

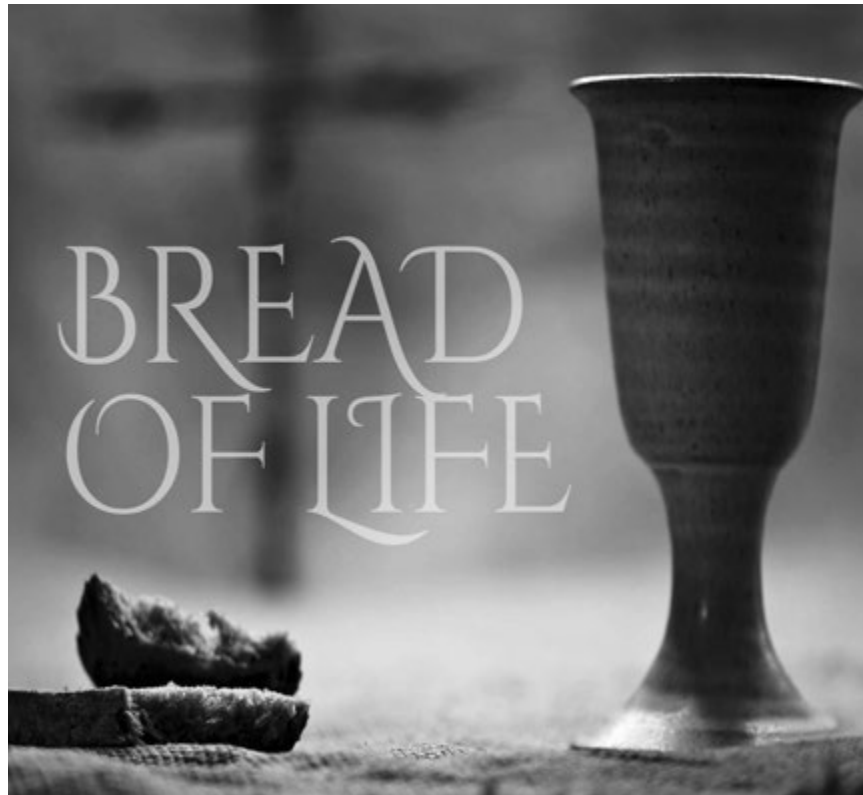
The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

August 5, 2018

Volume 36 Number 31



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.

Diocese of Metuchen

Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA,

Bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen

www.diometuchen.org

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, PhD . Pastor
Earl Roberts Deacon

Trustees

Fred Heimall Trustee
Mary Cangelosi Trustee

Church and Office Center:

398 County Route 513, Califon
PO Box 455, Califon, NJ 07830
908-832-2513 Office/908-832-7618 Fax

Worship at 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.

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

Weekday Masses at

Neumann Residence Chapel:

390 County Road 513
Tuesday 8:00 a.m.
Friday 7:00 a.m.

Holy Day Masses

Residence Chapel 7:00 a.m.
Church Center 7:00 p.m.
See Parish Calendar Inside for changes

Parish Contact Information

Office Center 908-832-2513

Fax 908-832-7618

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Email abraham@ccsjn.org

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Youth Ministry sjnygroup@gmail.com

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, August 7

8:00 a.m. Victor & Rosemarie Gatto,
req. Linda and Garry Caprio

Friday, August 10

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, August 11

5:30 p.m. Frank Licato, req.
Jennifer Sieber

Sunday, August 12

8:00 a.m. Edward Nowatkowski, req.
Jim and Roni Durham

10:30 a.m. Robert Cassidy, req.
Mary and Pete Cangelosi



Parish Calendar

Sunday, August 5 - *Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time* *Yellow Brick Road Collection*

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)

Monday, August 6 - *The Transfiguration of the Lord*

7:15 p.m. RCIA (Church Center and Patio)

Tuesday, August 7 - *Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions,* *Martyrs. Saint Cajetan, Priest*

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga (Church Center Loft)
7:00 p.m. Youth Group Volleyball (Church Grounds)

Wednesday, August 8 - *Saint Dominic, Priest*

5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)
6:45 p.m. Rosary (Church Center/Patio)

Thursday, August 9 - *Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross,* *Virgin and Martyr*

11:00 a.m. Wedding Preblich / Pelligrino
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

Friday, August 10 - *Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr*

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
Office Closes at Noon

Saturday, August 11 - *Saint Clare, Virgin*

8:00 a.m. Women's Spirituality Coffee (Drexel Room)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

Mass Schedule - August 11/12

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Tholitho
Reader	Kathleen Swindler
Altar Server	Kucharski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Joan Eacovalle
.....	Debby Kelemen, Jim Oelkers
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader	Allan Piechowski
Altar Server	Kennedy Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Tom Klawunn
.....	Jane Klawunn, Gail Battell
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader	Alexa Johnson
Altar Server	Johnson Family
Music Eucharistic Minister	Jane Albert
Ministers of the Eucharist	Marlene Milko, Jim DeVito
.....	Sheena Carew, Doris Royal, Peter Royal

Sunday, August 12 - *Nineteenth Sunday Ordinary Time*

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)

*"The real question today is not when
human life begins, but what is the
value of human life?"*

Pres. Ronald Reagan



Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Margot Altstaedt, George Bernard, Theresa Dressel, Abraham John, William Weimer, and Rosemary McCoy.**

Deceased: **Margot Altstaedt**, aunt of Susanne Erz, **George Bernard**, father of Kenneth Bernard, **Theresa Dressel**, cousin of Anne Sacco, **Abraham John**, family friend of Fr. Abraham, **William Weimer**, father of Jane Varcadipane, and **Rosemary McCoy**, niece of Lou and Liz Livoti. 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,

Nice to see the interest some parishioners have shown to do the summer readings I had suggested. This month of August reminds us that the summer will soon come to a close. So if you had no time to read, I wish to make a brief mention of four male and four female saints of August. We began this month with the feast of **St. Alphonsus Liguori**, a great moral theologian and founder of the Redemptorists known for their parish missions. His life is indeed a practical model for the everyday Christian who has difficulty recognizing the dignity of Christian life amid the swirl of problems, pain, misunderstanding and failure. Alphonsus suffered all these things but maintained an intimate sense of the presence of the suffering Christ through it all. The feast of **St. John Marie Vianney** is on August 4. The significance and the beauty of this simple parish priest who spent 41 years serving the people of Ars, France, is not because he founded any religious order or left us an abundant collection of brilliant theological writings. It was his simple witness of being a faithful, zealous, and loving parish priest who helped countless souls through the healing ministry in the confessional. August 8 is the feast of **St. Dominic** who was appalled at the spiritual horrors wrought by the Albigensian heresy which, among other things, taught that the physical world was evil – despite the fact that Jesus chose to live in it Himself. Dominic spent his life to bring the truth about God and the Church. His humility, fatherly kindness, patience and joyfulness under persecution impressed even his enemies who at times mocked, spat at him and pelted him with stones or mud.

On August 9 we honor **Edith Stein** (St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) who is a great model for today's young generation who seek the truth. A brilliant philosopher who stopped believing in God when she was 14, Edith Stein was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila that she began a spiritual journey that led her to leave her Jewish heritage and receive baptism in 1922. August 11 is the feast of **St. Clare** who was mentored by St. Francis of Assisi himself. The 41 years of Clare's religious life are scenarios of sanctity: an indomitable resolve to lead the simple, literal gospel life as Francis taught her; courageous resistance to the ever-present pressure to dilute the ideal; a passion for poverty and humility; an ardent life of prayer; and a generous concern for her sisters. **St. Rose of Lima** is honored on August 23. This first canonized saint of the New World lived a simple life and yet had to suffer so much opposition. Her life, like that of St. Clare, can challenge our lifestyle of indulging in too much food and drink, using a million gadgets, filling our eyes and ears with useless needs on which to spend our money. **St. Monica** (August 27), if succumbed to her circumstances, could have turned out to be a nagging wife, a bitter daughter-in-law, and a despairing parent, yet she did not give way to any of these temptations. She is a model of patient waiting and persevering prayer that finally led to the conversion of her hot-tempered husband and her brilliant but wayward son, **St. Augustine** (August 28) who is a sinner-turned-saint. Whether we acclaim him or condemn him, he challenges us to scrap escapisms and stand face-to-face with personal responsibility and dignity.

These eight saints challenge us to practice patience and wait on God's time. Today, with Google searches, online shopping, text messages, tweets, and instant gratification, we have little patience for things that take time. It seems that when we have become most like slaves, there is the greatest talk of "freedom." Are we willing to accept the challenge from these saints?

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

HUNGER IN THE WORLD!

According to statistics from Oxfam, 2,500 people will die of hunger during the typical one-hour Church worship service. Two-thirds of them will be children. A third of the children in the world are very underweight for their age. About one-fifth of the people in the world are so malnourished that they cannot engage in productive activity. The problem is not a lack of food. Enough food is produced to provide an adequate diet for everyone. A part of the problem is a matter of distribution. The food is not equally available to those who are hungry. A part of the problem also is a lack of will and a sense of priority to feed the hungry. *In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us about spiritual hunger and our need for him, as Heavenly Food, to satisfy our spiritual hunger for God. Spiritual hunger cannot be sought unless physical hunger is taken care of. We need both. Jesus himself showed us that truth when he first satisfied the physical hunger of the crowd he ministered to.*



18TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

August 5, 2018

"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not." EXODUS 16:4

When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our "wants" from our "needs". Living a generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.

SUMMERTIME PRAYER ON THE PATIO



Wednesdays @ 6:45 p.m.

There's a gentle summer breeze and the garden is flourishing! Join us on the patio each Wednesday evening as we pray the Rosary in peaceful meditation gazing upon the Lord's creation. Rosary beads and prayers are available. Drop-ins are joyfully welcomed. Relocated inside if the weather is inclement.

BENEFIT PICNIC

David Codd Fundraiser

Sunday, August 19th, 1:00 p.m.

Live Music, Games, Great Food. Adults \$25 ticket, Children cost is a donation.

Contact Jim Murray 908-310-6877.

THE WORD AMONG US

Those of you who read and love The Word Among Us – please notify the office via email or by signing up in the narthex that you like these booklets. We want to get an accurate count of how many people are using them. In addition, if you do enjoy them – introduce others to them so they can give it a try.

YOUTH GROUP TUESDAY NITE VOLLEYBALL

High school youth come join the fun. Volleyball behind the church on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. Bring your friends!



Don't forget to use
our Amazon Link

Whenever ordering from

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

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

Christian Formation

9 HABITS OF STRONG CATHOLIC FAMILIES



Today's world supplies us with a chaos of ideas. It promotes anti-values and spreads ideas ridiculing the Catholic faith and virtues. The last 20 years was a period of unprecedented propaganda of mind mingling ideas emanating from many direct channels such as internet and TV networks. Like it or not, all of this is meant to reach every one of us, children especially, and it does literally disconnect children from family. Parents are replaced with a wide range of false idols offering alternative sets of so-called values. What's worse, such propaganda confuses even us parents! Consider incorporating one or all of these habits to strengthen the bonds within your family.

Internal compass - Deepen your understanding of the Catholic system of values and virtues. Learn about traditions and customs and share this knowledge with your family. Let these values and virtues become part of your daily life. Share stories with each other of successes and challenges during a family meal.

Common Cause - Create a family mission statement of vision around Catholic values. Set aside time periodically to check with each other on living the mission.

Be for real - Be your best version to your loved ones.

Two together-Make time as a couple and come back to the family renewed.

Kindness counts - promote random acts of kindness within the family to show and express love for each other.

Listen openly - Listen with your mind and heart, to hear what the other person is saying. Look for the common good in all situations.

Words that connect - Words are powerful they can connect or divide. Chose words wisely, look for words that communicate empathy and understanding.

Be joyful - Make time to play and laugh together!

Recharge - Respect the gifts given to you by the Lord. Make time to strengthen your spirit, body and soul.

Jacek & Ewa Malkowski



2018-2019 GIFT REGISTRATIONS NOW DUE

We are looking forward to the 2018-2019 GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) family faith program with the following offerings:

Grades K-8: Monthly gatherings on your choice of Sunday afternoons (12-2 p.m.) or Monday evenings (6-8 p.m.). Both sessions will meet in the church center.

1st Reconciliation/1st Eucharist: Ten Saturday afternoons throughout the year (attendance in this sacramental preparation program is *in addition* to the monthly GIFT program).

Adult formation is an important part of the GIFT program and we encourage all adults of the parish to take advantage of this opportunity to participate in Fr. Abraham's informative and interactive presentation each month. You have the option to attend either monthly session; drop-ins are welcome and encouraged!

Family registration forms can be found on the parish website: ccsjn.org, under Faith Formation/Forms. Any questions regarding faith formation, please contact Renee Ciszewski at renee@ccsjn.org or 832-2162.



WELCOME BACK STUDENT MASS – ALL GRADES!

Sunday, September 9th at 10:30 AM

Jesus, Fill our children with your peace, teach our children how to pray, show our children how to love.

All students are invited to join us for a Welcome Back Student Mass on September 9th at 10:30 a.m. Students should arrive by 10:10 a.m. If you would like to send in an item for the food pantry with your child, the children will be bringing these gifts up to the altar during Mass.

“PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN” SUMMER SESSIONS



Whether you're a current or future catechist or even just considering helping out sometime in the future in one of the many programs in our parish that involve children, please consider attending one of the following "Protecting God's Children" summer workshops:

- August 21 at 6 p.m. – St. Philip & St. James, Phillipsburg
- August 27 at 7 p.m. – Immaculate Conception, Annandale

Protecting God's Children® for Adults is training conducted by VIR-TUS® certified facilitators on the prevention of child sexual abuse.

The Diocese of Metuchen requires every adult who is ministering to children and teens to attend one of these programs. A link to register for one of the above workshops, as well as a complete listing of other sessions in the diocese, can be found on diometuchen.org and click on the "Sign up now for Virtus Sessions" link on the bottom of the home page. Some sessions book quickly, so please register early. Check the link often as sessions are continuously added.

Social Ministry



NEW CHANGE FOR CHANGE JARS

The Social Ministry has newly designed quart & pint size jars and coin bags for your change. ALL proceeds will go toward food and gift cards for our food pantry. If you did not get a new jar or bag and want one, please email socialministry@ccsjn.org and we will supply more!

Need a tax receipt for your change donation or just curious about the amount? Just write your name or your parishioner number (the number on your donation envelopes) on a piece of paper and add it to your change in your jar/bag and we will get you a receipt! Thank you for your continuous support in our effort to provide food in our community. God Bless, Social Ministry



BACK TO SCHOOL GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is blooming with tags for Back to School items and gift cards! Please take a tag or two after Mass and then return the donations to the collection bin under the tree. All items must be returned to the Narthex by Sunday, August 19th. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Altavilla at 908-832-2943 or kathya8@comcast.net



WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GATHERING

August 11th at 8 AM – Office Center

The next Women's Spirituality gathering will be Saturday, August 11th. Join us as we reflect on Sunday's Scripture, as we enjoy good company, coffee and conversation. Drop-ins are welcome! Group contact: Jo Ann Jarvis, jjarvis@ccsjn.org.

ARE WE OBSESSED WITH FOOD?

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about food. The two biggest sellers in any bookstore, according to Andy Rooney, are the cookbooks and the diet books. The cookbooks tell you how to prepare the food, and the diet books tell you how not to eat any of it. Orson Wells once said, "My doctor has advised me to give up those intimate little dinners for four, unless, of course, there are three other people eating with me." Champion archer Rick McKinney confesses that he regularly eats chocolate chip cookies for breakfast. He refers to "the basic four food groups" as a Big Mac, fries, a shake and a lemon tart. A California scientist has computed that the average human being eats 16 times his or her own weight in an average year, while a horse eats only eight times its weight. This all seems to prove that if you want to lose weight, you should eat like a horse. (*Sunshine Magazine*). That's a subject most of us know too much about. A recent survey found that 41% of men and 55% of women consider themselves overweight. In one way or another, many of us are obsessed with earthly food. Think what a difference it would make in our lives if we were equally obsessed with Heavenly Food, the Food that Christ gives us.

WHEN I'M HAPPY I ALWAYS SING 'JESUS LOVES ME!'

In one of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books there is a story told by a doctor. It is about a five-year-old girl named Mary who had suffered a stroke that left half of her body paralyzed. Even more tragically, she had been hospitalized for treatment of a brain tumor, and had recently lost her father and mother. She was being examined in an MRI machine. The imaging sequence at that time required the patient to remain perfectly still for about five minutes--a demanding task for a five-year-old. About two minutes into the first sequence, the doctor and the technician noticed on the video monitor that Mary's mouth was moving. They even heard a muted voice over the intercom. They halted the exam and gently reminded Mary not to talk. She smiled and promised not to talk. They repeated the sequence with the same result. Her lips were still moving. The technologist, a bit gruffly, said, "Mary, you were talking again, and that causes blurry pictures." Mary's smile remained as she replied, "I wasn't talking. I was singing. You said no talking." "What were you singing?" someone asked. "Jesus Loves Me," came the barely audible reply. "I always sing 'Jesus Loves Me' when I'm happy." Everyone in the room was speechless. "Happy? How could this little girl be happy?" The technologist and the doctor had to leave the room to regain their composure as tears began to fall. [James C Brown, MD: E-zine: *Chicken Soup for the Soul* <http://www.soupserver.com/>.] Mary was happy because she knew Jesus loved her. Today's Gospel tells us how Jesus promised to remain with us through the Heavenly Bread of the Holy Eucharist to demonstrate his love for us.

THE GREAT DEPRESSION BREAD-LINES!

In the depression years of the 1930's millions of Americans were out of work and many thousands were hungry. In a number of cities, religious groups set up bread-lines to feed the hungry. One of these was the Franciscan monastery in Cincinnati, Ohio. Every evening, the Friars, Brothers and lay volunteers prepared and gave a nourishing sandwich of bread and meat to hundreds of hungry men and women. It was interesting to note the reactions of the recipients. Many accepted the well-prepared and well-wrapped food with a smile and a thank you. Others, with heads hanging, snatched the food package and shuffled off. Some tore the bag at once and started eating as they hurried away. Most of them ate every last crumb after a silent prayer and put the wrapping into a nearby container, though some would eat only the meat and discard the bread on the roadside. A few discontented ones just opened the package and then threw the entire contents away in protest. The way those hungry unfortunates reacted to that little lunch is a lot like the way his listeners received the words of Jesus in today's Gospel.

SAVE THE DATES

These are some of the events running through the Fall Season:

Prayer Service for those affected by Opioid Crisis August 31
Tag Sale September 22
(If We Get a Leader)
Golf Outing September 15
Church Picnic September 23
Tricky Tray October 12
Tasting Event..... November 30

CHRISTMAS IS HERE

Well, not exactly!

We are starting a Decorating Committee who will oversee, schedule and make decisions for our **Annual Christmas Decorating Party**.

We would like to get some of our younger families involved. It may be time to look at changing some of our decorations for something new.

Christmas without decorations would be a disappointment to our parish families, especially to the children of the parish.

Please consider this ministry so we can be prepared for the coming season. Contact the Office 908-832-2513.



**ONLY 135 DAYS TO OUR
DECORATING PARTY!**

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

"The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron." (Exodus 16:2) Sometimes there are plenty of reasons to grumble in marriage - not enough money, something breaks, your spouse forgot to get gas... Let's call for a grumble free day; or at least if a grumble occurs to you, put it in the perspective of all the blessings of your life together.

PARENTING TUNE-UP

As older children continue their schooling this fall, it's tempting to want to pour all your protective wisdom into them, especially around issues of faith. As they age, however, "share your faith struggles, not just your certainty." (*Parenting Your Adult Child*) (Susan Vogt)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Clara Alvarez
 Linda Caprio
 Joan Cardierre
 Jean Crickenberger
 John D'Almeida
 Percy Davids
 Barbara DelPiano
 Sophia DeVita
 Dawn Farley
 Cindy Feighan
 Sandy Folger
 Debbie Gregorakis
 Stephanie Illetscho
 Father Luigi Hargen
 Liz Harmon
 Fred Holub
 Eleanor Horan
 Manuel Jimenez, Sr.
 Miriam Jiminian
 Eileen Kuhn
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Dick McCall
 Maggie McKeon
 Jan McLeavey
 Naim Melhem
 Christine Meyer
 George Morris
 Joan & Megan Myers
 Mary Lou O'Brien
 Nancy Patterson
 Nilsa Perez Parsons
 John Pfeufer
 Ali Redling
 Joel Rivera
 Earl & Denise Roberts
 Anne Sacco
 Noah Skinner
 Michael Slivka
 Dick Slusher
 Margaret Thornsbury
 Nicholas Troiano
 Don Velli
 Josh Wilkes
 Dana & Greg Wilson
 Caden & Jill Zane
 Jim Zgoda
 Joey Zieba

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Please remember in your prayers:

Captain Baumann, Katherine, U.S. Army
 Spec. Bitters, Christian, U.S. Army
 Cavallo, Chris, USMC
 2LT, Molly Ferguson, U.S. Air Force
 C1C, 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 Simila, Nicole, U.S. Navy
 Airman, Vardian, Justin, U.S. Air Force
 Ensign, Webster, Justine, U.S. Navy

SUNDAY REFLECTION: TRAGICALLY SAD MIN!

"Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you . . . " *John 6: 24-35*

Once there was a happy little boy who said to God one day, "O God, I want to live in a big house with a big porch, two Saint Bernards and a garden in the back. I want to marry a woman who is tall and very beautiful and kind, with long, black hair and blue eyes, and who plays the guitar and sings in a clear, high voice. I want three strong sons to play football with. When they grow up, one will be a great scientist, one will be a Senator and the youngest will quarterback the Packers. I want to sail vast oceans and climb the highest mountains. I want to drive a red Ferrari and never have to pick up after myself." God said, "That sounds like a nice dream. I want you to be happy."

But one day, the boy hurt his knee playing football. His dream of being an adventurer was over. So he studied marketing and started a medical supply company. He met a pretty woman at school, who was very warm and kind. She wasn't glamorous, she wasn't a musician, but she was a wonderful cook and a talented artist. Because of his work, they lived in the city in an apartment. A small balcony served as the big porch; all they had room for was a fluffy cat. They had three daughters (not sons); the loveliest of the three had to use a wheelchair. He made enough money for his family to live comfortably, but he didn't drive a red Ferrari - and with three daughters, he spent a lot of time picking things up.

Then, one morning, he woke up very sad. He confided to a friend his disappointment that his wife was not the beautiful, glamorous musician he had dreamed of. His friend tried to reassure him that his wife was kind and generous. *But the man wasn't listening.* He shared with his wife his disappointment with their apartment instead of the big house he dreamed of. She reminded him of the comfortable happy home and their three beautiful daughters. *But the man wasn't listening.* He went to see a therapist and went on about how he dreamed of being a great adventurer and driving a Ferrari and not have to pick up after himself. The therapist pointed out that the medical supplies and equipment he sold saved many lives. *But the man wasn't listening.* The therapist charged him \$200 and sent him home. He confessed to a priest that he had dreamed of having three strong sons. The priest said that he had been blessed with three beautiful, intelligent and gracious daughters. *But the man wasn't listening.*

He was so sad that he became very sick. Late one night, alone in his hospital room, the man said to God, "Remember when I was a boy and I told you what I wanted?" "It was a lovely dream," God said. "Why didn't you give me those things?" "I could have," God replied, "but I wanted to surprise you with things you didn't dream of. Your life is one of the best packages I've put together." "Yes," interrupted the man. But I thought you were going to give me what I wanted." "And I thought you were going to give me what I really wanted," God said. "To be happy with what I had given you." And that night the terribly, tragically sad man began to dream a new dream. And he became very happy.

As "the terribly, tragically sad man" discovers, a life of true joy and meaning is driven not by "perishable" material things and fleeting experiences but by the "nonperishable" values of God. Perhaps the most difficult challenge of our time is to accomplish the "work" of God while "working" to succeed in our careers, to make a place in our homes and hearts for the "bread" that is Christ amid the "fast food" being shoved at us from every direction. May God give us the wisdom to live lives grounded in the "food that endures" beyond the fleeting and the perishable, the "bread of heaven" that feeds and nurtures us for our own life's journey to the dwelling place of God.



URGENT !!! TAG SALE COORDINATORS NEEDED!

Seeking a few good men and women to coordinate this year's Tag Sale, scheduled for Saturday, September 21/22. We need a couple of organizers and several strong people to assist with lifting furniture and other items. Please contact the parish office at 908-832-2513 or Marlene Milko / Susan Kuhn at fundraising@ccsjn.org to see how you can help! (Past organizers will be available to help offer guidance.)

Parish News

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. 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.

MARK THIS DATE FOR OPIOID CRISIS RESPONSE!

While the government and non-government agencies are spreading greater awareness of prevention and solution of this crisis, the Catholic Church is offering healing opportunities for those impacted by it. Our parish will be hosting a special Prayer Service as an opportunity for spiritual comfort and support for all those affected by the opioid epidemic in our region. We will co-sponsor it with the Family Life office of the Diocese of Metuchen. Mark the date: Friday August 31, 7pm.



ST. JOHN GOLF OUTING

ATTN ALL ST. JOHN GOLFERS (MEN, WOMEN, & TEENAGERS)
Saturday, September 15, 8:00am to 2:00pm
Minebrook Golf Club, Hackettstown

Reserve the date on your calendar for our upcoming St. John's annual Golf Outing. We had a great turnout last year. **Hugh McKenna (one of our parishioners) of Johnson Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep** has once again offered the opportunity to win a brand new Jeep for the Hole-in-One prize. To Register: Please e-mail Bob Martalus at bob.martalus@gmail.com or call him at 908-439-3732.
 Registration Fee: \$125 per golfer Sponsor a Hole Fee: \$125 (includes a sign)



STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE!

Weekend of August 24th-26th

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
 Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
 Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down?
 Have you thought about separation or divorce?

Does talking about it only make it worse?

...Retrouvaille is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. To register call Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or email 3024@retrouvaille.org More information calling the Family Life Office at 732-243-4573.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



No fish there! One cold winter day, two guys decide to take up ice fishing. They find a nice spot and began to cut a hole in the ice. Then they hear a voice. "There's no fish there...". Puzzled, they begin to cut another hole a few feet away. Again, they hear the voice. "There's no fish there..." They are now confused, but still determined. About 10 feet away, they begin to cut another ice hole. "There's no fish there...", again they hear the voice. They immediately turn to the sky and say, "Is that you, God?" "NO! IT'S THE MANAGER OF THE ICE-SKATING RINK! THERE'S NO FISH THERE!"

One-liner smiles:

Prayer: Don't give God instructions -- just report for duty!
 My email password has been hacked. That's the 3rd time I've had to rename the cat.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

July 29, 2018

74 Donors Weekly.....\$4,582.00
 4 A/C / Lawn Maint.....\$43.00

July 30, 2017

74 Donors Weekly.....\$4,343.00
 2 Yellow Brick Road.....\$110.00
 4 A/C / Lawn Maint.....\$90.00

Automated Giving for July 2018

44 Donors Monthly.....\$8,270.75
 34 Yellow Brick Road.....\$1,775.00
 25 A/C / Lawn Maint.....\$730.00



STORE CARDS

Thanks to the families who purchased grocery and store cards the

Week of:

July 29, 2018, 16 Families purchased \$2,850.00 for a profit of \$140.75

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 or contact the parish office sjn@ccsjn.org / 908-832-2513.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., August 8 C. Behrens
 Wed., August 15 G. Battell

Store Cards

August 4 and August 5

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

August 11 and August 12

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

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Aug. 5 B. Sobey
 Week of Aug. 11 M. Proano

Church Center Cleaning

August 9 Team D
 August 16 Team E

Counting

August 6 Kucharski/McCabe
 August 13 Malone/Kosakowski

Altar Flowers

August 11 Heimall
 August 18 Sawczuk

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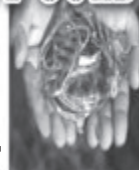
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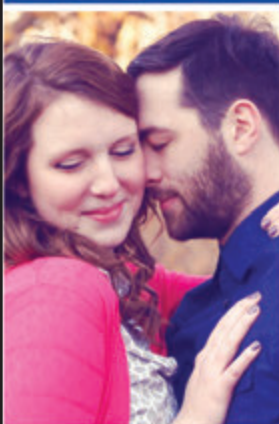
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