



## Mission Statement

**Catholic Community of St. John Neumann**

**FOUNDED** on the teachings of Jesus Christ,  
**NOURISHED** by the hospitality of the Califon Christian  
Communities,

**FORMED** with a commitment to Social Ministry, and  
**STRENGTHENED** by the Holy Spirit

*The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann is  
a jubilant people on a continuing spiritual journey of hope:*

**TO CELEBRATE** and **DEEPEN** our faith

**TO SHARE** our unique gifts, talents and treasures

**TO CHERISH** all life

**TO LIVE** in openness, acceptance and love.

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## Annual Parish Goal

**We, as ministers, will foster  
an inviting and spiritual Catholic community for all,  
especially to those away from the Church,  
by growing in and witnessing to our faith in the mercy of God.**

## *A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition*

Diocese of Metuchen

Most Rev. James F. Checchio,  
JCD, MBA  
Bishop of Metuchen

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, DD  
Bishop Emeritus  
www.diometuchen.org

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## *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.

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# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, April 17

8:00 a.m. Anna Turley, req.  
Joann and Jim Murray

### Friday, April 20

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

### Saturday, April 21

5:30 p.m. Christin Gaston, req.  
Lou and Liz Livoti

### Sunday, April 22

8:00 a.m. Michael Kornas, req.  
Marie and Roger Malone  
10:30 a.m. Kyle Hargadon, req  
Pojedinec Family



## Parish Calendar

### 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)

### Monday, April 16 - Easter Weekday

12:00 p.m. Deanery Meeting (Drexel Room)  
6:00 p.m. Family Faith Formation (CC/OC)  
7:30 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Upper Room)

### Tuesday, April 17 - Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga (Church Center Loft)  
7:00 p.m. Bereavement Session (Upper Room)  
7:00 p.m. Property Management Meeting (Drexel Room)

### Wednesday, April 18 - Easter Weekday

5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)  
6:45 p.m. Tai Chi (Church Center Loft)  
7:00 p.m. RCIA (Upper Room)  
7:30 p.m. Book Club (Seton Room)

### Thursday, April 19 - Easter Weekday

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

### Friday, April 20 - Easter Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
6:30 p.m. Willie Lynch Band (Church Center)

## Mass Schedule - April 21/22

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Kathleen Swindler
Altar Server .....	Upwood Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Mary Connolly
.....	Jim Oelkers, Lyle Garcia
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Chris Bitters
Altar Server .....	Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Jane Klawunn
.....	Barbara Gates, Tom Klawunn
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Paul Gagen
Altar Server .....	Souza Family
Music Eucharistic Minister.....	Gloria Cucchiara
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Jane Albert, Anita Sawczuk
.....	Ana Giametta, Patti Rittman, Jim DeVito

### Sat., April 21-Saint Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

3:30 p.m. First Eucharist Makeup Session (Church Center)  
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

### Sunday, April 22 - Fourth Sunday of Easter / Development of Peoples Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)

### OFFERING ENVELOPES / AUTOMATED GIVING

Pick up your offering envelopes in the Narthex. If you would like envelopes and don't have them please sign the sheet and they will be ready next weekend.

If you are interested in Automated Giving, pick up a form, fill it out, drop it off in the office or the collection basket next weekend.



### Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Lester Gardner, Carmela Damiani, Robert Cassidy, Charlie Olsson, and Helen Boybo.**

**Deceased:** Lester Gardner, brother of Bob Gardner, Carmela Damiani, friend of the Janks Family, Robert Cassidy, brother of Cookie DeVito, Charlie Olsson, uncle of Joann Fabiano, and Helen Boybo, grandmother of Sheena Carew. 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,

As you know, six of our parishioners Shannon, Michelle, Jennifer, Chris, Tanya and Michelle received the Easter Sacraments during the Easter Vigil and you may have seen their pictures in the narthex with "Congratulations to our neophytes." I was glad when some of you asked me last Sunday the meaning of "neophytes." A Neophyte (its Greek root means the newly planted) is a person who has been initiated as full members of a religion like Christianity or Judaism or one who has joined a religious order. In our context, a neophyte is one who has been incorporated into the fullness of the life of the Church as the Body of Christ. The highlight of these six friends of ours was the reception of the Easter Sacraments. Now they enter into the final phase of the RCIA process which is known as Mystagogy, which simply means learning about the mysteries. The RCIA instruction no.244 says: *"This is a time for the community and the neophytes together to grow in deepening their grasp of the paschal mystery and in making it part of their lives through meditation on the Gospel, sharing in the eucharist, and doing the works of charity. ...."*

What is interesting is that the Church's focus of the mystagogy is us, the Community into which these six have been incorporated! This means that mystagogy is a time for us all to grow in understanding the paschal mystery. Hence we see the Easter/Paschal Candle lit at every Mass. The Sundays after Easter are named 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, etc. The entire purpose of the RCIA process is to lead the participants into a relationship of communion and intimacy with Jesus.

This is another way of saying that we are all called to be holy. On April 9, the Vatican released the latest Apostolic Exhortation from Pope Francis: *Gaudete et exsultate* (Rejoice and be glad): On the call to holiness in today's world. In his third Apostolic Exhortation (following *Evangelii gaudium* and *Amoris laetitia*) Pope Francis explains his intention: *"My modest goal is to repropose the call to holiness in a practical way for our own time."* We will reflect more about this short (under 40 pages only) but important document which is easily readable in one sitting!

Let us remember that we are the models and torchbearers of Christian witness and experience to the neophytes as well as to all those we meet in our daily living. The Sunday Mass is key to a successful mystagogy because the three ways mentioned above – meditation on the Gospel and sharing in the Eucharist which leads us to the works of charity – are meant for the whole community's full, conscious and active participation. Our Sunday worship here at St. John's is truly vibrant, participative and prayerful as we experience fellowship with God and with one another in love and joy. Let us continue this good practice and make mystagogy a fruitful time for all of us.

Your brother in Christ,  
Father Abraham Orapankal

## THANK YOU FROM ST. MARY'S COEBURN, VA

Dear Fr. Orapankal,

The parishioners of St. Mary's in Coeburn and I appreciated receiving your letter of December 19, 2017, along with the most generous check of \$754.06 from the Catholic Community of St. John Neumann. St. Mary's recently replaced lights and a light fixture in the church building. Earlier in the year they replaced an aging heating/cooling system and thermostat. Partial payment was made through a Diocesan grant and as a result of funds received from one from the mission assignments I completed this past year. The parishioners recently took on the burden of contributing more towards the cluster expenses for the rectory in Lebanon. All of this was completed and still they maintain a balance in their checking account for emergency expenses thanks to the generosity of parishioners, our mission appeal churches, and the wonderful generosity of the faith family of St. John Neumann. We are grateful for your community's daily thoughts and prayers for our church. Please know we also continue to keep you all in our prayers. Thank you. God bless.

Fr. Zaverio Banasula, Administrator

## FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

*Join us in the Narthex this weekend!*

This weekend we are introducing you to a new ministry at our parish - The Family Life Ministry. We all need help loving and living with our families and following Jesus in our daily life. This ministry is focused on helping families build a foundation of faith with their children; helping parents and children to live their faith. Join us after Mass this weekend to find out more about this ministry.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 15, 2018

*"Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' But they were startled and frightened..."*

**LUKE 24:36-37**

Throughout the day we have many opportunities to "see the face of Jesus" in others and to "be the face of Jesus" to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide "peace" to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength to live a "God-centered" life and not a "self-centered" life.

## OUR TOWN MEETING IS ON MONDAY APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup> !!

Yes, it's back! After a gap due to declining numbers, we are glad that the Parish Survey indicated that our parishioners are interested in resuming our Parish Town Meeting. The Stewardship Committee will present the findings from the Survey and will have discussions and sharing. We will begin at 6pm by first taking care of our physical hunger and then the presentation will begin at 6:45. Let's all come together and have a great time!

## CASUAL MEETING SPACE



We are looking to create a casual sitting area for meeting in the office if you have any comfortable suitable chairs please call the office.

## Parish Contact Information

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

Fax ..... 908-832-7618

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

Rev. Abraham Orapankal ..... Pastor

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

Earl Roberts ..... Deacon

Email ..... [earlr1@verizon.net](mailto:earlr1@verizon.net)

Sharon Janks ..... Pastoral Administrator

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

France Kennedy ..... Pastoral Associate

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

Susanne Erz ..... Financial Administrator

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

Project Earth Garden... [projectearth@ccsjn.org](mailto:projectearth@ccsjn.org)

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

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

# Christian Formation

## LIVING STATIONS AN ECUMENICAL EVENT



The Living Stations of the Cross this past Good Friday was a passion play presented by the CP III 8th grade Confirmandi, with narration, along with music and acting. This prayerful ecumenical event is hosted by St. John Neumann annually, and this year too, we are grateful to our local pastors (Rev. David Edwards of Califon United Methodist Church, Rev. Chad Rodgers of Lower Valley Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Lynn Mears of Fairmont United Methodist Church) and faith communities who participated. Thank you to our Confirmandi for presenting these stations in a meaningful and thoughtful expression. A special thank you to Mary Sorgi for sharing her faith and knowledge to prepare the students for this event.

## 1ST EUCHARIST CLASSES

*Sat., April 28, 2:30 p.m.*



The last First Eucharist session will be held on Saturday, April 28, at **2:30 p.m.** in the Church Center. Please note the earlier start time.

## FIRST COMMUNION CLASS RETREAT

*Wed., May 2, 4 p.m., Church Center*

The First Communion Class Retreat is on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. in the Church Center. All children should bring their completed banners and their own choice of a snack (food/drink) with them. Parents (or at least one parent or caregiver who will be attending the First Communion Mass) need to arrive by 6:00 p.m. to witness the First Communicants' renewal of their baptismal vows and receive First Eucharist ceremony instruction led by Father Abraham.

## 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.

## 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 **Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 PM in the church center.** We will continue our reflection on **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 interesting and engaging formation session.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

*Saturday, May 5, 11:00 a.m., Church Center*



On Saturday, May 5, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., we will culminate our journey that began in the fall learning about reconciliation and forgiveness, continuing through God's amazing sacrifice and love for us, and will end in the treasure of receiving Jesus in First Holy Communion for 8 of our young church family members. Please congratulate and pray for our First Communicants: Victoria Brynildsen, Jake Butka, Caleb Kelemen, Juliana Pascale, William Peluso, Austen Slinger, Felipe Souza and Elijah Weldon. All of this was made possible through the heartfelt commitment of the children's families bringing their children regularly to our gatherings, our catechists, Fr. Abraham and Jo Ann Jarvis. Cathy Gagen, our head 1st Eucharist catechist and coordinator was assisted by Chris and Maria Brynildsen, Kristen Butka and Phillip Peluso. Please celebrate and share in our joy!

# Social Ministry

## 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](mailto:project-earth@ccsjn.org).



**Are you on social media? Your stewardship could be keeping St. John's activities present on the web! Contact the office and find us on Facebook, "St. John Neumann RC Church, Califon NJ"**

## A SCIENTIST WHO PRAYED THE ROSARY!

A train was racing for Paris. In one of its compartments two men sat opposite each other. The first was a young medical research student who was bored by the long journey. The other was an old man reciting his rosary with closed eyes. The young researcher began to ridicule the old man for his superstitious beliefs. He then went on to tell of the wonders of medical science. The old man just nodded, smiled and continued his prayer in spite of the humiliating comments of his fellow passenger. When they reached the Paris station, the old man enquired where the youngster was going. The young man proudly announced that he was going to attend a lecture by the world-famous scientist, Louis Pasteur. The old man took out a visiting card from his pocket, gave it to the young man and bid him farewell. The card read: "Dr. Louis Pasteur, Academy of Science, Paris."

Pride and prejudice often blur our vision and occasionally blind us to reality, leading us to wrong judgments as it happened to the apostles in today's Gospel. The same Jesus who, in the Upper Room, prepared his disciples for their preaching and witnessing mission, is present with us in the Eucharistic celebration. He invites us to share in the "Liturgy of the Word of God" and in "The Liturgy of Bread and Wine." In the first part of the Mass, Jesus speaks to us through the "Word of God." In the second part, He becomes our spiritual food and drink. Thus, today's Gospel scene is repeated every Sunday on our parish altars. Like the early disciples, we come together to repent of our sins, express our thanks for the blessings we have received, listen to God's words and offer ourselves to God on the altar along with our gifts of bread and wine. We also share in the spiritual food Jesus supplies, and we are sent to share his message with the entire world.

## "THAT'S IT!"

There is a beautiful love story. It concerns the love of Paul Tournier, one of the world's most beloved and respected Christian doctors, for his wife Nelly. In one of his books, Tournier describes how he and Nelly were able to talk about death after her first serious bout with coronary thrombosis while they were in Greece. She knew how gravely ill she was and that a second attack could leave her severely handicapped or could even be fatal. Their last month together was a time of intimate sharing. On the last day she said to him, "Perhaps it would have been better if I had died of my heart attack a month ago." Tournier responded, "And yet my Greek colleagues have done a good job. They saved your life. You are glad of that." "Yes, of course," she said, "if I can get back to Geneva and see my children and grandchildren." She was silent for a moment, and then added, "But if I had died, I should be in Heaven now, and I should be meeting your parents." Tournier was touched by this. He writes, "You see, she also married my expectation of Heaven!" He replied to her, "Well, when you arrive in Heaven, my parents will thank you for having been the wife that you have been for their son." It was to be Tournier's last words to her. A moment later she put her hand on her heart and exclaimed, "That's it!" He asked, "Are you sure?" She answered "Yes." And she was in Heaven. [Paul Tournier, *A Listening Ear* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS – 2018

Council #10627 is proud to announce our 5th annual CCSJN Joseph F. Labuta Scholarship Award application to high school seniors of Knights of Columbus brothers or parishioners of the Catholic Community of St. John Neumann. The application can be found on the website, [www.kofc10627.org](http://www.kofc10627.org) by accessing the drop down menu for COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, then YOUTH ACTIVITIES, then SCHOLARSHIPS, and finally SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS. Follow the directions for essay writing as given there and accessing the correct application for committee consideration. **ALL SCHOLARSHIP SUBMISSIONS are due in the St. Joseph Rectory Office, 59 Main Street, High Bridge, NJ by MAY 1, 2018.**

## 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 Ana at [ana.giametta@gmail.com](mailto: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. Good for seniors!

## NEW TO THE PARISH?



If you are new to the parish – stop by the narthex for a welcome packet of information on St. John's. Contact the parish office at 908-832-2513 or [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org) to get information on our upcoming lunch for new parishioners.



## BAPTISM

Congratulations to Lucas Michael Lang who was Baptised on Sunday April 8th. We celebrated with his parents Shannon and Michael and his sister Addison. Check out the photo in the Narthex.

## MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

"Whoever fails to love does not know God, because God is love." (1 John 4:8) Do you know anyone who claims to love God yet does not act lovingly toward a family member, a neighbor, creation? Don't let it be you.

## PARENTING TUNE-UP

Grandparents have access to history that can thrill and surprise their grandchildren. They can tell stories about how life used to be and shed some light on how the child's parent was a generation ago. They are the keepers of tradition. Don't lose the wisdom. Connect. (SusanVogt)

## 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  
 Ensing, Webster, Justine, U.S. Navy

## SUNDAY REFLECTION: Bill's Last Gift, Best Gift

***"... a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." Luke 24: 35-48***

Thirteen years ago, Tracy Grant's husband of 19 years was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. Tracy became Bill's faithful caregiver. Over the course of seven months, her husband Bill "went from beating me silly at tennis to needing my help to go to the bathroom." It was a difficult, stressful and exhausting time, but Tracy, a deputy managing editor at The Washington Post, writes that those seven months were the time in her life when she felt "most alive." "I was 42 years old. I had become a respected professional, a responsible and, I hope, loving parent. But I had to discover the reason I was on this earth. During those seven months, I came to understand that whatever else I did in my life, nothing mattered more.

"I discovered that the petty grievances of an irksome coworker, a child with the sniffles, or a flat tire pales in comparison with the beauty of spontaneous laughter, the night sky, the smells of a bakery. There were moments of joy, laughter, and tenderness everyday - if I was willing to look hard enough. I found I could train myself to set my internal barometer to be more compassionate than callous. "In the days following Bill's diagnosis and brain surgery, being his caregiver required me to be the best reporter I knew how to be. I found clinical trials and talked to oncologists in Texas, Pennsylvania, and New York. It gave me a sense of purpose, and it gave Bill comfort - and a few chuckles - to overhear me reading the riot act to some insurance rep who'd told me a treatment wouldn't be covered."

And now, 13 years after Bill's death, Tracy looks at those last seven months with gratitude. ". . . I haven't started a foundation to cure cancer. I haven't left the news business to get a medical degree. I work. I try to be there for my sons. I will never again have that high a purpose. But every day, I try again to be the person I became during those seven months. I try to be a little less judgmental, a little more forgiving and generous, a little more grateful for the small moments in my life. I am a better person for having been Bill's caregiver. It was his last, best give to me."

**Wherever and whenever true love is present, resurrection is experienced. Tracy experiences that sense of resurrection in her caring for her husband - and it changes her in profound and beautiful ways. And, whether she realizes it or not, her loving generosity is a "witness" to the possibilities for such resurrection in her life and the lives of those she loves. In the compassion and peace we are able extend to those we love and who love us, we become "flesh and bone" signs of the hope and grace of Easter along the Emmaus roads we all walk.**

## 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. It is good to participate in different ministries and activities as each person brings new ideas to an existing program. So we encourage you to be involved with a ministry for a year and then switch to something new if you choose.



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



A pessimist, an optimist and an engineer were discussing a ½ glass of water; the pessimist says well its half empty, the optimist says its half full, the engineer says the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

Two Landrovers almost collided at an African cross roads. One driver stuck his head out his window and shouted "Where are you going, for heavens sake?" Billy Graham was in the other landrover and he stuck his head out of the window and smilingly called back "I go everywhere for Heavens sake."

A Recently Spotted Bumper Sticker: "God give me patience....And make it quick!"

# Parish and Community News

## 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](mailto:bonniegarcia210@yahoo.com). There is a \$5 charge per session.



## AUCTION NEWS

Time seems to be flying by, only 48 days till our Garden Party Auction on June 2. We're counting on you to help make our biggest fund raiser a success. Donation forms are due by May 11. If you are looking for ideas, check out our detailed list at the Auction corner in the Narthex. Also tickets to the auction will be on sale in the narthex after all the Masses or email Karen Porto at: [kporto@aol.com](mailto:kporto@aol.com). Thanks for your support!



## HEALING PRAYER SERVICE – APRIL 26, 2018

Please join us for a Healing Prayer Service on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 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.



## SPRING CLEANING THANK YOU

Thank you to all who came out to help with our Spring Cleaning. We were able to get the church kitchen pantry and cabinets cleaned up. As well as the Narthex closet, cabinets & windows. Upstairs vacuuming, some carpentry & wood staining were also done. In the office we had much needed help to reorganize & cleanout closets & book shelves.

The trail to the residence was cleared & some lighting work done.

We want to say thank you to: Bill Behrens, Tom Bennett, Pete Cangelosi, Susanne & Kurt Erz, Anne & Joe Germino, Fred Heimall, Brent Herring, Wayne Infusino, Alan & Sharon Janks, France Kennedy, Tom & Jane Klawunn, Suzanne Kosakowski, Suzanne LaRusso, Lou & Liz Livoti, Bob & Barbara Martalus, Hunt Patterson, Helen & Michael Quigley, Annette Schettino. If we missed your name, please know that your help was appreciated!

## 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](mailto:denisebotto@gmail.com) or 908-996-6760.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

**April 1, 2018**

56 Donors Weekly ..... \$5,006.00  
125 Easter Offering ..... \$11,942.00  
4 Easter Flower Offering ... \$300.00  
3 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$400.00  
21 Holy Land ..... \$1,010.00

**April 2, 2017**

90 Donors Weekly ..... \$5,323.26  
50 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$1,866.10  
2 Clergy Retirement ..... \$50.00

**April 8, 2018**

59 Donors Weekly ..... \$4,268.00  
50 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$1,572.25  
7 Easter Offering ..... \$395.00

**April 9, 2017**

103 Donors Weekly ..... \$5,874.00  
5 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$445.00  
58 Easter Flower Offering \$1,491.00

## STORE CARDS



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

**Week of April 2, 2018**

**20 Families \$2,430 Sold \$111.85 Profit**

## BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

To date, the Development Office has received pledges and payments totaling \$29,436.75 from 90 parishioners.

This represents 77.5% of our \$38,000 goal.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### Office Angels

Wed., April 18 S. Griffin  
Wed., April 25 A. Sawczuk

### Store Cards

#### **April 14 and April 15**

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

#### **April 21 and April 22**

5:30 p.m. C. Crescenti  
8:00 a.m. M. Kearns  
10:30 a.m. H. Quigley

### Church Center Plant Watering

Week of April 15 M. Proano  
Week of April 22 C. Fortenbacher

### Church Center Cleaning

April 19 Team F  
April 26 Team A

### Counting

April 16 Kucharski/McCabe  
April 23 Malone/Cangelosi



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