

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

September 30, 2018

Volume 36 Number 39



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

Email sjn@ccsjn.org

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Email abraham@ccsjn.org

Earl Roberts Deacon

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Religious Education 908-832-2162

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Social Ministry socialministry@ccsjn.org

Project Earth projectearth@ccsjn.org

Bulletin bulletin@ccsjn.org

Youth Ministry sjnygroup@gmail.com

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, October 2

8:00 a.m. Rose Felitti, req.
Lehnert Family

Friday, October 5

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, October 6

5:30 p.m. Diane Raymond, req.
Joann and Bob Gardner

Sunday, October 7

8:00 a.m. William Weimer, req.
Mike and Mary Mastro
10:30 a.m. Rich Sepe, req.
Claire and Gary Drzewiecki

First Friday Holy Hour



October 5 - 7:00 pm
Neumann Residence Chapel

Parish Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 30 - Twenty-Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time / Tricky Tray 1/2 Price Ticket Sales

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 p.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)
2:00 p.m. Auction Garden Dinner (Church Center & Garden)

Monday, October 1 - Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

6:30 p.m. Pastoral Council Retreat (Neumann Residence)

Tuesday, October 2 - The Holy Guardian Angels

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga (Narthex)

Wednesday, October 3 - Weekday

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (Drexel Room)
5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)
6:45 p.m. Tai Chi (Church Center Loft)

Thursday, October 4 - Saint Francis of Assisi

5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)

Friday, October 5 - Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest

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

Saturday, October 6 - Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin; BVM

5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

Mass Schedule - October 6/7

Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader Jim Murray
Altar Server Needed
Ministers of the Eucharist Debby Kelemen
..... Lyle Garcia, Donna Torczon

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader Chris Bitters
Altar Server Kucharski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist Jane Klawunn
..... Dorothy Sima, Joe Sima

Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader Gary Porto
Altar Server Alligood Family
Music Eucharistic Minister Shirley Pojedinec
Ministers of the Eucharist Mary D'Avella, Ana Giametta
..... Anthony DeStefano, Donna Lance, Patti Rittman

We Heartily Welcome Fr. Dan Sloan to St. John's!
Thank You for Celebrating the Weekend Masses!

Sunday, Oct. 7 - Twenty-Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time / Yellow Brick Road Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 p.m. Coffee Sponsored by Social Ministry (Narthex)

A PEARL OF WISDOM FOR THIS WEEK:

*Never Think Hard About The PAST, It Brings Tears...
Don't Think More About The FUTURE, It Brings Fear...
Live The PRESENT Moment With A Smile, It Brings Cheer.*

Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Catherine McVicker**, and **Max Fox**.

Deceased: Catherine McVicker, parishioner and **Max Fox**, friend of the Bauernfeinds. 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,

The Parish Picnic! What a wonderful time we all had last Sunday! Thanks be to our loving God who graciously held off the threatening clouds, giving us a great time to enjoy as our parish family. The cold water in the river did not deter even the kids from wading through knee-deep water for our traditional duck race. The celebration included a magic show for children (which had even adults mesmerized!), water balloon throw, 9-square game, hoola-hoop practices, corn hole throws, face painting, kids playhouse inflatable, live singing, and more. The food and drink, together with a variety of desserts we shared kept our appetite fully satisfied all the time. The dedicated selfless service of so many of our parishioners, many of them working quietly, made me all the more proud to be part of this great family of St. John Neumann. May this spirit inspire more families to join our parish family.

Mention of families makes me want to speak again about the abuse crisis that is very much present in most everyone's thoughts. Recently I read a great article titled: "Why do I raise my children in this broken, hurting church?" Expressing her sadness, frustration and anger at the horrific revelations of abuse and the prolonged cover-up, Kerry Weber, the author, wondered why she and her family still went to Church on Sundays. She said her answer came from an unexpected source. The priest who baptized her son two years ago had asked her and her husband to do an exercise in preparation for baptism: "Write a letter to your baby and tell him what you hope for him in the faith." She went back to that letter and read it and she got the answer as to why she still continues to be a committed Catholic. Then she commented: *"In a broken and hurting church, it is good to remember that the church as an institution is not why we are here or what we are here for. Yet we are responsible for it, and that means holding it accountable and working to make it more truly reflect the kingdom of God."*

It is in this spirit of holding the Church leaders accountable that we began the first step here at St. John's: setting aside some time, at the beginning of the monthly meeting of every ministry or committee in our parish, to have a conversation about this disturbing topic. This offers a forum for our people to share whatever feelings they have about the present painful and hurting situation in the church. I expanded it to have similar conversation during our Catechists meeting, and at both the GIFT sessions for parents. The participants felt that it was a very meaningful and helpful exercise.

The Parish Pastoral Council made a very practical suggestion in order to reach out to those who may not have got this chance: anyone can write his/her feelings, ideas and suggestions about this sad topic and either drop it in the suggestion box placed at the very entrance of the Church as you open the front door, or email it to me at abraham@ccsjn.org. These can be collectively sent to the Bishop. I hope many will use this opportunity to express what you feel. As I said, this is the first step. Being more aware of the rightful role of the laity is the next step without which accountability cannot even be asked for. That is the duty of every parishioner to educate oneself about the Church's own encouragement about lay participation and lay empowerment through our baptismal consecration as the People of God. Let us all take this journey together.

Your brother in Christ
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

THANK YOU TO OUR CLEANERS!

Each week we come to church, able to pray in a beautiful church in part due to over 25 people who clean the church on a rotating weekly schedule. Thank you to all our cleaners for your efforts and stewardship as you quietly serve as Jesus taught us to serve others.

To the rest of our community; If you like the idea of quietly serving the parish in this way please contact the office. We have six teams that allow each cleaner to serve once every six weeks. The tasks are vacuuming the worship space, vacuuming and washing the narthex floor, cleaning the bathrooms and cleaning the door windows. We also have people who clean the kitchen, and vacuum the upstairs lofts. We are in need of a few more people to join our teams. If you would like to join his service there are openings for bathrooms, narthex, and kitchen

Would you like to volunteer?
Call us today! We need you!

26TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

September 30, 2018

"Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward." **MARK 9:41**

Does your life reflect the life of Jesus? Remember, we were made in His image. We tend to forget this. When others see you, do they see the face of Jesus? When you look at others, do you see the face of Jesus in them?



CAN WE 'REJOICE AND BE GLAD'?

Pope Francis comes to our Small Groups

Come enjoy practical guidance from Pope Francis reflecting on his 'Rejoice and Be Glad' in these small group settings.

Five week session will begin week of Oct 1. Groups take place weekday mornings and evenings and Sunday morning. Call, text or email to sign up or for more info 908-307-7879, france-kennedy99@gmail.com



Need Donations Now!

If you have a donation leave it in the Seton Room and fill out a sheet. See suggestions on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Take the tag and return the item. We will wrap it up.

1/2 Price Tickets

On Sale after all Masses

This Weekend! Don't Miss Out!

Sign up in the Narthex if you can help out on the night of the event.

See you for all the fun at the
TRICKY TRAY

October 12th, 6:00 p.m.

- Something for everyone.
- Bring your family and friends.
- The kitchen will be open.
- Great Prizes Big and Small
- Door Prizes Too!

Christian Formation & Parish News

WELCOME BACK!

GIFT Family Faith Formation Program



Family Faith Formation has begun! Consider join us for the adult faith formation segment facilitated by our own Fr. Abraham. The next several months we will study Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, "Rejoice and Be Glad" **Next session is Sunday October 21, 12:25-1:45PM or Monday October 22, 6:30-7:45PM.** Contact **Renee Ciszewski** renee@ccsinj.org with any questions.

"PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN" UPCOMING 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" upcoming workshops: St. Phillip and James, Phillipsburg: 6 p.m., 10/24

Immaculate Conception, Annandale –
7 p.m., Class available: 11/8
7 p.m., Men Only Class on 10/24



Protecting God's Children® for Adults is training conducted by VIRTUS® 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.



CLASS MASS GRADE 7 AND 8

Thank you to all the seventh and eighth grade students who enthusiastically participated in the celebration of Mass on Saturday evening. It is wonderful to watch the students grow in faith as they become active members of the parish community.

Social Ministry

MORE UPDATES

Updates on other projects like "Christmas Angels" and "Christmas Cheer and Comfort" will be announced soon.

PARENTING TUNE-UP

The commandments tell us not to lie, steal, murder, or commit adultery. That's pretty clear. However, sins of greed, selfishness, or general meanness are not always as clear. What actions and attitudes create unhappiness in your family? Ask your kids.

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

"Whoever causes one of these little ones...to sin..." (Mark 9:42) Taking advantage of a child's innocence or failing to protect children from harm is a betrayal of trust. Use your voice as a Christian couple to speak truth to power whenever it is needed. Your vocation demands that you not sit silently by (Susan Vogt)

TAI CHI

We began a new six week series of Tai Chi on September 12th. Tai Chi is helpful in promoting health, relaxation, personal meditation, and breathing techniques. Space is limited; contact Bonnie Garcia at 908-975-3003 or bonniegarcia210@yahoo.com. There is a \$5 charge per session. Wednesdays through Oct. 17 at 6:45pm.

SOCIAL MINISTRY COFFEE

Please join us after mass on October 7, in our Social Ministry coffee and presentation. We will be there to inform you about the work the Social Ministry has done and is planning to do as well as to answer questions you might have. We are always looking for more people to join our Ministry! Don't have time for meetings or can't commit to a Ministry right now? No problem! Consider joining our new "SMiTT" group (Social Ministry Task Team). You will be joining an email and/or text distribution list where you can pick and choose from a list of task you would like to do. No recurring duties and commitment, just the task you pick to help with.

NJ RIGHT TO LIFE RAFFLE

Drawing on November 16, 2018

The prizes this year are:
1st Prize: 2019 Volvo XC40 AWD SUV valued at \$ 41,215
2nd Prize: \$ 1000 Shop Rite Gift Card
3rd Prize: \$ 750 Shop Rite Gift Card
4th Prize: \$ 500 Shop Rite Gift Card

Proceeds will benefit New Jersey Right to Life, the state's oldest and largest pro-life organization, dedicated to protecting all human life from conception to natural death. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses October 13 & 14.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Please join us on November 16th at 5:00 pm for packing up the food baskets for the families and individuals in need of food on Thanksgiving. We also need volunteers for delivery on November 17th at 8:00 am. If you are unable to volunteer, please consider donating items for the Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive. Thank you for your generosity and all your help!

ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS NOW!

If you give Gift cards for Holiday presents please pick up the list of Cards available in the Narthex along with a gift card order form. Fill out the form and return it with your payment in the envelopes supplied. Orders will be placed on **October 15th, November 5th and December 3rd** and will be ready for pick up 2 weeks after the order is placed.

2018 FALL BEREAVEMENT GROUP AT ST. JOHN'S

TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM OCTOBER 23 THROUGH NOVEMBER 27

There will be a series of non-denominational, interrelated bereavement seminars at St. John Neumann, Califon, NJ, beginning October 23rd. John Cole, a professional in the transitioning process, will facilitate the sessions. This short-term program has been considered very helpful by past participants who have experienced personal loss. The conversations extend from understanding loss and normal reactions to steps, guided by faith, towards acceptance and the recreation of hopeful lives. While a primary focus is the death of a significant other, those who have experienced severe loss because of divorce, separation, or other substantial life altering events are welcomed. All sessions start at 7 p.m. The dates of the seminars will be October 23 and 29, November 6, 13, 19, and 27.

Please note that each session builds on the prior one. Attendance at all six sessions would be best to derive optimal benefit. All sessions are in the upper floor of the parish office building, unless participant mobility issues arise.

Registration can be made with France Kennedy at the parish office by calling her at 908-832-2513 on or before October 17th. If anyone has any questions about the seminars or participation, please call John Cole directly at 908-399-4234. This series is open to individuals from all faiths and religious communities. If you are aware of anyone who may benefit from attendance, no matter their affiliation, please suggest he or she call France Kennedy or John.

CLEANING CLOSETS!

Do you like to organize and clean! We would love your help for a one-time quick service opportunity. We are periodically cleaning the closets in the church – one at a time. Let us know if you can help with one. Contact Sharon or France at the office 832-2513 or text 908-307-7879.

EXPERIENCING PARIS AS A CATHOLIC (AND A TEENAGE GIRL!)

(Ciara Regan is our parishioner who wrote this reflection after her Paris visit)

It's Sunday, my third full day in Paris. I'm five hours behind on time, trapped in the patterns of New Jersey but enamored by the city of lights, lights that are on all night. My mother's alarm goes off at eight. I hear her groan next to me in bed and the sheets rustle as she turns it off. Moments later, I feel her warm hands on my shoulder, shaking me from my sleep. I'm groggy and grumpy, but I am excited for what we are about to experience. We walk three blocks from our hotel in Montparnasse, a trendy area in the southern part of Paris. Just steps from our hotel is a beautiful church with stained glass windows and aged cobblestone. The mass times announcements outside are written completely in French, but I can understand, as I have studied the language for four years.

The church is breathtaking inside. Dark wood pews line the entire building, a building so big that I cannot see the altar clearly without my glasses on. Endless rows of candles line the sides, resting under stained glass masterpieces. An old organ groans a hymn from above. People file in slowly, typical chic and fit Parisians who have likely walked numerous blocks in their heels and dress shoes. Greetings are exchanged in complete French, a fact that does not go unnoticed by my mother.

The Mass begins, completely in French, as expected. We are tourists blending into the daily routine of the city. This activity is not booked, paid for, or part of a tour. It isn't commercial or a check on a bucket list. It isn't meant for us to take pictures to show our friends. Instead, it is meant to fill our spiritual side, and we are doing so alongside residents of this beautiful city where we are only visitors.

When the priest begins his homily, I gasp to myself when I can piece together his words and understand him. However, the greatest shock comes when we join hands to recite the *Our Father*. For those readers who do not know me, I attended an all girls Catholic high school, which meant we prayed before every class began. Even in French class, we put our hands together and recited a prayer, but always in French. It began with the simplest, the *Glory Be*. By sophomore year we were saying the *Hail Mary*, and once I was a senior, I could say the *Our Father*, sans cheat sheet. So, when we join hands, it is my time to put all those years of French to good use. Not only am I using the language in the country it was meant for, but I am practicing my faith in a different language, still speaking to God. My heart grows warm and I feel truly proud as I speak along with the room full of true French Catholics.

As the mass draws to a close, I smile and whisper "Au revoir, bon journee!" to the woman next to me, filled with new confidence in my own voice. Today, I saw a different side of Paris, a side that the majority of tourists don't get to see. Most people are too preoccupied to stop their trips and wander along side streets into a non-English friendly church on a Sunday morning, but my mother and my decision to do so gave me insight into true French lifestyle in the way of religion. I brought my faith with me across the Atlantic, and then home again.

PRAYER STATION WALL HANGING



Prayer plays such a powerful and essential role in our lives! We often pray alone, but also we pray with others or for others at various times. We go to God in prayer with concerns, intentions, and requests. At Saint John's, our Prayer Ministry contains 28 members who have pledged to respond to our requests and petitions. Recently, the Committee enhanced the official Prayer Station with a quilted wall hanging composed of nine fabrics in over 850 pieces. The hanging is a fabric representation based on a painting by an anonymous artist, and depicts Jesus assisting us in times of need. The group members selected the piece to aid and encourage us in our reflections. If you have any questions about prayer intentions, please pick up a flyer from the Prayer Station or email prayerministry@ccsjn.org. On entering the Worship Space from the Narthex, the Prayer Station is located on the left.

A NEW GROUP AT CCSJN

For parishioners 50 and above

Hello fellow parishioners! Want to look at something exciting we're beginning to explore? You are invited to be part of a new parish group at the church that would offer topical programs, trips, and having a lot of fun as you would see in senior clubs throughout the area! Please join us for a listening session after the 10:30 am Mass on October 14, 2018 to discuss activities and ideas on what this group would offer to our 50 and over crowd here at St. John's. Come on board! Mark your calendars for Oct 14th! We are just starting out and we can use your ideas to get us going!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Clara Alvarez
 Andrew Arias
 Miguel Astacio
 Fariba Brady
 Joan Cardierre
 Jean Crickenberger
 John D'Almeida
 Percy Davids
 Barbara DelPiano
 Sophia DeVita
 Anthony DeVito
 Dawn Farley
 Cindy Feighan
 Debbie Gregorakis
 Father Luigi Hargen
 Liz Harmon
 Fred Holub
 Eleanor Horan
 Stephanie Illetscho
 Manuel Jimenez, Sr.
 Manuel Jimenez, Jr.
 Miriam Jiminian
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Dick McCall
 Maggie McKeon
 Jan McLeavey
 Naim Melhem
 Christine Meyer
 Joan & Megan Myers
 Mary Lou O'Brien
 Nancy Patterson
 Nilsa Perez Parsons
 John Pfeufer
 Joe Romanger
 Ali Redling
 Joel Rivera
 Earl & Denise Roberts
 Joe Romanger
 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
 Ensing, Webster, Justine, U.S. Navy

SUNDAY REFLECTION: It's Downhill from First Grade, Kid...

"If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off."

Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48

In a recent episode of the daily comic strip 'For Better or For Worse' by Lynn Johnston [October 14, 2017], six-year-old Lizzy has had a bad day at school and she confides to her father: *"Daddy - why don't some kids get along with other kids? Sometimes, when you think someone's your friend, they're really not. Some kids do mean things for no reason. Kids fight over dumb stuff. They pick on each other. They don't share - an' they say things about other kids that aren't true. "I can't wait till I'm grown up . . . grown-ups don't do things like that to each other."*

Lizzy turns to walk away, leaving her dad with a stunned, sad expression on his face that says, *Oh, Lizzy, if you only knew . . .*

Jesus challenges all of us adults to consider the values and faith we are modeling for our "little ones": what our public policies, our social and cultural institutions, our political and religious rhetoric reveal about the world we are building that we are handing on to them. The great responsibility of our baptisms is to show our children the purpose that our faith gives to our lives, to help those alienated from God re-connect with their sacred, to reveal the love and mercy of God to those who do not know God. To teach with conviction without judgment, to guide by example rather than by dogma, to inspire by generosity instead of sermons is to transform our world one generation at a time, to establish the reign of God one stone upon another.

DID YOU SIGN UP TO JOIN SMALL GROUPS?

Small groups, in fact, are where much of the theology taught in our pulpits begins to be fleshed out in conversation and action. The implications of the Biblical passages come alive when we hear how each member of the group shares his/her story of struggling to make sense of God's will in their own lives. The sharing of struggles and challenges, joys and triumphs provide a great mutual spiritual support.

Small faith-sharing groups also meet a very practical and human need: the need to belong. We are communal creatures: we were made by a community of love called the Trinity and because community is our origin, we'll always find life and direction within a community better than we will on our own. That means small groups deliver deeper friendships that double as accountability. When people know you, really know you, your life becomes far more transparent, including your shortcomings and imperfections. Others learn to read you and will call you out for those areas you wish to improve, creating opportunities to deal with real life difficulties as they surface. This is part of what we should expect from good friends.

So, why not sign up if you have never tried this small group experience?



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



You Know You Are Out of College When:

- Your potted plants stay alive.
- Sleeping in a twin-sized bed seems absurd.
- You have to pay your own credit card bill.
- Mac & Cheese no longer counts as a well-balanced meal.
- "Extended childhood" only really pertains to your salary which is a little less than your allowance used to be.
- "Twenty-something" means over-qualified, under-paid and not married.
- Jeans, flannels and baseball caps aren't staples in your wardrobe.
- You go from 130 days of vacation time to 14.
- You stop confusing 401k plan with 10K run.
- You go to parties that police don't raid.
- You don't know what time Wendy's closes anymore.
- Your car insurance goes down.
- You refer to college students as kids.
- You feed your dog science diet instead of taco bell.
- Half your conversations with current college students start with, "When I was in college..."



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"

DID JESUS MEAN THAT WE SELF-MUTILATE!?!?

Our hands become instruments of sin according to what we touch and how we touch, in lust or greed or violence. Our feet are used for sin according to the places we have them take us. Our eyes become doorways for sins according to what we choose to look at or refuse to look at. However, it is important to understand that, in today's Gospel passage (Mark 9:45-48) When Jesus mentions about "plucking out an eye or cutting off a hand," He is not speaking literally. We have more sins than we have bodily parts. Besides, even if all offending parts were removed, our hearts and minds -- the source of all sins-- would still be intact. Hence, these sayings are actually about our attitudes, dispositions, and inclinations. Jesus is inviting us to integrate our bodies into our following of Christ, so that our hands become instruments of compassion, healing and comfort, our feet help us to bring the Gospel to the world, and our eyes learn to see the truth, goodness and beauty all around us.

By these startling words about self-mutilation, Jesus also means that we must cut out of our lives all practices that keep us away from God, and retain only those habits that draw us closer to God. Jesus is setting before all his disciples the one supreme goal in life that is worth any sacrifice. That goal is God Himself and His will for our lives, which alone leads us to everlasting peace and happiness. Just as a doctor might remove a limb or some part of the body in order to preserve the life of the whole body, so we must be ready to part with anything which causes us to sin and which leads us or others to spiritual death. Billy Graham has a fantastic way of summing up this Gospel message by concluding his Crusades with a final challenge: "Decide! Cut away anything that prevents you from a radical decision for Jesus Christ! Decide for Christ!"

DUCK RACE - SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Bob Sobey was the big winner of the Duck Race, having the first lucky ducky to reach the finish line. The Duck Trophy will be inscribed to commemorate this, and Bob gets to keep the trophy for the next year. The top 10 are:

Place	Duck No.	Winners	Place	Duck No.	Winners
1	97 (Pink)	Bob Sobey	2	11 (Pink)	Helen Quigley
3	233	Caprio	4	66 (Pink)	Fabiano
5	572	Fred Heimall	6	85 (Pink)	Kelemen
7	542	Sorgi	8	741	Milko
9	32 (Yellow)	Sabrina Mickley	10	---	Not Sold

The top finishers each get their own duck hat. Bob Sobey also gets to keep a large inflatable duck. The Duck Race couldn't have happened without so many who helped make it possible. Thank You to everyone who bought ducks to help cover the picnic cost.

Thank You to Wayne Infusino, Mike D'Avella for clearing the trails, Carolyn and Alan Pepperman, Kathleen Swindler, Jim Murray, Gary Caprio, Zack and Janice Lowary and Jane Klawunn for selling ducks, Fred Heimall, Shaun Heimall, Fred Schimanski, Steve Leyden, Chip Mullen and Fred Mattrey taking care of the net set up and take down, determining the winners and collecting. Also to Chip Mullen, Steve Leyden, and Anthony Leyden for launching the ducks, wading behind and collecting stragglers, Kyle Kelemen, Liz Mattrey and Susan Kuhn for collecting ducks and watching the safety of children in the river, Elizabeth Keleman for recording numbers, Declan Anderson, Megan Anderson, Katelin Anderson, Alex Kuhn, Emilia Kuhn, Tristan Schimanski, Chloe Timko, Zoe Timko, Connor Timko, Nadia Bernard, Sean Bernard, Willow Dobson, Caleb Kelemen, Sophia Kelemen and Lily Mattrey for retrieving ducks, Jane Klawunn for listing the finishers & Evan Schimanski for helping record the names of volunteers and distributing door prizes.



THE ST. JOHN'S PHOTO DIRECTORY IS COMING!

Hello family/friends. You're invited to be a part of our new photo directory. Our last directory was printed in 2014. As you look around you today, you will see that we have new families, there have been weddings, and babies, and kids who are young adults now. We're changing, and a new photo directory will help us capture these changes. Sign up in the Narthex after Mass or go to our website and click on the photo directory link to schedule an appointment.

Take a look at all the details, including how to sign up, in today's bulletin. Our directory won't be complete without you! Sign up today."



CONGRATULATIONS KAI JOHN ELIZONDO!

St. John Neumann parish joyfully celebrated the baptism of Kai John Elizondo on Sunday Sept 16. Parents, Kristen and Eddy Elizondo and grandparents, Jane and Tom Klawunn, friends and fellow parishioners were happily witnessed the event

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 23, 2018

87 Donors Weekly.....\$4,552.00
6 Kerala Flood.....581.00

September 24, 2017

71 Donors Weekly.....\$3,364.00
7 Yellow Brick Road.....\$20.00
10 Assumption.....\$208.00

Automated Giving

42 Donors.....\$7,270.75
35 Yellow Brick Road.....\$1,875.00
17 Peter's Pence.....\$275.00



STORE CARDS

Aqui cards are available as Gift Certificates with a 10% return to St. John's:

Thanks to the families who purchased grocery and store cards the Week of **September 9, 2018, 19** Families purchased **\$2,800** for a profit of **\$155.00**

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., Oct. 10 J. Santoro
Wed., Oct. 17 C. Behrens

Store Cards

September 29 and September 30

5:30 p.m. L. Livoti
8:00 a.m. P. Nanna
10:30 a.m. G. Cucchiara

October 6 and October 7

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

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Sept. 30 C. Fortenbacker
Week of Oct. 7 M. Proano

Church Center Cleaning

October 4 Team F
October 11 Team A

Counting

Oct. 1 Kucharski / McCabe
Oct. 9 Malone / Bauernfeind

Altar Flowers

October 6 Klacik
October 13 Connolly

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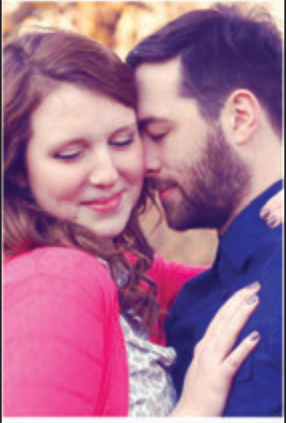
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