

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

Worshipping at:

390 County Road 513
(Neumann Residence)

Check the bulletin for any changes

Weekday Masses:

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

Reconciliation:

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

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, April 10

8:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Friday, April 13

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, April 14

5:30 p.m. John Handy, req.

St. John Neumann Church

Sunday, April 8

8:00 a.m. Mary Dino, req.

Sharon and Alan Janks

10:30 a.m. Joseph Sacco, req.

Sharon and Alan Janks



Parish Calendar

Sunday, April 8 - Divine Mercy Sunday / Yellow Brick Road Collection / Spring Giving Tree Begins

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
 10:30 a.m. Mass - Lang Baptism (Church Center)
 10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)
 6:00 p.m. Jr. High Formation (Church Center)

Monday, April 9 - The Annunciation of the Lord

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Office and Church Center Kitchens)

Tuesday, April 10 - Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
 7:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)
 7:00 p.m. Bereavement Session (Upper Room)
 7:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting (Seton Room)

Wednesday, April 11 - Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 p.m. Social Ministry Meeting (Seton Room)
 7:00 p.m. Small Faith Group Concluding Session (Church Ctr)

Thursday, April 12 - Easter Weekday

5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
 7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

Friday, April 13 - Saint Martin I, Pope and Martyr

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
 7:00 p.m. Baptism Prep (Church Center)

Saturday, April 14 - Easter Weekday

9:00 a.m. Women's Spirituality Coffee (Drexel Room)
 2:30 p.m. First Eucharist Session #5 (Church Center)
 5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)
 6:30 p.m. Community Coffee (sponsored by Family Life Group)

Mass Schedule - April 14/15

Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Celebrant..... Fr. Abraham Orapankal
 Reader Kathleen Swindler
 Altar Server Kucharski Family
 Ministers of the Eucharist..... Donna Lance
 Joan Eacovalle, Debby Kelemen

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

Celebrant..... Fr. Abraham Orapankal
 Reader Anita Sawczuk
 Altar Server Malone Family
 Ministers of the Eucharist..... Joe Sima
 Diane Lehnert, Gail Battell

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrant..... Fr. Abraham Orapankal
 Reader Anthony DeStefano
 Altar Server DeStefano Family
 Music Eucharistic Minister..... Bob Sobey
 Ministers of the Eucharist..... Dick Wickel, Marlene Milko
 Donna Torczon, Peter Royal, Doris Royal

Sunday, April 15 - Third Sunday of Easter / Catholic Relief Services Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
 8:00 a.m. Family Faith Formation (Valley View)
 9:00 a.m. Community Coffee (Sponsored by Family Life Group)
 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
 10:30 a.m. Community Coffee (Sponsored by Family Life Group)
 4:00 p.m. CHWC Meeting (Church Center)
 6:00 p.m. Jr. High 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: **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,

By now it is well known that the Sunday after Easter is celebrated as *Divine Mercy Sunday*. St. Faustina, a poorly educated daughter of a humble Polish family, kept a 600-page diary of the apparitions she had of Jesus for years. Her entries focus on God's mercy, the call to accept God's mercy and to be merciful, the need for conversion, and the call to trust in Jesus. It had been Jesus' own wish, she wrote, to establish a feast day: "I [Jesus] desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls. . . . I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy." When St. John Paul II canonized her in 2000, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday, thereby widely promoting the devotional practices associated with Faustina's visions, already popular in many communities.

Some have asked me: "Father, are we bound to believe in such revelations to individuals like St. Faustina?" Let me answer with a quote from the most authoritative document of the Church, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: "Throughout the ages, there have been so-called 'private' revelations, some of which have been recognized by the authority of the Church. They do not belong, however, to the deposit of faith. It is not their role to improve or complete Christ's definitive Revelation, but to help live more fully by it in a certain period of history" (#67).

Thus the Church is very clear that the revelations experienced by Saint Faustina were of a private nature, which are not essential to anyone's acceptance of the Catholic faith. And yet the Church promotes this popular devotion because God's loving mercy, the focus of Divine Mercy Sunday, is the very heart of the gospel. So we see that the devotion to Divine Mercy in no way replaces any of our rich liturgical traditions or faith. The Divine Mercy devotion fosters the virtue of trust in God's mercy that finds its fulfillment in the liturgy of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. That's why we have in our Parish the monthly First Friday Holy Hour with the Divine Mercy chaplet prayers.

And yet, today's gospel is about doubting the resurrection of Jesus by one of his own disciples! Presenting the doubting Thomas' famous profession of Faith, "My Lord and my God," the Gospel illustrates how Jesus showed his mercy to the doubting apostle and emphasizes the importance of Faith. We are invited to receive liberation from doubts and reservations about our faith, first by verbalizing our doubts and trying to get answers from those who know, and second by surrendering our lives to the Risen Lord of Mercy.

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

THE EASTER SACRAMENTS

Congratulations to Jennifer Anderson, Chris Sepe, Shannon Heimall, Michelle Regan, Tanya Schineller and Michelle Snyder who will receive their sacrament in the process of Christian Initiation

MAKING A PRAYER REQUEST AT ST. JOHN'S

Prayer is the way we talk with and listen to God, and the St. John Neumann Prayer Ministry is here to support you in times of need. If you would like the Prayer Ministers to include your request in their prayers, there are three ways to reach out to them:

- *Please fill out a Prayer Request Card, which can be found at the Prayer Station in the Church. It is located on the left side as you enter the Church proper from the Narthex.
- *Send a Prayer Request through the Parish website (www.ccsjn.org). The link is located on the Home Page on the left side. Follow the guide.
- *Call the Parish Office at 908-832-2513 and speak with someone about your request

All requests for confidentiality are honored, and should be noted when making the request. We all know how powerful prayer can be, and many have experienced the peace, guidance, healing and answers to their needs that prayer can bring. As a community we support one another in prayer.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 8, 2018

"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own..." **ACTS 4:32**

All that we are and all that we have is a gift from God! Think of your family, your friends, your talents, your abilities and your money – these are all gifts from God! We aren't really owners of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has blessed us with.

ALL ARE INVITED!

APRIL 11 - 7PM
CHURCH CENTER

Everyone is invited for a BIG "Small Group" Celebration! On Wednesday April 11, we will have an interesting discussion led by Father Abraham. 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.



BAPTISM

If you have a child you want to baptize before August contact France Kennedy at 908-832-2513 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

Sat., April 14, 2:30 p.m.

 The next First Eucharist session will be held on Saturday, April 14, at 2:30 p.m. in the Church Center. Please note this class will start one hour earlier than previous sessions.

CRS RICE BOWLS

 Thanks to all who participated in CRS Rice Bowl this Lent to benefit Catholic Relief Services. You may leave your Rice Bowl boxes or checks (made out to St. John Neumann with CRS Rice Bowl in memo) in the CRS Rice Bowl donation box in the narthex or bring to the Office anytime this week. Thank you!

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 is on April 15th and 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.

Social Ministry & Parish News

OUR COMMUNITY SPRING GIVING TREE



Once again this year we are helping the Three Agencies that we provide for with Our Spring Giving Tree. Please read and follow the instructions regarding our collection of items. We will run this event until May 20. We thank you in advance for your support of all our endeavors to assist the needy. Please find a description of the three agencies at the Social Ministry station in the Narthex.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY COFFEE



April 14, 8am, Office Center

The Women's Spirituality group will meet next Saturday morning. Join us as we reflect on Sunday's Scripture, while we enjoy good company, coffee and conversation.

GIFT OF GOOD LAND COMMUNITY GARDEN OPENING WEEKEND



As one nor'easter after another comes up the coast and the ground remains covered in a thick blanket of snow, it is hard to believe that planting time is almost here. God always keeps His promises and the earth will soon come alive again!

Signups for raised beds in the Community Garden will begin on the weekend of April 14-15. Application forms will be available in the Narthex and Anne will be there to answer questions. For more information contact Anne Germino at project-earth@ccsjn.org.

HEALING PRAYER SERVICE – APRIL 26, 2018



Please join us for a Healing Prayer Service on Thursday, April 26th at 7:15 PM in the Church Center. At various times in our lives we all need the healing power of the Lord. Sometimes our malady is physical, or emotional, or spiritual. We will look to the *Word*, to *Song*, and to the *Laying on Of Hands* as we seek God's healing grace for ourselves and our loved ones. The service will be conducted by Deacon Ray Chimileski from the Paterson Diocese.

TAI CHI FOR MEDITATION AND HEALTH

Prayer Ministry has been presenting some of the Catholic traditions and methods of Prayer. Now a six week session, Tai Chi for Meditation, will start on April 18th. The sessions will take place on Wednesday evenings from April 18th thru the end of May in the Church Center Loft, beginning at 6:45 pm .

The sessions will include the Eight Brocades of Silk, a sequence which encompasses eight posture positions, helpful in promoting health, relaxation, personal meditation, and breathing techniques and proceed into the elements of the “24 Form”, a more complex and physically active set of movements which encourage more physically active meditation.

Space is limited to 20 parishioners, contact Bonnie Garcia at 908-975-3003 or bonniegarcia210@yahoo.com. There is a \$5 charge per session.

STEWARDSHIP
A Way of Life 

2018 SPRING BEREAVEMENT GROUP TO MEET AT ST. JOHN'S TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM APRIL 10 THROUGH MAY 22

There will be a series of interrelated bereavement seminars at St. John Neumann, Califon, NJ, beginning April 10th. 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 April 10, 17; May 1, 8, 15, and 22. 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 at the parish office by calling her at 908-832-2513 on or before April 6th. 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 France or John.

"THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF!"

There is a story about a soldier brought before General Robert E. Lee. Accused of misconduct, the soldier was trembling. The general said to him, "Do not be afraid, son. Here you will receive justice." The soldier looked at the general and said, "Sir that is what I am afraid of." Like that soldier, Peter would have reason to tremble. Peter had boasted about his bravery, how he would always stand by Jesus. Yet when Jesus needed him most, he nodded off. Perhaps one could forgive him for falling asleep, but later - when he was wide-awake - he denied Jesus. "I do not know the man." Some rock! In strict justice, Peter should have been punished - at the very least, removed as head of the Church. In Christ's passion, however, a deeper justice is at work. That is what we will discover this Divine Mercy Sunday. God's justice has a name - it is called the Divine Mercy. I invite you to return on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. These are the great days of grace - of Divine Mercy.



HOPE EVERYBUNNY HAD FUN AT THE EASTER EGG HUNT

Thank you to members of the youth group who prepared for the Parish Easter Egg Hunt. Mia Ranallo, Lauren Tabor, Dan Uss and Jess Brynildsen had fun stuffing eggs! And thank you to all who got up early on Sunday morning to hide- Lauren Tabor, Wendy King, Owen Tabor, Madison D'Avella, Michael Cucchiara, Jess, Andrew Ranallo,

EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER

***Have You Filled Out Your Stewardship Annual Commitment?
We Now Have Our Stewardship Annual Commitment Form Online!***

Pick up a paper copy in the narthex to complete or go to the parish website if you find it easier to do it online! We really want a response from everyone in the parish. We would like to get to one hundred percent stewardship parish - but we need the data to back that up! Please advise us of your volunteer plan for this year. If you try something and find it doesn't suit you - no worries - no confession needed - just let us know! It is ok to move around to different activities and ministries as you get to meet new people.

GROCERY CARDS FROM OUR CHURCH ARE EASY!

Replace your credit cards to do everyday grocery shopping with gift cards! We sell a variety of such cards every Sunday. Each gift card gives you a rebate which becomes your easy contribution to the church with no effort or cost to yourself!

YOGA IS BACK!

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Join Ana Giametta once again for her relaxing Yoga Classes. No experience necessary. Please contact the Ana at ana.giametta@gmail.com with any questions.

***Now also offering
CHAIR YOGA***

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Chair yoga offers you the ability to improve your health through an amazing form of adaptive exercise. You are supported by a chair so you can receive yoga's healing and restorative benefits that have been known for thousands of years. Yoga relaxes your body and mind, improves your musculoskeletal fitness and flexibility, and elevates your overall health and well-being.

THEY WERE ABLE TO FORGIVE!

Mary and her husband suffered the tragic loss of their son, and it was her understanding of Divine Mercy that helped her and her family forgive those that took his life during a robbery. Mary tells us how her attendance at a Mother of Mercy Messengers (MOMM) Divine Mercy Program helped her overcome great obstacles and allowed her to forgive and even to pray for them. Knowing that as long as there is life, there is hope, the family did not seek the death penalty for his murderers. How differently does the person filled with God's mercy see and react to the world. (http://mercyimages.com/video_MaryDuray.php)

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

Easter: Lent is over, Alleluia! Yes, you can go back to eating sweets if that's what you gave up, BUT, don't go back to taking your "sweetie" for granted. Can you each treat the other to some favor today? Looking for the opportunity is half of the favor.

PARENTING TUNE-UP

"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them." (John 20:23) Confession need not be limited to a priest in the confessional. Confess a mistake you've made to your child. Is there anyone they have hurt and can ask forgiveness from? Especially consider siblings.

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
 Spec. Bitters, Christian, 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
 Ensign, Webster, Justine, U.S. Navy

SUNDAY REFLECTION: "Enemy Lite"

"Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." John 20: 19-31

Anne Lamott writes with wit and salt about finding God in her struggles with addiction, pain and single-parenthood. In her book "Tender Mercies," she recounts her struggle with forgiveness. The target of her animosity was the mother of one of her son Sam's classmates. She was too perfect, too sweet, too pretty, too together. She was everything that Anne wanted to be as a mom and woman - but wasn't. And her son eclipsed Sam in every subject in second grade. Anne's interactions with this woman were strained at best. Anne saw every offer of help from her as patronizing and subtle criticism. The two women were on opposite ends of everything, from politics to housekeeping. In her book, Anne dubs the woman "Enemy Lite." Then one day, Sam is invited to play at Enemy Lite's house after school. When Anne goes to pick him up, Enemy Lite invites her inside and offers a cup of tea. At first, Anne refuses, wanting to get out of this House-and-Garden perfect home as quickly as she can. Anne writes about what happens next:

"Our boys appeared, and I got up to go. Sam's shoes were on the mat by the door, next to his friend's, and I went over to help him put them on. And as I loosened the laces on one shoe, without realizing what I was doing, I sneaked a look into the other boy's sneaker - to see what size shoe he wore. To see how my kid lined up in shoe size.

"And I finally got it. The veil dropped. I got that I was as mad as a hatter. I saw that I was the one worried that my child wasn't doing well enough in school. That I was the one who thought I was out of shape. And that I was trying to get her to carry all this for me because it hurt too much to carry it myself. I wanted to kiss her on both cheeks, apologize for all the self-contempt I'd been spewing out into the world, all the bad juju I'd been putting on her by thinking she was the one doing harm . . . "This was me," Anne realized. "Not her."

In the light of Jesus' resurrection, we're able to see ourselves as we really are and confront our failings to be compassionate and our inability to forgive with hope and understanding. Anne Lamott came to realize that in her relationship with Enemy Lite; Thomas saw reason to let go of his doubt and skepticism in the person of the Risen Jesus. This Easter season, may we see our lives - both our gifts and failings, our certainties and doubts - in the light of Easter hope and grace, to embrace Christ's gift of peace enabling us to forgive and "let go" of our resentments and anger and disappointments in order to re-create our hearts and spirits in the living presence of the Risen One.

ST. THOMAS WENT TO INDIA?

Yes, the same "doubting Thomas" took the gospel of Christ to the subcontinent of India. Various historical records and traditions indicate that Thomas traveled by sea to India in AD 52. He was later martyred and buried there after witnessing to the Indian people. A poet, St. Ephrem, recorded in his hymns and poetry that Thomas worked miracles in the Malabar region of south India. Many other accounts and traditions mention Thomas in connection with India. The tomb of St. Thomas is in Mylapore, Chennai, India. The Syrian Christians of India, that I myself was born into, are proud to call ourselves as 'St. Thomas Christians.' It is interesting to note that there are only three Cathedrals in the world that are built over the tomb of an apostle: St. Peter's in Rome, St. James in Compostella, Spain, and St. Thomas in India!



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



Real Faith! I needed some supplies from a Sunday School cupboard that was seldom used and was secured with a lock. I didn't know the combination, but our clergyman offered to give it a try. Father Jack placed his fingers on the lock's dial and raised his eyes heavenward for a moment. Then he confidently spun the dial and opened the lock. Seeing how impressed I was with this demonstration of faith, he smiled and confided, "The numbers are written on the ceiling."

Barney is on my underwear! A small child with a bad cough was taken by her parents to a hospital emergency room. A nurse, examining the child's lungs with a stethoscope, playfully told the child, "I have to see if Barney is in there." "I have Jesus in my heart," the child replied. "Barney is on my underwear."

Parish and Community News

DIVINE MERCY EXPERIENCE OF FR. JAMES ALBERIONE

The founder of the Pauline religious congregation is Rev. Fr. James Alberione. A holy man with a prophetic vision, he harnessed the pastoral potentiality of the modern means of communication at the service of evangelization. The Holy Father, Pope St. John Paul II, beatified him in 2003. Fr. Alberione founded five religious congregations, four aggregated Institutes, and the Association of Pauline Cooperators, all of which comprise the "Pauline Family". In 1923, he was struck down with a serious illness that led him into a kind of crisis about the future of the religious family launched just a few years earlier. He needed some kind of assurance in the midst of uncertainties. He looked for confirmation in the most difficult moment of his life. The Divine Master kindly obliged by appearing to him in a dream, assuring him of His Divine assistance and presence.

In a subsequent dream, Jesus, the Master, said to him: "Fear not. I am with you. From here I will enlighten. Have a contrite heart." The "from here" came forth from the tabernacle; and with power, such as to make one understand that from Him, the Master, must one receive all enlightenment. He spoke of this with his spiritual director, noting in what light the figure of the Master has been enveloped: "His reply to me was: *'Be at peace; what was said is holy; make it a practical program of life and of light for yourself and for all members.'*" From that point on he became more and more oriented to and received all from the tabernacle. Indeed, the experience of Blessed James Alberione, a "true missionary of the Church" and a modern apostle for our times, is similar to that of the apostle Thomas, who experienced the compassion of the saving and merciful Lord as predilection.

MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER LAW!

"Law vs Mercy" In *Reader's Digest*, Jim Williams of Montana, writes: "I was driving too fast late one night when I saw the flashing lights of a police car in my rearview mirror. As I pulled over and rolled down my window of my station wagon, I tried to dream up an excuse for my haste. But when the patrolman reached the car, he said nothing. Instead, he merely shined his flashlight in my face, then on my seven-month-old in his car seat, then on our three other children, who were asleep, and lastly on the two dogs in the very back of the car. Returning the beam of light to my face, he then uttered the only words of the encounter. "'Son,' he said, 'you can't afford a ticket. Slow down.'" And with that, he returned to his car and drove away." Sometimes mercy triumphs over law. So it is for sinners who call out to Jesus."

WILLIE LYNCH BAND

Friday, April 20th, 7pm

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

Doors open 6:30pm - Ceili Dance Lessons 7pm- Band starts at 8pm

Bring your own Food & Beverage. Water & Soft Drinks available for purchase.

Limited Reserve Tables available, \$20 Adult, Teens* \$10 Children 12 & under Free*
*accompanied by a parent or guardian

Call or Text Fred @ 908-229-5879 or Patti @ 732-371-9698 to Reserve Table or Tickets <http://www.ccsjn.org/Directions>

RETREAT TO THE SETON SHRINE - Saturday, April 28, 2018

Please join Saint Catherine of Siena Parish on a retreat to the Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, MD on Saturday, April 28. We have an exciting day planned including a guided tour of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Historic Homes and Cemetery. We will also tour the Basilica and attend mass with Father Chester as the celebrant. Cost is \$60 per person. For more information visit <https://setonshrine.org/> or contact Denise Botto at denisebotto@gmail.com or 908-996-6760.

AUCTION NEWS

Mark your calendar, the 32nd Annual Auction/Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday, June 2nd. Our theme this year is Garden Party! Donations are coming in. Check out the list on the Auction Board in the Narthex. Next week there will be sign up sheets for ways you can help and forms to be filled out for donations. See the insert in today's bulletin for additional details.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 25, 2018

94 Donors Weekly	\$5,236.00
39 Easter Flower Offering .	\$1,163.00
8 Diocesan Retirement.....	\$265.00
3 Yellow Brick Road	\$150.00
1 Snow & Heat	\$25.00
4 Easter Offering	\$155.00
3 Catholic Relief Service	\$80.00
1 Social Ministry	\$50.00

March 26, 2017

73 Donors Weekly	\$2,579.00
50 Diocesan Retirement.....	\$1,144.00

STORE CARDS



Thanks to the families who purchased grocery and store cards. The total cards are:

Week of March 19, 2018

27 Families \$5,225 Sold \$258.25 Profit

Week of March 26, 2018

10 Families \$1,845 Sold \$89.98 Profit

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL



Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World!

To date, the Development Office has received pledges and payments totaling \$28,706 from 85 parishioners.

This represents 75.5% of our \$38,000 goal.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., April 11 C. Behrens

Wed., April 18 S. Griffin

Store Cards

April 7 and April 8

5:30 p.m. E. McCabe

8:00 a.m. K. Dabrowski

10:30 a.m. J. Varcadipane

April 14 and April 15

5:30 p.m. L. Livoti

8:00 a.m. V. Hoffart

10:30 a.m. D. Royal

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of April 8 B. Sobey

Week of April 15 M. Proano

Church Center Cleaning

April 12 Team E

April 19 Team F

Counting

April 9 Malone/Bauernfiend

April 9 Kucharski/McCabe

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