

# The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

www.ccsjn.org

January 8, 2017

Volume 35 Number 2



## 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.*

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## 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

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## *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.

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# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, January 10

8:00 a.m. No Mass

### Friday, January 13

7:00 a.m. No Mass

### Saturday, January 14

5:30 p.m. Frances Mattiello, req.

Maureen & Richard Sepe & Family

### Sunday, January 15

8:00 a.m. Mark Johnson, req.

Cathy and Tom Bennett

10:30 a.m. Frances Mattiello, req.

Shirley and Ron Pojedinec



## Parish Calendar

### 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)

### Monday, January 9 - The Baptism of the Lord

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P.

6:00 p.m. K-6 Family Faith Formation (Church/Office Centers)

### Tuesday, January 10 - Weekday

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

6:00 p.m. De-Decorating (Church Center)

7:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)

### Wednesday, January 11 - Weekday

7:00 p.m. Social Ministry Board Meeting (Seton Room)

7:00 p.m. Tai Chi for Meditation (Church Center)

### Thursday, January 12 - Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

7:15 p.m. Bible Study (Drexel Room)

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

### Friday, January 13 - Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00 a.m. **NO MASS**

5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)

### Saturday, January 14 - Weekday

5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

## Mass Schedule - January 14/15

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant .....	Fr. Anthony Arokiadoss
Reader .....	David Geerinck
Altar Server .....	Geerinck/Torczon Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Donna Torczon
.....	Lyle Garcia, Joan Eacovalle
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant .....	Fr. Anthony Arokiadoss
Reader .....	Owen Stanski
Altar Server .....	Mastro Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Tom Klawunn
.....	Jane Klawunn, Barbara Gates
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant .....	Fr. Anthony Arokiadoss
Reader .....	Julie Weldon
Altar Server .....	Heimall Family
Music Eucharistic Minister .....	Ron Pojedinec
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Mary D'Avella, Mark Brisson
.....	Sheena Carew, Anita Sawczuk, Bob Sobey

### Sunday, January 15 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time / Together in Charity Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)

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

11:30 a.m. Discover St. John's (Office 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: **Rose Squietteri, Margaret Battell, John Fogarty, Fr. Alban Harmon, Kathy McIntyre, Floyd Opdyke, Thomas Barnum, and Susan Dziki Marx.**

**Deceased:** **Rose Squietteri**, aunt of Anthony Sorgi, **Margaret Battell**, mother of James Battell, **John Fogarty**, uncle of Steve Carroll, **Fr. Alban Harmon**, brother of Liz Harmon, **Floyd Opdyke**, husband of Evelyn Opdyke, **Thomas Barnum**, cousin of Ron Pojedinec, and **Susan Dziki Marx**, friend of Pojedinecs. 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.

**NOTE FROM: FR. BILL MICKIEWICZ ABOUT  
FR. SIMO'S YOUTH CENTER IN SARAJEVO**



Many years ago Fr. Simo Marsic came summers and holidays to St. John's Parish. While he was working on his Masters and Doctorate in Pastoral Counseling in Rome it was easy for him to come to us. We grew very fond of him. Then he returned to Sarajevo where he was put in charge of Youth Ministry. He had a dream of building a Youth Ministry and a place for that Youth Ministry, the Pope (now St.) John Paul II Center. In less then 10 years he worked on plans which he shared with us when he summered with us. We helped him with our prayers and finances to achieve the structure you see in this attachment of what he (and in somewhat we) have accomplished. What we may have thought was a crazy dream has been accomplished. With his hard work of soliciting funds and gifts (such as windows from Milan) he has built a debt free building that is the envy of the church of Sarajevo. Behold the building that "Jack" (Simo) has built. It is a marvel to behold!

Fr. Bill

\*There is a link on our website [ccsjn.org](http://ccsjn.org) which will take you to an album of photos of this new youth center.

**SOME PARISH HISTORY:**

**WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS ALTAR QUILT?**



This Log Cabin quilt was made by parishioners Mary Beth Staiano and Paula Weller who have since moved from the area. It was presented to Fr. Bill Mickiewicz, our founding Pastor, on January 5, 1991, when it dressed the Altar for the Blessing of the Church Center and Dedication of the Altar that day. Because the anniversary of our Church, and the Feasts of Epiphany and St. John Neumann our Patron, so closely coincide, this quilt (which has been dubbed "The Dedication Quilt") has been placed on the Altar for Masses during Epiphany weekend.



**BIBLE STUDY**

We are excited to offer our first Bible Study in many years. We will be exploring the Gospel of Matthew in a six week session from this Thursday Jan 12th through Feb 16th. We chose Matthew as it is the gospel we will be using this year, Cycle A of the Church calendar. We are looking forward to exploring and sharing God's word together. Please sign up in the Narthex this weekend or email France at [fkennedy@ccsjn.org](mailto:fkennedy@ccsjn.org) or call the office.



**DE-DECORATING**

We will be dedecorating the Church on Tuesday, January 10th, starting at 6:00 p.m. If you can help please sign up in the Narthex or just show up. If this time doesn't work for you contact the office and we can arrange for your help at a time that is convenient for you.

**CALLING ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, READERS AND  
ALTAR SERVERS & CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

*Liturgy Refresher – January 22, 9:00 -10:15 a.m.*

All ministers for Mass are invited to join Father Abraham for a short spiritual reflection and a practical refresher for ministry participation. No RSVP needed – we do look forward to you joining us. Any questions contact France.

**EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**

January 8, 2017

*"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."*

**MATTHEW 2:11**

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow all year long. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be the most generous with that one thing that means the most to us.

**ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS  
FLOWER OFFERINGS**

**Deceased:**

Helen and Joseph Pasquale  
Basil D'Armiento

Joseph W. Pojedinec, Sr.

Joseph and Ann Kalafut

Kyle Hargadon

**Members of:**

Notaroberto Family

***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 ..... [kaldaro@ccsjn.org](mailto:kaldaro@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

## 5TH GRADE CLASS MASS



Please join our 5th Grade Religious Education students on Sunday, January 22, at 10:30 a.m. as they celebrate their Class Mass. It is a wonderful chance to witness our youth deepen their faith and understanding of the Liturgy by playing an active role during the Mass.

## 1ST EUCHARIST CLASSES

**Saturday, January 28, 3:30 p.m.**



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 5<sup>th</sup> at Valley View School.



## 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 8<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 AM or Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**

This year's Junior High Souper Bowl of Caring will take place on February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. 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.

# Social Ministry

*"O Holy Family—the Family so closely united to the mystery which we contemplate on the day of the Lord's Birth—guide with your example the families of the whole earth!"*

**Pope St. John Paul II**

## ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to All of Those Who assisted in Some Way to Our Christmas Food Drive.

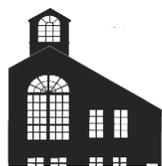
The Friday evening of Pack-Up was blustery cold and the skies were ominous yet a few families turned out to assist:

Elizabeth Kelemen led the way with Piper, Sophia and Caleb all helped as did Karen and Nick Brezina. Of course, Jeremy Hoffmann was present for this as well as all before and after events. Saturday morning in spite of the treacherous road conditions we were assisted by: Bill and Debbie Hunt, Charlie and Melissa Fortenbaker, The Evanko Family and Phil and Regina Farrell.

Thanks again to Stacy Niemiec for her help in picking up all the perishables at Shop-Rite. Her partner, John assisted, but the lady in blue with the red cape could have handled it alone. Thanks also to Joanne Fabiano for picking up some last minute items.

God Bless All of You in the Coming Year and Always ! Thanks so much.

# Parish News



## NEW TO ST. JOHN'S?

If you are new to the parish we invite you to a new parishioner lunch. For information contact France Kennedy at [fkennedy@ccsjn.org](mailto:fkennedy@ccsjn.org).

## 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



**Stewardship**  
*A Way of Life*

## SUNDAY REFLECTION - Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord

*"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."*  
Matthew 2: 1-12

*And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.*  
Matthew 3: 13-17

### Epiphanies in a minor key

A seven-year wants to play Little League baseball this year. He asks his grandfather, a former minor leaguer, to help him. Grandpa pitches a few balls to his grandson. After several misses, he manages to hit one weakly off to the right. So Grandpa kneels near the boy and puts his big hands around his grandson's much smaller hands grasping the bat. He shows his grandson how and where to grasp the bat and at what angle. Grandpa explains how the ball moves so his grandson can better see it. Of the next five pitches, the boy hits four of them for solid line drives. "Oh, I get it, Grandpa." *Epiphany.*

The dean's first inclination was to expel them. The three freshmen had gotten drunk one night and drove through the quad by the dorm where many of the college's minority students lived. Blasting the horn, they screamed ugly obscenities: "Go home! Get out of our country! You're not wanted here! White power!" And those were the repeatable things they said. But the dean decided instead that if the three wanted to stay in school they would have to spend every Saturday of the next semester working at a church-run food pantry where they would get to know immigrant families and hear their stories. They also put in time working at the local Moslem community center; there the imam took them under his wing and introduced him to members of his mosque, including many their own age. In realizing how incredibly stupid they were, the three made new friends among these warm and wonderful people. *Epiphany.*

They were excited and happy beyond words. And scared. Were they ready to be parents - when they still felt like kids themselves? Could they be totally responsible for another human being? In the nine months of her pregnancy, they did everything they could do to prepare for their first-born - and all the time doubted and wondered if they were up for this. Then came that long night that seem to last forever. At dawn, their daughter Claire was born. And when the nurse placed their daughter in her mother's arms for the first time, the doubts disappeared. They were happy beyond words - and ready for this. *Epiphany.*

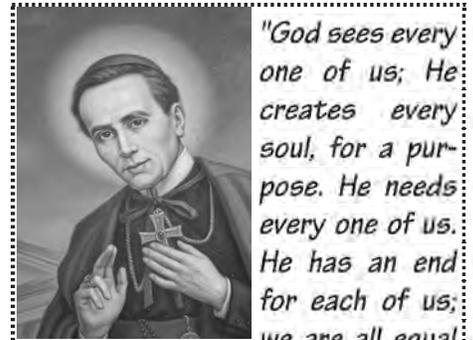
**Our lives are filled with "epiphanies": moments of awareness and understanding, discoveries of abilities and potential, realizations of the love of God in our lives. Like the journey of the magi, our own journeys are filled with such epiphanies: markers of God's compassion and peace in the midst of our struggles and doubts and fears. In this New Year, let us continue our own journey to find Christ in our own lives, following the star of God's reconciliation and justice, enabling us to behold Emmanuel - God in our midst - in every experience of charity, consolation and forgiveness, whether given or received.**

## 😊 SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY 😊

A preacher in our neck of the woods had just enjoyed a hearty chicken dinner at the home of one of his parishioners. Looking out the window after dinner, the preacher remarked, "That rooster of yours seems to be a mighty proud and happy bird." The host replied, "He should. His oldest son just entered the ministry."

On an African safari, a missionary asked the guide if it was true that a jungle animal will not attack you if you are carrying a torch.

"Well," the guide responded thoughtfully, "it depends on how fast you are carrying the torch."



*"God sees every one of us; He creates every soul, for a purpose. He needs every one of us. He has an end for each of us; we are all equal in His sight, and we are placed in our different ranks and stations, not to get what we can out of them for ourselves, but to labor in them for Him. As Christ has worked, we too have but to labor in them for Him. As Christ has His work, we too have ours; as He rejoiced to do his work, we must rejoice in ours also."*

*St. John Neumann*

## MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

Trip Down Memory Lane #16. It is the middle of winter cold in the northern hemisphere. What was your first winter living together like? Do you have newer, better ways of keeping warm enough today?

## PARENTING TUNE-UP

(Epiphany) According to tradition, 3 kings came to honor the baby Jesus and we call this feast the Epiphany (the recognition of Jesus as God by the larger world). Consider giving something golden, sweet smelling, or soothing (myrrh) to your child today as a sign of God's presence within him or her.



## 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  
Cavallo, Chris, USMC  
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

## WHERE IS THE CHILD?

### *Where is He who has been born the King of the Jews?*

According to St. Matthew, these are the words the Wise Men from the East spoke about two thousand years ago; those men who traveled far to seek the Promised One, the Messiah, the One foretold by the prophets as promised to the Jewish people. It was a sacred promise of great depth and meaning, an unbreakable covenant from God, to send this Messiah, or 'King,' who would guide, protect and bless His people, Israel, His children, and always *be with them*.

I think of these Magi and their visit to the Holy Child during this season, remembering the European traditions passed on to me by a set of fervently religious grandparents in recognition of this event on January 6<sup>th</sup>. My grandparents, too, set on a similar path like the Wise men, making a journey of their hearts every day of their lives to seek the One and pay Him homage. They *celebrated* the Epiphany, "Kings Day," with a reverence similar to Christmas. I had never asked them why they did so. I just remember always accepting it without much thought. Yet, I thought about it today and pondered, that perhaps it might have been an honored day because of the great witness these Wise Men bestowed on the Child, Jesus, in their understanding of the ineffable miracle of this moment...the moment of seeing God, Himself, made visible to man. It is an awesome knowledge that God would love us so much as to enter our earthly world and "dwell among us" within the fragile vulnerable body of a human child; the Perfect One within the imperfect nature of His creation.

So, we celebrate and remember the Wise Men, three Kings' journey to see THE KING, to see Emmanuel, *God with us*. Yet, sadly we can view the Epiphany as a solitary day; an historical event or memory of the past celebrated as a single moment in time. But I have come to believe something different; that we should be asking that same question the Wise Men did ages ago: *Where is He who has been born the King...? Where is the Child?*

I know, we hear the words "*God is everywhere!*" but they often remain just that – familiar words that we have plastered into our minds like blocks that just lay on a surface but never get built upon or develop into a useful structure intended to be filled with life. I didn't want that to happen, -not this year following a year filled with great trial in my life. I wanted these words or 'blocks' to be built up into a strong, concrete foundation that, perhaps, would now be made stronger within me using a mortar that would support a home containing life- containing God.

So I thought again- "*Where is He?*"...Have I seen Him? Is He more than a moment in time? As I listened to a song by Joy Williams, "Here With Us," a realized I had indeed seen Him almost as clear as those Three Men did in antiquity. I saw Him about three weeks ago within a young adolescent child of 12 and an elderly woman. It was within a small white room of a medical facility in Dover. This boy was visiting his great aunt of 98 years old. It was a beloved aunt of his; one who was always filled with joy, with humor, and with life. She was quite spry still at the age of 98, but now suffered with the challenges and pain of cancer. When we arrived at the hospice wing at St Clare's, we found her asleep. But I intentionally woke her, because this young man had something important to ask this now frail but great woman. Upon awakening, we witnessed the somewhat confused face that experienced much life and also, recently, endured much suffering. But upon recognition of this smiling young man, her face brightened beyond the pain. She smiled and, in an amusing tone, said, "*I know you!*" She reached her hand to gather him for a kiss. After light conversation, he asked the question that he had been pondering with great depth, yet also one that had required little effort.

"*Aunt Rose, I have something to ask you. This year, I am receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. Aunt Rose, will you be my Confirmation sponsor?*" The face of this woman who was struggling with pain, immediately changed to one of intense joy accompanied by tears; tears of happiness, of awe, and of honor and privilege. I cannot even place into words, the emotions that occurred at this moment, emotions as an observer in the room, as a niece of this woman, and as a mother of this child. I can, though, share with you Rose's words. She replied,

*(continued on next page)*

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"Oh child, I have been feeling so bad lately, but now I am feeling good! You have made my day... you have made me better!! I am so happy. Thank you! Now, you give me all the details. Write them down on paper and give them to me and I will be there! Today is a great day for me!"

Trying desperately to hold them back but failing, tears flowed from me knowing that this future gathering would not take place. But to a child and his beloved aunt, at least for that moment, the day would happen. They believed they would share that special moment with God, share that holiness in the day of Confirmation,... together! Aunt Rose talked for a bit more about how great that day would be. She glanced and pondered a bit. She then smiled and asked the question she had often posed to anyone in her presence...

"Do you know who my best friend is?"

My son and I both smiled; for indeed we did know the answer to her question. But that did not halt her reply.

"Jesus is my best friend! I talk to Him every day!"

We all smiled amidst some more tears, but with a peace uncommon to the setting of this illness. At that moment, I understood how perfectly my child had chosen his sponsor, how much he and his aunt understood what the Wise Men sought, and how much the day of the Epiphany was still alive. The child born on Christmas Day was still being born and sought, as in this hospital room. Indeed, He is still *Here With Us* if we choose to seek Him and know Him; for He desires this, and is truly worthy of homage and praise. We must kneel before Him and praise the heavens with great joy; for He is Emmanuel, *God with us*. We all are given His presence...and can find Him today! We can find the Child - within a child, within an elderly aunt, within grandparents, within those who portray His presence, within *'wise men'*

Where is the child??? He is here within one another, indeed, within each one of us! *Happy Kings Day!*

Written by a Parishioner



## PICK UP YOUR CARD IN THE NARTHEX

Someone was praying for you during Advent! Many people who participated wrote a Christmas Card to the family they prayed for. Please look in the purple boxes for a card for your family. We do hope you receive a card, however even though not everyone participates by giving a card, the

people who take the cards take them with the intention of praying. So please be assured that prayers were said for your family even if you do not get a card.

If you haven't dropped off a card for who you prayed for fill out one of the blank cards in the narthex - we have a directory right there to help with the spelling of parish families! Or send an email to the office [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org) and we will advise the family who prayed for them. People do want to hear who prayed for them! Thank you for supporting each other in prayer.

## 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.



**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"**

## 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](mailto:mandmconnolly@gmail.com) or 908-930-0784.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

### **For January 1, 2017**

68 Donors Weekly..... \$4,565.00  
13 Christmas..... \$1,640.00  
27 Solemnity of Mary ..... \$495.00

### **For January 3, 2016**

70 Donors Weekly..... \$6,547.25  
47 Yellow Brick Road..... \$1,657.96  
26 Solemnity of Mary ..... \$570.00

## 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**

Wed., January 11 C. Behrens  
Wed., January 18 M. D'Avella

### **Store Cards**

#### **January 7 & 8**

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

#### **January 14 & 15**

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

### **Church Center Plant Watering**

Week of 1/8 C. Fortenbacker  
Week of 1/15 B. Lee

### **Church Center Cleaning**

January 6 Team E  
January 13 Team F

### **Altar Flowers**

January 14 A. Sawczuk  
January 21 A. Germino

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