

### 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

*We, as ministers, will foster  
an inviting and spiritual Catholic community for all,  
especially to those away from the Church,  
by growing in and witnessing to our faith in the mercy of God.*

### *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.

# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, October 18

8:00 a.m. Susan Parks, req  
Susan and Mike Griffin

### Friday, October 21

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

### Saturday, October 22

5:30 p.m. Mary Williams, req.  
Susan and Mike Griffin

### Sunday, October 23

8:00 a.m. Frances Mattiello, req.  
Sharon and Alan Janks  
10:30 a.m. Stan Sawczuk, req.  
Anita Sawczuk



## Mass Schedule - October 22/23

Saturday		5:30 p.m.
Celebrant .....	Rev. Abraham Orapankal	
Reader .....	Kathleen Swindler	
Altar Server .....	Uss Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Donna Torczon	
.....	Lyle Garcia, Joan Eacovalle	
Sunday		8:00 a.m.
Celebrant .....	Rev. Abraham Orapankal	
Reader .....	Allan Piechowski	
Altar Server .....	Brezina Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Sharon Janks	
.....	Tom Klawunn, Jane Klawunn	
Sunday		Welcome Mass
		10:30 a.m.
Celebrant .....	Rev. Abraham Orapankal	
Reader .....	Anita Sawczuk	
Altar Server .....	Erz Family	
Music Eucharistic Minister .....	Donna Lance	
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Jane Albert, Ana Giametta	
.....	Bob Sobey, Mark Brisson, Marlene Milko	

## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, October 16 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Half Price Tricky Tray Ticket Sales

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
11:30 a.m. Discover St. John's (Office Center)  
3:00 p.m. Deanery Pilgrimage (ICC-Annandale)  
5:30 p.m. CPIII Parent-Confirmandi Meeting (Church Center)  
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church and Office Center)

### Monday, October 17 - Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

6:00 p.m. Family Faith Formation (Office Center)  
7:30 p.m. Pastoral Council (Upper Room)

### Tuesday, October 18 - Saint Luke, Evangelist

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
11:00 a.m. Faith Group (Church Center Loft)  
7:00 p.m. Faith Group (Neumann Residence)  
7:00 p.m. Property Management Meeting (Drexel Room)

### Wednesday, October 19 - Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs

10:30 a.m. Faith Group (Narthex)  
5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center-Loft)  
7:00 p.m. Bereavement Seminar (Upper Room)  
4:30 p.m. Tricky Tray Setup (Church Center)  
7:00 p.m. Faith Group (Office Center Kitchen)  
7:00 p.m. Faith Group (Drexel Room)

### Thursday, October 20 - Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest

7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)  
7:30 p.m. Faith Group (Upper Room)

### Friday, October 21 - Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
6:00 p.m. Tricky Tray (Church Center)

### Saturday, October 22 - Saint John Paul II, Pope; BVM

10:00 a.m. Cleaning (Church Center)  
5:30 p.m. 7th Grade Class Mass (Church Center)

### Sunday, October 23 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time / World Mission Sunday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
8:00 a.m. Family Faith Formation (Valley View)  
8:30 a.m. 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting (Valley View)  
10:30 a.m. Welcome Mass (Church Center)

### Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharistic: **Gary Bergmann, Chris Mahoney, Bernadette Jenkinson, Rodney Brynildsen, Iga Conley, and Samantha Suchovic.**

**Deceased:** **Gary Bergmann**, husband of Kathleen and father of William and Annalee, **Bernadette Jenkinson**, former Parishioner, **Rodney Brynildsen**, cousin of Chris Brynildsen, **Iga Conley**, wife of Vince Conley, and **Samantha Suchovic**, friend of Stanski family. 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,

We are very happy that Bishop James Checchio made his first visit to our Parish to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to 20 of our young men and women on October 13 evening. Though he was happy to meet and greet the families of our Confirmandi, I have invited him to come for a weekend so that the rest of us will get a chance to meet him in person.

Pope Francis announced naming 17 new Cardinals from around the world. As Americans, we can be happy and proud that there are three American bishop raised to this rank: Chicago Archbishop Blase Cupich, Indianapolis Archbishop Joseph Tobin, and the newly appointed Vatican official Bishop Kevin Farrell. What is interesting about this list of 17 new Cardinals is that 11 of them are from 11 different countries. What makes it still more interesting is the fact that these eleven also are coming from places never before included in the elite group, like Bangui in Central African Republic; Dhaka in Bangladesh, Merida in Venezuela; Tlalnepantla de Baz in Mexico, Port Louis in the island nation of Mauritius and Port Moresby of Papua New Guinea. Thus Pope Francis has again chosen to diversify representation in the most select body of Roman Catholic prelates who are known as the Princes of the Church. This underscores Francis' conviction that the church is a global institution that should become increasingly less Euro-centric.

Among these 17 newly named cardinals, there are 13 under 80 who are eligible to vote in the next papal election called conclave. The remaining four new cardinals are over 80, and they get the position as a symbolic honor to thank them for long service to the Church. Surprisingly this includes Father Ernest Simoni, 88, an Albanian priest who spent many years in jail and forced labor during the communist dictatorship.

Such developments make us realize the profoundness of the mystery of God revealed in Jesus Christ whose mission is continued throughout the world in and through the Catholic Church. May we become more and more conscious of living the values of Jesus Christ through our sense of ownership of and participation in the mission of the Catholic Community of St. John Neumann which is the local unit of this "one, holy, catholic and apostolic church" as we profess every Sunday in the Nicene Creed.

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Orapankal



### 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, October 16th at 7 PM in the Old Church Hall. Join us for a night of fellowship, games, and snacks. To join the list please email Susan at [acquirethefire@ollwhs.org](mailto:acquirethefire@ollwhs.org).



### VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE PUMPKIN

Youth Group will carve pumpkins on Sat. Oct 22 at Youth Nite. Parishioners will vote for the best design after Mass or online. We will have two categories – Best Freehand and Best Stencil. You can vote in one or both categories. The winners will get a prize. You will not. For you to win

you must guess the closest number of pumpkin seeds in our jar – and you will win a homemade pumpkin pie.



**Are you on social media? Your stewardship could be keeping St. John's activities present on the web! Contact the office and find us on Facebook, "St. John Neumann RC Church, Califon NJ"**



## 29TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

**OCTOBER 16, 2016**

***"...be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient..." 2 Timothy 4:2***

It is not always convenient to be a good steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn't call us to be comfortable. He called us to be faithful.

### SERVING AT MASS

Would you like to be more involved at church, but don't know how? A wonderful ministry is the Liturgical Ministry, the people who read at Mass, set the altar or serve communion. We would welcome you to try one of the ministries. Please talk to one of the servers after Mass or call the office.



### TRICKY TRAY

**October 21, 2016**

- 1/2 price tickets will be on sale after all masses this weekend.
- Bring your family and friends to our Tricky Tray.
- Reserve your table for 8-10 people for Tricky Tray, contact Kathy Kelly at 917-816-3572.

### 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

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**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

## Religious Education Program



### PILGRIMAGE TO ST. JOHN NEUMANN SHRINE, PHILADELPHIA


**Saturday, November 19, 2016**



In announcing the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis called Catholics to embark on "a journey that starts with a spiritual conversion." Bishop Emeritus Bootkoski adds, "there are many simple but impactful ways to foster this inner conversion," including "a pilgrimage to a shrine or significant place." In that spirit, we are announcing our pilgrimage on November 19<sup>th</sup> to the recently renovated St. John Neumann Shrine in Philadelphia. The Confirmation Class of 2017 will be attending this trip, and the Class of 2016 is also invited. All parishioners are welcome to join the Confirmandi on this annual pilgrimage. The tour includes an inspirational talk and a film, a visit to the shrine, upper church (St. Peter the Apostle) and museum. There is no charge for this tour, only free will donations. If traveling on your own, you can meet our group at the shrine (1019 North Fifth Street, Philadelphia, PA) no later than 1:30 p.m. the day of the trip. Feel free to arrange car pools on your own. We are very fortunate to have the shrine of our parish's patron saint nearby; we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to join us on this pilgrimage!

### CPIII PARENT CONFIRMANDI MEETING

**Sunday, October 16, 5:30 p.m., Church Center**



There will be a meeting of all CPIII students (8th graders) and their parents on Sunday, October 16, at 5:30 p.m. in the Church Center. This meeting will take place immediately prior to the Junior High catechesis session that evening. At least one parent should accompany their child.

### CONFIRMATION 2016

**Thursday, October 13, 7:00 p.m., Church Center**



On Thursday evening, Bishop James F. Checchio celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. John's at 7:00 p.m. Mass. Thank you to all the parishioners and our talented music ministry for enriching this joyous celebration! Please keep these young people and their families in your prayers as they grow in their faith and share their talents in our parish community. They are: Lisa Cucchiara, Catherine Evanko, Emma Evanko, Jack Evanko, Dana Fabiano, Taylor Jamieson, Madison Kelly, Nina Lewis, Marion Mathew, Hannah Nacamuli, Catherine O'Brien, Amelia Puglia, James Quartuccio, Casey Roskowski, Kenneth Rudin, Jason Solomon, Sarah Upwood, Daniel Uss, Levi Yoder, and James Zeolla.

### MONTHLY ADULT FAITH FORMATION



**"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8**

Pope Francis says that mercy is "the bridge that connects God and [human beings]." His call for a Year of Mercy is the call to authentic Christian living modeled after the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Loving Mercy is our response to this universal call. Loving Mercy is this year's theme for adult formation within the family faith formation program. Consider joining us at Valley View Elementary School on Sundays or Mondays in the Church Center. These sessions follow the family faith formation calendar on the parish website. All are invited to attend! You do not need to have a child in the program to participate. The next session dates are Oct. 17 at 6:30 p.m. (CC) and Oct. 23 at 8:30 a.m. (VV). For more information, contact Renee or JoAnn 832-2162.

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

There will be Parent Meeting for all 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist parents at 8:30 a.m. on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Valley View School during the Sunday catechesis session.

The next First Reconciliation session for students will be on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, at 3:30 pm. in the Church Center.

### DIOCESAN LETTER TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Parishioners of St. John Neumann,

I write to send well wishes to you as you enter a new Catechetical year with Whole Community Catechesis for all generations in your parish. Your bold initiative, which the U.S. Bishops have been promoting as the best means of faith formation in every parish, is truly commendable. Whole Community Catechesis is an ambitious undertaking, and it will change your parish community for the better. Whole Community provides an opportunity to think about how the Word forms us wherever we are in our lives right now. When Jesus taught, and when he sent the disciples out, they went to where people lived and converted them by sharing faith with stories that related to their everyday lives. The people began to develop an intimate friendship with Jesus, which they in turn shared with their families and friends. Faith sharing has proven to be the most effective means to the growth and nurturing of faith. More than teachers or books, the sharing of our faith has the most long-lasting effect on one's life. Whole Community Catechesis is for all. An excerpt from Leisa Anslinger's book, *Here Comes Everybody!*

*"Whole community catechesis creates a path toward living discipleship. The journey for those who follow Christ is more fruitful when we travel together, learning and growing, sharing and supporting one another along the way. As the community reflects on its relationship in Christ, every member is nurtured in faith, newcomers and long-timers alike. Each person is valued in a manner that says 'not only do we care for you, but we care for you so deeply that we want you to grow in your love for Christ for the rest of your life' "*

Know that the Diocesan Office of Catechesis is at your service for any help we can give you. Blessings and congratulations!

*Carol Mascola*

Diocesan Director, Office of Catechesis, Diocese of Metuchen

# Social Ministry and Parish News

## THANKS TO THE JESUS OF HERE AND NOW, WHO RESIDES IN ALL OF YOU IN OUR COMMUNITY!

We are sure that Father Abraham would agree that we might call last Sunday "Thanksgiving Sunday", because of the theme presented to us in the Scriptural Readings, and had we been on schedule, it would have been the perfect time to post this THANKS in the bulletin, but we're not perfect.

With that being said, all we want to do is heap upon all of you the many THANKS we owe you for the wonderful and expeditious support you gave the drive for gifts of clothing for the kids in the fire. This project was begun on September 14 at our last Board Meeting and by October 12, the date of our next meeting it will be complete.

That's pretty amazing and we can only thank you for your kind support. Jesus Is Here and Now! Thanks also to our partner, Religious Education for all of the support they gave to this worthy cause.



### SHIP'S GALLEY SOUP KITCHEN

The next date for serving at the SHIP's Galley Soup Kitchen in Somerville is Thursday, October 27. If you can prepare or donate food or would like to help serve the meal, contact Anne Germino at [social-ministry@ccsjn.org](mailto:social-ministry@ccsjn.org).

### COMMUNITY GARDEN



#### *New Beds Installed*

Last week, four new raised beds were installed in the community garden. At 30" tall, they will be reserved for people whose physical limitations make it difficult for them to garden in the lower beds. Many thanks to Pete Cangelosi for his instruction and expertise. Thanks also to Ray Fotta, Andy Kozlowski, Terry McNamara and Jason Rudin for helping with the build. They are ready for use next spring!

### THE PERSISTENT WIDOW IN OUR MIDST!

It may be a spouse's Parkinson's disease, a parent's Alzheimer's, a sister's breast cancer, a child's leukemia. The illness of a loved one, a catastrophe striking their family, the suffering of someone dear to them transforms these moms and dads and sons and daughters and friends into dedicated advocates and determined guardians. They fight hospitals and insurance companies for the critical medical care needed by their loved one. They take on the most obstinate bureaucracies for the assistance and services their child is entitled to but denied. They work tirelessly to raise awareness, raise money, and, when necessary, raise Cain, so that their loved one may live as fully a life as possible, so that a cure might be found, so that other families will not have to experience the pain and anguish they have known. These dedicated men and women are the Gospel widow in our midst. They face down the "dishonest judges" of arrogance and avarice; they take on the "fearful judges" of insensitivity and unawareness; they go toe-to-toe with the "judges who fear neither God nor respect any human being," save themselves. Their love for the sick and suffering enables them to carry on "day and night;" their faith and conviction in the rightness of their cause empowers them to carry on despite the frustration and inaction they face. The very compassion of God is their hope and assurance that their prayer will be heard.

### IT'S TIME TO PASS THE TORCH

*(actually the Christmas Luminaries)*



We are seeking a family who would like to begin their own Christmas Eve tradition. What began as a service project when our boys were young, grew into family tradition lasting into their college years. Our family has enjoyed preparing the luminaries and placing them out on the church driveway for the Christmas Eve Masses. The boys are grown and starting out on their own and we have decided to pass the torch to an interested family. You will find it's a fun and meaningful family tradition that you will all share in to help ready the Church for the celebration of Christmas. If you are interested in this experience with your family for Christmas 2016 or would like more information, please contact us now or the parish office. We are happy to lend you a hand if needed! Linda and Hunt Patterson @ 537-9488 or the parish office @ 832-2513.

### PARENTING TUNE-UP

*"Moses' hands grew tired." (Ex 17:12)*

We all grow tired at some point in life. (Even kids eventually get tired of crying.) When this happens we need the support of those close to us. Ask your family to lighten another member's load in some way this week. (Susan Vogt)

### MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

*It's easy to say "Pray always"*

*(Luke 18:1)*

but is it really practical? If we broaden our concept of prayer it is. Service to the family can be a form of prayer. Think doing dishes, fixing stuff around the house, taking care of sometimes crabby kids, providing an income for necessities... Bring prayerful mindfulness to one such act today.

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

**For October 9, 2016**

82 Donors Weekly ..... \$2,930.00  
12 Yellow Brick Road..... \$355.00

**For October 11, 2015**

74 Donors Weekly ..... \$3,633.00  
11 Yellow Brick Road..... \$450.00

**Automated Giving for October 2016**

40 Donors Monthly..... \$6,842.50  
30 Yellow Brick Road..... \$1,585.00  
15 Donors Prop. of Faith..... \$185.00  
18 Donors All Souls ..... \$335.00

## 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  
Brent Evans  
Paul Ferri  
Sophie Geist  
Marion Hergert  
Fred Holub  
Barbara Jiroushek  
Lou Livoti  
Iole Matthews  
Dick McCall  
Jan McLeavey  
Christine Meyer  
Fran Miceli  
Danny Mulvey  
Mary Lou O'Brien  
Floyd Opdyke  
Nilsa Perez Parsons  
John Pfeufer  
Anne & Joe Sacco  
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

## SUNDAY REFLECTION: The Georgetown "272"

*"There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.'"*  
**Luke 18: 1-8**

Georgetown University is the premier Catholic college in the country. The college was founded by the Jesuits in 1789, in the capital city of the new United States of America. In 1838, the university was in dire financial straits. To keep the university operating, Georgetown needed to raise cash fast, so it sold off some of its assets: its slaves.

Two of Georgetown's early presidents, both Jesuit priests, organized the sale of 272 of the slaves that worked at the college and at Jesuit-owned plantations in Maryland. The sale raised about \$3.3 million in today's dollars, enough to pay off Georgetown's debts and secure the university's future.

The slaves were shipped to estates in Louisiana. Promises of keeping families together and the safe, humane treatment of the slaves were broken; many were brutalized by their new owners. The enslaved were grandmothers and grandfathers, carpenters and blacksmiths, pregnant women and anxious fathers, children and infants, who were fearful, bewildered and despairing as they saw their families and communities ripped apart by the sale.

Like many American colleges and universities founded during that time, Georgetown has been struggling with this dark chapter of its past. Urged on by students and alumni, Georgetown convened a Working Group on Slavery, Memory and Reconciliation, made of administrators, faculty, students and alumni, to make recommendations on how to address the university's historical connection to the institution of slavery. Their work has led to ground-breaking steps by the university.

Georgetown will begin offering admission preference to those whose ancestors were used or sold as slaves by the university - not only the descendants of the 272 sold in 1838, but any slave who worked at Georgetown and the Jesuit farms, just as the university offers preference to the children and grandchildren of alumni.

And two buildings at Georgetown, named for the two presidents who brokered the 1838 slave deal, will be renamed. One of the buildings will be rechristened Isaac Hall, named after one of the victims of the slave trade at the time. The other will be called Anne Marie Becraft Hall, in honor of an African-American woman who opened a school for black girls in Georgetown in 1827.

Georgetown has also established a historical research center to provide genealogical information from the university's archives to descendants of Georgetown slaves. A public memorial to the slaves is also being designed. And Georgetown plans a formal apology to the families of the enslaved.

While Georgetown has gone further than any institution in facing its dark history, the university realizes it is just a beginning. Jesuit Father David Collins, associate professor of history at Georgetown, notes: "The story of the sale that saved Georgetown draws our attention to 272 specific people, and meticulous Jesuit record-keeping unwittingly spares these victims the final indignity of forced anonymity. We know the people's names; when they were born, married and buried; whom they were sold with and whom they were separated from. We can trace their family connections, sometimes even to the present. Those 272 biographies sting in a way a statistic of one million can't . . . this story cries out its injustice against our American tendency to distance ourselves from the ugly realities in our history.

**Securing justice can sometimes take a long, long time. But Christ calls us, his followers, to be as persistent as the widow in today's Gospel, to realize that reconciliation, peace and mercy are values that should be pursued at all costs, that the passage of time does not justify injustice or excuse responsibility, that no effort to correct another's suffering is ever too little or too late. Such persistence, such critical self-reflection, is the mark of the follower of Jesus; discipleship recognizes that the principles of the Gospel often put us on a collision course with the values of the world. We possess a faith that empowers us with hope and courage, enabling us to persevere despite the overwhelming despair, anger, ridicule, hatred and evil that we may encounter. Like the persistent widow of the Gospel, may we always realize that, through God's work of mercy and reconciliation, we can make God's presence and grace real and alive in our world.**



## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING 9/26/16

After the opening prayer which was reflection on the coming Sunday's gospel using the Lectio Divina way, we reflected on our new annual goal. The Council then took up the following items for discussion and follow up action:

- Parish Meeting and Brunch to be held on Oct. 2 after 10:30 Mass. With less numbers in the past, suggestion was made to hold it soon after the 10:30 Mass with baby-sitting provided. Promotion was to be done through flyer, Church announcements and bulletin announcements. The Council members took responsibility for making all the arrangements for the brunch with soft drinks.
- The topic for discussion at the parish town meeting: communicate to the parishioners the result of the Diocesan Audit of our parish and ask for suggestions and ideas to deal with its challenges for us to move ahead as a healthy parish, especially in its financial health.
- Approved the suggestion to include parish presentations and hospitality requirement as part of each ministry's five year plan
- Year of Mercy Pilgrimage organized by our Round Valley Deanery (Oct. 16 @ 3 pm at Immaculate Conception) was discussed and ideas were suggested for participation by our parishioners.
- A Diocesan pilgrimage to Washington, DC on November 19 is being planned to celebrate the conclusion of the Year of Mercy and the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Diocese of Metuchen. Each parish is strongly encouraged to participate.

## OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

### *Why should we respect life?*

The Bible teaches that life is a gift of God, and, hence, we have to respect it from womb to tomb. In reference to pregnant women, the term "with child" occurs twenty-six times in the Bible. The term "with fetus" never occurs. The Bible never uses anything less than human terms to describe the unborn (Exodus 21:22-23). In Luke chapter one, verses 36 and 41, we are told that Elizabeth conceived a "son" and that the "babe" leaped in her womb. God does not say that a "fetus" leaped in her womb! Elizabeth greets Mary (in her early pregnancy) as "my Lord's mother." If God allows a child to be conceived, then God obviously has a plan for unborn children (Jer. 1:5; Lk. 1:13-17; Gen. 4:25; Jud. 13:3-5), and so to abort an unborn child is to stop a plan of God: *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you..."* Psalm 139: 13: *You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you, so wonderfully you made me; wonderful are your works! Thus, based on the word of God, the Church teaches that an unborn child, from the moment of its conception in his or her mother's womb, is precious because he or she carries an immortal soul.*

## ☺ SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY ☺

**Persistent prayer works:** The middle-aged farm couple had no children. As a last resort they put their trust in persistent prayer. And it worked. The wife became pregnant, and at the end of her term, she was delivered of triplets. "Persistent prayer really works, doesn't it?" she asked her husband. Her husband replied, "Seems to-- but I sure as heck didn't pray for a bumper crop!"

**Refreshing sermon:** The pastor gave an unusually long sermon on prayer that Sunday based on the parable of *The Poor Widow and the Corrupt Judge*. Later at the door, while the pastor was shaking hands with his parishioners, one man said: "Father, your sermon, was simply wonderful- -so invigorating, inspiring and refreshing." The pastor, of course, broke out in a big smile only to hear with a shock the man's next words: "I felt like a new man when I woke up!"

LET'S CELEBRATE AS A FAMILY!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

Gather at 10:00 AM

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi CYO

Main Street & Library Place, Metuchen

## CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

**Wednesday, Oct. 26th, 7:00 p.m.**

A charismatic healing mass will be held at St Philip and James Church, 430 So. Main Street, Phillipsburg.

Fr. John Campoli will be the celebrant and for further details call 732-514-7160 or [dmhealing@aol.com](mailto:dmhealing@aol.com). This will be a great night for all those who attend.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### **Office Angels**

Wed., October 19 M. D'Avella

Wed., October 26 J. Santoro

### **Store Cards**

#### **October 15 & 16**

5:30 p.m.. C. Crescenti

8:00 a.m. M. Kearns

10:30 a.m. R. DeStefano

#### **October 22 & 23**

5:30 p.m.. B. Cestone

8:00 a.m. G. Battel

10:30 a.m. G. Ambrosky

### **Church Center Plant Watering**

Week of 10/16 B. Lee

Week of 10/23 L. Livoti

### **Church Center Cleaning**

October 21 Team F

October 28 Team A

### **Altar Flowers**

October 15 Anita Sawczuk

October 22 Maritza Proano

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