

## 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, DD  
Bishop Emeritus

www.diometuchen.org

## *Our Parish*

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, PhD .....  
..... 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, September 26

8:00 a.m. Esther Jones, req.  
Barbara and Fred Pfeufer

### Friday, September 29

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

### Saturday, September 30

5:30 p.m. John Handy, req.  
Lou and Joan Eacovalle

### Sunday, October 1

8:00 a.m. Al Grady, req.  
Cathy and Tom Bennett  
10:30 a.m. BJ Landis, req.  
Marie and Roger Malone



## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, Sept. 24 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time / PARISH PICNIC

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
8:00 a.m. Family Faith Formation (Valley View)  
10:30 a.m. Mass - Catechist Commissioning and  
Confirmation Retreat Return Mass (Church Center)  
2:00 p.m. Parish Picnic (Church Center Grounds)

### Monday, Sept. 25 - Weekday

6:00 p.m. Family Faith Formation (Church Center)  
7:00 p.m. Fundraising Meeting (Office Center Kitchen)  
7:30 p.m. Children's Liturgy Meeting (Seton Room)

### Tuesday, Sept. 26 - Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
7:00 p.m. Bereavement Session (Upper Room)  
7:00 p.m. Connxions Meeting (Office Center Kitchen)

### Wednesday, Sept. 27 - Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)  
7:00 p.m. Career Development & Resume Writing (Upper Room)

### Thursday, Sept. 28 - Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr; Saint Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Office and Church Kitchens)  
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)  
7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

### Friday, Sept. 29 - Saint Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)

### Saturday, Sept. 30 - Saint Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

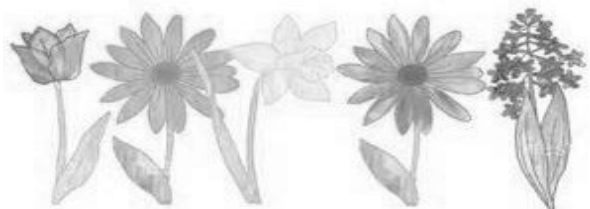
8:00 a.m. Golf Outing (Minebrook Golf Course-Hackettstown)  
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)  
6:30 p.m. Coffee sponsored by Connxions Ministry (Narthex)

## Mass Schedule - September 30/October 1

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader.....	Anita Sawczuk
Altar Server .....	Lowary Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Donna Lance
.....	Joann Gardner, Jim Oelkers
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader.....	Allan Piechowski
Altar Server .....	Kennedy Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Tom Klawunn
.....	Jane Klawunn, Diane Lehnert
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader.....	Gary Porto
Altar Server .....	Alligood Family
Music Eucharistic Minister.....	Marlene Milko
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Dick Wickel, Jim DeVito
.....	Sheena Carew, Peter Royal, Doris Royal

### Sunday, October 1 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Yellow Brick Road Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
9:00 a.m. Coffee sponsored by Connxions Ministry (Narthex)  
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy (Narthex)  
11:30 a.m. Coffee sponsored by Connxions Ministry (Narthex)  
1:00 p.m. Blessing of Animals (Church Center Parking Lot)  
5:30 p.m. CPIII Parent-Confirmandi Meeting (Church)  
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Faith Formation (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 Eucharist: **Santo Molinari**, and **Brandon Wieboldt**.

**Deceased:** **Santo Molinari**, brother of Rose Mastroianni, and **Brandon Wieboldt**, friend of the King Family and Gerry Brisson. 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,

Do we need a "National Eat Dinner Together Day"? Well there is one, and that's this Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>! The fourth Monday in September has been declared "Family Day — a day to eat dinner with your children." by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University. This is a national effort to promote family dinners as an effective way to reduce youth substance abuse and other risky behaviors, as research consistently finds that the more often children eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use illegal drugs.

Nothing brings us together like eating together. Good food, great conversations and loads of laughs—that's what family dinners are made of. But in today's culture, we all know that family dinner together has become an easy casualty. Grabbing dinner on the go can be bad for our wallets and our waistlines, but most importantly we miss the opportunity to bond and grow as a family.

Throughout the Bible, we see that mealtime was a time for being together and enjoying each other, and it was also a time for teaching and imparting wisdom. From Sarah hosting the angels, to the Passover meal observance, to Jesus changing water to wine for a wedding feast, there are so many biblical examples of mealtime fellowship. In fact, Jesus often compared the Kingdom of God to a banquet! "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. (Matthew 22:2); 'Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.'" (Luke 14:15); "I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; (Matthew 8:11). Parents will vouch for the formative value of eating together as this is a great opportunity to instill important values in the lives of children. Listen to what an young man remembers about his family's practice of eating meal together: *"It was therapeutic: an excuse to talk, to reflect on the day, and on recent events. Our chats about the banal—of baseball and television—often led to discussions of the serious—of politics and death, of memories and loss. Eating together was a small act, and it required very little of us—45 minutes away from our usual, quotidian distractions—and yet it was invariably one of the happiest parts of my day."*

I'm very glad that we, here at St. John's, give much focus on eating together. The Community Coffee/snacks hosted frequently after Mass, the different events that have meals as an important part and other celebrations are powerful reminders of our meal fellowship. Our Parish picnic this Sunday is another visible sign of us all coming together for fellowship, and eating and sharing food together is an integral part of it. Yes let us make greater effort to have family dinner more often.

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

How exciting it is to have four candidates interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith. Our RCIA Team led by Father Abraham has begun meeting to accompany these four people on their personal faith journeys. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their search for a fuller relationship with God.

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP

*Here at St. John's, September 27*

There will be a career development discussion and resume writing workshop on September 27<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 p.m. in the upper room of the St. John Neumann office building. To participate, please call France Kennedy at the Parish Office (908-832-2513) on or before September 25. There is no charge for this event, we just need your name. Parish membership is not necessary. The session will be led by John Cole, a parishioner and transition specialist.



## SMALL GROUPS START NEXT WEEK

The Small Groups start next week! Come try it and experience the benefits of small group sessions. We have groups scheduled weekday evenings and a couple of mornings, and also at 9am between the Sunday Masses. The groups meet seven times starting the week of Oct 2. Call, text or email for information 908-307-7879, francekennedy99@gmail.com.

## 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

*September 24, 2017*

**"So the last will be first and the first last"**  
**MATTHEW 20:16**

You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our gratitude and generosity helps us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.



## OFFICE PAINTING THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who came out to help with painting the outside of the Office Building. This project was suggested by Jim Murray to help defray some of the costs on something we could do ourselves. Thanks to Gary Caprio, Cathy Gagen, Lyle & Bonnie Garcia, Brent Herrig, Wayne Infusino, France Kennedy, Fred Mattrey, Jim & Joann Murray, Hunt Patterson who painted and to Steve Carroll who is going to finish up this week.



## Parish Contact Information

**Office Center ..... 908-832-2513**

Fax ..... 908-832-7618

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

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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)

..... Greg Wilson

Bulletin ..... [bulletin@ccsjn.org](mailto:bulletin@ccsjn.org)

Youth Ministry ..... [sjnygroup@gmail.com](mailto:sjnygroup@gmail.com)

# Christian Formation

## Religious Education Program

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PART-TIME CATECHIST NEEDED



*“Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received--only what you have given.” St Francis of Assisi*

Our parents are sharing the formation experience this year but we do need a helping hand. This program meets one time each month from September to May at Valley View Elementary School 8AM to 10:15AM Prayerfully consider sharing your time and faith with our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade youth in the Sunday Monthly GIFT Program. Being a catechist is an enriching and rewarding experience! Please contact Renee Ciszewski at [renee@ccsjn.org](mailto:renee@ccsjn.org).

### LIVING AS MISSIONARY



#### DISCIPLES

“The National Catechetical” Sunday” is a day on which to celebrate and pray for the Church’s mission to teach.

This year’s theme given by our Bishops is “Living as Missionary Disciples.” We, here at St. John’s, are keeping it today as with the Commissioning Rite of our Catechists. Please pray and support our Catechists. Dear Catechists, you are responding to a call to share the gift of faith with others, even as you deepen your own faith. This call may have reached you through your pas-tor, the director of your parish’s religious education program or the role of parent. But know that it ultimately comes from God. Thank you to all our catechists and volunteers and continued blessings for a fruitful 2017-2018 catechetical year!



## FAMILY FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM - GIFT

*Welcome Back!*

We are excited for this year’s start-up of our family faith formation program, called GIFT, for grades K-6 here at St. John Neumann! *Family Faith Formation works for parishes!* It combines a **Monthly Gathering** (including grade-specific classes, adult formation, and group activities) with **Family Home Lessons** where parents, equipped with materials and an understanding of the lessons, continue to teach their children the faith.

**See you next week! Sessions begin:**

- Sunday Family Formation - Sunday, Sept. 24 at 8 AM at Valley View School
- Monday Family Formation - Monday, Sept. 25 at 6 PM in the Church Center



### CONFIRMATION 2017

**Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 p.m., Church Center**

We are pleased to announce that Bishop Emeritus Paul G. Bootkoski will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. John’s on Tuesday, October 17, at 7:00 p.m. Mass. Please keep these young people and their families in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate Confirmation this October. They are: Casey Ayotte, ToniAnn Brezina, Oliver Kivett, Zachariah Lowary, Matthew Martino, Grace Medea, Lucy Meekings, Kevin Menzie, Shane Menzie, Thomas Menzie, Rafael Proano, Curran Regan, Daniella Sarubbi, Amanda Stanton, and Owen Tabor.



### STUDENT MASS AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS MASS

Thank you to all the students who enthusiastically participated in the celebration of Mass on Sunday from gift bearers to music. It is wonderful to watch the students grow in faith as they become active member of the parish community.

## Social Ministry & Parish News

### INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY THANK YOU

A huge thanks for the efforts of all of those who assisted with the Interfaith Hospitality Network hosting ,in conjunction with Spruce Run Lutheran Church during the week of September 3-10: Andy & Mary Kozlowski, Phil & Regina Farrell, Jane Albert, Anne Germino, Brendan Casserly, Suzanne Larusso, Diane Lenhert, & Jennifer Evanko all contributed to making the week a good one for the guests who for various reasons find themselves homeless and in need. We contributed in many ways and should be proud of the flexibility and patience shown to the families in the program. This was our last time to assist Spruce Run in hosting for 2017, but please watch the bulletin for 2018 dates coming soon!

### NEW TO THE PARISH?



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

### WORD AMONG US

“The Word Among Us” magazine offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings, inspirational essays, stories of saints and more! Each issue of this wonderful devotional is currently read by more than 500,000 people world-wide. We have some copies in the Narthex; please help yourself to a copy and be spiritually enriched!



## **YOU SHOP & AMAZON GIVES TO ST. JOHN'S!**

Our Finance Council has been keeping themselves busy not only with the judicial management of our money but also with reflections and discussions on generating income for our Church. One bright idea they have come up with is shopping through Amazon's Associate program, with. It is a very easy way to help St. John with no additional cost to you at all! You just buy the things you'd buy anyway, but buy them through Amazon. When you click on this link it takes you to the Amazon home page, and the only clue that St. John's is getting a commission on your purchase is the small phrase "ccsjn-20" that you will see in the middle of the Amazon URL address - everything else is transparent to the user. <https://www.amazon.com/?&tag=ccsjn-20&camp=0&creative=0&linkCode=ur1&adid=15TJKAQ2QN89EK2VDBZA&>

Once you land on the Amazon site - simply bookmark it for future use. The members of the Finance Committee, Pastoral Council and our Parish Staff have already tested it and found it easy. Thanks to our Finance Council for this initiative about which they will familiarize us more next weekend.



## **PARISH PICNIC THIS SUNDAY—COME JOIN THE FUN**

Come enjoy a wonderful day, our Parish Picnic is a great time for everyone! This Sunday, Sept. 24th, the fun starts at 2pm with the Duck Race, plenty of things to do, inflatables, face painting and games for kids as well as great food as everyone brings their favorite picnic fare! It is a great time to just sit back and enjoy friends and meet parishioners if you are new to the parish. Even if you can't join us for the whole time – feel free to stop in and enjoy what you can. Hope to see you. Remember to bring burgers or hotdogs and rolls for your family and a side dish or desert to share. Don't forget to buy your ducks after Mass – a lot of fun and helps cover the cost of the picnic.

## **2017 FALL BEREAVEMENT SEMINARS AT ST. JOHN'S**

There will be a series of interrelated bereavement seminars at St. John Neumann beginning September 26. John Cole, transition professional, will facilitate the sessions. This program has been highly rated by past participants. The conversations will take us from understanding loss and normal reactions to steps, guided by faith, towards acceptance and recreation of hopeful lives. While a primary focus is the death of a significant other, those who have experienced severe loss because of divorce, separation, or other substantial life altering events are welcomed. All sessions start at 7pm. The sessions dates are September 26, October 2, 17, 24, November 6 and 14. Please note that each session builds on the prior one. Attendance at all six sessions would be best to derive optimal benefit.

All sessions are in the upper floor of the parish office building, unless participant mobility issues arise.

Registration can be made with France Kennedy at the parish office by calling her at 908-832-2513 before September 22. If anyone has any questions about the seminars or participation, please call John Cole directly at 908-399-4234. This series is open to individuals from all faiths and religious communities. If you are aware of anyone who may benefit from attendance, please suggest that he or she call France Kennedy.

## **WHAT IS RETROUVAILLE?**

*Retrouvaille* is a French word meaning Re-Discovery. Retrouvaille weekend is a life-saver for many couples who find their marriage in crisis. So many couples from various parishes of our Diocese have benefited from the Retrouvaille weekend that provides the tools to help put their marriage back on the right track. And if you know a couple who can benefit from such a program, please let us know. Timely intervention is a blessing that has saved many marriages from the brink of divorce.

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**



**Sunday, Oct. 1st -1pm**

Many of us have dogs, cats, or other animals who are an important part of our lives. In honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we would like to celebrate them. Animals large and small (and their humans!) are invited to come together on the grass to the left of the church on Sunday, Oct 1 at 1pm for a Blessing of the Animals Service. There will be a brief worship service celebrating our animals, and a time when you'll be welcome to have your animal receive a small blessing and a treat. You'll need to have your animal leashed or in a carrier for the event (it might be pandemonium without that!). This will be a time to celebrate God's gift of animals to us.

## **NETWORKING BULLETIN BOARD**

***Do you need help?***

***Do you have a skill to offer?***

We often get calls when our parishioners are looking for a reference for childcare/babysitting, a handyman or maybe someone who does home or office cleaning. If you are looking for someone to work for you or if you are looking for work, Please place a notice on the bulletin board in the Seton Room of the office Building and/or look to see if there is a notice there for what you need.

## **MARRIAGE TUNE-UP**

What is fair? In marriage sometimes one partner gives more than the other (makes more money, does more chores - especially the unwanted ones, etc.) Recently I broke my arm and my husband became St. Jim to me. When has your beloved carried the bigger part of life's burdens for you?

## **PARENTING TUNE-UP**

This Monday, Sept. 25th, is National Eat Dinner Together Day (<https://www.informedfamilies.org/>). Maybe you always eat dinner together. If not, make a special effort to eat together on this day. Tell stories of your day. What was the high? What was the low? (Susan Vogt)



**Like us on Facebook! Find us as "St. John Neumann RC Church, Califon NJ" or follow the link from the home page of our website at [www.ccsjn.org](http://www.ccsjn.org)**

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Joan Cardierre  
Eugene Cifranic  
Marie Colabella  
Jean Crickenberger  
John D'Almeida  
Barbara DelPiano  
Tino DeSantis  
Sophia DeVita  
Paul Ferri  
Helen Gallagher  
Sophie Geist  
Liz Harmon  
Jay Heyman  
Fred Holub  
Lou Livoti  
Dick McCall  
Maggie McKeon  
Jan McLeavey  
Christine Meyer  
Fran Miceli  
Danny Mulvey  
Joan Myers  
Megan Myers  
Mary Lou O'Brien  
Nilsa Perez Parsons  
John Pfeufer  
Tommy Rack  
Ali Redling  
Anne & Joe Sacco  
George Sekela  
Diane Siti  
Noah Skinner  
Michael Slivka  
Pam Stewart  
Nicholas Troiano  
Don Velli  
William Weimer  
Josh Wilkes  
Caden and 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  
C2C, Geerinck, Joshua, U.S. Air Force  
Seaman, Devin Jenkinson, U.S. Air Force  
Spec. Jon Tyler Jablonski, U.S. Army  
Private, Linzer, Matthew, U.S. Army  
Seaman, Linzer, Stephanie, U.S. Navy  
SR O'Leary, Thomas, U.S. Navy  
Lieutenant JG Simila, Nicole, U.S. Navy  
Airman, Justin Vardian, U.S. Air Force

## SUNDAY REFLECTION: YEAH, LIFE IS UNFAIR...!

***The parable of the generous vineyard owner: "Are you envious because I am generous? Thus the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20: 1-16a***

You've been working for this landscaper for five summers now. You're going back to school in a few weeks and you've asked for extra hours. The owner assures you he will do what he can. But one day a new guy shows up and starts work - and the possibility of your working extra hours is out. "Guy's wife just got laid off," your boss says, introducing him. "I'm trying to help him and his family by taking him on for a few hours a week." So much for loyalty, you think.

The task of taking care of your elderly parent falls pretty much on you. Your brothers and sisters live a distance away. They all call from time to time to see how Mom is doing and express their concern, but none of them are in any position to provide the necessary day-to-day help. "They all have problems of their own," Mom says, "I just thank God for you." Then she dies and they all show up, grieving as if they've been there all along. And of course, Mom's estate is divided equally "because I love all my children just the same" - even though it's your life that's been turned upside down and you've borne the costs of caring for her. Though you would never say it, you seethe: *It's not fair.* And you're right.

You're filling out the financial aid forms for your child's college application. In the process, you discover that you're eligible only for so much assistance because, to put it bluntly, you make too much money. *You've got to be kidding,* you sigh, wondering how you missed the European vacations, the heated pool and the polo ponies that the form says you apparently could afford.

You've always played by the rules. You pay your bills. You go without so that your family has what they need. Yet your taxes go to bail out those who mess up, who can't provide for their families because of their irresponsibility. Or you're asked again to contribute to help someone far away when there is a real need right here. There always seems to be someone cutting in front of your place in line.

**Today's Gospel can be hard to accept. God's generosity strikes us as "unfair." We begrudge God's "extravagant," almost irresponsible mercy. But the parable of the generous vineyard owner exposes our tendency to evaluate everything through the lens of money: we track our paystubs, our investments, our Starbucks rewards. As wage earners, we seek fairness. But notice what's missing in Jesus' story: grace. While we're pursuing fairness, God bestows grace in the form of generosity and understanding and second-chances to the point of, in our estimation, pointless extravagance. Discipleship is to trust in the goodness of God despite our judgement of what is "fair" and "just." To trust in the mercy of God enables us to appreciate all that we have received and how much God has blessed us, compelling us to experience the joy of sharing all that we have been given with those who have not realized such blessings in their lives.**

## CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP 2018

Next summer we will be going to CHWC in Cumberland, Maryland. The camp is located in the Appalachian Mountains in Western Maryland. The camp is from Sunday, June 17 to Friday, June 22. A limited number of spaces have been reserved. The cost of the camp will be around \$380 per person and a non-refundable \$90 deposit is due now. If you are interested, please contact Mary Connolly at [mandmconnolly@gmail.com](mailto:mandmconnolly@gmail.com) or 908-930-0784.



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



What is the only time a man thinks about a candlelight dinner? When the power goes off. \_\_\_\_\_

A mom texts, "Hi! Son, what does IDK, LY, & TTYL mean?" He texts back, "I Don't Know, Love You, & Talk To You Later." The mom texts him, "It's ok, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister, love you too." \_\_\_\_\_

It was a baby mosquito's first day to fly out from home. When the mosquito came back home later that day, the father mosquito asked, "How was your journey?" The baby mosquito replied, "It went great. Everyone was clapping for me!"

# Parish and Community News



## **ST. JOHN'S GOLF OUTING**

**Sept. 30th, 8AM - Minebrook Golf Club - Hackettstown**

You are invited to join us for a great time—our annual Golf Outing. Come by yourself and have fun with other parishioners or bring a foursome. We have a great morning golfing and wonderful lunch. Contact Bob Martalus at [bob.martalus@gmail.com](mailto:bob.martalus@gmail.com) or (908) 439-3732

## **Tricky Tray**



## **TRICKY TRAY - Oct. 20, 2017 - 6 P.M.**

**Come One.....Come All and Have Some Family Fun !**

We are now accepting donations for our event. Gift cards, New household items, New games Tickets to Sports Events, Crafts. Leave your items in the Seton Room. Thank You for your generosity.

## **ARE DEATHBED CONVERSIONS FAIR...??!**

Conversions at the point of death have a long history. The first recorded deathbed conversion appears in the Gospel of Luke where the good thief, crucified beside Jesus, expresses belief in Christ. Jesus accepts his conversion, saying "Today you shall be with me in Paradise." Perhaps the most momentous conversion in Western history was that of Constantine I, Roman Emperor, later proclaimed a Christian Saint. While his belief in Christianity occurred long before his death, it was only in 337 on his deathbed that he was baptized. A famous literary genius who entered the Church at the final moment was Oscar Wilde. He had written plays like "The Importance of Being Ernest" and novels, such as "The Picture of Dorian Gray." Wilde lived a notorious lifestyle. He did things that scandalized, even repulsed, his contemporaries. What most do not know, however, is that at the end of life he converted to Catholicism! On his deathbed, Oscar Wilde asked for and received baptism and anointing of the sick from Fr. Cuthbert Dunne. But he was unable to receive the Eucharist. As in today's parable he entered the vineyard - the Church - at the last hour. While Wilde's conversion may have come as a surprise, he had long maintained an interest in the Catholic Church, having met with Pope Pius IX in 1877. He described the Roman Catholic Church as "for saints and sinners alone – for respectable people, the Anglican Church will do." Some might consider this type of eleventh hour, deathbed conversion unfair. They might feel like the workers who started working early and received equal wage with the late-comers.

## **"SIZE UP THE SALARY"**

If you want to get people upset very quickly in today's world, all you have to do is begin talking about salaries. We often play the game of comparing our salary to someone else's salary. It is called "size up the salary." When we play that game, we usually compare our wages with a person who is making more money than we are. They are making more money, and they seem to have less skill and education. Then we become upset, but we usually don't say anything, just simmer inside. That is the way we normally play the "size up the salary" game. I believe the origins of the women's movement was initiated by unequal salaries for equal work. Women simply wanted equal pay for equal work. Money, salaries, equal pay for equal work, affirmative action: these words cause all kinds of tensions within us. *It is with this tense and conflicted mood that we approach Jesus' parable for today. Today's Gospel presents a group of farm workers playing that game and judging the generosity of the land-owner unjust and unfair.*

## **BE A CHAMPION FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

**Champions for Catholic Charities** is a community of individual, parish and corporate benefactors who support Catholic Charities' vital programs and services for our neighbors in need. Here are 2 ways to help: 1) join us for the **2017 Champions for Catholic Charities Dinner** being held on Monday evening, October 16 at the Palace in Somerset Park and/or 2) purchase a **Champion 50/50 Raffle** ticket. For more information call 732-562-2438, email [champions@diometuchen.org](mailto:champions@diometuchen.org) or visit [www.diometuchen.org/champions](http://www.diometuchen.org/champions). With your help, Catholic Charities is making a real difference in the lives of so many.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Sept.24 ..... Parish Picnic  
 Sept.30 ..... Golf Outing  
 Oct.20 ..... Tricky Tray  
 Nov.10 ..... Tasting Event  
 Dec. 3 ..... Christmas Cash Drawing  
 ...and tell your friends and family!

## **STORE CARDS**



Thanks to the **families** who purchased the grocery and store cards the last 2 weeks.

Date	Families	Purchased	Profit
9/10	16	\$2,205.00	\$110.12
9/17	18	\$2,870.00	\$141.00

Amazon Donation for August \$27.81

## **WEEKLY COLLECTION**

### **September 17, 2017**

82 Donors Weekly .....\$4,897.00  
 37 Donors Hurricane .....\$2,754.00  
 7 Donors YBR .....\$450.00

### **September 18, 2016**

88 Donors Weekly ..... \$4,020.00  
 5 Donors Peter's Pence ..... \$308.00  
 2 Donors Hurricane ..... \$273.00

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES**

### **Office Angels**

Wed., Sept. 27 L. Caprio  
 Wed., Oct. 4 J. Santoro

### **Store Cards**

#### **September 23 & 24**

5:30 p.m. J. Gardner  
 8:00 a.m. C. Bennett  
 10:30 a.m. D. Hunt

#### **September 30 & October 1**

5:30 p.m. E. McCabe  
 8:00 a.m. R. Durham  
 10:30 a.m. J. Varcadipane

### **Church Center Plant Watering**

Week of Sept. 24 C. Fortenbacher  
 Week of Oct. 1 B. Lee

### **Church Center Cleaning**

September 28 Team A  
 October 5 Team B

### **Altar Flowers**

September 23 L. Mullen  
 September 30 ??

### **Counting**

Sept. 25 Malone/Bauernfeind  
 Oct. 2 Kucharski/McCabe

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