

Church of the Sacred Heart

Church: 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Parish Center & Mailing Address: 200 Randolph Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 30, 2026



Window over church front door: St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and Jesus

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00PM, Sunday 9:00AM and 11:30AM

Daily: Monday 7:00PM, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 9:00AM

Holy Days 9:00AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00PM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:00 to 4:45PM

Monday 6:00 to 6:45PM when we have Adoration. Confessions are also available by appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 6:00 to 7:00PM

PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday 8:00AM to 6:30PM

Tuesday to Thursday 8:00AM to 4:00PM

Friday 8:00AM to 12:00PM **Starting Sept. 11**

908-756-0633

churchofthesacredheart.net

Welcome

We are a diverse community striving to foster spiritual growth and Catholic identity through liturgy, sacraments, service, education and our shared faith in God. We are committed to being an instrument of love, healing and hope by ministering to the needs of our parishioners and the larger community, while celebrating the Christ present in each of us.

**The proof of love is in the works.
Where love exists, it works great things.
But when it ceases to act,
it ceases to exist.**

Saint Gregory the Great

Connect with us on our parish website churchofthesacredheart.net, Facebook, Instagram. Watch our livestreams on our Parish YouTube channel.

Parish Staff

908-756-0633

Pastor:

Rev. Edmund Luciano III, KCHS, KOGCO

In Residence:

Rev. David Keyes

Deacons:

D. Gregory Caruso

D. Ketan Christian

Director of Sacred Music:

Daniel Mahoney x139

Director of Religious Education:

Louise Timko, PhD x143

Office Administrator:

Anna Stillo x110

Facilities Manager:

J. Michael Mazzaresse x140

Facilities Maintenance:

Brian Sporman

Information Technology:

Marvel Abaquita x146

Staff Assistant:

Sr. Nadine Boyle, RSM x118

Sacristans:

Cathy Reilly

Nancy Van Allen

Holy Redeemer Cemetery:

Lynda Yelenovsky x111

908- 822-5892

Altar Server Schedule

September 5—6

5:00PM D. Jastrzeleshi, Y. Ericson

9:00AM V. Lacandalo, D. & S. Hettiarachchi

11:30AM C. & E. Ciccarella, M. Pahopin

Baptism

The sacrament is celebrated on the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30AM Mass except during the Season of Lent. Contact: Sr. Nadine Boyle, RSM, ext. 118

Anointing of the Sick

In the event of serious illness, major surgery, hospitalization, or near death (young or old) arrange for the celebration of this sacrament.

Communion Visits

If you or someone you know is homebound and unable to attend Mass due to age or illness, we can make arrangements for Communion visits on a weekly basis.

Matrimony

Planning a church wedding? Please contact us so we can help you prepare and lay the groundwork for a successful, lifelong commitment. Couples should begin the process one year in advance of the planned date of marriage.

If you were married in a civil ceremony only and would now like your marriage to be valid in the eyes of the Church, please contact us.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you'd like to learn more about becoming Catholic or receiving the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and/or Eucharist as an adult, please contact: Louise Timko, ext. 143.

Becoming a Parishioner

It's easy! Contact our office or download the form on the parish website and return it to the Parish Center.

Sponsor Letters

Sponsor certificates and letters are not automatically provided. There are criteria for these documents, including registration in the parish for at least three months, among other qualifications.

Funerals

The passing of a loved one is a difficult time. We can help you to plan a solemn and reverent liturgical celebration of the Catholic Christian community for the deceased.

Holy Redeemer Cemetery

1734 Clinton Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

908-822-5892 holyredeemercemetery.net

Graves, mausoleum crypts, and cremation niches

Hours: 8:00AM – 7:00PM (April 15 – Sept 15)

8:00AM – 4:30PM (Sept 16 – April 14)

Masses

Saturday, August 29, **The Passion of Saint John the Baptist**

5:00 PM Mark Paskowitz, r. by Mom, Dad & Family

Sunday, August 30, **Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 AM Fay & Jerry Izzo, r. by Daughter & Family

11:30 AM James Ulaky, r. by Ciccarella Family

Monday, August 31, **Weekday**

6:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary 6:45PM Benediction

7:00 PM For the Intention of Esperanza & London Macalintal, r. by Family In Thanksgiving of Birthdays; Laurie Butrico, r. by Maryann & Kim Kane; Geraldine Dalfonzo, r. by Roy & Barbara Kaplan; Lawrence Mesopotanese, r. by Lou & Mikki Antoniazzi

Tuesday, September 1, **Weekday**

9:00 AM Dina Adamcik, r. by Aunt Carole & Uncle Bob

Wednesday, September 2, **Weekday**

9:00 AM Chester Czaplinski, r. by Loving Sister

Thursday, September 3, **Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church**

9:00AM Parishioners of the Parish

Friday, September 4, **Weekday**

9:00 AM Josephine Egidio, r. by Lou & Jenn Ronzo

Saturday, September 5, **Weekday**

9:00 AM Remembrance Guild

5:00PM Vito Ratti, r. by Patti & Dave Ratti



Virgin Mary Candle burns in memory of Maryann Ronzo, r. by Sandy Romasz & Val Genova

Sacred Heart Candle burns in memory of Walter Niemczyk, r. by Rosemarie

Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of Laurie Butrico, r. by Bob & Carole Holzheimer

Bread and Wine in memory of Marie Donofrio, r. by Bob & Carole Holzheimer

We Pray for:

For those who are sick, or in nursing homes and hospitals

Michael Lauten, Barb Napoleon, Barbara Number, Theresa Billian, Kenneth Faulkner-Alexander, Rain Patton, Ivonne Montecalvo, Lisa Saverd, Alfonsina Brizuela, John Dmytruk, Thomas Zullinger, Larry Makoski, Dorothy Mercier, Felix Anziano, Consuelo Sosa

For those who have died

Dorothy McCulley, Mary Theresa Kohl, Silas Hanrahan, Dorothy R. McCulley, Donna Pisaniello, Darren Copeland, Enma Andrade, George R. Decker and all the Faithful Departed of Sacred Heart Parish & their families who mourn their loss

Those in the Military

LCPL Francis Flannery/US Marines/California; Spc. Daniel Rybeck/US Army

NJ BISHOPS' MASS FOR LIFE

Thursday, October 8, 2026 | 9:30 a.m.
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

151 N. Warren Street, Trenton



PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT
Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin,
C.Ss.R., D.D.,
Archdiocese of Newark



CO-MINISTRANT
Bishop Pedro Bismarck
Chau, D.D.,
Archdiocese of Newark



New Jersey MARCH for LIFE

*The NJ Rally & March for Life will begin at 11AM at the Statehouse Annex, a short walk from the Cathedral.

DIOCESAN BUS TRIP TO TRENTON, DEPARTING FROM PISCATAWAY

Travel as a group to the Mass & March!
Bus registration is \$20 per passenger.
Reserve your spot now! Seating is limited.
Full itinerary available on registration page.

Scan the QR to register for the Bus Trip, or visit:
Escanea el código para registrarte en el viaje en autobús, o visita:
www.diometuchen.org/events/nj-bishops-mass-for-life



Parish Center Hours

Due to staff vacation, the Parish Center will operate on limited hours from **Monday, August 31, through Thursday, September 3**. If you plan to visit the office during this time, we encourage you to call ahead to ensure that someone is available to assist you. When calling, please leave your name, phone number, and a brief message on our voicemail. We will return your call as soon as possible. If there is an emergency requiring an Anointing of the Sick, call the Parish Center: 908-756-0633 ext. 124

The office will be **closed** on **Friday, September 4**, and on **Monday, September 7**: in observance of Labor Day.

Collection Totals

Week Ending Aug 23, 2026:

Envelopes: \$ 8529.21

Online giving: \$ 3,871.52

Totals: \$ 12,400.73

Collection for Assumption of Mary: \$308.05
Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

life choices
RESOURCE CENTER
503 Main Street,
Metuchen, NJ 08840

PEER CONSULTANT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Do you have a compassionate heart, a gift for listening, and a belief that every life has value? Life Choices Resource Center in Metuchen is seeking volunteer **Peer Consultants** to support women and families facing unexpected pregnancies. We welcome clients from all backgrounds and provide our services completely free of charge.

If you feel called to this ministry, we invite you to attend our upcoming Information Session.

Saturday, October 3, 2026, at 10:00 AM. Life Choices Resource Center, 503 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ
All are welcome; Spanish-speaking volunteers are especially needed. To register, please contact Carolyn: 732-516-0911 or email: lifecoices@optonline.net

Come learn how your compassion can help support mothers, strengthen families, and protect precious lives.

Prayer:

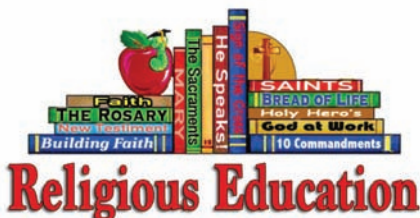
O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.



Rosary Altar Society

The Rosary Altar Society is the women's organization of the parish. In addition to taking care of altar linens and praying the Rosary on Monday evenings, this group also sponsors parish events, such as the annual Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea concert. Meetings are held on the first Monday following the first Sunday of the month. All women of the parish are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact: Lisa Cotone Smith 908-432-4802





Registration
for Religious
Education 2026-
2027 has begun!

Religious Education

Children entering Grade 1 this September as well as all children in Grades 2 through 8 should register. Our program is highly flexible and includes worship, accurate presentation of Church teaching, and community and family experiences. See the parish website for details. **Registration ends August 31.**

2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal ONE IN CHRIST:

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2026 Bishop's Annual appeal. While we've reached our goal, donations are still being accepted. Half of everything donated now comes back to our parish! Also, gifts donated now help other parishes who don't have the means to meet their own goals.

Parish Goal: \$113,000
Amount Received: \$130,682.07
Amount Pledged: \$135,564.57
Average Gift: 430.36
% of Goal Received: 116.43
% of Goal Pledged: 119.97



Save the Date

Car Display at this year's Oktoberfest!

We are planning a Car Display and invite parish members and other car enthusiasts to participate by showcasing their vehicles.

Please note this is not a formal car show, but rather an opportunity to display and enjoy a variety of vehicles. We welcome both antique and modern cars. The car display will run from **1PM to 4PM**.

If you would like more information or want to register your vehicle, please contact:

Dan Mahoney Phone: 908-756-0633 ext 139.

Email: dan410@aol.com

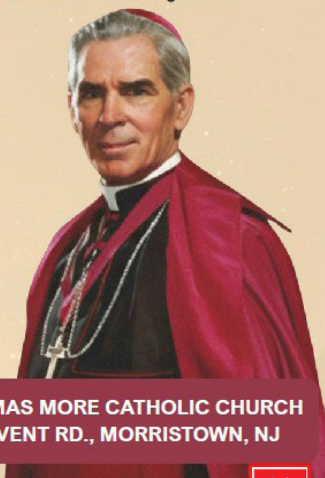
The Life and Beatification of ARCHBISHOP FULTON SHEEN

In anticipation of the Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen on September 24, 2026, the Order of Malta invites you to a special presentation exploring the life, ministry, and path to beatification of one of America's most beloved Catholic evangelists.



Matthew Bunson is
vice president and
editorial director of
EWTN News.

For the past 20 years, he has been active in Catholic social communications and education, teaching on a variety of topics related to Church history, the papacy, the saints, and Catholic culture. Dr. Bunson is a senior fellow of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology and has authored or co-authored over 50 books.



WEDNESDAY, 7:00 PM ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 16 4 CONVENT RD., MORRISTOWN, NJ

There will be a free will offering to cover Dr. Bunson's honorarium and some travel expenses. If you have questions or wish to donate, contact Christine Myers at cmgorski@gmail.com



Gujarati Catholic Samaj of USA Spiritual Retreat

The GCS of the USA, an organization representing Catholics with roots in Gujarat, India, is hosting a two-day Spiritual Retreat at the Holy Savior Academy Cafeteria. The retreat, "**Peace and Renewal in Christ Await You**" will be led by **Fr. Paresh Parmar**, a renowned Charismatic Prayer Leader from the Diocese of Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India. The event offers an opportunity for spiritual growth, renewal, and a deeper encounter with Christ.

For information TEXT: Deacon Ketan Christian
at 732-331-5192 or email: ketusa@yahoo.com

Social Concerns Ministry

On behalf of the Sacred Heart Social Concerns Ministry, we thank all those whose generosity has enabled us to serve the less fortunate of our community. If you know of families in need, please have them call 908-756-0633 x112

Monday, Wednesday: 9:00AM and 11:00AM.

Reopens Friday 9:00AM to 11:00AM Starting Sept. 11

Our primary source of funding is from the Poor Boxes at the doors of the church. Also, bins at the doors are provided for donations of non-perishable food items.

Currently we are in need of:

Instant Mashed Potatoes,

Canned Potatoes

Jello & Pudding

socialconcerns@churchofthesacredheart.net



Altar Server Ministry Summer Training One Session Left

The final training session offered for both new and current servers is on **Sunday, August 30, 2026 | 10:15–11:00 AM**

For more information or to sign up, please contact:

Dan Mahoney 908-756-0633 ext. 139

Choir Rehearsals

The **Adult Choir** rehearsals resume on **Sunday, Sept. 13 at 10:15 AM**. The **Intergenerational Handbell Choir** will resume rehearsals on **Monday, Sept. 14 at 8 PM** in church.

New members are always welcome. Please see upcoming bulletins for further information.

This Is Our Faith

Gregory the Great

What was so great about Gregory, whose feast we celebrate on September 3? Some historians have concluded that without him, there wouldn't have been a medieval Europe that flowered in art, culture, law, and religion the way it did. He lived from 540 to 604 AD. Initially a civil servant in Roman government, he was an excellent administrator and reformer. He became a Benedictine monk and founded six monasteries. Ordained a priest, he was immediately put into the highest levels of the Church's administration, due both to his abilities and his connections. He was elected pope at the age of 50.

This sounds like a great career for a churchman to have, but it is all the more impressive because Gregory lived in troubled times. The Roman empire was falling apart, wracked by war, famine and plague, which decimated the population in sections of Italy. Eventually the Roman Senate no longer operated, and the Church took on many of its responsibilities because there was no other functioning administrative institution in the Empire.

Gregory had the ability to take decisive action in matters both big and small. He removed incompetent priests from churches, cut back on what priests could charge for services, and in general fought corruption. He reformed the liturgy, standardizing practices in it (for example, extending the use of Alleluia beyond the Easter season, determining that only priests should wear chasubles, etc.). Gregory also successfully countered efforts by the emperor in Constantinople to control both the city of Rome and the Church in the West.

When Rome twice faced threats from the Lombards, a Germanic tribe, Gregory used a mixture of diplomacy, the military and the paying of tributes to the Lombards, to save the city. He also emptied the papal treasury to ransom hostages, support refugees, repair aqueducts, and maintain a supply of grain.

Gregory felt that God had placed the tribes of Europe under the responsibility of the Church and took some pains to spread the faith among those peoples. For example, he sent forty monks from his own monasteries to evangelize England. Often credited with the creation of "Gregorian" chant, he actually did not create this style of chant, which arose from several earlier sources of chant (possibly, even Jewish liturgical chant). He did, however, help collect, organize, and set the rules for this style of music in worship.

Gregory left a number of theological writings on Scripture and on morality. He wrote on themes that still concern us today: the mystery of suffering, the weakness of our wills, and, particularly of personal interest to him (since he was so drawn to monastic life), the strain between being a contemplative and the challenge of meeting public obligations. His writings also emphasize the importance of the sacraments, especially the Mass. For him, the Mass was supernaturally efficacious, and – something that has been lost in our own day – it includes the necessity of offering one's own life as part of the gifts offered in its sacrifice.

While Gregory certainly lived in times very different from our own, his contributions demonstrate why this saint is still to be considered great.

—Louise Timko, PhD, Director of Faith Formation



**FAMILY OF FUNERAL HOMES
INDEPENDENT & LOCAL**

www.mccriskinfuneralhome.com



Scan using the camera on your phone to visit our website

"Independent Family Owned & Operated Funeral Homes"

McCriskin-Gustafson
HOME FOR FUNERALS

2425 Plainfield Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-561-8000

James A. Gustafson
President/Manager
NJ License #4205

Piscataway
FUNERAL HOME

18 Stelton Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854
732-968-2828

Kerri-Anne Krapf
Director
NJ License #5045

Middlesex
FUNERAL HOME

528 Bound Brook
Middlesex, NJ 08846
732-968-3377

Jack Cochran
Director
NJ License #5376

South Plainfield
JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME
FUNERAL HOME

2456 Plainfield Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-756-2800

Francisco J. Rodriguez
Director
NJ License #4662

**Pre-Arrangements • SSI/Medicaid Protection • Cremation Services
Customized Cultural Services • Financial Assistance Available**



Act now to help end hunger.

In the United States, one in nine people face hunger.

feedingamerica.org

FEEDING AMERICA

24/7 Helpline
800.272.3900

alzheimer's association

**NEED A LAWYER?
INJURED?**

Call For A Free Legal Consultation

MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.

973-326-8902

- Personal Injury
- Workers' Compensation
- Social Security Disability

lawmarchbrenner.com • marc@lawmarchbrenner.com

222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ 07927

**ONLY YOU
CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES**

PLEASE
SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS
THEY SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself

**Honoring
ALL WHO
served**

**THANK YOU
VETERANS**

Weichert
All Under One Roof.
TEAM VILLANE

DON VILLANE
Sales Associate
New Construction Specialist
908-347-1181 (cell)
don@dvillane.com
don-villane.weichert.com

MARIA DICARLO
Sales Associate
908-327-2623 (cell)
mdicarlo@weichert.com
maria-dicarlo.weichert.com

185 Elm Street | Westfield, NJ 07090
908-654-7777 (office)

**CHIMNEY &
ROOFING**

MASONRY • GUTTERS • DECK REPAIR

**We Find &
Fix Leaks!**

\$1500 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement

20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

**ROYAL PRO
CONSTRUCTION**

Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200
Bonded & Insured • 20+ Years

732-589-9967

Serving All of New Jersey

Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself

Patronize your
local businesses

**LUIGI'S
MASONRY**

ALL TYPES OF MASONRY

908-801-4631
CALL FOR FREE
ESTIMATE

www.LUIGIMASONRY.com

ASPCA
ASPCA.ORG
WE ARE THEIR VOICE.

Help the ASPCA
put a stop to
animal cruelty.

www.aspca.org

★★★ **ALL AMERICAN** ★★★
LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS
 NOW HIRING
DRIVERS/LABORERS
Se busca personal para trabajar en jardinería, grama y choferes.
 Keith Waller
908-413-5843
 CRANFORD PLAINFIELD

*From Concept to Creation,
 Your Complete Landscape Designer*
A. Tech
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
 BRICK PAVERS • SIDEWALKS
 PATIOS • DRIVEWAYS
908-413-1962
 www.A-TECHLANDSCAPE.com
 Vinny Butrico, Parishioner
 Fully Insured South Plainfield

**TWIN CITY PHARMACY
 & SURGICAL**
908-755-7696
 1708 Park Avenue | South Plainfield
 RAMPS • OXYGEN • OSTOMY SUPPLIES
 HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT • FREE DELIVERY
 Owners: Bill Ashmault, RPh., Sandy Cassio, Tom Cassio

**NISCHWITZ
 & CO.**
 Fuel Oil • Garden Supplies
 • Feeds • Kerosene, Water
 Softener Salt • Pet Supplies
 223 Front Street • South Plainfield
908-756-0947 • F 908-756-1041

CAB
CANCELA INSURANCE BROKERAGE, LLC.
 Anthony Cancela, Jr. RHU, President
908-756-5126 • Fax: 908-756-5169
 anthony@cibinsurance.com
 142 OAK TREE AVE., STE. 1-C • SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

star22home
 www.star22home.com
 KITCHENS • BATHROOMS
 22 Plainfield Ave., Piscataway, NJ
**Angi Award Winner
 2015-2022**
 Showroom &
 Design Center
 by appt.
5 DAY BATH
 www.my5DB.com
 o: 732-369-6387
 m: 732-343-5450
\$10,000 COMPLETE BATHROOM REMODEL. LABOR/MATERIALS

PLEASE
 SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS
 THEY SUPPORT
 OUR PARISH

RoadSafe DOT
 DOT | CDL
 Medical Examinations
(908) 505-2202
 www.roadsafedot.com

**PLUMBING
 Professional**
 Plumbing & Heating
 "No Job Too Small!"
 License #8741 • South Plainfield
908-561-1941

JNS
GLASS REPAIR
 JNSGLASSREPAIR@GMAIL.COM
732-494-5010
 180 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ 08840

Jo Ann's Dance Studio
 Walk in... Dance Out
 4475 S. Clinton Avenue • South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908.561.5094
 joannsdancestudio@gmail.com
 ~ 48 Years In South Plainfield ~
www.joannsdancestudioj.com

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING
 A Simple Way To Support
 Your Parish & Promote
 Your Business!
 SCAN QR TO E-MAIL ME TODAY!
Byron Polanco 908-872-8669

PENYAK
ROOFING CO.
 www.penyakroofing.com • 908-753-4222
 Since 1960
 Fully Insured
 Free Estimate

R&C Auto Body
 Family Owned & Operated Since 1962
 FREE Estimates - Lifetime Warranty On All Repairs
908-757-1933
 3330 Park Avenue • South Plainfield
www.randcautobody.com

Where
 flowers
 bloom,
 so does
 hope.

 BOV VENTURE

GIVE A HOOT!
 DON'T POLLUTE

 Thanks for giving a hoot! Woody

Every
 Veteran
 has earned
 help and
 support.
 Don't wait. Reach out.
 VA.GOV/REACH
 ad COUNCIL VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

STILO DISPOSAL
 Commercial • Residential

 10-20-30
 Yard Boxes
 Need junk removal?
908-754-0776
 www.stilodisposal.com

Trust the #1 South Plainfield Realtor
Experience Matters
 Exceptional customer service responsiveness to clients' needs & concerns
 Longtime resident with extensive local real estate knowledge
 Maximize your profits with our expert guidance & negotiation skills
Call the Lacerda Team today! 908-578-1166
 Andrea Lacerda
 • NJR Circle of Excellence Platinum 2023
 • Berkshire Hathaway Chairmans Platinum 2023
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES **FOX & ROACH, REALTORS®**
 659 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, NJ 07069
 A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC
 Andrea@LacerdaTeam.com
Jesse Lacerda • Andrea Lacerda • Joseph Lacerda • Michele Leavy

READY.GOV
 Don't be afraid... Be Ready
Greenbrook Memorials
 Four Generations of Memorial Expertise • Greg Pinho, Prop.
 Monuments & Markers • Bronze Plaques
 Cemetery Lettering & Memorial Cleaning
 Open Daily 9am-6pm; Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. By Appt.
 103 Bound Brook Road (Rte 28) • Middlesex
732-968-2543 • GreenbrookMemorials.com