

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

February 10, 2019

Volume 37 Number 6



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 7:00 a.m.
Wednesday 8:00 a.m.
Thursday 7:00 a.m.
Friday 8:00 am

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

Father Rick Rusk Pastor

Email frrick@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

Weekly Masses

Tuesday, February 12

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Wednesday, February 13

8:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Thursday, February 14

7:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Friday, February 15

8:00 a.m. Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, February 16

5:30 p.m. Thomas Regan, req.,
Judith Regan

Sunday, February 17

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

10:30 a.m. Anita Sawczuk, req.
Marlene Milko



Parish Calendar

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)

Monday, February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Office and Church Kitchens)
6:00 p.m. GIFT Session (Office and Church Centers)

Tuesday, February 12 - Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
7:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Drexel Room)

Wednesday, February 13 - Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi (Church Center Loft)
7:00 p.m. Social Ministry Meeting (Seton Room)
7:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting (Reception Area)

Thursday, February 14 - Saints Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop

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

Friday, February 15 - Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
4:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (Church Center)

Mass Schedule - February 16/17

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rick Rusk
Reader	Steve Bauernfeind
Altar Server	Needed
Ministers of the Eucharist	Donna Lance Debby Kelemen, Lyle Garcia
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rick Rusk
Reader	Linda Cprio
Altar Server	Kennedy Family
Ministers of the Eucharist	Bob Martalus Barbara Martalus, Jane Klawunn
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rick Rusk
Reader	Mary D'Avella
Altar Server	Erz Family
Music Eucharistic Minister	Shirley Pojedinec
Ministers of the Eucharist	Marlene Milko, Ron Pojedinec Sheena Carew, Jane Albert, 1 Needed

Saturday, February 16 - Weekday

8:00 a.m. Women's Spirituality Coffee (Drexel Room)
10:00 a.m. Wedding Schneider/Tagliareni Wedding (Church)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)
6:30 p.m. Discover St. John's (Church Center)

Sunday, February 17 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time / Snow and Heat Collection

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Mass (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: **Theresa Degnan-Templeton and Barbara Sansevere.**

Deceased: Theresa Degnan-Templeton, former parishioner and **Barbara Sansevere**, mother of Mary Jane Medea. 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.



HISTORY OF ST. VALENTINE

In the early martyrologies, three different St. Valentines are mentioned, all sharing Feb. 14 for a feast day. Unfortunately, the historical record is sparse. The first St. Valentine was a priest and physician in Rome. He along with St. Marius and his family comforted the martyrs during the persecution of Emperor Claudius II, the Goth. Eventually, St. Valentine was also arrested, condemned to death for his faith, beaten with clubs, and finally beheaded on Feb. 14, AD 270. He was buried on the Flaminian Way. Later, Pope Julius I (333-356) built a basilica at the site which preserved St. Valentine's tomb. Archeological digs in the 1500s and 1800s have found evidence of the tomb

of St. Valentine. However, in the thirteenth century, his relics were transferred to the Church of Saint Praxedes near the Basilica of St. Mary Major, where they remain today. Also, a small church was built near the Flaminian Gate of Rome which is now known as the Porta del Popolo but was called in the 12th century "the Gate of St. Valentine," as noted by the early British historian William Somerset (also known as William of Malmesbury, d. 1143), who ranks after St. Bede in authority.

The second St. Valentine was the Bishop of Interamna (now Terni, located about 60 miles from Rome). Under the orders of Prefect Placidus, he too was arrested, scourged, and decapitated, again suffering persecution during the time of Emperor Claudius II.

The third St. Valentine suffered martyrdom in Africa with several companions. However, nothing further is known about this saint. In all, these men, each named St. Valentine, showed heroic love for the Lord and His Church.

The popular customs of showing love and affection on St. Valentine's Day is almost a coincidence with the feast day of the saint: During the Medieval Age, a common belief in England and France was that birds began to pair on Feb. 14, "half-way through the second month of the year." Chaucer wrote in his "Parliament of Fowles" (in Old English): "For this was on Seynt Valentynes day, When every foul cometh ther to choose his mate." For this reason, the day was dedicated to "lovers" and prompted the sending of letters, gifts, or other signs of affection.

Another literary example of St. Valentine's Day remembrances is found in Dame Elizabeth Brews "Paston Letters" (1477), where she writes to the suitor, John Paston, of her daughter, Margery: "And, cousin mine, upon Monday is St. Valentine's day and every bird chooseth himself a mate, and if it like you to come on Thursday night, and make provision that you may abide till then, I trust to God that ye shall speak to my husband and I shall pray that we may bring the matter to a conclusion." In turn, Margery wrote to John: "Unto my right well beloved Valentine John Paston, Squyer, be this bill delivered. Right reverend and worshipful and my right well beloved Valentine, I recommend me unto you, full heartily desiring to hear of your welfare, which I beseech Almighty God long for to preserve until His pleasure and your heart's desire." While speaking of the amorous flavor of Valentine's Day, no mention is made of the saint.

While it seems that the exchange of "valentines" is more the result of secular custom rather than the memory of St. Valentine, and that the celebration has been further paganized with cupids and the like, there is a Christian message that should be remembered. The love of our Lord, depicted beautifully in the image of His most Sacred Heart, is a sacrificial, self-less, and unconditional love. Such is the love that each Christian is called to express in his own life, for God and neighbor. Clearly, St. Valentineno matter which oneshowed such a love, bearing witness to the faith in his dedication as a priest and in the offering of his own life in martyrdom. On this Valentine's day, looking to the example of this great saint, each person should offer again his love to the Lord, for only by doing so can he properly love those who are entrusted to his care and any other neighbor. Each person should again pledge his love to those loved ones, praying for their intentions, promising fidelity to them, and thanking them for their love in return. Never forget Jesus said, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (Jn 15:12-13). St. Valentine fulfilled this command, and may we do the same.

Fr. William Saunders



I want to thank everyone for a great first weekend here at St. John's. All your hospitality made me feel very welcome.

Fr. Rick

5TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

February 10, 2019

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' 'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'"
(Isaiah 6:8)

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. The next time you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say "Here I am, Lord."

JOIN US FOR THE BELLS



Sunday, February 24th, 10:30 Mass

Please join us at this Mass as the Bell Choir will be playing during the Mass.

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

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GATHERING



**February 16th at 8 a.m.
Office Center**

The Women's Spirituality group will gather Saturday, February 16th. 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, jajarvis26@gmail.com.

Prayer of the Rosary



Second Sunday of the Month
10 am Seton Room
February 9

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.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Our weekday Mass schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday	7:00 a.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.
Thursday	7:00 a.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m.

These Masses will be at the Neumann Residence Chapel.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING TOUCHDOWN!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our youth's Souper Bowl of Caring Weekend! Our teens collected \$233, 125+ cans of soup. The Jr High students made Ziti meals and brownie for SHIP (Samaritan Homeless Interim Program), In addition, St. John's holiday food baskets will also benefit from this collection.

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**

Parish News

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

Join a small faith group!

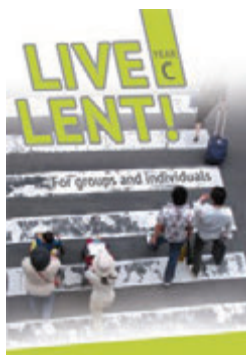
Jesus was in a SMALL GROUP – what about you?

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!

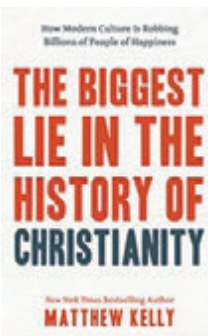
We are using the third book in Sr. Terry Rickard's **Live Lent!** Series. The resource provides daily reflections, weekly faith sharing sessions, journaling and action prompts. Sign up in the narthex or contact France Kennedy for more information

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



THE BIGGEST LIE BOOK DISCUSSION

Feb 27th at 7:30pm



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. It's the perfect time to stay inside and relax with this insightful and practical book! It's a quick read, easy to read format to fit into your life a chapter at a time! Then come enjoy our Winter Reading Book Event on Wednesday, Feb 27 at 7:30pm – an evening of food, discussion and socializing.

ADDICTION PRAYER SERVICE

Finding HOPE through Faith - Friday • Feb 22 • 7pm

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 for more information 832-2513.

hope

Addiction Prayer Service
Finding Hope through Faith
Friday, February 22, 7pm

PRAYERS NEEDED!

On Friday, Feb 22 we are offering a Prayer Service for anyone fighting addiction. The evening prayer experience will give the opportunity for prayer, reflection and support to those with any dependency issue as well as anyone who has family or friends facing this struggle. We are asking parishioners to specifically pray for someone who is combatting this in their life. Cards are in the Narthex for you to sign up to pray for someone. Those attending the service will be handed a card and will feel the kindness of a stranger who is praying for their healing.

MAKING A PRAYER REQUEST AT ST. JOHN'S

Prayer is the way we talk with and listen to God, and the St. John Neumann Prayer Ministry is here to support you in times of need. If you would like the Prayer Ministers to include your request in their prayers, there are three ways to reach out to them:

- Fill out a Prayer Request Card, which can be found at the Prayer Station in the Church. It is located on the left side as you enter the Church proper from the Narthex.
- Send a Prayer Request through the Parish website (www.ccsjn.org) or email the office sjn@ccsjn.org.
- Call the Parish Office at 908-832-2513 and speak with someone about your request

All requests for confidentiality are honored, and should be noted when making the request. We all know how powerful prayer can be, and many have experienced the peace, guidance, healing and answers to their needs that prayer can bring. As a community we support one another in prayer.

50 PLUS CLUB TRIP

*'Jesus' at the Sign and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA
Tuesday, May 14th*



The 550 Plus Club is sponsoring a trip to see the play Jesus at the Sign and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, May 14th, 3:00 p.m. performance.

The cost of the trip is \$155 per person which includes the coach bus, lunch at the Eden Resort, the ticket for the performance, taxes, gratuities and the driver's tip. Elaine tours will also make a donation to St. John Neumann. Money is due by March 31st.

Bus will arrive at St. John's parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and depart at 9:45 a.m.. Should return at around 8:00 p.m.

Contact Shirley Pojedinec at 908-537-6241 or risapoje@comcast.net. More details to follow.

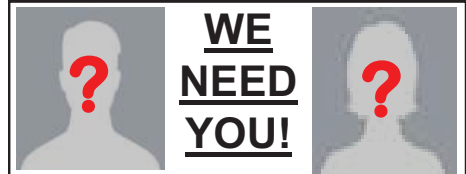


PHOTO DIRECTORY

Is this you? Will you be one of the unknown parishioners? This is YOUR chance to be part of the parish directory. The last photo session is on Thursday, February 21 from 2 to 9pm. Call the office 832-2513 to schedule your appointment. This is your opportunity, remember the song from Cheers.... "Sometimes you want to go – where everybody knows your name – and they're always glad you came" Come help build the parish community and be in the Parish Directory - you get a free 8x10 photo of your family and a directory and help our new pastor!

ST. VALENTINE DINNER DANCE



THANK YOU to all who helped, attended, supported danced, set up, cleaned up and enjoyed the evening!

More details will follow next week.

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
Denis DeVirteuil
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 Staffer
Margaret Thornsburry
Nicholas Troiano
Don Velli
Dana & Greg Wilson
Jason and Matthew Witkop
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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:

Rediscovering my daughter through Instagram

"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch . . ." When Peter saw [the catch], he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." **Luke 5: 1-11**

Loving a 15-year-old daughter can be heart-wrenching. The little girl you spent a decade and a half nurturing and feeding and picking up after and dropping off and helping with homework and braiding hair and supervising play dates and fighting battles and holding hands to cross the street suddenly shuts you out of her life. She's busy with school and clubs and projects, and when she has free time she would rather be out with friends. You hear snippets of her life ringing from her upstairs room, conversations and laughter, favorite songs occasionally played in the car from her iPhone. You feel you are losing her.

Paulina was as remote as a 15-year-old could be from her mother. Not only did she worry for Paulina as most parents do, but Paulina's mom missed being part of her life. Then one day, Paulina's mom ran into Maddie, a friend of her older son who was away at college. After chatting about school, Maddie asked, "How's Paulina?"

"Good, I think," she said, mentioning that Paulina was taking a photography class taught by professionals. "She loves photography. Hates her math teacher."

Then Maddie, eyes wide, asked, "Have you seen her Instagram feed?"

Mom started to panic. All she could think of were other parents she had spoken to whose daughters' feeds were filled with revealing photos. Oh God, she thought. Here it comes.

"No," I said. "Why?"

"It's amazing," Maddie said. "She's a great photographer. She has over a thousand followers."

Paulina's mom was stunned. A thousand followers?! That night, she worked up the nerve to ask Paulina if she could follow her on Instagram. Miraculously, her daughter said yes, shrugging as she walked up the stairs to her room. Mom grabbed her phone, and suddenly, there it was: Paulina's life. In black-and-white and full color. Beautifully framed photos of her friends, of their Brooklyn neighborhood. Paulina had a wonderful eye for finding the unique in the simple, the wondrous in the everyday.

Paulina's mother writes: "[Through her photography] I was able to be with Paulina out in the world again, to see what she sees, to virtually stand beside her and witness the people and places she moves through, in nearly real time. Not in a parent-policing role, but in a wonderful-world sort of way.

" . . . there was the photo she posted of herself as a little girl among autumn leaves, wearing a checkered skirt, pink leotard and green high-tops.

"Wish I was still a little kid, the caption read.

"So I wasn't the only one," her mom says.

Love compels us to venture out on the "seas" of the new and different, to leave the safe harbor of our own perspective to cast our nets into the "deep water" of another's world. Paulina's mom carefully and sensitively ventures out into that "deep water" of social media and re-connects with her daughter. Jesus challenges us to put aside our own fears and anxieties to dare to lower our nets into the "deep water" of patience and understanding, the treacherous sea of reconciliation and selfless generosity. It often demands risking our own security and comfort and putting aside our discouragement and exhaustion; it can require us to keep "fishing" despite the criticism and doubts of the many who have returned to shore. Confident of God's grace and wisdom, we can set out in our own small boats and cast our fishing nets — despite the long night already passed — to bring in the "catch" of God's forgiveness and peace.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



I was walking home last night and decided to take a short cut through the cemetery...3 girls walked up to me and explained that they were scared to walk past the cemetery at night, so I agreed to let them walk along with me. I told them "I understand...I used to get freaked out too when I was alive." Never seen anyone run so fast.

Parish and Community News

“CALL MY DAD . . .”

Theologian Father Ronald Rolheiser tells this story in his book *Sacred Fire: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity*:

A couple was going through a difficult time in their marriage. There was talk of separation. The husband was unwilling to go to any counselling; his way of coping was to disappear, making himself scarce from the family.

At one point, their 13-year-old daughter went to a mall and shoplifted an item that she neither wanted nor needed and was caught in the act. She was alone, so her little crime was not intended to impress friends. The store decided not to press charges, but wanted to teach the young girl a lesson, so they had a police officer come in and talk to her. After lecturing her on the seriousness of what she had done, the officer asked her for her parents' phone number so that he could call her mother to come to pick her up.

But the young teen had already prepared a different response: Reaching into her pocket, she pulled out a piece of paper with her father's phone number at work, handed it to the officer, and said: "Here's my dad's phone number. I want him to come here and pick me up."

When confronted by our failings and the possibilities of God's grace to move beyond them, we react like the dad who disappears, unable to face our need for such grace, or we react like Peter, embarrassed by our unworthiness for such grace. But that is the mystery of God's love: that nothing we do or have not done makes us deserving of God's love; we can only embrace it with humility and gratitude. The daughter wants his dad to come home and work to save a family who loves him; Jesus assures Peter to put aside his fears of unworthiness and follow him. We often expect too little from our relationship with God; we're convinced that we're neither good enough nor wise enough in church protocol to consider ourselves "religious." But that is exactly the "mystery" of God: that God loves us despite ourselves. Thomas Merton observed that "the root of Christian love is not the will to love but the faith that one is loved by God . . . irrespective of one's worth . . . The revelation of the mercy of God makes the problem of worthiness something almost laughable . . . no one could ever, alone, be strictly worthy to be loved with such a love — [such a realization] is a true liberation of spirit."



2019 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Help Build a Civilization of Love

Please watch your mailbox for a letter from Bishop Checchio coming to you this week announcing the 2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The campaign will again be conducted during Lent and our parish can earn a rebate of 50% of the amount collected over goal.

Through your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal you help those in our diocese whose needs are the greatest—the poor, the homeless, and those struggling with illness or grief. Among other needed pastoral ministries, your gift also supports our Cultural Diversity Ministries and enhances the work of forming our youth. The many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen would not be possible without a generous contribution from every household. Please be as generous as your means allow.



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"

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 3, 2019

84 Donors Weekly	\$3,910.50
52 Yellow Brick Road	\$1,258.00
1 Together In Charity	\$2.00
2 Catholic Education	\$42.00
2 Initial Offering	\$8.00

February 4, 2018

77 Donors Weekly	\$4,315.00
42 Yellow Brick Road	\$1,211.00
1 Catholic Education	\$10.00



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>



STORE CARDS

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

Thanks to the **28** families who purchased **\$6,050.** in grocery & store cards, for the last 2 weeks the stores gave us a profit of **\$325.38.**

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., Feb. 13	C. Behrens
Wed., Feb. 20	G. Battell

Store Cards

February 9 and 10

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

February 16 and 17

5:30 p.m.	C. Crescenti
8:00 a.m.	M. Kearns
10:30 a.m.	H. Quigley

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of Feb. 10	M. Proano
Week of Feb. 17 ...	C. Fortenbacker

Church Center Cleaning

February 14	Team A
February 21	Team B

Counting

Feb. 11	Malone / Kosakowski
Feb. 19	Cangelosi / McCabe

Altar Flowers

February 9	Needed
February 16	Klacik

Basking Ridge Electric Co, LLC

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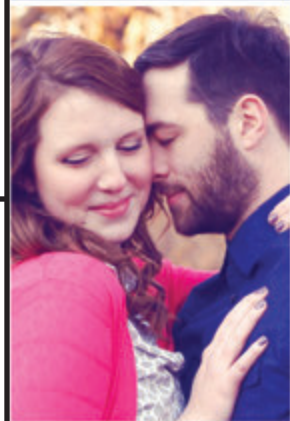
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