

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

October 7, 2018

Volume 36 Number 40



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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This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, October 9

8:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Friday, October 12

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, October 13

5:30 p.m. Margaret Loughran, req.
Kenna and Ed Doerr

Sunday, October 14

8:00 a.m. Linnea Janks, req.
Sharon and Alan Janks

10:30 a.m. Carmen Ruschetta, req.
St. John Neumann Church

SAVE THE DATES

Tricky Tray Oct. 12
50 Plus Club Oct. 14
Tasting Event..... Nov. 30

Mass Schedule - October 13/14

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader	David Geerinck
Altar Server	Geerinck/Torczon Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Donna Torczon
.....	Lyle Garcia, Jim Oelkers
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader	Allan Piechowski
Altar Server	Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Barbara Gates
.....	Diane Lehnert, Maritza Perez Proano
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Abraham Orapankal
Reader	Paul Gagen
Altar Server	Connery Family
Music Eucharistic Minister	Donna Lance
Ministers of the Eucharist	Mary D'Avella, Shirley Pojedinec
.....	Ron Pojedinec, Jim DeVito, 1 Needed



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

I. John Alexander Lacy & Bethany Mary Warn

Parish Calendar

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

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Small Group (Seton Room)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 p.m. Coffee Sponsored by Social Ministry (Narthex)

Monday, October 8 - Columbus Day / Office Closed

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Office and Church Center Kitchens)
7:00 p.m. Small Group (Drexel Room)

Tuesday, October 9 - Saint Denis, Bishop and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga (Narthex)
11:30 a.m. Small Group (Narthex)
7:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)
7:00 p.m. Small Group (Neumann Residence Chapel)

Wednesday, October 10 - Weekday

10:30 a.m. Small Group (Narthex)
5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)
6:45 p.m. Tai Chi (Church Center Loft)
7:00 p.m. Social Ministry Meeting (Seton Room)
7:00 p.m. Small Group (Upper Room)
7:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting (Reception Area)

Thursday, October 11 - Saint John XXIII, Pope

3:30 p.m. 50 Plus Planning Meeting (Reception Area)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Small Group (Upper Room)

Friday, October 12 - Tricky Tray

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
6:00 p.m. Tricky Tray (Church Center)

Saturday, October 13 - Weekday

8:00 a.m. Women's Spirituality Coffee (Drexel Room)
9:30 a.m. Prayer Ministry Brunch (Neumann Residence)
3:30 p.m. 1st Reconciliation - Session #1 (Church Center)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

Sunday, Oct. 14 - Twenty-Eighth Sunday Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Small Group (Seton Room)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)
11:30 p.m. 50 Plus Listening Session (Church Center)

A PEARL OF WISDOM FOR THIS WEEK:

*Every Test in Our Life Makes Us Bitter Or Better;
Every Problem Comes To Make Us Or Break Us;
The Choice is Ours Whether We Become Victims Or Victorious.*



Remembered at Mass

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

Deceased: 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,

October is 'Respect Life Month.' The Catholic Church is rock solid in its pro-Life doctrine which is consistent with the gospel mandate to respect every human being – both born and unborn. Bishops, priests and deacons have been preaching vigorously from the pulpit about the sanctity of life and the evil of abortion while so many good Catholics have been witnessing to and promoting the same truth. Every Pope has spoken out clearly in defense of the unborn, including Pope Francis who has repeatedly proclaimed: *"Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world's rejection."*

And yet, why do some not appreciate the Pro-Life movement? Why do some Catholics seem to ignore the Pro-Life issues that are so central to Catholic faith? The answer, as pointed out by Pope Francis, is found in the mistake of limiting the pro-Life movement to just one issue of abortion, relegating or even ignoring other life issues. Pope Francis continues to proclaim the consistent teaching of the church that a *"pro-life stance cannot be only concerned with life before birth."* Here are some of his sayings:

"Our defense of the innocent unborn...needs to be clear, firm and passionate. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged."

"Unfortunately, what is thrown away is not only food and dispensable objects, but often human beings themselves, who are discarded as 'unnecessary.' For example, it is frightful even to think there are children, victims of abortion, who will never see the light of day; children being used as soldiers, abused and killed in armed conflicts; and children being bought and sold in that terrible form of modern slavery which is human trafficking, which is a crime against humanity."

"And every elderly person...even if he is ill or at the end of his days, bears the face of Christ. They cannot be discarded, as the 'culture of waste' suggests!"

"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

On the one hand the Pope praised those who supported a young woman who had the courage to carry her baby to term and not have an abortion; on the other hand, he challenged the Church to expand their horizons of pro-life when he cited this example of an unmarried woman who sought baptism for her baby, *"what does she find? A closed door. And this happens to a lot of people. This is not good pastoral zeal. This pushes people away from the Lord."*

So how do we keep October as the Respect Life month? By going beyond the narrow vision of promoting life, by listening to our Pope who strongly opposes abortion, but has also elevated what he calls an *"economy of exclusion and inequality"* that *"kills,"* the death penalty, care for the elderly, the treatment of immigrants, etc as central pro-life concerns. Yes, we are a truly pro-life Catholic Community.

Your brother in Christ

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

A NEW GROUP AT CCSJN - 50 PLUS CLUB

For parishioners 50 and above - Listening Session Oct 14 at 11:45

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!



ACQUIRE THE FIRE



Acquire the Fire is the combined young adult group of Our Lady of Lourdes and St John Neumann open to 20-39 year olds that are single or married. Our mission is to create a community of young adults that are growing in their faith together, connecting with other young adult professionals, and giving back to the community around us. We are conducting a survey to gauge interest in this group, please complete the survey at <https://bit.ly/2DmM3ch> For more information, contact Susan at acquirethefire@ollwhs.org.

27TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

October 7, 2018

"So out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name." (GENESIS 2:19)

The creation story reminds us of two important points. First, since the start, God has put the entire world into our care. Second, stewardship has been around since the beginning of mankind, it isn't something recently invented by the Church. Just as past generations built our Church, it is now our responsibility to continue to nurture and develop these gifts for future generations.

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.

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@ccsjn.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 & Parish News

SJN THANKSGIVING DINNER



What do you think?

Social Ministry is considering preparing and serving a Thanksgiving Dinner here for those who may be alone or in need on Thanksgiving Day. If you think you may be interested in being involved contact socialministry@ccsjn.org.

MORE UPDATES

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

PARENTING TUNE-UP

During this Respect Life Month pick the life issue that you feel most strongly about (preventing abortion, supporting new mothers, helping those whose lives are mired in poverty, caring for the frail elderly, working for gun control, eliminating the death penalty, bullying...) Tell your child why this is important to you.

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

"It is not good for the man to be alone." (Genesis 2:18) Indeed, it is not good for anyone to be alone. In marriage you are blessed to have chosen a helpmate to share your spiritual journey toward home. Make some time to be alone together today. (Susan Vogt)

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!

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.

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.

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.

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.

12 RULES FOR A HAPPY MARRIAGE!

Recently I came across the following 12 rules for a happy marriage that had been given by the well-known Ann Landers in her weekly article. Although to my knowledge, Mrs. Landers has never obeyed the Gospel of Christ, I believe she set forth twelve practical suggestions that will promote a happier home environment. These twelve rules are actually Biblical; I have included Scripture references for each rule:

1. Never both be angry at once (Proverbs 19:11)
2. Never yell at each other unless the house is on fire (Proverbs 21:23)
3. Yield to the wishes of the other as an exercise in self-discipline, if you can't think of a better reason (Col. 3:18-19; Ephesians 5:21)
4. If you have a choice between making yourself or your spouse look good--choose your spouse (Philippians 2:3-4; Matthew 19:19)
5. If you feel you must criticize, do so lovingly (Ephesians 4:15)
6. Never bring up a mistake of the past (Philippians 3:13-14)
7. Neglect the whole world rather than each other (Ephesians 5:25-31)
8. Never let the day end without saying at least one complimentary thing to your life partner (Proverbs 31:26)
9. Never meet without an affectionate greeting (Proverbs 5:18-19)
10. When you make a mistake, talk it out and ask for forgiveness (James 5:16)
11. Remember, it takes two to make an argument. The one who is wrong is the one who will be doing most of the talking (James 3:5-8)
12. Never go to bed mad (Ecclesiastes 7:9; Colossians 3:8).

STABILITY IN MARRIAGE

Of course, it is not always easy for the two partners in a marriage to get along with each other because marriage, though one of the most fulfilling of all relationships, is also one of the most demanding. The husband and wife bring to the marriage their strengths and weaknesses, loves and hates, hurts and wounds, hopes and fears. Hence, the first requisite for a lasting marriage is that the spouses learn to accept each other as they are: two imperfect and vulnerable human beings. They are God's gift to each other: "I will make a suitable partner for him." They must learn that healing the wounds of family life is as necessary as healing the wounds in the body. In *Familiaris Consortio* (n. 17), Pope St. John Paul II encourages families with the following plea: "Family, become what you are!" This echoes the Second Vatican Council, which calls the family, "the intimate community of life and love in which the partners are nourished spiritually and physically, accept one another as they are, and adjust to each other, deriving strength through prayer, the Word of God, the Sacrament, plus guidance and counseling..." When the marriage relationship breaks down and reconciliation is not possible, the Church recognizes the right of the couple to separate and live apart permanently. If divorced Catholics then enter into a civil marriage, they are allowed to receive Eucharistic Communion only if they refrain from sexual relations.

SMALL GROUPS

The Small Groups started this week. You still can join the remaining 4 weeks. Contact France if you are interested. We have meetings Monday thru Thursday evenings and morning groups on Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday. Come enjoy practical guidance of Pope Francis in a small group. Call, text or email 908-307-7879, francekennedy99@gmail.com



50 YEAR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
Congratulations to
Pete and Mary Cangelosi
on their
50th Wedding Anniversary.
May God bless them as they continue to
celebrate their lives together.



LOST AND FOUND

We have lots of items hanging around the church, prescription glasses, jackets, hoodies, dishes of all styles, please take a look on the table in the church kitchen to see if you own anything. Last call, these items will be donated.

TRICKY TRAY

Need Donations Now!

If you have a donation please leave it in the Seton Room by noon this Monday, the 8th and fill out a sheet.

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

We need help moving everything from the upstairs down into the Church this Wednesday the 10th at 4pm.

**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!

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 Hargis
 Liz Harmon
 Fred Holub
 Stephanie Illtscho
 Manuel Jimenez, Sr.
 Manuel Jimenez, Jr.
 Miriam Jiminian
 Michael Kucharski
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Dick McCall
 Maggie McKeon
 Jan McLeavey
 Naim Melhem
 Christine Meyer
 Joan & Megan Myers
 Nancy Patterson
 Nilsa Perez Parsons
 John Pfeufer
 Ali Redling
 Earl & Denise Roberts
 Joe Romanger
 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, Michael Tyler D'Avella, U.S. Air Force
 SSO, Andrew Fabiano, U.S. Navy Reserve
 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: The Heart That Fixes and Mends

"Because of the hardness of your hearts, [Moses] wrote this commandment . . . [T]hey are no longer two but one flesh." " . . . Whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it."
Mark 10: 2-16

An adult - now a spouse and parent himself - remembers his mom and dad: "I grew up in the '50s with very practical parents. A mother, God love her, who washed aluminum foil after she cooked in it, then reused it. She was the original recycle queen, before they had a name for it. My father was happier getting old shoes fixed than buying new ones. Their marriage was good, their dreams focused. Their best friends lived barely a wave away. I can see them now: Dad in trousers, tee shirt and a hat, with screwdrivers and wrenches going from one project to the next; and Mom in a house dress, a dish towel or some cooking utensil always in her hand. "It was the time for fixing things. A curtain rod, the kitchen radio, the screen door, the oven door, the hem of a dress. Things we keep. It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that re-fixing, re-heating, renewing, I wanted just once to be wasteful. Waste meant affluence. Throwing things away meant you knew there'd always be more.

"But then my mother died, and on that clear summer's night, in the warmth of the hospital room, I was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any more. Sometimes, what we care about most gets all used up and goes away . . . never to return. So, while we have it . . . it's best we love it . . . and care for it . . . and fix it when it's broken . . . and heal it when it's sick. "This is true for marriage . . . and old cars . . . and children with bad report cards . . . and dogs with bad hips . . . and aging parents . . . and grandparents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we are worth it."

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of marriage as the joining of two hearts into one by God, a single heart that loves, that lifts up, that mends other broken hearts - including, when necessary, each other's. That is the mystery and wonder of the marriage covenant. A couple's life together and their generous response to the vocation of parenthood model the unfathomable and profound love of God. Marriage demands not perfection but commitment; it requires the hard work of patience, understanding and humility; despite disappointment and failed expectations, marriage centered in the love of God always moves beyond "hardness of heart" to embrace a spirit of generosity and selflessness. In the life a couple creates together, Christ is the ever-present Wedding Guest, who makes a couple's simple, everyday life together a miraculous sacrament in which the love of God is revealed to all.

YOU CAN STILL JOIN SMALL GROUPS

As you know, Small group sharing has just begun. Aren't you curious why so many of our parishioners are in small groups? Don't you want to know what motivates them to commit six weeks in this busy Fall season to gather in small groups? Have you ever wished you were more connected to our parish community? Do you long for ways to connect your faith with your life, especially when faced with so many challenges in your personal and family life?

The answer to all these is Small faith communities because these provide an opportunity for parishioners to get to know one another better in a unique, comfortable, and casual setting; these help participants deepen their faith and integrate it more fully into their work and relationships. Sharing life stories with each other gives concrete examples of God's grace in our lives. **So, why not try this small group experience? Call France 908-307-7879 to give it a try!**



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



- "My husband and I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God and I didn't."
- I never married because there was no need. I have 3 pets at home which answer the same purpose as a husband: I have a dog that growls every morning, a parrot which swears all afternoon and a cat that comes home late at night.
- "The secret of my success in my married life and in my business is the same", said, Henry Ford on the 50th anniversary of his wedding, "I don't change models every now and then; instead I stick on to one and try to improve it."
- A man tells his wife of 15 years that it feels like they've only been married for 5 minutes, the wife says that's so sweet, and he says yeah 5 minutes under water.

THE ST. JOHN'S PHOTO DIRECTORY IS COMING!



How many of you have signed up for our upcoming photography event? We need ALL of you to sign up to make our directory complete. The directory is a great resource tool to help us connect names with faces! Our directory will showcase your family portrait and have contact information in it. Plus, it will preserve this moment in time. Take a look at all the details in our bulletin. Don't forget. Sign up today



WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GATHERING

October 13th at 8 AM – Office Center

The Women's Spirituality group will gather next Saturday, October 13th. Join us as we reflect on Sunday's Scripture, while we enjoy good company, coffee and conversation. Drop-ins are welcome and encouraged! Group contact: Jo Ann Jarvis, jjarvis@ccsjn.org.

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP 2019

It is time to register for CHWC next summer. We are going to Dover, Delaware from June 23-28. You must be currently in 8th grade through Senior year to attend. If you are interested, please contact Mary Connolly at mandmconnolly@gmail.com or 908-930-0784. The reserved spots tend to fill quickly so if you think you'd like to join us it is better to get on the list soon. Adult chaperones are also needed!

For more information about CHWC, check out their website at www.heartworkcamp.com.

CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE MASS

Bishop Checchio will offer Mass for all those engaged in farming and other agricultural related businesses on **Sunday, October 14, 2018** at 12:30pm at Saint Ann Parish (32 Main St., Hampton). Families and individuals who are involved in all aspects of agricultural production and services, such as tree farmers and nursery, horticulture, landscapers and lawn care service providers and home or community gardeners and bee keepers, are invited to attend. Fellowship and light refreshments to follow Mass. So that we may plan properly, kindly register by October 2, 2018 at (908) 537-2221. For questions, contact Rev. Michael C. Saharic, Coordinator of the Diocese of Metuchen's Catholic Rural Life Ministry, at (732) 765-6435 or msaharic@diometuchen.org.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES: 9/17/2018

After the Lectio Divina Opening Prayer, we reflected on our Annual Parish Goal. We decided to retain the present goal for this year with the understanding that the practical ways for fulfilling it must be reviewed periodically by the members who were also asked to refer to the priest those away from the Church or those inactive Catholics for a personal meeting. Then the following matters were attended to:

Planned the details of the Pastoral Council Retreat for present and past members to be held on Monday October 1st.

Reviewed the Prayer Service held for the Opioid Overdose Awareness

Spent some time in conversation about clergy abuse:

The laity need a forum to express their anger, sadness and frustration.

Folks seem very upset with the Bishops and church leadership who lost much credibility as there is no transparency.

Bishops should be forthcoming voluntarily about all the details before being forced by the State Attorney.

Ask our parishioners to write down their feelings/suggestions on this topic and put it in our Suggestion Box, to be given to our Bishop.

Shared news about the upcoming Parish Directory and the online sign up.

Decided that the members should promote the October Small faith group sharing on "Rejoice & Be Glad" of Pope Francis. Invite others especially some of the inactive Catholics to these sessions.

Announcing October 15 as the next meeting date, this meeting concluded with a short prayer.



DO YOU LIKE TO ORGANIZE?

Do you like to organize and clean! We are 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.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 30, 2018

73 Donors Weekly\$3,264.73
2 Yellow Brick Road\$60.00

October 1, 2017

71 Donors Weekly\$4,377.00
44 Yellow Brick Road\$1,388.00

Automated Giving September

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 23, 2018, 23** Families purchased **\$3,200** for a profit of **\$166.25**.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., Oct. 10 J. Santoro

Wed., Oct. 17 C. Behrens

Store Cards

October 6 and October 7

5:30 p.m. E. McCabe

8:00 a.m. R. Durham

10:30 a.m. J. Varcadipane

October 13 and October 14

5:30 p.m. J. Gardner

8:00 a.m. V. Hoffart

10:30 a.m. D. Hunt

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Oct. 7 M. Proano

Week of Oct. 14 C. Fortenbacker

Church Center Cleaning

October 11 Team A

October 18 Team B

Counting

Oct. 9 Tues. Malone / Bauernfeind

Oct. 15 Kucharski / Kosakowski

Altar Flowers

October 13 Connolly

October 20 Mullen

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24 HOUR SERVICE Parishioner

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