

## 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 Mass .....5:30 p.m.  
Sunday .....8:00 a.m.  
Sunday .....10:30 a.m.  
First Friday Holy Hour .....7:00 p.m.

**Worshipping at:**  
390 County Road 513  
(Neumann Residence)

\*Check the bulletin for any changes\*

### **Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday .....7:00 a.m.  
Friday .....7:00 a.m.

### **Reconciliation:**

Saturday..... 5:00-5:25 p.m.  
Or anytime by appointment.

# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, April 12

7:00 a.m. Anna LaRusso, req.  
The Germino Family

### Friday, April 15

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

### Saturday, April 16

5:30 p.m. Herminio Rodrigues, req.  
The Kucharski Family

### Sunday, April 17

8:00 a.m. Marvin Marple, req.  
The Behrens Family  
10:30 a.m. Helen Gagen Lee, req.  
St. John Neumann



## Parish Calendar

### Sun., April 10 – Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
9:00 a.m. K-6 Catechesis (Church and Office Centers)  
10:30 a.m. Mass - Heimall Baptism (Church Center)  
11:45 a.m. K-5 Parent Meeting Religious Ed (Church Center)  
4:00 p.m. CHWC Meeting (Church Center)  
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church Center)

### Monday, April 11 - St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Church and Office Kitchens)  
7:00 p.m. K-5 Parent Meeting Religious Ed (Church Center)

### Tuesday, April 12 - Easter Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
7:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)  
7:30 p.m. R.C.I.A. (Upper Room)

### Wednesday, April 13 - Easter Weekday

7:00 p.m. Faith Group (Office Center Kitchen)

### Thursday, April 14 - Easter Weekday

7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

### Friday, April 15 - Easter Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)

### Saturday, April 16 - Easter Weekday

5:30 p.m. Youth Mass (Church Center)  
6:30 p.m. Youth Nite (Church Center)

## Mass Schedule—April 16/17

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant .....	Fr. Antony Arockiadoss
Reader .....	Youth Mass Reader
Altar Server .....	Youth Mass Altar Server
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Lyle Garcia
.....	Mary D'Avella, Violetta Olesiak
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant .....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Chris Bitters
Altar Server .....	Mastro Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Debbie Kelemen
.....	Joe Sima, Dorothy Sima
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant .....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Jane Albert
Altar Server .....	DeStefano Family
Music Eucharistic Minister .....	Mark Brisson
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Anthony DeStefano, Dick Wickel
.....	Anita Sawczuk, Gloria Cucchiara, Sheene Carew

### Sun., April 17 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)

### MYSTAGOGY

All are invited to join our neophytes (newly baptized Catholics), Nancy and Mark, during the period of mystagogy, the time between Easter and Pentecost, to continue the conversion process. We meet **Tuesday nights at 7:30PM** in the Office Center to gain a deeper understanding of God's word and to explore the mystery of the sacraments and what being a disciple of Christ means for our lives.

### Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharistic: **Helen Lopata.**

**Deceased: Helen Lopata**, aunt of Shirley Pojedinec. May she find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord and may her family find strength in the Lord and comfort and support from family and friends.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....

Dear Friends,

I was quite impressed the other day by an article in which the author said: *"What parishioners do need is the faith explained and defended so that they, in turn, can explain and defend it. Parishioners are on the front lines. It is they who are asked the questions about the faith every day, they who are bombarded with attacks on the faith from the propaganda of the world every day. It is rarely the pastor who is grilled at the cocktail party about everything from the meaning of grace to Church teaching on the afterlife, abortion, and the separation of church and state. It is rarely the pastor who is approached by an old buddy from grammar school who hasn't practiced the faith in years but is at that point in life when his mind has been set to wondering. It isn't the pastor who is collared by the guy with the big, fat grin, spouting biblical injunctions and looking for a convert. Parishioners have to deal with that kind of thing on a daily basis, from the wise-cracking brother-in-law to the fellow worker to the guy serving a beer at the bar to the broadcaster on the evening news to the sitcom before going to bed. Parishioners are not only the primary evangelizers of the faith in the workplace and educators in the faith at home. They are also the chief apologists and defenders of the faith where the rubber meets the road."* (Robert Lockwood).

Are you up to this task? How do we empower our laity to gain that confidence to share why they believe what they believe? One lesson I learned over the years of my association with small faith groups is the tremendous learning the participants gained through sharing. They felt they were deepening their knowledge of the Bible, their faith and their church's practices. This enabled them to have the confidence to give answers to those who asked them questions about matters of faith. But this requires intentional efforts. That's why phrases like 'ongoing formation' and 'in-service training' are applicable not only in the secular professions but also in our religious formation. If living out our faith is limited to Sunday attendance, we have only a minimalist approach that does not help us to experience the promise of Jesus: "I have come that you may have life, life in its fullness." (John 10:10).

This is the reason why the Church in the United States is moving towards Whole Family Catechesis. Our own diocese of Metuchen is also encouraging us to move from the regular religious education of students to Family faith formation where parents and the children come together and learn. Many parishes have already implemented this. That's why I have requested all the parents to attend one of the two meetings scheduled for today and tomorrow, to understand this important family plan that will certainly enrich our faith formation as a community.

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## ALTAR FLOWERS MEMORIALS



The **Altar Flower Ministry** is always interested in having additional volunteers. We are currently putting together our schedule for April to August. If you'd like to give it a try for even one weekend we are happy to guide you through the process. Also, if anyone would like to memorialize a loved one with an arrangement please be in touch and we can assist in coordinating the contact and picking up the flowers from a local florist. For more information, please contact Mary Connolly (908-930-0784 or [mandmconnolly@gmail.com](mailto:mandmconnolly@gmail.com)). Thanks!

## ROLE OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The paschal candle has its proper place either by the ambo or by the altar and should be lit at least in all the more solemn liturgical celebrations of the season until Pentecost Sunday, whether at Mass, or at Morning and Evening Prayer. After the Easter season the candle should be kept with honor in the baptistry, so that in the celebration of Baptism the candles of the baptized may be lit from them. In the celebration of funerals, the paschal candle should be placed near the coffin to indicate that the death of a Christian is his own Passover. The paschal candle should not otherwise be lit nor placed in the sanctuary outside the Easter season.

## ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP



**April 30th - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Please consider helping out with some of the necessary cleaning, maintenance and repairs around the Church, Office, Residence and grounds. Lunch will be provided. We can use your help for all or any part of the day. Please sign up in the Narthex, or just show up. We appreciate your help for all or any part of the day. If you have any questions, call Sharon in the office 908-832-2513.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**April 10, 2016**

**"Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'"**

**JOHN 21:17**

All of us are challenged to show our love for Jesus by "feeding His sheep." Through prayer ask God how you should best use your time, talent and treasure to assist those who are in need. Remember that giving is an act of worship and helps advance the mission of our parish and greater Church.

## Parish Contact Information

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

**Office Center.....908-832-2513**

Fax.....908-832-7618

Email.....[sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org)

Rev. Abraham Orapankal..... Pastor

Email.....[abraham@ccsjn.org](mailto:abraham@ccsjn.org)

Earl Roberts..... Deacon

Email.....[earlr1@verizon.net](mailto:earlr1@verizon.net)

Sharon Janks..... Pastoral Administrator

Email.....[sjanks@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjanks@ccsjn.org)

France Kennedy..... Pastoral Associate

Email.....[fkennedy@ccsjn.org](mailto:fkennedy@ccsjn.org)

Kerri Caldaro..... Financial Administrator

Email.....[kcaldaro@ccsjn.org](mailto:kcaldaro@ccsjn.org)

Wayne Infusino..... Maintenance

**Religious Education.....908-832-2162**

Renee Ciszewski. Director of Religious Education

Email.....[renee@ccsjn.org](mailto:renee@ccsjn.org)

Jo Ann Jarvis..... Office of Catechesis

Email.....[jjarvis@ccsjn.org](mailto:jjarvis@ccsjn.org)

Social Ministry..... [socialministry@ccsjn.org](mailto:socialministry@ccsjn.org)

Anne Germino and Greg Wilson

Bulletin [bulletin@ccsjn.org](mailto:bulletin@ccsjn.org)

Youth Ministry [sjnygroup@gmail.com](mailto:sjnygroup@gmail.com)

# Christian Formation - Catechesis

## **CATECHIST APPRECIATION BRUNCH**



**Sunday, April  
24th, 11:30 a.m.**

All catechists and assistants in the Religious Education program are invited to attend a brunch on Sunday, April 24th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Office Center. Contact the Office of Catechesis to RSVP at 832-2162 or [jjarvis@ccsjn.org](mailto:jjarvis@ccsjn.org).



## **FIRST EUCHARIST CLASSES**

**Sat., April 23, 2:30 p.m., Church Center**

The last regular session for First Eucharist students will be on Saturday, April 23, at 2:30 p.m. in the Church Center. Please note the earlier start time for this session.



## **GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER**

**Religious Education Parent Meeting**

Please join Fr. Abraham and Renee Ciszewski as they discuss with you the direction of our Religious Education Program at St. John's and how we need to Grow In Faith Together in the future. Fr. Abraham requests that all K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Education Parents and all our Catechists to attend one of the following parent meetings in the church center:

**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> - 11:30 a.m. OR Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m.**

This is a very important meeting that will affect us all positively. Refreshments and babysitting will be provided. **Please let us know if you will require childcare (832-2162) or by email [renee@ccsjn.org](mailto:renee@ccsjn.org)**

# Social Ministry

## **INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK**

Our next opportunity to help those in need right here in Hunterdon County will be from May 8-15, when we co-host for the Interfaith Hospitality Network with our neighboring parish, Spruce Run Lutheran. There are many ways to be of help including helping to set up, providing a meal, overnight assistance, or simply providing hospitality. There are always children who enjoy having other children to interact with, so it is a great family project as well. For more information on this, please go to [www.ccsjn.org](http://www.ccsjn.org). Check the link under Social Ministry or contact Debbie Hunt at [dhuntfam1@comcast.net](mailto:dhuntfam1@comcast.net).

To see when & where help is needed, check the Sign Up Genius link at <http://www.signupgenius.com/jj/30e054eafad22a20-family>.



## **RAISED BED INSTALLATION**

The day began with a bit of rain but that did not deter about 10 Boy Scouts, their adult leaders and volunteers from St. John's from the task of building 27 raised beds for the community garden last Saturday. A big thanks to James Weber, who is earning his Eagle Scout Rank with this project and members of his Troop 92 who put in a good day of work. Thanks to all who made financial contributions to pay for materials. Thanks to Califon Lumber for donating the materials at cost AND cutting all of the lumber to size and delivering it for FREE! If you stop into the store, please be sure to thank them for their generous contribution to this project. Thanks to all the volunteers from St. John's for teaching, supervising and assisting with the build. All of the bed frames were completed and most were set into place. We await another delivery of dirt so we can finish filling the rest of the beds. Please be sure to join us for a Blessing of the Community Garden following the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, May 1. Sign-ups for the beds will begin that weekend. For more information contact Anne Germino at [socialministry@ccsjn.org](mailto:socialministry@ccsjn.org).

## **EASTER FOOD DELIVERY THANKS!**

Thanks to our community where "Every Member is a Minister" our Easter Food Delivery was a success. Because of this, we were able to supply 19 elderly individuals and 10 families with food and groceries.

We want to thank the Social Ministry Team for all of the effort that went into this project. Also, Stacy Niemiec, & her daughter, Sarah for picking up the donated perishables Clinton Shop-Rite. Thanks also to the Cantelmi and Ranallo families for their assistance with the pack-up after Stations of the Cross on Friday evening. The turn out after Stations was extraordinary with help from all ages. The sign-up sheets weren't used and so we don't have a list of all that attended this family driven event. On Saturday, Charlie & Melissa Fortenbaker, Bill & Debbie Hunt, Rene' Osgood, the Evanko tribe of ladies, the Cantelmi family & a few others delivered all the food and had a chance to meet some of those in need. A special note of thanks to Jeremy Hoffman who assisted behind the scenes as well as on stage during the preparations and on-going activities. Again, we apologize to anyone who did help and finds their name missing from this thank you list.

## **SAVE THESE DATES!**

- Catechist Brunch ..... April 24
- Spring Cleanup..... April 30
- Living Rosary..... May 1
- Parish Community Meeting ..... May 2
- First Eucharist Celebration ..... May 7
- May Crowning ..... May 15
- Grand Auction & Dinner Dance . June 4

# Social Ministry (continued) and Parish News



## SPRING GIVING TREE

There are only a few flowers left on the Spring Giving Tree! Once again, we will be supporting: **Safe in Hunterdon**, which provides shelter for women and their children who suffer from abuse; the **Center for Great Expectations**, which assists homeless women throughout their pregnancies; and the **Samaritan Homeless Interim Program**, which offers a free meal three times a week to anyone who is hungry without having to justify their need. Please help spread Easter joy to those who benefit from these three organizations. Please:

1. Take a tag from the Tree.
2. Sign it out on the appropriate Log Sheet.
3. Purchase your gift, attaching the tag you took as the label.
4. Drop off gift in the narthex or Seton Room by Sun., April 24<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Jo Ann Jarvis at 908-832-2162 or [jjarvis@ccsjn.org](mailto:jjarvis@ccsjn.org). Thank you for your generous support!

## STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to all the parishioners who participated in our Holy Week and Easter Celebration. We appreciate the Music Ministry for what they add to our worship at each of these special Masses as well as the inclusion of the Bell Choir. The Environment Committee who prepare the worship space for the various liturgical experiences of Holy Week. The extra hands that came to clean and explode the church into Easter Joy, the Plant Waterers who help keep the flowers and plants healthy for our visual offering in prayer, the Cleaning Teams who work week in and week out to clean the church and keep our costs down, and the Liturgical Ministers who serve at the Masses as Readers, Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers. Consider how you would like to be involved in these behind the scenes ministries.

## MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

"Peace be with you." (John 20:21) All married couples hurt one another at one time or another. Whether minor or large, it still can hurt. Offering forgiveness can bring peace to you both. Is there anything left unforgiven in your marriage? Make peace.



## DOROTHY DAY: A SAINT OF MERCY FOR OUR TIME

*Presenter: Martha Hennessy*

*Thursday, April 21, 2016 - Morning and Evening Sessions*

*"Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life." (MV,2)*

Our world continually needs to hear the "voice in the wilderness" that calls us to encounter, conversion and discipleship in Christ. Martha will share her own work in the Catholic Worker Movement as well as the ever fresh vision of her grandmother, Dorothy Day, Servant of God, who dedicated her life to the face of God's mercy. The event will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, and will be held at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The event is free, registration is required. For more information or to register, visit <http://diometuchen.org/>

## VETERAN DONATIONS

We are now accepting donations for the Veterans at VHN for the April 9th drop off date. We accept furniture (smaller scale to fit in apartments) and some kitchen items. These items must be approved and not be "projects."

We also need drivers, trucks and movers. We have a small list of volunteers we will be calling, but can always use more for this or future dates. Call or text - Sandra (908.507.2378) or Suzanne (908.581.1869) to donate or can volunteer to help-thanks!

## HOUSE BLESSING!

### **WHY NOT YOURS THIS EASTER SEASON?**

A wonderful custom, prevailing in many parts of the world, that some of us have found very meaningful in the past few years, Fr. Abraham is offering this again this year. The Easter House blessing, a short prayer with family members, is a happy reminder of the Easter blessings that we are called to live. If you feel drawn to this lovely practice, contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient day and time; this will enhance your appreciation of the Catholic way of life.

## PARENTING TUNE-UP

"Together were Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, Zebedee's sons, and two others..." (John 21:2) Jesus' friends decide to go on a fishing trip. At first they don't recognize Jesus on shore. How many of your child's friends can you name? Talk together about their personalities and strengths.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### **Office Angels**

Wed., April 19 A. Sawczuk  
Wed., April 20 M. D'Avella

### **Store Cards April 9 & 10**

5:30 p.m. J. Eacovalle  
8:00 a.m. V. Hoffart  
10:30 a.m. D. Hunt

### **April 16 & 17**

5:30 p.m. C. Crescenti  
8:00 a.m. K. Dabrowski  
10:30 a.m. D. Royal

### **Church Center Plant Watering**

Week of 4/10 C. Fortenbacker  
Week of 4/17 B. Lee

### **Church Center Cleaning**

April 8 Team B  
April 15 Team C

### **Altar Flowers**

April 16 France Kennedy  
April 23 Mary Connolly

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Virgilio Alves  
Eugene Cifranic  
Bill & Ginny Ciszewski  
Jean Crickenberger  
John D'Almeida  
Vicky Davids  
Tino DeSantis  
Sophia DeVita  
Neil Ercolano  
Paul Ferri  
Gordon Furlong  
Sophie Geist  
Fred Holub  
Barbara Jiroushek  
Lou Livoti  
Dick McCall  
Jan McLeavey  
Christine Meyer  
Fred Moser  
Evelyn Murray  
Fran Miceli  
Beau (Bernice) Mills  
Michael James Nonestied  
Mary Lou O'Brien  
Floyd Opdyke  
Linda Owens  
Nilsa Perez Parsons  
John Pfeufer  
Larry Riley  
Anne & Joe Sacco  
Theodore Semper  
Noah Skinner  
Michael Slivka  
Julie Suplee  
Madeline S. Vigilanti  
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

## SUNDAY REFLECTION: A Vigil for Forgiveness

After much thought and prayer, she decided to volunteer. Cynthia Rios-Myers decided to go to pray for one hour outside of an abortion center near her home in San Diego. As so many others in her parish and community had done, she would stand alone on the sidewalk, quietly on the corner, carrying no sign or other visual expression of protest. She would simply pray the rosary. This was deeply personal to her - because many years before she had been one of the women she was now praying for. Ms. Rios-Myers writes of her vigil in the magazine **Commonweal** [February 12, 2016]:

"I knew that, in their own minds at least, the girls entering the clinic were not doing any evil; they were frightened, and perhaps desperate. I know these things, because many years ago, I visited an abortion center. Twice . . . I was eighteen and involved with a bad man whom I could not say no to. I didn't yet know that abuse is not always delivered by punches, kicks and slaps. All I knew was that my relationship with him was devouring my soul, and I had to end it. I terminated my first pregnancy, and that should have been lesson enough. But it wasn't. I stayed with the bad man and got pregnant again. He blamed that one on me. After my second abortion, I got away from him, but the damage was done. The guilt and horror of what I'd done turned part of my soul black; I'd carry that forever.

Standing outside the abortion clinic, I prayed for specific things. I prayed for the souls of the babies who lives were ended. I prayed for the women who had the abortions. I prayed for women in relationships that cost them their happiness, safety, and their sense of self. I prayed for myself, too . . . I know that women seeking an abortion don't need me to hold a sign saying that they are doing evil things. But maybe if they see me praying, they'll pray themselves. Maybe some of them will think about the Blessed Virgin Mary and how hard her unplanned pregnancy was. Maybe they'll think of her son and see him in their own unborn children. I can't undo what I did, but I can at least share my story, and stand for an hour, and pray, for whoever needs my prayers. So that is what I will continue to do."

**No one is beyond forgiveness and reconciliation with God. Today's Gospel is a beautiful story of such redeeming forgiveness. The Risen Jesus asks Peter three times - the same number of times that Peter denied him - to profess his love for him. We can hear the pain and hurt in Peter's voice - but also his conviction - in his response after Jesus asks Peter a third time if he loves him: "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you." Jesus is not taunting Peter here but calling Peter to move beyond the past and to take on the challenges of apostleship. In forgiving Peter as he does, in affecting reconciliation with Peter, Jesus transforms Peter's regrets and shame into understanding of and commitment to the Gospel the fisherman has witnessed. In her witness and prayers at the clinic, Cynthia and those of like heart mirror, not the judgment of Jesus, but the forgiveness of Jesus to move beyond the past to the possibilities for resurrection and restoration. Their prayer expresses their belief that these women and their families can move on from this tragedy to a new perspective and appreciation of God's gift of life. The Easter Christ calls Peter and his brothers and now all of us to take on his work of reconciliation: to possess - despite our doubts and disappointments - the heart of the Risen Jesus to forgive and seek forgiveness, to be the means of enabling God's mercy to be realized in our own families, neighborhoods and communities.**

## WANT TO MAKE ST. JOHN'S YOUR HOME?

If you come to Mass but have never officially registered - we hope you consider finding out more about St. John's. There are many events and opportunities you might be interested in and we would be happy to share with you more information about the parish so you feel at home. Contact France Kennedy on her cell 908-307-7879 for more information.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF 3/14/16

The meeting began with the Lectio Divina sharing on the following Sunday's gospel. Three of our parish Ministries then gave presentations on their ministry.

**Stewardship:** Anthony DeStefano, detailed the diminishing number of activities and expressed a serious concern: despite the fact that this ministry did an excellent job for over 15 years, he felt that the original goal of this ministry had reached a saturation point and hence had concerns about its future. It was decided that two PC members collaborate with the Stewardship Committee explore this concern and suggest ideas. Peter and Andrew volunteered to participate in this endeavor.

**Finance:** Ray Klacik & Bill Hunt represented the Finance Committee, and spoke about the steps they have taken to stabilize and improve the financial health of the parish. They are exploring the some possibilities for increasing our Sunday offertory/contributions and online giving.

**Catholic Heart Work Camp:** Mary Connelly shared briefly the history of CHWC and our parish support with the success of the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance. This year there will be approximately 85 individuals attending the CHWC (16 adults 69 Kids). Since about half of these are from ICC, Annandale, she had a meeting with Msgr Randy Vashon who agreed to collaborate in this project.

### **The Council proceeded with other items and agreed on the following:**

- Agreed to sponsor the Soup & Stations on March 18;
- Showed appreciation for the significant number of people who attended the extended Holy Hour as part of the Pope's call for "24 Hours for the Lord";
- Agreed to invite prospective new Members for the Council to come and observe the PC meeting
- Agreed to host the Community Coffee on Palm Sunday and be available for any questions from parishioners;
- Fixed May 2 for the next Parish Community Meeting
- Discussed thanking/recognizing those parishioners who move away from the Parish.
- The meeting was adjourned with a short prayer.



### **SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY - Advice from Children**



- Never allow your three-year old brother in the same room as your school assignment. - Traci, 14.
- Felt markers are not good to use as lipstick. - Lauren, 9.
- Don't pick on your sister when she's holding a baseball bat. - Joel, 10.
- When you get a bad grade in school, show it to your mom when she's on the phone. - Alysha, 13.
- Never try to baptize a cat. - Eileen, 8.

## **PASSION & PURPOSE: MARRIAGE**

**April 16 2016 10am to 2:30pm—Tickets \$25 person**

St. Joseph the Worker, 1879 Applewood Dr., Orefield, PA 18069 (Allentown)

Passion & Purpose for Marriage is not what you are expecting! First of all, don't worry, you will not have to share your feelings with a group. Come and enjoy acoustical music by George Lower and soak up what Dr. Allen Hunt has in store. Allen talks about the Five Love Languages, along with a variety of other topics and research bits, he combines everything into three very faith centered, compelling sections; The Five Things Women Need to Know about Men, The Five Things Men Need to Know about Women, and finally the Most Important Word in a Marriage...ant it's not Love. Allen's speaking style is bound to capture your attention; his humor will have you laughing, and all along the way learning more about every relationship in your life.

Because we all want a happy life.<http://cart.dynamiccatholic.com/Passion-and-Purpose-for-Marriage-Orefield-PA-p/mr041616.htm>

## **WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**For April 3, 2016**

86 Donors Weekly ..... \$6,057.00  
54 Donors Yellow Brick Rd. \$2,081.00  
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38 Donors Weekly ..... \$1,037.00

## **SHOP RITE & KINGS CARDS**



Thanks to **6 families** who purchased Shop Rite and Kings gift cards the last week, totaling **\$1,000.00**. The stores gave us **\$50.00** Cards are available after Mass or at the office weekdays.



## **AQUIRE 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, April 10th at 7 PM in the Old Church Hall of Our Lady of Lourdes (390 County Road 523, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889). We will have a guest speaker who will be speaking on vocations. Save the date for our next meeting on April 24th.

To join the list serve please email Susan at [acquirethefire@ollwhs.org](mailto:acquirethefire@ollwhs.org).



## **FULL TIME CAREGIVER**

Local family looking for full time caregiver for middle stage Alzheimer's. Must be able to drive and be a certified nursing assistant. Hunterdon Medical offers a month long training program for certification. Hours to 6pm daily. Contact parish office 832-2513.



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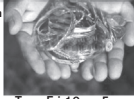
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