



SOLEMNITY OF MARY HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

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 Mass5:30 p.m.
Sunday8:00 a.m.
Sunday10:30 a.m.
First Friday Holy Hour7:00 p.m.

Worshipping at:

390 County Road 513
(Neumann Residence)

Check the bulletin for any changes

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday8:00 a.m.
Friday7:00 a.m.

Reconciliation:

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

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, January 3

8:00 a.m. No Mass

Friday, January 6

7:00 a.m. No Mass

Saturday, January 7

5:30 p.m. Linda Owens, req.
Laura and Chip Mullen

Sunday, January 8

8:00 a.m. Gordon Furlong, req.
St. John Environment Committee
10:30 a.m. Kyle Hargadon, req.
Eileen McCabe



Parish Calendar

Sunday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God New Year's Day

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass with Bells (Church Center)

Monday, January 2 - Saint Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church Office Closed

7:30 p.m. Children's Liturgy Meeting (Seton Room)

Tuesday, January 3 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:00 a.m. **NO MASS**

Wednesday, January 4 - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting (Drexel Room)

Thursday, January 5 - Saint John Neumann, Bishop

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

Friday, January 6 - Blessed Andre Bessette, Religious Office Closing at Noon

7:00 a.m. **NO MASS**
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
NO FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Saturday, January 7 - Saint Raymond of Penafort, Priest

7:00 a.m. Men's Spirituality Breakfast (Office Center)
8:30 a.m. Painting for Life Choices (Away)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

Mass Schedule - January 7/8

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Anthony Arokiadoss
Reader	Alexa Johnson
Altar Server	Kucharski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Debby Kelemen Gloria Cucchiara, Mary Connolly
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Anthony Arokiadoss
Reader	Brent Herrig
Altar Server	Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Diane Lehnert Dorothy Sima, Joe Sima
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Anthony Arokiadoss
Reader	Mary Sorgi
Altar Server	D'Avella Family
Music Eucharistic Minister	Anita Sawczuk
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Jane Albert, Doris Royal Peter Royal, Cindy Carroll, Marlene Milko

Sunday, January 8 - The Epiphany of the Lord / Yellow Brick Road Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
8:00 a.m. K-6 Family Faith Formation (Valley View)
10:30 a.m. Mass with Bells (Church Center)
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church and Office Centers)



Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharistic: **Fr. Alban Harmon, Kathy McIntyre, Floyd Opdyke, Thomas Barnum, Susan Dziki Marx, Albina Aulert, and Erna Harvst.**

Deceased: **Fr. Alban Harmon**, brother of Liz Harmon, **Floyd Opdyke**, husband of Evelyn Opdyke, **Thomas Barnum**, cousin of Ron Pojedinec, **Susan Dziki Marx**, friend of Pojedinecs, **Albina Aulert**, Great Grandmother of Brandon Aulert, and **Erna Harvst**, mother of Shirley Harvst. 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,

Happy New Year! As you read this column, I'm away for my vacation. This is the first time in decades that I'm home with my parents for the New Year! Many will make this first day of the New Year a time of reflecting, resolving, and beginning again. The International Catholic Stewardship Council has given some ideas for New Year that I thought of sharing with us all, as St. John's is a Stewardship Community:

Practice gratitude – Cultivating a grateful heart is the hallmark of a Christian steward. Every day, express thankfulness. Seeing the good in your life will allow you to keep your heart compassionate and loving. **Encounter the Lord each day** – Find time to be with the Lord each day, whether it be for an hour or ten minutes. Have a conversation with the Lord. Give your joys and worries to Him as well. Allow God's love to transform them. **Be present to others** – There is much celebration and mourning, joy and sorrow in peoples' lives. What a blessing it is to be able to share those times and not let others experience them alone. The gift of your presence to others is much more valuable than you realize. **Resist overwork** – There is a pressure to produce, meet goals, be successful. But activities that lead us to overwork, constant fatigue and worry do not give glory to God. What God calls us to do we can do well. Be mindful that life requires balance, down time and letting go of unrealistic goals. **Give more** – Good stewards realize that everything they have is entrusted to them as gift to be shared. There is no better place to begin than sharing with the community that gathers around the Lord's table at Mass. **Make a difference in your parish community** – Believe it or not, your parish community can use your talents. Offering your talents to your faith community is one of the most effective ways to feel useful and connected to others, and it is a potentially life-changing New Year's resolution. **Consider living more simply** – We cannot find fulfillment in possessions. They add nothing to our self-worth. Jesus blessed the "poor in spirit" in his Sermon on the Mount; and Saint Francis of Assisi urged us to live with only what was necessary, for that is how we begin to find God. **Don't give up** – People give up their New Year's resolutions because of perfectionism and unrealistic expectations. So take it slow, be kind to yourself and keep trying. Resist the urge to throw your hands up and quit. You succeed through small, manageable changes over time.

This week is important for us as the feast of our Parish Patron St. John Neumann is on January 5th. I was amazed at the challenges he had when he became the bishop of Philadelphia which, at that time, consisted of two-thirds of Pennsylvania, the western part of New Jersey, and all of Delaware. He visited all these areas, including Hunterdon county, and that's how our parish was named after him. Please read his biography in this bulletin, and let us ask his intercession to face the challenges we have in our life as individuals, as families and as a parish community.

May the Blessings of Baby Jesus be with all of you for the whole of the New Year 2017.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

ADVENT PRAYERS FOR PARISH FAMILIES

We thank you for praying for our parish families throughout Advent. All were asked to write out a card for the family that they prayed for. Most cards were dropped off and those that haven't been picked up yet are in the purple boxes in the Narthex. If there was no card for you last weekend, please check again as some cards were brought in later. If you haven't filled out a card yet there are some in the Narthex you are welcome to use or you can simply give them your best wishes in person.. We do hope you receive a card, however even though not everyone will leave a card, all cards for all of our families were taken by families with the intention of praying. So please be assured that prayers were said for your family even if you didn't receive a card.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

January 1, 2017

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." LUKE 2:19

Mary is the perfect role model for living a stewardship lifestyle. She listened to God and said "yes" to His invitation to be the Holy Mother of His son. She also trusted in the God's providence on a daily basis. As we start a new year, take time every day to listen to how God is calling you; trust that He has a better plan for you than you could ever imagine.

No First Friday Holy Hour



in January

Parish Contact Information

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

Office Center 908-832-2513

Fax908-832-7618

Email sjn@ccsjn.org

Rev. Abraham Orapankal Pastor

Email abraham@ccsjn.org

Earl Roberts Deacon

Email earlr1@verizon.net

Sharon Janks Pastoral Administrator

Email sjanks@ccsjn.org

France Kennedy Pastoral Associate

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Email kcaldaro@ccsjn.org

Wayne Infusino Maintenance

Religious Education 908-832-2162

Renee Ciszewski. Director of Religious Education

Email renee@ccsjn.org

Jo Ann Jarvis Office of Catechesis

Email jjarvis@ccsjn.org

Social Ministry socialministry@ccsjn.org

Anne Germino and Greg Wilson

Bulletin.....bulletin@ccsjn.org

Youth Ministry.....sjnygroup@gmail.com

Christian Formation - Catechesis and Social Ministry

Christmas is joy, religious joy,
an inner joy of light and
peace.

POPE FRANCIS

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fr. Abraham, Jo Ann and Renee
St. John Neumann
Religious Education

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

(New Years) Traditionally people make resolutions to improve themselves at the beginning of the year. In marriage, since you are united in love, what improves one spouse also improves the other. What marriage building practice do you want to start or continue during 2017? For ideas go to www.susanvogt.net/EnrichmentEx.htm

PARENTING TUNE-UP

The calendar year is over. Ask yourself and your child what you liked most and least about 2016? What are you looking forward to as we step into 2017? What is one thing you'd like to improve about yourself?

ARE YOU GOING ON THE WRONG DIRECTION?

A little story about finding direction: A Dubliner was down the country traveling along by-roads where the signposts were few and far between. After a while, unsure of his directions, he decided to ask the first person he saw. When he came across a farmer driving his cows home for milking he stopped the car and asked if he was on the right road to Mallow. The farmer told him that he certainly was on the Mallow road. The driver thanked him and was about to move forward when the farmer added, in a nonchalant way, "You're on the right road, but you're going in the wrong direction!" Let's look into our own lifestyle today, to see if our direction is right.

A REMINDER

Please check our table in the Narthex for an envelope that may have your family name on it



MONTHLY ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation is more than a subject to be taught; it is an invitation to a way of life.

Joe Paprocki

Consider joining us during the adult faith sharing portion of the family faith formation program at Valley View Elementary School on Sunday, January 8th, at 8:30 AM or Monday, January 9th, in the Church Center at 6:30 PM. All are invited to attend! You do not need to have a child in the program to participate. For more information, contact Renee or Jo Ann 832-2162.



2017 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

February 4th & 5th

This year's Junior High Souper Bowl of Caring will take place on February 4th and 5th. Teens will be collecting \$1's and cans of soup after Masses that weekend. Funds raised will go toward making Bags of Love (brown bag lunches) and utensil kits for SHIP. Any money raised above that cost will be donated to St. John's social ministry food baskets; the cans of soup will be donated to a local food pantry.



FIRST EUCHARIST CLASSES

Saturday, January 28, 3:30 p.m., Church Center

First Eucharist classes for all children in this program begin on Saturday, January 28, at 3:30 p.m. in the Church Center. There will be an important Parent Meeting at 8:30 a.m. on February 5th at Valley View School.

APPRECIATION OF THE "GIFT" SPEAKER

Julie Weldon, a parent, has this to share: "I'm writing to tell you how much I enjoyed hearing Dr. Dominic Scibilia speak at the last GIFT Faith Formation session on Dec. 11th. It was fascinating to hear the origins of Catholic social teaching and to have some well-known bible stories put into proper social context. I was surprised to learn that Jesus' instruction to "turn the other cheek" is not really a lesson on forgiveness as much as it was about equalizing social status during that time period. Dr. Scibilia was informative and entertaining in a fun and informal atmosphere. His visit really impressed upon me the importance to continue to learn about our Catholic faith, even as adults. Many thanks to everyone who made his visit possible. I look forward to more opportunities like this in the future."

7 UPS FOR THE NEW YEAR

- 1) **WAKE UP**--Begin the day thanking the Lord. It is His day. Rejoice in it.
- 2) **LOOK UP**--Open your eyes to the Lord Jesus. Ask for his strength and blessings for the day through the anointing of his Holy Spirit. After all, he is your only Savior.
- 3) **DRESS UP**--Put on a smile. It improves your looks. It says something about your attitude. It enables Jesus living within you smile at others.
- 4) **SHUT UP**--Watch your tongue. Don't gossip. Don't be judgmental. Say nice things. Learn to listen to others with love. Be sympathetic.
- 5) **STAND UP**--Take a stand for what you believe. Resist evil. Do good. Have the courage of your Christian convictions by practicing what you believe.
- 6) **REACH UP**--Spend time in prayer by talking to God with your adorations, confessions, thanksgivings and supplications to the Lord, by listening to Him in attentively reading the Bible and by applying its message to your life.
- 7) **LIFT UP**--Be available to help those in need--serving, supporting, and sharing.

SUNDAY REFLECTION - Love, Untangled

And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Luke 2: 16-21

When she was a little girl, she hated it when her mother would comb her long, snarly hair. After a bath or shower, her mother would spray detangler and comb away, while she would fidget and complain. "Ow! It hurts! Stop! Can't you use another comb? This one KILLS!" But her mother continued to brush. As she got older and the tangles subsided, her mother continued to brush her hair. "A hundred strokes a day makes your hair shinier and thicker," her mother would say, and she would sit with her on the floor in the evenings while she watched TV or read, brushing away. "Your hair looks like spun gold," her mother always said when she finished, and then kissed her on the top of her head. At some point, her mother brushed her daughter's hair for the last time. Like so many of the other "lasts" of childhood, it passed without either knowing.

She remembered those evenings years later when she brushed her mother's hair. Her mother was bedridden, fighting a losing battle to cancer, too weak to wash her own hair. So she would wash and then brush her mom's hair - and when she finished, she kissed her mother on the top of her head and told her that she looked great. She remembers those evenings now that she is a mom and combs the tangles out of the hair of her two daughters, 6 and 7. She's been in charge of their hair for years, first using baby shampoo to wash their fuzzy heads as infants, then holding them on her lap for their first real haircuts. Now, when she is brushing their hair before school in the morning, her girls screech and holler and tell her that she can't possibly understand how much it hurts - just as she did when she was their ages. She gently assures them that no one understands better than she does, but part of being a mom is combing out the tangles - and not only their tangles and gnarls of wet hair. She didn't get it either then, but she does now. This is what moms do. This is love.

The love of God is revealed in simple, everyday tasks done out of love; our days are measured in the memory of such small moments. Mary kept these memories in her heart, constantly remembering how she experienced God's love for her and her family in the events surrounding her son's birth just as this mom realizes the love and care mirrored in the simple act of brushing her daughters' hair. May we discover in this New Year the many ordinary revelations of the love of God in our homes, our community, and our church - signs we reveal in our own everyday expressions of generosity and compassion.

TAI CHI STARTS NEXT WEEK

The six week Tai Chi session begins next Wednesday. If you are interested contact Bonnie Garcia 908-975-3003 or the office 832-2513. We ask that you pre-registered and there are only a couple of spots left.

BECOME A PRAYER MINISTER

You are invited to become a St. John's Prayer Minister. Prayer Ministers are called to be mindful of the prayer intentions of our parish community. In addition, they pray for specific intentions that a fellow parishioner requests. This is a calling that is available to everyone: the young, senior citizens, those with busy lives, and anyone who is looking for a way to serve the parish community in a prayerful way. There are times in everyone's life when we look for support: someone in our family is seriously ill; someone is out of work and looking for employment; someone joins the military and is serving in a distant land; someone is suffering from depression. There are also times of crisis when we are at a loss, and we have an urgent need for the prayers of our parish community. If you are interested in responding to such needs through prayer, and want to learn more about this ministry, please contact: Bonnie Garcia at 908-975-3003

VOLUNTEERS TO PAINT

For Life Choices in Phillipsburg

Saturday January 7th, 8:30 a.m. Jim Murray is organizing a volunteer team to help out Life Choices. The team will meet here at St. John's at 8:30 am and arrive about 9 am and be done before noon.

Life Choices is converting a former convent into a temporary home for pregnant mothers. The goal is to offer an alternative to abortion.

This is a Catholic sponsored program. "Grandma's House is located in Phillipsburg at 137/139 Roseberry Street.

Director Joan Fasanello has asked for help with painting and small repairs. All supplies will be provided.

Contact Jim Murray 908-310-6877.

THE BEST NEW YEAR GIFTS:

- To your friend - loyalty;
- To your enemy - forgiveness;
- To your boss - service;
- To a child - a good example;
- To your parents - gratitude and devotion;
- To your mate - love and faithfulness; To all men and women - love; To God - your life.

SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY

😊 Alex was five; all his Christmas 😊 presents were always signed, 'from Father Christmas.' A little while after Alex had opened all his presents on Christmas morning, we became aware that he was looking quite down in the mouth for no obvious reason. 'What's the matter, Al?' I asked. 'Ummmm, these are all from Father Christmas' replied Alex slowly, 'I really hoped that you and Mummy would give me something for Christmas.'

Peter, at a New Year's party, turns to his friend, Ken, and asks for a cigarette. 'I thought you made a New Year's resolution to quit smoking,' Ken responds. 'I'm in the process of quitting,' replies Peter with a grin. 'Right now, I am in the middle of phase one.' 'Phase one?' wonders Ken. 'Yeah,' laughs Peter, 'I've quit buying.'

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Virgilio Alves
Joan Cardierre
Eugene Cifranic
Bill Ciszewski
Jean Crickenberger
John D'Almeida
Barbara DelPiano
Tino DeSantis
Sophia DeVita
Brent Evans
Paul Ferri
Helen Gallagher
Sophie Geist
Jay Heyman
Fred Holub
Barbara Jiroushek
Lou Livoti
Iole Matthews
Dick McCall
Maggie McKeon
Jan McLeavey
Christine Meyer
Fran Miceli
Danny Mulvey
Joan Myers
Mary Lou O'Brien
Floyd Opdyke
Nilsa Perez Parsons
John Pfeufer
Ali Redling
Anne & Joe Sacco
Diane Siti
Noah Skinner
Michael Slivka
Al Sterphone
Julie Suplee
Nicholas Troiano
Don Velli
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



ST. JOHN NEUMANN: GETTING TO KNOW OUR PARISH PATRON SAINT

As we celebrate St. John Neumann's Feast Day on January 5th, we can learn more about him by reading the following from Catholic Online:

This American saint was born in Bohemia in 1811. He was looking forward to being ordained in 1835 when the bishop decided there would be no more ordinations. It is difficult for us to imagine now, but Bohemia was overstocked with priests. John wrote to bishops all over Europe but the story was the same everywhere no one wanted any more priests. John was sure he was called to be a priest but all the doors to follow that vocation seemed to close in his face.

But John didn't give up. He had learned English by working in a factory with English-speaking workers so he wrote to the bishops in America. Finally, the bishop in New York agreed to ordain him. In order to follow God's call to the priesthood John would have to leave his home forever and travel across the ocean to a new and rugged land.

In New York, John was one of 36 priests for 200,000 Catholics. John's parish in western New York stretched from Lake Ontario to Pennsylvania. His church had no steeple or floor but that didn't matter because John spent most of his time traveling from village to village, climbing mountains to visit the sick, staying in garrets and taverns to teach, and celebrating the Mass at kitchen tables.

Because of the work and the isolation of his parish, John longed for community and so joined the Redemptorists, a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned.

John was appointed bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. As bishop, he was the first to organize a diocesan Catholic school system. A founder of Catholic education in this country, he increased the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from two to 100.

John never lost his love and concern for the people -- something that may have bothered the elite of Philadelphia. On one visit to a rural parish, the parish priest picked him up in a manure wagon. Seated on a plank stretched over the wagon's contents, John joked, "Have you ever seen such an entourage for a bishop!"

The ability to learn languages that had brought him to America led him to learn Spanish, French, Italian, and Dutch so he could hear confessions in at least six languages. When Irish immigration started, he learned Gaelic so well that one Irish woman remarked, "Isn't it grand that we have an Irish bishop!"

Once on a visit to Germany, he came back to the house he was staying in soaked by rain. When his host suggested he change his shoes, John remarked, "The only way I could change my shoes is by putting the left one on the right foot and the right one on the left foot. This is the only pair I own."

John died on January 5, 1860 at the age of 48.

STEWARDSHIP CALL FOR MEMBERS

Great news! The Stewardship Ministry is looking for new members. We want to expand our membership so that we have more ideas and input into our planning process. This is a fantastic opportunity to join a fun and meaningful ministry here at St. John's. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Seton Room. We laugh, share personal stories, and plan for Stewardship at St. John's. The Stewardship Ministry has three primary objectives:

- (1) Promote Parish engagement;
- (2) Support Social Justice; and
- (3) Encourage environmental responsibility.

Stewardship members take on as much or as little as their schedule allows. We have some exciting activities planned for 2017 and want you to join us! Contact Anthony DeStefano at radestefano@earthlink.net or just show up to our next meeting. We look forward to hearing from you.

DID YOU MISS THE POINT? YOU CAN START ANEW!

How was Christmas? Was it truly a celebration of Christ? Or did I miss the point? If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator. If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook. If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing. If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata, but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point. But don't worry, the compassionate God gives you another chance to begin this New Year well! Start anew!

DID CHRISTMAS END, OR JUST BEGINNING?

When the song of the angels is stilled when the star in the sky is gone when the kings and the princes are home when the shepherds are back with their flocks the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost to heal the broken to feed the hungry to release the prisoner to rebuild the nations to bring peace among the people to make music in the heart. (Howard Thurman)

WHY NOT PASS THIS BULLETIN TO SOMEONE?

This is a New Year special edition. This has a lot of insights and information. It is wonderful that you have made time to attend Church in your busy schedule, to celebrate the New Year and The Solemnity of Mary. Maybe some of your family or friends were unable to attend a church service. Why not give them this bulletin as a sign of sharing your own joy?

STORE CARD SALES AFTER MASS

We hope to find someone willing to stay after Mass once a month at the Saturday 5:30 Mass and sell the store cards. It is an easy fundraiser for the church. And you would only need to do it once a month. To volunteer or get details see us after Mass or call the office.

SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE!

Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring - your relationship grown cold, distant - thinking about separation or divorce? Are you already separated/divorced but (both of you) wish to try again - then the Retrouvaille program may help you.

RETROUVAILLE (Rediscovery) sponsored by the Family Life Office, Diocese of Metuchen consists of a weekend experience for couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The next program is scheduled for February 10-12, 2017. All inquiries are confidential. For further information please call the Family Life Office 732-562-1990 x4573 or Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Tom & Pat McTague 732-583-4468 (evenings).

Marriage Encounter

For a truly meaningful Christmas present, one that lasts long after the decorations have been put away, why not give your spouse the gift of a Marriage Encounter Weekend? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held January 13 - 15. Early registration is advisable as space is limited.

Visit us at www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for more information. Phone 1-732-904-9636 for registration and information.

VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE 2017



The dinner for our Catholic Heart Workcamp trip is Fri., Feb. 10, 2017 at 7pm. It will

be here before we know it!

More information to follow but for questions or to get involved please contact Mary Connolly at mandmconnolly@gmail.com or 908-930-0784.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

For December 17, 2016

99 Donors Weekly.....\$4,405.00
51 Christmas Flowers\$1,150.50

For December 20, 2015

86 Donors Weekly.....\$4,746.00
51 Christmas Flowers.\$1,136.00

GROCERY CARDS



Thanks to **20 families** who purchased Shop Rite and Kings and Bishops gift cards the last week, totaling **\$3,460.00**. The stores gave us **\$171.55**. Cards are available after Mass or at the office weekdays.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Tues., December 28 J. Santoro

Store Cards

December 24 & 25

4:30 p.m.. D. Royal

7:30 p.m.

10:30 a.m. G. Ambrosky

December 31 & January 1

5:30 p.m. E. McCabe

8:00 a.m. K. Dabrowski

10:30 a.m. J. Varcadipane

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of 12/25 B. Sobey

Week of 1/1 J. Sieber

Church Center Cleaning

December 30 Team D

January 6 Team E

Altar Flowers

January 14 A. Sawczuk

January 21 A. Germino



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www.coughlinfuneralhome.com 908-832-2414

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