

Infant Jesus Parish



St. John Vianney Church
2901 Good Intent Road
Deptford, NJ 08096

Reverend Joseph T. Szolack, Pastor
Reverend James H. King, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Felipe L. Doldan, Part-Time Associate
Mr. Robert M. Kenney, Permanent Deacon
Mr. Nicholas A. Danze, Permanent Deacon

Web Site: www.TheInfantJesusParish.org

E-Mail: TheInfantJesusParish@comcast.net

FAX: 856-384-8123



St. Margaret Church
845 Third Street
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097

MAILING ADDRESS: 334 BEECH AVENUE, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ 08097-1317

RECTORY
334 Beech Ave.
848-0047

Hours: 9-12, 1-4, *6:30-8:30 PM

Monday-Friday

*No evening hours Friday

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Classes held: 773 Third Street
Mail sent: 334 Beech Ave.
845-5251

Office Hours: Mon & Thurs 9 AM- 8 PM

E-mail: reledakaccd@comcast.net

ST. MARGARET SCHOOL
773 Third Street
845-5200

Office Hours: 8 AM -2:30 PM

CONVENT
745 Third Street
848-6049

Please no calls between 4-7 PM

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Mass Schedule

4:00 PM at St. Margaret Church
6:00 PM at St. John Vianney Church

Sunday Mass Schedule

8:30 AM at St. Margaret Church
10:00 AM at St. Margaret Church
11:30 AM at St. John Vianney Church
4:00 PM at St. Margaret Church

Holy Day Vigil: 7:00 PM at St. John Vianney Church
Holy Days: 8:30 AM, 12:00 Noon and 7:00 PM at St. Margaret Church

Week Days :
6:45 AM in the Convent (school days only)
8:30 AM in Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturdays: 9:00-9:30AM; 2:30-3:30 PM at St. Margaret Church
5:15-5:45 PM at St. John Vianney Church

**MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST
JUNE 22, 2014
ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, June 21

4:00 PM People of the Parish

6:00 PM Theresa M. Deak req. by her husband, Joe Deak

Sunday, June 22

8:30 AM Rosemarie Jensen req. by Minnie DiTomaso

10:00 AM Edward F. Holmberg req. by his wife, Elizabeth

11:30 AM Bob Tomlinson req. by his family

4:00 PM Robert Kuhn req. by Jack & Lauren Brady

Monday, June 23

8:30 AM Daniel Avington req. by Charles & Cathy Wacker

Tuesday, June 24

8:30 AM Charles Teresa req. by Vicki McWilliams

Wednesday, June 25

8:30 AM Edward Cramp req. by the Cramp family

Thursday, June 26

8:30 AM Joseph Marucci req. by his wife & family

Friday, June 27

8:30 AM Anthony Pacifico (16th Anniv) req. by his family

Saturday, June 28

8:30 AM MaryJane Postiglione req. by Tracie Rice

4:00 PM Vickie Archer req. by Nicole, Adam & family

6:00 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, June 29

8:30 AM Lois Fulps req. by Anthony Fulps, Jr.

10:00 AM Marian Bruno req. by the Roswell family

11:30 AM Rose & Bob Cahall req. by their family

4:00 PM Theresa Zazula req. by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Bangle & family

***There is no 6:45 AM Mass during the summer months.**



Remember Those who Have Died Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

*Carmella Campbell
George D. Banks*

There are a limited number of parish directories available for sale. The cost for the directories are \$20.00. If you have not picked up your FREE directory, it is still being held at the rectory! Thank you

SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary lamp at St. John Vianney Church is burning in loving memory of
MaryAnn Bittner
req. by Lieze & Cormaney families.



The Sanctuary lamp at St. Margaret Church is burning in loving memory of
Antonio LoGiudice
req. by his wife, Chris.



Please pray for our parishioners who are in the hospital, nursing home or sick at home. Please remember:

Chip Alberta, Dorothy Alliano, Margaret Aregood, Joe Avallone, Nicolina Balsama, Dorothy Bennis, Rose Bruno, Bill Cassidy, John Cerkez, Mary Chuba, Barbara Costroff, Kathleen David, Mary-Anne Delaney, Jill Dechen, Gabrielle DiPaolo, Gerri Foster, Marie Galat, Audrey Greco, Mary Jane Harty, Christine Hastings, June Headley, Deacon Bob & Judy Kenney, Kathy King, H. Leif Knudsen, Marianne LoGiudice, MiMi Ludena, Baby Ronan Mahoney, Baby Lendri Marks, Molly Marsteller, Robert McGinley, Elizabeth McHenry, Ray McMullen, Emil Milano, Rita Milano, Pat Miller, Millie & Rocky Moraca, Ray Myers, Lucille Nelson, Marie Pagano, Carmela Paladino, Eugene Pappert, Katie Power, Charles Senior, Colleen Sorbello, David Sullivan, Pat Ubaldi, Coreen Welch, Baby Jaxon Wickkiser, Bernadette Young, Grace Zaccaria, Richard Zuber, Sr.



GOD BLESS AMERICA!

God bless our men and women who put their lives on the line to preserve freedom around the world. We thank God for our good fortune to be citizens of the USA. *We continue to pray for our men and women overseas especially, Justin Gousha, Raymond Henry, Shawn Jarrell, Becky & Nick Johnson, Brian Simmons, Rob Solome, Sarah Turse, Michael Ekimogolu, Chris Fusco, Charity Winkler, Brian Schwartz, and Josh Little.* If someone has returned home, we ask that you let us know. *Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform in our time of need. We ask this in Jesus' name.*

Amen †††

Dear Friends in Christ,



This weekend the Church celebrates the Feast of Corpus Christi or The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This mystery is absolutely central to whom we are as Catholics. The Real Presence of Jesus, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity calls forth from us: love, worship, devotion, piety, nourishment and all graces. Henry Hardinge Menzies, AIA, writes, "A Protestant was visiting a Catholic church accompanied by his Catholic friend, and after entering, he was admiring the beauty of the architecture and decorations. He was particularly impressed with the altar and the tabernacle on top which was surrounded by angels and many candles. He asked his Catholic friend, "And what's in that box there on the table?" The Catholic replied, "Jesus Christ himself is really present in that box. Our faith tells us that." There was stunned silence. Finally the Protestant said, "If I believed that, I would crawl down this aisle on my knees!" The Catholic Church has the Real Presence in Her midst and we can be so careless even callous towards our Lord. What are we to do? We should examine our comportment before the Holy Sacrament on all levels. Do we genuflect (bend down on one knee) upon our entrance at a Catholic Church? Are we silent in Church in a hushed awe before our Beloved or do we chat in the aisle or speak to our neighbor in unnecessary conversation? Now, one may say, "Oh Father, what's wrong with being social?" How many times people have complained that they cannot pray because of the chatter in Church and that people even talk right next to a person, disturbing their prayer without even blinking. Even the way we receive speaks so much. The Minister states the "Body of Christ" (not using our name or any other additions) and we respond beyond a mumble: "Amen." O how necessary to acknowledge His love in order to be saved! Even the way we dress makes a statement. Tea shirts (sadly) with profane sayings hardly say "I believe!" Immodest dress for Mass shows a true lack of awareness of where we are; I guess it says "Look at me rather than Jesus!" A mere 30% of Catholics reportedly believe that the sacrament of Holy Communion is actually the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord and Savior. I get chills even writing the results of that pole. If we are part of the 30%, then let us ramp up our expressions of love for Him by what we wear, how we speak in whispers in church, receiving Him with devotion and in a State of Grace.

God bless you,
Father Szolack

COME LET US ADORE HIM



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday in Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel until 6:00 PM. On First Fridays, the Blessed Sacrament is adored after 8:30 AM morning Mass until Saturday morning continuously. If you would like to come to adoration, please sign in (guests as well as scheduled adorers). If you are scheduled for adoration and cannot attend, please try to a replacement or contact Jody at 848-3239 or call the rectory 856-848-0047.

A special message for summer travelers: Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? Infant Jesus Parish offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. if you have plans to travel this summer, electronic giving gives you a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings. Simply go to www.theinfantJesusparish.org and click on "on-line giving" icon or contact the rectory for an authorization form or ask for Sharon and she can sign you up right over the phone!



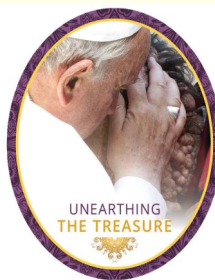
Stewardship



OFFERTORY COLLECTION

June 15, 2014 - 14,225.00

Thank you for your continuing support . Please make your checks payable to: "*Infant Jesus Parish*"



Our goal here at Infant Jesus Parish is **\$132,600**. We have already raised **\$113,495.00** (plus **\$11,058.60** from United Way for a total of **\$124,553.60**) from the contributions of only **380** families! That's an average gift of **\$327.77**. Now we invite all parishioners to participate in this important effort.

Please make your sacrificial gift to help continue the mission of the Church here in the Diocese of Camden.

From Father Felipe: like every year it's time for me to go back to Argentina. Thank you for your support and prayers for my brother. Hasta la vista!



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Saturday, June 28

4:00 PM Karen Jacobi, Regina Underwood,
Christine LoGiudice, Vince Carducci,
Danielle Morgan

6:00 PM Cathy Wacker, Margie Mantzell,
Evelyn Iacovone

Sunday, June 29

8:30 AM Pat Reiners, Vicky McWilliams,
Nancy Tomlinson, Jim McHugh,
Janet Puglia

10:00 AM Sr. Dianna, Vince Brandolini,
Bob & Julie Heenan, Karen Schonewise

11:30 AM Joe Scaruzzi, Maria & Mike Frain,
Maria Schiavo

4:00 PM Janet Autodore, Mary Foster,
Kathy Smith



Saturday, June 28

4:00 PM Chuck Fitzgerald

6:00 PM Mary Feret

Sunday, June 29

8:30 AM Larry Benecke

10:00 AM Walt Baraniewicz

11:30 AM Cynthia Aragoncillo

4:00 PM Maura Kelly



ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, June 28

4:00 PM Garrison, Anzola

6:00 PM B. & K. Wolstenholme

Sunday, June 29

8:30 AM M. & M. Mazero, McHugh

10:00 AM Maher, Rice, Price

11:30 AM Mooney, Mondel

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS

*Casa Dance Studio
Rightway Waterproofing
Westwood Oral Surgery Associates, P.A.*

**Parish
Calendar
of Events**

- Sun., June 22 SVDP Fan Drive at all Masses
YG - 6:00 PM (VC)
Deeper Dimensions Support Group -
- 7:00 PM (MC)
- Mon., June 23 Prayer Group - 7:30 PM (MC)
- Tues., June 24 Spirituality - 7:00 PM (D)
- Wed., June 25 Choir - 7:15 PM (SM)
Choir - 7:45 PM (SJVC)
Legion of Mary - 7:30 PM (C)
- Thurs., June 26 NA - 8:00 PM (C)
- Fri., June 27 Alliance of 2 Hearts - 7:00 PM (VC)
- Sat., June 28 King's Men - 7:00 AM (B)
- Sun., June 29 Deeper Dimensions Support Group -
- 7:00 PM (MC)

Religious Education

Registration for 2014-15 Sessions is now open.

Receive a **\$25 discount** per family by paying registration fees by June 30th. Standard fees are listed on Registration Form available on the parish website.

New this year, Summer Classes for Levels 3, 4, 5*, & 6* available the first 2 weeks of August (Aug. 4th – 15th) Monday through Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.
*5th & 6th grades are full for the summer session.

Fall Class options are as follows:

Level 1 - 5 - Sundays 8:30 – 9:45 AM

Level 1 - 7 - Mondays 4:30 – 5:45 PM

Level 5 - 8 - Monday 6:45 – 8:00 PM

Level 5 - 8 - Thursday 6:15 – 7:30 PM

All classes are filled on a 1st come 1st serve basis.



The *Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Serve* will take place from June 21 to July 4, 2014, a time when our liturgical calendar

celebrates a series of great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of persecution by political power—St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, St. John the Baptist, SS. Peter and Paul, and the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome. The theme of this year's Fortnight will focus on the freedom to serve the poor and vulnerable in accord with human dignity and the Church's teaching.

During the Fortnight for Freedom, please set aside a few minutes each day to praying the following prayer.

On **Wednesday, June 25th at 7:00 PM** there will be a holy hour for Religious Freedom in Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel.

Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty

O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.

We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.

Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome—

for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us—

this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Farewell to Father King

On the weekend of June 28/29th you will have the opportunity of saying goodbye to Father King and wish him well as he leaves our parish.

There will be light refreshments on Saturday, June 28th after the 6:00PM Mass at St. John Vianney Church at the Vianney Center; and on Sunday, June 29th at St. Margaret's Church after the 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM Masses in the school gym.

WOMEN'S CLUB

Keep your eyes open in the next few weeks for the announcement of The Christmas Spectacular trip to New York City in November ... Tickets go fast !!!!!

Why not try the Weekly Socials

with the MOM's Group?



The Ministry of Motherhood (MOMs Group) is starting their weekly socials up again through the summer. The MOMs Group is a fantastic opportunity to fellowship and build relationships with other Catholic moms in our parish. We'll be holding playdates in different homes—BIG playdates for the kids and grown up time for the moms--each week discussing aspects of the intersections of mommyhood and faith. On a monthly basis, there will be evening meet-ups without the kids around a firepit, in a restaurant, etc. as well as trips to the park, zoo, farm, etc.

MOMs will meet on Mondays through the summer from 11 AM-2PM, with the first meeting on Monday, June 23. Contact Jenny Butler at jendanbutler@yahoo.com or 203-430-6013 to add your name to the email listing for updates and meeting locations.

Infant Jesus Parish Seniors

Trump Taj Mahal Casino on Thursday, June 26th to see Yakow Smirnoff [comedian]. The total package includes: Transportation, Free Buffet, Show, and, \$25 Slot Play. The bus will leave St. Margaret's Church Parking Lot at 9:30 AM. Cost: **\$65** (this is the corrected cost). Call Betty for reservations -- 856-848-2222.

INFANT JESUS PARISH BOOK CLUB

Our new book is:

My Life With the Saints
by James Martin

Guide Book Advertising Opportunity

We have contracted Guide Book Publishing to publish a Guide Book for our parish that will be updated and delivered directly to your homes annually. This book will be the Who, What, Where, When, Why and How of our Church. The book is being provided at no cost to our Church. Local businesses are being solicited to advertise in the book. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call the Church Office at 856-848-0047.

Update Membership Information

Does our Church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book (if you haven't already done so).

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? **This information is for parish use only. No addresses or phone numbers will be published.**

If you have not already informed the Church Office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the Guide Book can be mailed to the correct address. The Church Office number is 856-848-0047.

Calling all Scrapbookers!

Girl Scout Troop 62002 will be hosting an "All Day Scrapbooking" event on Saturday, June 28th. It will be held at St. Margaret's McKeever Hall from 8am- 10pm. The cost is \$50 and includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, dessert, plenty of room to scrapbook and door prizes. For more information, please contact Heather Mondel at 717-919-1955 or momwentshopping@gmail.com

Basketball Camp for girls ages 7-14. Cores Skills Camp June 23-27 at Gloucester Catholic, Offensive Skills Camp June 30-July 2 and Guard/Post July 14-16 both at the Riverwinds community Center. Lisa Gedaka, girls basketball coach at GCHS will conduct the camps. For information and registration call Lisa at 856-889-1202 or log onto www.sjhoopscamps.com.



"Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others." - *Saint Augustine*

As you begin to plan your summer vacations, please remember that **hunger doesn't take a vacation!** Please help us to keep our pantry stocked so that we are able to provide for those that come to us for help. Pantry items that we currently need are **macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables, granola bars, crackers, canned meats, pancake mix/syrup, and applesauce**. All donations may be left in the back of the church in the designated bins. Thank you and God Bless You for your constant support and generosity.

It is the beginning of summer and we know that we will soon experience warmer temperatures and high humidity. Most of us escape the heat by relaxing in our air conditioned homes but there are some that are not so fortunate. We would like to do our part to help those affected before the first heat wave of the season hits. On the weekends of June 14th/15th and June 21st/22nd, all of the monies collected in our poor box will be used to purchase fans for those in need. Hopefully, with your donations, we can make this summer a little more bearable for our less fortunate neighbors. Please be as generous as you can.

PRE-CANA

Infant Jesus Parish will offer "Preparing to Live in Love" **Pre-Cana** classes on Mondays beginning September 8th for six sessions. Please call the rectory if you are interested.

PRAY TO END ABORTION

Come join us for Mass, recitation of the rosary and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at The Catholic Community of Christ Our Light, St. Peter Celestine Church, Cherry Hill, every first Saturday of the month to end abortion. We pray in front of the Cherry Hill Women's Clinic (abortion clinic). Mass begins at 6:00 AM. Transportation is available. Please call Mary Foster at 856-853-2662.

Rams Basketball School for boys entering grades 3 - 9 will again be held this summer at Gloucester Catholic High School. The camp will be under the direction of Mr. Pat Murphy former head coach of GCHS. The camp will be offered two different weeks (July 7-11 and July 21 - 25). For more information please call Pat Murphy 456-4400 ext. 219 or email Pmurphy@gchsrms.org.

Infant Jesus Parish
Religious Education 2014-2015
Phone 856-845-5251 ext. 106
Email reledakaccd@comcast.net

Please Print Clearly:

Student Registration

Gender **Grade Entering**
M/F **Sept. 2014**

Student Name _____ _____ _____
Student Name _____ _____ _____
Student Name _____ _____ _____

Mailing Name _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____

Primary Phone Number _____ (Incl. Area Code)
Secondary Phone Number _____ (Incl. Area Code)
Contact Email Address _____

Mother's Full Name _____
Father's Full Name _____
Marital Status _____

Registration fees for 2014-15 are as follows:

Fees paid in full by June 30, 2014 receive a \$25 discount per family off below rates.

Standard Rates

1 Child	\$125.00
2 Children	\$200.00
3 Children *	\$250.00

*4 children or more, a \$25.00 book fee per child will apply.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact Sr. Vilma at 856-845-5251, to discuss your situation. Please do not let this keep you from registering your children we will work with you.

Please list student's first name for preferred class – classes will be filled on First Come First Serve Basis

			Student 1	Student 2	Student 3
Level 3- 6 Summer Session Only – Call the rectory for class availability (856-848-0047)					
Summer Session Aug. 4 th – 15 th					
Mon. – Fri.	9:00AM – 12:00 PM		_____	_____	_____
Level 1 - 5	Sunday	8:30 – 9:45 AM	_____	_____	_____
Level 1 – 7	Monday	4:30 – 5:45 PM	_____	_____	_____
Level 5 – 8	Monday	6:45 – 8:00 PM	_____	_____	_____
Level 5 – 8	Thursday	6:15 – 7:30 PM	_____	_____	_____

Grade 1 Registration - Church of Baptism _____ **Birth Date** _____

*If Church is **not** St. Margaret or St. John Vianney please include copy of Baptismal Certificate*

OVER →

Infant Jesus Parish
Religious Education 2014-2015
Phone 856-845-5251 ext. 106
Email reledakaccd@comcast.net

Please Print Clearly:

Special Conditions: Please note any concerns we should be aware of: Medical Conditions, Learning Disabilities, Food Allergies , etc..

Student Name _____

Student Name _____

Student Name _____

Return Form with fee to:
Infant Jesus Parish
Religious Education Office
c/o 334 Beech Avenue
Woodbury Hts., NJ 08097

Or place the form in an envelope and put in the collection basket.
Please Mark "ATT. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION"



CURRENT THREATS TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

USCCB Fact Sheet

2014

Pope Benedict XVI spoke in 2012 about his worry that religious liberty in the United States is being weakened. He called religious liberty the “**most cherished of American freedoms.**” Unfortunately, our most cherished freedom is under threat:

- *HHS mandate for sterilization, contraception, and abortion-inducing drugs.* The mandate of the Department of Health and Human Services forces religious institutions to facilitate and/or fund a product contrary to their own moral teaching. Further, the federal government tries to define which religious institutions are “religious enough” to merit protection of their religious liberty.
- *Catholic foster care and adoption services.* Boston, San Francisco, the District of Columbia, and the State of Illinois have driven local Catholic Charities out of the business of providing adoption or foster care services—by revoking their licenses, by ending their government contracts, or both—because those Charities refused to place children with same-sex couples or unmarried opposite-sex couples who cohabit.
- *State immigration laws.* Several states have passed laws that forbid what they deem as “harboring” of undocumented immigrants—and what the Church deems Christian charity and pastoral care to these immigrants.
- *Discrimination against small church congregations.* New York City adopted a policy that barred the Bronx Household of Faith and other churches from

renting public schools on weekends for worship services, even though non-religious groups could rent the same schools for many other uses. Litigation in this case continues.

- *Discrimination against Catholic humanitarian services.* After years of excellent performance by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) in administering contract services for victims of human trafficking, the federal government changed its contract specifications to require MRS to provide or refer for contraceptive and abortion services in violation of Catholic teaching.
- *Christian students on campus.* In its over-100-year history, the University of California Hastings College of Law has denied student organization status to only one group, the Christian Legal Society, because it required its leaders to be Christian and to abstain from sexual activity outside of marriage.

Is our most cherished freedom truly under threat?

Yes, Pope Benedict XVI recognized just two years ago that various attempts to limit the freedom of religion in the U.S. are particularly concerning. The threat to religious freedom is larger than any single case or issue and has its roots in secularism in our culture. The Holy Father has asked for the laity to have courage to counter secularism that would “delegitimize the Church’s participation in public debate about the issues which are determining the future of American society.”

What can you do to ensure the protection of religious freedom at home and abroad?

The U.S. Bishops have called for a Fortnight for Freedom from June 21 to July 4, 2014. Please visit www.fortnight4freedom.org for more information on this important time of prayer, education, and action in support of religious freedom!



MARRIAGE AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

USCCB Fact Sheet

2014

Redefining Marriage and the Threat to Religious Liberty

The Catholic Church teaches: “Marriage and the family are institutions that must be promoted and defended from every possible misrepresentation of their true nature, since whatever is injurious to them is injurious to society itself” (*Sacramentum Caritatis*, 29). As the following examples illustrate, efforts to redefine marriage are harming our religious liberties:

New Mexico (2013) – The owners of a photography studio would not take the pictures of a same-sex “commitment ceremony” because they did not want to participate in behavior contrary to their religious beliefs. In 2013, the New Mexico Supreme Court denied the owners’ appeal, affirming the lower court opinion that the studio violated the state Human Rights Act. The owners of the studio have asked the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case.

Colorado (2013) – Two men “married” in Massachusetts requested a Denver bakery make a “wedding” cake for their wedding reception in Denver. For religious reasons, the owners of the bakery declined to make the cake. The two men filed a complaint with the Colorado Division of Civil Rights, which found that the bakery violated that law. After this finding, the Colorado Attorney General’s office filed a complaint against the bakery, resulting in an administrative law judge deciding against the bakery.

Washington (2013) – A florist who declined to provide flowers for a same-sex “wedding” was sued by the state Attorney General.

Maine (2012) – The State of Maine has informed all notaries public (approximately 25,000) that regardless of religious objections, they must “wed” same-sex “couples,” if they wed opposite-sex couples. Otherwise, these notaries could be subject to a claim of discrimination. In the words of one notary: “I’m a Catholic and under no circumstances would I do a same-sex marriage.” He added, “I’m concerned that if I refused to perform a same-sex marriage, I could be challenged legally.”

Vermont (2012) – For allegedly not hosting a “wedding” reception for a same-sex “couple,” Catholic owners of a bed and breakfast settled a discrimination lawsuit, requiring them to (1) pay a \$10,000 civil penalty, (2) pay \$20,000 to a charitable trust, and (3) not host wedding receptions of any kind. Upon settling the lawsuit, the owners of the bed and breakfast said, “But no one can force us to abandon our deeply held beliefs about marriage.”

New Jersey (2012) – The New Jersey Division on Civil Rights found that a Methodist organization violated a public accommodations law by not allowing a same-sex civil union ceremony at its boardwalk pavilion.

Catholic Charities – Catholic Charities of Boston (2006), Catholic Charities San Francisco (2006), Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., (2010), and Catholic Charities affiliates in Illinois (2011) had to cease adoption services or face civil liability for not placing children in the homes of same-sex couples.

What can you do to ensure the protection of religious freedom at home and abroad?
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