories that illustrate by analogy a deep spiritual point or divine mystery by using familiar things and happenings. Jesus works to bring what is sublime, divine and profound within the grasp, not of all, but of those who have a pure heart and can

understand the words of Jesus Christ.

Understanding his parables is one way of “seeing God”, of penetrating God's ways and experiencing the mysteries of the Kingdom. On our part, there are conditions for understanding parables: purity of heart and spiritual littleness begin to define those conditions. In addition, parables test our willingness to ponder the Word of God as well as our attitude toward the deeper meanings of the Word. There is an old philosophical principle that states that only the God-like can understand the thoughts of God.

Even though man is made in the image of God it has been covered over a lot with woundedness and bad habits. This image needs to be recreated. And this is what we are working on each week as we hear the Word of God and celebrate the Eucharist and reflecting on it during the week. When that image of God comes back to life in us we can better understand Jesus' ways, and experience his life.

The moment of His presence in the world is a special time of God's showing himself in a way never done before in salvation history. Through parables Jesus is slowing training us to perceive the deepest mysteries, which are too dazzling for us to see directly. Jesus speaks to the disciples on one level and the crowds at a different level. They have direct access to him in today's gospel even over the waters in the boat where he is sitting at a distance. He welcomes their question and proceeds to open up the ways of the Kingdom to them and us. Jesus came to enlighten and save all, yet not all at the same time or in the same way. Let us imitate the humility of the disciples as they grow in their understanding of these mysteries, and learn to ponder more the ways of God in our life.



*Loann Joe*

The Acolyte Candles will burn this week in Memory of **unborn children.**

The Wine & Host is offered this week in Memory of **the sick of the parish.**

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in Memory of **the people of the parish.**

### ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2014 AAA

Our Goal is \$28,000.00

How We Are Doing:

Total pledged to date- \$ 23, 910.00

Number of Donors- 108

Many thanks to the Parishioners who gave so generously to the AAA. Don't delay in giving anything that you can to the Archbishop's appeal.

Thank you for your generosity.

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

Last Sunday 753 people attended Mass.

Total Giving: \$ 7,510.00

1st Collection	\$ 5,310.00
Number of Envelopes 205	\$ 4,101.00
Cash Received	\$ 1,209.00

2nd Collection	\$ 2,200.00
Number of Envelopes 142	\$ 1,444.00
Cash received	\$ 756.00

### ARCHDIOCESAN PARISH ASSESSMENT

The Lord will bless you for your generosity!



**THE PRAYER CORNER**  
*“Like burning incense, Lord, let my prayer rise up to you.”*

As a community of faith, we offer the support of our prayers for one another. These brothers and sisters are in **acute** need of our prayers:

*Pat Paparella, Joseph Biamonte, Carlos Rivera, Rosemary Montagna Landers, Rosa Ramirez, Thomas Sanders, Justin Schaber, Stanley Sudol, Gianna Dilemme, Lenore Papale, Daniel Leach, Claire Palmieri, Joe DiGradina, Kathy Szedlacik, Linda Judge, Bryan Consulmagno, Lourdes Taveras, Geraldine Litter, Rich Hirsch, Franziska Maria Taba Karu, Hasan Mahmood, Frank Antonini, Lillian Danscuk, Beth Bodnar, Christine Taueras, Lorna Schweer, Maybelle Desiongco, Linda Berenger, Carolyn Novello, Dolores Pezzolla, Eden Azor, Mike Moran, Deborah Ravettini, Jonna Calvanico, Steve Danos, Don Stein, Nancy Schumann, Trish Spittler, Ingrid Bayard, and all who are sick and suffering around us.*

*(Please call the Parish Office @ 201-939-0457 if you would like to add a name to our prayer list.)*

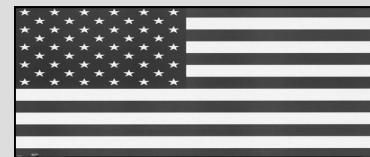
### FOR OUR COURAGEOUS SOLDIERS

*“O Lord, we pray for all the national and world leaders, for the safety and well being of all the military personnel defending our freedom”*

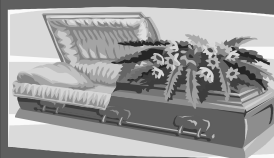
Michael Brockway (Afghanistan)

Lt. Patrick Stevens (Iraq 2<sup>nd</sup> tour)

Lance Corp. Kevin Murphy (Afghanistan)



### RESTING IN THE LORD



Come, you who are blessed by my Father, says the Lord, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.



## SOCIAL CONCERNS

*"In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."*

### FOOD PANTRY

Hope you are well and enjoying this lovely summer weather. Kindly switch out the current Food Pantry notice and replace it with the following. Thanks, as usual, for all your help.

We wish to acknowledge the continuous and generous contributions from the East Rutherford Library staff to the Food Pantry. The collection and delivery of these goods have made it easier to keep our shelves well stocked and the food itself has made a significant difference in the lives of the people we serve. Many, many thanks for your kindness.

Now that summer vacation is here, children are no longer receiving lunches in school. Anyone who feeds kids on a daily basis knows the enormous amount of food they can consume. Please help keep them fed this summer. Your donations are also enjoyed by seniors, veterans and others who are just down on their luck. If you feel so inclined, gift cards to Stop & Shop and/or Shop Rite (not to exceed \$25) are always appreciated. Just put them in an envelope clearly marked Food Pantry.

**Right now we need: PASTA, PASTA SAUCE, CANNED FRUITS, ICED TEA, LEMONADE MIX, SHAMPOO, BAR SOAP, TOOTHPASTE, TOILET TISSUE**

**We do NOT need: FOODS THAT HAVE PASSED THE EXPIRATION DATE**

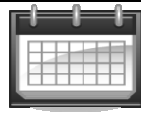
In addition, kindly do NOT leave used clothes. We do not have the space or facilities to distribute them effectively. Please bring them to Angels' Attic or some other organization that distributes clothing.

Again, deepest gratitude for your generosity. May His choicest blessings be yours!

## ST. FRANCIS INN

During the month of **JULY**  
we are collecting  
**POWDERED MILK.**

Your donations may be left at the Giving Tree.  
(For information please visit  
[www.stfrancisinn.org](http://www.stfrancisinn.org)[or] call Tony Pierantoni  
201-933-4850)



## CALENDAR SECTION

### BAPTISMS

*"In all truth I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born through water and the Spirit; what is born of human nature is human; what is born of the Spirit is Spirit."*

#### BAPTISM DATES AND MEETINGS SCHEDULE

##### July

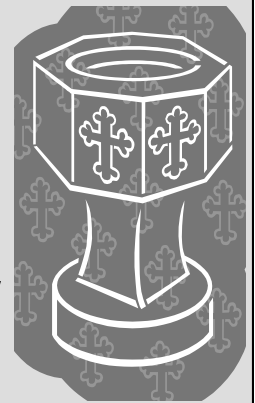
Baptism—July 27

Meetings—July 17 & July 24

##### August

No baptisms

Meetings are held in the Rectory  
at 7 PM on the dates listed.



### EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & LECTORS NEEDED

—*Rich Janusz*

After my wife died 17 years ago, I told Fr. Richard, the pastor, that I wanted to serve in the church. Well as it turned out I had one idea and standing true to form he had a different one. Since then I served as a lector. We had a good number of them and Eucharistic ministers. However, our numbers have dropped and we really need help here for both ministries, especially for lectors.

What is needed is the desire to please and serve God to help St Joseph's Church. Anyone with this desire can build the talent to read or publicly serve in the church with guidance from other ministers and by practicing. I've heard that some parishioners are afraid to serve because they don't speak publicly or are afraid of making mistakes. I think every new minister has had that same feeling. But those, who decide to do it, have trust in God to get past their fear. Mistakes are a part of life whether at home, work, school or church. As far as I'm concerned, God doesn't care about those only about the desire to serve. For example we have good lectors who haven't done public speaking or Eucharistic ministers who never carried the chalice before. Yet they are no different than other parishioners and no one dwells on mistakes. We need help in these ministries and are asking for volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Joe at the parish office 201-939-0457 or at [jastarita@gmail.com](mailto:jastarita@gmail.com)



### CHURCH CHUCKLES

Hannah always behaves beautifully at Sunday school; however, she gets a bit fidgety when her parents linger in the Fellowship Hall too long. “Mommy, why do we have to sit here so long?” she asked one week. “Daddy has to drink enough coffee to wake up for the drive home, dear.”



### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

**Psalm** — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).  
**Second Reading** — We, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

**Gospel** — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34 — 11:1
- Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24
- Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27
- Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab, 15-21; Mt 11:28-30
- Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8
- Saturday: Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21
- Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 [24-30]

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha
- Tuesday: St. Bonaventure
- Wednesday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- Friday: St. Camillus de Lellis

### NEW MUSIC BOOKS

We have ordered new hymnals, hard-covered, and including the Sunday readings for the three year cycle. They will be here soon!

The *Breaking Bread* song book will remain for some of our favorite songs. A family or person can have a book dedicated in their name for a \$20 donation.

#### Book Dedication:

\_\_\_\_\_ submit to parish office

Please help us to keep the pews in order and to care for the new GIA music books. In most pews there is one hardbound music book per box, so place it horizontally in the box and it is easier to get in and out. When there are two hardbound books place them vertically. The old *Breaking Bread* song books with the blue plastic covers should be placed in the corners of the pew; often there are four corners depending on the pew. If you see the white music handouts please throw them out, and any other papers, especially at the end of each mass. Thank You!

### EXPRESS YOUR FAITH

By Making a Planned Gift of Kindness Today As the summer begins, consider giving a gift that will help the Church you love. There are many options through lifetime giving arrangements that may benefit you, your family and the Church. Lifetime giving complements your estate planning and often improves your current financial and tax situation. for more information, about making a gift to St. Joseph’s Parish, please call the parish office. Thank you.

### AUDITORIUM & CAFETERIA AVAILABLE

For family or group activities the school auditorium and cafeteria together or separate are available for renting. Please call the parish office for information. Thank you.



St. Joseph Parish asks you to consider utilizing the many benefits of Electronic Giving through ParishPay.

EGiving provides you the opportunity to make prayerful, consistent gifts to our parish without using checks. Much in the same way you may use the Internet to pay your mortgage, car and other bill payments, you can now use the same technology to help you fulfill your stewardship intention to our church using electronic checks or credit cards. Parish Pay is completely safe and simple to use. We are pleased to be able to offer our parish family a greener, more convenient way to give. For more information, please visit [www.ParishPay.com](http://www.ParishPay.com) or pick up a commitment card after Mass. To learn more, please visit: [ParishPay.com](http://ParishPay.com)

#### **Three Ways to Enroll:**

Online » [ParishPay.com](http://ParishPay.com) | By Phone »

1-866-PARISH1 (727-4741) or by calling the parish office to pick up a parishioner commitment card.

***Parishpay.com now allows you to make your contributions on line. You can do so on a one-time, weekly, monthly or annual basis. Simply go to [parishpay.com](http://parishpay.com) and search for St. Joe's by zip code (07073), by city (East Rutherford) or by parish (St. Joseph). Select 'start giving'. You will then be prompted to enter the amount of your gift. Follow the prompts and you can then set up a personal account so that you can login for future contributions. By setting up a personal account parish pay will retain your payment information and the frequency with which you want to make donations. It's similar to paying any of your utility bills on-line. It's an easy way to give without completing weekly envelopes, writing out checks. God never takes anything away from us and gives us back a hundred fold.***

## **SUMMER CHOIR**

Anyone who would like to get to be part of the choir during the summer break! Just walk on over to the music area in church at the 10am mass and we'll sit you down with some of our regular members who continue to come when they can around their vacation plans. You can just sing along with the melody or follow harmony parts provided. We have music ready just like we would during the year, and welcome children too (second grade or older). So if you have been considering joining the music ministry, or can't make that commitment during our regular year, now is the perfect opportunity to serve your parish.

## **GIVING OF ONESELF**

Scientists have recently begun to discuss the idea that the primary force behind all life in the universe is self-gift. This is how everything from galaxies to human babies are born and sustained.

If we read the opening of today's passage from Isaiah correctly, we see that he anticipated twentieth-century scientists by over twenty five hundred years. Using the self-giving example of the rain and snow clouds that water the earth that then yields fruit, which in turn is given over to nourish creatures, Isaiah leads us to understand that the primary force behind all life is the word of God. The ultimate giving of that word, we believe, was Jesus Christ, who, in the greatest revelation of divine love, gave of himself on the cross.

To what degree are we in touch with that self-giving God in whose image we are made? To what extent do we really follow the self-giving example of Christ into whose death and resurrection we were baptized, whose ultimate self-gift we celebrate every week in the Eucharist? With God's help, our lives can be like Isaiah's rain and snow, and we will not return to heaven until we have done our part to make the earth fruitful.

## Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors Needed

We need extra Eucharistic Ministers for the 10 and 12 Masses, and lectors at the 8 AM Mass. Please consider serving our parish in this way. Many of you would be fantastic lectors and ministers!

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

With the Reformation, some early Protestants, including the "Anabaptists," rejected infant baptism in favor of "believer's baptism." Against Orthodox and Catholic practice, which favored baptism as soon as possible for a newborn, these movements desired that the candidate for baptism speak for him- or herself at a mature age, not through godparents as an infant. Today, it is clear that they were rejecting a very ancient practice (even as early as the second century) of baptizing children of all ages. Children came first in ancient baptismal ceremonies, and someone would speak for them. Gregory of Nazianzen wanted to delay the baptism of children to three years of age, since at that age they could retain at least some impression of the liturgy. He made an exception for the very ill, who were to be baptized ahead of the annual Easter baptism. That means that infants and children were normally baptized together with adults, and that everyone received confirmation and the Eucharist.

The tone of the early bishops' writings is generous and compassionate, and seeks to build up the eucharistic assembly by widely celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit. If a priest celebrated baptism, then the gift of the Spirit was postponed for the bishop, but with no regard for the person's age. So, until the fifth century, confirmation was for infants, too.

## MARRIAGE BANNS



**JOSEPH MANFREDONIA &  
LINETTE FARINA**  
On July 19, 2014 @ 3 pm

**VINCENT ST. THOMAS & HAZEL KATHEERINE**  
On July 30 @ 1 pm

## Mission Appeal

On the weekend of **July 19- 20, 2014**, Dominican Sisters are visiting **St. Joseph Parish** to ask for spiritual and financial support for the poor in Vietnam. The Sisters provide for many needs of the poor, including education, housing, food, safe drinking water, basic medical care for leper, and more. They also teach the Faith to catechumens as well as prepare catechists to assist in spreading the Good News. The Sisters are assigned by the Mission Cooperation Plan of our diocese; therefore, please support them and their missionary work. Thank you and may God bless you for your generosity.



**Evangelize**

**Instruct the children**



**I am hungry. Please help!**



**Provide Safe  
drinking water**



**Visit the sick/lepers**



**Feed the hungry**

# St. Joseph's Rosary Altar Society 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Dinner-Dance

(including cocktail hour and open bar)

Date: **October 24, 2014**

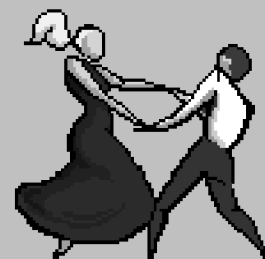
**7:00 pm - Midnight**

Place: **The Fiesta,**

**Rt. 17 South**

**Wood-Ridge, NJ**

**Donation: \$65**



Special Guest

**6:00 pm Mass with Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda,  
Coadjutor Archbishop of Newark**

**Contact: for all the information about this exciting night!**

*Dolores McGuire 201-939-5163,*

*(or) Jean Kimak 201-438-6708*

A souvenir journal of supporters and contributors will be issued for the dinner.

Anyone interested in buying and ad, please use the following check list:

**Full page Ad: \$80**

**Quarter Page Ad: \$ 20**

**Memorial \$ 10**

**Half Page Ad: \$ 40**

**Patron: \$10**

*Checks are payable to St. Joseph's Altar Society, 120 Hoboken Road, East Rutherford, NJ 07073.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**



## **ASSISTED SUICIDE: EXCERPTS FROM USCCB**

### **WHAT IS AT STAKE**

Q. Why shouldn't assisted suicide be legalized?

A. To sanction the taking of innocent human life is to con-tradict a primary purpose of law in an ordered society. A law or court decision allowing assisted suicide would de-mean the lives of vulnerable patients, exposing them to exploitation by those who feel they are better off dead. Such a policy would corrupt the medical profession, whose ethical code calls on physicians to serve life and never to kill. The voiceless/ marginalized in our society the poor, the elderly, those lacking health insurance and those with disabilities — would be the first to feel pressure to die.

Q What does the Catholic Church teach? What about competent, terminally ill people who say they really want assisted suicide?

A. Our moral tradition holds that human life is the most basic gift from a loving God — a gift over which we have stewardship, not absolute dominion. As respon-sible stewards of life, we must never directly intend to cause our own death or that of anyone else. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are always gravely wrong.

Suicidal wishes among the terminally ill are no less due to treatable depression than the same wishes among the able-bodied. When their pain, depression and other problems are addressed, there is generally no more talk of suicide. If we respond to a death wish in one group of people with counseling and suicide prevention, and respond to the same wish in another group by offering them lethal drugs, we have made our own tragic choice as a society that some people's lives are objectively not worth protecting.

Q. What about related issues, such as withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment?

A Careful stewardship of life does not demand that we always use every possible means to prolong life. Treat-ment can be refused by a terminally ill patient when its burdens outweigh its benefits for that patient. In such cases, the basic care owed to every human being should still be provided. We may reject particular treatments because the treatments are too burdensome; we must never destroy a human life on the ground that it is a burden.

Q. Why are people with disabilities worried about assisted suicide?

A. Many people with disabilities have long experience of preju-dicial attitudes on the part of able-bodied people, including physicians, who assume they would “rather be dead than disabled.” Such prejudices could easily lead families, physicians and so-ciety to encourage death for people who are depressed and emotionally vulnerable as they adjust to life with a serious illness or disability.

Q. What is the view of the medical profession?

A. The American Medical Association holds that “phy-sician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompat-ible with the physician's role as healer.” The AMA, along with the American Nurses 2 Association, American Psy-chiatric Association and dozens of other medical groups, urged the Supreme Court in 1997 to uphold laws against assisted sui-cide, arguing that the power to assist in taking patients' lives is “a power that most health care professionals do not want and could not control.”

Q. What does the Catholic Church teach?

A. Our moral tradition holds that human life is the most basic gift from a loving God — a gift over which we have stewardship, not absolute dominion. As respon-sible stewards of life, we must never directly intend to cause our own death or that of anyone else. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are always gravely wrong.

Q. How does cost enter into this issue?

A. In an era of cost control and managed care, patients with lingering illnesses may be branded an economic liability, and decisions to encourage death can be driven by cost. As Acting U.S. Solicitor General Walter Dellinger warned in urging the Supreme Court to uphold laws against assisted suicide, “The least costly treatment for any illness is lethal medication.”

Q. How is the practice of giving dying patients pain medication different from assisted suicide?

A. The intent of modern pain management is to control patients' pain, not to kill the patient. Rarely is there any risk that pain medication will shorten a patient's life by suppressing respira-tion, even as a side-effect, because patients regularly receiving morphine for pain control quickly develop a resistance to this effect. With modern pain control methods, physical suffering can be brought under control for all dying patients, almost always without resorting to terminal sedation. As Pope John Paul II has said, pain management and other supportive care is “the way of love and true mercy” that we should offer to all dying patients, instead of offering to assist their suicides.

## PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE WHAT IS AT STAKE?

In October 2012, NJ Assemblymen John Burzichelli and Timothy Eustace introduced the so-called “Death with Dignity” Act. Modeled after similar state laws in Oregon and Washington, this legislation would allow mentally competent, terminally-ill adult state residents to supposedly ‘voluntarily’ request and receive a prescription medication to cause their death.

New Jersey  
“Death with Dignity” Act  
A2270/S382

Would give a patient diagnosed with a terminal illness and given a prognosis of less than six months to live, the ability to request a lethal prescription to end his/her life. If passed physician-assisted suicide would become legal under New Jersey law.

### **Laws like these are Dangerous!**

#### **Suicide is always a tragedy**

A 6-month prognosis for a terminal illness can be wildly inaccurate.

There is no requirement for a patient to consult a psychiatrist before receiving the prescription to commit suicide and many terminally ill patients are clinically depressed.

There is no requirement for the patient to consult a palliative care or hospice expert.

No physician is required to be present when the patient takes the lethal prescription.

There is no requirement to notify family members.

We should be supporting improved hospice and palliative care state-wide, not legal suicide.

**KEY TERMS :** **Assisted suicide** is the act of suicide with the help of another party. **Physician-assisted suicide** specifically involves the help of a physician in performing the act of suicide. Such assistance usually entails the prescribing or dispensing of controlled substances in lethal quantities that hasten death.

***For more information visit: [www.usccb.org/toliveeachday](http://www.usccb.org/toliveeachday) or call your local  
Diocesan Respect Life Office***