



# The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

[www.ccsjn.org](http://www.ccsjn.org) / [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org)

November 17, 2019

Volume 37 Number 45



## 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](http://www.diometuchen.org)

Rev. Richard Rusk ..... Pastor  
Rev. J. Wm. Mickiewicz.....Pastor Emeritus

### **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

### **Office Hours**

Mon.-Thurs.....9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Friday.....9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

### **Worship at Church Center:**

Saturday Vigil Mass..... 5:30 p.m.

Sunday ..... 8:00 a.m.

Sunday ..... 10:30 a.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 a.m.

## Parish Contact Information

**Office Center.....908-832-2513**

Fax / Email .. 908-832-7618 / [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org)

Father Rick Rusk..... Pastor

Email .....[frick@ccsjn.org](mailto:frick@ccsjn.org)

Sharon Janks..... Pastoral Administrator

Email ..... [sjanks@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjanks@ccsjn.org)

France Kennedy ..... Pastoral Associate

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Susanne Erz, PhD ..... Financial Administrator

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Wayne Infusino..... Maintenance

**Religious Education.....908-832-2162**

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Project Earth ..... [projectearth@ccsjn.org](mailto:projectearth@ccsjn.org)

Bulletin..... [bulletin@ccsjn.org](mailto:bulletin@ccsjn.org)

Youth Ministry..... [sjnygroup@gmail.com](mailto:sjnygroup@gmail.com)

# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, November 19

7:00 a.m. No Intention

### Wednesday, November 20

8:00 a.m. No Intention

### Thursday, November 21

7:00 a.m. Ralph Pellegrino, req.  
Barbara Gates

### Friday, November 22

7:00 a.m. No Intention

### Saturday, November 23

5:30 p.m. Joanne Willett, req.,  
Mike and Mary Connolly

### Sunday, November 24

8:00 a.m. William Holena, req.,  
Stanski Family  
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

## Mass Schedule - November 23/24

### Saturday

5:30 p.m.

Celebrant ..... Fr. Rusk  
Reader ..... K. Swindler  
Altar Server ..... Geerinck/Torczone Family  
Ministers of the Eucharist..... J. Gardner  
..... J. Eacovale, D. Torczon

### Sunday

8:00 a.m.

Celebrant ..... Fr. Rusk  
Reader ..... J. Ross  
Altar Server ..... Kennedy Family  
Ministers of the Eucharist..... B. Martalus  
..... B. Gates, B. Martalus

### Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrant ..... Fr. Rusk  
Reader ..... S. Bauernfeind  
Altar Server ..... Souza Family  
Music Eucharistic Minister ..... D. Lance  
Ministers of the Eucharist..... M. D'Avella, A. Giametta  
..... D. Royal, P. Royal, A. DeStefano

## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, November 17 - Thirty-Third Sunday in O.T. / Stewardship Weekend

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
8:45 a.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)  
9:00 a.m. Stewardship/Finance Coffee (Narthex)  
10:30 a.m. Mass - Grade 5/6 Class Mass (Church Center)  
11:30 a.m. Stewardship/Finance Coffee (Narthex)  
12:00 p.m. GIFT Program (Church and office Centers)  
12:00 p.m. Operation Christmas Child Packing Party (Church)

### Monday, November 18 - The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles; Saint Rose Philippine, Duchesne, Virgin

6:00 a.m. GIFT Program (Church and Office Centers)  
6:00 p.m. Operation Christmas Child Packing Party (Church)  
7:30 p.m. Fund Raising Meeting (Office Center Kitchen)

### Tuesday, November 19 - Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga (Narthex)  
7:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry (Seton Room)  
7:00 p.m. Property Management Meeting (Drexel Room)

### Wednesday, November 20 - Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)  
7:30 p.m. Book Club (Seton Room)

### Thurs., Nov. 21 - Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
3:30 p.m. 50 Plus Planning Meeting (Seton Room)  
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)

### Friday, November 22 - Saint Cecelia, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)  
5:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Food Pack up (Church & Kitchen)

### Saturday, Nov. 23 - Saint Clement I, Pope and Martyr; Saint Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr; BVM

7:00 a.m. Men's Spirituality Breakfast (Office Center)  
8:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Food Delivery (Church Center)  
4:00 p.m. Private Event (Church Center)  
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

### Sunday, November 24 - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe / Campaign for Human Development

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)  
8:45 a.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Mass - with Bell Choir (Church Center)  
10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Narthex)  
3:00 p.m. Memorial Concert (Church)



### Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered during the Holy Eucharist: **Diane Thomas, Gisele Boulay, Charlie Radomski, Billie Phillips, and Amelia Fabiano.**

**Deceased:** Diane Thomas, stepmother of Tim Barrow, Gisele Boulay, friend of Julie Cruz, Charlie Radomski, uncle of Warren Geist, Billie Phillips, mother of Colette Evanko, and Amelia Fabiano, aunt of Paul Fabiano. 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.

### **33RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

#### ***Reading, writing, remembering***

***"... the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down ..."***

***"... I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute."*** **Luke 21: 5-19**

Every so often she receives an e-mail or voice-mail or text or Facebook message: a quick message, a name and contact. The final sentence is always the same: "Do you remember me?"

"Of course I do," she responds. "How could I forget you?"

For most, she can remember exactly where that person sat in her classroom and who sat next to them. She can picture their faces, maybe hear their voices. Some are wisps in her memory — maybe she'll recall the year or grade or school.

She started teaching when she was 22. Teaching turned out to be more of a challenge than she realized. Every student required something different from her, and that could change by the hour. Problems at home, fights with friends, hunger, fear — they all showed themselves differently. Some students strove for excellence; some seemed intent on disruption. Some students competed for the best grades; some refused to do any work at all. Some students had tons of friends; some longed for one. She tried to notice all of it and manage it as best she could, while working on all that needed to be taught and learned.

There were the highly memorable hallway fights and fire drills and field trips, the field days and test days and assemblies. But it was the daily schedules, the mundane routines, that brought teacher and class together.

"For ten months a year, I'd revolve around them, circling their desks, saying their names, knowing their handwriting. We'd read together, crack up together, and bicker together. I learned when to push and when to be gentle. I knew who needed extra help and who could probably teach the class themselves. I'd try to calm the class clown and get the quiet ones to talk. Sometimes we laughed all day, and other times I drove home crying. As the year went on, we would function as a group, mostly accepting all of one another's needs and quirks. Then June came, and they gleefully broke ties ..."

She would welcome a new class in the fall and her now former students would move on to new grade levels and schools. She seldom saw them again. She occasionally reads or hears about them in the news. Sometimes it's good; most times, devastating. Some are gone, others found trouble; some made their mark. She prays that most of them have made their way.

But when one contacts her, she tells them all the good things she remembers about them. She tells them that she could never forget. At one time they were in her class. But always, they are hers.

**This good and dedicated teacher is the light that shines in the midst of violence and despair; she is the sign of God's faithful presence in the wars and storms that Jesus foretells in today's disturbing Gospel. Compassion and mercy, justice and forgiveness are the lasting treasures of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom that is created in our own homes and classrooms and churches. It is not our portfolios and resumes that matter in the end, but the simple good we do that transforms lives that is our true and lasting legacy. May God grant us the wisdom to realize what a great and lasting world we can build if we put aside our attitudes and avarice that limit our vision to the ephemeral to embrace God's grace to build such a sacred world.**



### **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

We hope you will join others in giving thanks Nov 28, at Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:30am. Fr. Rick and the Parish Staff wish you and your family a wonderful time giving thanks for the blessings we have received.

### **PASTOR'S CORNER**

This weekend we celebrate "Stewardship Weekend" with a special presentation from our finance council. I want to thank all our members on the council for their hard work in dealing with all our financial obligations over the past year. I also, want to thank all those who continue to support St. John's with your weekly commitment of "Treasure". It gives me confidence that we will be able to meet the obligations and challenges of the future well!

God Bless,  
Fr. Rick



### **STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND**

***November 16/17***

Thank you for your support of the parish. St. John Neumann is here to share God's Word, help minister to those in need spiritually and materially, and we are able to do so with your financial support. Please complete a commitment card for your intended support for 2020.

### **COME ENJOY THE BELLS!**



The Bells will be played at the  
10:30 a.m. Mass  
on Sunday  
November 24

### **33RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

***November 17, 2019***

***"...Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us."***

***(2 Thessalonians 3:9)***

Most people who live a grateful and generous lifestyle don't go around bragging about it. But through their actions and words, others do take notice. They notice because of the joy and peace that results and other people desire this in their own life. Know that the way you live your life may be the only interaction others have with our Catholic faith.



# Christian Formation

## 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  
2LT, Geerinck, Josh, 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

## THANKSGIVING FOOD PACK UP AND DELIVERIES

Our Food Pack up will be on November 22nd and Deliveries will be on the morning of November 23rd.

## THANKSGIVING PIES FOR SHIP



The St. John's Community will be providing homemade pumpkin pies for the Thanksgiving meal at SHIP (Samaritan Homeless Interim Program) in Somerville. If you would like to bake a pie, please contact Anne Germino at [project-earth@ccsjn.org](mailto:project-earth@ccsjn.org).

We will provide each baker with the pumpkin puree (from the Project Earth Garden), pie crust and a pan with the recipe. Pies need to be at the church center kitchen by Tues., November 26.



## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Saturday, Nov. 23rd,  
7:00 a.m.**

Please join us for the in the Office Center for our monthly Men's Spirituality Breakfast. Come for the food, stay for scripture.



## SHOE BOX GIFT ITEMS DUE THIS WEEKEND

*Age appropriate gifts for boys and girls  
ages 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14*

Some Gift suggestions

- A wow item: a doll, ball, stuffed toy, a car, truck, backpack, etc.
- Personal Care: comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (no liquid), reusable containers (cups, bottles, plates) colorful bandages, non-liquid lip balm, nail clippers, stick deodorant, flashlights
- Clothing and accessories: shirts, pants, underwear, socks, flip flops, hats, mittens or gloves, sunglasses, hair bows and ties, friendship bracelets
- Crafts and activities: pencils, markers, pens, coloring books, notepads, glue sticks (no liquids), playdough, stickers, skipping rope, puzzles, fishing kit, playing cards
- Toys: foam ball, finger puppets, etch-a-sketch
- School supplies: pencils, colored pencils, pencil sharpener, erasers, pencil case, pens, crayons, notebooks, blank index cards, solar powered calculator, blunt tip scissors, ruler, protractor, glue sticks (no liquid), small adhesive tape

## Social Ministry & Parish News

### FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Thanksgiving is right around the corner we have **10 Families and 16 Individuals** that we will be providing food to for the holiday.

We need the following items:

**Turkeys**

**Gravy**

**Cranberry Sauce**

**Turkey Breasts**

**Instant Potatoes**

**Canned Vegetables**

**Stuffing**

**Canned Yams**



Our Food Pack up will be on November 22nd and Deliveries will be on the morning of November 23rd. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

**ALL TURKEYS MUST BE HERE BY WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH**



### CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

St. John's Christmas Giving Tree is set up in the Narthex. We need your help to make a difference in the lives of so many challenged by their circumstances. We are supporting six different organizations this year: Anderson House, Freedom House, Little Brook Nursing Home, Newton's Guest House, SHIP and St. John's individuals and families in need. Some tags have more than one gift listed, feel free to purchase one or more of the gifts on the tag.

Please:

1. **Take a tag from the Tree.**
2. **Sign it out on the appropriate Log Sheet.**
3. **Purchase and wrap your gift, attaching the tag you took as the label.**
4. **Drop off your gift in the Narthex or the Seton Room by Sun., Dec. 8th.**

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Porto at 908-507-4359 or [kporto@aol.com](mailto:kporto@aol.com).

### OUT OF TOUCH?

Do you get emails from St. John Neumann? Our latest email was on Wednesday, November 13th - Parish Updates. If you don't get our periodic emails it means we do not have your email in our parish data base! Please send us an email to [sjn@ccsjn.org](mailto:sjn@ccsjn.org) and help us update our records!



**Don't forget to use  
our Amazon Link**

*Whenever ordering from*

Amazon. Go to our website [ccsjn.org](http://ccsjn.org) and click on the button on the front page. Or go to <http://tinyurl.com/lx7c83s>



## ONLINE PARISH GIVING

At this time of Stewardship, we hope you will consider our online Parish Giving Program. Parish Giving offers secure flexible online giving for our parishioners who would like to make their donations online using a credit card or bank transfer. You never have to bring cash or checks to church. Giving electronically also helps the church save money and plan the budget. If you want to simplify your life, go to our website [ccsjn.org](http://ccsjn.org) and click on the Parish Giving Link on the home page. Parish Giving offers you complete control over your account to change your giving as needed. You have the benefit to generate a giving report and easily choose the specific collections you wish to support. We thank you for your support which enables St. John's to minister to the community.



## MEMORIAL CONCERT

**Sunday Nov 24th at 3:00 p.m. Church Center**

Music Ministry will host a Memorial Concert in memory of our family and friends who have returned to God. The concert will take place at 3pm Sunday Nov 24 at the Church. The program will include classical, contemporary Christian music as well as St. John's worship favorites performed by various members of the music ministry and friends. The event was conceived to honor the many St John's parishioners who were so much a part of the parish and now continue their journey beyond this life. All are welcome to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring photos of parishioners or family and friends they would like to honor, remember, and celebrate.



## MUSIC

Do you play piano? Guitar? St. John's Music Ministry is in need of accompanists that are willing to substitute when our regular accompanists are unavailable. Training and guidance would be provided. Your service to this ministry would be needed only on a substitute basis, depending upon your availability. Currently most in need is the 8:00 Mass. Please consider sharing your talent! Contact Arminda at [quiltblockhead@gmail.com](mailto:quiltblockhead@gmail.com) or 908-537-2637 for more information.

Do you love to sing? Stop singing only in the shower or your car! Join Music ministry at one of our Masses. We welcome new singers any time of the year. Let us know if you are interested in participating year round or only for special seasons, such as Christmas or Easter. For information, contact Gerry Brisson at [gbrisson1@hotmail.com](mailto:gbrisson1@hotmail.com) or 908-500-8308 or Arminda Barbone [quiltblockhead@gmail.com](mailto:quiltblockhead@gmail.com) or 908-537-2637.

## TASTING EVENT 2019

**Friday, December 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.**



Join us for our Seventh Annual evening of wine, beer, chocolate and food tasting. Friday, December 6, 2019. Each year we try to offer more varieties of food, beverage and chocolate pairing for your enjoyment!

In addition to the tastings, there will be gourmet gifts for sale and the opportunity to place orders for holiday gifts from the various representatives: The Cocoa Exchange, Black River Roasters, Floral and greens arrangements, local craftsman, among others. There will also be door prizes. This year we will offer an incentive to visit all of the vendors while enjoying wine and food.

The cost is \$40.00 per person in advance; \$50.00 at the door ; tickets are available at The Community of St. John Neumann (908-832-2513) or 908-832-2207. Please join us for a great evening! For more information please contact: 908-832-2513 or visit the website: [www.ccsjn.org](http://www.ccsjn.org).

## Prayer Ministry



## MIRROR NEURONS

Have you ever heard of mirror neurons? They're those tiny little cells in our brains that fire up whenever we're around someone else. Sometimes very faintly, but other times with great force, these neurons prompt us to imitate whomever we are with. When we see someone happy or sad or angry, it's our mirror neurons that help us share in that person's feelings and thoughts. St. Paul told the Thessalonians that he and his companions tried to be role models. It was "so that you might imitate us" he wrote. Paul knew that the Thessalonians had a much better chance of staying close to the Lord if they saw other people trying to do the same thing. He knew that our environment can have a very strong effect on the ways we think, the values we adopt, and the priorities we set for our lives. We are meant to live in community. We need the example of fellow believers to help us grow in our faith. And just as important, our brothers and sisters need the witness of our faith for their growth. The more we see holiness in action, the more encouraged we will be to keep pursuing Jesus ourselves.

***"Jesus, help me to imitate you in all that I do."***

*If you enjoyed this reflection pick up a copy of the Word among us from the Narthex.*

## CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP 2020

High school students, if you are interested in a week long work camp next summer. We will be going to Saranac Lake, NY from June 21-26. Please contact Mary Connolly as soon as possible for information at [mandmconnolly@gmail.com](mailto:mandmconnolly@gmail.com).

# Parish & Diocesan News

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Dana Colabella  
Steven Geist  
Tulio Hargain  
Madi Kinney  
Bonnie Lieberwirth  
Samantha Livoti  
Declan Maloney  
Karen Moore  
John Pfeufer  
Ali Redling  
Earl & Denise Roberts  
Michael Rubright  
Tracy Schauer  
Tom Wiles  
Joey Zieba

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Periodically we review the list of the sick for whom we pray. If you requested anyone to be placed on the prayer list below, please call 832-2513 or email [snj@ccsjn.org](mailto:snj@ccsjn.org) to advise if they should remain on the prayer list going forward or if they should be removed. We will remove the names of those we do not receive an update on.

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Clara Alvarez  
Gary Anderson  
Andrew Arias  
Miguel Astacio  
Diane Bosack  
John D'Almeida  
Aiden Day  
Barbara DelPiano  
Sophia DeVita  
Anthony DeVito  
David Fabiano  
Dawn Farley  
Cindy Feighan  
Emma Finnegan  
Joseph Gruszczynski  
Thomas Haines  
Stephanie Illetscho  
Arthur Lanteri  
Jan McLeavey  
Christine Meyer  
Jon Morris  
Joan & Megan Myers  
Nancy Patterson  
Nilsa Perez Parsons  
Thomas Pearson  
Brian Roche  
Joe Romanger  
Noah Skinner  
Michael Slivka  
Dick Slusher  
Anthony Sorgi, Sr.  
Patty Galati Stafford  
Nicholas Troiano  
Don Velli  
Caden & Jill Zane  
Jim Zgoda

## GOODBYES AND LETTING GO

A physician, an expert in palliative care, was giving a presentation on the process of preparing to die.

He began by asking participants to make three lists: First, they were to write down five possessions that gave them pleasure; second, five activities that gave them joy; and third, the five people they loved most in the world.

After the audience completed their lists, the doctor began talking about a hypothetical patient, a woman whose days were filled with the usual routines, jobs and stresses of everyday life. But after she discovered a lump in her body, there came a cascade of medical interventions: first, a biopsy, then surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. After a year, it became clear that the treatments weren't working, and the oncologist told her to get her affairs in order. She entered hospice care, and gradually her world shrank to the size of her bedroom.

And throughout the story, the doctor periodically paused to ask participants to cross an item of their lists.

The possessions and activities went first, of course. Each was a choice: *Which would I have to give up more, my laptop or my car? Biking or walking?* Then it came time to start crossing off people, each decision an agonizing, **Sophie's Choice** dilemma. By now it was clear where this exercise was heading and most participants, even the men, were borrowing tissues from the women who were organized enough to keep a packet in their purses. By the time the physician's hypothetical patient died, everyone has gone through a similar shedding of what they held dearest, leaving the audience the emotional equivalent of wet noodles.

**This stripping away of possessions, status, and relationships happens to everyone as they die — and will one day happen to each one of us. Even though we believe that death is not the ultimate end, we can't deny that, in the short term, there's plenty of sadness to go around. Jesus makes clear in today's Gospel that our entire lives are a series of "deaths": of letting go, of changing, of adapting to a new set of circumstances. But we believe that every "death" can result in some form of resurrection: a new understanding, a new insight, a new appreciation. Today's Gospel should not terrify us or deflate our sense of hope, but make us aware of the things of the world that will one day be gone and the lasting things of God that are the means of peace and joy as we journey from this world to the next.**

## The Live Nativity

### Is returning to Califon United Methodist Church

We are inviting you to participate. Please attend one of the following planning meetings: November 17 12:30pm or Nov 19 at 6:30pm at Califon United Methodist Church, 15 River Rd., Califon.

- Program is Dec. 14th INSIDE - live animals will arrive ~ 3pm
- Actual event which is a play TBD ~ 4-5PM
- Participants: younger children (angels) may be assisted by older siblings, youth, adults
- Musicians (Deb asked if our Bell choir travels?)
- If individuals are interested, yet unable to attend the upcoming meetings, email: Deb Vaccarella [rockhill@att.net](mailto:rockhill@att.net)



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



An elderly couple took their four year old grandson to church on Sunday morning. The grandmother was a choir member, and she told the boy that he would be sitting with his grandfather in the church. She took the boy aside, gave him a quarter, and instructed him to poke his grandfather now and then to keep him awake during the service.

Grandpa slept through much of the service, and after church, grandma asked the boy why he hadn't followed her instructions. The boy replied: "Grandpa gave me 50 cents not to wake him up."



# Parish & Diocesan News

## A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH:

Generous and loving God, We give thanks to you for the gifts you have given us, our lives, families, friends, time, talent, and material possessions. All that we have comes from you. Help us to remember this and walk in your goodness. Help us on our spiritual journey, so that we may constantly renew our relationship with you in our believing, belonging and becoming the People of God in this Community of St. John Neumann. Give us the strength and courage to become better followers and disciples of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen



## 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. Order will be placed on **December 2nd** and cards are back in the office in one week or will be in the Narthex by the 2nd weekend..

## WHAT DO YOU PRAY FOR?

So we approach the end of the year. It is November, the increasingly barren trees herald the cold winter season ahead. As I think of the cold approaching, I sigh, it is not my favorite time of year, and yet November itself, is a wonderful time, a time of thanksgiving.

Gratitude is very important to me. Upon waking each day, the first thing I do is thank God for this gift of life I have been given. From there my prayers move on to asking for help that day or praying for others. I am sure my prayer life is like many others. We have family, friends, and people we are asked to pray for who are going through health issues or experiencing problems. And we pray for those hurt by natural disasters, we pray for the poor, the lonely; our list goes on. But I must confess with all the prayers I offer to God, I don't specifically pray for seminarians. I just recently looked at the new poster in the narthex about the current diocesan seminarians and it gave me pause to think that I should be praying for our priests and seminarians. I know we are asked to pray for vocations, but I am talking about praying for the men themselves. And I guess in truth this is a selfish reason to pray for them, but it dawned on me – praying for seminarians of today is praying for the priests who will serve our parishes in the future. So I have decided to add to my list of prayers to God, and will pray for the priests and seminarians who serve God's people.

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GOOD ADVENT AND A GREAT ADVENT?

*Just 4 Minutes!*

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## ANNULMENT INFORMATIONSESSION

An information session on **Annulments** will be held at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1890 Washington Valley Road in Martinsville on **Wednesday, November 13, 2019** and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 105 Summer Road in Three Bridges (GPS: use Flemington) on **Thursday, November 14, 2019**. Both identical presentations will begin at **7:30 p.m.** These identical presentations are intended for those who have experienced the pain and anguish of a divorce and who wish to learn more about the Annulment process and have common myths dispelled.

Presented by The Tribunal of the Diocese of Metuchen in a confidential and sensitive atmosphere. **RSVP appreciated: (732) 529-7589 or [Tribunal@diometuchen.org](mailto:Tribunal@diometuchen.org)**

## LETTER TO A SUFFERING CHURCH

If you are troubled with the crisis in the church, you are welcome to pick up Bishop Robert Barron's book Letter to a Suffering Church from the Seton Room. And if you'd like to speak with someone contact the office.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

### **November 10, 2019**

64 Donors Weekly ..... \$2,941.58  
6 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$265.00  
2 All Souls..... \$15.00

### **November 11, 2018**

66 Donors Weekly ..... \$2,417.00  
4 Yellow Brick Road ..... \$115.00

## STORE CARDS



Thanks to the **13** families who purchased **\$2,410.00** in store cards in the last two weeks, the stores gave us a profit of **\$114.30**.

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## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### **Office Angels**

Wed., November 20 L. Caprio  
Wed., December 4 J. Santoro

### **Store Cards**

#### **November 16 & 17**

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

#### **November 23 & 24**

5:30 p.m. .... B. Cestone  
8:00 a.m. .... P. Nanna  
10:30 a.m. .... D. Royal

### **Church Center Plant Watering**

Week of Nov. 17.... C. Fortenbacher  
Week of Nov. 24..... B. Lee

### **Church Center Cleaning**

November 21..... Team E  
November 28..... Team F

### **Counting**

November 18..... Malone/Cangelosi  
November 25..... Kucharski/Gagen

### **Altar Flowers**

November 23..... M. Perez  
November 28.....

## HOW TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and/or by contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hours/7 days a week). For more information on how to report abuse, visit our diocesan website: <https://diometuchen.org/report-a-suspected-abuse>.

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## What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

**#WHATSMYNAME**

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