



## 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, May 1

8:00 a.m. Doris J. DiNatale, req.  
Tanina and John Kranyak

### Friday, May 4

7:00 a.m. Gregory Powers, req.  
Jacqueline Powers

### Saturday, May 5

5:30 p.m. Joseph Sacco, req.  
Anita Sawczuk

### Sunday, May 6

8:00 a.m. Victoria Bartolot, req.  
Connolly Family  
10:30 a.m. Mark Johnson, req.  
D'Avella Family



## Mass Schedule - May 5/6

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Needed
Altar Server .....	Geerinck/Torczon Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Joan Eacovalle .....2 Needed
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Chris Bitters
Altar Server .....	Kennedy Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Bob Martalus ..... Diane Lehnert, Barbara Martalus
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader .....	Mary Sorgi
Altar Server .....	DeStefano Family
Music Eucharistic Minister.....	Shirley Pojedinec
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	Anthony DeStefano, Jane Albert ..... Bob Sobey, Peter Royal, Doris Royal

## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, April 29 - Fifth Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day Intentions

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
11:30 a.m. Discover St. John's Luncheon (Drexel Room)  
11:30 a.m. Auction Meeting (Church Center Loft)

### Monday, April 30 - Saint Pius V, Pope

7:00 p.m. Fund Raising Meeting (Neumann Residence)  
7:30 p.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word Meeting (Seton Room)

### Tuesday, May 1 - Saint Joseph the Worker

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)

### Wednesday, May 2 - Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

4:00 p.m. First Eucharist Retreat (Church Center and Grounds)  
7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. (Upper Room)

### Thursday, May 3 - Saint Phillip and James, Apostles

5:00 p.m. Valley View Overflow Parking (Church Parking Lot)  
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)  
7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

### Friday, May 4 - Easter Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
7:00 p.m. 1st Friday Holy Hour (Church Center)

### Saturday, May 5 - Easter Weekday

11:00 a.m. First Eucharist Celebration (Church Center)  
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

### Sunday, May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter / Yellow Brick Road Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
8:00 a.m. Family Faith Formation (Valley View)  
10:30 a.m. Mass - May Crowning (Church Center)  
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Formation (Church Center)

### First Friday Holy Hour



May 4 - 7:00 pm  
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: **Lester Gardner, Rich Sepe, Carmela Damiani, Robert Cassidy, and Charlie Olsson.**

**Deceased:** Lester Gardner, brother of Bob Gardner, Rich Sepe, husband of Maureen and brother of Bob, Carmela Damiani, friend of the Janks Family, Robert Cassidy, brother of Cookie DeVito, and Charlie Olsson, uncle of Joann Fabiano. 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,

Did you get time to read the latest Apostolic Exhortation from Pope Francis: *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and be Glad)? Last week I referred to two not-so-familiar words in Chapter Two: 1. Pelagianism and 2. Gnosticism. What does Pope Francis mean? Let us look at Pelagianism first. Kindly read the explanation about this heresy by Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson Diocese elsewhere in today's bulletin. Pope Francis explains to us that holiness is a call to everyone from God who expects us to live it in the various forms of calling we have as humans. Conscious of the important role women play in the church, he highlights the feminine styles of holiness in these words:

*Within these various forms, I would stress too that the "genius of woman" is seen in feminine styles of holiness, which are an essential means of reflecting God's holiness in this world. Indeed, in times when women tended to be most ignored or overlooked, the Holy Spirit raised up saints whose attractiveness produced new spiritual vigour and important reforms in the Church. We can mention Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Saint Bridget, Saint Catherine of Siena, Saint Teresa of Avila and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. But I think too of all those unknown or forgotten women who, each in her own way, sustained and transformed families and communities by the power of their witness. This should excite and encourage us to give our all and to embrace that unique plan that God willed for each of us from eternity: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (Jer 1:5).*

Human labor is one of the important means of achieving holiness. We enter the month of May with the feast of "St Joseph, the Worker." It was Pope Pius XII who instituted the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker in 1955, in order to foster deep devotion to Saint Joseph among Catholics, and in response to the "May Day" celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists. This feast extends the long relationship between Joseph and the cause of workers in both Catholic faith and devotion. Beginning in the Book of Genesis, the dignity of human work has long been celebrated as a participation in the creative work of God. By work, humankind both fulfills the command found in Genesis to care for the earth (Gen 2:15) and to be productive in their labors. Saint Joseph, the carpenter and foster father of Jesus, is but one example of the holiness of human labor.

Our greatest help to holiness comes when we gather for Sunday worship and welcome the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. This weekend our children Victoria Brynildsen, Jake Butka, Caleb Kelemen, Juliana Pascale, William Peluso, Austen Slinger, Felipe Souza and Elijah Weldon will celebrate their First Holy Communion. As we congratulate them, I wish to thank Cathy Gagen their head Catechist who prepared them with great passion and commitment with the help and cooperation of other catechists, parents and the Religious Education Office. Let us all attend Sunday worship regularly and grow in holiness.

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## ST. JOHN'S TEEN HEADING TO MALAWI!

Remember Malawi where Jake Wilson, the then young son of our parishioner Greg Wilson, went and helped the poor people 13 years ago? Remember how St. John's raised a significant amount of money to help Jake's dream of building a school in that impoverished village of Malawi? Yes now our parishioner Jessica Brynildsen, her cousin Margie and 5 others will be heading to Malawi Africa and Addis Ethiopia June 21-July 3. She will be serving on this short term mission with the staff of a group called Cure International (<https://cure.org/>). CURE International is a Christian non-profit organization that operates charitable hospitals and programs in 27 countries worldwide where patients experience the life-changing message of God's love for them, receiving surgical treatment regardless of gender, religion, or ethnicity. They focus their efforts on providing medical care to children suffering from orthopedic and neurological conditions. Jess and the team will be helping in the hospital, leading prayer groups with the children and their families and providing overall support to let them know that others do care. Please keep her and her team in your prayers as we lead up to and during their mission.

## INTERESTED IN TRYING BIBLE STUDY?

A six week bible study on Gospel of Mark will run Tuesdays, starting May 8. Please contact the office if you are interested at 908-832-2513 or [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org). If you are interested but have a conflict on Tuesday's please let us know.

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 29, 2018

**"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth."**

**1 JOHN 3:18**

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you "walk the talk?" Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it's not too late to start!

## BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

To date, the Development Office has received pledges and payments totaling \$31,991.75 from 97 parishioners. This represents 84.2% of our \$38,000 goal.

## ARTS AND CRAFTS

Anyone crafty with material? Each we use a set of books for the Liturgy, these binders are covered with fabric. Our white books for the Easter season need new material. If you'd like to see if you could refurbish these binders – stop by the Sacristy and take a look or call office for information.

## DO YOU LIKE TO CLEAN?



We could use another person to take a week in our rotation to clean the church bathrooms. Call 832-2513, email: [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org), or fill out your stewardship form to volunteer. (also available on line)

## 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 ..... [earl1@verizon.net](mailto:earl1@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 ..... [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

## 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.

## PLANTING THE SEEDS OF FAITH WITH PROJECT EARTH



During the April GIFT Family Faith Program, the families enjoyed a presentation by Anne Germino about Project Earth Garden. The 2000 pounds of vegetables grown in the garden are used to make casseroles for local soup kitchens, fresh vegetables are also donated. Anne shared her experience and love of working in the garden to grow vegetables for people in need of healthy food. The families worked together planting bean seeds. Later they will plant the seedlings and watch them grow. In late summer they will harvest these beans. The beans will be used to make soup for the soup kitchen. It was a wonderful activity for our families learning and growing in faith then sharing this harvest with others. They are truly the hands and feet of Jesus!

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## 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!

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!



## 2018-2019 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Information and forms for the 2018-2019 GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) program have been mailed home and will be posted on the parish website, ccsjn.org, soon! Completed registrations are due back by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

## MAY CROWNING

**May 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. Mass**



The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which will soon

be paid to the Queen of Heaven in every corner of the earth. For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne." (Paul VI: *Encyclical on the Month of May*, no. 1).

Please join our parish community on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 a.m. Mass as our children lead the procession to crown the statue of the Blessed Mother in the church center. All are welcome to bring in flowers from their gardens for this special celebration. Any child wishing to participate in the procession should gather in the narthex at 10:15 a.m.

## ADULTS INVITED TO DISCUSS CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING WITH FR. ABRAHAM

During the Adult segment of the GIFT program, Fr. Abraham gives a presentation on a topic of interest. We have been discussing and reflecting upon, **The Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching**. Catholic Social Teaching is known as the "best kept secret" of the Catholic Church! The last GIFT session for this academic year is on **Monday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 PM in the church center, or Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:a.m in Valley View Elementary School.**

**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.



The discussion and reflection for this session will cover **Solidarity** and **Care for God's Creation**. As our Parish is on the forefront of Social Ministry and outreach to the less fortunate, these two principles are integrated and lived in our parish community. We will learn and explore other opportunities to live these principles. We invite you to consider joining this interesting and engaging formation session. Light refreshments will be served.

## CPIII DAY OF REFLECTION - Saturday, May 12, 3:00 p.m.



The CPIII Day of Reflection will be held on Saturday, May 12, at 3:00 p.m. in the Church Center. All 2018 Confirmation Candidates will be participating in this retreat on the gifts of the Holy Spirit and participating in the 5:30 p.m. Confirmandi Mass that follows. CPIII parents involved in facilitating this retreat need to email their final plans to Renee Ciszewski as soon as possible.

# Social Ministry & Parish News



## **COMMUNITY GARDEN SIGN UPS CONTINUE**

There are still beds available in the Community Garden. There is no monetary charge to use a bed. Each Community Garden Member is asked to contribute 12 hours of service to the garden over the course of the season from mid-April until November. You can sign up as an individual, a family or even a group of friends. Contact Anne Germino at [projectearth@ccsjn.org](mailto:projectearth@ccsjn.org) if you are interested.

## **SMALL FAITH GROUPS**

Thank you to each of you who participated in the Lent Small Groups. In spite of the difficulties with weather the groups reported having a good session. Our success this Lent session was the wonderful growth of the Sunday morning group that had ten people in it, most of them new to the small groups!

At our small group concluding night on April 11 Father Abraham talked about the Ascension gospel and our call to evangelize. If you are interested in more discussion and information on evangelization contact France at [francekenney99@gmail.com](mailto:francekenney99@gmail.com) and we will set up a discussion session to delve deeper!

## **FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY**

Thanks to those who talked with us at our Family Life Ministry introduction coffees after Mass last weekend. We appreciate those who shared their ideas and those who completed the survey. If you took a survey home, please remember to drop it in the narthex. We will be meeting to plan our first events and will keep you advised. All parish families are welcome to Family Life events and are welcome to invite friends from outside the parish. More information on this new ministry will be forthcoming. If you have any questions contact us at [familylife@ccsjn.org](mailto:familylife@ccsjn.org).

*Helping Families build a foundation of Faith!*

## **TAI CHI FOR MEDITATION AND HEALTH**

Tai Chi is on Wednesday evenings at 6:45pm thru the end of May. If you have any interest in seeing Tai Chi up close to see if you would be interested in learning this technique which aids in meditation and health benefits contact Bonnie Garcia 908-975-3003 or [bonniegarcia210@yahoo.com](mailto:bonniegarcia210@yahoo.com)

## **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.**

## **AUCTION NEWS**

Only 12 days remaining until Auction donation forms need to be submitted. There are several steps by various people once a donation is logged in. Please don't wait until the last minute to donate or the work really backs up. A list of suggested donations is available in the Narthex. Thank you, in advance, for your donation and cooperation.

Make your Reservations, or pick up Fab 5 and 50/50 Raffle Tickets in the Narthex after all Masses. Please note that this year the outdoor Mass will begin at 4:00 p.m.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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!

## **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.

## **MARRIAGE TUNE-UP**

When your hobbies differ and compete, does your spouse get stuck with the burden of extra chores, childcare, or unwanted alone time as a result of your recreation? Does your hobby take a lot more time than your spouse's? If not, rejoice.

## **PARENTING TUNE-UP**

Do you really listen to your child? Of course you do. Now be honest. Do you sometimes "listen with your answer running"? Today, just for today, pay attention to a request your child makes and look for the reason behind the request before automatically saying, "No." (SusanVogt)

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Joseph Angeline  
 George Bernard  
 Linda Caprio  
 Joan Cardierre  
 Jean Crickenberger  
 John D'Almeida  
 Barbara DelPiano  
 Sophia DeVita  
 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  
 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: "Presbyterian, But Disconnected!"

Some years ago, in the city of Belfast in Northern Ireland, the members of one of the large Presbyterian churches decided to undertake a religious census among some 2000 homes in their district. When the results were in, the pastor of the Church found himself seated at his desk, confronted with a huge heap of reports, and he began to note the visitors' findings and especially any comments made by the visitors at the bottom of the page. One remark that occurred again and again was, "Used to be a Presbyterian; now belong nowhere." Or, "The children go to Sunday School, but the parents aren't interested." And then his eyes fell on one unusual comment at the foot of one of the pages which startled him. It read simply, "Presbyterian, but disconnected." "Disconnected." That's a fascinating word. It sounds as though somebody had pulled the plug on the poor chap. Or perhaps he had pulled the plug on himself, thereby committing spiritual suicide. No longer was he connected up with the Church in which he was raised, for that matter.

This is true not only of Presbyterian Churches but also of Catholic Church. Studies conducted by CARA (Center for Applied Research in Apostolate) of national sample of young people, ages 15 to 25, who had been raised Catholic but no longer self-identified as such report that nearly two-thirds of those surveyed, 63 percent, said they stopped being Catholic between the ages of 10 and 17. Half of the young former Catholics self-identify today as atheists, agnostics or those without a religious affiliation. This is sad because God created us to be connected up with one another. God intended for us to be in communion with God and with one another. The New Testament knows of no such thing as solitary Christianity. To be a Christian at all is to be in relationship with other Christians. Anyone and everyone who belongs to Jesus Christ automatically belongs to anyone and everyone else who belongs to Jesus Christ. ***"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."*** (John 15:5)

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Looking for 6-8 men and 4 additional assistants to help a disabled senior woman move to a new apartment. The moving will take place Friday May 11, 2:30 pm thru 5:30 pm and/or Saturday May 12, 8:30 am thru 11:30 am.

Contact Jim Murray if you can assist. 908-310-6877.

## EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER

***Easy-Peasy! Fill out your stewardship form on line!***

We now have 42 responses to Stewardship. Take a look at the form on the parish website - ccsjn.org Link is on the Home Page. If you want to just check off the items you currently do – put a check in the "C" box for Continuing. If you are interested in trying something new - check "I". The whole parish benefits when each of us join in sharing our stewardship efforts for the community.



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



Signs In Foreign Lands: Those of you who may be planning summer travel, please remember that people in other countries sometimes go out of their way to communicate with their English-speaking tourists. Here is a list of signs seen around the world:

- At a Budapest Zoo: PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE ANIMALS. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUITABLE FOOD, GIVE IT TO THE GUARD ON DUTY.
- Information Booklet about using a Hotel Air Conditioner, Japan: COOLES AND HEATES: IF YOU WANT CONDITION OF WARM AIR IN YOUR ROOM, PLEASE CONTROL YOURSELF.
- In a Nairobi Restaurant: CUSTOMERS WHO FIND OUR WAITRESSES RUDE OUGHT TO SEE THE MANAGER.

## QUO VADIS DAYS: JUNE 25-27

Calling our young men ages 14-17: You're invited to spend three days living, praying and interacting with priests, seminarians and faith-filled teens your own age. The days will include dynamic talks, a visit from Bishop Checchio, sports and activities, prayer, small group discussin and so much more. For more info visit: [www.diometuchen.org/QuoVadis](http://www.diometuchen.org/QuoVadis) or email: [quovadis@diometuchen.org](mailto:quovadis@diometuchen.org)

# Parish and Community News

Catholic Community of St. John Neumann  
May, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2018 April Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	June Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	2018 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30				
<b>6 YBR Collection</b> 8:00 AM Mass - CC 8:00 AM Family Faith Formation - V.V. 10:30 AM Mass - CC 6:00 PM Jr. High Formation-CC	7 6:00 PM Family Faith Formation - CC/DR/SR/VRMR	8 8:00 AM Mass - NR 10:30 AM Chair Yoga - CC-Loft 7:00 PM Budget Mtg - DR 7:00 PM Bereavement - UR 7:30 PM Stewardship Mtg-SR	9 12:30 PM Staff Meeting - DR 5:30 PM Yoga - CC-Loft 6:45 PM Tai Chi - CC-Loft 7:00 PM Social Ministry Mtg - SR	10 <b>Ascension of the Lord (Obligation)</b> 7:00 AM Mass - NR 5:00 PM Cleaning - CC 7:00 PM Mass - CC	11 7:00 AM Mass - NR	12 8:00 AM Women's Spirituality Coffee - DR 2:30 PM CP III Day of Reflection - CC 5:30 PM Confirmandi Mass - CC 6:30 PM Youth Nite - CC
<b>13 Mother's Day &amp; Catholic Communications Campaign</b> 8:00 AM Mass - CC 10:30 AM Mass - CC 10:30 AM Children's Liturgy-NX	14 10:00 AM S.H.I.P. - OCK/CCK	15 8:00 AM Mass - NR 10:30 AM Chair Yoga - CC-Loft 7:00 PM Property Mgmt Mtg-DR 7:00 PM Bereavement - UR	16 5:30 PM Yoga - CC-Loft 6:45 PM Tai Chi - CC-Loft 7:00 PM RCIA - UR 7:30 PM Book Club -SR	17 5:00 PM Cleaning - CC 7:30 PM Music/Bells - CC	18 7:00 AM Mass - NR	19 8:30 AM Pastoral Council - UR 3:00 PM CP III Day of Discernment - CC 5:30 PM Mass-Rite of Covenant - CC
<b>20 Pentecost &amp; Spring Giving Tree Ends</b> 8:00 AM Mass - CC 10:30 AM Mass - Pastoral Council Commissioning - CC 10:30 AM Children's Liturgy-NX 6:00 PM Jr. High Formation-CC	21	22 8:00 AM Mass - NR 10:30 AM Chair Yoga - CC-Loft 7:00 PM Connxtions - OCK 7:00 PM Bereavement - UR	23 5:30 PM Yoga - CC-Loft 6:45 PM Tai Chi - CC-Loft	24 10:00 AM S.H.I.P. - OCK/CCK 5:00 PM Cleaning - CC 7:30 PM Music/Bells - CC	25 7:00 AM Mass - NR	26 7:00 AM Men's Spirituality Breakfast - OC 5:30 PM Mass - CC
<b>27 Most Holy Trinity &amp; 4th of July Food Cards Begins</b> 8:00 AM Mass - CC 10:30 AM Mass - CC	28 Memorial Day / Office Closed	29 8:00 AM Mass - NR 10:30 AM Chair Yoga - CC-Loft	30	31 5:00 PM Cleaning - CC 7:30 PM Music/Bells - CC		

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 22, 2018

62 Donors Weekly ..... \$2,284.00  
 1 Easter Offering ..... \$2,000.00  
 1 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$25.00  
 3 Dev. of Peoples ..... \$192.00

April 23, 2017

79 Donors Weekly ..... \$4,461.00  
 14 Easter Donation ..... \$1,385.00  
 2 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$40.00  
 1 Holy Thursday ..... \$40.00

## SUMMER ACTING CAMP

Oldwick Community Players

July 9-20, 2018 Ages 9-18

Performance: July 20th

Church of the Holy Spirit, Lebanon

Theater games, scenes and monologues

### INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:

Oldwickplayers.org:

Follow OCP-Oldwick Community

Players on Facebook or

Email ganidjar@comcast.net



## STORE CARDS

Thanks to the families who purchased grocery and store cards the Week of April 16, 2018  
**15 Families \$1,960 Sold \$89.68 Profit**

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### Office Angels

Wed., May 2 J. Santoro

Wed., May 9 S. Griffin

### Store Cards

April 28 and April 29

5:30 p.m. B. Cestone

8:00 a.m. G. Battell

10:30 a.m. S. Pojedinec

May 5 and May 6

5:30 p.m. E. McCabe

8:00 a.m. K. Dabrowski

10:30 a.m. J. Varcadipane

### Church Center Plant Watering

Week of April 29 L. Livoti

Week of May 6 M. Cangelosi

### Church Center Cleaning

May 3 Team B

May 10 Team C

### Counting

April 30 Kucharski/Kosakowski

May 7 Malone/Bauernfeind

### Altar Flowers

May 5 Needed

May 12 A. Germino

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baskingridgeelectric@gmail.com

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