

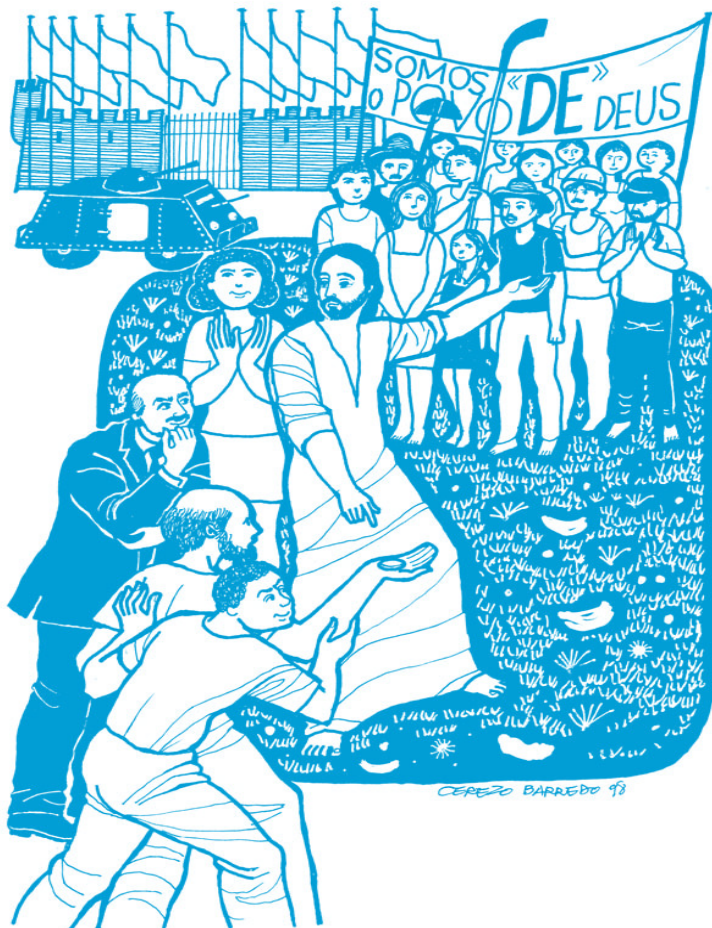
The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

PO Box 455, Califon, New Jersey, 07830

908-832-2513

October 16, 2011

Volume 29, Number 41



A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition

Diocese of Metuchen
Most. Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski,
Bishop
Most Rev. Edward T. Hughes, retired
Bishop
www.dioemetuchen.org

Trustees:
Mary Connolly
Lyle Garcia

Our Parish

Parish Team

Rev. J William Mickiewicz..... Pastor
Earl Roberts,Deacon

Mailing Address:

PO Box 455
Califon, NJ 07830

Office Center:

398 County Route 513
Califon, NJ
908-832-2513
908-832-7618 fax
www.ccsjn.org

Worshipping at:

398 County Road 513
(Church Center)

Saturday Vigil Mass5:30 p.m.
Sunday8:00 a.m.
Sunday10:30 a.m.

390 County Road 513
(Neumann Residence)

Tuesday7:00 p.m.
Wednesday9:30 a.m.
Friday7:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday..... 4:45-5:15 p.m.

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.

About Our Parish

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

PO Box 455, Califon, NJ 07830
www.ccsjn.org

Office Center.....908-832-2513
Church Center.....908-832-6343
Social Ministry.....908-832-2262
Religious Education.....908-832-2162
Connxions.....908-832-2262
Fax.....908-832-7618

Parish Staff

Kerri Caldaro.....Financial Administrator
Wayne Infusino.....Maintenance
Sharon Janks.....Pastoral Administrator
JoAnn Jarvis.....Office of Catechesis
Kristin Gemma.....Bulletin Coordinator
Deacon Dennis King.....Parish
Catechetical Leader

Staff Email Addresses

Catholic Community of St.
John Neumann.....sjn@ccsjn.org
Kerri Caldaro.....kcaldaro@ccsjn.org
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Sharon Janks.....sjanks@ccsjn.org
JoAnn Jarvis.....jjarvis@ccsjn.org
Deacon Dennis King.....dking@ccsjn.org
Rev. J. William
Mickiewicz.....jwmickiewicz@ccsjn.org
Earl Roberts.....earlr1@ptd.net



Parish Registration

Anyone living within the parish boundaries who would like to become a member of our Catholic Community or who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith should call or email the church office. We will meet with you at your convenience where you will learn about our parish and the opportunities we offer. Those joining the parish are encouraged to celebrate their welcome and registration at a weekend Mass.

Please notify the parish office of any change in phone number, address, email address or when leaving the parish.

Parish registration is required for religious education, celebration of sacraments and certification as a sponsor.

Regular Sunday worship indicates a practicing Catholic, not just parish registration. An assurance of family practice and raising children in the faith they seek is necessary for the sacraments of initiation and certification of sponsorship.

Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism: Baptism is celebrated at any weekend Mass. The preparation process begins during pregnancy and includes an initial pastoral visit with the Pastoral Assistant for Connxions and attendance at one Baptism Preparation Session, which is offered quarterly. Please call the parish office to register. Parish membership and active worship is required for two months prior to preparation. No baptisms are celebrated during Lent.

First Eucharist: First Eucharist is celebrated in May, following two years of preparation. Family participation and regular worship are an integral component.

Confirmation: Confirmation is celebrated in the fall, following three years of preparation. Active participation and weekly worship are an integral component.

Adult Confirmation: The formation process is held in the parish, followed by a parish celebration of Adult Confirmation.

Initiation of Adults and Older Children: This is an extended gradual formation process for unbaptized or uncatechized adults, or baptized Christians who wish to enter the Catholic Church or for unbaptized or uncatechized school-aged children. Interested persons may begin the process at any time, please contact the parish office for more information.

Sacrament Celebrations

First Reconciliation: First Reconciliation is celebrated in Advent of the second grade. Parent participation and regular worship is required.

Matrimony: Couples wishing to be married at St. John's are required to make arrangements one year in advance. Four sessions with the Pastor and Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter take place during this year. Parish registration and active worship are required.

Anointing of the Sick: Anyone who is seriously ill or unable to come to church for a length of time should contact the parish office so someone may visit and bring the sacraments.

Holy Orders: If you are interested in learning more about the priesthood or religious life, contact the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Metuchen at 732-562-1990 ext. 1700 or by email at vocations@diometuchen.org or visit www.diometuchen.org/vocations.

This Week at Saint John's

Mass Schedule

October 22 & 23

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector	J. Murray
Altar Server	Olesiak Family
Gift Bearers	Quartuccio Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	D. Kelemen, J. Gardner, V. Olesiak, E. Lacy, M. MacKenzie, M. McCall
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector	C. Bitters
Altar Server	D. Waddleton
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	J. Klawunn, J. Sima, A. Sawczuk, T. Klawunn
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector	G. Porto
Altar Server	Malone Family
Gift Bearers	Bush Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	M. Wickel, D. Wickel, K. Gemma, D. Torczon, M. Milko, C. Carroll

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, October 18

7:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Wednesday, October 19

9:30 a.m. Linnea Janks req.
Janks Family

Friday, October 21

7:00 a.m. Stan Sawczuk req. Anita
Sawczuk

Saturday, October 22

5:30 p.m. Michael Powers req.
Mahoney Family

Sunday, October 23

8:00 a.m. Doris Brennan req. Pete
& Mary Cangelosi
10:30 a.m. Maureen Stout req. Harry
& Gail Naylor

Parish Calendar

Sunday, October 16 — Food Pantry Weekend

1:00 p.m. Picnic (Church Center)

Monday, October 17 — Bl. Hugh of Vitry

6:00 p.m. Zumba (Church Center)
7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (Office Center)

Tuesday, October 18 — St. Sisinnius I

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

Wednesday, October 19 — Ss. Amicus & Amelius

9:30 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
6:00 p.m. Yoga (Church Center)
7:30 p.m. CPII Parent Candidate Meeting (Church Center)

Thursday, October 20 — Bl. Gerard of Jerusalem

10:00 a.m. Nursing Home Visit (Little Brook N.H.)
7:30 p.m. Music Ministry/Bell Choir (Church Center)

Friday, October 21 — St. Callistus I

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
5:00 p.m. Cleaning (Church Center)

Saturday, October 22 — St. Teresa of Jesus

29th Anniversary of St. John's Founding

9:30 a.m. Saturday Catechesis (Church Center)
3:30 p.m. First Reconciliation Session 2 (Church Center)

Sunday, October 23 — World Mission Collection

9:00 a.m. K-6 Catechesis (Office Center)
9:00 a.m. First Reconciliation Parent Meeting 2 (Church
Center)
2:00 p.m. Zumba Fundraiser (Church Center)
6:30 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church Center)

Pastor's Schedule

Sunday, October 16

1:00 p.m. Picnic (Church Center)

Monday, October 17

11:00 a.m. Funeral (Away)
7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council (Office Center)

Tuesday, October 18

Bulletin
7:00 p.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
7:00 p.m. Property Management Meeting (Office Center)

Wednesday, October 19

9:30 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
7:30 p.m. CPII Gathering (Church Center)

Thursday, October 20

12:00 p.m. Appointment (Away)

Friday, October 21

7:00 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
2:00 p.m. Appointment (Away)

Saturday, October 22

29th Anniversary of the Establishment of St. John's

Sunday, October 23

4:00 p.m. Dinner (Away)

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A

Remember in Your Prayers

Ms. Ally	Mary Kirchner
Joe Angeline	Frank Kostecki
Pat Arat	Spencer Kydd
Antonia Baasten	Michael Lamotte
Kate Bachman	Harry Larson
Richard Baker	John Lauler
John Ballard	Kevin Leahy
Peter Barbieri	Holly Lear
Alice Beardsmore	Jewel LeVine
Carol Becker	Michele Makos
Maria Beckman	Taylor Maleski
Deana Belusko	Melissa Martinez
Mary Anna Bennett	Silas Mastro
Darlene Brown	Tom Martin
Eugene Brzezienski	Judy Martino
Shirley Bumen	Marie Mazzoni
James Burns	John McCabe
John Burns	Susan McHugh
Eileen Caffin	Patrick McKenna
Kathleen Campbell	Brett Melworn
Angie Caponetti	Tyler Messinger
Barbara Carbonneau	George Meyer
Joseph Carpentiere	George Milke
Jose Castro	Betsey Miller
Lou Citarelli	Michael Milto
Riley Clark	Nina Montouri
Lorraine Cochrane	Erica Morgan
Kathleen Cohen	Robert Olivetti
Gerard Cook	Gloria Omstead
Valerie Cordero	Floyd Opdyke
Kristine Orvos Cresti	Daisy Ort
Natalia Cresti	Bill O'Toole
Dalton Cummins	Robert Patterson
Joseph D'Achino	Niilsa Perez-Parsons
Sr. Ann Damian	John Pfeufer
Percival Davids	Steve Plume
Maria Elena Dawson	Brian Plushanski
Virginia DeCasino	John & Nicole Ramsden
Peter Demchur	Albert Rayburn
Dorothy Deo	Tom Regan
Nick DeVincenzo	Ed Reinagel
Anthony DeVito	Alissa Marie Ricciardi
Ann Dodwell	Pat Roach
Betty Doyle	Julie Ruby
Paul DuPre	John Sawczuk
Courtney Ellis	Maria Sawczuk
Msgr. Endebruck	Ed Scharf
Florence Fakelmann	Antonia Schulz
Jacob Fakelmann	Chris Seltzer
Hannah Farrington	Abe Shalaby
Joseph Fay	Paul Shubeck
Helena Ferguson	Sister Mary George
Akiea Finn	Marianna Sivori
Anthony Fiorillo	Jim Sklenar
Ann Flemming	Austen James Slinger
Ryan Flynn	Carol Smarsh
Helen Galligan	Colleen Smith
Theresa Galvano	Jonathan Solis
Frank Gargiulo	Felicia Steward
Maria Gargiulo	William Stortz
Nicholas Gargiulo Jr.	Timothy Struble
Jayne Giese	Evelyn Sulenski
Jerry Goski	Mary Sulenski
Sophia Goski	Julie Suplee
Robert Govett	Tracey Sutch
Rose Gradone	Margaret Sweeney
Angela Grieco	John Toolan
Christina Grillo	Brian Travis
Dorothy Gross	Rose Uricchio
Josephine Handy	Laura Veslany
Colleen Hendzrak	Robert Villani
Tyler Hodulik	Dayelle Watts
Anita Horan	Harvey Whille
Mary Ann Hughes	John William
Richard Hughes	Gloria Wood
Brittney Ianitto	Elizabeth Wodrich
Jeannine Imperiale	Lynn Yondolino
Nona Janks	John J. Zelesny
Diana Janowski	Joey Zieba
Bob Jenkinson	Michael Zocchi
John Kaemmerer	
Rosemary Kimbal	

REPAY GOD



“Give to Caesar the things of Caesar, and to God the things of God” is Jesus’ response to a trick question about paying taxes and living in the Spirit. We, living in between the time of Jesus’ first and second comings and with a foot in both camps, are called to do both. Out of the good news given to us through words, power and the Holy Spirit, we can influence the things of Caesar toward a course that leads to God. It

is a risky and complex job. Are you prepared to try?

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A. Illustration © 2002 V. Shuck. All rights reserved. Text, Philip J. Sandstrom, S.T.D. © 2002, OCP. All rights reserved.

ONE SUNDAY FOR THE WHOLE WORLD

October 23

On October 23, Pope Benedict XVI calls every Catholic in the world to celebrate our vocation to be missionary. It’s World Mission Sunday!

As Catholics around the world — here at home and in the Missions — gather at the Eucharist around the table of the Lord, we are to pray for the Church’s worldwide missionary work. We pray for those awaiting the “Good News” of our Lord’s great love for us and for the missionaries who offer the poor and suffering the light of Christ. And we are to offer financial help through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for more than 1,150 dioceses in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Pacific Islands.

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Collection for the Propagation of the Faith — October 22 & 23

The collection after the communion of the Mass next weekend is for the Propagation of the Faith. Just as our young church here in the United States received support in the 19th century from the Catholics of Europe through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, so too the growing churches in the Developing World today also require financial help. Your generosity will help make a faith-filled difference around the world!

- A gift of \$15 is a week’s support of a young man in a mission seminary.
- A gift of \$20 helps to purchase a desk and books for a student in a catechetical class in a parish in the mountainous region of northern Vietnam.

Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection. The following will be remembered in the Eucharistic Prayer:
Bertha Fulton — Martin Dohaney — Michael Serafin — Lily Hodge — Helena Ferguson



Deceased: Lily Hodge, mother of Gary Porto; Helena Ferguson, Top of the Barn, friend of St. John’s. 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.

JOINT ST. JOHN'S AND ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH PICNIC POSTPONED TO OCTOBER 16

1:00 p.m., St. John's Grounds

You did not miss the picnic. Due to the rush of the Raritan River and the inclement weather the picnic was postponed until this Sunday, October 16.

We are sorry that those who did not get the email or missed church came and were disappointed. We hope that those who brought food were able to use it at home. (Thanks to those who shared it with the pastor). We hope that they will return. It gives you a chance to get those ducks that you put off buying. We plan to have a good time.

PREPARING FOR CHANGE

"The times they are a changing." You may have spotted the board in the Narthex the past two weeks with these words on it. We are preparing for our fall Parish/Town Meeting.

When: Monday, October 24, 6:00 p.m. for pizza — 7:00 p.m. for meeting

Where: Church Center

Who: The entire parish

What: To prayerfully prepare for and embrace the transition of parish leadership

How: Fit it into your busy schedule. It involves you in some way or other.

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

We will soon begin the process of updating the prayer list. We are finding that some parishioners forget to ask us to remove a name from the sick list after the individual has recovered and is well, or perhaps they feel it is "bad luck" to remove the name. If you would like a name to remain on the sick list for the next six months, please let us know and we will keep the name on the list.

ZUMBA FUNDRAISER FOR BREAST CANCER

Sunday, October 23, 2:00 p.m., Church Center



Mark your calendars! October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and we will be hosting a **Zumba Fitness "Party in Pink" Zumbathon on Sunday, October 23 from 2:00-4:00** in the afternoon right here at St. John's! The entrance fee will be \$20 per person and 100% of our proceeds will go to Susan G. Komen for a Cure. Komen is the largest source in the world of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer. Invite friends and family and join us for great afternoon of dance and fitness!! **Please RSVP to Arminda, by phone 908-537-2637 or email quilt-ingblockhead@gmail.com so that we can plan for refreshments, etc.**

GOOD SEARCH

You may have forgotten that the search engine www.goodsearch.com brings money into our fundraising account. It isn't much but it adds up at the end of the year. Please set your computer up to use this search and designate St. John Neumann Church, Califon, NJ as the receiver.

Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes Saturday, September 19, 2011

Opening/Closing Prayer — Joann Gardner

Present — Fr. Bill, Pam Casserly, Joann Gardner, Steve Gemma, Bill Harrison, Donna Lance, Roger Malone, Mike Mastro, Laura Sharp, Brandon Staten. Deacon Dennis King, our new part-time Parish Catechetical Leader, dropped in to greet the Council.

Reflection

The Pastoral Council Members reached a mutually agreed upon goal for 2011-2012. Our goal is "to support and engage our community to prayerfully prepare for and embrace the transition of parish leadership." The Council continues to discuss ways to achieve this objective. The challenge will be to get the parish to embrace this goal and to convey the message out to the majority with understanding and accuracy. This can be accomplished at Committee Meetings, Pondering Pauses (Church Bulletin) authored by Father Bill, Prayer of the Faithful, and with a major unveiling at the Town Hall Meeting on October 24. The Town Hall agenda, prepared by Mike and Joann, was discussed and solidified.

Committee Meetings

The Stewardship Committee, chaired by Anthony DeStefano, will be attending the October 17 Pastoral Council Meeting.

Old and Continuing Items of Business

- 5 Year Plan/Covenant - Bill continues to update, revise, re-format, and edit the 5 Year Plan into a workable document. Each committee, throughout the year, will work with their Pastoral Council liaison to update this plan.
- Pastoral Council Archives – past

Parish News

minutes will be scanned by Laura and placed in the archives by Steve.

- Communications – Town Meetings/Vitality Coffee – Our town meeting date is set for Monday, October 24 at 7:00.p.m The topic will be “Prayerfully Preparing For and Embracing the Transition of Parish Leadership.” Dinner will be available prior to the meeting.
- Parish Picnic – The 2nd annual St. Joseph and St John Neumann joint picnic will be on Sunday October 2 at Saint John’s.

Pastor’s Items of Business

- Welcome Deacon Dennis King, our new part-time Parish Catechetical Leader, for about 125 students.
- Welcome Kerri Caldaro as Financial Administrator.
- November’s craft show and quilt raffle will be our last.
- Father Bill distributed articles from the National Catholic Reporter, “The State of US Parishes Today,” “Ten Years to Ponder Our Losses,” and “The Church is a Communion of Local Churches.”

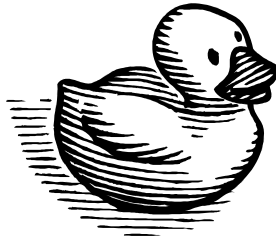
Next Meeting: Monday October 17, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.

Prayer: Bill Harrison
Minutes prepared by Donna Lance

Members

Pam Casserly pamcasserly@gmail.com
Joann Gardner jojogardner07@yahoo.com
Steve Gemma sgemma@telcordia.com
Bill Harrison hotelcalifon29@hotmail.com
Donna Lance scottie439@hotmail.com
Roger Malone rpma13@gmail.com
Mike Mastro 1mikem45@gmail.com
Fr. Mickiewicz jwmickiewicz@ccsjn.org
Laura Sharp paschik60@aol.com
Brandon Staten bls.wvufan@comcast.net

DUCK RACE 2011



Duck races have been part of the fun at the St. John Neumann annual picnics since 1994. The tradition will continue this year at the 2nd annual St. Joseph and St. John Neumann joint picnic on Sunday October 2. Starting at 1:00 p.m., over 1000 pink, yellow and blue “rubber ducks” (well, actually plastic) will float down the South Branch of the Raritan River to the finish line behind St. John Neumann. The first duck to reach the finish line is

the winner. The ducks include 100 each pink ducks, yellow ducks and blue ducks numbered from 1 to 100; and 900 mixed color ducks numbered from 101 to 1000. The ducks are “sold” to parishioners and friends to help pay for the picnic. They go for “a buck a duck,” 6 for \$5.00 or 13 for \$10.00. Purchasers write their names and telephone numbers within numbered spaces on poster boards. If there is no one selling ducks, just leave the money or a check in the marked duck race can – it’s the honor system.

The 2nd St. Joseph’s and St. John’s Joint Duck Race begins when the ducks hit the South Branch of the Raritan behind 221 Butternut Road in Califon (Lebanon Township) and start floating to the finish line behind St. John’s. The time it takes to reach the finish line varies with the river flow. It might be as little as 15 minutes to 30 minutes or more. Follow the marked paths through the woods to the finish line at the river; please watch out for rough ground, loose rocks, branches and stickers. Besides rooting for your ducks at the finish line, you can also join in to make things happen. We can always use help, including setting up the net that goes across the river at the finish line; launching the ducks at 1:00 p.m.; wading down the river to collect ducks that are stuck on rocks; and getting into the water to help determine the winner and maintain safety. Children and young adults can have a great time collecting ducks from the water with their hands and nets, and remember to bring towels and dry clothing. There will be souvenir Halloween ducks for those who help collect ducks.

The big winner gets their name engraved on the “Lucky Ducky” trophy, which they get to take home until the next race. There is also a “special surprise” – it’s all for fun. The owners of the first 10 ducks also get duck hats.

We appreciate your participation, including buying ducks to help cover the cost of the picnic, watching the race and joining in.

JOIN THE BELL CHOIR!



We would like to invite you to join the St. John Neumann’s Handbell Choir! Our choir is in need of six additional members to fill out the group. Anyone can learn to play the bells and no musical background is required – we will teach you. We welcome children from grade six to adults. Rehearsals are held on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Church Center and we will re-start on October 6. The Handbell Choir is a great way to enhance the Liturgy of the Mass, a way to express your joy of music and it is fun.

Please contact Chris Bitters cjbitters@comcast.net (908) 832-1070, Arminda Barbone quiltingblockhead@gmail.com (908) 537-2637 or Ron Pojedinec risapojie@comcast.net (908) 537-6241 if you are interested.

Sacrament Preparation

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Class, Saturday, October 22, 3:30 p.m., Church Center
Parent Meeting, Sunday, October 23, 9:00 a.m., Church Center

The next First Reconciliation class will meet in the Church Center on Saturday, **October 22**, at 3:30 p.m. The next Reconciliation Parent Meeting will meet on Sunday, **October 23**, in the Church Center at 9:00 a.m.

CPII PARENT/CANDIDATE MEETING

Wednesday, October 19, 7:30 p.m., Church Center

All CPII students (7th graders) are required to attend a Parent/ Candidate Meeting on Wednesday, **October 19**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Center. At least one parent should accompany their child.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to those who were confirmed last Sunday. The class was made up of 10 young men and 8 young women. They were a responsive group who prepared well for the celebration. We want to thank those who prepared our young people and those who helped make the celebration possible.

Very Reverend J. William Mickiewicz, Pastor, Episcopal Vicar

Dr. Rose Fay, Former Parish Catechetical Leader

Jo Ann Jarvis, Administrative Assistant

Deacon Dennis King, Parish Catechetical Leader

Catechists

Stacy Niemiec Robert Szymczak

Mary Vincenzi Maura Vitale

Confirmation Stoles

Katherine McDonald Eva Pallai-Koshinski Mary Vincenzi

The Music Ministry of St. John Neumann

Thanks also to **Anne Germino** who took care of the flowers, **France Kennedy** who assisted and **Wayne Infusino** who set up and broke down; **Barbara Gates** and **Mary Cangelosi** who provided the set up of the altar.

We thank the parents and sponsors who presented the confirmandi for confirmation. The Music Ministry made the celebration over the top. Thanks to all.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16, 2011

Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6/1 Thes 1:1-5b/Mt 22:15-21

Monday: Rom 4:20-25/Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Lk 10:1-9

Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Rom 7:18-25a/Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Rom 8:1-11/Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday: Ex 22:20-26/1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40

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CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2011

Juliana Marie ELIZABETH Benson
Philip Gerard BASIL D'Armiento
Timothy AUGUSTINE Ferraro
Joshua Christopher MARCEL Geerinck
Cole William ALPHONSE Herudek
Jesse Kegan PETER Herudek
Erin Morgan ANNA Hollyfield
Brianna Leigh TERESA Koshinski
NICOLE Ugaddan Kozak
Caroline Jessamine JOAN Mahoney
Ryan JOSEPH McDonald
Jason John MOSES Niemiec
Douglas Perri JOHN Olcese
Alexander Joseph DOMINICK Sherman
Sean Robert FRANCES Szymczak
Caroline Anne VERONICA Upwood
Natasha Diana TERESA Vincenzi
Margaret Rose ITA Vitale



SHOP RITE & A&P CARDS



We had **16 families** purchase Shop-Rite, Kings and A&P gift cards last weekend, for a total of **\$2,775.00** with **\$138.75** coming to St. John'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. Thanks to the volunteers who are willing to stay a few minutes after Mass to sell these cards and all who use them to shop. Purchase of these cards goes to help pay our monthly mortgage. **This week's profits will be sent to St. Mary's.**

Social Ministry

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.helpinehc.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

What to do with those unwanted but useful items?

Try putting them on our parish website in the “Haves ‘n Needs” section. Email us a short description of the time and we’ll post it for a month or so and see if someone out there is looking for your treasure.

Check out what is there once a month!

New Eyes for the Needy

Donate your old eyeglasses in the Narthex.

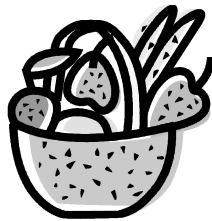
St. Jude’s Ranch

Donate your 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!

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE FOOD PANTRY AND THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS FOOD DELIVERIES



Our community's generosity regarding the Food Pantry and our specific food drives has always been outstanding, so we are now going to raise the bar a bit. Although we are eliminating some of the mainstays of the past, we are adding new items to our list of needs. This is being done as a result of our talks with the recipients of our efforts. Try to keep in mind that eight (8) families and seventeen (17) individual seniors are our clients. If you do this, we think it will become clearer as to why we are making the changes. For example, individuals, who are elderly appreciate small hams, small chickens or turkey breasts, while the families will be more happy with the traditional turkey/ham dinner.

Let's start with new items on our list: canned/bottled juices, salt and pepper, sugar, easy meals like Hormel Completes, Dinty More stew, canned ravioli, Spaghetti's and chili, cooking oil, vinegar, pancake mix and syrup, cleaning products and sponges, trash bags, aluminum foil/plastic wrap, toiletries: soaps, deodorants, toothpaste, razors and shaving cream and finally, toilet tissue and paper towels. In addition, we will continue to need: cereals, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate, jello/pudding, snacks like cookies and candy, peanut butter, jelly, pasta/noodles, pasta sauces, salad dressings/condiments (mayo, mustard, ketchup and bbq sauce, canned veggies, soups, macaroni and cheese, rices, instant potatoes, apple sauce and canned/package/bottles fruits.

We will publish this list of needs and place on the table with the bulletin in the Narthex.

All of the food required for Thanksgiving will be needed by November 6.

All of the food required for Christmas will be needed by December 4.

REMINDERS

Some important reminders for the Food Pantry and Thanksgiving Food Distribution Program:

- Don't forget to pick up the new food pantry list from the Narthex.
- All donations for Thanksgiving must be completed by November 6.
- Freezers in the carriage house will be available for your turkeys, chickens, and turkey breasts next week.
- Please remember that we need 8 large turkeys and 17 small breasts or small chickens. The breasts may be the vacuum packed type like the Jennie-O brand.
- Use one of the reusable bags available in the basket next to the pantry donation basket.

Any questions or comments can be addressed to Greg Wilson or Anne Germino.

Thanks!



Christian Formation (Catechesis)

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Do This in Memory of Me"

Focus: Trusting in God Alone
"God rules over all creatures — including us."

Scripture: The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech.
"Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"
"Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."
Matthew 22: 15-21

Reflection: Share an experience of being trapped by a question or inquiry. How do you deal with the separation of church and state; personal beliefs and theological or spiritual issues? How do you deal with challenges?

Song: "Your Words are Spirit and Life" #580

Story: Let the river run
Although the boy did not realize it at the time, he had experienced something of a miracle.

Early one spring morning, he trekked down to the river bank, with his fishing rod and the night-crawlers he had collected the night before. He cast his line and within minutes pulled out a small brook trout, his first of the season. Neat, he thought.

In reality, miraculous.

Less than a decade before, the boy would not have gone near this river. The river was dead, the victim of two centuries of industrial pollution. The once powerful current had given its all for the factories and mills up and down its fifty miles of bank. Pollutants had wiped out its fish and wildlife. The once glorious waterway was reduced to a stinking, muddy trickle.

Many rivers had "died" similar deaths in post-industrial America. Then, in the 1970s, Americans began to realize what a priceless resource had been lost and a movement took shape to save them. The result was the Clean Water Act of 1972, amended in 1977 and 1987. The law effectively eliminated the release of toxic chemicals into waterways and established strict clean water standards. The law also provided grant money for state and local governments to finance the work of saving these rivers.

The young angler's town had worked hard to restore its river. Grant money was obtained to build a water treatment facility; volunteer groups spent hours cleaning up garbage and debris. Slowly, the clean current began to flow again; the acidity and mud was reduced; the reborn river became a habitat for birds, otters and other wildlife. The moment of ultimate triumph: the day the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stocked the river with hundreds of thousands of year-old trout fry. Within two seasons, the fish population was reestablished.

And a river runs again.

Every community has a story of citizens working through government in any number of educational, safety and environmental projects. God and Caesar do not have to be at odds, Jesus tells the Pharisees. In God, we realize the dignity of every man, woman and child as his sons and daughters and brothers and sisters to one another; as neighbors living in a community, as citizens of a nation, we understand our shared responsibility to provide for the common good and protect the most vulnerable among us. Jesus calls us to approach the complexities and issues facing humanity with God's vision of compassion and a commitment to work together to uphold and protect the dignity of all as sons and daughters of God.

Connections, October 2011

Religious Education Program

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

News & Needs

Effective 10/2/11 the Jr. High CP class schedule has changed.

Start time remains 6:30 p.m. but dismissal is at 8:00 p.m.

Gathering Remarks in the church begin promptly at 6:30. Class is 6:45 to 7:45 and our Closing Remarks are 7:45 to 8:00. Dismissal is at 8:00.

We are trying to build a substitute catechist list for Sunday mornings and the Junior High program. If you can help even if only occasionally, please contact the Office of Catechesis at 832-2162 or dking@ccsyn.org.

The new pattern for drop-off and pick-up for Sunday Morning Catechesis is working out well. Please drop-off and pick-up all students through the Office Center; remain with your vehicle, and follow the arrows around the perimeter of the lot.
Deacon Dennis

CLASS PARENTS

Thank you to all our parents who volunteered to help us with this ministry for the Sunday morning and Junior High Programs. Letters were sent out to all Class Parents with the procedures to follow in the event Religious Education is cancelled due to weather or other reasons. If you do not receive your letter in the mail and/or if you have any questions, notify Jo Ann Jarvis at 832-2162.

Amy Compton	Donna Guzzino
Lori Kecker	Mira Leiwant
Melissa Lewis	Danielle Meekings
Susan O'Sullivan	Frances Ratsimor
Jana Rojas	Patty Will

2011 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

In Faith, With Hope



Many companies have Matching Gift programs for charity or educational purposes. If your company participates, the Diocese of Metuchen or one of the designated entities may be the recipient of these funds. The company match will increase the dollar amount received at no extra cost to you. For information, contact the Department of Stewardship & Development by phone at 732-562-2429 or e-mail Matching-Gift@diometuchen.org. A list of Matching Gift companies can also be found on our website www.diometuchen.org.

To date, our parish has received \$4,195.00 in pledges/gifts to the 2011 Bishop's Annual Appeal from 22 families toward our goal of \$37,400.00. 11.2% to goal. Thank you!

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY --FAMILY CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 23, 10: 30 a.m.

MEET: St. Francis Cathedral CYO, Metuchen (Main Street and Library Place)

WALK: "Going the Extra Mile for Kids in Need of Jesus" --Through the neighborhood and back to--

CELEBRATE: St. Francis Cathedral, Noon Mass (Bishop Emeritus Hughes)

SHARE: a simple mission lunch (Cathedral Cafeteria) with Father Gary Wiesmann

For more information: 732-562-1990 ext 1707 or email: pontifical.mission.societies@diometuchen.org

Or visit: <http://www.diometuchen.org/deptsministries/pontifical-mission-societies/>

Diocesan News

DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Placement test: Sunday, Saturday, November 5, 8:00 a.m.

The high school placement test for Bishop Ahr High School, Cardinal McCarrick High School and Immaculata High School will be held on Sunday, November 5 at 8:00 a.m. This is a four hour assessment. The fee is \$45.00. If your child does not already attend a Catholic school you can call the high school of your choice to get an application form. Mail the completed application to your first choice school. Be sure that your first quarter marks are on the form.

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MARY

Thursday, October 20, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Piscataway

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. We celebrate Our Lady's exemplary discipleship through the life of her Son when we pray the rosary. You are invited to explore the spiritual references that show forth the Blessed Mother as a strong woman of faith, her role as the Mother of Jesus, guide and model for all Christians and the Church.

Fr. Damien Breen, parochial vicar at St. Bernard's in Bridgewater, will facilitate our evening at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway, 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 20. There is no charge for this event. **To register or for more information, please contact Pat Martin at the Diocesan Office for Catechesis: pmartin@diometuchen.org or 732-562-1990 x1310.**

DIOCESE OF METUCHEN 30TH ANNIVERSARY PILGRIMAGE

Sunday, November 19, 2011

Bishop Bootkoski extends a cordial invitation to the people of our Diocese to join him on the *Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.* on Saturday, November 19, 2011. Many parishes in our Diocese will be sponsoring buses to the event. If you are interested in attending, please contact Susan Kovach at the Diocese of Metuchen (732-562-2439) and she will assist you in finding a bus location.

The Cathedral Parish is also planning an **Overnight Trip** to Washington in conjunction with the Pilgrimage. The cost is \$400 per person based on double occupancy and includes round trip bus transportation, hotel, dinner, breakfast and sight-seeing. **For information or a reservation from, contact Rosemarie Gazaleh at St. Francis Cathedral (732-548-0100, ext 210).**

Please visit www.diometuchen.org for more information.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

October 21-23, 2011.



It takes much effort just to make ends meet today. Do you wish you could talk about something besides all the stresses in your life?

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held October 21-23, 2011. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Phone 1-888-827-NJME for registration and information. Visit us at: www.wmcentralnj.org for more information.

Diocesan News

MASS FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Sunday, October 30, 12:00 p.m., St. Francis Cathedral

A Mass honoring healthcare professionals will be held on Sunday, October 30 at St. Francis Cathedral in Metuchen at 12:00 p.m. Bishop Bootkoski will celebrate the Mass and the Very. Rev. John N. Fell, S.T.D. will be the guest homilist. The White Mass honors those in our diocese who are involved in the healthcare profession: physicians, nurses, pharmacists, technicians, chaplains, administrators and volunteers. It is an opportunity to give thanks for their dedicated service in the ministry of healing and compassion. Following the Mass there will be light refreshments and fellowship downstairs in the Community Room. **For more information, call 732-562-1990 ext. 1629.**

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE OF TRENTON AND METUCHEN

*A Weekend Away for a Lifetime of Change!
November 11, 12, 13*

Attention: Widowed, Divorced and Separated Men and Women

Thoughtful guidance and help may be needed to start a different life after the loss of a spouse and the end of a marriage. Beginning Experience of Trenton and Metuchen (sponsor dioceses) provide a unique weekend experience that is designed to assist you through that process.

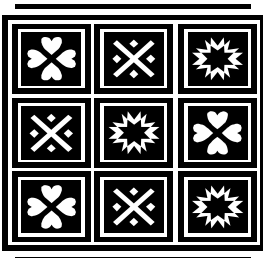
The weekend is a powerful, intense and positive experience of hope and peace. The meetings consist of presentations, private personal reflection and dialogue in small groups. The participants are gently guided by specially trained team members, who themselves, have suffered the loss of a spouse and the end of a marriage.

The next Beginning Experience weekend is scheduled for November 11, 12, 13, 2011 at Stella Maris Retreat Center, Elberon, NJ. Registration is required. **For more information, please call Rosemarie 732-681-1114; Vivian-732-441-7070; Elizabeth-732-636-7445 or Phil-732-636-7445. If you prefer, you may email us at beginningexperience@gmail.com**

If you know anyone who might benefit from attending, please mention "Beginning Experience."

Fundraising

2011 QUILT RAFFLE



Raffle tickets should have arrived at your home. You can help to make this important fundraiser a huge success by purchasing and/or selling the 2 books of tickets. **All tickets need to be accounted for, so please return your money or unsold tickets before the November 5 Raffle.** This year's Quilt "Asian Sparkle" is a Full/Queen Coverlet, Value \$1,300.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

If you have someone in the military that you would like us to remember in our prayers, call the office or drop the name into the collection basket. As military personnel leave the Service, please notify us so that we can remove them from the list. Please remember the following in your prayers:

2nd Lt, Baumann Katherine, Army Engineer
Petty Officer Behr, Fred, U.S. Navy
2nd LT Behrmann, John, USMC
Lt. Col. Blewitt, Joseph, U.S. Air Force
Capt. Bohanan, Luke P., U.S. Army
Sgt. Brisson, Mark D., USMC
HM Bullis, Christopher, US Navy
LCpl Bunce, Evan, USMC
IT2 Combel, Tracey, U.S. Navy
Lance Corp., Coe, Kevin, 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
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
CMDR Hopkins, John A., U.S. Navy
CPL Howard, Jeffrey, U.S. Army
GM3 Hurler, Shane
SSgt. Jirouschek, Thomas, U.S. Air Force
PFC Jones, Joshua, USMC
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
Capt. Larsen, Christopher M. U.S. Army
Chaplain (LT) Logan, Eddy, U.S. Navy
SGT Ludwig, Konrad, U.S. Army
Lt. Mallue, Edward Paul, Jr. U.S. Army
Maj. McVicker, Andrew, U.S. Air Force
2Lt. McLaughlin, Brian, U.S. Army
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. Omstead, David, USA
Capt. Omstead, Barbara, USA
SPC Osburn, Jared, U.S. Army
Maj. Pidgeon, Paul, U.S. Army
1st Lt. Rautenberg, Erik, Army National Guard
2nd Lt. Royal, Benjamin, USMC
Scardino, David, U.S. Navy
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
SSGT Vigilante, William, U.S. Air Force
Captain Wade, Dominic, U.S. Army
Capt., Warkentin, William J., USMC
Airman Basic Wiedmann, Alex J., US Air Force

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.*

RETURNING TO THE CHURCH?

If you or someone that you know is returning to the Church after a long absence, please call the office at 832-2513. Let us welcome you/them back and provide a copy of a "Handbook for Today's Catholic" to help you grow in your faith.

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.

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.

Adult Formation

PONDERING PAUSES

"TO PRAYERFULLY PREPARE FOR AND EMBRACE THE TRANSITION OF PARISH LEADERSHIP"

If someone is coming to visit and you don't really know them, what do you do? Suppose they are your daughter's in-laws to be? What if they are family from Europe that you have never met and they speak a different language? How about people who own the company you work for and they are from a different culture? What do you do in preparing for a student from an exchange program?

When Father Šimo first came to Califon I prepared a room for him. We were going to have to share a bathroom and so I made room for his toiletries. I also had to clean off a few chairs so he could sit. I was used to living by myself and so had to orient my thinking to living and sharing with someone I did not know nor know any of his native language. I even tightly fit a desk into his room so that he would have a place to write and keep his mail. I even bought a Croatian dictionary but it was a Serbo-Croatian dictionary, which was what was used before the war in old Yugoslavia. The first thing I learned was that there was no Serbo-Croatian language. That was offensive to both Croats and Serbs.

You get the point by now. You prepare yourself, your home, your way of thinking and speaking. If you are hospitable it is all about making the visitor at home. What you do is to find out about the person, their country, customs, and language to make them feel at home. You go out of your way to make them comfortable. You may later realize that you have nothing in common. That all you have done in preparation was not at all what the person was used to or even may have wanted to get away from. The main purpose of what you do is to become related to something that you have in common. You need to find what you have in common.

One of the things that I had to remind Father Šimo about both here and in his country was that when all the people knew English you shouldn't speak in your own language that the others did not know. I also discovered that he had to sometimes speak in Croatian because it was difficult to think, translate and then speak English. So many times in Bosnia and Croatia I sat at the table reading or just admiring the scenery. There were times when I had to remind him that we didn't do that here. I had to learn things I shouldn't do in his country. I bought movies in what I thought were Croatian with English subtitles. I thought it was a way to learn English. After awhile Father Darko started to call me a Serbophile because they were Serbian made movies and there is not much love lost between Serbs and Croats.

I am sure you get my point and deduce the comparison I am trying to make. When a new pastor comes the parish should be welcoming. Preparing to make the parish a place where someone new can feel at home. Hospitality is to me a prime virtue of a Christian. As the priest that presides at Eucharist I feel that I am the host and welcome people to the Lord's Table not mine. I have to know this role and make sure that I follow it through. I think that there are similarities in the comparison.

"Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? ... Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

— Mt. 22:17b-18, 21c

Excerpted from the *Lectio for Mass* ©2007, 1998, 1975 CCIB.



Stewardship

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS



We are a Stewardship Parish sharing Time, Talent and Treasure as a way of life.

282 families; 33 Time & Talent Responses, 25 Treasure Responses; 5 Youth Responses

OCTOBER 16, 2011 - 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." – Matthew 22:21

In reality, everything belongs to God. We would have nothing if God had not given us the skills, talents and opportunities to accomplish what we accomplish. Therefore, we have an obligation to return a portion of our gifts to God, for all gifts come from Him and belong to Him.

GRAB A BAG FOR PANTRY DONATIONS

One of the easiest ways for us to reduce our environmental footprint is to replace the use of plastic bags with reusable bags. We would like to help you make this transition! Instead of using plastic bags to make your pantry donations use one of the reusable bags we are providing. Reusable bags are available in the basket next to the pantry donation basket. Feel free to donate a bag to the collection. Grab a bag and bring in a pantry donation.

Stewardship - Treasure

FINANCIAL UPDATE

For October 10, 2010

77 Weekly Donors	\$2,125.50
26 Monthly Donors	\$2,235.00
Loose Money	<u>\$437.00</u>
Total	\$4,797.50
20 Direct Deposit.....	\$971.00

For October 9, 2011

73 Weekly Donors	\$2,304.00
28 Monthly Donors	\$4,270.00
Loose Money	<u>\$195.00</u>
Total	\$6,769.00
19 Direct Deposit.....	\$988.75

Weekly Averages

September	\$5,915.00
August	\$4,487.00
July	\$5,015.00
June.....	\$5,167.00
May.....	\$5,241.00
April	\$5,343.00
March	\$5,963.00
February	\$5,133.00
January.....	\$4,916.00
December.....	\$5,575.00
November.....	\$5,727.19
October.....	\$5,795.00

Weekly Need\$8,182.00

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Monday, 10/24	Angel Needed
Tuesday, 10/25	D. Zigmantanis
Wednesday, 10/26	Angel Needed
Thursday, 10/27	C. Behrens

Grocery Cards

October 15 & 16

5:30 p.m.	G. Best
8:00 a.m.	V. Santoro
10:30 a.m.	R. McShane

October 22 & 23

5:30 p.m.	D. Zigmantanis
8:00 a.m.	K. Dabrowski
10:30 a.m.	F. Cook

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of 10/16	M. Cangelosi
Week of 10/23	L. Livoti

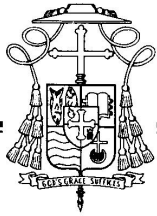
Church Center Cleaning

October 21	Team C
October 28	Team D

SPONSORING ST. MARY'S PARISH

In March 2009, we began sending profits from cash card sales on the third weekend of each month to St. Mary's parish in Coeburn, Virginia. If you don't use these cash cards but want to contribute to St. Mary's you may leave a donation in the basket provided in the Narthex. **In September, we collected \$117.50 from the sale of Shop Rite, A&P and Kings cards to be sent to St. Mary's in Coeburn.**

This week's profits will go to St. Mary's.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Office of the Bishop

October 16, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Before returning to the Father, Our Lord promised us the gift of the Holy Spirit and charged His followers to be His witnesses "...to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Each Easter season, we renew our Baptismal call to be witnesses of Christ. And each October, we have the opportunity to join the entire Church on World Mission Sunday to act on that call—to share our faith with others through personal prayer and sacrifice. We are called to strengthen our bonds with Catholic Missionaries by helping them represent us in bringing our Lord's Gospel to faraway and remote places. So often this means bringing hope to those who must eke out an existence day by day.

Thankfully, many organizations—some Catholic—extend the treasure and talent of us Americans to parts of the world where people struggle to survive. The Church's missionary outreach, however, begins with our faith-filled proclamation: **Jesus is Lord**. On October 23, I encourage you to celebrate Christ our Hope by participating in the Eucharist and by praying and sacrificing, personally, in this year's World Mission Sunday collection.

Our Sisters and Brothers around the globe also pray and sacrifice. They count on us, too, to make that day a day of our oneness in Christ, so that the Church's Missionaries may stay 'on the scene' long after emergency personnel have left. May you and I join with every parish, chapel and mission station in begging Him to renew us and His entire Church—He who is the **Hope of the World**.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski
Bishop of Metuchen