

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, March 20

8:00 a.m. No Mass

Friday, March 23

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, March 24

5:30 p.m. Frances Connolly, req.
Ron and Shirley Pojedinec

Sunday, March 11

8:00 a.m. Joseph Sacco, req.
Cathy and Tom Bennett

10:30 a.m. Richard Scott, req.
Ciszewski Family



Parish Calendar

Sunday, March 18 - 5th Sunday of Lent / Diocesan Clergy Retirement Collection / End Easter Food Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Small Group (Seton Room)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)
11:30 a.m. Discover St. John's (Office Center)
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Faith Formation (Church Center)

Monday, March 19 - Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 p.m. Small Group (Drexel Room)
7:30 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Upper Room)

Tuesday, March 20 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. NO MASS
11:00 a.m. Small Group (Church Center Loft)
7:00 p.m. Small Group (Neumann Residence)
7:00 p.m. Property Management Meeting (Drexel Room)
7:00 p.m. Bereavement Session (Upper Room)

Wednesday, March 21 - Lenten Weekday

10:30 a.m. Small Group (Narthex)
11:00 a.m. Calendar Meeting (Drexel Room)
7:15 p.m. Small Group (Office Center Kitchen)
7:15 p.m. Small Group (Drexel Room)
7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. Reconciliation then Meet (Upper Room)
7:30 p.m. Book Club (Seton Room)

Thursday, March 22 - Lenten Weekday

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Church and Office Center Kitchens)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Set up Boxes for Food Baskets (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Small Group (Upper Room)

Friday, March 23 - Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Church Center)
7:40 p.m. Food Pickup for Easter Baskets (Church Center)

Saturday, March 24 - Blessed Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 a.m. Men's Spirituality Breakfast (Office Center)
8:00 a.m. Delivery of Food Baskets (Church Center)
3:30 p.m. 1st Eucharist - Session #4 (Church Center)
5:30 p.m. Mass - Blessing of the Palms Church)

Sunday, March 25 - Palm/Passion Sunday of Lent / Easter Flower Offering

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Small Group (Seton Room)
10:30 a.m. Mass with Bells (Church Center)
11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (Church Grounds)
12:00 p.m. GIFT Make up Session (Church Center)

Mass Schedule - March 24/25

Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader 1 Kathleen Swindler
Reader 2 David Geerinck
Altar Server Needed
Ministers of the Eucharist Joann Gardner
..... Mary Connolly, Lyle Garcia

Sunday


8:00 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader 1 Chris Bitters
Reader 2 Jim Murray
Altar Server Patterson Family
Ministers of the Eucharist Diane Lehnert
..... Joe Sima, Dorothy Sima

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader 1 Mary Sorgi
Reader 2 Anita Sawczuk
Altar Server Malone Family
Music Eucharistic Minister Bob Sobey
Ministers of the Eucharist Shirley Pojedinec, Ron Pojedinec
..... Peter Royal, Doris Royal, Mark Brisson

Remembered at Mass	
	We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: Robert Cassidy, Charlie Olsson, Helen Boybo, and Bill Hackett.

Deceased: Robert Cassidy, brother of Cookie DeVito, Charlie Olsson, uncle of Joann Fabiano, Helen Boybo, grandmother of Sheena Carew and Bill Hackett, friend of the Janks/Angeline family. May they find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord and may their families find strength in the Lord and comfort and support from family and friends.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....

Dear Friends,

This Sunday is sandwiched between two major feasts – St. Patrick's on 17th and St. Joseph's on 19th. We are entering the 5th week of Lent, and so, will Catholics, especially the Irish and the Italians, stick to the austerity of Lent and refrain from a lavish celebration of their cherished patronal days? No way! So, how does the Church look at these feasts during Lent?

On the feast of St. Patrick, the church focuses on the missionary nature of the life of St. Patrick who converted the Irish population to Catholicism in his 33 years of apostolate there. The Irish rightly brought his legacy to places they have settled. When his feast falls on a Friday of Lent, most dioceses give a dispensation for abstinence for meat. I remember once, during my ministry in New York Archdiocese, when St. Patrick's day fell on a Friday of Lent, the then Archbishop of New York, Cardinal O'Connor, gave dispensation. But the neighboring Bishop of Brooklyn refused to give! So the NY Times had this to say: *"Catholics of Brooklyn can eat meat this Friday; all they need to do is to walk across the Brooklyn Bridge!"*

The Feast of St. Joseph is a higher ranking Solemnity in the Liturgical calendar of the Church. Therefore the Mass celebrated is very much like a Sunday Mass with Gloria, and all the readings. The solemnity in the church is certainly followed by the solemnity at the dinner table too! It is well known that the Italians (and Sicilians) claim St. Joseph as their own and are known for many traditions such as the St. Joseph Altar or St. Joseph Table. Now an important question: do we need a dispensation of abstinence from meat if St. Joseph's feast falls on a Friday of Lent? Interestingly, there is no need to wait for official dispensation! Because, Canon 1251 of the Code of Canon Law says *"Abstinence from meat, or from some other food as determined by the Episcopal Conference, is to be observed on all Fridays, unless a solemnity should fall on a Friday."* That is to say, there is no fasting or abstaining ever required of us on Sundays and days of solemn feasts.

Yes, the Church is open to such sentiments of people's need to celebrate patronal feasts even despite the Lenten austerity. Happy Feast of St. Patrick! Happy Feast of St. Joseph!

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

HEARTY WELCOME TO FR. TOM CONNERY

Fr. Tom is the brother of our parishioner Chuck Connery. He is here to baptize Griffin Patrick the eighth child of Chuck and Kim and the youngest brother of Karlie, Juli, Elly, Molly, Madilyn, Hudson and Declan. Father is the Pastor of St. Peter's Church, Deland in Florida. Hearty welcome to you Fr. Tom. And thanks for offering this weekend's Masses.



ST JOHN'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 25th after the 10:30 Mass

Join the fun at our Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday after the 10:30 Mass! There will be 'hidden' Eggs for ages 1 – 10. Bring your baskets if you have them – but we will have bags available if you forget. Be prepared for weather - dress for outside temperature and wet grass! We have separate hunting grounds to accommodate the ages. Thank you to the members of the High School Youth Group for hosting this for St. John's younger parishioners!

LET'S NOT FORGET

COLLECTION FOR OUR RETIRED DIOCESAN PRIESTS

The second collection today is for the Fund for our Retired Diocesan Priests. This collection is exclusively for the benefit of our 30 retired priests, as well as, our active priests upon their retirement. May your generosity to this collection reflect your gratitude and love for our retired priests who have been dedicated and faithful to their priesthood over the years. Let's not forget.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RCIA

RCIA is going through the period of Purification and Enlightenment in the process of Christian Initiation. Please pray for our parishioners Jennifer Anderson, Chris Sepe, Shannon Heimall, Michelle Regan, Tanya Schineller and Michelle Snyder as they prepare to receive the Easter Sacraments.

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

March 18, 2018

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." *Jeremiah 31:33*

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.

SMALL GROUP

CONCLUDING CELEBRATION

APRIL 11 -7PM CHURCH CENTER

Everyone is invited for a BIG "Small Group" Concluding Session and Celebration! On Wednesday April 11, we have prepared an interesting conclusion to the Lent Small Groups to be led by Father Abraham including abbreviated small group discussions. Even if you have not participated in a small group you are welcome to this general session. Anyone who enjoys sharing food, you are welcome to donate to our refreshments for socializing.



Baptized into
the Faith

BAPTISM

If you have a child you want to baptize before August contact France Kennedy at the parish office to register for our Baptism Preparation Program in April.

Parish Contact Information

Office Center 908-832-2513

Fax 908-832-7618

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

Email fkennedy@ccsjn.org

Susanne Erz Financial Administrator

Email serz@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

Project Earth Garden... projectearth@ccsjn.org

Bulletin..... bulletin@ccsjn.org

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

Christian Formation

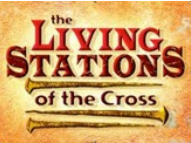
1ST EUCHARIST CLASSES

Saturday, March 24, 3:30 p.m.



The next First Eucharist session will be held on Saturday, March 24, at 3:30 p.m. in the Church Center.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Please join our Confirmation class as they enact the Living Stations of the Cross

on Good Friday, March 30th, at 1:00 p.m., on the Church grounds. St. John's is happy to host this ecumenical event each year.



MAKE-UP SESSION FOR MARCH GIFT MONDAY AND SUNDAY PROGRAMS

The make-up session for March GIFT Family Faith Formation Program is *Sunday March 25, 2018 at 12:00 after the Easter Egg Hunt in the church center.* A light lunch will be provided. This is a make-up session for the Monday session too, since Fr. Abraham will be attending the Chrism Mass at St. Francis in Metuchen on Monday evening. So kindly attend Sunday the 25th instead of Monday.

Please contact me with any question and to confirm attendance renee@ccsjn.org this will help with food preparation.

THE SPRING GIVING TREE

We are looking for volunteers to operate our Spring Giving Tree this year. The tree will be set-up for Easter weekend. We typically support three agencies, which you will contact and then make a list of items required, make tags, hang on the tree, sort, pack and then deliver the items to the agencies. There are plenty of people who can offer you guidance and we also have many notes available from past drives. If you are interested to take on the Giving Tree Project or just a part of it e.g. delivering the donated items, helping sort out or contacting the agencies, please contact Social Ministry at socialministry@ccsjn.org

ADULTS INVITED TO GIFT SESSIONS WITH FR. ABRAHAM



Each month during the Adult segment of the GIFT program, Fr. Abraham gives a presentation on a topic of interest. Recently he reflected on *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) – the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis. It was well attended and well appreciated as it gave a greater understanding of the efforts of Pope Francis to bring about Pastoral changes for the good for the whole church. The next session will focus on the Catholic Social Teaching which is known as the “best kept secret” of the

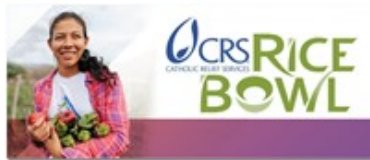
Catholic Church! We will have a discussion of:

The Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. These are:

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person. ...
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities. ...
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. ...
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers. ...
- Solidarity. ...
- Care for God's Creation.

As our Parish is on the forefront of Social Ministry and outreach to the less fortunate, please consider joining this session which, as usual, will be interesting and engaging. The make-up session will be Sunday March 25, 2018 after the Easter Egg Hunt at 12PM. Light lunch will be provided. Please contact Renee Ciszewski renee@ccsjn.org with any questions and R.S.V.P. for food count.

LENTEN RICE BOWLS FOR CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES



We continue our journey this Lent as we pray, fast, learn and give as a way to reach out in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world through CRS Rice Bowl. Rice Bowls can be returned at the end of Lent to the collection box that will be set up in the Narthex. Visit crsrice-bowl.org to learn more. Thank you for your participation!

Social Ministry

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Lent is upon us...and we should all be looking for ways to “pay it forward.” An easy way to do this, either individually or as a family, would be to sign up to help homeless families in Hunterdon through the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Our next chance to assist Spruce Run Lutheran Church with this will be from April 1-8. Your help is needed in many different ways – supplying a meal, staying overnight, or just being present, whatever you are most comfortable with. It requires just a few hours of your time; there is no long term commitment, and a great way to help those less fortunate right here in Hunterdon County. Since this is Easter break for some, it might be a good opportunity for Scout groups or other service clubs to assist and earn community service hours.

To see when & how you can help, check out Sign Up Genius at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054eafad22a20-family6>, or contact Debbie Hunt at dhuntfam1@comcast.net for further info.

IT IS TIME AGAIN TO THINK ABOUT OUR EASTER FOOD DRIVE

Please save the following dates: Food pack up at church March 23, 2018 after Soup & Stations 7:40pm and Food delivery will take place on March 24, 2018 at 8am. Donations must be in no later than March 21, 2018. Items required: 9 Large Hams and 19 Small Hams/Cornish Hens, Juice, Coffee, Tissues, Rice, Small Cooking Oil, Apple Sauce/Fruit, Dish Soap, Paper Towels, Hand Soap. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any members of the Social Ministry or send an email to socialministry@ccsjn.org. Thank you for your continuing generosity.



CHRISM MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Monday, March 26, at 7:30PM Bishop Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests off the Diocese. At this annual Mass, celebrated by Bishops, the Holy Oils used in each parish during the year, are

blessed. This custom began with St. Ambrose (340-397) and has been known for centuries as the Chrism Mass. There are 3 oils that are blessed.

Oil of Catechumens-used to anoint infants and adults before Baptism.

Oil of the Sick-used to anoint those who receive the Sacrament of the Anointing the Sick

Sacred Chrism- used on the head of the newly baptized, at confirmation, the ordination of priests and bishops, and the walls and altars of new churches.

All Priests in attendance will make a Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service, recommitting themselves to their Bishop, and to their ministry to God, and His People. All Priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are invited to attend this Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis in Metuchen.

BELONGING - TIME AND TALENT RENEWAL

Last week we began our Stewardship Time and Talent Renewal. Being a member of a parish is not the same as belonging to a parish. Being a member is filling out a registration card. Belonging is being actively involved in the life and spirit of a community. We invite you to be involved in the parish.

We have a new "Every Member a Minister" Booklet that describes the many ministries and activities of the parish in which you can participate. Use this resource as an aid to help you discern how your talents are best utilized for others and the parish community. We ask that each adult complete the Stewardship Talent form and return to the basket in the Narthex. If you have any questions on areas of service, you can use the email for each specific service to get detailed information on individual activities and ministries. Youth are also welcome to respond with a volunteer form.

PARISH WEBSITE

What do you think of the parish website? Have you used it? Has it been helpful? What is your impression of it? If you are at all interested in our parish website we would love to get your feedback or input. If you are graphically gifted or want to help the parish reach out to others consider joining the Technology Team which manages the website. We are open to new ideas and feedback for improvements. Contact the office if you would like to help: 832-2513 / sjn@ccsjn.org.



LAST CHANCE FOR SOUP N STATIONS

Please join us for Soup n Stations this Friday, the last Friday left in Lent. Soup Supper starts at 6pm and Stations of the Cross follow at 7pm. We hope you can make it.

SACRIFICE OF OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS

When we watch the Olympics, what do we see but young athletes who have made enormous sacrifices over the years? They have sacrificed a normal childhood for countless hours of hard work and pain and solitary training, and they have done it all just for that moment when they might stand on the winner's platform at the Olympic Games. If few of us are Olympians, many of us are parents, and what is parenthood but a whole slew of sacrifices? You sacrifice all of your privacy and a piece of your sanity. You sacrifice a neat, orderly environment in which to live, where things stay just where you left them. You make a huge financial sacrifice - between children and taxes, you're lucky to have a dollar in your pocket at the end of the day - but you do it all for the sake of something which money can't buy. In these and in many other ways, we are perfectly used to the idea of losing one thing in order to gain something else. It all makes me wonder: if we are so willing to sacrifice and even suffer for things which matter to us in our worldly lives, why shouldn't we do even more for the sake of our spiritual lives? Why should we shy away from the full meaning of what Jesus said in today's Gospel: "If you love your life you will lose it, but if you hate your life in this world, you will gain it for eternal life."

WILLIE LYNCH BAND

Friday, April 20th, 7pm

Tickets are now on sale in the Narthex for The Willie Lynch Band Event.

FINANCE OFFICE CHANGE

Welcome to Susanne Erz who has assumed the position of bookkeeper in our Finance Office. We are grateful to Kerri Caldarò who has served in this role for several years. Our prayers and best wishes are with her and her family and we hope to see them at future parish events. You can reach the Finance Office by contacting Susanne at serz@ccsjn.org.

Don't forget to use our



Amazon Link

Whenever ordering from Amazon. Go to our website ccsjn.org and click on the button on the front page.

Or go to <http://tinyurl.com/lx7c83s>

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

Spring officially begins Mar. 20. The changing of the seasons can remind us of the changing seasons of marriage. Are you experiencing any transitions in your marriage? A New job, a move, a baby? Health or money problems? Aging? Don't fight the change. Embrace whatever it brings.

PARENTING TUNE-UP

On March 21 we honor single parents. Single parents are like a Swiss Army knife. They have to perform many functions. If you are not a single parent, help one you know this week by mowing a lawn, babysitting, providing a listening ear etc.

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND, ISRAEL & JORDAN

11 DAYS, NOV 6-16, 2018.

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus, Moses, Mary & The Apostles. Daily Mass, FR ABRAHAM ORAPANKAL, Tour Chaplain. \$3360. Includes RT Airfare from Newark Intl, Daily Breakfast/Dinner, Top Hotels, Guided Tours, Tips to Driver, Guides, Servers, Porters, etc. **JULIET BANAAG-HOBSON 732-439-2835.**

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Joseph Angeline
 George Bernard
 Linda Caprio
 Joan Cardierre
 Jean Crickenberger
 John D'Almeida
 Barbara DelPiano
 Sophia DeVita
 Jennifer Bennett Duckworth
 Cindy Feighan
 Paul Ferri
 Father Luigi Hargen
 Liz Harmon
 Jay Heyman
 Fred Holub
 Eleanor Horan
 Manuel Jimenez, Sr.
 Miriam Jiminian
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Lou Livoti
 Dick McCall
 Maggie McKeon
 Jan McLeavey
 Christine Meyer
 Joan & Megan Myers
 Mary Lou O'Brien
 Nancy Patterson
 Nilsa Perez Parsons
 John Pfeufer
 Ali Redling
 Joel Rivera
 Carmen Ruscetta
 Anne Sacco
 Richard Sepe
 Noah Skinner
 Michael Slivka
 Dick Slusher
 Nicholas Troiano
 Don Velli
 William Weimer
 Josh Wilkes
 Dana & Greg Wilson
 Caden & Jill Zane
 Joey Zieba

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Captain Baumann, Katherine, U.S. Army
 Cavallo, Chris, USMC
 C2C, Geerinck, Joshua, U.S. Air Force
 Seaman, Jenkinson, Devin, U.S. Air Force
 Spec. Jablonski, Jon Tyler, 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, Vardian, Justin, U.S. Air Force
 Ensigh, Webster, Justine, U.S. Navy

SUNDAY REFLECTION: "THE POST"

"Amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit . . ." . . . what should I say, 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour." John 12: 20-33

In 1966, the United States was deep in the quagmire of the war in Vietnam. The Secretary of the Defense, Robert McNamara, sent a Marine-turned-researcher named Daniel Ellsberg in-country to assess the war and the chances for success. After accompanying American units fighting and dying in the jungle, he realized that the war was all but lost. Privately, McNamara concurred with Ellsberg's assessment - but, publicly, the secretary continued to grossly mischaracterize American progress. Ellsberg was so appalled at the carnage taking place because of such dishonesty that he secretly turned over to *The New York Times* the official reports he and other analysts had compiled - what became known as "The Pentagon Papers." The 4,000 pages were a detailed history of America's ill-conceived and disastrously managed war in Southeast Asia over 23 years. The Nixon Administration obtained a court injunction stopping the publication of the documents by *The Times*.

The editor of *The Washington Post*, Ben Bradlee, and one of his reporters, Ben Bagdikian, then came into possession of the papers. They desperately wanted to publish them. To do so could lead to imprisonment - and, in all likelihood, the end of *The Post*. Bradlee went to the publisher, Katharine Graham, for permission to publish.

The story of what happens next is told in Steven Spielberg's acclaimed movie *The Post*. The timing could not have been worse for Mrs. Graham. She had just become publisher of the paper, following the death of her husband, and was in the midst of taking the *Post* Company public in order to guarantee the paper's financial survival. She knew she was out of her depth; she was patronized by her executives and bankers - all men - who considered her a wealthy society matron not to be taken seriously. Publishing the Pentagon Papers could kill the stock offering. And further complicating the matter was her long-time friendship with Robert McNamara, who served on the *Post* company board.

A particularly moving scene in the film is Katharine's meeting with McNamara himself, when Katharine confronts him not as a newspaper publisher but as the mother of a son who served in Vietnam. How could the government - how could McNamara - lie to her and the mothers and fathers of sons who fought and died in a land so far away, for a cause that they all knew was doomed? Katharine Graham overruled her lawyers and accountants and gave her editors and reporters the go - and took the fight to publish all the way to the Supreme Court. In her courageous stand, Katharine Graham had become one of the major figures in American journalism and in advocating for the freedom of the press.

At a moment of great financial stress and constitutional crisis, Katherine Graham meets her "hour." She takes on the unique challenge confronting her and her newspaper with clear determination and conviction, despite the potentially disastrous consequences for her, personally and professionally. Like Mrs. Graham - like Jesus - every one of us will, at some time, face our own "hour," when our faith must become more than words, when we must profess our convictions in actions that could have devastating consequences. Our "hour" may not mean the death of democracy, but our "hour" may require us to put on the line our safety, our security, our comfort for what is right and just. To follow Jesus in his hour is to trust in the grace of God to find the courage and conviction to meet ours.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



After an exceptionally long and boring sermon the congregation filed out of the church not saying a word to the pastor. After a while, a man shook the pastor's hand and said, "Pastor, that sermon reminded me of the peace and love of God!" The pastor was ecstatic. "Nobody has ever said anything like that about one of my sermons before! Tell me, how did it remind you of the peace and love of God?" "Well", said the man, "it reminded me of the peace of God because it passed all human understanding and it reminded me of the love of God because it endured forever!"

Teacher: "I want you to tell me the longest sentence you can think of." A smart student: "Life imprisonment!"

Parish and Community News

2018 BEREAVEMENT GROUP TO MEET AT ST. JOHN'S

There will be a series of interrelated bereavement seminars at St. John Neumann beginning March 20th. John Cole, transition professional, will facilitate the sessions. This short-term program has been highly rated as helpful by past participants. The conversations will take us from understanding loss and normal reactions to steps, guided by faith, towards acceptance and the 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 are on Tuesdays and start at 7 p.m. The dates of the seminars will be March 20, 27; April 10, 17; May 1, 8. 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 by calling the Parish Office 908-832-2513 before March 19th. 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, no matter their affiliation, please suggest that he or she call the Office or John.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Didn't we all have a great time last weekend? We enjoyed refreshment and fellowship after each Mass as we celebrated **you for your stewardship of St. John's Parish**. We appreciate the efforts and service of each parishioner who gives of their time and talent to others, living Jesus' call to service.

2018 EASTER & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Sat. Mar. 24 - **Blessing of Palms** Procession (Portico)
5:30pm Mass - Palm Distribution (Church Center)
- Sun. Mar. 25 - **Passion/Palm Sunday**
8:00am Mass - Palm Distribution (Church Center)
10:30am Mass - Palm Distribution (Church Center)
- Mon. Mar. 26 - 7:30pm Chrism Mass (Cathedral-Metuchen)
- Tues. Mar. 27 - 8:00am Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
- SACRED TRIDUUM**
- Thurs. Mar. 29 - **Holy Thursday**
8:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (Church Center)
9:30pm-12:00am **"Keeping Watch"** (Seton Room)
- Fri. Mar. 30 - **Good Friday** Passion and Death of the Lord
1:00pm Living Stations of the Cross (Grounds)
8:00pm Service (Church Center)
- Sat. Mar. 31 - **Holy Saturday - NO 5:30pm MASS**
8:00pm Easter Vigil and Mass - (Church Center)
- Sun. April 1 - **Easter Sunday**
8:00am Mass (Church Center)
10:30am Mass (Church Center)

AUCTION NEWS

Save the Date! Saturday, June 2nd for our 32nd annual auction. Our theme this year is "Garden Party". Needs: 1.) People to make phone calls; 2.) Donations now; 3.) Someone to shadow our 3 co-chairs to learn the event process. Restaurant donations are coming in already!

MAGGIANO'S
LITTLE ITALY®

Clinton House

*Delicious
Heights*

WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 4, 2018

55 Donors Weekly	\$3,469.00
28 Yellow Brick Road	\$777.00
2 Snow & Heat.....	\$45.00
2 Development of Peoples ...	\$23.00

March 5, 2017

87 Donors Weekly	\$3,807.00
55 Yellow Brick Road	\$1634.00

March 11, 2018

89 Donors Weekly.....	\$3,582.00
14 Yellow Brick Road.....	\$767.00
1 Development of Peoples.....	\$50.00
3 Snow & Heat	\$125.00
31 Catholic Relief Svc.....	\$542.00

March 12, 2017

78 Donors Weekly	\$4,019.00
41 Catholic Relief	\$1,073.00
6 Yellow Brick Road	\$120.00
1 Snow and Heat	\$25.00



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

To date, the Development Office has received pledges and payments totaling \$23,196 from 67 parishioners. This represents 61% of our \$38,000 goal.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Tues., March 13	A. Sawczuk
Wed., March 14	S. Griffin

Store Cards

March 10 and 11

5:30 p.m.	L. Livoti
8:00 a.m.	V. Hoffart
10:30 a.m.	D. Royal

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of March 11 C. Fortenbacker

Church Center Cleaning

March 15	Team A
March 22	Team B

Counting

March 12	Malone/Baernfeind
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