

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

December 8, 2019

Volume 37 Number 48



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.*

Diocese of Metuchen

**Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA,
Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen
www.diometuchen.org**

Rev. Richard Rusk Pastor
Rev. J. Wm. Mickiewicz.....Pastor Emeritus

Trustees

Fred Heimall Trustee
Mary Cangelosi Trustee

Church and Office Center:

398 County Route 513, Califon
PO Box 455, Califon, NJ 07830
908-832-2513 Office/908-832-7618 Fax

Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs.....9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Friday.....9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Worship at Church Center:

Saturday Vigil Mass..... 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

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

Weekday Masses at

Neumann Residence Chapel:
390 County Road 513

Tuesday 7:00 a.m.
Wednesday 8:00 a.m.
Thursday 7:00 a.m.
Friday.....8:00 a.m.

Parish Contact Information

Office Center..... 908-832-2513
Fax / Email .. 908-832-7618 / sjn@ccsjn.org
Father Rick Rusk..... Pastor
Emailfrrick@ccsjn.org
Sharon Janks..... Pastoral Administrator
Email sjanks@ccsjn.org
France Kennedy Pastoral Associate
Emailfkennedy@ccsjn.org
Susanne Erz, PhD Financial Administrator
Emailserz@ccsjn.org
Wayne Infusino..... Maintenance

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

Phyllis Baker pbaker@ccsjn.org
Mauricia Nacamuli mnacamuli@ccsjn.org

Social Ministry socialministry@ccsjn.org
Project Earth projectearth@ccsjn.org
Bulletin bulletin@ccsjn.org
Youth Ministry.....sjnygroup@gmail.com

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 10

7:00 a.m. Robert Reavey, req.
Barbara and Bill Gates

Wednesday, December 11

8:00 a.m. No Intention

Thursday, December 12

7:00 a.m. No Intention

Friday, December 13

8:00 a.m. No Intention

Saturday, December 14

5:30 p.m. Gerard Cocuzza, req.
Barbara Pannone and Anne Sacco

Sunday, December 15

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
10:30 a.m. Percy Davids, req.
St. John Neumann Church

Mass Schedule - December 14/15

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rusk
Reader	K. Swindler
Altar Server	Klacik Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	J. Oelkers
.....	M. Connolly, J. Gardner
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rusk
Reader	K. Knight
Altar Server	Needed
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	B. Gates
.....	J. Klawunn, T. Klawunn
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rusk
Reader	J. McNamara
Altar Server	Alligood Family
Music Eucharistic Minister	B. Sobey
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	M. D'Avella, D. Lance
.....	D. Kelemen, M. Milko, P. Rittman

Parish Calendar



Santa Claus is coming to St. John's Sunday, December 15th

Following the 10:30 Mass (bring your cameras)

Sunday, December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent / Immaculate Conception Collection / Christmas Giving Tree Ends

8:00 a.m. Mass Church Center)
8:45 a.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass - Welcome (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)

Monday, December 9 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Church and Office Kitchens)
6:30 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Neumann Residence)

Tuesday, December 10 - Advent Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
7:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)

Wednesday, December 11 - Saint Damasus I, Pope

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
7:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting (Reception Area)

Thursday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
2:00 p.m. Evergreen Center Piece Arrangements (Narthex)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry Enrichment (Church Center)

Friday, December 13 - Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
5:00 p.m. Food Delivery (Church Center)
6:00 p.m. Narthex Tree Setup (Narthex)

Saturday, December 14 - Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Men and Women's Spirituality Breakfast (Church)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

Sunday, December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent / Christmas Flower Offering

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
8:45 a.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 a.m. Visit with Santa (Narthex)
12:00 p.m. GIFT Program (Church and Office Centers)



This Christmas Season Don't forget to use our Amazon Link

Whenever ordering from Amazon.

Go to our website ccsjn.org and click on the button on the front page.

Or go to : <https://tinyurl.com/ccsjnamazon>



Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Brittany Csik.**

Deceased: Brittany Csik, friend of the Janks Family. 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Prophet for our planet

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 3: 1-2

She is an awkward, 15-year-old girl with few friends who lives far from the centers of power. She struggles with Asperger's, can be very intense, painfully quiet and speaks in a cool, flat voice, almost blank in its affect. But what she has read about the changes in our earth's climate and environment has scared her; what she fears and how little she sees being done about the crisis has led her to spark a revolution among her generation with hand-made signs in Swedish: "School Strike for Climate."

Last March 1.4 million school children around the world responded to her call. At her urging, school children and young adults have continued to march and demonstrate, demanding that political leaders respond to the environmental crisis that threatens the planet we all share.

This fall, she traveled from her home in Sweden to New York — by boat, not by plane — to speak before the United Nations. She called the nations and peoples of the world accountable for the catastrophic effects of climate change, just as the window for avoiding devastating warming, scientists warn, is almost closed.

She's been sharply criticized in some circles for her stand, dismissed by some as a naive, uninformed teenage girl. And she readily acknowledges that she is not a scientist and avoids the politics that surround the issue. But her message at the U.N. was clear: "We are in the beginning of a mass extinction, and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth. The eyes of future generations are upon you, and if you choose to fail us, I say we will never forgive you."

And she "lives" her call for change by living an exemplary low-carbon life — abjuring plane travel, eating vegan, denouncing consumerism.

To millions of teenagers and young adults, Greta Thunberg is their face and voice, a prophet for our good earth.

In our time, God continues to raise up men and women like John the Baptist to proclaim God's word of justice and peace in our broken, divided world. For many young people, Greta Thunberg is a prophet, however unlikely, who raises her small voice to the cause of climate change, not only speaking her message but living it. God calls every one of us to work of the prophet: to "proclaim" God's love and mercy in our own Advent times and places.



HOW TO LISTEN TO GOD IN OUR PRAYER LIFE

December 12 and 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for (2) two Thursdays, December 12 and 19th at 7:00 p.m. to be more open to hear God in prayer. Sign up in the Narthex.

MEN AND WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY BREAKFAST

December 14th, 8:00 a.m. – Church Center



Spirituality Breakfast

The Men's and Women's Spirituality groups will hold their joint Annual Advent Breakfast on December 14 at 8am in the church. We are looking forward to wonderful conversation, food and discussion about our faith. Bring your spouse, friend or neighbor – we have food to share! If you have never attended one of the spirituality sessions why not give it a try!

CHRISTMAS CASH RAFFLE

Congratulations to the winners

1st Prize - Baumann Family - \$1,280.00

2nd Prize - Cathleen Ferns - \$768.00

3rd Prize - Barbara Pannone - \$512.00

Thank you, Mike Connolly, for running this raffle for us. A special thanks to all who support St. John's through our fund raisers.

PASTOR'S CORNER

First, I want to thank all who worked so hard to put on the Wine and Chocolate evening last Friday. It was a great event. Lots of fun. I also want to thank all who came to support it! These fund raisers are so important to St. John's to keep us rolling with all the expenses of life. We are now into Advent with the prayer of the Church being "Come, Lord Jesus." Someone sent me a great quote from Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity: "O Consuming Fire, Spirit of Love, come upon me and create in my soul a kind of incarnation of the Word, that I may be another humanity for him in which he can renew his whole mystery."

God Bless,
Fr. Rick

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019

"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." (Matthew 3:10)

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent, and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter, and junk. Our time, our talent, and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

AMAZON LINK QR CODE

This QR Code will bring you directly to the

St. John Neumann link

On the Amazon Website.

By doing this you will be contributing to

St. John's

Thank You for your support



Christian Formation / Social Ministry / Parish News



ROSARY

December 8th, 10 a.m.

Please join us in the Seton Room, the 2nd Sunday of each Month now through June to pray the rosary.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY

Tuesday, Dec. 17th - 6pm



Everyone is invited to the St. John's Christmas Decorating Party. Adults and kids are welcome. While we enjoy socializing with fellow parishioners with music, appetizers and desserts, we have something fun to do: decorate the church! You can bring a goodie to share- cookies, sweets, appetizers.. It is not required to bring food – there is always too much – we are just happy to enjoy Christmas merriment with everyone! So please join us for an hour.

TIME TO PUT UP THE NARTHEX CHRISTMAS TREE

Friday, December 13th, 6:00 p.m.



We could use your assistance to put up the large tree in the Narthex. Please consider joining us. It's that time when we could use some of our wonderful young fathers to help us out with this. Please call the office if you have any questions 908-832-2513.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

was a success. Your continued support means we can help our neighbors and local community who are struggling with food insecurity. Thank you to ShopRite in Clinton for perishable donations and Girl Scout Troop 80939 & 81018 for baking pumpkin bread to go in each basket. Without all our supporters, from the donations to our shoppers, organizers, packers and drivers we couldn't do it. Thank you all.



CHRISTMAS FOOD PACKUP & DELIVERY

Please note the Delivery Day Change

We are helping 32 households for Christmas. If you're interested there are many opportunities to help, please contact socialministry@ccsjn.org.

Food pantry items needed Christmas baskets are being prepared for 13 families and 19 individuals. We need the following items:

Turkey, Turkey Breasts, Hams, and Small Hams

Juice

Toothpaste & Brushes

Shampoo & Conditioner

Cookies

Hand soaps

Razors & deodorant for men & women.

Please have items dropped off by **Dec. 11**. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. We have enough volunteers for the Packup.

Deliveries will be on Friday, December 13 at 5 pm. Drivers are needed.

OPERATION CHILLOUT

Operation Chillout Winter Homeless Veterans Outreach was a great success. We were able to contribute an abundance of thermal tops, bottoms and underwear for homeless men and women veterans. Thank you for your support and generosity.



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Giving Tree Gifts are due back this Sunday, December 8th. Please place them in the Narthex or Seton Room. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Porto at [908-507-4359](tel:908-507-4359) or kporto@aol.com.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY

December 8 through 15

If you are looking for a way to make the holidays more about giving by helping those in need, consider helping those in our area who are without a home at this time. Our last Family Promise hosting of the year, in conjunction with Spruce Run Lutheran Church is December 8-15 and there are many ways to lend your support. Prepare a meal to share, help to set up, spend the night, play with young children or just be present. It only takes a few hours of your time to make a difference. Please check the following link to see where help is needed & sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054eafad22a20-family12>.

If you wish to be paired with a more experienced volunteer, or have questions about the program, please feel free to contact Debbie Hunt at dhuntfam1@comcast.net.



OPLATEK – THE CHRISTMAS WAFER

Start your own Family Tradition

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

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

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

Christmas Season & New Year's Mass Schedule 2019-2020

Narthex Christmas Tree Set Up

Friday, December 13 6:00 p.m.

Visit with Santa

Sunday, December 15 11:30 a.m.

Christmas Decorating Party

Tuesday, December 17 6:00 p.m.

Community Reconciliation followed by Individual Confessions

Wednesday, December 18 7:00 p.m.

Weekend Masses / 4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 21 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 22 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 22 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Masses

Tuesday, December 24 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 24 (with Bell Choir) 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass

Wednesday, December 25 10:30 a.m.

Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 28 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 29 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 29 10:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary - New Year's Day Masses

Wednesday, January 1 10:30 a.m.

EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE IN RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m.



Advent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and the healing graces our Lord offers us. **Please join us for a Community Reconciliation Service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18th.** This communal service is an opportunity to join

our sisters and brothers in asking for forgiveness and healing during this important time of the year. As we begin the new liturgical year in the Church, we invite all to begin anew with souls nourished from the gifts of divine mercy and forgiveness God has for everyone.

MUSIC



Do you play piano? Guitar? St. John's Music Ministry could use accompanists to substitute when our regular accompanists are unavailable. Training and guidance would be provided. Your service to this ministry would be needed only on a substitute basis, depending upon your availability. Please consider sharing your talent! Contact Arminda at quiltingblockhead@gmail.com or 908-537-2637 or come talk to us after Mass!

Do you like to sing? Join Music ministry at one of our Masses. We welcome new singers any time of the year. Let us know if you are interested in participating year round or only for special seasons, such as Christmas or Easter. Talk to us after Mass or contact Gerry Brisson at gbrisson1@hotmail.com or 908-500-8308 or Arminda Barbone quiltingblockhead@gmail.com or 908-537-2637.

Prayer Ministry



CHANCE TO GROW & BLOOM

Every year around this time poinsettia growers are engaged in an elaborate regimen aimed at making their plants turn red at just the right time. By following a precise sequence of exposure to light and darkness, they "force" the poinsettia's green leaves to turn red.

This is a good illustration of the blessings of the Advent season. For a whole month, the Church asks us to alter our environment so that we can enter into a time of quiet waiting. It asks us to step back from our everyday routines so that we can spend time in prayerful reflection. And by changing our natural routine in this way, we get the chance to grow and "bloom."

If you want to bloom this Christmas, now is the time to change up your ordinary way of doing things. Try to unplug from the "bright light" of all the activities that encourage you to stay busy all the time. Set aside time for the "dormancy of thoughtful solitude as you try to sit quietly with the Scriptures and hear God's voice in your heart.

Making these kinds of changes in your routine will nurture your faith, even if you don't notice. As you modify your routine and your environment, your heart will respond to the changes and something will happen inside of you. Maybe you will become less likely to snap at someone who annoys you. You might catch yourself smiling more often. Or you might slowly realize that something that tempted you in the past doesn't have as much power over you anymore.

The people around you will be able to see it too. Don't be surprised, then, if your life has a ripple effect on them.

"Lord, help me slow down during this special season."

If you enjoyed this reflection pick up a copy of the Word among us from the Narthex.

Parish & Diocesan News

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Carolyn Anderson
Dana Colabella
Steven Geist
Tulio Hargain
Jay Heyman
Madi Kinney
Bonnie Lieberwirth
Samantha Livoti
Tom Malley
Declan Maloney
Karen Moore
John Pfeufer
Ali Redling
Earl & Denise Roberts
Michael Rubright
Tracy Schauer
Edward E. Sharpe
Gayle Stinson
Tom Wiles
Joey Zieba

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Please remember in your prayers:

Captain Baumann, Katherine, US Army
Spec. Bitters, Christian, US Army
Cavallo, Chris, USMC
2LT, Michael Tyler D'Avella, US Air Force
SSO, Andrew Fabiano, US Navy Reserve
2LT, Molly Ferguson, US Air Force
2LT, Geerinck, Josh, US Air Force
Spec. Jablonski, Jon Tyler, US Army
Private, Linzer, Matthew, US Army
Seaman, Linzer, Stephanie, US Navy
SR O'Leary, Thomas, US Navy
Lieutenant Simila, Nicole, US Navy
Airman, Vardian, Justin, US Air Force
Jr. Lieutenant, Webster, Justine, US Navy

OUT OF TOUCH?

Do you get emails from St. John Neumann? Our latest email was on Wednesday, December 4th - Parish Updates. If you don't get our periodic emails it means we do not have your email in our parish data base! Please send us an email to sjn@ccsjn.org and help us update our records!

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP 2020

High school students, if you are interested in a week long work camp next summer. We will be going to Saranac Lake, NY from June 21-26. Please contact Mary Connolly as soon as possible for information at mandmconnolly@gmail.com.

THE POWER OF GREED

At the outbreak of World War II, Langdon Gilkey was a young American teaching at Yenching University near Peking. The Japanese ordered Gilkey and all foreigners confined to an internment camp at Weihsien. Gilkey recounts the two years of their confinement in his 1966 memoir **Shantung Compound**.

The 2,000 detainees were spared the tortures and beatings suffered by military prisoners, but they nevertheless had to endure the nightmare of living crowded together in horribly unsanitary conditions, with never enough food to eat, the constant lack of medical care, bone-numbing winter cold, and sheer boredom eating into their sanity. The first efforts at organizing the menagerie of strangers showed some promise, but it became clear that a community requires more than providing for basic necessities. If they were to survive, a respect for the dignity of everyone and a sense of responsibility for the common good had to be embraced by all — but self-interest soon became the norm at Shantung. Gilkey's confidence in the innate goodness and rationality of humanity faded as he watched fellow prisoners prioritize their own comfort and security over the protection of the weak and vulnerable.

For Gilkey, the ugliest moment came in January 1944, when 1,500 parcels arrived from the Red Cross, filled with food, medicine and warm clothing. For the first time, hope filled the camp as the parcels were unloaded. The Japanese had planned to distribute the parcels to everyone — but the boxes were labeled "American Red Cross" and a small group of seven Americans demanded that only Americans were entitled to the contents. The distribution of the parcels was delayed for several days while the commandant consulted his superiors.

"A community where everyone had long forgotten whether a man was American or British, white, Negro, Jew, Parsee, or Indian, had suddenly disintegrated into a brawling, bitterly divided collection of hostile national groups," Gilkey writes. "Ironically, our wondrous Christmas gift brought in its wake the exact opposite of peace on earth."

Attempts by Gilkey and a few others to persuade Americans to share what they viewed as "American property" failed. As the young American teacher witnessed the power of greed at work, "for the first time, I felt fundamentally humiliated at being an American."

The same destructive power of self-interest that Langdon Gilkey witnessed in China is confronted by John the Baptist in his preaching at the Jordan. In this Advent season of gift-giving and "good will," John calls us to realize how our self-centeredness and obtuseness to the needs of the poor and vulnerable are the principal obstacles to realizing the reign of God. The many elements of our Christmas celebration mean little unless they point to the Christ who comes to reconcile us to God and to one another, the Christ who illuminates our spirits with the light of God's love and compassion, the Christ who teaches us the ways of the Father's justice and peace.

"GUADALUPE, THE MIRACLE AND THE MESSAGE"—THE MOVIE

A few weeks ago over twenty parishioners viewed the film "Guadalupe, The Miracle and the Message" at the Church Center. The film tells the story of how Saint Juan Diego encountered our Lady of Guadalupe. This event was the catalyst for the greatest mass conversion ever

Father found that the movie is available on Amazon prime and we encourage you to view this short film to understand why the diocese is preparing to consecration of the Diocese to Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Cathedral on December 12th.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon. "How do you know what to say?" he asked.

"Why, God tells me," the clergyman replied.

"Oh," said the lad. "Then why do you keep crossing things out?"



ABOUT OUR ADVENT QUILT

Fr. Bill Mickiewicz, founding Pastor of our parish, purchased this Advent quilt. What did he see in this quilt that said "Advent" to him? Here is the story that might help you see Advent in it as well.

Fr. Bill was drawn to the colors and the pattern. The midnight blue represents the darkness before creation as well as the darkness that takes over the earth just before the longest, darkest night of the year. At the center the colors are almost like an aurora borealis moving and swirling in a flowing yet chaotic pattern.

How can the colors and pattern be interpreted? The shades from dark to light

represent the ever-shortening daylight until the winter solstice when a few days later Christ is born as the light slowly begins to increase and we feel more at peace. The chaotic pattern can be compared with the chaos we feel in our lives during this busy season that will end on December 26. But think back to the chaos surrounding Christ's birth. Mary is pregnant and unmarried; Joseph finds his betrothed expecting a child that is not his; then the chaos of getting to Bethlehem for the census, finding there is no room, and giving birth in a stable. But through all this chaos comes light when this Baby, the Light of the World, is delivered and the Angels sing. To be sure there was continued turmoil in their lives as there is in ours, but we can refresh ourselves in the light of Christ. Meditate upon this quilt and discover your own spiritual symbolism in it.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 1, 2019

61 Donors Weekly	\$5,095.00
36 Yellow Brick Road	\$1,162.00
11 Thanksgiving	\$362.00
4 Human Development.....	\$375.00

December 2, 2018

79 Donors Weekly	\$4,455.00
45 Yellow Brick Road	\$1,410.00
1 Thanksgiving	\$40.00
1 Retirement Fund.....	\$100.00
2 Christmas Flowers.....	\$80.00
1 Initial Offering	\$3.00

STEWARDSHIP RESPONSES

Received 39 out of 305 Families

Thank you for your support of our parish! We are here to share God's Word, minister to those in need spiritually and materially, and we are able to do so only with your financial support! Please complete a commitment card for your intended support for 2020.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., December 11	C. Behrens
Wed., December 18	L. Caprio

Store Cards

December 7/8

5:30 p.m.....	E. McCabe
8:00 a.m.....	C. Bennett
10:30 a.m.....	D. Hunt

December 14/15

5:30 p.m.....	J. Gardner
8:00 a.m.....	V. Hoffart
10:30 a.m.....	D. Royal

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Dec. 15	M. Cangelosi
Week of Dec. 22	B. Sobey

Church Center Cleaning

December 12	Team B
December 19	Team C

Counting

Dec. 9	Kucharski/Kosakowski
Dec. 16	Malone/McCabe



ST. JOHN'S MEMORIAL CONCERT

The first St. John's Memorial Concert held on Sunday afternoon November 24th was beautiful. Those that attended the concert were blessed with wonderful songs by our talented Music Ministry. We would like to thank our musicians and singers, **Arminda Barbone, Fran Barbone, Maggie Baumann, Gerry Brisson, Jen Evanko,**

Jack Horan, Jim King, Kasia Kowalewski, Krys Kowalewski, and Annette Schettino. Thanks also to **Delia Hunt** who entertained us with her wonderful dance. The concert was dedicated to those we lost over the years. We thank the participants for sharing their talents. They were an inspiration to us all. It was truly an exceptional afternoon in honor of our loved ones who have passed. Thank you again to our gifted Music Ministry and we look forward to next November's Concert.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GOOD ADVENT AND A GREAT ADVENT?

Just 4 Minutes!

Sign up for this totally free and totally awesome daily video program (sent straight to your email) that will help you prepare for Christmas like never before! Help yourself to an Amazing Advent and sign up at bestadventever.com

LETTER TO A SUFFERING CHURCH

If you are troubled with the crisis in the church, you are welcome to pick up Bishop Robert Barron's book *Letter to a Suffering Church* from the Narthex. After reading it you can return it to the Narthex or pass along to someone who may benefit from it. Please contact the office if you want to discuss 832-2513 or fkennedy@ccsjn.org. We can organize a discussion session with anyone who is interested.

HOW TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and/or by contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hours/7 days a week). For more information on how to report abuse, visit our diocesan website: <https://diometuchen.org/report-a-suspected-abuse>.

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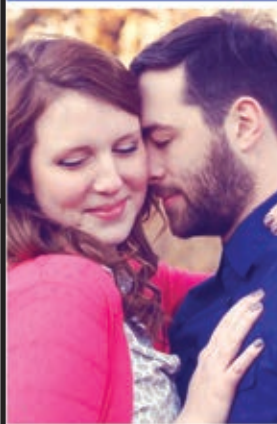
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