

MANY WILL REJOICE  
BECAUSE OF HIS BIRTH.

- LUKE 1:14

Joy



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Nativity of Our Lord

Monroe Township, New Jersey

Third Sunday of Advent – December 15, 2024

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday December 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Advent Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Ken & Joan Benus by Lillian Augustine

**Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Late Advent Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Audrey Danker by Tobi & Fred Ginter

**Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Late Advent Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Rose & Peter Capraro & Carmela Gibaldi by Family

**Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Late Advent Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Carl Marchetti by Maryann Marchetti

**Friday December 20<sup>h</sup>**

**Late Advent Weekday**

**8:30 a.m.** Dominick Gotay by Lydia Fraticelli

**Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Late Advent Weekday - St. Peter**

**4:00 p.m.** Canisious, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Peter Poli by The Vigario Family

**Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**7:30 a.m.** Michael & Frances Rainsford by Mary

**9:00 a.m.** Anthony Tacopino by Cherrie Tacopino

**11:00 a.m.** Steve & Olga Martynuk by Bernard & Dorothy Sluzas

**The Collections for the Weekend of  
December 8 - \$13,243**

**Immaculate Conception - \$4,260**

**Retirement - \$2,088**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**Remembering in Prayer**



Kindly contact the office if you know of a parishioner who is sick, having surgery or in need of pastoral care. We would like to remember them in our prayers and care for their spiritual needs.

**CANDLE OFFERING**

**Sanctuary:** For Donna & Tom Clarke by Lillian Augustine

**BVM:** Joan Kuchinski by Ellie Hines

**Padre Pio:** George Graul by Doug Graul & Family



**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

**Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

**Wednesday:** Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

**Thursday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

**Friday:** Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

**Saturday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45

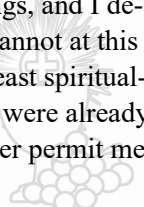
**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

*“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.” (PHILIPPIANS 4:6)*

St. Paul reminds us that God is an abundant God – He is the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. Remember, that we are created in God’s image and likeness. We, too, are made to be generous with all of our gifts as well. Placing our trust in God frees us from being a slave to possessions. It allows us to gratefully and generously share ourselves and our goods with others.

**Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.



## HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

**“On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; He will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love’... ‘Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”**

The word of God focuses on reasons for joy, encouraging us to continue to make progress as we prepare for the coming of our Savior. Yes, Jesus has come and we recall His birth, but He comes again, daily, to hearts that are prepared to welcome Him. The need of our waiting world is so great that we can forget today, and only look back to the Bethlehem coming. By prayer and petition, we ask Him to fill us, our home, our family, our world with His redeeming presence. The Baptist’s warning and invitation today ‘Prepare the way of the Lord.’

### 2025 Choices Matter Conference

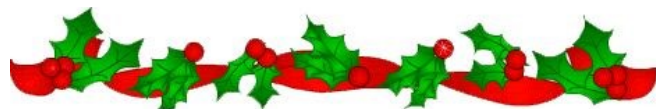
The Diocese of Metuchen’s Office of Human Life and Dignity presents “The 2025 Choices Matter Conference – A Critical Life Issues Conference” which will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway on **Saturday, March 29, 2025**. An Opening Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James Checchio at 9:00 AM and the conference will begin at 10:15 AM and end at 3:30 pm. This year’s theme is “Choose Hope – A Path to Mental Wellness.” The topics/expert speakers are:

- **The Pain is Real but so is Hope:** Deacon Ed Shoener
- **Mental Health as a Pro-Life Issue:** Erin McCole Cupp
- **The Light in Our Darkness:** Lisa Kratz Thomas
- **The Road to Hope** – Responding to the Crisis of Ad-diction: Keaton Douglas

General registration is \$35 and student registration is \$15. The conference features Eucharistic Adoration, exhibits and more. The fee includes lunch and handouts. To register visit: <https://www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter>. Everyone is welcome! For questions or for more information please email [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-1543. Seating is limited.

## Parish Calendar

Dec. 15 (Sun)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
	Catechumenate and/or Mystagogy and/or Adult Confirmation C. 1 & 11
Dec. 16 (Mon)	Inquiry or Adult Confirmation 6:00 pm—7:30 pm RR
Dec. 17 (Tue)	St. VdeP F.H. Distribution of Christmas Gifts 9:00am Cl. 5 & 6
Dec. 18 (Wed)	St. VdeP F.H. Distribution of Christmas Gifts 9:00am Cl. 5 & 6
	W.O.N. Meeting 9:00 am Hall
Dec. 19 (Thu)	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
Dec.20 (Fri)	Simbang Gabi Mass 6:00 pm Church
	Simbang Gabi Fellowship 7:00 pm Hall
Dec. 22 (Sun)	Catechumenate and/or Mystagogy and/or Adult Confirmation C. 1 & 11
Dec. 23 (Mon)	Inquiry or Adult Confirmation 6:00 pm—7:30 pm RR
Dec. 24 (Tue)	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>
	Christmas Eve Mass 4:00 pm Church
	Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
Dec. 25 (Wed)	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>
	Christmas Day Mass 8:00 am & 10:00 am Church
Dec. 26 (Thu)	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>
Dec. 27 (Fri)	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>



## Ministries

**St. Vincent DePaul** – If you are experiencing financial hardship due to a temporary loss of employment, illness, or disability, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to aid with your everyday needs such as food, utility assistance, or agency referrals. Please dial the parish number 609-371-0499, then press 4, and leave a message with your name and phone number. Someone will return your call. All calls are handled in strict confidence.

**Homebound Ministries** - Eucharist Ministers bring communion to the homes of those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or other circumstances. Please call **Marge Nadolny** at **609-409-6164** or email **margen21@comcast.net**.

**Helping Hands:** Help Wanted! Our Helping Hands Ministry needs volunteers! We help parishioners with small household tasks such as changing smoke detector batteries, lightbulbs, opening & closing vents, etc. If you are able to volunteer, please call **Esther Wolff** at **732-521-6019** for more information.

**Giving Tree:** Thank you for your amazing generosity! Thank you to all those who adopted families and those who contributed gift cards and money. We were able to help many families – update to follow next week! The elves are still busy packing and wrapping!

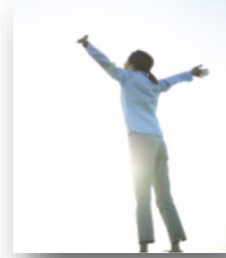
**Thanksgiving Food Collection:** Thank you so much for your generosity! We provided overflowing bags to our local families in need complete with turkeys and a pie. Thank you also to the religious education families for their generosity and the Companions of Pauline for their help preparing the bags. Thank you also to Bill Tronolone for his help moving all the food. We also were able to bring a large carload of food and turkeys to a local church where they were making baskets for 500 families.



### A MUSICAL CHRISTMAS TREAT

The music ministry will begin preludes on December 15 - Gaudete/Rejoice Sunday morning starting at 10:30 am prior to the 11:00 am mass. The community is invited to attend early to hear some of this special Advent music!

## Initiation Ministry



**The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.**

What great good and hopeful news from the prophet Zephaniah! Times might be hard. There is suffering in the world, in our neighborhoods, in our own lives. But the Lord our God is in our midst bringing us joy and gladness. We can't keep this great good news to ourselves. Share the good news with someone you know. Perhaps you can help that person enter a relationship with Jesus Christ. Consider inviting them to explore the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). Those who are unbaptized, baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but have never received BOTH sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist are all welcome to explore the Catholic faith through the OCIA. For information, contact **JoLynn Krempecki** at **732-690-2610** (**jolynnkrempecki@msn.com**).

---

### BLESSING OF THE BAMBINELLI (Baby Jesus)

The blessing of the figures of baby Jesus will take place at all the masses on the weekend of **December 21 & 22, 2024**.

Feel free to bring your baby Jesus to Church and present Him for the blessing. We also encourage you to get your children involved in this beautiful tradition.



## Religious Education

On Sunday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> our first graders performed their annual Christmas Tableau. Thank you to Tara Ianelli, Christine Dranchak and Krista Dranchak, all the children did a fantastic job!



### SIMBANG GABI AT THE NATIVITY

Nativity's Filipino-American Association will be hosting the 6th day of the Simbang Gabi on the **20th of December, Friday, at 6:00 pm**. We are inviting all our parishioners to join us for this solemn celebration, which will be followed by a simple gathering at our church basement. If you want to actively participate in our preparations, please contact **Carmille Agana (908-392-0152)**. For a full list of the churches participating, please visit the Facebook page of the Diocese: **@diometuchenfa**.

### Holy Year Pilgrimage

Jubilee of Hope  
Nov 10-21, 2025

Visit Rome, with Papal Audience, Orvieto (Eucharistic Miracle), Assisi (visit Bl. Carlo Acutis Tomb), Florence (cooking class), Perugia, Siena, Padua (the Shrine of St. Anthony and Giotto's Scrovegni Chapel) and Venice (with excursion to Burano and Murano). Contact Fr. David Kosmoski, St. Andrew Church, 244 Avenel Street, Avenel for more information or brochure please call 732 634-4355. Tour price including airfare and most meals is \$5,200.00 (gratuities and hotel taxes are not included)



## CHRISTMAS 2024 SCHEDULE SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION



### SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION

#### PARISH Penance SERVICE

Wednesday, December 18, 2024  
1:00PM & 7:00PM

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2024  
4:00pm and midnight  
Masses are all live streamed

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25, 2024  
8:00AM and 10:00AM  
Masses are all live streamed

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Tuesday, December 31, 2024  
4:00PM  
Mass will be live streamed

#### NEW YEAR'S DAY

Wednesday, January 1, 2025  
9:00AM  
Mass will be live streamed



### Rosary for Life – January 24, 2025

Come Pray a Rosary for Life (in solidarity with those at the March for Life in Washington, DC and across the country). Bishop Checchio is scheduled to attend! Friday, January 24, 2025 at 1:00 pm on Main Street in Woodbridge. Park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 pm (369 Amboy Ave, Woodbridge, NJ) There is a 12:10 pm daily Mass at St. James for those who wish to attend. For more information, contact **amarshall@diometuchen.org** or call **732-562-1543**.



**Eucharistic Ministers Needed**  
**for The Gardens At Monroe**

1) We are in need of additional Eucharistic Ministers to visit Catholic residents at the Gardens (next door to church) to distribute Holy Communion each Sunday. EMs arrive at about 10AM and visit the residents (list provided each week) in their rooms. This takes about 30-40 minutes. We have a few teams so that an EM would visit residents about every third or fourth Sunday. I will arrange for you to shadow an EM currently doing this for training.

2) We also need EMs to lead a Eucharistic Service at the Gardens about once each month. This involves bringing some materials (missal, communion, Prayer of the Faithful) and reading most of the prayers of the mass and distributing Communion to residents gathered in the Activities Room at the Gardens. Again, I will arrange for you to shadow and EM currently doing this.

3) Lastly, I need someone to replace me to do the quarterly schedule of EM assignments, recruit new EMs and be the contact person for the Gardens and EMs when needed. I have been doing this for nearly 30 years and it's time I handed this off to another parishioner.

If interested in assisting in this ministry in any of these roles, please contact **Deacon John Shelton** at email: **spm-cucc@aol.com** and put "GARDENS" as the subject.



**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus Assembly #1848

Nativity of our Lord Church  
185 Applegarth Road Monroe Twp., NJ

**\$85 pp**

**Shore Bet Band**

Cold Antipasto Platter on every table

Buffet Style dinner and some gluten-free dinners available and dessert

Soda, Water and **BYOB**

Tables of up to 8 people

Doors open 7:30 Sharp

Mail checks and form to:

Nativity of our Lord Church

K of C Assembly 1848 Att: Joe Charmello

185 Applegarth Road Monroe Twp., NJ 08831

Any Question: please call **Joe at: 732-236-8515** or E-mail **Joe at: jac910@comcast.net**

**Please print all names as you want them to appear on the place cards.**

**NO REFUNDS AFTER DECEMBER 15, 2024**

Name _____	Phone# _____
Name _____	Phone# _____
Name _____	Phone# _____
Name _____	Phone# _____
Name _____	Phone# _____

Add Additional Names on back **NEED ONE E-MAIL ADDRESS**



## LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL J. ZIRRITH LLC

Estate Planning (Wills) • Municipal Court (Traffic)  
Labor & Employment (Disability & Pensions)  
Litigation & Business Law

Office: 732-521-5900

E-mail: [DZirriith@ZirriithLaw.com](mailto:DZirriith@ZirriithLaw.com)

241 Forsgate Drive • Suite 109 • Monroe Township, NJ 08831

## FIorentini FAMILY DENTISTRY

Located on Applegarth Road  
directly across from Clearbrook!

- Comprehensive Dentistry
- Implants
- All-on-Four
- Sleep Apnea Therapy
- Veneers

294 Applegarth Road • Monroe  
609-655-1023 • [www.FiorFamDent.com](http://www.FiorFamDent.com)

LAW OFFICES OF

## JOHN T. BAZZURRO LLC

Areas of Practice:

PERSONAL INJURY  
NURSING HOME NEGLECT  
MUNICIPAL COURT  
GENERAL CIVIL LITIGATION  
WILLS • REAL ESTATE LAW

JOHN T. BAZZURRO, ESQ

Certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Civil Trial Lawyer

200 MECO DR., MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08535  
732-410-5350 • [www.bazzurrolaw.com](http://www.bazzurrolaw.com)

## HEAT UP YOUR BUSINESS!

Join the family of sponsors who help support our weekly parish bulletin.

ADVERTISING HELPS TO BUILD AWARENESS!

CALL TODAY FOR OUR SPECIAL HOLIDAY DISCOUNTS!

For More Information

TOM ZUKOFSKI

732-236-4251



SUBACUTE NURSING CARE  
SHORT-TERM REHABILITATION  
LONGTERM CARE  
RESPIRE CARE

PLEASE CONTACT OUR ADMISSIONS OFFICE  
TO SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!

189 Applegarth Road, Monroe Township (609)448-7036  
(next door to Nativity of Our Lord Church)

## ROOFING • CHIMNEYS MASONRY • GUTTERS

We Find & Fix Leaks!



**\$1100 OFF**  
Any New Roof Replacement

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

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

732-589-9967 Serving All of New Jersey

CALL US TODAY!

YOUR AD HERE!



Reserve Your Space Today!

- Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
- Build Trust and Credibility • Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
- Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls

Contact our advertising team at 800-883-4343.

Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in our community.

# READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

Please Support Our ADVERTISERS  
They Support Our Parish

# GARVEY PEST.COM

(609) 448-0900



0 no! Type 0 donors  
needed now!



24/7 Helpline  
800.272.3900

alzheimer's association



## WREATHS across AMERICA

Sponsor a veterans' wreath  
at a cemetery near you.

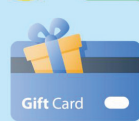
[wreathscrossamerica.org](http://wreathscrossamerica.org)

Never pay anyone who insists you pay with cryptocurrency, a wire transfer, or a gift card.

That's how scammers want you to pay.

Learn more:

[ftc.gov/imposters](http://ftc.gov/imposters)



#FTCTopFrauds

ReportFraud.ftc.gov



ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

# AB carpet & flooring



Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm • Sat. 10am-3pm

SENIOR DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

- ✓ CARPETS ✓ WOOD
- ✓ SAND & REFINISH
- ✓ LUXURY VINYL FLOORS

OVER 30 YEARS OF SERVING YOU!!!

609-395-5588



**\$250 OFF**  
ANY SALE OF \$2500-\$4000  
FLOORING PURCHASE

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offers or prior purchases.

**\$500 OFF**  
ANY SALE OVER \$4000 or  
MORE FLOORING PURCHASE

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offers or prior purchases.

CONCORDIA SHOPPING CTR. • 1600 PERRINEVILLE RD., MONROE TWP.



## LAWRENCEVILLE FOOT CARE

Podiatric Medicine and Surgery

Michael Banh, DPM Dan Phan, DPM, MPH

132 Franklin Corner Rd., Suite C-1, Lawrenceville

609.512.1381 • [LawrencevilleFootDoctors.com](http://LawrencevilleFootDoctors.com)

**D LATT'S PERFORMANCE LUS, INC.**  
*Personalized Auto Service*  
 46 Lincoln Ave., Jamesburg

Old Fashioned Service...  
 Plain & Simple

**800-595-1978**  
**PRIVATE INSPECTION FACILITY & EMISSIONS REPAIR FACILITY**  
 LIC #011853 LIC #000723

WE SERVICE ALL MAKES & ALL MODELS · NJ STATE INSPECTION  
**FREE Pick-Up & Delivery Service for Local Residents**



♿ "TOTALLY BARRIER FREE" **M. David**  
*Over 40 Years of Compassionate Service in Monroe Township's Only Funeral Home*

**(732) 521-0555**  
 www.demarcofuneralhome.com

**DeMarco**  
 Funeral Home, Inc.

Thomas J. DeMarco, Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 4651  
 M. David DeMarco, President, N.J. Lic. No. 3203  
 Jennifer L. Burry, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 5172  
 Peter S. Winther, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 4763

205 RHODE HALL ROAD  
 MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831

**THE CHELSEA AT FORSGATE**  
 ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE • RESPITE STAYS

*We are Open For Admissions & Tours*  
 Following all Covid Safe Guidelines

319 Forsgate Drive • Monroe, NJ 08831

**TANGO**  
 Handyman Service  
 NO JOB TOO SMALL  
**732-759-5897**

**HairCrafters**  
 HAIR & NAIL SALON  
 609.655.0100  
 1600 Perrineville Road · Monroe

Act now to help end hunger.

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

feedingamerica.org

**FEEDING AMERICA**

**BLF**  
**Brennan Law Firm**  
 A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
 73 North Main Street  
 Cranbury, NJ 08512

- ESTATE PLANNING
- WILLS & TRUSTS
- LAND USE
- REAL ESTATE

609-395-5533  
 www.brennanlaw.org

**ERA LEVINSON**  
 REAL ESTATE

349 Applegarth Rd., Monroe Twp., NJ 08831  
 Office: 609.655.5535 • Fax 609.655.0207

**SUZANNE 'SUE' NADWODNY**  
 Broker Associate  
 609.313.4864 cell  
 Sue@LevinsonERA.com  
 NJ REALTOR® Circle of Excellence® Gold 2021, Silver 2020  
 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

Real Estate is Local. Contact your Local Real Estate Agent.

*A Funeral Home of Choice For Monroe Township Residents Since 1965*

GREGORY S. LESTER, MANAGER, NJ Lic. # 3364  
 DAVID L. LESTER, DIRECTOR, NJ Lic. # 3483

**Lester Memorial Home**  
 ~ Thoughtful, Personal, Dignified Services ~

**732-521-0020**  
 16 West Church Street · Jamesburg, NJ  
 www.LesterMemorialHome.com

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

**GENERAL HOME SERVICES, LLC**  
 Gas Fireplace Service & Maintenance  
 Call: 732-615-8298  
 Email: service@general-homeservices.com

SPRING - SUMMER FALL & CHRISTMAS

**COUNTRYVIEW FARM NURSERY**  
 601 Buckleaw Ave (Rt 522E), Monroe Twp  
**732-675-3865**  
 www.COUNTRYVIEWFARMNURSERY.COM

APRIL 1 - JULY 31 SEPT 1 - DEC 31

**Ageless Moments Adult Social Daycare**

"Specialized Senior Care Tailored Just for You"

209 Applegarth Road  
 Monroe Township, NJ 08831

- Social Activities
- Physical Activities
- Educational Programs
- Personal Care Services

Scan to view our website Call Today for a Tour 609-642-8950

Est. 1956 Lic. #13VH00345100

**Valiant**  
 HOME REMODELERS

Family Owned & Operated Since 1956

**"Let Our Family Work For Your Family"**  
 Doors • Windows • Siding • Roofing • Gutters  
 Sunrooms • Awnings & Screens • Patio Covers  
 Carpentry • Interior Renovations • Storm Repairs

**732-541-7966 www.valianthome.com**

Please Support Our **ADVERTISERS**  
 They Support Our Parish

**ROSA'S CLEANING**  
 Homes • Condos  
 Offices • Apartments  
**862-224-9068**

**TOMATO PIES**  
 PIZZERIA & ITALIAN KITCHEN

**BEHIND THE APPLGARTH CVS**  
 4 Research Way  
 Monroe Twp., NJ 08831  
**609-664-2804**  
 Open Monday - Saturday  
**FREE DELIVERY**  
 ORDER ONLINE: WWW.TOMATOPIESNJ.COM

@ThymeforFlowers Sweet William & Thyme Florist

**SWEET WILLIAM & THYME**  
 Flowers For Your Special Day  
 And Every Day  
 www.ThymeForFlowers.com

732-521-2355  
 ThymeForFlowers@aol.com  
 teleflora 19 E. Railroad Ave. • Jamesburg, NJ 08831