

# The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

PO Box 455, Califon, New Jersey, 07830

908-832-2513

November 27, 2011

Volume 29, Number 47



## *A Christian Community of the Catholic Tradition*

Diocese of Metuchen  
Most. Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski,  
Bishop  
Most Rev. Edward T. Hughes, retired  
Bishop  
[www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.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](http://www.ccsjn.org)

### **Worshipping at:**

398 County Road 513  
(Church Center)

Saturday Vigil Mass .....5:30 p.m.  
Sunday .....8:00 a.m.  
Sunday .....10:30 a.m.

390 County Road 513  
(Neumann Residence)

Tuesday .....7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday .....9:30 a.m.  
Friday .....7:00 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  
Kristin Gemma.....kgemma@ccsjn.org  
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.

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto:vocations@diometuchen.org) or visit [www.diometuchen.org/vocations](http://www.diometuchen.org/vocations).

# This Week at Saint John's

## Mass Schedule

December 3 & 4

### Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Celebrant..... Fr. Mickiewicz  
 Deacon..... Earl Roberts  
 Lector ..... C. Drzewiecki  
 Altar Server ..... Germino Family  
 Ministers of the Eucharist..... D. Simila, M. MacKenzie,  
 ..... M. McCall, D. Torczon, L. Eacovalle

### Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Celebrant..... Fr. Mickiewicz  
 Lector ..... M. Harrison  
 Altar Server ..... F. Kennedy  
 Ministers of the Eucharist..... D. Kelemen, B. Gates, J. Klawunn, T. Klawunn

### Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Celebrant..... Fr. Mickiewicz  
 Lector ..... S. Gemma  
 Altar Server ..... C. Zelesny  
 Ministers of the Eucharist..... A. DeStefano, B. Zelesny,  
 ..... K. Gemma, B. Martalus, D. Lance, M. Milko

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, November 29

7:00 p.m. John & Marian Zelinka  
 req. Livoti Family

### Wednesday, November 30

9:30 a.m. All Souls Intentions

### Friday, December 2

7:00 a.m. Catherine Bohem &  
 Family

### Saturday, December 3

5:30 p.m. Maureen Stout req.  
 Connie Leming

### Sunday, December 4

8:00 a.m. Henrietta Klawunn req.  
 Klawunn Family  
 10:30 a.m. Joseph Charkut req.  
 Vincenzi Family

## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, November 27— First Sunday of Advent/New Translation of Mass Begins

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

### Monday, November 28— Bl. Thomas Krini Koteda

6:00 p.m. Zumba (Church Center)  
 7:00 p.m. Fundraising Meeting (Office Center)  
 7:30 p.m. Children's Liturgy Committee Meeting (Office  
 Center)  
 7:30 p.m. Regina Nostra Award (Cathedral)

### Tuesday, November 29 — Bl. Bernardo Francisco De Hoys

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

### Wednesday, November 30 — St. Andrew

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

### Thursday, December 1 — Bl. Maria Clare Golvao

7:30 p.m. Bell Choir (Church Center)

### Friday, December 2 — St. Ananias

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

### Saturday, December 3 — St. Francis Xavier

11:00 a.m. First Reconciliation (Church Center)

### Sunday, December 4 — Yellow Brick Road/Giving Tree Ends/Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. K-6 Catechesis (Office Center & Church  
 Center)  
 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Church Center)

## Pastor's Schedule

### Sunday, November 27

3:00 p.m. White Christmas

### Monday, November 28

1:30 p.m. Appointment (Away)  
 7:30 p.m. Regina Nostra Award (Cathedral)

### Tuesday, November 29

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

### Wednesday, November 30

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

### Thursday, December 1

6:00 p.m. Dinner Meeting (Away)

### Friday, December 2

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

### Saturday, December 3

11:00 a.m. First Reconciliation (Church Center)

# First Sunday of Advent — Year B

## Remember in Your Prayers

Ms. Ally	Mary Kirchner
Carol Anderson	Frank Kostecki
Joe Angeline	Spencer Kydd
Pat Arat	Michael Lamotte
Antonia Baasten	Harry Larson
Kate Bachman	John Lauler
Richard Baker	Kevin Leahy
John Ballard	Holly Lear
Peter Barbieri	Brett Lewis
Alice Beardsmore	Michele Makos
Carol Becker	Taylor Maleski
Maria Beckman	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	Betsy Miller
Lou Citarelli	Michael Milt
Riley Clark	Nina Montouri
Lorraine Cochran	Erica Morgan
Kathleen Cohen	Joseph Morrison
Gerard Cook	Robert Olivetti
Valerie Cordero	Gloria Omstead
Kristine Orvos Cresti	Floyd Opdyke
Natalia Cresti	Daisy Ort
Dalton Cummins	Bill O'Toole
Joseph D'Achino	Joyce Owens
Sr. Ann Damian	Linda Owens
Percival Davids	Robert Patterson
Maria Elena Dawson	Nilsa Perez-Parsons
Virginia DeCasino	John Pfeufer
Peter Demchur	Steve Plume
Dorothy Deo	Brian Plushanski
Nick DeVincenzo	John & Nicole Ramsden
Anthony DeVito	Albert Rayburn
Ann Dodwell	Tom Regan
Betty Doyle	Ed Reinagel
Paul DuPre	Alissa Marie Ricciardi
Courtney Ellis	Pat Roach
Msgr. Endebruck	Julie Ruby
Florence Fakelmann	John Sawczuk
Jacob Fakelmann	Maria Sawczuk
Hannah Farrington	Ed Scharf
Joseph Fay	Antonia Schulz
Helena Ferguson	Chris Seltzer
Akiea Finn	Abe Shalaby
Anthony Fiorillo	Paul Shubeck
Ann Flemming	Sister Mary George
Ryan Flynn	Marianna Sivori
Helen Galligan	Jim Sklenar
Theresa Galvano	Austen James Slinger
Frank Gargiulo	Carol Smarsh
Maria Gargiulo	Colleen Smith
Nicholas Gargiulo Jr.	Jonathan Solis
Jayne Giese	Felicia Steward
Jerry Goski	William Stortz
Sophia Goski	Timothy Struble
Robert Govett	Evelyn Sulenski
Rose Gradone	Mary Sulenski
Angela Grieco	Julie Suplee
Christina Grillo	Tracey Sutch
Dorothy Gross	John Sutor
Josephine Handy	Margaret Sweeney
Colleen Hendzrak	John Toolan
Tyler Hodulik	Brian Travis
Anita Horan	Rose Uricchio
Mary Ann Hughes	Laura Veslany
Richard Hughes	Robert Villani
Brittney Ianitto	Dayelle Watts
Jeanine Imperiale	Harvey White
Nona Janks	John William
Diana Janowski	Gloria Wood
Bob Jenkinson	Elizabeth Wodrich
John Kaemmerer	Lynn Yondolino
Rosemary Kimbal	John J. Zelesny

## STAY AWAKE



“The Lord is coming, but you know not the day or the hour.” This season makes us all aware of time’s movement and our place in its fragile duration. Now is the time to sort things out, look around and get ready, for at the Lord’s presence the mountains melt. Advent means: He’s coming soon! Heads up! Keep your own eyes open. Don’t expect someone else to alert you. Be ready!

## NEXT WEEK – FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Thursday, December 8 – Holyday of Obligation, Patronal Feast of the United States. Masses will be held at:

7:00 a.m. in the Neumann Residence Chapel (590 Rt. 513)  
7:30 p.m. in the Church Center

## YELLOW BRICK ROAD

### Next Weekend

Next week is the monthly Yellow Brick Road of our Mortgage collection. We need \$6,707.00 for that payment. Thanks to all who participate and help us to make that payment. The remainder of the funds to pay the mortgage comes from Shop Rite/A&P Cash Cards and fundraisers. Please support these endeavors, especially the cash cards, if you cannot contribute to this collection.

## NEW TRANSLATION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

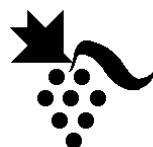
Hopefully we will begin the new translation of the Roman Missal this weekend. Our Missals have not yet arrived. I depended on Amazon.org but they let me down. The publishers did not calculate this very well even after all these months. Hopefully we will have another source that will come through. Someone who went to a funeral said that they were in a church where they started to use it already. Shame on them! They weren’t suppose to begin until the First Sunday of Advent. Some people just can’t wait. I could have waited for years, preferably after my death.

### Remembered at Mass

We stand together in the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection. The following will be remembered in the Eucharistic Prayer:



**Marty Hegarty — Rev. Msgr. Donald Endebruck — Rev. Arthur Anderson — Joseph Tagliareni — Jewel LeVine — Deacon Robert McGreevy — Bob Lackey — Denise McGowan — Pamela Mickiewicz — Jerry Donovan — Frank DelleDonne**



## **CHRISTMAS TREE SETUP AND DECORATING**

**Friday, December 16 & Tuesday, December 20**



We can use your help with the Narthex Christmas Tree Setup, which will be on Friday, December 16, at 6:00 p.m. And the Christmas Decorating will be on Tuesday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. If you can help, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex.

## **REGINA NOSTRA AWARD**

Every five years added to the Diocesan anniversary the "Regina Nostra" award is made by the Bishop to a member of each parish in the diocese. This year the award will be presented to **Anne Germino** on Monday, November 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Francis in Metuchen. You know Anne's work in the garden from last year's Stewardship Weekend and this year's "Open Garden."

You see her name all over Social Ministry especially SHIP'S GALLEY. She is also in many places where you don't see her name. We could only send in one name. There are many others that are not listed that deserve this medal. I honor them in my heart.

CONGRATULATIONS Anne!

## **\*\*CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP UPDATE\*\***

We are almost out of available spots for camp next summer! If you would like to join us in Providence, RI from June 24-29, **please contact Mary Connolly as soon as possible at 930-0784 or [mandmconnolly@gmail.com](mailto:mandmconnolly@gmail.com)**. The final cost is \$330 and a \$75 deposit is due now.

## **PHONE SERVICE**

When the electric is out and Comcast is out you cannot reach the Office or Father. You can leave a message on Father's phone but he cannot access it until Comcast is back in business. He doesn't need electric but the Office does because the system there requires electric.

If it is a real emergency - A REAL EMERGENCY you can reach Father on his cell (if he has it turned on - in a situation like we just had he will have it on) 908-268-6358. Please only in an emergency. Thanks.

## **MEMORIALIZE OUR NEW WORSHIP HYMNALS**

We are ordering hymnals with the new Mass texts and the Three Cycle Readings. "Gather Comprehensive" They will be permanent books and so will last for several years (unless Rome changes something else). So if you would like to memorialize a book we would like to offer you this opportunity to help us defray the cost of these books. Since we will not have to order worship aids any more they will be paid for in the amount it costs our current "Breaking Bread" in three years. That will help our budget and the environment.

The name plate will be placed in the front of the book. The suggested donation is \$25.00. Place your donation in an envelope and write the name or names that you want memorialized.

## *Pastoral Council*

### ***Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes Monday, October 17, 2011***

**Opening/Closing Prayer** — Bill Harrison

**Present** — Fr. Bill, Pam Casserly, Steve Gemma, Bill Harrison, Donna Lance, Mike Mastro, Laura Sharp, Brandon Staten

**Absent** — Roger Malone, Joann Gardner

#### **Reflection**

The Pastoral Council goal for 2011-2012 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 was meticulously discussed and finalized. Steve Gemma and Bill Harrison will prepare a power point presentation in consultation with Father Bill for the evening's program.

#### **Committee Meetings**

The Stewardship Committee's chairman, Anthony DeStefano, attended the October 17 Pastoral Council Meeting. He reported on the committee's progress towards completing their objectives in the Parish 5 year plan. Their goal is to foster a sense of ownership among all parishioners through Stewardship. Their objectives include:

- Encourage everyone to volunteer for some activity, ministry or service by donating their time and/or talent.
- 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.
- Encourage Parishioners to adopt practices that foster Environmental Stewardship.
- Stewardship Sunday is November

# Parish News

## CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER ŠIMO

Father Šimo had the blessing of the cornerstone of the new Pope John Paul II Youth Center in Sarajevo last month. I was invited but could not make the trip. The Cardinal was there for the blessing and the Mass. You can see the work progress by going to the web page – [www.mladicentar.org](http://www.mladicentar.org) and clicking on webcam during daylight hours [ that is in our morning hours (they are six hours ahead of us)]. The German Bishops are helping with a third of the costs. His Cardinal Archbishop was in our country in September and asking the Catholic Bishops for assistance. We congratulate him in this venture that has occupied many years of his ministry. I hope I live to see the dedication. Plans for the Youth Center are on display at the Eucharistic Sign In Station.

## THANKS

To **Anita Sawczuk, Wayne Infusino** and **Andy Kozlowski** and their work around our signage. We won't see the results until the Spring and the full growth in a few years but the ornamental grasses will help to make the signs and our entrance a sight to behold. Thank you.

To **Mary Connolly** for the fall decorations at our Church entrance.

To **Wayne Infusino** for the chrysanthemums that have already bit the dust at the front of the Church and Office.

## 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.

## THE SEASON OF ADVENT

### *Christ lights our darkness*

"Advent (literally, "at the coming") prepares for the annual celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas and his revelation to the nations at Epiphany. The Church year moves in a cycle of promise-fulfillment-proclamation, often using the images of darkness and light to accentuate the movement. With Advent we enter the first part of the cycle – promise – as the dark period of the solar year begins. God's goodness gives us light; the light of the Messiah that dawns in the birth of Christ at Bethlehem and that will shine in the fullness at his coming again as King and Judge.

So in this Advent season as we begin a new Church year, we focus our attention on the demands of responding to the light of Jesus' presence. We desire to let his vision and values enlighten us and transform the darkness of our lives so that we may become a light that will lead others to God.

The lectionary focus for this year on **Mark's gospel** is particularly suited to enhance our experience of enlightenment for following this way of commitment, conversion, and cooperation in the saving work of Jesus for our world today.

As we live through the seasons of the Church year, we will learn that the way of Christian discipleship always leads through the darkness of suffering to the experience of new life in Christ. Preparing the way is the first step to which our Advent experience is directed." p.67 – The Sunday Missal – Living with Christ.

6. Speakers at all Masses will be students who volunteered their time and talents at Catholic Heart Work Camp.

- The Social Ministry Committee will attend the next Pastoral Council Meeting on November 19 at 9:00 a.m.

### **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. The Leadership section of this plan will be discussed at our next meeting.
- 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 was held on Sunday October 16 at Saint John's. A good time was had by all.
- Ad Hoc Website – Brandon, Bill, and Pam will have an update at our next meeting.

### **Pastor's Items of Business**

- Father Bill extends his gratitude and deep appreciation to Mary Beth Harrison and Sandy Aaron for chairing a very successful Tricky Tray held on October 14.
- Eighteen young adults were confirmed on Sunday October 9.
- Father Bill distributed 4 articles "Why and How Have the Mass Texts Been Revised?", "Not There, Not Aware", "Empty Churches and Crowded Pathways", and "What's New About the New Evangelization?"

**Next Meeting:** Saturday, November 19, 2011 8:30 a.m.

**Prayer:** Pam Casserly

Minutes prepared by Donna Lance

# Social Ministry

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

St. John's Christmas Giving Tree in the Narthex is adorned with the needs and wishes of those less fortunate than many of us. We need your help to make a difference in the lives of so many challenged by their circumstances. We are supporting six different organizations this year: Anderson House, Freedom House/Family Afterward, Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital, Little Brook Nursing Home, Newton's Guest House and St. John's individuals and families in need.

Some tags have more than one gift listed. Feel free to purchase one or more of the gifts on the tag.

Please:

1. **Take a tag from the Tree.**
2. **Sign it out on the appropriate Log Sheet.**
3. **Purchase and wrap your gift, attaching the tag you took as the label.** (Please do not wrap gifts for Anderson House or Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital as they need to be inspected.)
4. **Drop off your gift as soon as possible either in the Narthex or Office Center, but not later than Sunday, December 4.**

If you have any questions, please contact Alanna Porto at 908-832-9820 or [kporto@aol.com](mailto:kporto@aol.com).

Thanks for your generous giving!

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

Our community's generosity regarding the Food Pantry and our specific food drives has always been outstanding. We are eliminating some of the mainstays of the past and adding new items to our list of needs 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 Moore stew, canned ravioli, Spaghettio'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 Christmas will be needed by December 4.

Please see the column at the right for additional important reminders regarding the Food Pantry and Food Distributions.

## REMINDERS

### **Food pantry/distribution**

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

- Don't forget to pick up the new food pantry list from the Narthex.
- All donations for Christmas are still needed for the Deliveries.
- 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 at [wgregw3@juno.com](mailto:wgregw3@juno.com) or Anne Germino at 908-343-1618.** Thanks!

### **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!

## A PRAYER FOR TRANSITION OF LEADERSHIP

Lord Jesus, we thank you for this time to meet and pray as a community in preparation for new parish leadership. We are so grateful for the wisdom of your loving Spirit expressed through each of us and as a community. This is our home, our beautiful spiritual family, one in body with you that you have blessed beyond measure.

The immense love, vision, and leadership that we have experienced are the most special of blessings that we have and continue to treasure. Now as we prepare for transition of leadership, we experience mixed feelings of denial and deep sadness, and at the same time, feelings of great happiness for our pastor as he prepares to respond to the Spirit's call for a new beginning. We ask you Lord to help us move through these feelings by finding ways to support each other, our pastor and the next spiritual leader. We trust in your constant care as we understand our needs for preparation and for future leadership. In communion with your Holy Spirit we continue to open our hearts to your direction and unconditional love. With the deepest of gratitude we release these words into your heart, knowing our prayer is already answered. (Laura Sharp)

## SHOP RITE & A&P CARDS



We had **20 families** purchase Shop-Rite, Kings and A&P gift cards last weekend, for a total of **\$3,150.00** with **\$157.50** 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. 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.

# Christian Formation (Catechesis)

## NEW TRANSLATION

The date for the new translation of the Roman Missal (THE ROMAN MISSAL, THIRD EDITION) to begin is here, the First Sunday of Advent. With all of the preparation for at least a year when the publishing (printing) was begun we are far from ready. If more time was spent on its preparation rather than all the time spent on getting priests and congregation ready we would be in a much better state than we are.

The Roman Missal itself does not contain all of the matter that should be there so there will be supplements to add later such as the Eucharistic Prayers for Children. I have not had the actual book in my hands but I have heard that the order is confusing and the Prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayers are scattered all over the Missal. As I have stated Roman books are always confusing to me. There is a Table of Contents but no Index. The Book of the Gospels do not contain the Gospels for special Masses like the Funeral Mass but this is not part of the most recent translation.

We do not, at this writing, have a Roman Missal Third Edition. Either the supplier I was using ran out, did not order enough or there were not enough printed. I pre-ordered but have been informed that they could not ship until December 17 – not good for time sensitive material. I have canceled that order and have contacted other suppliers and hope to at least have one for the grand beginning.

I have three Roman Missals. One is the First Edition, well worn; one small Second Edition that is in good shape and then a large one because Bishop Hughes used that for Confirmation. I felt it was too big for our altar. The new large Third Edition of the Roman Missal weighs in at 10 pounds. We have been waiting for the revision of the Missal for years but expectations were different than a new translation. Anthony Ruff, O.S.B. wrote an open letter to the bishops in American magazine, February 14, 2011. He is a well respected liturgist for many years. He had this to say in criticism of the process for the new translation:

*The forthcoming missal is but a part of a larger pattern of top-down impositions by a central authority that does not consider itself accountable to the larger church. When I think of how secretive the translation process was, how little consultation was done with priests or laity, how the Holy See allowed a small group to hijack the translation at the final stage, how unsatisfactory the final text is, how this text was imposed on national conferences of bishops in violation of their legitimate episcopal authority, how much deception and mischief have marked this process—and then when I think of Our Lord's teachings on service and love and unity...I weep.*

He like all of us will accept the challenge of all of the complications and as the author wrote in last week's column "we will work on strengthening the unity of the assembly, not divide it. In the end the quality of the liturgy is not judged by the words we speak, or the songs we sing but by how deeply we are challenged to enter into the paschal mystery, to be more fully who we are and are becoming – Christ - by living his life in the events of our own."

Let's have fun dealing with our human faults, mistakes and challenges. Then we can deal with the humility we all need. LET US PRAY!



# Christian Formation (Catechesis)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*"Do This in Memory of Me"*

**Focus:** Watchfulness  
"We wait for the coming of God's Kingdom"

**Scripture:** "Be watchful! You do not know when the time will come."  
Mark 13: 33-37

**Reflection:** Have you ever fallen asleep at the wrong time? Share a story of oversleeping. When were you prepared way ahead of time? What have you done when the person you were visiting was not prepared for your arrival?

**Song:** "Wake, O Wake, and Sleep No Longer"

**Story:** The wait

A young wife and her infant daughter can barely contain themselves as they wait. Any moment now her husband's unit will march into the arena after a year in Afghanistan. They've talked every day via Skype, so at least she knew he had made it through another day; he saw images on his laptop of their little Sarah who was born after he left - he has yet to hold his daughter.

The waiting began with the first word that his unit would be called up; the waiting took on new urgency as he made arrangements for the family's care during his absence. Waiting was part of the couple's everyday routine until they made their daily Skype connection - and if it was late or delayed, the waiting became unbearable. Their waiting became expectation as the day approached when he would come home.

Now, on this day they have been waiting for for an eternity, their eyes meet the moment he enters the arena. A few more minutes for the formal dismissal . . . wait, wait, wait. And the long wait melts when husband and father, wife and mother, and beautiful daughter are in each other's arms again.

They go home, happily awaiting the next chapter of their life together as a family.

*Such waiting is the reality for many military families. This season of Advent waiting reminds us that waiting is often the cost of love: In waiting for someone, our own everyday business becomes almost meaningless as we anticipate, worry, and prepare for their return. In waiting, we realize our own powerlessness; we realize our deepest hopes and needs; we realize the gift the person we are awaiting is to us. May our waiting for the coming of the Holy One this Christmas help us understand and carry on the mystery of compassionate and generous waiting in our lives.*

*Connections, December 2011*

### ADDITIONAL ALL SOULS INTENTIONS

Andrew Rogers  
Aldona Simmons  
George Simmons  
Richard Waddleton  
Berta Zigmantanis  
John Zigmantanis, Sr.

## 2011 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

*In Faith, With Hope*

Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal sustains the work of several Diocesan offices and departments that provide the spiritual, pastoral and intellectual formation, as well as practical tools to assist the clergy and lay leaders of the local parishes in areas such as: Evangelization, Catechesis, RCIA, Stewardship, and Worship & Liturgical Formation.

**To date, our parish has received \$23,745.00 in pledges/gifts to the 2011 Bishop's Annual Appeal from 75 families toward our goal of \$37,400.00. 63.5% to goal. Thank you!**



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2011

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37  
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

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## IN THANKSGIVING

As I was cleaning out a box from around the late 80s I came upon a copy of an article on BLESSINGS. I thought I'd share it with you on this Thanksgiving when I count my blessings in 2011.

"The holiday season, the end of another year, the giving of gifts, the birth in Bethlehem all brings to my mind the blessings of being the pastor of the Catholic Community of St. John Neumann.

The best blessing, of course, is the people, for that is what a parish is all about. Sure they contribute, work, plan and execute, but people do that in every parish. There is something more here at St. John's. There is a spirit that bonds, motivates and infects. There is a magic which is none other than the Spirit of Jesus in whose name we gather.

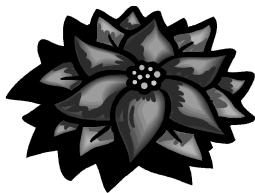
As I drove by the Parish House the other day and admired our home all decorated, as I began to move about the space our architect has designed and I visualize where we will gather in the future, as I drifted away in thought and dream, as I reflected upon our magnificent gathering at the Christmas party and anticipated the drawing of the winners, I realized how lucky and blessed I am and that I am surely a winner to be a part of your religious community. Thank you for the blessing you are and may you indeed be blessed in the new year, as a people and as individuals. I indeed love you and thank the Lord for your caring."

Happy Thanksgiving – my last as your pastor.



## Fundraising

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER SALES



We are looking for someone to handle this fundraiser. If you have any questions call Sharon in the office. Be on the look out for the Christmas (Poinsettia) Flower Order Form. You should be receiving it any day now. They need to be returned to the office by no later than December 11. You can mail them, drop them in the collection basket or drop them at the office during the week.

### CRAFT SHOW AND QUILT RAFFLE

Thanks to **Annette Uss** and her crew of workers (listed below) who made the last Craft Show and Quilt Raffle a success to keep pace with last year.

The Craft Show cleared \$2,250.25 and the Quilt Raffle brought in \$2,891.76. There were less people present again. The number has gradually been decreasing. The work is the same and the Crafters don't do as well. It has been a great Run. Our first Craft Show was in 1989 – that's 22 years ago. I think we had one every year but one. I recall all those who kept them going and I hold them dear to my heart as well as my prayers. I should compile a list of chair-people over the years. I didn't do that for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet. I promise to do that. Thanks to all, also to those who supported the Show and Raffle and all who worked and contributed food.

### THANK YOU

Special thanks to **France Kennedy** for chairing the kitchen and then some; **Wayne and Daniel Infusino** who both did a ton...Wayne in set up and clean up, and Daniel in being at the Show the whole day helping out.

Thank you for your donations, the pies and desserts, the entrees and your great homemade chili - all contributed to a successful fundraiser and a good dinner for many! Special thanks to, Josh, Buckley, Patty, Paulette and Bob - without whom the kitchen would have closed at 10:00 a.m.!

Thanks to: **Sandra Aaron; Pat Anderson** (publicity); **Peggy Barbella; Maggie Baumann; Cathy and Tom Bennett; Mary Cangelosi; Carol Cresenti; Gloria Cucchiara; Kathleen Dabrowski; Regina DeStefano; Bob and Paulette Estok; Andrew, Dana, and Joanne Fabiano; Lise Feller; Bonnie Garcia; Barbara Gates; David and Josh Geerinck; Linda Gerristead; Marybeth Harrison; Sharon Janks; Joanne Jarvis; Lori Kecker; Elizabeth Lacey; Donna Lance; Marie Malone; Tracy Menzie; Patty Nanna; Connor O'Sullivan; Barb and Fred Pfeufer; Sharon Pojedinec; Jack, Mia, and Noreen Ranallo; Annette, Jonathan and Daniel Uss;** and **Chris Zelesny.**

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*"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping."*

— Mk 13:35-36

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

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## PONDERING PAUSES

*“To prayerfully prepare for and embrace the transition of parish leadership”*

We will have a lot of experience in the coming year with change. The new translation of the Missal from the Latin in a more literal way is the first change.

It really comes at a good time. It puts before us the challenge of change. Change even when it is welcome is a challenge. We are creatures of habit and find habits hard to change, whether it is to give up smoking, drinking or establishing new patterns of eating. They pretty much follow the same patterns that we work through. Dr. Kubler Ross studied death one of the final changes of life. I think they can be applied to all change.

1. **Denial** – “Denial is a conscious or unconscious refusal to accept facts, information, reality, etc. relating to the situation concerned. It’s a defense mechanism and perfectly natural. Some people can become locked in this stage when dealing with a traumatic change that can be ignored.” In our recent Parish/Town Meeting on the goal above for this year many people got far afield by talking about what our needs are.

There was a lot of talk about youth ministry and attracting young people to church. This is a good and important topic, which we have been through numerous times. The conclusion is that there is no one to take this on; there are no funds to hire someone; and in the past not many youth came out (since we have less numbers now the percentage would even be lower). We even spent a great deal of time on it at the REAB meeting this past week. The Pastoral Council gave it up after 2 years stating that our Confirmation Retreat Team and CHWC would be our youth ministry. **THIS IS AVOIDANCE** or Denial. Addressing a topic other than what was on the floor or the purpose of the Parish/Town meeting – “to prayerfully prepare for and embrace the transition of pastoral leadership” was lost.

Now realize that only a small percentage of the parish was there. Think how much was also a part of their denial and how they will handle this stage when it comes along. How do we confront the denial? I have been writing in several places that this is my last – (“Christmas message”) or last anything else. After the CPIO meeting last month it hit a parishioner that I will not be here when her son is confirmed. When these things hit us in any change we need to deal with them – confront them and deal with whatever emotion comes up. What kind of denial is going on around the new translation of the Mass? If we don’t deal with it we will talk about leaving the church, use the old translation, not respond as many already don’t, begin to talk about some other problem in the church.

How do we deal with the denial or avoidance of a change in leadership? One of the direct confrontations at the Parish/Town meeting was how can we learn the customs and interests of an international priest becoming pastor. That is a distinct possibility. As I read down the names of the priests in our diocese I was overwhelmed how many form a part of our presbyterate. Dealing with this possibility is a way of dealing with “denial.”

So the suggestion is to reverse it – “to consciously accept facts, information, reality, etc. relating to the situation concerned.” Here is the first step.

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## 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
- 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **LITURGICAL BITS AND PIECES**

### ***Advent, a New Year, a New Beginning***

Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. Instead of waiting for January first to make new year's resolutions, consider beginning with Advent. Make it a special family time for Christmas preparations, not only working together to get all the tasks completed, but also to prepare spiritually as well. Then continue the family's regularly scheduled together time into the new year, the January first one.

# Diocesan News

## **SAVE THE DATE**

***2012 Students-to-Leaders , Foundation for Catholic Education Dinner  
Tuesday, May 1, 2012, The Palace at Somerset Park***

The mission of the Foundation for Catholic Education is to provide tuition assistance for low and moderate income families. Through your support, you give children the gift of a Catholic education. For further information, please call 732-562-2429, Email [educationdinner12@diometuchen.org](mailto:educationdinner12@diometuchen.org) or visit the website at [www.diometuchen.org/development](http://www.diometuchen.org/development).

## **PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Office of Worship and Episcopal Ceremonies presents a workshop on Pastoral Care of the Sick for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday, December 3, from 10:00 a.m. – noon at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center on 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway.

Rev. John J. Morley, Chaplain, Raritan Bay; Deacon Joseph Moscinski, Chaplain, Carrier Clinic; Clare M. Giangreco, Director of Liturgical Formation are the presenters. There is no fee thanks to our sponsors. Please RSVP by November 28.

This workshop will review the guidelines, rites and pastoral practices for ministers who bring Communion to those who are sick in various settings. Time will be allotted to address questions and answers. Extraordinary Ministers who may be interested in getting involved in this ministry are welcome to attend. Registration information is also available on the diocesan website at [www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.org) under Worship and Episcopal Ceremonies or send e-mail to [worship@diometuchen.org](mailto:worship@diometuchen.org).

## **SAVE THE DATE — PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY REGIONAL GATHERING**

***April 27-28, 2012, St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Hightstown, New Jersey***

Because you have the audacity to believe that with God's grace things can be made more perfect, come to the Parish Social Ministry Regional Gathering and learn how to help your parish strengthen its faith in action. Join parishioners from our region to be grounded in faith and inspired to action to protect the poor and vulnerable in our midst. Learn "how to's" of organizing ministries in the parish and working advocating for those who are in need. For More Information, Contact: Maria Hunter, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, (732) 387-1315, [Mhunter@ccdom.org](mailto:Mhunter@ccdom.org) or visit [www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org/PSMtraining](http://www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org/PSMtraining).

# Sacrament Preparation

## **FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION**

***Saturday, December 3, 11:00 a.m. Church Center***

Our First Holy Communion children will be celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, December 3, at 11:00 a.m. in the Church Center. A reception for the children and their families will follow this celebration.

# Stewardship

## SHARING GOD'S GIFTS



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

**281 families; 16 Time & Talent Responses, 12 Treasure Responses; 4 Youth Responses**

### NOVEMBER 27, 2011 - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*"O Lord... we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." - Isaiah 64:7*

When we realize that it is God who formed and blessed us, we must also realize that we have an obligation to share our blessings as God intended when He created us. It is not a matter of pointing fingers and asking what others are doing. We need to search our own hearts and ask what we are doing to fulfill God's plan for us.

### 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 November 14, 2010

61 Weekly Donors .....	\$1,753.00
27 Monthly Donors .....	\$2,695.00
Loose Money .....	<u>\$94.00</u>
Total .....	\$4,542.00
20 Direct Deposit.....	\$971.00

### For November 13, 2011

66 Weekly Donors .....	\$2,061.00
27 Monthly Donors .....	\$3,390.00
Loose Money .....	<u>133.00</u>
Total .....	\$5,584.00
19 Direct Deposit.....	\$968.75

### Weekly Averages

October.....	\$4,905.00
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

**Weekly Need ..... \$8,182.00**

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### Office Angels

Monday, 11/28	<b>Angel Needed</b>
Tuesday, 11/29	<b>Angel Needed</b>
Wednesday, 11/30	L. Gerristead
Thursday, 12/1	<b>Angel Needed</b>

### Grocery Cards

November 26 & 27

5:30 p.m.	D. Zigmantanis
8:00 a.m.	K. Dabrowski
10:30 a.m.	R. McShane

December 3 & 4

5:30 p.m.	E. McCabe
8:00 a.m.	J. Klawunn
10:30 a.m.	C. Zelesny

### Church Center Plant Watering

Week of 11/27	B. Lee
Week of 12/4	M. Buniva

### Church Center Cleaning

December 2	Team D
December 9	Team E

## 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. **Last week, we collected \$157.50 from the sale of Shop Rite, A&P and Kings cards to be sent to St. Mary's in Coeburn.**

# Stewardship, Continued

## STEWARDSHIP

Thanks to our young people who presented CHWC at our Stewardship Weekend 2011 – **Jake Szymczak** at the 5:30 p.m. – **Jeanette Tagliareni** and **Sarah Hopkins** at 8:00 a.m. – **Megan and Michael D'Avella** and **Daniel Infusino** at 10:30 a.m.. They did a great job in sharing how they shared their time and talent.

Let's not forget our sharing of Treasure. Reflecting on the last two weeks of contributions (we had a snow weekend) people only contribute if they come to Mass – as if they pay to go to Mass. On the week of October 30 there were 9 weekly contributors and 6 monthly contributors. Last year on the same weekend there were 90 weekly contributors and 3 monthly. If we add that to the amount on the following weekend of last year we would have 150 contributors weekly and 19 monthly. In these two weeks we had 122 for 2011 and 172 for 2010. I am not comparing what was collected so this does not have much to do with the economy.

When people are welcomed into the parish they are asked "Are you willing to share your treasure with this local community and reach out to share with those outside of this community?" Stewardship is about sharing all the time not just when you are present. It is not paying for a seat but for the community that makes that seat available. Work that out in your own scenarios.

Thanks to all who make that extra effort to make up for those who don't carry their weight. Thanks to all who participate in sharing their Time – Talent – Treasure with the community.



## HOW MANY PLASTIC BOTTLES DO YOU USE?

Ever wonder how many plastic bottles (e.g., water, juice, tea, etc.) you use in a year? What happens to those bottles? Do they ALWAYS get recycled? Or, do some of them wind up in the trash? Consider this:

- In 2007 we spent \$16 billion on bottled water. That's more than we spent on iPods or movie tickets.
- In 2006, on average we each consume about 167 bottles of water.
- A typical family consumes 182 gallons of pop, 29 gallons of juice, 104 gallons of milk, and 26 gallons of bottled water a year.
- It takes over 1.5 million barrels of oil to manufacture a year's supply of bottled water. That's enough oil to fuel 100,000 cars.
- How much waste does our use generate? Picture this:
  - On average of 77%, 38 billion, water bottles are in landfills
  - We throw away 25,000,000 plastic beverage bottles every hour!
  - Eight out of 10 plastic water bottles become landfill waste.
  - Plastic bottles take 700 years before they begin to decompose in a landfill

Always think twice before buying or throwing away plastic. Here's what you can do:

- Plan ahead, bring a reusable bottle with you – this is good for the environment and saves you money.
- Buy reusable bottles that are recyclable: steel & glass are the best choices.
- Avoid buying reusable plastic water bottles – they are hard to recycle and will only end up in the landfill.
- Be accountable for your use: bring your plastic bottles home to recycle if a recycling option doesn't exist at your event.
- Get your co-workers on board: set up a plastic bottle recycling bin at your office.
- Make a commitment to not use water bottles.
- Throwing a party? Fill a reusable carafe for water and don't offer water bottles (you can do this in the workplace as well).

Had to use a plastic bottle – re-purpose it as a vase for flowers or refill to water plants