

# The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

www.ccsjn.org

August 21, 2016

Volume 34, Number 34



## *A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition*

Diocese of Metuchen

Most Rev. James F. Checchio,  
JCD, MBA  
Bishop of Metuchen

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, D.D.  
Bishop Emeritus

www.diometuchen.org

### *Our Parish*

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D. ....  
..... Pastor  
Rev. J William Mickiewicz.....  
..... Founding Pastor Emeritus  
Earl Roberts.....Deacon  
Mary Cangelosi.....Trustee  
Fred Heimall.....Trustee

#### *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 .....8:00 a.m.  
Friday .....7:00 a.m.

#### **Reconciliation:**

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

## 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*

# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, August 23

8:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

### Friday, August 26

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

### Saturday, August 27

5:30 p.m. Phillip & Elizabeth Prosdocimi  
req. Eileen McCabe

### Sunday, August 28

8:00 a.m. Susan Gaydos, req.  
Cathy and Tom Bennett

10:30 a.m. Peter Abeles, req  
St. John Neumann



## Parish Calendar

### Sun., Aug. 21 - Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time / Social Ministry Weekend

- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
- 6:30 p.m. Social Ministry Sponsored Community Coffee (Garden and Church)
- 10:30 a.m. Mass - King Baptism (Church Center)
- 6:30 p.m. Social Ministry Sponsored Community Coffee (Garden and Church)

### Mon., Aug. 22 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 7:00 p.m. Fund Raising Meeting (Office Center Kitchen)

### Tues., August 23 - Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
- 3:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)
- 7:00 p.m. Connxions Meeting (Office Center Kitchen)

### Wed., Aug. 24 - Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

- 5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)

### Thurs., Aug. 25-Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

- 7:00 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

### Friday, Aug. 26 - Weekday

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

### Saturday, Aug. 27 - Saint Monica

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Spirituality Breakfast (Office Center)
- 5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

## Mass Schedule - August 27/28

### Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Celebrant ..... Fr. Abraham Orapankal  
Reader ..... David Geerinck  
Altar Server ..... Uss Family  
Ministers of the Eucharist..... Joann Gardner  
..... Lyle Garcia, Donna Torczon

### Sunday

8:00 a.m.

Celebrant ..... Fr. Abraham Orapankal  
Reader ..... Alexa Johnson  
Altar Server ..... Needed  
Ministers of the Eucharist..... Joe Sima  
..... Dorothy Sima, Debby Kelemen

### Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrant ..... Fr. Abraham Orapankal  
Reader ..... Jane Albert  
Altar Server ..... D'Avella Family  
Music Eucharistic Minister ..... Anita Sawczuk  
Ministers of the Eucharist..... Marlene Milko, Donna Lance  
..... Ana Giametta, Gloria Cucchiara, Mark Brisson

### Sunday, Aug. 28 - Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
- 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Retreat Planning Mtg (Drexel Room)



### Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharistic: **Linda Ownes, Ted Semper, Evelyn Murray, Timothy Bell, Raffeala Williamson, and Mark Johnson.**

**Deceased:** Linda Owens, wife of Art Owens, Ted Semper, brother in law of Barbara Gates, Evelyn Murray, sister of Florence Murray, Timothy Bell, cousin of Cathleen Ferns, Raffaela Williamson, niece of Sharon Janks, and Mark Johnson, husband to Lynn Johnson, son of Joan Johnson, and father to Alexa Johnson.. May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord and may their families find strength in the Lord and comfort and support from family and friends.

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

Dear Friends,

Many of us will remember the CBS TV hit "Touched By An Angel" which ran for nine seasons from 1994 to 2003. Roma Downey was Monica, the lead angel who acted as a human being in each episode, revealing her true identity to people and sharing an inspiring message of God's love and forgiveness. Downey has become a producer and her latest production is "Ben Hur" – a remake of the 1959 Academy Award-winning classic – which is due to be released in theaters this weekend. It is the story of Judah Ben-Hur, a wealthy nobleman in Jerusalem in 26 A.D. who is wrongly accused of a crime and, after years of being forced into slavery, seeks revenge by way of an epic chariot race and his life-changing interaction with Jesus Christ.

I mention this, not because I am an ardent movie fan like Fr. Bill who has an uncanny gift of using movies in his homilies to distil meaningful insights connecting with our life. Instead, my reason is simply to invite us to take note of things that can inspire us – like this movie that has a Christian theme that will not only entertain us but also strengthen our faith as well as that of our children. My own memory of Ben Hur (some 40 years ago when I saw it in the Seminary) is that of a big action-adventure movie but it touched me with a deeper message about faith, hope, patience, and reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. Downey's own hope is that *"people come in to be entertained by an epic movie experience but that they will go away feeling that, in the same way Ben Hur's heart is opened to the love of God, there might be people watching who are holding onto anger or disappointment and maybe, just maybe, they'll see this film and want to lay down the stone they've been carrying."*

Are we not all looking for these very things? A stronger faith, constant hope, persistent patience and the peace through healing, joy and fellowship that come from reconciliation and forgiveness? We can have these if only we look for them in the right places. We can be proud that our parish is such a place of God's presence, grace and peace. Now that many of our parishioners are returning after vacation, I am thrilled to hear comments like: "What a feeling of home coming!" "We attended Mass in different churches, but nothing like ours!" "I couldn't find this sense of joy and fellowship in any other church during our summer travels. We're so glad to be back home!" etc.

As we thank God for these good comments, let us not remain complacent. We need to be more and do more in order to fully grow into that true community that Jesus is inviting us to be. This weekend is the Name Tag Sunday where we make an attempt to know our fellow worshippers calling them by name! Yes, *"we are a Jubilant people on a continuing spiritual journey of hope"* – as our Mission Statement states on the bulletin cover!

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## NAME TAG WEEKEND

As you arrived for Mass today you were asked to participate in Name Tag Weekend. This is sponsored by the Connxions Ministry. The intent is to periodically ask that parishioners wear Name Tags to more easily connect with one another. We often know fellow parishioners by sight but were never formally introduced or maybe just forgot their name. Our hope is this will aid us in being more comfortable in our communication.

## STAFF SUMMER READING PICKS

### *A Simple-Life-Changing Prayer: by Jim Manney*

Jim Manney introduces Christians to a 500-year-old form of prayer, St. Ignatius Loyola's Examen in this short summer read. The *examen* leads us into a relationship with a God who desires to be personally caught up in the lives of those whom he created.  
[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

## 21ST SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

August 21, 2016

***"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last."***  
**Luke 13:30**

Our standards in our society are so different from God's standards. We often rate or rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards.

## WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING ANY ITEMS FOR THE TAG SALE

As of now, we are not accepting any items for our annual Tag Sale. PLEASE do not leave anything at the carriage house. This may change in the near future with a virtual online sale. We will notify all when we are accepting big ticket items. Thank you.

## NEW TO THE PARISH?

### DISCOVER ST. JOHN'S

If you are new to the area, just found St. John's, or have been here for years but never registered, we invite you to an informal lunch for information on the parish. Parish registration has its benefits! Email, call or text France Kennedy for information. 908-307-7879, [fkennedy@ccsjn.org](mailto:fkennedy@ccsjn.org).

## 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

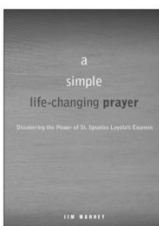
Email ..... [jjarvis@ccsjn.org](mailto:jjarvis@ccsjn.org)

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

## **GIFT- GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER - Save the Date!**

**"The miracle is not that we do this work, but that we are happy to do it."**

**Blessed Mother Teresa**



Catechist Meeting for the Sunday and Monday Family Formation Program August 29, 2016 at 6:30PM in the Drexel Room.

We will gather for a brief meeting and distribution of materials for the coming year. Please mark your calendar. If you're not able to attend email [renee@ccsjn.org](mailto:renee@ccsjn.org) or [jarvis@ccsjn.org](mailto:jarvis@ccsjn.org)

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALLING VOLUNTEERS TO SHARE THEIR FAITH**

"Educating in faith is good! It is perhaps the best legacy we can give:



The Religious Education Program invites you to share your faith with the children of St. John's by becoming a catechist or co-catechist in our once-a-month family faith formation program. You can choose either the Sunday morning or Monday evening monthly session. This is a wonderful way to enrich your personal and family faith. Each catechist is provided with resources and support, and we have substitute catechists. Prayerfully consider this invitation to teach! **You do not have to have a child in the program to teach.** Teen volunteers are welcome, too! Contact Renee Ciszewski at [renee@ccsjn.org](mailto:renee@ccsjn.org).

## **UPCOMING "PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN" SESSIONS**

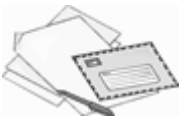


Whether you're a current or future catechist or even just considering helping out sometime in the future in one of the many programs in our parish that involve children, please consider attending one of the following "Protecting God's Children" workshops:

- August 23 at 7 p.m. – St. Brigid, Peapack
- August 24 at 10 a.m. – St. Brigid, Peapack
- August 25 at 9 a.m. – Diocese of Metuchen Pastoral Center, Piscataway
- August 25 at 7 p.m. – St. James, Basking Ridge
- August 29 at 7 p.m. – St. Magdalen de Pazzi, Flemington
- August 31 at 7 p.m. – Immaculate Conception, Annandale
- September 29 at 7 p.m. – Immaculate Conception, Annandale

**Protecting God's Children® for Adults** is training conducted by VIRTUS® certified facilitators on the prevention of child sexual abuse. The Diocese of Metuchen requires every adult who is ministering to children and teens to attend one of these programs. A green Virtus link to register for one of the above workshops, as well as a listing of others in the diocese, can be found on the bottom right corner of the diocese home page at [diometuchen.org](http://diometuchen.org). Some sessions book quickly, so please register early.

## **CONFIRMATION PRAYER SPONSORS**



**Return Letters by September 2**

The 2016 Confirmation class will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop James F. Checchio on Thursday, October 13, at 7:00 p.m. Mass. At this time, we are inviting the community of St. John's to participate as Confirmation Prayer Sponsors. Parishioners are asked to take home a picture of a candidate from the tri-fold board that is set up in the narthex. Be sure to sign your name next to the candidate's name in the log provided. Then pray for your candidate and write a letter of support that will be given to your candidate during their Fairview Lake Retreat. Letters should be returned no later than September 2<sup>nd</sup> to the basket in the narthex or to the Office Center.

## **THE BACK TO SCHOOL GIVING TREE**



The annual Back to School Giving tree is brimming with tags. Please take a tag, and return with your donation by Sunday, August 28th. For your convenience we are selling gift cards to be donated after mass in the Narthex. All donations go to Catholic Charities in Phillipsburg, where they distribute the school supplies to families who otherwise would not have been able to provide the supplies for their children."

## Social Ministry

### **HELP THE HOMELESS IN HUNTERDON**

Our next scheduled opportunity to assist with the Interfaith Hospitality Network is coming up from August 28-September 4 at Spruce Run Lutheran Church on Hill Road in Lebanon Township. This is a great way to assist those less fortunate close to home, and for children & families to do some community service while school is not in session. Please consider adding this opportunity to your end of summer plans. The children really enjoy having other playmates, and there are many different ways to help. If you have volunteered before, please check your email - and if not, there are details on what it entails on the parish website at <http://www.ccsjn.org/social-ministry>.

To see what is needed and when, check the website, Sign Up Genius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054eafad22a20-family2>.

### **SOME GENTLY USED AIR CONDITIONERS ARE AVAILABLE**

One of the families in our Community has offered 2 air conditioners to someone in need. Specifically, they are 12,000 BTU units that can be fitted into windows. The dimensions are 25" wide x 183/4" high x 251/4" deep. They come with all of the parts required to secure them in place and can be delivered. So, if you need, or know someone that needs these units, please call Greg Wilson @908 338 7322 for more details. Thanks.

# Social Ministry (continued)



## NOTES FROM THE GARDEN

Produce continues to come in abundance to the Project Earth Garden and Community Garden! We have picked more than 70 pounds of green beans and delivered more than 350 pounds of produce to Elijah's Promise in

New Brunswick. Green beans, broccoli and zucchini along with blueberry muffins were served at SHIP soup kitchen this month using fresh produce from the garden. On Saturday we attended the Califon Farmer's Market organized by our wonderful friends and neighbors at the Califon United Methodist Church. We enjoyed seeing folks from St. John's as well as meeting new people. Money made from the sale of produce donated by members of the Community Garden along with some of those bountiful green beans will go towards developing a rain water collection system that reduces our dependence on the church well. The next date for the Farmer's Market will be September 10. We dug the potatoes this past week. Read next week's bulletin to see who won the "Biggest Potato" contest. After Mass today, come out for a tour of the garden as part of Social Ministry Weekend. All are welcome in the garden! To volunteer, contact Anne Germino at [socialministry@ccsjn.org](mailto:socialministry@ccsjn.org).

## SOCIAL MINISTRY IS HOSTING APPETIZERS AND COFFEE AFTER MASS THIS WEEKEND

We apologize for the late notice, but if you read this before leaving Church this weekend, you are invited to participate in either appetizer type food and cold drinks after 5:30 Mass or Coffee + after the 8:00 and 10:30 Masses on Sunday. While you're at it, please wander into our gardens and read some of the information on the displays we've put together that highlight some of the things we've been doing. As a Community we are making a difference in the lives of many people with challenges. Please continue to help us help them. Thank you in advance and enjoy

# Parish News

## PREPARE FOR MOTHER TERESA'S CANONIZATION

Pope Francis will declare Mother Teresa a saint on September 4, 2016 during the 10am Mass (4am EST) at St. Peter's Square, Rome. Good for us to read her biography and other books on her. The event will be telecast live and so we all can watch it and be inspired by this "saint of the gutters." For millions of people from all walks of life, Mother Teresa's canonization is providentially taking place during Pope Francis's Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. This is entirely fitting since she is seen both inside and outside of the Church as an icon of God's mercy to those in need. Even in her lifetime, Mother Teresa was an icon of God's tender mercy, radiating the light of God's love to so many through the works of mercy, both material and spiritual. From heaven she continues to fulfil her mission as she "lights the light of those in darkness on earth." With her canonization, the Church presents her as a model and intercessor of those who, like her, "long to light the fire of love and peace throughout the world." She can be taken as a patron saint especially for those who are most in need of God's mercy.

By her example and through her intercession, may Mother Teresa inspire many to give their 'hearts to love and their hands to serve', starting with those closest to them. May we all continue to live and deepen our awareness of being in need of mercy and our willingness to extend mercy in our communities, in our families and in our service of the poor. "Holiness is not the luxury of the few, it is a simple duty for each one of us." (Mother Teresa).

"If we really want to love we must learn how to forgive."

*Bl. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

## ALTAR FLOWER HELP AND MEMORIALS



The Altar Flower Ministry is always interested in having additional volunteers. We are currently putting together our schedule for September to November. 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!

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

### For August 14, 2016

74 Donors Weekly.....	\$4,723.53
24 Donors Assumption.....	\$347.00
9 Donors YBR.....	\$280.00

### For August 16, 2015

74 Donors Weekly.....	\$3,822.05
20 Donors Assumption.....	\$296.10
7 Donors YBR.....	\$325.00

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Virgilio Alves  
Gary Bergmann  
Joan Cardierre  
Eugene Cifranic  
Bill Ciszewski  
Jean Crickenberger  
John D'Almeida  
Barbara DelPiano  
Tino DeSantis  
Sophia DeVita  
Paul Ferri  
Sophie Geist  
Marion Hergert  
Fred Holub  
Barbara Jirushek  
Patrick Kline  
Lou Livoti  
Iole Matthews  
Dick McCall  
Jan McLeavey  
Christine Meyer  
Fran Miceli  
Danny Mulvey  
Mary Lou O'Brien  
Floyd Opdyke  
Linda Owens  
Nilsa Perez Parsons  
John Pfeufer  
Anne & Joe Sacco  
Theodore Semper  
Noah Skinner  
Michael Slivka  
Al Sterphone  
Julie Suplee  
Nicholas Troiano  
Don Velli  
Melodie Shae Webster  
William Weimer  
Josh Wilkes  
Caden Zane  
Jill Zane  
Joey Zieba

## MILITARY PERSONNEL

If you have someone in the military you would like us to pray for, call the office or drop the name into the collection basket. As military personnel leave the Service, please notify us so 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  
C3C, Geerinck, Joshua, U.S. Air Force  
Private, Linzer, Matthew, U.S. Army  
Seaman, Linzer, Stephanie, U.S. Navy  
SR O'Leary, Thomas, U.S. Navy  
Captain Royal, Benjamin P., USMC  
Lieutenant JG Simila, Nicole, U.S. Navy

## HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS ON 31 JULY AT MASS FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY

*(Here's the final part of his homily in this bulletin):*

After his small stature and the paralysis of shame, there was a *third* obstacle that Zacchaeus had to face. It was no longer an interior one, but was all around him. It was the *grumbling of the crowd*, who first blocked him and then criticized him: How could Jesus have entered his house, the house of a sinner! How truly hard it is to welcome Jesus, how hard it is to accept a "God who is rich in mercy" (*Eph 2:4*)! People will try to block you, to make you think that God is distant, rigid and insensitive, good to the good and bad to the bad. Instead, our heavenly Father "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good" (*Mt 5:45*). He demands of us real courage: the courage to be *more powerful than evil* by loving everyone, even our enemies. People may laugh at you because you believe in the gentle and unassuming power of mercy. But do not be afraid. Think of the motto of these days: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy" (*Mt 5:7*). People may judge you to be dreamers, because you believe in a new humanity, one that rejects hatred between peoples, one that refuses to see borders as barriers and can cherish its own traditions without being self-centered or small-minded. Don't be discouraged: with a smile and open arms, you proclaim hope and you are a blessing for our one human family, which here you represent so beautifully!

Finally let us listen to the words that Jesus spoke to Zacchaeus, which to be seem meant for us today: "Come down, for I must stay at your house today" (v. 5). Jesus extends the same invitation to you: "I must stay at your house today". We can say that World Youth Day *begins today and continues tomorrow, in your homes*, since that is where Jesus wants to meet you from now on. The Lord doesn't want to remain in this beautiful city, or in cherished memories alone. He wants to enter your homes, to dwell in your daily lives: in your studies, your first years of work, your friendships and affections, your hopes and dreams. How greatly he desires that you bring all this to him in prayer! How much he hopes that, in all the "contacts" and "chats" of each day, pride of place be given to the golden thread of prayer! How much he wants his word to be able to speak to you day after day, so that you can make his Gospel your own, so that it can serve as a compass for you on the highways of life!

In asking to come to your house, Jesus *calls you*, as he did Zacchaeus, *by name*. Your name is precious to him. The name "Zacchaeus" would have made people back the think of the *remembrance of God*. Trust the memory of God: his memory is not a "hard disk" that "saves" and "archives" all our data, but a heart filled with tender compassion, one that finds joy in "erasing" in us every trace of evil. May we too now try to imitate the faithful memory of God and treasure the good things we have received in these days. In silence, let us remember this encounter, let us preserve the memory of the presence of God and his word, and let us listen once more to the voice of Jesus as he calls us by name. So let us now pray silently, remembering and thanking the Lord wanted us to be here and has come here to meet us.



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



There were a group of priests reciting their 'vespers' (evening prayers) together: Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits, and a parish priest. All of a sudden the lights went out. The Franciscans burst into a song praising God for the darkness. The Dominicans began debating about the theology of darkness. The Jesuits began to argue about whether they were still bound by Church law to recite vespers. The parish priest went and changed the lightbulb.

A garden joke: Q: Why did the tomato turn red? A: It saw the salad dressing!

# Parish & Community News

## **SUNDAY REFLECTION: Narrow Door to Successful Living**

*"Strive to enter through the narrow gate ...." Luke 13:22-30*

Thousands upon thousands of young boys grow up bouncing basketballs and dreaming of a life in the National Basketball Association - the professional ranks. But only a handful are chosen each year. Woe to the young man or young woman who is talented at sports but neglects his or her education! Thousands upon thousands of new businesses are started each year, but only a small number of people in our society become super-successful in material terms. The higher you go up the scale, the smaller the numbers become. Thousands upon thousands of young couples each year stand at the altars of churches like this one and pledge their love to one another, but half these marriages will end in divorce. Many couples will stay together only for convenience, for appearances or for the children. Only an estimated 10% will find true fulfillment in their marriages. The door to any kind of successful living is a narrow one. That is why Jesus reminds us in today's Gospel: *"Strive to enter by the narrow door, for many I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."* Successful living requires making hard choices. It requires dedication and sacrifice. How can Christian Faith demand any less?



### **ATTENTION ALL ST. JOHN GOLFERS**

**Saturday, September 24th, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Minebrook Golf Club, Hackettstown**

You are invited to join us for a great time—our annual Golf Outing. Come by yourself and have fun with other parishioners or bring a friend. We have a great morning golfing and wonderful lunch. You also have the opportunity to win a brand new automobile as Hugh McKenna (one of our parishioners) of Johnson Dodge--Chrysler--Jeep has offered a new car for the Hole-in-One prize. Contact Bob Martalus at 908-439-3732 or [bob.martalus@gmail.com](mailto:bob.martalus@gmail.com) to sign up or look for the registration sheet in the Narthex. Registration is \$ 125/golfer. If you or your company wants to Sponsor a Hole: \$125 (includes a sign)

## **DIocese OF METUCHEN CATECHETICAL CONFERENCE**

**October 1, 2016, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm**

**The Call to Discipleship and Nurturing God's Children**

Key Note Speaker: Dr. Saundra Kennedy holds a B.A. in Elementary and Special Education from St. Mary's Dominican College, New Orleans; a Masters of Religious Education from Loyola University, New Orleans and a Doctorate in Education and Religion from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

To be held at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway. Sponsored by Diocese of Metuchen Office for Catechesis. Any questions, email [catechesis@diometuchen.org](mailto:catechesis@diometuchen.org) or call (732) 529-7931. Visit <http://diometuchen.org/catechetical-conference>



## **SERVICE PROJECT - AT TEEN CHALLENGE IN LEBANON - AUGUST 27TH**



**Teen Challenge:** A non-profit drug rehabilitation center for adult men, ecumenical based.

**Service Needed:** Painting and handy man projects in Chapel and Dormitory, and outside maintenance.

**Depart St. John's at 8:35 a.m.** Any amount of time is helpful. Great Community Service project for teens and adults. Contact Jim Murray 908-310-6877.

<http://tcnewengland.org/locations/new-jersey-mens-campus/>

## **PARENTING TUNE-UP**

Imposing a punishment is no fun for the parent or the child. First parents must show self-discipline in deciding the best action, then execute it with loving firmness. What's your discipline of choice - an extra chore, removal of a privilege, time-out...? (Susan Vogt)

## **MARRIAGE TUNE-UP**

"Love is work. It's good work, if you can get it. But it's work, nevertheless." (Benjamin Cheever) Name one thing your beloved has done for you that you know took extra effort on their part.

## **SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE FUN PARISH EVENTS**

GOLF OUTING.....Sept. 24  
PARISH PICNIC.....Sept. 25  
Contact the parish office 832-2513 for more information.

## **GROCERY CARDS**



Thanks to **13 families** who purchased Shop Rite and Kings and Bishops gift cards the last week, totaling **\$1,650.00**. The stores gave us **\$81.87**. Cards are available after Mass or at the office weekdays.

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES**

### **Office Angels**

Tues., August 24 J. Santoro  
Tues., September 7 A. Sawczuk

### **Store Cards**

#### **August 20 & 21**

5:30 p.m.. C. Crescenti  
8:00 a.m. R. Durham  
10:30 a.m. R. DeStefano

#### **August 27 & 28**

5:30 p.m.. B. Cestone  
8:00 a.m. M. Kearns  
10:30 a.m. G. Ambrosky

### **Church Center Plant Watering**

Week of 8/21 J. Sieber  
Week of 8/28 C. Fortenbacker

### **Church Center Cleaning**

August 26 Team D  
September 2 Team E

### **Altar Flowers**

August 20  
August 27 Mary D'Avella





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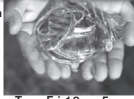
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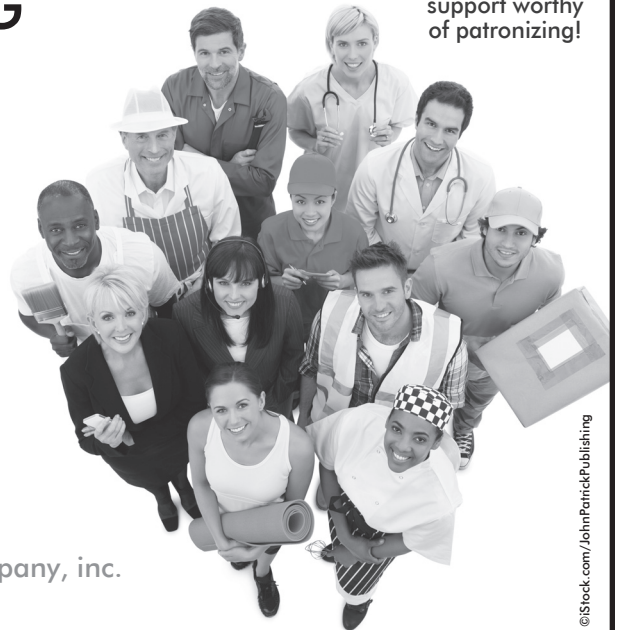
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