



The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

www.ccsjn.org / sjn@ccsjn.org

November 10, 2019

Volume 37 Number 44



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

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
Father Rick Rusk..... Pastor
Emailfrrick@ccsjn.org
Sharon Janks..... Pastoral Administrator
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Susanne Erz, PhD Financial Administrator
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Wayne Infusino..... Maintenance

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

Phyllis Baker pbaker@ccsjn.org
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Project Earth projectearth@ccsjn.org
Bulletin bulletin@ccsjn.org
Youth Ministry.....sjnygroup@gmail.com

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, November 12

7:00 a.m. No Intention

Wednesday, November 13

8:00 a.m. No Intention

Thursday, November 14

7:00 a.m. No Intention

Friday, November 15

7:00 a.m. No Intention

Saturday, November 16

5:30 p.m. Rose Donofrio, req.,
Laurie Slinger

Sunday, November 17

8:00 a.m. Josephine Marple, req.,
Pete and Mary Cangelosi

10:30 a.m. Diane Wichtendahl, req.

Bauernfeind Family

Mass Schedule - November 16/17

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rusk
Reader	J. Murray
Altar Server	Uss Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	L. Garcia
.....	J. Gardner, P. Baker
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rusk
Reader	A. Piechoswski
Altar Server	Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	D. Kelemen
.....	D. Lehnert, G. Battell
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Rusk
Reader	M. Sorgi
Altar Server	Religious Ed Class Mass Servers
Music Eucharistic Minister	D. Torczon
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	M. Milko, A. DeStefano
.....	S. Pojedinec, R. Pojedinec, J. DeVito

Parish Calendar

Sunday, November 10 - Thirty-Second Sunday in O.T. / Christmas Giving Tree Begins

8:00 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
8:45 a.m. Bell Choir Practice (Church Center)
9:00 a.m. Cornerstone Coffee Narthex
10:30 a.m. Mass (Church Center)
11:30 a.m. Cornerstone Coffee (Narthex)
11:30 a.m. Discover St. John's (Drexel Room)

Monday, November 11 - Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

10:00 a.m. S.H.I.P. (Office and Church Center Kitchens)
7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council (Upper Room)

Tuesday, Nov. 12 - Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

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

Wed., Nov. 13 - Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

8:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
5:30 p.m. Yoga (Church Center Loft)
7:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting (Reception Area)

Thursday, November 14 - Weekday

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence Chapel)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Movie (Church Center)

Friday, November 15 - Saint Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

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

Saturday, Nov. 16 - Saint Margaret of Scotland; Saint Gertrude, Virgin; BVM / Stewardship Weekend

11:30 a.m. CP11 & 111 Shrine Trip (Philadelphia)
3:00 p.m. 1st Reconciliation-Session 4 (Church Loft)
5:30 p.m. Mass (Church Center)

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)



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, Amelia Fabiano** and **Margaret Thornsbery**.

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, Amelia Fabiano, aunt of Paul Fabiano, and Margaret Thornsbery, Aunt of Brandon Weldon. 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.

32ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME: “Zero-sum game.”

“ . . . [the Lord] is not God of the dead but of the living, for to him all are alive.”

Luke 20: 27-38

Too many of us “play” life as a “zero-sum game.”

“Zero-sum game” is the economic and political theory that one party’s gain requires another party’s loss. “Zero-sum” rules understandably dictate when demand exceeds supply or a pool of resources is limited — but too often the “game” is a matter of self-interest and excess: *I can only win if you lose. My happiness is dependent on your unhappiness. For me to have what I want requires you to have less.*

Our pragmatic side immediately appreciates the how and why of zero-sum thinking — but the “faith” part of us knows better.

Zero-sum thinking is a horrible theory to live by. It breeds envy and division; it rationalizes avarice and greed. The “haves” continue to dominate the “have nots,” who are condemned to struggle in an endless cycle of poverty.

Zero-sum politics is equally destructive. The conviction that somebody must win and somebody must lose in every economic, legislative or geopolitical transaction makes for a broken body politic and an anguished world. In zero-sum politics, each side viciously protects its own interests. The ultimate result is catastrophic for all.

And a zero-sum approach to religion is just as untenable. Some Christians wonder what joy their salvation will bring if God saves everyone — as if our salvation depends on the misery of some people being damned.

We fool ourselves when we entertain the notion that there is only so much love to go around. A Gospel that sees limits on one’s generosity and forgiveness is not the Gospel of Jesus. We out-and-out reject the grace of God when we refuse to aid another until we know what’s in this for us.

God’s promise of abundant life and grace should shatter our notion on zero-sum living.

Most of us view ourselves as the center of all things, that our wants and needs and happiness come before all else. We have become so intent on controlling everything that God, the Giver of life itself, is exiled from our lives, called back only when things go wrong or we’re desperate for some kind of divine intervention or affirmation. In fact, all of us live and move and have our being because of and for God — not God for us. Our response to Jesus’ call to discipleship begins with opening our minds and hearts to become what God has envisioned us to be. The Gospel Jesus expands our narrow vision of God beyond the limits of our “zero-sum” imaginations, enabling us to approach this life with hope in the possibilities of forgiveness, mercy and compassion to re-create our lives in the vision of God’s kingdom.



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.

PASTOR’S CORNER

This weekend we enter into Veterans Day. This is a time to be thankful to all of our veterans who have served us with their commitment and strength. It is also a time to pray for all of our Veterans who face serious challenges each and every day. Let us keep them in our prayers that the Lord’s blessing may be upon them always.

God Bless,
Fr. Rick

STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND

November 16/17

If you haven’t yet received your stewardship mailing it will arrive shortly. Included is our annual financial statement. Take some time to review the statement and consider your financial support of the parish for 2020.. Bring your commitment card to Mass on Stewardship Weekend. Join us after Mass for coffees where representatives from the Finance committee will be available to answer your questions.

32ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

November 10, 2019

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.” (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

There are two important lessons here. First, we are called to be generous with our encouragement and hope. As God shows us mercy, we must be merciful to others. Second, joy is contagious! The joy we receive from doing good works not only strengthens us, it encourages others as well. Share the joy of living your faith whenever you can.

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP 2020

Believe it or not, it is already time to register for CHWC 2020! Next summer we will be going to Saranac Lake, NY from June 21-26. If you are interested in attending, please contact Mary Connolly as soon as possible at mandmconnolly@gmail.com.

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.

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.



**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>



CLASS MASS GRADE 5 & 6

The 5th and 6th grade students **Class Mass is Sunday November 17, 2019. Please arrive at 9:45 AM.** The students will participate in the Mass and roles will be assigned. During the Mass the students will join Fr. Rick at the altar. Loyola Press, Sunday Connection is a wonderful site to review this week's readings.

www.loyolapress.com.

Please contact me by email if you are not able to attend the session
mnacamuli@ccsjn.org

Preview this insightful YouTube video about the Mass https://youtu.be/Zm-HxgixdvQ_C4 Ignite Your Catholic Faith What happens at the Mass

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	Turkey Breasts	Stuffing
Gravy	Instant Potatoes	Canned Yams
Cranberry Sauce	Canned Vegetables	



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.

**OPERATION
CHILLOUT
HOMELESS VETERANS
OUTREACH**



ITEMS NEEDED

- Thermal Tops
- Thermal Bottoms
- Men's Boxer shorts
- Women's underwear

Sizes for above
(new, unused please):
Men: Large, XLarge, XXL
Women: Medium, Large, XL

<http://operationchillout.org/>

To support Operation Chillout's Winter Homeless Outreach, this year they are requesting Thermal Underwear. All Donations are due this weekend, November 9th and 10th.



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 and 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.

"GUADALUPE, THE MIRACLE AND THE MESSAGE" THE MOVIE



Please join us on Thursday November 14th at 7:00 PM when the film "Guadalupe, The Miracle and the Message" will be shown in the Church Center. It tells the message of how Saint Juan Diego encountered our Lady of Guadalupe, as well as about the miraculous image and the relevance of Guadalupe through history and to this date. It was the catalyst for the conversion of so many indigenous people from a culture of human sacrifice to Catholicism in the New World. It was likely the greatest mass conversion ever. The film was produced by the Knights of Columbus in 2015, and the run time is just under an hour.

The showing is part of our preparation for the yearlong "Lighting Hearts on Fire" campaign of spiritual renewal within the diocese, culminating in the consecration of the Diocese to Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Cathedral on December 12th, 2019. It is why you see the Guadalupe banner in the Narthex, and read about it in the Catholic Spirit. Other events have included "Awakening Nights" earlier this year and the September 21st walking pilgrimage "The Way of St. Juan Diego". Once you see the movie, you can decide for yourself if Fr. Bill would award it a full 5-stars." We hope to see you at the movie!



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 quilt-ingblockhead@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 or 908-500-8308 or Arminda Barbone quilt-ingblockhead@gmail.com or 908-537-2637.



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..

Prayer Ministry



PATIENCE & KINDNESS

Everyone wants quick fixes- effortless ways to accomplish things we find hard to do. (Lose weight, fix your budget, improve your marriage with one habit!) St. Paul's assertion that love is the fulfillment of all the commandments, can sound like that same kind of thinking. Satisfy every one of the commandments in the Bible with one simple line of action? Sign me up!

But just as with all simple and instant solutions, reading the fine print can be illuminating.

Love is not simple, and it's definitely not always easy.

As St. Paul famously wrote, it requires patience and kindness. It requires that we not be jealous, quick-tempered, boastful, or proud. We can't brood over injuries or rejoice in wrongdoing (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

The Greek word for this type of love, agape, conveys the sense of giving without expecting anything in return. Loving someone like that is hard, and for most of us, it doesn't come naturally. For all of us, it's work, the labor of a lifetime. Even more to the point, we can't do it on our own. It requires extravagant amounts of divine grace.

Mercifully, God delights in lavishing that grace on anyone who asks. He delights in giving it to anyone who humbly acknowledges that they just can't say "I forgive you" one more time... or wait patiently for the slow steps of an aging parent or a distracted toddler...or resist directing scorn or sarcasm at an irritating coworker or thoughtless driver.

Every ordinary day presents opportunities for you to show sympathy or thoughtfulness to someone else or to refuse to entertain resentful or egotistic thoughts. Every ordinary day you can grow in the love that is the fulfillment of the law, because God will help you.

"Father, I need your grace today to love people patiently, kindly and selflessly."

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

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 sjn@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 Illletscho
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

THE GIFT OF THE "HOLIDAY MEN"

She is the daughter and granddaughter of "holiday men."

"Holiday man" was a term her grandmother used to describe three generations of her family's absentee fathers who, like clockwork, would return around Christmas before disappearing again to whereabouts unknown.

Both her father and grandfather were only occasional presences in her life. There would be expressions of sorrow for not being there to raise her, apologies for missing milestone events, assurances that Daddy loved her — a brief hope that things would change. But they never did.

Before heading off to college, she wondered if the women in her family were cursed. So one day she asked her mother about her relationship with her father. She wanted to know every misstep in their love story, determined to avoid her mother's fate. But as she reflected on her parents' story, she realized what the "holiday men" in her clan left behind: "a resilient, quick-witted tribe of matriarchs who didn't miss a beat when their husbands fell short of their vows. Instead, they cut them off and shielded their offspring from the same hollow attempts at love."

"I had put finding love on a pedestal in my teenage years, and as such, I had been so busy pitying the matriarchs' plight that I ignored their power. My grandmother, the first in her family to attend and finish college, had raised two Harvard graduates on her teacher's salary: my uncle, who became a doctor, and my mother, who became a lawyer. Years later, she stepped in to help raise me when my mother's marriage fell apart.

"Checking up on my homework, my grandmother would point to her head and say, 'What you have up here, no one can take away from you.' Dragging me to church and volunteer events, she showed me how giving back was the best thing we could do with our blessings . . . She taught by example that we needed to look out for other people.

"My mother, the breadwinner and provider, also gave me everything my father couldn't: strong values, tough love, weekend drives to theater and choir and dance practices on the other side of town. She worked late nights to put me in the best schools that led me to a Harvard education, one that she had been saving for since before I was born . . ."

"I was surrounded by fundamentally good, loving and formidable women who pushed me to think for myself when I asked for another's opinion, to save my tears whenever I cried over something trivial, to strive to learn as much as I could because knowledge would be my power."

And now she has found love with her fiancé, a man who is everything that her father and grandfather were not. And every day she thanks the women in her life — the gift the "holiday men" left behind.

This young woman's life moves from grieving what is absent in her life to realizing the good in her life. She experiences resurrection: moving from the cross of regret at her father's failings to gratitude for the constant, unconditional love of her mother. Resurrection is the promise and hope of our faith as Christians — but resurrection is also an attitude, a perspective for approaching life and sorting out the decisions and complexities of our lives. In dying to our own worst impulses and disappointments, to the sometimes-overwhelming sense of hopelessness that paralyzes us, we can rise to the heights of the life and love of God. To become "sons and daughters of God" is to live with the conviction that the love of God transcends our despair, anxieties and sense of loss and hopelessness, and that God's presence in our life will one day bring us to the fulfillment of the Easter miracle.



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"

Additional All Souls Intentions

Deceased:

Sr. Mary B. Buster
Helen Deliso
Michael Deliso
Gordon Furlong
Peter Harmon
Rose Harmon
Michael Lowerre
Frances Mattiello
Mary Mustacchio

Dean Northrop
Annette Patterson
Skip Patterson
Jennie Sepe
Louis Sepe, Sr.
Maria Sepe
Richard Sepe
Dana Wilson
Matt Taratino

Members of:

DeStefano Family
Dooley Family
Janas Family
Petrone Family
Quinn Family

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

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.

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**



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



During a children's sermon, a priest asked the youngsters, "Does anyone know what a bishop does?"

A young lad raised his hand. "Moves diagonally."

WEEKLY COLLECTION

November 3, 2019

60 Donors Weekly \$4,614.00
37 Yellow Brick Road \$1,014.00
1 Thanksgiving \$100.00
2 World Mission \$60.00
3 All Souls \$71.00

November 4, 2018

72 Donors Weekly \$3,648.00
51 Yellow Brick Road \$1,694.00
8 All Souls \$157.00

STORE CARDS



Thanks to the **10** families who purchased **\$1,920.00** in store cards in the last two weeks, the stores gave us a profit of **\$112.35**.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Wed., November 13..... C. Behrens
Wed., November 20..... L. Caprio

Store Cards

November 9 & 10

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

November 16 & 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 Nov. 10 D. Lance
Week of Nov. 17 C. Fortenbacker

Church Center Cleaning

November 14 Team D
November 21 Team E

Counting

November 11 Kucharski/McCabe
November 18 Malone/Cangelosi

Altar Flowers

November 16 J. Klacik
November 23 M. Perez

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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