



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 22, 2009

"...whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

MISSION STATEMENT

**Catholic Community of St. John Neumann
1998-1999**

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

THE WEEK THAT IS

**Sunday, March 22 – Fourth Sunday of Lent/Catholic
Relief (Black & National Missions)**

10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word (Church
Center)

Monday, March 23 – St. Toribio de Mogrovejo

Tuesday, March 24 – Bl. John "DelBastone"

9:30 a.m. Quilting (Office Center)
7:00 p.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
7:00 p.m. Property Management Committee Meeting
(Office Center)

Wednesday, March 25 – Annunciation of the Lord

9:30 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
6:15 p.m. Lenten Bible Study (Office Center)
7:30 p.m. Adult Faith Formation (Office Center)

Thursday, March 26 – St. Felicitas

7:00 p.m. Quilting (Office Center)
7:30 p.m. Music Ministry (Church Center)

Friday, March 27 – St. Paul of Corinth

No Meat

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. Folk Group (Church Center)

Saturday, March 28 – St. Hilareian of Pelekete

9:30 a.m. Saturday Catechesis (Church Center)

**Sunday, March 29 – Fifth Sunday of Lent/Easter Flower
Orders Due**

9:00 a.m. K-6 Catechesis (Valley View School)
9:00 a.m. Adult Faith Formation (Valley View School)
9:00 a.m. Auction Committee Meeting (Church Center)
10:30 a.m. Coffee for Pastoral Council (Church Center)
6:30 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church Center)

MASS SCHEDULE

March 28 & 29

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Celebrant Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector C. Drzewiecki
Altar Servers F. Kennedy
Ministers of the Eucharist D. Simila, J. Simila,
..... J. Gardner, D. Kelemen, M. MacKenzie

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector C. McVicker
Altar Server Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist T. Klawunn, J. Klawunn,
..... D. Sima, J. Sima, S. Janks

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Celebrant Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector A. DeStefano
Altar Server Malone Family
Ministers of the Eucharist R. Martalus, B. Martalus,
..... W. Zelesny, C. Zelesny, E. Lacy

Sunday 12:15 p.m.

Celebrant Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector K. Skuza
Ministers of the Eucharist K. Gemma, A. Giametta

CRS/NATIONAL BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS COLLECTION

This Weekend

The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Collection supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement services to the victims of persecution, war and natural disasters as well as development projects to improve the living conditions of the poor; advocacy on behalf of the powerless; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; and legal and support services to poor immigrants.

The Church's National Collection for Black and Indian Missions in the United States will be combined with the CRS collection. Since 1884, proceeds from this collection are distributed as grants to dioceses supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which would otherwise be in danger of disappearing among the Black, American Indian, Eskimo and Aleute communities of the United States.

LAETARE SUNDAY

REJOICE! This is the opening Latin word for this weekend's Masses. We are half-way through Lent - Easter is closer - spring is more evident. This gives us great joy, we are called to rejoice. The Church changes its environment and vestments to rose color. There is a flash of light in the darkness. We are not to lose hope. We can see the sun taking over, Our journey will not be in vain.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

We enter into a new covenant people by our baptism. In the early Church, baptism was especially important as the sign of entry into the community. Going down into the waters of baptism symbolized entering into the death of Jesus by our own "drowning." Coming up from the water symbolized our being born again into a new life with Christ. (CCC #1213-28, 1262-66). All Christians are born again, in Nicodemus' words, at our baptism. But just as in our natural life we do not stay infants forever but need to grow up, so also being born again is just the first moment in our long process of conversion (CCC #2006-11). Our Lenten journey confronts us with the Christian challenge to grow up in our relationship with God and others.

TEMPLE

Cyrus, the great anointed king of Persia, ordered a temple built for God's presence in Jerusalem. Jesus, the anointed Son of God, is raised up to be the new temple of God's living presence for every believer. He is the healing sign of salvation by faith, our "gift from the God of infinite richness." His flourishing cross is "God's work of art created in Christ Jesus," the vine on which we can be the branches that bud and flower during Lent.

† REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS †

Irene Adams	Anthony Fiorillo	Erica Morgan
Eleanor Angeline	Ann Flemming	Natalie O'Hearn
Joe Angeline	Ryan Flynn	Robert Olivetti
Pat Arat	Joe Ford	Gloria Omstead
Antonia Baasten	Katelynn Fortenbacker	Rolv Omstead
Kate Bachman	Helen Galligan	Floyd Opdyke
Richard Baker	Theresa Galvano	Daisy Ort
John Ballard	Frank Ghiselli	Nilsa Perez-Parsons
Peter Barbieri	Jayne Giese	John Pfeufer
Agnes Barhart	Jerry Goski	Steve Plume
Carol Becker	Sophia Goski	John & Nicole Ramsden
Mary Anna Bennett	Robert Govett	Albert Rayburn
Thomas Bennett, Sr.	Rose Gradone	Ed Reinagel
Jean Blewitt	Angela Grieco	Jerry Reslmaier
Mary Bock	Christina Grillo	Alissa Marie Ricciardi
Loretta Briener	Colleen Hendzrak	Pat Roach
Eugene Brzezienski	Anita Horan	Julie Ruby
Shirley Bumen	Richard Hughes	John Sawczuk
James Burns	Brittney Ianitto	Maria Sawczuk
John Burns	Jeannine Imperiale	Ed Scharf
Eileen Cafilin	Ernest Jandersit	Chris Seltzer
Angie Caponetti	Robert Jandersit	Abe Shalaby
Barbara Carbonneau	Nona Janks	Paul Shubeck
Joseph Carpentiere	Diana Janowski	Sister Mary George
John Caspar	Bob Jenkinson	Marianna Sivori
Jose Castro	Harry Kaemmerer	Carol Smarsh
Lou Citarelli	John Kaemmerer	Colleen Smith
Riley Clark	Trudy Kaemmerer	Alice Sprague
Lorraine Cochrane	Garrison Keillor	Joseph Sterphone
Tony Colenari	Rosemary Kimbal	Felicia Steward
Gerard Cook	Mary Kirchner	Marla Stivers
Valerie Cordero	Spencer Kydd	William Stortz
Kristine Orvos Cresti	Michael Lamotte	Timothy Struble
Natalia Cresti	Harry Larson	Rose Uricchio
Dalton Cummins	Kevin Leahy	Robert Villani
Joseph D'Achino	Holly Lear	Dayelle Watts
Sr. Ann Damian	Jewel LeVine	James Emory Weber, Sr.
Maria Elena Dawson	Michele Makos	Harvey Whille
Peter Demchur	Taylor Maleski	John William
Dorothy Deo	Silas Mastro	Gloria Wood
Nick DeVincenzo	Tom Martin	Elizabeth Wodrich
Anthony DeVito	Judy Martino	Lynn Yondolino
Mary Ditzel	Marie Mazzoni	John J. Zelesny
Ann Dodwell	Susan McHugh	Eileen Zocchi
Betty Doyle	Patrick McKenna	Michael Zocchi
Paul DuPre	Brett Melworn	
Lou Eacovalle	George Meyer	
Courtney Ellis	George Milke	
Hannah Farrington	Betsy Miller	
Mary Feo	Michael Milto	
Akiea Finn	Nina Montouri	

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, March 24

7:00 p.m. Thomas Bennett Sr. req. Janks Family

Wednesday, March 25

9:30 a.m. People of the Parish

Friday, March 27

7:00 a.m. Catherine Bohem & Family

Saturday, March 28

5:30 p.m. Jerome Tobin Jackson req. Susan & Danny Bishop

Sunday, March 29

8:00 a.m. Ann Kalafut req. Maureen & Rich Sepe

10:30 a.m. Eugene Makala req. Pfeufer Family

12:15 p.m. Siobhan Hanly req. Hanly Family

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Monday, March 23

Bulletin

Tuesday, March 24

10:00 a.m. Appointment (Neumann Residence)

7:00 p.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)

7:00 p.m. Property Management Meeting (Office Center)

Wednesday, March 25

9:30 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)

10:00 a.m. Appointment (Neumann Residence)

Thursday, March 26

Planting Peas

Friday, March 27

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)

Saturday, March 28

1:00 p.m. Communion Call (Away)

REMEMBERED AT MASS



We stand together in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. The following will be remembered in the Eucharistic Prayer: **Marta Wiepzyński – Thomas Bennett – Ed Dalton – Gerald Cassebaum – Bruce Kennedy – Jennie Tullo – John McGourty – Stella Servas – Zaira Mazzoni**

Deceased: **Stella Servas**, friend of the Gates Family; **Zaira Mazzoni**, mother of Iole Matthews. 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.



SOCIAL MINISTRY

FROM OUR SPONSOR CHILD

The following is a letter from our sponsor child Angel Fajardo Cerdena who lives in the Philippines. In addition to our regular sponsorship, our parish contributed an additional one-hundred dollars as a Christmas gift of extra assistance for her. Angel lives with her grandmother and her only income is derived from working in a rice field owned by a neighbor. Angel decided to use the money to purchase rice and other food commodities, bed foam and a clothes organizer. She and her family deeply appreciate our support and consider us the "greatest blessing" to their lives.

Dear St. John Newman Church,
Greetings!! How's the loving persons of my life? I wrote you because I want to let you know that I am very thankful to you for sending us the money. It really helped us a lot. By the way, I decided to use the money for our groceries, bed foam and a durabox. The groceries were for our daily needs. Actually before, we are experiencing food shortage but because of your kindness and support for us we survived from that problem. I and my family were so happy and comfortable when sleeping at night since we are now using the new bed foam. We also now have our durabox for our clothes. I think I would not be happy right now if you are not in my life. We are really lucky that we have the sponsors like you. Maybe without you we won't be able to pass it through. God is so great that he did not neglect us for he gave me and my family the greatest blessing of all, one that is you. St. John Neumann church.

I hope this letter of mine would be enough to thank you even though I am not able to say it to you personally. I hope and I pray that you won't get tired of helping needy person like me. Thank you very much and God Bless!!

Love lots, Angel Cerdena

SOME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of help in the following Social Ministry areas:

1. We need someone to plan the layout and get certain plants started for spring planting for the Project Earth garden.
2. Someone is needed to visit with and take an individual out once a week.

If you can assist in any of these areas please contact Earl Roberts – 908-832-2513 or email eroberts@ccsjn.org.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Tuesday, March 24, Wednesday, March 25 & Friday, March 27

Our parish will be supporting Spruce Run Lutheran Church for the Interfaith Hospitality Network. The Network provides temporary housing for families as well as individuals in need. The guests will be at Spruce Run from Sunday March 22 through Sunday April 5. Saint Johns is responsible for Tuesday, March 24, Wednesday March 25 and Friday March 27. Volunteers are needed for providing meals and/or hospitality. This is a great opportunity for service for families as well as individuals.

Each of our 3 days we need: 5:00- 8:00 p.m. hospitality; dinners; dessert; 8:00- 10:00 p.m. hospitality; 10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. overnight (Friday overnight is until 8:00 a.m.)
Look for sign up sheets in the bulletin and our website.
Please call Eileen Papson at 832-7290 with any questions. Or email at papson@comcast.net.

GENNESARET

May 15, 16, and 17

The 35th Gennesaret Retreat for the seriously ill will be held at the Vincentian Renewal Center in Princeton on May 15, 16, and 17 2009. You can help:

- by passing this information on to those who come in contact with the seriously ill or disabled people in the community
- praying for the retreatants
- writing a short note of encouragement for a retreatant. (*address it Dear Friend and send to 11 Anton Place, Aberdeen, NJ 07747*)
- sponsoring a retreatant (The retreat is free for the retreatants; however the cost to Gennesaret is \$140 per person which includes meals and lodging.)

Due to the anticipated closure of the Vincentian Center the scheduled October retreat will be held at the Xavier Center on the grounds of St. Elizabeth College. **If you have questions or would like to register please call Hilare Reinold 732-566-7237.**

NORWESCAP

NORWESCAP'S Career & Life Transitions Center for Women is having a ScrapBooking Fundraiser **"Girls Just Wanna Crop! Women Helping Women – the Glue that Holds Us Together."** This fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Roman Jeweler's Renaissance Plaza, Flemington, NJ. Scrapbooking enthusiasts are invited to come out for a creative and fun-filled day and to also support this vital community program. Instructional workshops will be available for the beginner scrapbooker! For those who register before 4/1 the cost to attend this event is \$50 and after 4/2 the cost will be \$55. Admission cost includes a continental breakfast, lunch and dinner. **For more information see flyer in the Narthex or to register, please call the Career & Life Transitions Center for Women at 908-835-2624 or contact online at careerlife@norwescap.org.**

NORWESCAP is a non-profit community action agency established in 1965 that creates opportunities for over 30k low-income people in northwest New Jersey by providing a large portfolio of self-sufficiency and emergency services. The mission of NORWESCAP is "Fighting Poverty, Creating Opportunities and Changing Lives."

EASTER FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Our Easter Food – Pick, Pack and Deliver will, like everything else associated with Easter comes early this year. Over the next few weeks please look for bargains on hams frozen, fresh or canned. They can be left in the appropriate freezer or refrigerator in the Carriage House.
The Pick is scheduled for Thursday – April 2 at 6:00 p.m., Pack is scheduled for Friday – April 3 at 7:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

BAPTISM PROGRAM

The Baptism program here at St. John's employs individuals or couples who minister to those seeking Baptism for their child. The work currently involves four program meetings a year and hosting individual or multiple baptisms following those programs during Saturday or Sunday Mass.

If you have a desire to work in this ministry serving the needs of those to be newly received in our faith, please use the bulletin volunteer sheet or email Earl Roberts at eroberts@ccsjn.org.

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

Friday, June 12, 7:15 p.m., Church Center



Infant baptism preparation is an outreach of support to new parents by the St. John's Baptism Team on behalf of our community. Following an initial pastoral visit at the parish office with either the Pastoral Assistant for Evangelization and Social Ministry or the Coordinator of the

Baptism Preparation Team to start the process, parents attend one preparation session, which is offered quarterly. Baptism Host Couples from St. John's Baptism Team facilitate the program and assist on the day of Baptism as well. All St. John's Baptisms are celebrated at a regular weekend Mass, except in special circumstances. The Community is present to welcome the child into the church and to pledge their support to the new parents as they raise their child in the faith we share. Parents are expected to be registered active members of The Community of St. John Neumann. At least one Godparent needs to be a practicing Catholic. The next scheduled Baptism Prep Program is **Friday – June 12 at 7:15 p.m.** **The deadline for signing up to attend this program is Friday – June 5.** For more information or to begin the process please call the parish office center at 832-2513 or use the online form from the parish website – www.ccsjn.org.

SEDER MEAL

Thursday, April 9, 6:00 p.m., Church Center

All Confirmandi will celebrate a Seder Meal on Holy Thursday, April 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Center followed by Holy Thursday Liturgy at 8:00 p.m.. We encourage all Confirmation families to come and celebrate Holy Thursday Liturgy with their child.

LIVING STATIONS

Good Friday, April 10, 1:00 p.m.

Living Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. on Good Friday, April 10 on the Church grounds. A practice for all Confirmandi participating in the Living Stations will be held on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Office Center Drexel Room. Participants should arrive at 12:00 Noon on Good Friday and report to the Church Center.

and Deliver will begin on Saturday – April 4 at 8:00 a.m. If you wish to volunteer you can use the signup sheet included with this bulletin or signup on the parish website: www.ccsjn.org and go to "Forms & Responses."

If you cannot help with the Pick, Pack and Deliver please consider making a monetary donation by dropping your cash or check into the Social Ministry Drop Box in the Narthex next to the Social Ministry Station. Donations marked "St. John's Food Pantry" will be used to purchase the necessary fresh food items as well as anything that we might come up short on to complete the Easter meals.

FOOD PANTRY

The Easter food distribution is coming quickly in March 2009. Our donations to the local food banks and our Thanksgiving and Christmas deliveries seriously depleted the SJN food pantry. If each of us brings one non-perishable item to church each Sunday we could fill our pantry to overflowing by Easter. What do you say? One canned good each week. It's that simple.

GOOD NEWS HOME for WOMEN

The Good News Home for Women will hold their annual bake sale Saturday, April 11 – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at two locations: Wal*Mart in Clinton, NJ and Wal*Mart in Whitehouse, NJ

The Good News Home for Women in Flemington, NJ is a nonprofit, long-term residential rehabilitation center. Founded in 1983 by the late G. Tracy Ginsburg, the Home offers a holistic approach of healing to the mind, body and spirit for women who want to recover from the devastating effects of alcohol and other drug additions.

WASHER NEEDED

If you are updating your appliances and have a working washing machine, the Bernardine Franciscan sisters at the Villa of Our Lady's Retreat House are in need of good washing machine. **If you have one or would like to donate toward meeting their need please contact Earl at eroberts@ccsjn.org or call 908-832-2513.**

RESPECT LIFE

The prominent Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer clearly described the act of abortion: "The simple fact is that God certainly intended to create a human being and that this nascent human being has been deliberately deprived of his life. And that is nothing but murder."

Readings for the week of March 22, 2009

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38 (Annunciation)
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

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WHY I L*VE LENT

Why do you LOVE or LIVE Lent?

Thanks to **Joe Sima** for setting up the Board Display. You can add your reflections directly there.

- because it puts things in perspective.
- because I anticipate the liturgy of Holy Thursday (one of my favorites).
- because I find the liturgy of Good Friday special.
- because of childhood memories of the Mite Box and saving pennies which has been replaced with the Rice Bowl.
- because of the memory of kissing the crucifix on the pillow on Good Friday.
- because we have pizza night on Fridays.
- because Spring is almost here.
- new and exciting changes are everywhere.
- because it gives a reason for self-improvement and personal change.
- because of a personal recharging/refueling that gives a joyful and enjoyable spirit.

HOW I L*VE LENT

How do I love or live Lent? How is more about action than thought process so it may be easier to address. In the Gospel Jesus is telling Nicodemus that he must be born again. Nicodemus doesn't understand the message. He thinks he has to enter into the womb again. There is a different HOW. It is not physical birth but being born anew in a deeper or spiritual sense. John always leads us to a deeper level or meaning. Maybe our HOWs must be seen from a different perspective than we immediately see.

The reading from the second Book of Chronicles brings us face to face with a Messianic image of a Persian - Cyrus. He is not a Jew and yet the people see him as the deliverer. The author of Ephesians asks us to see in the cross an image of immeasurable riches, rich in mercy and kindness. We need to look beyond the cross to see this.

HOW do you see Lent? What lies in the deeper reflection about this season? How do you deal with prayers, fasting, and almsgiving? How do you keep your eyes fixed beyond the cross to Paschal mysteries? How do you deal with the difficulties of life? How do you see beyond them to the immeasurable riches that God bestows?

Write them on the board or email them to me - jwmickiewicz@ccsjn.org.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Consult last week's bulletin
No meat on Fridays during Lent.
Do something special to make the Gospel values alive.
"Repent and live the Gospel values!"

THE CHURCH SUGGESTS:

Not eating meat on Fridays of Lent.
Not eating meat and not eating between meals on Ash Wednesday.
Engage in works of charity.
Give money, food or clothing to the poor.

THE YEAR OF ST. PAUL

Reading II: Ephesians 2:4-10

If, as is widely held today, Ephesians is a Deutero-Pauline composition, that is, written by a disciple of Paul and a member of the Pauline school after the Apostle's death, this passage certainly captures the spirit of the Apostle himself. As in so many New Testament writings of the subapostolic period, we have here a citation from a hymn, evidently a baptismal hymn (note the relative "who," the concentration on the basic facts of the kerygma, and the liturgical "we" style) in verses 4-6.

Note also the parenthetical insertion in verse 5, which changes from the first person plural to the second person plural. Note further the connection between this hymn and that in [Colossians 2:12](#), as well as Paul's exposition of baptism in [Romans 6](#).

All of these passages associate baptism with the death and resurrection of Christ. But there is a difference. In Romans 6 the genuine Paul is careful to say that while we have died with Christ in baptism, nevertheless our rising with him lies in the eschatological future and is a challenge to ethical realization in the present. In Colossians both death and resurrection are experienced already in baptism.

The hymn in Ephesians goes further: not only are we risen with Christ but we have already been translated into heaven with him. This approaches Gnosticism (see [2 Timothy 2:18](#)).

Probably Romans and Colossians are drawing upon the same hymn that Ephesians quotes. We thus have a trajectory: (1) primitive Hellenistic-Christian baptismal hymn; (2) Romans 6; (3) Colossians 2:12; (4) Ephesians; (5) second-century Gnosticism.

Being in heaven with Christ is not a matter for self-congratulation or for a false sense of security, so the author inserts the parenthesis: "by grace you have been saved." Christian initiation is not simply, as it was for the Gnostics, an illumination about one's true, innermost nature.

The author expands this Pauline affirmation very precisely in verse 8 ("by grace . . . through faith"). He then introduces his second anti-Gnostic point: the Christian life is not an intoxication with being in heaven already, but a constant call for strenuous moral effort.

It means doing the good works that God has prepared for us to walk in. This again is good Paulinism. Paul excludes works from any role in justification but insists that they are its consequence.

from Reginald Fuller

1. In *Diary of a Country Priest*, the writer George Bernanos' has this statement: "Grace is everywhere." Can this be true? Discuss.

2. How would you define grace? Describe three places where grace might be at work in the world or in your life today.

3. How do you experience the richness of God's mercy?

4. You are God's handiwork. How does this image resonate with you?

5. Riches, immeasurable, good works – what images come to mind?

EVANGELIZATION

EVANGELIZATION TEAM

Our Evangelization Team is in search of a few new members. The team meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month to explore avenues and implement strategies to help all parishioners work together to become an evangelizing community: one that reaches out to welcome others, to share faith, to live by the gospel values and to foster renewal of community and society.

Evangelization is an ongoing commitment at St. John Neumann parish. Together, we are on a continuing journey, seeking always to renew and deepen our faith. At the same time, we reach out to welcome others who are searching for a church community in which their faith can grow. **If you have any questions or feel called to this ministry please respond using the bulletin volunteer insert or email Earl Roberts at eroberts@ccsjn.org.**

WASHING OF FEET



While we no longer trod dirt paths and roads as we travel anymore, the act of foot washing for Christians is still as meaningful today as it was on the first Holy Thursday.

If Jesus, our Christ who was both God and man, could love and humble himself to wash the dust from the apostle's feet prior to his washing all humanity's guilt for original sin and establishing a wellspring of redeeming grace, can we do any less and be true followers?

It is clear in St. John's gospel (13:1-20) that Jesus expected both his apostles and those who followed his teaching to exhibit the love, humility and attitude of service to others He was demonstrating during His Passover Meal that Holy Thursday evening. It was a special and singular act. Not the physical act of a lowly slave washing the feet of those of a higher station who were about to partake of a meal, rather it was, as a person of that day would view it, someone of the highest rank doing an unprecedented thing by washing the feet of those of lower rank. It has been said the act had both physical and spiritual elements, for many believe that it was at this point that the community of Christ's followers, the Church, was created and its governance provided for.

Is it not both our duty and privilege to take part in the washing of feet? Please consider taking an active part in this year's **Holy Thursday – Washing of Feet** by volunteering your happy feet using the bulletin sign-up sheet or on-line at www.ccsjn.org "forms and responses." Twelve are needed at the 8:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass.

RETURNING TO THE CHURCH?

If you or someone that you know is returning to the Church after a long absence, please call Earl Roberts at 832-2262. Let us welcome you/them back and provide a copy of a "Handbook for Today's Catholic" to help you grow in your faith.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays during Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Center.

CATHOLIC INQUIRY

Catholic Inquiry is the first phase of the journey to initiation for adults. It is a time for informally sharing our stories and helping one another discern where God is leading. It's a time to get acquainted with Catholics and our Church. **If you are thinking about becoming Catholic**, you are invited to journey with members of St. John's Initiation Team on the rewarding and enriching path to becoming a Catholic Christian. **The details and duration of this faith journey vary according to each individual's starting point.**

YOUR PRAYERS

Please support all parish ministries as a spiritual partner by remembering us each day in your prayers using your own prayers or the Bible. Pray that the Holy Spirit will be with all of us who are actively involved in our community ministries.

STEWARDSHIP

SPONSORING ST. MARY'S PARISH

This Weekend

The Pastoral Council developed a Five Year Plan at its inception. This Plan was recently presented in its updated format. One of the items in the Plan under **Stewardship** the **Goal**: "Foster a sense of ownership among all parishioners through Stewardship." Objective 2 is "Sponsor a parish or mission in an underdeveloped area of the US or internationally in order to increase our outreach ministries to expand our global horizons."

With the joint effort of the Stewardship Committee and the Fundraising Committee we have decided to use the funds collected for Shop Rite and A&P cash cards on the Third Weekend of each month for the parish of St. Mary's in Coeburn, VA and the associated parishes of Good Shepherd, Lebanon and St. Therese, St. Paul VA. The pastor is Rev. Michael J. Herbert. We hope to establish a relationship with this parish and have an exchange of visiting and helping during the summer months. We will keep you updated on these developments.

We will also share their story with you. From information that I can glean from THE OFFICIAL CATHOLIC DIRECTORY, St. Therese's has 6 students in Religious Education and Good Shepherd has 7 students. I have not as yet located the numbers at St. Mary's. We will connect those dots as we go along.

Join us on this new venture by supporting the Shop Rite and A&P cash cards program on the third weekend of each month.

On the Third Weekend of March 14 - 15 we began this program of sending on a monthly basis. Thanks to the 41 families who purchased \$5,600.00 worth of cards, we were able to donate \$280.00 profit, in addition to \$145.00 in cash donations.

"For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God." — Jn 3:20-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

ADULT FORMATION

PONDERING PAUSES

*from UNCHRISTIAN - what a new generation really thinks about Christianity. . . and why it matters
by David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons p. 16-17*

NEW DIRECTIONS

Along with describing the data and experiences of outsiders, this book includes the reactions from over two dozen Christian leaders and pastors, some well-known and others less so. As Gabe and I talked about the direction of this book, we felt that you should hear from these leaders. They are on the front lines of dealing with the hostility that Christianity faces, and you should understand what they are doing and how they are thinking. These men and women, in action and attitude, are helping to reshape the negative images. They are helping to articulate a "kinder, gentler" faith - one that engages people but does not compromise its passion for Jesus at its theological understanding of him.

I hope you will be challenged and inspired through the research and the contributors' thoughts. The church desperately needs more people who facilitate a deeper, more authentic vision of Christian faith in our pluralistic, sophisticated culture.

Before we dig in, allow me to describe some important details about this book. First, let me clarify some of the language. The main group we studied is "outsiders," those looking at the Christian faith from the outside. This group includes atheists, agnostics, those affiliated with a faith other than Christianity (such as Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, Mormonism, and so on), and other unchurched adults who are not born-again Christians. According to the research, part of the problem is we often describe these people with derogatory labels and terms, which they find offensive. Christians use terms like "pagans" or "the lost" or worse. Other phrases are also inadequate, such as "non-Christians" (which defines them simply by what they are not) as well as "non-believers" or "seekers" (labels that are not necessarily true of all outsiders).

Labeling people can undermine our ability to see them as human beings and as individuals. I am not entirely comfortable using the term "outsiders," since it seems to classify people by where they are not, but for the sake of discussing perceptions, we have to use something. And I do not believe that, in the sense we are using it, most outsiders would take offense.

(to be continued)

ADULT FAITH DISCUSSION GROUP

This Lent explore the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection in your own life. Come join our discussion on the "Power of the Cross" on either **Wednesday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Seton Room** or **March 29 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Valley View School cafeteria. There is real freedom in the cross!

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Office Center

A parish Bible Study group exploring the Seven Last Words of Christ will meet in the Seton Room once a week on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. during Lent. **Contact Dr. Rose Fay for more information at rosefay@ccsjn.org or 832-2162.**

A LENTEN GATHERING

Still Available

Dr. Nick Viggiano, a retired chiropractor has offered to do a Lenten series. He can cover a variety of topics. His fax gives a general theme of ". . .and deliver us from needless anxiety and worry. . ." "How the mind and body works during these trying times. . ." One of the times I suggested was after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. I am sure that he would accommodate a topic that covers a variety of fields. "Human Personality/ Body- Soul-Psyche-Spirit/ The Human Organism / Being / Basic Primary Psychology / Natural Philosophy / Biology.

If you think you may be interested use the usual ways to respond - Phone - email - tear out sheet in the bulletin or on line. We need to know your interest and your availability before we schedule.

2008 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Continuing the Mission of Christ



Thank you to all who have contributed so generously to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. As our theme suggests, your gift is "Continuing the Mission of Christ" through the more than 30 ministries supported by the appeal. Every gift is important and every gift is greatly appreciated.

**\$32,264.98 pledged from 137 families toward our goal of \$38,400. Thank you!
84.02% to goal**



©LPI

CATECHESIS

“THE WORD OF GOD in the life and mission of the Church”

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Focus: God's Love for All
“Jesus is the ultimate demonstration of God's love for us.”

Scripture: Jesus said to Nicodemus: “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him . . .”

John 3: 14-21

Reflection: I have experienced God's great love for me when...I help others come to believe in Jesus by...

Song: “The Light of Christ” #530

Story: After-hour prayer

Late in the afternoon, a teenager sneaks into a back pew. He drops his backpack, unplugs his i-pod and stuffs his basketball behind the kneeler. His aloofness and sullenness mask his feelings of being overwhelmed by living in that strange land between childhood and adulthood, trying to meet the expectations of teachers to be a scholar, his coaches to be champion, and his classmates to be cool. In the quiet darkness, he sits and prays simply, “Lord, it's me, Joe . . .”

In another part of the church, an exhausted businessman sinks into a seat. It has been a horrible day — he had to let five people go in his small agency. He had no choice: business is drying up. He did everything he could to keep them on; he offered severance pay and extended benefits; still, he feels like the worst person who ever lived. In the nightmare he is struggling through, he prays, “God, help me keep it together.”

And in front of the statue of the Mother of God, a woman sits fingering her rosary. The Aves fall silently from her lips — but her thoughts are elsewhere: another confrontation with her daughter, the illness of her mother, the growing distance between her and husband. She stops her beads, sinks to the floor and cries, “Lord, I'm not sure I can go on.”

Like Nicodemus, we find ourselves coming to Jesus in the middle of our darkest nights, seeking hope and consolation, direction and comfort. Jesus' meeting with Nicodemus is one of the most hopeful and assuring episodes in the Gospels. In his questioning and confusion, his fears and doubts, Nicodemus is welcomed by Jesus with understanding and compassion. God so loves us that, by his grace, he transforms our darkest nights into the morning light of hope; by his wisdom, he transfigures our Good Friday despair into Easter joy; by his compassion, he heals our broken spirits into hearts made whole.

Connections, March 2009

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUNDRAISER GERTRUDE HAWK

You may still order Gertrude Hawk Easter candy and participate in this year's fundraiser on-line at www.gertrudehawk.com. Our group # is 119849. **Online orders** may still be ordered up until **April 3** and will be shipped to your home. Thanks for your kind support. **Any questions call Annette Tagliareni at 832-2162.**

OPERATION RICE BOWL 2009

In today's Gospel, the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus reminds us during Lent that as we seek to put our spiritual lives in order, we cannot accomplish this task on our own. God has done for us, what we cannot do for ourselves. We are reminded that we have been made able to see the kingdom of God; we have been given the gift of eternal life through the waters of baptism. As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in **prayer** that we are called to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to us. Through protecting the environment in which we live, we respect the goodness of nature, a gift God has given. May our **fasting** keep us mindful of those who have no clean water to grow crops or to nourish their families. May our **almsgiving** assist Catholic Relief Services as we **learn** about agriculture programs in Honduras. Please pickup a rice bowl and calendar in the Narthex if you have not yet done so.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES OFFICE ANGELS

Monday, March 23	- E. Vigilante	p.m.
Tuesday, March 24	- C. Behrens	p.m.
Wednesday, March 25	- Angel Needed	p.m.
Thursday, March 26	- Angel Needed	p.m.

SHOP RITE & A&P CARDS

March 21 & 22	- M. Vincenzi	5:30 p.m.
	- V. Santoro	8:00 a.m.
	- C. Manbeck	10:30 a.m.
	- D. Hingos	12:15 p.m.
March 28 & 29	- J. Lindabery	5:30 p.m.
	- P. Sullivan	8:00 a.m.
	- R. McShane	10:30 a.m.
	- D. Hingos	12:15 p.m.

CHURCH CENTER WATERING SCHEDULE

Week of March 22	-	M. Buniva
Week of March 29	-	L. Livoti

CHURCH CENTER CLEANING TEAM

March 27	-	Team C
April 3	-	Team D

BULLETIN TRANSPORTERS

March 27	-	A. Giametta
April 3	-	L. Livoti

FUND RAISING

AUCTION NEWS – SAVE THE DATE

Friday June 5 & Saturday, June 6



Save the dates -- June 5 for Tricky Tray and June 6 for the Wine Tasting and the new, improved Grand Auction! This year's auction will be a silent auction held during a dinner dance!

Three of the traditional "Fab Five" Raffle prizes will be *lots* of A&P and ShopRite Dollars, a Wii, and a Flip (ask your teenagers).

In addition, there will be Neumann's own Fifty/Fifty! Tickets will cost \$50 each, but just like the State lottery, people can share a ticket. The total number of tickets is 2000. If all 2000 are sold, both the winning ticket holder AND our parish will take home \$50,000. That's our goal. If we sell only 1600 tickets, then the prize will be \$40,000. You get the idea.

The Auction Group has been meeting since fall, putting pieces in place. But now the rubber meets the road -- we are still looking for:

- Auction Co-Chairs
- Traditional "Fab Five" Raffle Chair & prize procurer

Please call or email the office to tell us the good news!

BASKETS, COOKBOOKS AND BIBLES

In the echo of the 25th anniversary celebrations we are offering custom-made Longaberger baskets in two sizes with green trim and pewter crosses on the rim and a "Celebrate" tag. They are on display and available for purchase in the Narthex. The Tea Basket is \$50.00 and the Medium Market Basket is \$106.00. Twenty-five percent of the basket's price will be donated to St. John's. **Contact Kristin Gemma at 908-859-1353 or kgemma@verizon.net if you have any questions.**

25th Anniversary Cookbooks of desert recipes are also located in the Narthex. You can just pick one up for \$15.00. They don't have to be ordered.

You will also find Bibles available in the Narthex as well.

ST. PATRICK'S DINNER

Thanks to all who attended the annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner and to all those who volunteered their time and talent to make the evening a success. We are compiling a list of the volunteers and will publish it in the bulletin next week.

SHOP RITE & A&P CARDS



We had **41 families** purchase Shop-Rite and A&P gift cards last weekend, for a total of **\$5,600.00** with **\$280.00** going to St. Mary's. Stop after Mass on the weekends or come to the Office Center during the week. It costs you nothing and the Parish gains 5% on all gift cards.

Our thanks to all who purchase these cards and to those who are willing to stay after Mass to sell them. Gift cards rank third in fund raising only beaten by the Auction and total Craft Show.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

If you have someone in the military that you would like us to remember in our prayers, call the **Office Center, 832-2513**, or drop the name into the collection basket. Please remember the following in your prayers:

Lt. Col. Blewitt, Joseph, U.S. Air Force
Capt. Bohanan, Luke P., U.S. Army
Sgt. Brisson, Mark D., USMC
IT2 Combel, Tracey, U.S. Navy
Lance Corp., Coe, Kevin, USMC
Lt. Colonel Campbell, Vincent, USMC
CPL Connaughton, Michael, USMC
AMN Connaughton, Christopher, U.S. Air Force
AMN Connaughton, Monica, U.S. Air Force
RP2 Ditzel, Joseph, U.S. Navy
LCPL Dombrowski, David, USMC
Capt. Gutowski, Charles M., U.S. Army
2Lt. Gutowski, Jared, E., USMC
CW5, Ferguson, Michael, U.S. Army
Lt. Friedman, Lee E., U.S. Navy
Hafke, Michael, National Guard
Airman First Class Heimall, Benjamin, U.S. Air Force
CMDR Hopkins, John A., U.S. Navy
GM3 Hurler, Shane
SSgt. Jirouschek, Thomas, U.S. Air Force
PFC Jones, Joshua, USMC
AO2 Jones, Lee M. Jr.
MC2 Juday, Gregory, U.S. Navy
Lt. JG Kellogg, Kenyon, U.S. Navy Pilot
CPL. Krause, James E., USMC
SFC Lamberton, Brian, U.S. Army
Lt. Larsen, Christopher M. U.S. Army
RP3 Brown, Leighton M., U.S. Navy
ET2 Linzmeyer, Travis, U.S. Navy
Chaplain (LT) Logan, Eddy, U.S. Navy
Maj. McVicker, Andrew, U.S. Air Force
HN Meyer, Pamela A, U.S. Navy
Novello, Chris, U.S. Army, Green Beret
Maj. Martin, John, USMC
ATI Mastro II, Michael R., U.S. Navy
Capt. David Omstead, USA
Capt. Barbara Omstead, USA
Maj. Pidgeon, Paul, U.S. Army
PC2 Quinn, Lisa, U.S. Navy
1st Lt. Rautenberg, Erik, Army National Guard
2nd Lt. Sekula, Daniel R. Army National Guard
Commander Simila, Edward A. U.S. Navy
Lt. Slack, Terry, USMC
Staff Sgt. Sowa, Paul, USMC
Sgt. Vasquez, Armando, U.S. Army
Airman Basic Vigilante, William, U.S. Air Force
Captain Wade, Dominic, U.S. Army
2ND Lt., Warkentin, William J., USMC
Airman Basic Wiedmann, Alex J., U.S. Air Force

MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT

You are not alone in your experiences of dealing with a loved one who is on military deployment. Several families in St. John's community have lived with the emotional roller coaster and are here for you should you wish. **Contact Marian and Russ Ditzel (638-4640), Mary and Mike Mastro (537-6224), or Catherine McVicker (303-0907) at any time.**

PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

February 28, 2009

A complete copy of the minutes is available on the Parish website at www.ccsjn.org under Pastoral Council.

- The Pastoral Council met with **Sharon Lohrman** as a representative of the Fundraising Committee. This Committee is a vital support to parish life and operations. The Committee continues to look for innovation to tailor parish activities to meet parish needs within a more cautious economic environment. The Grand Auction will now be incorporated into a Dinner Dance. The Tricky Tray will continue to be a part of that weekend's events. The Committee would like to develop ideas that will attract participants from outside our parish.
- The Stewardship and Fundraising Committees have selected St. Mary's parish in Coeburn, Virginia to fulfill a Stewardship goal in the Parish Five Year Plan. The goal states: "Sponsor a parish or mission in an underdeveloped area of the US or internationally in order to increase our outreach ministries to expand our global horizons". St. Mary's is a small congregation with two associated parishes, Good Shepherd in Lebanon, VA and St. Therese in St. Paul, VA. They also have ministries at the Wise Correctional Unit #18 and Flatwoods Job Corps Center. The financial support from St. John Neumann's would come from the proceeds of the A&P/Shop Rite dollars purchased after Masses during every third Sunday, beginning March 14/15.
- "Be a Part of the Change." Three new pastoral Council members will be needed this May. **An informal coffee will be hosted by the Pastoral Council after 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 29. An information session will be held on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the church center.** All are welcome!

CHURCH ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE

Fr. Bill is looking for some people who could help with changing the Church environment from season to season or indeed form an ongoing group to take care of this need. If you are interested and can help please contact Fr. Bill by email, phone, tear out sheet from the bulletin or on line.

PASTORAL COUNCIL EMAIL ADDRESSES

Phyllis Baker p.baker@patmedia.net
Pam Casserly.....pamcasserly@gmail.com
John Cole.....johncole@nac.net
Mary Connolly.....mandmconnolly@gmail.com
Kevin DeanKevin.Dean@VerizonWireless.com
Bill Harrison.....hotelcalifon29@hotmail.com
Fr. Bill.....jwmickiewicz@ccsjn.org
Eileen Papson.....papson@comcast.net
Pam Stewartapstewart@att.net
Dana Wilsonwilsdana@hotmail.com

DIOCESAN NEWS

2008 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Telemarketing Campaign

In an effort to secure the funding which is critical to sustaining our pastoral, educational and charitable ministries, the Diocese of Metuchen is embarking on a telemarketing campaign for the 2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Calls will be made from March 2 through April 3 (excluding Sundays). Please note that callers will not ask for your credit card information. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Very Reverend Sylvester J. Cronin, Executive Director, Stewardship & Development by phone at 732-562-2431 or by e-mail at scronin@diometuchen.org.

ANNUAL FIREFIGHTERS MASS

Sunday, April 26, 12:00 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen.

The Diocese of Metuchen Annual Firefighters Mass will be held on Sunday, April 26, 12 noon at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen. This mass will honor all active, retired and deceased firefighters within the Diocese. All firefighters and their families are invited. A reception will follow the Mass. We will recognize all fire departments that will be celebrating significant anniversaries this year. Please let us know if your department is among them. **For information, visit www.diometuchen.org or call (732) 562-2461.**

HOPE AND HEALING

A Day for Bereaved Persons and Families

Sooner or later grief comes to all of us and we find ourselves unprepared for the wide range of emotions and reactions we feel as we undertake the mourning journey. Brother André offers hope and encouragement by gently demonstrating the importance of dealing with grief in a healthy way – emotionally and spiritually.

Saturday, April 25, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ

Brother André Mathieu, C.P., Presenter, is a member of the Passionist Preaching Ministry with 30 years experience. He specializes in retreats with bereaved persons and their loved ones.

Call to register: Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen (732) 562-1990 x. 1624 or send an e-mail: familylife@diometuchen.org

Fee: includes lunch – Individual – \$20.00 – Family of 2-\$35.00 – Family of 3 or more - \$50.00

CALLING ALL ANGELS

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen is calling on **you**, to become a resource parent to one of New Jersey's 11,000 children in the foster care system. Children of all ages and backgrounds are in need of loving, nurturing homes. Many of these children are innocent victims of abuse and neglect. **CALL TODAY! 1-866-247-HOME (4663). You Can Help!!**

NEW JERSEY FAMILYCARE & FAMILYCARE ADVANTAGE

Affordable, Quality Health Coverage is Available

New Jersey FamilyCare provides quality free or low-cost health coverage for uninsured children 18 and younger and low-income parents. Although many children are enrolled in Family Care, there are an estimated 280,000 children who are eligible for coverage but who not enrolled. New Jersey law requires all children 18 and younger to have health insurance coverage by July 2009.

The National Cover the Uninsured Week Campaign from March 22 to March 28, 2009 provides an opportunity to spread the word about New Jersey FamilyCare.

If a family's income falls within certain ranges (e.g. \$6,432 per month for a family of four), the family's children may be eligible for New Jersey FamilyCare. If a family's income is above the limit, the family still may be able to obtain affordable health insurance for children through the New Jersey FamilyCare Advantage program.

If you are a parent, you may also be eligible for free or low-cost healthcare coverage through New Jersey FamilyCare. To find out if you are eligible, or for more information, call or visit:

1-800-701-0710

(multilingual operators)

TTY 1-800-701-0720

(For hearing impaired)

www.njfamilycare.org

SUPPORT GROUPS OFFERED

UMDNJ Behavioral HealthCare is offering free 90-minute support groups for individuals affected by the economic downturn. Experienced counselors, who facilitate the workshops, assist individuals coping with the stress of job loss, unemployment, mortgage/student loan payments, etc. The weekly sessions, which are open to the public, are held in Newark, New Brunswick, Edison and Monmouth Junction. **For more information, please call 1-800-969-5300.**

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S DESIRE FOR US IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Diocese of Metuchen Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry Invites all Young Adults to...

Encountering God's Desire for Us in Everyday Life.

Listening to the Whisper of God with an attentive heart in Prayer, through the use of imagination, journaling and in the Scriptures. Presented by Sr. Mary Catherine Redmond, PBVM & Rev. Rocco Danzi, SJ

Saturday March 28, 2009

St. Joseph Seminary, Princeton, NJ

10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. – Concluding with the celebration of Sunday Liturgy.

The cost for the day is \$35 per person, including coffee and bagels and lunch.

For more information and to RSVP please call Mary T. Naccarato 732-562-1990 ext 1635 or email mnaccarato@diometuchen.org.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND

April 17-19

Beginning Experience is a weekend program designed to help widowed, separated and divorced persons make a new beginning through a powerful, intense, positive experience of hope and peace and is open to persons of all faiths.

The specially trained team members are "wounded healers" who have suffered the loss of a spouse. The participants are led through the program which consists of presentations followed by personal, private reflection and dialogue in small groups.

The next weekend is scheduled for April 17-19 at the Stella Maris Retreat House in Elberon, NJ. **For detailed information, call Vivian at 732-441-7070 or Rich at 609-333-9868.**

COMMUNITY NEWS

FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC

Sunday, April 26, 4:00 p.m., Our Lady of Mount Virgin, Middlesex



The Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Initiatives and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen invite you to attend a Festival of Sacred Music on Sunday, April 26 at 4:00 p.m. The concert will be held at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church located at 600 Harris Avenue in Middlesex. The following choirs will be participating: Christ United Methodist Choir, Piscataway; First Presbyterian Choir, Middlesex; Our Lady of Mount Virgin Choir; St. Joseph Spanish Choir, Bound Brook; St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Choir, Hillsborough; and St. Paul Episcopal Choir, Bound Brook. **For more information and directions, call 732-356-2149 or visit www.olmv.net.**

JOB SECURITY & EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES SEMINAR

Monday, March 30, 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Milltown

Strategies to Hold On to Your Job presents practical advice and specific techniques for keeping jobs and maintaining job security, in good times and bad times. It is the first in a series of seminars.

Subjects include:

- Dealing with and managing difficult bosses
- Variables to control and improve job security
- Do's and Do Not's affecting job security
- Suggestions and techniques to "bulletproof" your job

Attendance is free and open to the general public. The seminar will be held at United Methodist Church at 47 N. Main Street, Milltown, NJ 08850.

People interested in attending should register by sending an email to: qood4prose@aol.com.

REMINDERS

Let Us Know – In order to minister to our community at large, we need your assistance in letting us know who may be in need of help. Often those who are in need are either too entwined in their situation to contact us directly or too proud to ask for help. You can be the “angel of mercy” who helps by simply making us aware of an individual or family in need. Call Earl or Rita at the Office Center, send us an email or use the “Samaritan Tip” form on the parish website – <http://www.ccsjn.org/>



Emergency Shelter; Personal Crisis, Suicide Hotline; Abuse Reports; Support Groups; Animal Aid; Senior Assurance Calls; Locate a Food Pantry and more. Questions? See website

<http://www.helplinehc.org/>

CALLERS WISHING TO REACH HELPLINE FOR ANY OF ITS SERVICES ARE NO LONGER ABLE TO REACH THE AGENCY BY DIALING 211. THEY NEED TO CALL 800-272-4360, 782-4357 OR 735-4357.

Haves ‘n Needs
Parish member? List either your Haves or your Needs on the parish website:
www.ccsjn.org

New Eyes for the Needy
Donate your old eyeglasses in the Narthex.

St. Jude’s Ranch
Donate you Campbell Soup labels in the Narthex. See parish website for list of items.

Sponsor Child
Please remember Angel in your prayers, and drop your donation in the Jar at the Social Ministry Station. Don’t forget to write!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please complete ID Box and ✓ appropriate volunteer information section

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Interfaith Hospitality Network

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5:00-8:00 p.m. Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00-10:00 p.m. Hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, March 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, March 24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, March 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, March 25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, March 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, March 27 |
|
 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight (10:00 p.m.- 7:00 a.m.) Hospitality | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, March 24 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, March 25 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, March 27 (10:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.) | |
|
 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide dinner | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide dessert |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, March 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, March 24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, March 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, March 25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, March 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friday, March 27 |

Questions? Call Eileen Papson: 908-832-7290
papson@comcast.net

Auction Weekend

- Auction Co-Chair
 Fab Five Raffle Chair/Prize Procurer

Questions? Call Rita Price: 908-832-2513
ritaprice@ccsjn.org

Easter Food Distribution

- Pick 4/2, 6:00 p.m. Pack 4/3, 7:00 p.m.
 Deliver 4/4, 8:00 a.m.

Questions? Call Earl Roberts: 908-832-2513
eroberts@ccsjn.org

- Participate in foot washing at Holy Thursday Liturgy.
 Project Earth Garden Planning
 Visit with/take out an individual once a week
 Join the Baptism Preparation Team