

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

February 3, 2019

Volume 37 Number 5



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. Richard Rusk Pastor
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.
Wednesday 8:00 a.m.
Thursday 8:00 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 Orapankal Pastor

Email abraham@ccsjn.org

Sharon Janks Pastoral Administrator

Email sjanks@ccsjn.org

France Kennedy Pastoral Associate

Email fkennedy@ccsjn.org

Susanne Erz, PhD Financial Administrator

Email serz@ccsjn.org

Wayne Infusino Maintenance

Religious Education **908-832-2162**

Renee Ciszewski . Director of Religious Education

Email renee@ccsjn.org

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

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, February 5

8:00 a.m. Margaret & Frederick Hebling
req., Maggie Baumann

Wednesday, February 6

8:00 a.m. Dorothy Byrne, req.
Brisson Family

Thursday, February 7

8:00 a.m. Maxine DiSylvester, req.
Tim Barrow

Saturday, February 9

5:30 p.m. Rosemary McCoy, req.,
Kay and Marion Dabrowski

Sunday, February 10

8:00 a.m. Anita Sawczuk, req.
Joann and Jim Murray
10:30 a.m. Carmen Ruschetta, req.
Porto Family

Mass Schedule - February 9/10

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rick Rusk
Reader	Linda Caprio
Altar Server	Geerinck/Torczon Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Debby Kelemen
.....	Joann Gardner, Donna Torczon
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rick Rusk
Reader	Chris Bitters
Altar Server	Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Joe Sima
.....	Diane Lehnert, Gail Battell
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rick Rusk
Reader	Joann McNamara
Altar Server	Johnson Family
Music Eucharistic Minister	Gloria Cucchiara
Ministers of the Eucharist	Jane Albert, Jim DeVito
.....	Sheena Carew, Mary D'Avella, Donna Lance

Parish Calendar

Sunday, February 3 - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time / Blessing of Throats /Yellow Brick Road Collection / Souper Bowl of Caring

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Community Welcome Coffee (Narthex)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 a.m. Community Welcome Coffee (Narthex)
12:00 p.m. K of C Spelling Bee-8th Grade/Ziti for the Needy-CC

Monday, February 4 - Weekday

Tuesday, February 5 - Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)

Wednesday, February 6 - Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
4:00 p.m. Dinner Dance Set Up (Church Center)
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi (Church Center Loft)

Thursday, February 7 - Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Music/Bells (Church Center)

Friday, February 8 - Saint Jerome Emiliani, Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

4:30 a.m. Wedding Rehearsal (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. St. Valentine Dinner Dance (Church Center)

Saturday, February 9 - Weekday

3:00 p.m. 1s Eucharist - Session #1 (Church Center)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. St. Valentine Dinner Dance Snow Date (Church)

Sunday, February 10 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:00 a.m. Rosary (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
12:00 p.m. GIFT Session (Church and Office Centers)
12:00 p.m. First Eucharist Parent Meeting (Church Center)
3:00 p.m. Oelkers/Gao Wedding (Church Center)



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

III. Reed Schneider & Angela Tagliareni



Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Barbara Sansevere, Carol Sartorius, Fernando Bambalan, and Milagres Roque.**

Deceased: **Barbara Sansevere**, mother of Mary Jane Meade, **Carol Sartorius**, aunt of Kathy Altaville, **Milagres Roque**, and **Fernando Bambalan**, relative of Janice Lowary. 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.

LENT THAT WILL LAST ALL YEAR LONG

The Catholic Community is getting ready to welcome the liturgical season of Lent. Starting on Ash Wednesday, with the ash on our fore head, and ending with Easter, we imitate Jesus Christ's 40 day fast in the wild.

Lent has traditionally been a time for many Catholics to sacrifice and go without. I remember as a child not having candy and going without drinking soda. When I was a young adult, I went to mass everyday with my father during Lent. These were ways of proving myself to Christ. A more modern version of Lenten sacrifice is doing the Lord's work in some manner. Some examples are: visiting people in their home, working in a soup kitchen, building housing for needy families and delivering packages and food to people unable to get out.

However, the real purpose of lent is to prepare us for the sacrifice and death of Christ and the celebration of his Resurrection. It is a time to work towards purifying our minds and hearts and work towards being a better Christian, all in preparation for the coming of the Risen Christ. Lent was and still is a period of fasting, repentance, self-discipline, moderation, prayer and self-denial. These actions help us to share Gods sacrifice and allow us to feel the spirit of oneness with him. It reminds us that as a Christian we have much to be thankful for. Lent will always be a look towards a new beginning.

Our Catholic Community of St John Neumann is also getting ready for our own "Lent."

We have a new Pastor arriving at our parish, and we too should prepare the way for our priest to enter our kingdom. We should not just get the church building ready and spruced up so that it looks good for our new family member. Our new Pastor doesn't care how we look, he cares about our hearts being pure and ready to accept the Risen Christ. We should look within ourselves this Lent to sacrifice for St Johns and try to help our new Pastor and our Community. Volunteering, cooking, cleaning, attending events at St Johns and generally helping out in what ever-way we can. Not just here in our Church, but beyond our borders to other people and communities. Jesus embraced all of mankind.

Let us also look to our prior Pastors who laid the foundation of St Johns, the belief that as a Catholic Community, we can make a difference. St Johns has always believed in outreach, compassion, understanding and community.

Let us welcome our new Pastor with a Lent that will last all year long. Let us be renewed in our sprit and actions and share that with him and Christ.

Peter Royal

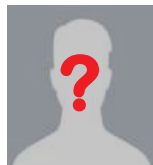


"ANNUAL AUCTION"

Planning usually begins in January. What we need right now is to identify an item management team with 2 or 3 people to lead that effort. This position basically entails overseeing the tracking of items that are donated, the coordination via spreadsheet, and combining of items into lots. We have written instructions, forms and seasoned consultants. All we need now is some lot management leadership. Can we count on you? Please contact the office if you can help.

ST. JOHN'S PHOTO DIRECTORY - LAST CALL!

Is this you?



Will you be one of the unknown parishioners? This is your last chance to be part of the parish directory. We will have one last photo session on Thursday, February 21 from 2 to 830pm. Please contact the office to register. We need ten families in order to schedule this date.



Contact us ASAP. We would be thrilled if 20 families registered – as the Parish Directory is a great tool for our new pastor.



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"

4TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

February 3, 2019

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous."

(1 Corinthians 13:4)

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered".

ADDICTION PRAYER SERVICE

***Finding HOPE through Faith
Friday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.***

Please join us to pray for those suffering from addiction. Feel free to invite anyone that would benefit from this prayer service, including family and friends of someone afflicted. Contact the parish office 908-832-2513 for more information.



Stewardship

A Way of Life



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>

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Become Part of Our Church Family

If you are attending St. John's but have not registered with the parish we invite you to come to one of our Discover St. John's Welcome Lunches where we share simple pizza and salad lunch and information on the parish to help you know what is what here at St. John's! First, stop by the narthex and receive a welcome packet from the greeters before or after Mass. Our welcome packet provides just enough info to get you acquainted. We ask that you fill out an information card so we can email you or just contact France Kennedy at the parish office - Fkennedy@ccsjn.org.

Christian Formation

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DIOCESAN SPELLING BEE



The students in the eighth grade religious education program will participate in the annual Metuchen Diocesan Spelling Bee, sponsored by the St. Joseph Council, Knights of Columbus. The event will begin at noon Sunday February 3, 2019 in the Church Center. Pizza and refreshments will be served.

FIRST EUCHARIST CATECHESIS SESSION

Saturday, February 9, 2019

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Church Center



Please email Cathy Gagen if you are unable to attend
to CHGagen@aol.com



Time Talent Treasure

At St. John Neumann



JUNIOR HIGH SOUPER BOWL OF CARING AND "ZITI FOR THE NEEDY"

Collection Weekends: January 26- February 3rd

Each year at St. John's, the Jr. High participates in the Souper Bowl of Caring. MORE THAN 25 YEARS

AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."

Since that day, more than \$125 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn what it's like to make a positive difference in the world—as they collect food, raise money and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need. Prayerfully consider supporting this endeavor. Boxes will be located in the narthex for can donations and cash donations. On February 3, 2019 the money collected will be used to fund the Jr. High "Ziti for the Needy" service project. All the food cooked will be donated to SHIP (Samaritan Homeless Interim Program). Any additional funds will be given to St. John's Social Ministry for holiday food baskets. Canned goods will be brought to a local food pantry. Contact Renee Ciszewski renee@ccsjn.org for additional information.

GIFT FAMILY FORMATION REMINDER AND INVITATION



Our February session will meet on **Sunday February 10 at noon in the church center and Monday February 11, 2019 at 6:00PM.** **First Eucharist Parents will meet with Cathy Gagen in the Narthex at noon, then return to the adult formation session.**

Please contact me with any questions at renee@ccsjn.org All parishioners are invited and encouraged to join the adult segment of the formation. **Note:** The **adult session begins on Sunday at 12:30 in the church center and Monday at 6:30PM**

Social Ministry & Parish News

BECOME A ST. JOHN'S PRAYER MINISTER

All parishioners are invited to become a St. John's Prayer Minister. This is a calling that is available to everyone: the young, senior citizens, those with busy lives, and anyone who is looking for a way to serve the parish community in a prayerful way.

You will receive a monthly Email with prayer requests, and additionally as requests are made, which include those who have been recommended to the Prayer Ministry. We ask that you integrate the requests into your regular prayer practice.

Please contact Bonnie Garcia (at bonniegarcia210@yahoo.com) if you are interested, or have any questions regarding this special ministry.

HOLIDAY DINNER

Members of the Eucharistic Ministry for the Homebound attended and provided all the food for a Holiday Dinner at a local group home, where some of the residents and staff regularly receive communion. The dinner was held on January 6th, continuing a tradition started by Anita Sawczuk and other "Eucharistic Ministry for the Homebound" members. Dinner included snacks, salad, bread, main courses and desserts; the residents enjoyed the food, company and knowing that we care.

If you would like to join this important ministry serving the homebound and faithful who are unable to regularly attend Mass, please contact France Kennedy.

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of

'BIGGEST LIE' BOOK DISCUSSION

February 27th, 7:30 p.m.

We all want to be happy, but there is a single lie that is preventing billions of people from experiencing lasting happiness – and many don't even realize it. Find the parish Christmas gift, "The Biggest Lie" that you put on the shelf. Now is the perfect time to stay inside and relax with this insightful and practical book! Grab a cup of cocoa and start reading – it's a quick read! And sign up for the book discussion on Feb 27 at 7:30pm.



WELCOME FATHER RICK RUSK THIS WEEKEND!

Join us at our Welcome Coffees for Fr. Rick after all Masses!

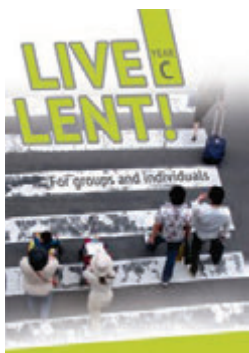
This weekend will be our new Pastor, Fr. Rick's, first full weekend with us. What better place to meet and welcome him than at Mass.

Let's give Fr. Rick a special St. John's Welcome. Introduce yourself to Father after Mass at our Welcome Coffees.

"PROMOTE CULTURE OF LIFE!"

January 2019 marks the 46th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. During January, Bishop Checchio celebrates the annual Metuchen Diocese Respect Life Mass and presents the annual "Pro-Vita" awards. The Diocese also marks the decision by joining Pro-Life advocates from around the country at the Friday January 18th March for Life event in Washington, DC, and running a bus to the Rally for Life in Trenton, NJ on Tuesday, January 22, 2018. See the Diocese website for information.

At our own parish, Knights of Columbus will distribute "Roses for Life" after Masses on the weekend of January 26th and 27th. Red roses became a symbol of the Pro-Life movement's respect for un-born babies and their mothers following Roe vs. Wade. The Roses for Life are actually small embroidered red roses with pressure sensitive backing, that can easily be attached to a permanent name tag or to an article of clothing. Wearing a "Rose for Life" demonstrates support for the "Culture of Life" that stands for a deep respect for human life, and opposition to abortion, euthanasia and other threats against human life."



DON'T JUST OBSERVE LENT... LIVE IT!

Join a small faith group!

Jesus was in a SMALL GROUP – what about you?

Come try a small group and change your life!

Small Faith Groups will run six weeks of Lent. Groups available mornings or evenings. You are invited even if you can only attend a couple of sessions!

We are using the third book in Sr. Terry Rickard's *Live Lent!* Series. The resource provides daily reflections, weekly faith sharing sessions, journaling and action prompts. Sign up in the narthex or contact France Kennedy for more information

francekennedy99@gmail.com or 908-307-7879.. Groups begin March 4.



ST. VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE **THANK YOU FOR 16 YEARS OF SUPPORTING** **CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP!**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 - 7:00pm

(Snow date Saturday, February 9 after 5:30 Mass at 7:30)

Soup and salad, Italian menu, dessert buffet and gluten-free options. Music and dancing with Mike Griffin and the GB's. **ADMISSION IS FREE** but donations gladly accepted! **Seating is limited so reserve soon.** Let us know your table needs and we will be happy to coordinate. Contact Jim Murray (jim@cpamurray.com), Mary Connolly (mandmconnolly@gmail.com) or the office at 832-2513.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP: we could use you for set-up (2/6 from 4-6:00); running the dishwasher; serving; the awful job of scraping plates for the dishwasher, and clean-up. Contact Mary if you can help.

If you can't attend the dance or would like to help in some other way, consider a monetary donation to sponsor a teen. (the cost per teen is \$350)

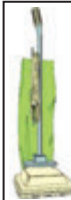
PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

Sign up in the Narthex or call the office 908-832-2513.

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.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR **A VACUUM**

Do you have a slightly used vacuum in a closet that you don't use? Please consider donating it to the church office. We are in need of a vacuum!



WE NEED YOUR HELP

We need to transport and move furniture to and from the office and residence!

Please call the office for more information and dates of moves.

Sign up in the Narthex.



IRELAND 2019 **SOAK IN CELTIC WISDOM!**

Fr. Abraham will be leading a pilgrimage April 22-May 1, 2019 to discover Celtic Ireland. This will be a unique opportunity to explore Celtic traditions and magnificent beauty. If this sounds interesting please call Tony Varas at 732-395-7959 for more information.

If you have signed up for this trip, please contact the office 908-832-2513.

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 Illetscho
 Manuel Jimenez, Jr.
 Michael Kucharski
 Bonnie Lieberwirth
 Declan Maloney
 Dick McCall
 Jan McLeavey
 Jennie 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
 Patty Galati 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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: "In Memory's Kitchen"

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4: 21-30

It's more than a collection of recipes. It's a symbol of hope.

In 1941, the Germans created Theresienstadt, a concentration camp in the town of Terezin in Czechoslovakia. The Nazis touted the camp as a "model ghetto" for Jewish scholars, artists and musicians — but, in reality, it was a disease and vermin-infested stopping point on the way to Auschwitz.

Mina Pachter was an art historian imprisoned at Theresienstadt. When the women in the camp would gather, the conversation often turned to food. In the midst of such starvation and depravity, food was an obsession. The women would recall recipes from memory. Their recollections — and their passionate arguments over the details — were a pleasant distraction from the hunger and brutality of their lives. They'd huddle in the dark together on freezing nights, often with nothing but a piece of moldy bread or some watery soup in their stomachs, and quarrel over ingredients, measurements and techniques: *Would butter or some other fat make the best cake? How long would you bake your challah? How about the best strudel?* Remembering the flavors, smells, and kitchen skills they knew so well evoked visions of family, of friendship, of love, amid the hell they were living. Mina would scribble the recipes down on scraps of Nazi propaganda.

In the fall of 1944, as she lay dying in the camp's hospital barracks, Mina entrusted the package of 70 recipes to a friend and asked him, if he survived, to see that it got to her daughter. Mina's Amy and her young son had fled Czechoslovakia in 1939 for Palestine; Amy and her family eventually emigrated to the United States. In Europe, handwritten cookbooks were commonly passed down from mother to daughter — for Mina, these recipes were to be her daughter's inheritance. It took almost 25 years for the book to finally make its way to Amy.

Today, the original pages of Mina's cookbook are kept in the archives of the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. The 70 recipes were published a few years ago under the title **In Memory's Kitchen**.

In the recipes they shared, the women of Theresienstadt not only found a measure of peace and hope but realized anew the love of family and friends, a love that transcended the hell they were living. In our own families and communities, we can find that same peace; we, too, can be a source of hope to one another. The blessing of Christ's presence within our communities and churches is as real to us as it was to the people of Nazareth; Christ's voice speaks to us in the compassion and generosity we extend to one another as clearly as he spoke in his hometown synagogue. God's grace enables us to work miracles of peace and healing in our Christ-like generosity to the people of our own Nazareths, to the communities in our own Capernaums.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



Church Ladies with Typewriters

- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Parish and Community News

THE "SAINTED" MRS. BARRETT

Dorothy Day is one of the most revered figures in the history of the American Catholic Church. As a college student in 1914, she became active in the fight for workers' rights and many social justice causes; she became a journalist for several socialist publications. She also experienced doomed love affairs, a failed marriage, a suicide attempt, and an abortion. Her activism and tumultuous personal life eventually led her to the Catholic Church. In the early 1930s, she and Peter Maurin started the Catholic Worker Movement, which continues to this day operating homes and soup kitchens for the poor and organizing to advocate for justice and peace issues. Dorothy Day died in 1980; her cause for canonization is underway.

In her autobiography **The Long Loneliness**, Dorothy Day writes of her conversion from atheistic anarchism to Catholic social consciousness. When she was eight years old, her journalist father lost his job and the Day family of six was forced to move into a dingy six-room tenement flat over a Chicago tavern. But it was at this hard time in her young life that Dorothy began to find something inspiring in the Catholic Church — an institution despised by her father.

Dorothy writes that her "first impulse toward Catholicism" was Mrs. Barrett, a neighbor and the mother of her friend Kathryn. One morning, young Dorothy burst into the Barrett apartment looking for Kathryn. Dorothy found Mrs. Barrett in the front bedroom. Mrs. Barrett was down on her knees, saying her prayers. Without dismay or embarrassment, Mrs. Barrett turned to tell little Dorothy that Kathryn and the children had all gone to the store and then went on with her praying.

That single moment had a profound impact on the young Dorothy. "I felt a burst of love toward Mrs. Barrett that I have never forgotten, a feeling of gratitude and happiness that warmed my heart," Dorothy remembered. "Mrs. Barrett in her sordid little tenement flat finished her breakfast dishes at ten o'clock in the morning and got down on her knees and prayed to God . . . She had God, and there was beauty and joy in her life."

Dorothy Day's own baptism would take place two decades later, following years when the very thought of God was alien to her. But the memory of Mrs. Barrett's kindness and peace remained with her. Mrs. Barrett probably never knew the impression her simple prayer life had on young Dorothy. Yet this mother and neighbor was a true "prophet": the love of God was revealed in her simple dedication as a mother and the faith reflected in her own simple prayer life. God continues to raise up parents and teachers, preachers and ministers, friends and classmates to help us realize our own call to be prophets of God's word, to embrace God's grace enabling us to transform our own Nazareth into God's dwelling place. May we possess the grace and wisdom to see God in the love in which others embrace us and to hear God speaking in the example of the prophets calling us, by the selfless integrity of their lives, to "proclaim" God's kingdom justice and peace here and now.

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

January 27, 2019

78 Donors Weekly	\$4,435.00
5 Catholic Education	\$69.00
1 Together In Charity	\$5.00
3 Initial Offering	\$11.00
2 Yellow Brick Road	\$230.00

January 28, 2018

74 Donors Weekly	\$4,386.00
2 Yellow Brick Road	\$80.00
7 Catholic Education	\$198.00



STORE CARDS

Aqui cards are available with 10% to St. John's:

Thanks to the **8 families** who purchased **\$1,100.** in grocery & store cards, the stores gave us a profit of **\$57.38.**



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., Feb. 6.....	J. Santoro
Wed., Feb. 13.....	C. Behrens

Store Cards

February 2 and 3

5:30 p.m.	E. McCabe
8:00 a.m.	K. Dabrowski
10:30 a.m.	J. Varcadipane

February 9 and 10

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

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Feb. 3.....	B. Sobey
Week of Feb. 10.....	M. Proano

Church Center Cleaning

February 7	Team F
February 14.....	Team A

Counting

Feb. 4	Cangelosi / Gagen
Feb. 11	Malone / Kosakowski

Altar Flowers

February 9	Needed
February 16.....	Klacic

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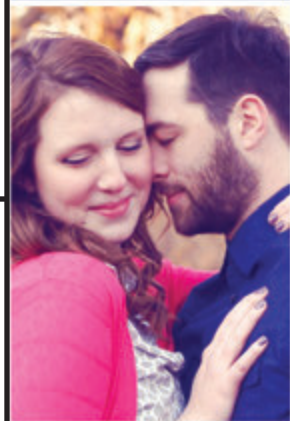
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