

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

December 23, 2018

Volume 36 Number 51



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. Maurice Carlton.....
..... Temporary Administrator
Rev. J. Wm. Mickiewicz.....
..... Pastor Emeritus
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 / Email... 908-832-7618 / sjn@ccsjn.org

Rev. Abraham OrapankalPastor

Email.....abraham@ccsjn.org

Sharon JanksPastoral Administrator

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France Kennedy Pastoral Associate

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Wayne Infusino Maintenance

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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

Monday, December 24

- 4:30 p.m. John McCabe, req.
Eileen McCabe - and
Leonard & Josephine Handy
req. Gardner Family
- 7:30 p.m. Joseph & Lucy Pojedinec,
Joseph & Ann Kalafut, req.
Pojedinec Family and
Linnea Janks, req.
Sharron & Alan Janks

Tuesday, December 25

- 10:30 a.m. Dorothy & Mary Byrne and
Gordon & Sollesx Families
req. Brisson Family

Saturday, December 29

- 5:30 p.m. Rosemary McCoy, req.
St. John Neumann

Sunday, December 30

- 8:00 a.m. William McAdams, req.
Marion & Kay Dabrowski
- 10:30 a.m. Patrick J. Irwin, req.,
Tim Barrow

COME ENJOY THE BELLS!



The Bells will be played at
the 7:30 p.m. Mass on
Christmas Eve.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, December 23 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve / Office Closes 12

- 4:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

Tuesday, December 25 - Nativity of the Lord / Office Closed

- 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)

Wednesday, December 26 - Saint Stephen, The first Martyr

Office Closed

Thursday, Dec. 27 - Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

Office Closed

- 10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Church Kitchens)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

Friday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Office Closed

Mass Schedule - December 24/25/29/30

Monday	Christmas Eve	4:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Bill Mickiewicz	
Reader	Anthony DeStefano	
Altar Server	Patterson Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist	Joan Eacovalle, Mary Connolly	
		6 Needed
Monday	Christmas Eve	7:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Msgr. John Fell	
Reader	Mary Sorgi	
Altar Server	Klacik Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist	Gloria Cucciara, Sharon Janks	
		4 Needed
Tuesday	Christmas Day	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Bill Mickiewicz	
Reader	Mike D'Avella	
Altar Server	Needed	
Music Eucharistic Minister	1 Needed	
Ministers of the Eucharist	Phyllis Baker, Debby Kelemen	
	Diane Lehnert, Gail Battell, Barbara Gates	
Saturday		5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Msgr. John Fell	
Reader	David Geerinck	
Altar Server	Geerinck/Torczon Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist	Donna Torczon	
	Jim Oelkers, Joan Eacovalle	
Sunday		8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Msgr. John Fell	
Reader	Chris Bitters	
Altar Server	Kennedy Family	
Ministers of the Eucharist	Debby Kelemen	
	Barbara Gates, Diane Lehnert	
Sunday		10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Msgr. John Fell	
Reader	Paul Gagen	
Altar Server	Bush Family	
Music Eucharistic Minister	Shirley Pojedinec	
Ministers of the Eucharist	Ron Pojedinec, Donna Lance	
	Jane Albert, Bob Sobey, Sheena Carew	

Saturday, December 29 - Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Maryr

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

Sunday, December 30 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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

Remembered at Mass



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Patricia Gade, Michael Sot, Jack Burns, Margaret Portelo and Lynn Jeffreys.**

Deceased: Patricia Gade, aunt of Kay Dabrowski, Jack Burns, brother of Nancy DuBeau, Margaret Portelo, sister of Joe Sima, and Lynn Jeffreys, grandmother of Meredith Hungarter. 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.

“Once in a while you can get shown the light, In the strangest of places if you look at it right.” - Scarlett Begonias, Robert Hunter and Jerry Garcia

Advent. Expectations abound. We wait...

Maybe we were expecting the Messiah to be a king riding on a great stallion, leading hordes of soldiers against our enemies who would never rise again. Eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth. Maybe we were expecting a leader who would ensure that life would go smoothly for believers forever more and that non-believers would be left behind. Maybe we expected that our prayers would be answered in terms that were clear and precise and fair...according to our definitions of fairness...

But the Messiah came as an infant...in a manger...in the humblest of conditions. He grew into a man who taught us that there were two fundamental commandments: That we must love God above all else and that we must love our neighbors as ourselves. He talked of forgiving our enemies and those who trespass against us...the messianic message that in 2000 years we still struggle to incorporate into our lives...simply, love your neighbor as yourself. This is the Messiah? We did not expect this.

Once in a while you can get shown the light, in the strangest of places if you look at it right...in a manger...in a simple but overwhelmingly powerful message...for me this is the message of Advent.

We pray deeply and then wait for the answers we expect, in the places we know, from the people we trust...but so often, as we learn bit by bit...the answers to our prayers come from circumstances and sources that we least expect...if we can listen, if we can tune ourselves to God who is in all things, people, places, moments, conversations. Every interaction is an opportunity to establish a deeper relationship with God, to hear the answers to our prayers, and to finally trust more deeply that in fact, our prayers are indeed answered. The answers may come while we're at Mass, but they might also come from a conversation with our local grocer, or in an interaction with a homeless woman on the streets, a child, or in the shower, or a TV commercial...why limit God? Why limit the mystery of Jesus – God made human? Why limit the mystery of our own lives? Listen for and embrace God's love in all corners of this benevolent universe and surprises arrive in the strangest of places...

Once in a while you can get shown the light, in the strangest of places if you look at it right!

Who can stop what must arrive now?
Something new is waiting to be born.

Life may be sweeter for this, I don't know
Seems like it might be alright
May lady lullaby sing plainly for you
While love still rings true.

- Crazy Fingers - Robert Hunter and Jerry Garcia
Jack Lacy

WELCOME OUR NEW PASTOR

Last week at Mass there was an important announcement in the life of our parish. Fr. Richard Rusk has been named as the new Pastor for St. John's.

Fr. Rusk is currently the Pastor of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Martinsville. We look forward to welcoming him into our Parish Family as he begins his ministry here on February 1st..

WHERE THE WISE MEN ARE



Each week we go back to 'our lives', Mass is over, and even as we wave good bye to our friends in the parking lot and the Kings on their journey, our routine and non-ending tasks overcome us once more. Have we forgotten to take the word of the Baptist into our daily existence? Prepare the Way....

JOURNEY WITH THE WISE MEN ON FACEBOOK

Check out St. John's Facebook page weekly and guess where the Wise Men are in their travels. Click on Posts on the side menu and enter your guess or comments below the photo. OR: Click on "Comment" under Post and guess their location.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23, 2018

“For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.” (LUKE 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called to be active participants, not passive by-standers.

STEWARDSHIP RESPONSES

Pick up your envelopes!

Thank you for your support of St. John's. Your new envelopes start Jan. 1st. Pick up your box from the Narthex. Or skip the check and fill out the Automated Giving Form next to the envelopes. One less thing to worry about forgetting!

A SIMPLE INVITATION

In our busy lives, that are even busier at this time of the year, you never know what an invitation could mean to someone. Take the time to call a friend or a neighbor and invite them to share Christmas Mass with you. Even if they decline, the invite may stay with them as a gesture of friendship.



POINSETTIA SALE

This weekend after the Masses St. John's will have poinsettia plants available for sale.



PAINT N SIP PARTY

*Join the Fun
Coming in the
New Year*

Family Life Ministry invites you to come have fun in the new year! No talent or experience necessary. Parishioner and artist, Karolyn Fraine will guide us step by step to create a painting. You will be amazed at your very own artistic creation. Grab a drink and a canvas and let's have some fun! Email familylife@ccsjn to reserve your canvas.

Christian Formation

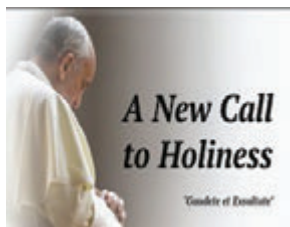


**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!**
**Have a safe and joyous break,
see you in January.**
GIFT Family Faith Formation

ADVENT CALENDARS ARE HERE



Look for the 2018 Advent Calendar on the GIFT table in the narthex. Prayerfully consider how your family may enrich the advent season at home.



GIFT FAMILY FORMATION REMINDER AND INVITATION

Our January session will meet on Sunday January 6 at noon in the church center and Monday January 7, 2019 at 6:00PM. Please contact me with any questions at renee@ccsjn.org For Adult formation, we will continue reading and reflecting upon Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, Gaudete et Exultate, "Rejoice and be Glad" chapter 4 Signs of Holiness in today's world. In his writings on holiness Pope Francis, reminds us that being holy is an attainable goal and is the source of greatest joy! He provides a fresh look on the Beatitudes and gives practical ways to apply Jesus' word to daily life.

All parishioners are invited, please consider joining this interesting and engaging formation session.

Note The **adult session begins** on Sunday January 6 at **12:30** in the church center and Monday January 7, 2019 at **6:30PM**



PARTNERS IN FAITH

Family Formation is designed to help parents respond to the Church's call to be "the first and foremost, educators of their children" and to help families grow in the transforming love of God by understanding and living the Catholic Faith.

In support of this call, additional resource for formation are located on the religious education table in the narthex. The handouts are from our monthly GIFT Program. These hand- outs provide families with ideas and simple traditions that will foster faith formation within the home. *Please feel free to take one of these handouts homes when you pick up your church bulletin.*

Social Ministry & Parish News

VALENTINE DINNER DANCE 2019



To Support our Catholic HEART Workcamp trip to Dover, Delaware.
Save the Date:

Friday, February 8, 2019 at 7:00pm

MARRIAGE TUNE UP

It's almost here. Perhaps your tradition is to decorate the tree or open presents on Christmas Eve. Keep the focus on your love for each other, not on whether everything will go right. Sometimes the best Christmas stories are about fiascos

PARENTING TUNE UP

As your family prepares Christmas gifts for each other, this is a good time to discuss with your child how to share their older but still good toys, clothes, etc. "Whoever has 2 cloaks should share with the person who has none." (Luke 3-11)

DO YOU HAVE YARN YOU DON'T NEED ?



We have a parishioner who is making scarves for those in need and could use some additional yarn. If you have any extra yarn that you don't need or would like to purchase some to donate, please leave it in the Seton Room.

Christmas Season & New Year's Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses / 4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 22 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 23 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 23 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Masses

Monday, December 24 4:30 p.m.
Monday, December 24 (with Bell Choir) 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass

Tuesday, December 25 10:30 a.m.

Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 29 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 30 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 30 10:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary - New Year's Day Mass

Tuesday, January 1 10:30 a.m.



BLESSED ARE WE

When I was asked to write a parish letter for the St John Neumann bulletin while we lack a permanent priest, my initial reaction was fear and nervousness. It's only my first year being Catholic! Then I decided to accept the challenge in order to share with you the following:

I am filled with joy in experiencing my first Advent and Christmas as a Catholic! For the first time, I will be able to share in Communion and celebrate the Eucharist at this holy time. It uplifts my soul to be a part of this.

As I gaze upon the community and Project Earth gardens, I see them ready and prepared for Spring. They are beautifully kept (Martha Stewart would be in awe!) and covered in straw in anticipation for a new beginning. I see joy and hope in the garden as they will continue to provide food for those in need. Their condition and period of dormancy reflects my spirit in approaching the celebration of Advent and Christmas! A time of re-birth and renewal.

Officially becoming Catholic last Easter, I had already accepted and decided to serve God and my fellow man more fully. Father Abraham was instrumental in inspiring my desire. His homilies and guidance throughout the RCIA process were a catalyst in putting intent into action as he said that faith without action isn't true faith. As Father Abraham would also say, we are all capable of holiness and being saintly. I am therefore inspired to follow Jesus' teachings and path.

Forgive me if this is too self-centered. What I am trying to express is the manifestation of faith in practical and serving ways. What does Jesus and therefore, God, want us to do? As we approach the end of Advent, I truly believe it is important to reflect on and act in accordance with the beatitudes as presented in Pope Francis' Rejoice and Be Glad (Gaudete et Exsultate) reading guide by Bill Huebsch:

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
- Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth
- Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted
- Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled
- Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy
- Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God
- Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God
- Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Let's focus on these and aspire to be holy despite the pressures of the season and the secular environment.

Please share my joy and happiness this Christmas season!

Peace, Jennifer Anderson



ARE WE FOCUSED ON THE NATIVITY?

Our young parishioners are!

In the Narthex is a Children's Nativity. Our Mini Wise Men are traveling around the Narthex on their journey to find the Christ Child – encourage and help your children to FIND THE WISE MEN.

ST. JOHN'S MENS CORNERSTONE 2019

The Men's Cornerstone Weekend is scheduled for next January 25-26th 2019 at the ICC Parish Hall in Annandale NJ. Men's Cornerstone is a 26-hour spiritual experience for the men of all area Catholic parishes hosted by the men of Immaculate Conception parish. It is a chance to explore faith in a low pressure, non-judgmental way. Whether its barely audible over life's noise or a voice clearly calling your name, we hope you will consider a small step in faith this year. You can find details and register at <http://www.iccanndandale.org/menscornerstone.aspx>. Or, you can also contact St. John's parishioner Jim Murray at 908-310-6877 with further questions.

FR ABRAHAM'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Fr. Abraham Orapankal
St. Matthias
168 John F. Kennedy Blvd
Somerset, NJ 08873
Phone 732-828-1400
Email: Abraham@stmatthias.net



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>

BLUETOOTH EAR BUD FOUND

There was an earbud found in the Church a few weeks ago on the kitchen side of the worship space in one of the pews. If you lost one, please call the office.



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.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Clara Alvarez
 Gary Anderson
 Andrew Arias
 Miguel Astacio
 Diane Bosack
 Joan Cardierre
 John D'Almeida
 Percy Davids
 Barbara DelPiano
 Sophia DeVita
 Anthony DeVito
 Dawn Farley
 Cindy Feighan
 Emma Finnegan
 Bob Gardner
 Debbie Gregorakis
 Joseph Gruszczynski
 Liz Harmon
 Fred Holub
 Stephanie Illescho
 Manuel Jimenez, Jr.
 Michael Kucharski
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Dick McCall
 Jan McLeavey
 Jennie Melhem
 Christine Meyer
 Joan & Megan Myers
 Ryan Moore
 Nancy Patterson
 Nilsa Perez Parsons
 John Pfeufer
 Ali Redling
 Earl & Denise Roberts
 Joe Romanger
 Noah Skinner
 Michael Slivka
 Dick Slusher
 Patty Galoti Stafford
 Margaret Thornsbury
 Nicholas Troiano
 Don Velli
 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
 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

ADVENT REFLECTION: *Bethlehem, Inc*

... from you [Bethlehem-Ephrathah] shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel . . .

Micah 5: 1-4a

"Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb . . .

"Luke 1: 39-45

O Little town of Bethlehem, How still do we see thee lie!

The American clergyman Phillips Brooks wrote those words in 1868, three years after visiting Bethlehem. But the village he visited was a much different place than the bustling commercial hub where Jesus was born.

Nicholas Blincoe tells the fascinating story of Jesus' birthplace in his book **Bethlehem: Biography of a Town**. When the future king David was born there, it was only a settlement of shepherds and herdsmen. But Bethlehem came into prominence 200 years before Jesus' birth when the Greeks built an aqueduct from the springs near the Bethlehem hills to supply water to the city of Jerusalem, seven miles away. Bethlehem instantly became a center of commerce as a well a strategic military location.

Blincoe writes that Mary and Joseph probably spent the night in the open garden in the center of Bethlehem. "Mary and Joseph would see tough-looking traders strike deals, count profit, write contracts, and exchange their sheep and wool for fruit or olive oil. To visitors from the Galilee, this might make Bethlehem a wild and strange kind of town. Nevertheless, it was clear that Bethlehem was far less free than the Galilee. There were soldiers everywhere. [Rome's] Tenth Legion was charged not only with protecting the many miles of aqueducts, but also with policing the desert, the empire's international border, as well as the profitable trade in livestock and Dead Sea chemicals . . . Bethlehem was supposed to be part of the Jewish ancestral homeland. Yet, as the scriptures tell us, it was not a place where one was likely to find many Jews."

It was here, Matthew and Luke write, in this busy, bustling, godless exchange that God entered human history.

Every day, Jesus is born in the Bethlehems of our lives: lives overwhelmed by responsibilities and expectations. Sometimes Christ comes to us in poverty that we might know the riches of God; he comes in simplicity that we might realize the presence of God in all things; he comes quietly so that we might hear the music of God amid the clamor of our noisy world. This Christmas, may the wellspring that is Christ bring new hope and joy into our Bethlehem wildernesses; may the light that is Christ illuminate the darkness of our mangers with wisdom and peace in this season and in every season of the new year.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



There was a religious woman who had to do a lot of traveling for her business. Flying made her very nervous, so she always took her Bible along with her. One time, she was sitting next to a man. When he saw her pull out her Bible, he gave a little chuckle and smirk and went back to what he was doing. After a while, he turned to her and asked, "You don't really believe all that stuff in there do you?" The woman replied, "Of course I do. It is the Bible."

He said, "Well, what about that guy who was swallowed by that whale?"

She replied, "Oh, Jonah. Yes, I believe that; it is in the Bible."

He asked, "Well, how do you suppose he survived all that time inside the whale?"

The woman said, "Well, I don't really know. I guess when I get to heaven, I will ask him."

"What if he isn't in heaven?" the man asked sarcastically.

"Then you can ask him," replied the woman.



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"

Diocesan and Community News

COPING AND HOLIDAYS

The holidays bring a full plate of things to do and get done, as well as the highs and lows brought on by the usual emotional rip currents of life. Feelings of loss can be intensified during the holidays, whether from the passing of a loved one, a loyal pet, separation, divorce, or job loss. Somehow, the world isn't what it was and road maps are hard to find, no less the energy to look for them. What to do?

First up, be kind to yourself and manage your expectations. This year will not be the same as years before, but, then again, what year is exactly the same as the one before it? Give yourself a break and reduce your list of "to do's", but by all means, PLAN something to do ahead of the actual "big days" coming. Call on others and delegate, as much as possible, the laundry list of "to do's"...or cut back on that "to do" list. Having some current focus is important. Grieving takes time to help us adjust. It doesn't happen overnight. The sense of deep loss can become manageable with faith, patience, and time.

You may want to schedule something, whether by yourself, another, or others. Guilt, an all too common driver of human behavior, while natural, shouldn't get in the way of you doing something for yourself or experiencing joy during the holidays. Your joy can become contagious to others, no less a reward to you. You may want to volunteer. There are many charities that can use your help.

Lastly, in this brief note, be aware of the possibility of a post-holiday letdown or "blues". This is an all too common phenomena, which can seem to come out of nowhere. For a wonderful life, opportunities are to be cherished – those we have taken, some lost, and those that await our conscious action. Blessings to all in this season which so highlights forgiveness, change, and hope.

A Message from John Cole of the St. John Neumann Bereavement Ministry

VATICAN II AND THE CHURCH OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

Tree Consecutive Wednesdays: From 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

January 23, January 30, February 6

Based on a video series with Dr. Richard R. Gaillardetz, Ph.D., this course will offer an opportunity to reflect on and discuss the challenges facing the Catholic Church. Presented by Fr. Greg Uhrig. Open to all ages. No charge, no registration needed.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PRO-LIFE MINISTRIES

2019 March for Life Rally

The Knights of Columbus and the Pro-Life Ministries will have a bus going to the "March for Life" in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 18, 2019. We will begin with a Mass at 6:00am at Immaculate Conception Church, Annandale. The bus will leave following the Mass and will return approximately 10:30pm. A sandwich lunch will be provided on the bus ride down. We will stop for dinner on the way back at a Golden Corral. Please contact Bill Smith @908-797-7359 or Email; smithbuilders@hotmail.com for all cost and for more information.

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE!

Upcoming Weekend: February 8-10, 2019

- 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.

For more information call the Diocese of Metuchen Family Life Office at 732-243-4573. To register call Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or email 3024@retrouvaille.org

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 9, 2018

77 Donors Weekly.....\$3,028.00
43 Retirement Fund\$990.00
26 Immaculate Conception\$355.00
9 Yellow Brick Road.....\$168.00

December 10, 2017

59 Donors Weekly.....\$2,351.00
29 Retirement Fund\$567.00
8 Immaculate Conception.\$145.00
6 Yellow Brick Road.....\$175.00

STORE CARDS



Aquil Gift Certificates 10% return to St. John's:

Thanks to the **21** families who purchased grocery & store cards Dec. 3 & 9. **Purchased \$4,100 Profit \$204.50.**

HOLIDAY CARD SALES

Thank you to the **18** families who purchased Holiday Gift Cards.

Purchased \$7,025. Profit of \$299.86.

IRELAND 2019

SOAK IN CELTIC WISDOM!

Do you miss Fr. Abraham already? Join him on a pilgrimage to Ireland. Fr. Abraham will be the Spiritual Guide on this to Ireland trip April 22 to May 1. Pick up a card in the Narthex for information.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., Jan. 9 J. Santoro
Wed., Jan. 16 C. Behrens

Store Cards

December 22 and December 23

5:30 p.m..... B. Cestone
8:00 a.m..... G. Battell
10:30 a.m..... S. Pojedinec

December 29 and December 30

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

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Dec. 23 B. Sobey
Week of Dec. 30 M. Proano

Church Center Cleaning

December 27 Team F
January 3 Team A

Counting

Dec. 24 Kucharski / McCabe
Dec. 24 Malone / Bauernfeind

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Electrical Contractor



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baskingridgeelectric@gmail.com
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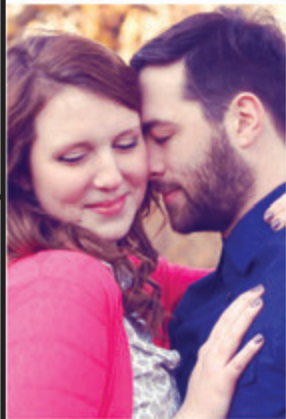
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