

3RD SUNDAY OF Advent

Mission Statement

Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

*FOUNDED on the teachings of Jesus Christ,
NOURISHED by the hospitality of the Califon Christian
Communities,*

*FORMED with a commitment to Social Ministry, and
STRENGTHENED by the Holy Spirit*

*The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann is
a jubilant people on a continuing spiritual journey of hope:*

TO CELEBRATE and DEEPEN our faith

TO SHARE our unique gifts, talents and treasures

TO CHERISH all life

TO LIVE in openness, acceptance and love.

Annual Parish Goal

*Growing in the Love of the Lord
Through the Faith Formation of Each Member,
We Will Give Witness To and
Welcome All Segments of Our Larger Community*

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

Diocese of Metuchen
Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, Bishop
www.diometuchen.org

Trustees:
Mary Connolly
Lyle Garcia

Our Parish

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D.
..... Pastor
Rev. J William Mickiewicz.....
..... Founding Pastor Emeritus
Earl Roberts Deacon

Mailing Address:
PO Box 455
Califon, NJ 07830

Office Center:
398 County Route 513
Califon, NJ
908-832-2513
908-832-7618 fax
www.ccsjn.org

Worshipping at:
398 County Road 513
(Church Center)

Saturday Vigil Mass5:30 p.m.
Sunday.....8:00 a.m.
Sunday..... 10:30 a.m.
First Friday Holy Hour7:00 p.m.

Worshipping at:

Check the bulletin for any changes
390 County Road 513
(Neumann Residence)

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday7:00 a.m.
Friday.....7:00 a.m.

Reconciliation:

Saturday..... 5:00-5:25 p.m.

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 15

7:00 a.m. Austin Fisher, req.
St. John Neumann

Friday, December 18

7:00 a.m. Intentions of the Celebrant

Saturday, December 19

5:30 p.m. Marianne Bennett, req.
Pam and Tom O'Farrell

Sunday, December 20

8:00 a.m. Bob Beaman, req.
Lisa Stanski
10:30 a.m. John Aquino and
Kristina Juarbe, req.
Gary and Gloria Cucchiara



Parish Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 13 - Third Sunday of Advent / Retirement Fund for Religious / End Christmas Food Drive

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass - Simila Baptism (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)
2:00 p.m. Nativity Play Setup (Church Center)
5:00 p.m. Nativity Play (Church Center)

Monday, Dec. 14 - Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

11:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Church and Office Kitchen)
6:00 p.m. K-5 Monthly Catechesis (Church & Office Centers)
7:30 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Upper Room)

Tuesday, Dec. 15 - Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
6:00 p.m. Family & Youth Cookie Baking (Church Kitchen)
6:00 p.m. Christmas Decorating Party (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. RCIA (Upper Room)
7:30 p.m. Bell Practice (Church Center)

Wednesday, Dec. 16 - Advent Weekday

7:00 p.m. Community Reconciliation followed by Individual Reconciliation (Church Center/Reconciliation Room)
7:30 p.m. Book Club (Seton Room)

Thursday, Dec. 17 - Late Advent Weekday

10:00 a.m. Caroling at Little Brook Nursing Home (LBNH)
12:00 p.m. Staff Luncheon (Away)
2:00 p.m. Set up Boxes for Food Pack Up (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Bell Practice (Church Center)

Mass Schedule—December 19/20

Saturday	Youth Mass	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant.....	Rev. Abraham Orapankal	
Reader	Youth Mass Reader	
Altar Server	Youth Mass Altar Server	
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Joan Eacovalle	
	Joann Gardner, Gloria Cucchiara	
Sunday		8:00 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Rev. Abraham Orapankal	
Reader	Allan Piechowski	
Altar Server	Mastro Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Debbie Kelemen	
	Joe Sima, Dorothy Sima	
Sunday	Baptism	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Rev. Abraham Orapankal	
Reader	Steve Gemma	
Altar Server	D'Avella Family	
Music Eucharistic Minister.....	Kristin Gemma	
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Mary D'Avella, Anthony DeStefano	
	Cindy Carroll, Dick Wickel, Marlene Milko	



*Santa Claus is coming to St. John's
Sunday, December 20th
Following the 10:30 Mass*



Friday, Dec. 18 - Late Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Food Pack Up (Church Center and Kitchen)

Saturday, Dec. 19 - Late Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Food Deliveries (Church Center & Kitchen)
5:30 p.m. Youth Mass (Church Center)
6:30 p.m. Youth Night (Church Center)

Sunday, Dec. 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Flower Offering / Christmas Flower Pick up

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. K-6 Catechesis (Church and Office Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 a.m. Visit Santa (Narthex)
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church Center)

Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered in the Eucharistic Prayer: **Sophie Goski, Austin Fisher, Walter Menzie and Michael McMahon.**

Deceased: Sophie Goski, sister of Ann King, **Austin Fisher**, student of Voorhees High School, **Walter Menzie**, father and grandfather to the Menzie Family and **Michael McMahon**, brother of Noreen Ranallo. May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord and may their families find strength in the Lord & comfort & support from family & friends.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Dear Friends,

It was very touching to watch Pope Francis pushing open the great bronze doors of St. Peter's Basilica last Tuesday to launch the Holy Year of Mercy, with a thin and frail Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI following him. Addressing the large gathering of pilgrims – at least over 50,000 – the Pope said: *"You cannot conceive of a true Christian who is not merciful, just as you cannot conceive of God without his mercy. Mercy is the key-word of the Gospel...we should not be afraid: we should allow ourselves to be embraced by the mercy of God, who waits for us and forgives everything."*

Catholic practice has been to mark the jubilee every 25 years, and many expected the next jubilee to commence in 2025. But a pope can proclaim an "extraordinary" jubilee when he deems necessary. This has a biblical precedent when such a religious event was proclaimed periodically: *"And you shall sanctify the fiftieth year, and proclaim freedom throughout the land for all who live on it,"* Leviticus 25:10. Francis is inviting all Catholics to reflect on the theme of mercy and serve as a unifying moment for the church globally. His papacy has been marked with the constant effort to present the image of a church that is inviting all to faith rather than imposing church doctrine on people. The church "falls into the temptation to follow a hard line, into the temptation to underline only the moral rules, but so many people are left out" and so he has been proposing "a revolution of tenderness and mercy."

Like Jesus our Master and Lord who went to the marginalized, the suffering, and the poor, Francis wants to remind us that the church is a "field hospital" for injured souls, where the wounded are welcomed and loved, not judged. As we enter the frenzy-phase of Christmas rush, I invite us to focus on this theme of Mercy that Jesus came to proclaim. For many of us, cutting Christmas chaos can be a dream come true (read the "warning about the Advent Virus" in this bulletin!). But it is possible with planning, intention and lots of prayer. Because prayer will give you the inner serenity which enables you to handle every challenge of the Christmas fever!

And don't forget to come to the Nativity Play our children are reenacting this evening! Re-living the Christmas story can give us that much needed peace of mind and heart!

Happy Advent!
Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

NATIVITY PLAY

Please support the children of the parish. Join us this Sunday, Dec. 13th, 5PM for the story of the birth of Christ. The children have been working hard and are eager to share with you all. Join the cast afterward for refreshments. Enjoy the season of Christ's birth with these young beautiful children!



Christmas Schedule 2015-2016

Community Reconciliation

followed by Individual Confessions

Wednesday, December 16..... 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Masses (There is No Midnight Mass)

Thursday, December 24 4:30 p.m.

(with Bell Choir)7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Masses

Friday, December 2510:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses – Residence Chapel

Tuesday, December 22..... 7:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 29..... 7:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve (There is No Vigil Mass)

Solemnity of Mary - New Year's Day Mass

Friday, January 110:30 a.m.



PRAYER MINISTRY

Without Prayer nothing good is done. God's works are done with our hands joined, and on our knees. Even when we run, we must remain spiritually kneeling before Him.
--Blessed Luigi Orione

Please join us for the Quarterly Prayer Enrichment Session:
Thursday, January 7th, 2016
7:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.
Church Center

CHRISTMAS CASH RAFFLE

And the winners are

Bonnie Garcia\$1,438.75
Veronica Upwood.....\$863.25
Karen Sansone\$575.50

Congratulations!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT THE NURSING HOME

Thurs., Dec. 17th, 10am



Please join us at the Little Brook Nursing Home on Sliker Road in Califon to spread some Christmas Cheer. Bring some cookies or snacks to share. Please call **Nancy DuBeau** at **908-832-5858** if you can make it.

Parish Contact Information

Church Center (weekend use). 908-832-6343

Office Center908-832-2513

Fax..... 908-832-7618

Email.....sjn@ccsjn.org

Rev. Abraham OrapankalPastor

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Email..... kcaldaro@ccsjn.org

Wayne InfusinoMaintenance

Religious Education908-832-2162

Renee Ciszewski .Director of Religious Education

Email..... renee@ccsjn.org

Jo Ann Jarvis Office of Catechesis

Email..... jjarvis@ccsjn.org

Social Ministrysocialministry@ccsjn.org

Anne Germino and Greg Wilson

Bulletin bulletin@ccsjn.org

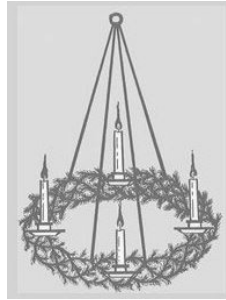
Youth Ministry sjnygroup@gmail.com

Christian Formation - Catechesis

MONTHLY CATECHESIS PROGRAM



December 14, 2015
6:00 p.m. in the
Church Center



ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER

During Advent, we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but we also check in to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when he comes again. Talk to your family about how you are doing in attending to your spiritual life as a family. Recommit yourselves to praying daily, reading Scripture, and staying faithful to God's commandments. Pray together that through this Advent season your family will be more prepared to receive Jesus when he comes again.

God of Love,
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for his coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. **Amen.**



BAPTISM

For anyone who is expecting or wants to have a child baptized please contact France at the office. We will be having the Baptism Preparation Class in January which you attend prior to scheduling a baptism.

Social Ministry

SHIP'S GALLEY SOUP KITCHEN

Our next service to the SHIP's Galley Soup Kitchen in Somerville will take place on Monday, December 14 from 11am until 2pm. If you would like to help serve or provide food for the meal, please contact Anne Germino at socialministry@ccsjn.org.



CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET PACK-UP

The Christmas food basket pack-up will take place on Friday, December 18 at 7pm with deliveries on Saturday morning. Please check the narthex for food lists to restock the pantry. In addition, we have had many generous donations of turkeys and only need two more large turkeys and 8 more small turkey breasts, small chickens or small hams to complete the baskets.

Parish News

GINGERBREAD HOUSES

You Be the Judge!

The Youth Group will meet Saturday, December 19th after the 5:30 Mass and will compete to win a prize for decorating a Gingerbread House.

After each of the Morning Masses on Sunday, Dec 20 we need your help. Stop by in the Narthex and pick your favorite design. No Tasting required!



CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY

Tuesday, December 15, 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the St John's Christmas Party. Adults and kids are welcome. You should know going in it that it is a work party! While we enjoy socializing with fellow parishioners, music, appetizers and desserts, we have something fun to do – decorate the church. In addition to the decorating there will be people in the kitchen Please bring a goodie to share - cookies, sweets, appetizers or any kind of drink. Come join us for decorating, connecting, eating, drinking, and Christmas merriment.

ADVENT – A TIME OF PREPARATION

PRAYING FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

Thank you for everyone who is praying for our parish families. Please drop a Christmas card to your family and drop it in the basket in the narthex. Won't it be nice to know and possibly meet the person(s) who were praying for you? We plan to distribute the Christmas cards so make sure you have their family name on the envelope.

YOUR BEST ADVENT EVER

Try preparing for Christmas differently this year:
<http://dynamiccatholic.com/year-of-mercy/best-advent-ever/>

YOUTH CORNER!

(Our Junior High students attended the Papal Mass simulcast in our Church on September 27. Here is the next installment of excerpts from the reflections they wrote. More will follow.)

Dana Fabiano: His main message was love. He also talked about how the family was the future of love. The pope also defended immigrants that were coming to this country. He says that they should be able to come and stay so that they have a nice place to live. He talked about how we should love each other. He also said that we should allow immigrants into our society, even if they are illegal. He taught me that everyone is equal and we should all love each other. Also, no matter who it is we should accept and appreciate them. What really touched me was everything.

Kenny Rudin: I'd say the pope's best inspirations are what he said about measuring LOVE. The other one being about what he said how Jesus wants us to spread miracles every day. When the pope said, "do we shout at one another or do we speak with love and tenderness, this is a good way to measure love" I say that is a perfect way to measure love. And it's really true! He also said, "Jesus tells us not to hold back on little miracles. Instead he wants us to encourage them and spread them." This means that he wants us to spread love and affection everyday of our lives. I feel inspired by both of these themes.

James Zeolla: I was truly astonished by the fact that the pope was able to teach such life lessons and show that every single person, black, white or green was able to set a good example. He explained that the Lord cares for every single human on the planet and we should too. The papal Mass also showed how the world can bond together if brought together here on our soil. Thanks to Pope Francis we are able to remember to love one another.

MINUTES PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 16, 2015

We began the meeting with the Lectio Divina reflection and sharing God's Word. The reflection on the parish annual goal was followed by lively discussions on matters affecting our parish life. The following were the important points of discussion and/or decisions:

- Fran Barbone from the Fund Raising Committee presented a brief report of their goals and action plans. They usually average the annual goal of \$80,000.00 with the various fundraising events in our parish.
- Town Hall meeting could attract more people with incentives such as night out, clean kitchen, pizza, babysitting service and personal invitation by those already present.
- Youth group, Fr. Charles' visit and sermon.
- The need to welcome and promote Young Adults and young families can be done through regular communication with them and by providing opportunities for them to be involved. We need to hear from them about their needs and how parish can accompany them in our journey as the people of God.
- Good to have excerpts from the essays our Junior High Students wrote published in the bulletin.
- We thank and appreciate our people for the goodwill donation of \$1600.00 to Fr. Charles of St. Mary's Church, Coburn, VA.
- Suggestion to have an Advent Prayer Family tradition was welcomed. Everyone will be asked to pick one or two family name tags from the basket and pray for them during Advent. A Christmas card can be brought for them to be picked up from the narthex.
- Top of the Barn from the United Presbyterian Church donated \$3000.00 to our parish. We are very grateful to our sister church community for their generosity.

The meeting came to an end with a closing prayer.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2015

"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

VETERANS' FURNITURE PROJECT

Thanks for all the positive responses for VHN furniture and help with moving. However, we are UNABLE to accept donations at the present time due to the lack of storage space. We will notify you in the bulletin when our next delivery date comes up and it's OK to drop off donations. Thank you!

Suzanne & Sandra

DO YOU FEEL RUSHED? STRESSED?

SAY THIS PRAYER:

Loving God, help me focus on a peaceful pace rather than a harried one. I will keep moving forward gently, not frantically. Help me let go of my need to be anxious, upset, and harried. Help me replace it with a need to be at peace and in harmony.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., Dec. 16 D. Zigmantanis

Store Cards

Dec. 12 & Dec. 13

5:30 p.m. B. Cestone

8:00 a.m. V. Hoffart

10:30 a.m. D. Hunt

Dec. 19 & Dec. 20

5:30 p.m. C. Crescenti

8:00 a.m. K. Dabrowski

10:30 a.m. S. Pojedinec

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of 12/13 L. Livoti

Week of 12/20 M. Cangelosi

Church Center Cleaning

December 11 Team C

December 18 Team D

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Eugene Cifranic
Jean Crickenberger
John D'Almeida
Vicky Davids
Tino DeSantis
Sophia DeVita
Neil Ercolano
Paul Ferri
Gordon Furlong
Sophie Geist
Fred Holub
Diane Jackson
Frank Kostecky
Lou Livoti
Jan McLeavey
Christine Meyer
Evelyn Murray
Fran Miceli
Beau (Bernice) Mills
Michael James Nonestied
Mary Lou O'Brien
Floyd Opdyke
Linda Owens
Niisa Perez Parsons
John Pfeufer
Anne & Joe Sacco
Noah Skinner
Michael Slivka
Julie Suplee
Brian Travis
William Weimer
Josh Wilkes
Caden Zane
Jill Zane
Joey Zieba

MILITARY PERSONNEL

If you have someone in the military that you would like us to remember in our prayers, call the office or drop the name into the collection basket. As military personnel leave the Service, please notify us so that we can remove them from the list. Please remember the following in your prayers:

Captain Baumann, Katherine, U.S. Army
HM Bullis, Christopher, U.S. Navy
Private, Linzer, Matthew, U.S. Army
Seaman, Linzer, Stephanie, U.S. Navy
SR O'Leary, Thomas, U.S. Navy
Captain Royal, Benjamin P., USMC
Ensign Simila, Nicole, U.S. Navy



OPLATEK – THE CHRISTMAS WAFER

Start your own Family Tradition

The word Bethlehem means “House of Bread”. The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship. Religious family traditions and customs bring the truths of Faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas customs is the Christmas Wafer. A Wafer bearing a simple design commemorative of Christ’s birth is broken by the head of the family and distributed to each member. With a simple prayer for God’s grace and the welfare of the present and absent members of the family, the head family member breaks the Wafer and distributes it, a piece to each one at the table. While doing so each member of the family is kissed and is wished a joyful feast. The other family members then greet one another in the same way.

The spiritual lesson in this age old custom is unity of the family—the main pillar of society. The bond of unity is the Christ-like charity that should exist amongst the members of the family. The father of the family is the link in the unbroken chain of One Body, One Bread, One Christ, and One Church. The family joins him in this eternal procession no matter where they are. The family joins him in this eternal procession no matter where they are. For there is a universal longing by men to be always with one another, with God.

All this brings to mind clearly out charity for one another, to seek salvation together. Family customs remind us that we seek and obtain salvation with the help of others at all times.

So try it with your family this year. There is Oplatek in the Narthex in envelopes. Take one and leave a donation

MERCY QUOTE OF POPE FRANCIS

It is not easy to entrust oneself to God's mercy, because it is an abyss beyond our comprehension. But we must! ... "Oh, I am a great sinner!" "All the better! Go to Jesus: He likes you to tell him these things!" He forgets, He has a very special capacity for forgetting. He forgets, He kisses you, He embraces you and He simply says to you: "Neither do I condemn you; go, and sin no more" (Jn 8:11).

COPING AND HOLIDAYS

The holidays bring a full plate of things to do and get done, as well as the highs and lows brought on by the usual emotional rip currents of life. Feelings of loss can be intensified during the holidays, whether from the passing of a loved one, a loyal pet, separation, divorce, or job loss. Somehow, the world isn't what it was and road maps are hard to find, no less the energy to look for them. What to do?

First up, be kind to yourself and manage your expectations. This year will not be the same as years before, but, then again, what year is exactly the same as the one before it? Give yourself a break and reduce your list of “to do’s”, but by all means, PLAN something to do ahead of the actual “big days” coming. Call on others and delegate, as much as possible, the laundry list of “to do’s”...or cut back on that “to do” list. Having some current focus is important. Grieving takes time to help us adjust. It doesn't happen overnight. The sense of deep loss can become manageable with faith, patience, and time.

You may want to schedule something, whether by yourself, another, or others. Guilt, an all too common driver of human behavior, while natural, shouldn't get in the way of you doing something for yourself or experiencing joy during the holidays. Your joy can become contagious to others, no less a reward to you. You may want to volunteer. There are many charities that can use your help.

Lastly, in this brief note, be aware of the possibility of a post-holiday letdown or “blues”. This is an all too common phenomena, which can seem to come out of nowhere. For a wonderful life, opportunities are to be cherished – those we have taken, some lost, and those that await our conscious action. Blessings to all in this season which so highlights forgiveness, change, and hope.

A Message from John Cole of the St. John Neumann Bereavement Ministry

Parish & Community News

SUNDAY REFLECTION: Baptism of repentance, baptism of fire

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Luke 3: 10-18

The pressures of their jobs, of raising their two kids, of the everyday demands of keeping up a house were taking their toll. He and she were living in different orbits. And now, Christmas. One day, he had enough. He called his mother and she agreed to take the kids for an overnight, and he surprised her with a night out - and they stayed up well past their usual bedtime. Now, they make one night every two weeks their time together, and they take turns planning the evening out.

Final exams are looming - and he's lost. He's in trouble, especially in his economics course. The paper that's due in a few days is going nowhere. So he unplugs and turns off the devices and heads with his laptop to the academic resource center. And he listens to the tutor's advice not only on how to restructure his paper but change his whole approach to his studies.

It's been two months since she buried her husband. She's struggling; she has no idea what to do next. At church, she hears about a winter clothing drive. She goes home and sees her husband's slacks, suits, jackets and beautiful wool coat all still hanging in the closet. She pauses for a moment, and decides it's time to move on. And the first step on the journey is a trip to the church basement with a big donation to the clothing drive.

In his book *Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Community*, theologian Ronald Rolheiser writes about the two baptisms John speaks of in today's Gospel: "John's baptism is only a preparation for Jesus' baptism. What's John's baptism? It is a baptism of repentance, a realization of what we are doing wrong and a clear resolution to correct our bad behavior. What is Jesus' baptism? It is an entry into grace and community in such a way that empowers us internally to do what is impossible for us to do by our willpower alone." The couple, the student, and the widow all realize that something in their lives is not clicking and accept the need to change - John's baptism. Then they find the resolve and grace to bring about that change and take steps to make that change happen - Jesus' baptism. May this Advent season be a time for us to embrace John's baptism of repentance - realizing what is wrong or missing from our lives - so that we may immerse ourselves in Jesus' baptism of transforming reconciliation and peace.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY

WARNING! ADVENT VIRUS!!!



Be on the alert for symptoms of inner **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. The hearts of a great many have already been exposed to this virus and it is possible that people everywhere could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could pose a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world. Some signs and symptoms of **The Advent Virus**:

- A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
- An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- A loss of interest in judging other people.
- A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- A loss of interest in conflict.
- A loss of the ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
- Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
- Frequent attacks of smiling.
- An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

Please send this warning out to all your friends. This virus can and has affected many systems. Some systems have been completely cleaned out because of it.

Every Member A Minister Number of Families 291

Stewardship Responses

Sample Serve	9
Time & Talent	61
Treasure	29
Automated Giving	7

We thank you for replying. Please pick up a form from the narthex and check off how you would like to participate in stewardship.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

For December 6, 2015

83 Donors Weekly	\$6,232.00
61 Donors Yellow Brick Rd .	\$2,026.00

For December 7, 2014

94 Donors Weekly	\$6,776.00
57 Donors Yellow Brick Rd .	\$1,844.00

SHOP RITE & KINGS CARDS



Thanks to **17 families** who purchased Shop Rite and Kings gift cards the last week, totaling **\$4,175.00**. The stores gave us **\$208.75** Cards are available after Mass or at the office weekdays.



ACQUIRE THE FIRE

Acquire the Fire, the combined young adult group of Our Lady of Lourdes and St John Neumann, will be having their next meeting on Sunday, December 20th at 7 PM in the Old Church Hall of Our Lady of Lourdes (390 County Road 523, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889). Join us for a night of fellowship, games, and snacks. Save the date for our next meeting on Sunday January 10th. To join the list serve please email Susan at acquirethefire@ollwhs.org.

IS RECONCILIATION FOR YOU?

Come and see for yourself! Our Advent Reconciliation Service will be an experience of God's touch of mercy to us. This Wednesday (16th December) evening at 7 p.m., we have our Community Reconciliation Service followed by Individual Reconciliation. I invite all of us to come and celebrate God's forgiving love and mercy and experience the freedom of the children of God.



CatholicMatch
New Jersey

CatholicMatch.com/dateNJ

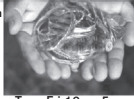
Coughlin Funeral Home

Dean W. Sulpy, Manager
NJ Lic. No. 4737

P.O. Box 294, 15 Academy St., Califon, NJ
www.coughlinfuneralhome.com 908-832-2414

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