

The Catholic Community of St. John Neumann

PO Box 455, Califon, New Jersey, 07830

908-832-2513

September 25, 2011

Volume 29, Number 38



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

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

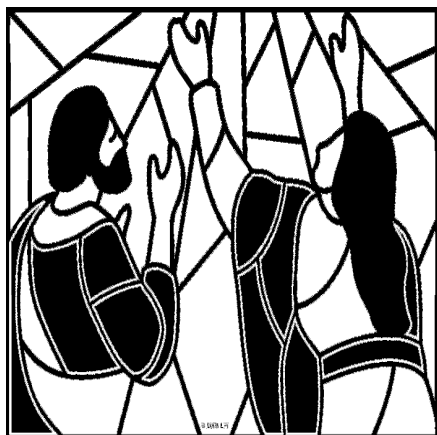
Office Center.....908-832-2513
Church Center.....908-832-6343
Social Ministry.....908-832-2262
Religious Education.....908-832-2162
Connxions.....908-832-2262
Fax.....908-832-7618

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
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.

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 1 & 2

Saturday	5:30 p.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector	R. Ditzel
Altar Server	Vincenzi Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	D. Simila, J. Simila, M. MacKenzie, J. Gardner, M. McCall, D. Kelemen
Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector	M. Harrison
Altar Server	Stanski Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	J. Sima, C. Behrens, D. Sima, B. Minick
Sunday	10:30 a.m.
Celebrant.....	Fr. Mickiewicz
Lector	S. Gemma
Altar Server	DeStefano Family
Ministers of the Eucharist.....	A. DeStefano, K. Gemma, C. Zelesny, B. Martalus, A. Giametta, M. Wickel

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, September 27

7:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Wednesday, September 28

9:30 a.m. Sick of the Parish

Friday, September 30

7:00 a.m. Catherine Bohem & Family

Saturday, October 1

5:30 p.m. Maureen Stout req. Claire & Gary Drzewiecki

Sunday, October 2

8:00 a.m. Henrietta Klawunn req. Klawunn Family

10:30 a.m. Joseph Charkut req. Vincenzi Family

Parish Calendar

Sunday, September 25 — Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Monday, September 26 — St. Cosmas & Damian

- 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)

Tuesday, September 27 — St. Vincent de Paul

- 7:00 p.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
- 7:30 p.m. Connxions Meeting (Office Center)

Wednesday, September 28 — St. Wenceslaus & St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions

- 9:30 a.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
- 6:00 p.m. Yoga (Church Center)

Thursday, September 29 — Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

- 6:00 p.m. Discovering St. John's (Office Center)
- 7:30 p.m. Music Ministry (Church Center)

Friday, September 30 — St. Jerome

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

Saturday, October 1 — St. Therese of the Child Jesus

- 3:30 p.m. First Reconciliation Session 1 (Church Center)

Sunday, October 2 — Paving Our Yellow Brick Road/Food Pantry Weekend

- 9:00 a.m. K-6 Catechesis (Office Center)
- 1:00 p.m. Picnic (Church Center)
- 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Catechesis (Office Center)

Pastor's Schedule

Sunday, September 25

- 3:00 p.m. Holy Trinity 100th Anniversary (Helmetta)

Monday, September 26

- Bulletin
- 7:00 p.m. Fundraising Committee (Office Center)

Tuesday, September 27

- 7:00 p.m. Mass (Neumann Residence)
- 7:30 p.m. Connxions Meeting (Office Center)

Wednesday, September 28

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

Thursday, September 29

- 12:00 p.m. Appointment (Away)
- 6:00 p.m. Discovering St. John's (Office Center)

Friday, September 30

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

Saturday, October 1

- 10:30 a.m. Appointment (Neumann Residence)

Sunday, October 2

- Picnic (Church Center Grounds)

Twenty-Sixth 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 Leahy
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	Nilsa 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. Endebrock	Ed Scharf
Florence Fakelmann	Antonia Schulz
Jacob Fakelmann	Chris Seltzer
Hannah Farrington	Abe Shalaby
Akiea Finn	Paul Shubeck
Anthony Fiorillo	Sister Mary George
Ann Flemming	Marianna Sivori
Ryan Flynn	Jim Sklenar
Helen Galligan	Austen James Slinger
Theresa Galvano	Carol Smarsh
Frank Gargiulo	Colleen Smith
Maria Gargiulo	Jonathan Solis
Nicholas Gargiulo Jr.	Felicia Steward
Jayne Giese	William Stortz
Jerry Goski	Timothy Struble
Sophia Goski	Evelyn Sulenski
Robert Govett	Mary Sulenski
Rose Gradone	Julie Suplee
Angela Grieco	Tracey Sutch
Christina Grillo	Margaret Sweeney
Dorothy Gross	John Toolan
Josephine Handy	Brian Travis
Colleen Hendzrak	Rose Uricchio
Lily Hodge	Laura Veslany
Tyler Hodulik	Robert Villani
Anita Horan	Dayelle Watts
Mary Ann Hughes	Harvey Whille
Richard Hughes	John William
Brittney Ianitto	Gloria Wood
Jeannine Imperiale	Elizabeth Wodrich
Nona Janks	Lynn Yondolino
Diana Janowski	John J. Zelesny
Bob Jenkinson	Joey Zieba
John Kaemmerer	Michael Zocchi
Rosemary Kimbal	

THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE



One person says “yes” and does nothing; the other says “no,” yet does what is asked. Who does God’s will? The one who talked or the one who acted? Our Lord Jesus acted out God’s will and emptied himself out to be like a slave. His work on the cross saved us from death and gained us God’s life. You must be the same as Christ Jesus. Acting out the Trinity’s call in our lives makes life in Christ possible!

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A. Illustration © 2002 M. Erspamer, OSB. All rights reserved. Text, Philip J. Sandstrom © 2002, OCP. All rights reserved.

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.

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.

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.

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

Deceased: **Bertha Fulton**, mother of Rev. Msgr. David Fulton, pastor of Our Lady of Victories. May she find peace and comfort in the embrace of the Lord and may her family find strength in the Lord and comfort and support from family and friends.

WHAT A WEEKEND!

Last weekend was a real show stopper. There were the Tag and Book Sales. Thanks to **Marian Sulenski/Ditzel** and **Sandra Ann St. Amour/Aarons** and their team of workers whom we shall hear about soon on the Tag Sale. The Tag Sale profits are \$2,863.61/

Andy Kozlowski was aided by a team of workers on the Book Sale and **Wayne Infusino** in setting up the tables. I didn't see any names of those who set up the tents. The 2011 CCSJN book sale earned \$1,517.25 for the parish.

Thanks to all who made this a red banner day. The effort they expended was well worth it.

The other great happening was the Confirmandi Retreat. Under the direction of **Gerry Brisson** that mighty team of St. John's GREATS created an experience worth the trip. Thanks to all those super men and wonder woman! A list should be forthcoming.

And then us ordinary folk carried on the usual weekend activities. Let me tell you that the energy of the weekend carried over into our celebrations. They were "awesome," I believe is the word.

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 quiltingblockhead@gmail.com so that we can plan for refreshments, etc.**

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 rjsapoje@comcast.net (908) 537-6241 if you are interested.**



THANKS

To **Andy Kozlowski** who has been giving a hand to Wayne around the parish and just jumping in to do whatever is needed, even helping me sort through my accumulations.

To **Wayne Infusino** who did a master job on the gate in the pastor's quarters to keep the children safe in their new environment.

Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes Monday, August 13, 2011

Opening/Closing Prayer - Mike Mastro

Present - Fr. Bill, Pam Casserly, Joann Gardner, Steve Gemma, Bill Harrison, Donna Lance, Roger Malone, Mike Mastro, Laura Sharp, Brandon Staten

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." Various suggestions discussed to achieve this goal include: to support and engage our community through dialog at our bi-annual town hall meetings, pastoral member attendance at Committee ministry meetings, home meetings, and prayerful reflection at weekly Mass.

Committee Meetings

Committee Liaisons have been assigned and an initial meeting schedule has been created. Council members will confirm meeting dates with committees. As Pastoral Council member liaisons meet with each Committee they will engage in conversation regarding future changes as well as updating the 5- Year plan.

Old and Continuing Items of Business

5 Year Plan-/Covenant - We are extremely grateful to Bill Harrison for his time and expertise updating, revising, and reformatting the 5 Year Plan into a workable document.

Pastoral Council Archives – New Pastoral Council Members Orientation documents will be gathered and completed.

Communications – Town Meetings/Vitality Coffee – Our next town meeting date is set for Monday, October 24

Parish News

THANKS TO SSGT MARK D. BRISSON

Thanks to **Mark Brisson** who has presented the parish with an American Flag that was "flown on the 6th day of June 2011, in our honor, aboard a USAF C-130 Aircraft over the skies of Iraq and Kuwait.

The flag was presented to THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF SAINT JOHN NEUMANN on behalf of Mark, the men and women of the 737th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, and the crew of CHROME 34 while deployed in Southeast Asia, supporting America's war on terrorism through Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation NEW DAWN.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PCL

We welcome **Deacon Dennis King** to St. John's as our new part-time Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL). Dennis is a deacon of the diocese of Paterson and is stationed at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Flanders, NJ. He has just retired from many years of teaching at Essex Catholic, East Orange, NJ.

We are excited to have a deacon on our staff as PCL. His experience and many years in Catholic Education brings an added dimension to our program. I am sure that you will give him a warm St. John welcome and give your full cooperation and support to his ministry.

TRAFFIC PATTERNS

With the beginning of Religious Education this weekend and the use of the Parish Office and Church Center for classes we ask you to be extremely vigilant when leaving the 8:00 a.m. Mass and coming to the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Drop off and pick up of students will be at the Parish Office even if the class is in the Church. Please be patient with this procedure. It will take some time to do and to get used to. Hopefully the students will go directly to the church after class for 10:30 a.m. Mass. Younger students may need the direction of parents. So parents can park and pick their student up at the Office and accompany them to Church via the front sidewalk or the covered walkway from the Office to the Church.

Please be careful in driving past the church entrance when dropping students off at the Office so that you don't run over the people leaving 8:00 a.m. Mass. If you have gone to the 5:30 p.m. or 8:00 a.m. Mass please be cautious when driving past the Church entrance as you leave after the conclusion of class at 10:15.

Please follow the arrows in the parking lot and make the full circle of the lot and not cross over parking spaces even if it is more convenient.

Thank you for your cooperation.

ALTAR FLOWERS

During the summer, **Mary Connolly, Anne Germino, Mary Pat MacKenzie, Laura Mullen** and **Anita Sawczuk** have taken care of the flowers for our worship space. We are truly grateful for their ministry called Mum's Ministry. We are coming to the conclusion of the schedule with the last week of September. If there are any other people who could serve in this ministry please email Father before we make up a new schedule. Flowers can come from yard or field. We also have a budget to buy flowers for the weekend. All we need is for someone to be responsible for any given weekend.

at 7:00 p.m. The focus will be related to the Pastoral Council 2011-2012 goal.

Pastoral Council Member Picnic – Sunday, August 21 at 12:00 (following 10:30 Mass) hosted by the Pastoral Council. All present and past council members have been extended an invitation.

Pastor's Items of Business

- The Parish continues to interview for a part time Pastoral Catechetical Leader.
- Lyle Garcia attended the Deanery Pastoral Council Meeting on August 8, 2011. Highlights of the meeting were distributed. Lyle has agreed to capably represent The Deanery on the Diocesan Pastoral Council.
- The Property Management Committee's Master Plan Draft was distributed.
- Father Bill distributed articles, "Future Staffing of Parishes - Frequently Asked Questions," Saint John Neumann demographic report prepared by the US Census Bureau for the Diocese of Metuchen, "Stages of Faith" by James Fowler, and "The Priest-Physicist Who Would Marry Science to Religion."
- Parish Picnic plans

Next Meeting: Saturday September 17, @ 8:30 a.m.

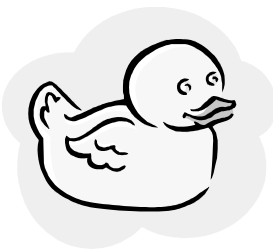
Prayer: Joann Gardner

Minutes prepared by Donna Lance

Members

Pam Casserly pamcasserly@gmail.com
Joann Gardner jojogardner07@yahoo.com
Steve Gemma sggemma@telcordia.com
Bill Harrison hotelcalifon29@hotmail.com
Donna Lance scottie439@hotmail.com
Roger Malone rpmaal13@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.

CIRCLE YOUR CALENDARS

- October 2 – Parish Picnic
- October 9 - Confirmation
- October 14 – Tricky Tray
- November 5 – Craft Show



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

I. Donald Eigenbauer & Rebecca Koopman

SHOP RITE & A&P CARDS



We had **21 families** purchase Shop-Rite, Kings and A&P gift cards last weekend, for a total of **\$2,350.00** with **\$117.50** 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.

PROJECT EARTH GARDEN



Thanks this week to **Annette Schettino-Uss** and **Dick Hopkins** for help with the harvest. We will soon be cleaning out the beds and mulching them for the winter but for now we still have tomatoes, beans, and squash coming in. We also have pumpkins and corn stalks to cut for fall church decorations. **Please call Anne Germino 908-343-1618 to volunteer.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

- Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32
- Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Lk 9:46-50
- Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Lk 9:51-56
- Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62
- Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Jn 1:47-51
- Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16
- Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24
- Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

©Liturgical Publications Inc

REMINDERS

Let Us Know – In order to minister to our community at large, we need your assistance in letting us know who may be in need of help. Often those who are in need are either too entwined in their situation to contact us directly or too proud to ask for help. You can be the “angel of mercy” who helps by simply making us aware of an individual or family in need. Call Earl or Rita at the Office Center, send us an email or use the “Samaritan Tip” form on the parish website – <http://www.ccsjn.org/> Emergency Shelter; Personal Crisis, Suicide Hotline; Abuse Reports; Support Groups; Animal Aid; Senior Assurance Calls; Locate a Food Pantry and more. Questions? See website <http://www.helplinehc.org/>

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

Haves ‘n Needs

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!

CHANGING LIVES- ONE BOTTOM AT A TIME (PART II)

The Impact on Babies and Mothers

- In ALICE families, a baby can spend a day or longer in one diaper, leading to potential health and abuse risks.
- Babies in diaper need suffer more physically and emotionally when their dirty diapers cannot be changed.
- In addition to the impact that lack of clean diapers has on the babies, mothers struggling with diaper need are likely to experience emotional impacts as well including increased feelings of guilt, stress, embarrassment and feel like a “bad mother” when they are not able to change their child out of a dirty diaper.
- ALICE parents cannot take advantage of free or subsidized childcare if they cannot afford to leave disposable diapers at childcare centers. If parents cannot access daycare, then they are less able to attend work or school on a consistent basis. This in turn leads to increased economic instability and a continuation of the cycle of poverty.
- Without transportation, buying diapers at a store rather than a large retailer can double or triple the monthly cost for diapers. Many parents are already struggling to pay for rent and food and simply cannot afford the high cost of an adequate supply of diapers for their children.

CLINTON HONDA IS A PERMANENT DROP OFF LOCATION FOR THE Hunterdon County Diaper Bank. Clinton Honda is located at 1511 US Highway 22 East in Annandale, New Jersey. The dealership is open Monday through Saturday. For hours and phone numbers go to: <http://www.clintonhonda.com/hours.aspx>.

Sacrament Preparation

CONFIRMATION 2011

Sunday, October 9, 12:15 p.m.

Celebrant: Very Rev. J. William Mickiewicz, EP



A banner display of our 2011 Confirmandi is in the Narthex of the Church Center. Please keep these young people and their families in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate Confirmation this October. They are: **Juliana Benson, Philip D’Armiendo, Timothy Ferraro, Joshua Geerinck, Cole Herudek, Jesse Herudek, Erin Hollyfield, Brianna Koshinski, Nicole Kozak, Caroline Mahoney, Ryan McDonald, Jason Niemiec, Douglas Olcese, Alexander Sherman, Sean Szymczak, Caroline Upwood, Natasha Vincenzi and Margaret Vitale.**

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation class will meet in the Church Center on Saturday, **October 1**, 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.

Christian Formation (Catechesis)

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Do This in Memory of Me"

Focus: Acting in Faith

"God calls us to faith shown in obedience."

Scripture: The parable of the two sons: "Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did." Matthew 21: 28-32

Reflection: Share your experience of making a statement that you later regretted. Have you ever been surprised by someone's change of mind? What are your experiences of people who are true to their word?

Song: "This Alone" #399

Story: Moment of grace

A seven-year-old girl came to Sunday School faithfully each week. Her parents would drop her off, but did not stay for church. They would return an hour later to pick her up or would arrange with a friend's family to bring her home.

Dad was vice president of sales for a local company and was considered a "comer" in the firm; Mom was in real estate and was always juggling several deals. The couple's Saturday night parties were the stuff of legend in the community - always the right people were there, food and drink were plentiful, and it was a lot of fun - fun that got louder and rougher as the night went on.

One Sunday morning, the pastor saw the daughter in church - and, to his shock, sitting next to her were her parents. The pastor spoke to them after church and tried to ask, as diplomatically as he could, *What prompted this?*

The parents explained what had happened the night before at their party.

"It got a little loud, it got a little rough, and there was too much drinking. The noise woke up our daughter and she came downstairs to the third step. She saw that we were eating and drinking, and she said, 'Oh, can I say the blessing? God is great, God is good, let us thank him for our food. Good night, everybody.' And she went back upstairs. Then people started to leave: 'Oh my, look at the hour, we've got to be going.' 'We've stayed way too long.' Within two minutes the room was empty."

Mom and Dad began cleaning up, picking up crumpled napkins and half-eaten food and gathering up the empty glasses and dirty dishes. And with two trays, he and she met on either side of the sink - they looked at each other, and he expressed what both were thinking: "Where do we think we're going?"

[From *Craddock Stories* by Fred B. Craddock.]

Jesus' simple story of the two sons takes the Gospel out of the realm of the "theoretical" and places the mercy of God into the midst of our busy, complicated everyday lives. Compassion, forgiveness and mercy are only words until our actions give full expression to those values in our relationships with others; our identifying ourselves as Christians and calling ourselves disciples of Jesus mean nothing until our lives express that identity in the values will uphold and the beliefs we live. Discipleship requires us to embrace the Gospel not as an unattainable ideal but as attitude and perspective for approaching our world, a compass that guides us on our journey to life's fulfillment in God.

Connections, September 2011

Religious Education Program

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

News & Needs

Substitute catechists are needed for our Sunday morning gatherings, as well as Junior High. If you'd like your name included on this list, please contact Jo Ann Jarvis in the Office of Catechesis at 832-2162 or jjarvis@ccsjn.org.

LITURGICAL BITS AND PIECES

Response to the Invitation to Communion

The words we use in our response to the invitation to Holy Communion will change slightly when we begin to use the new Roman Missal. The response "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed." will change to "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." It's a very small change designed to unite us with the words of the centurion in the gospel story. So our words are not incidental. We are using God's word from Scripture to voice our response.

RESPECT LIFE

"This is the paradox of America's unborn. No life is so desperately sought after, so hungrily desired, so carefully nurtured. And yet no life is so legally unprotected, and so frequently destroyed." New York Times Columnist Ross Douhat's reflection on infertility and unwanted pregnancy, 1/3/11

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 Lieutenant, Baumann Katherine
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
Lt. Colonel Campbell, Vincent, USMC
CPL Connaughton, Michael, USMC
AMN Connaughton, Christopher, U.S. Air Force
AMN Connaughton, Monica, U.S. Air Force
RP2 Ditzel, Joseph, U.S. Navy
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
ET2 Linzmeyer, Travis, U.S. Navy
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
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
PC2 Quinn, Lisa, U.S. Navy
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

Fundraising

2011 QUILT RAFFLE

THE RAFFLE TICKETS ARE COMING. THE RAFFLE TICKETS ARE COMING SOON! Raffle tickets for this year's quilt will be mailed before the end of the month. You can participate in this important fundraiser by purchasing or selling the 2 books of raffle tickets that will arrive at your home shortly. Extra tickets will be available. This year's quilt "Asian Sparkle" is a Full/Queen Coverlet Quilt, Value \$1300.

BOOK SALE THANKS

The 2011 CCSJN book sale earned \$1,517.25 for the parish. A heartfelt thanks goes out to the following volunteers:

Chris Compton, Quinn Dalpe, Regina DeStefano, Dana Fabiano, Joanne Fabiano, Bill Fitzsimmons, Peggy Fitzsimmons, Linda Gerristead, Denise Gerristead, Wayne Infusino, Ray Klacik, Mary Kozlowski, Liz Livoti, Conor O'Sullivan, Alison Rutter, Anita Sawczuk, and Pei-Yung Song. A special thanks goes out to the book donators from inside and outside the parish. We are looking for someone to chair/run the 2011 CCSJN book sale. If you like books and think you would be interested please contact the office.

TRICKY TRAY

Thanks to **Ana Giametta** and **Donna Wellbrock** for volunteering to chair the kitchen for the Tricky Tray on October 14. The kitchen will open at 6:00 p.m. and the menu will include chicken salad on croissant, chili and hot dogs. Volunteers are needed to help set-up, serve and clean up on the night of the Tricky Tray. Volunteers are also needed to help sell tickets on the night of the Tricky Tray. **Please contact Marybeth Harrison, maryb1212@hotmail.com — 908-310-7237 or Sandra Aaron, sandrastamouraaron@yahoo.com — 908-507-2378.** REMINDER: DOORS OPEN AT 6 AND TICKETS WILL BE DRAWN AT 7:30...

GAS CARD RAFFLE

Coming soon to a mailbox near you...Gas prices got you down? Soon you will be receiving an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for a GRAND PRIZE of a \$500 gas card!! Second prize-\$250 gas card and third prize-\$100 gas card. The winning tickets will be announced at this year's Tricky Tray on Friday, October 14. You gotta be "in it" to "win it." Good Luck.

*“Which of the two did his father’s will?” They answered,
“The first.” Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you, tax
collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom
of God before you.” — Mt 21:31*

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

Adult Formation

PONDERING PAUSES

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

When we experience the death of a loved one or friend we need to mourn our loss — loss of relationship, loss of presence, loss of someone to turn to who is no longer there. After my mother died I found myself going to call her. I used to talk to my friend Father Gall around 11:30 at night when we had both settled down after the day and we knew each other would be home. I frequently want to reach for the phone at this time of night even though it has been eight years since he died. I haven't seen a particular friend since New Year's Eve and last heard from him at Easter. I mourn this loss as well. It is not just death that brings about mourning.

When a parish has a change of leadership there is a mourning process. However the mourning is not just about the loss of a pastor but also the new pastor is in mourning for what he has lost, whether desired or not. The parish he has left is also in mourning and these ties have an effect on him. The same is for the present community and their relationship with the former pastor. It is important to view the situation in the light of this mourning process.

Years ago we would give people a whole year to mourn. People wore black for the whole year and even beyond. Some Italian ladies never took it off. In Fr. Šimo's village the older women wear black. One lady told me, through an interpreter, that they were still mourning the men who died in World War II. I felt that they carried that over to the people who died in the wars that raged over Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia in the 90's.

We used to let people mourn for a year. We did not disturb their mourning process. In fact we were often surprised when they did not observe the year. This is especially difficult for men and women who cannot live without a spouse. My mother didn't remarry until five years after my father's death. Let me tell you how happy I was. I felt she wanted me to be the man in her life — husband, father, son and whatever else she expected and needed of a man. I was also torn by her remarrying because she would no longer have the same last name. I am sure if I spoke up she would not have gotten married. But I knew that it was for the best. It was hard to witness my mother's marriage. There was still a piece of mourning in the process.

I once said to my mother that I had a dream that my father was not dead but that he went off with another woman. She said, “You have that dream too?” I reflected that it was better in our minds that he was not dead but unfaithful. The mourning process runs deep even beyond moral standards.

This year of mourning is not the attitude today. If a person mourns beyond two weeks we think there is something wrong. They need to see a counselor. We even think that we should not feel or deal with the loss for any length of time. There are some people who mourn their entire lifetime or feel guilty that they are still alive and this is not healthy. There is a reasonable time and that differs from person to person. But mourning is necessary and people have different ways of mourning.

I don't think we can prepare for mourning but we can be aware of it and see it for what it is and how we can deal with it. We know that we can live through it and find solace in newness and change. Life goes on even though it may not be the way we would want it to. No one would want us to die in the mourning unless they were self serving. “I have come so that you might have life and have it more abundantly,” was the wish of Jesus even though he was crucified to achieve it.

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.**



A DAY TO EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN

Monday, September 26

Parents: What your kids really want at the dinner table is YOU!

Families are encouraged to celebrate Family Day by eating dinner together on Monday, September 26 and every day. More importantly, talk with your children. During dinner, turn off the TV and let the answering machine record your calls. Involve the entire family in planning and cooking the meal if possible. Start a family tradition of beginning family meals with a prayer or by lighting candles. Remember to have dessert or consider playing a board game after dinner to keep the conversations going.

Family Day embodies the values and teachings of the Church. Starting a Sunday ritual of attending Mass and sharing a meal as a family is a meaningful tradition that will increase parental engagement and communication with your children.

Secrets to Successful Family Dinners

- Start the pattern of family dinners when the children are young.
- Encourage your children to create menu ideas and participate in meal preparation.
- Turn off the TV and let your answering machine take care of your incoming calls.
- Talk about what happened in everyone's day: school, work, extracurricular activities, or current events.
- Establish a routine to start and end each meal. Say grace, light candles or tell a story. Eat dessert or play a board game after dinner to continue the conversation.
- Keep conversations positive and make sure everyone gets a chance to speak.
- Celebrate Family Day with your family by having dinner together on September 26!
- Download your free Family Dinner Kit containing Family Word Games, Menus, Planners, etc., <http://www.casafamilyday.org>

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.

Open houses are scheduled as follows:

- Bishop Ahr HS, Edison — October 16 1:00-4:00 p.m., 732-549-1108 x641
- Cardinal McCarrick HS, Perth Amboy — October 6, 6:00-8:30 p.m., 732-721-0748 x244
- Immaculate H.S., Somerville — October 11, 6:00-8:30 p.m., 908-722-0200 x218

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 form, contact Rosemarie Gazaleh at St. Francis Cathedral (732-548-0100, ext 210).**

Please visit www.diometuchen.org for more information.

MASS FOR THE CAUSE OF THE CANONIZATION OF BLESSED JOHN OF VERCELLI

and Veneration of the Relic of Blessed John of Vercelli

The entire Catholic Community is invited to attend a Mass for the Cause of the Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli and Veneration of the Relic of Blessed John of Vercelli sponsored by The Metuchen Diocesan Union Of Holy Name Societies to increase devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus.

The Most Reverend Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski, D.D. is the principal celebrant and The Reverend Bruno M. Shah, O.P., Provincial Promoter of the National Holy Name Society, Northeast Province of US is the homilist.

Sunday, October 2, 2011 3:00 p.m.

The Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi

32 Elm Ave., Metuchen, New Jersey

(Handicapped-accessible)

Light reception to follow.

More Information: Website: www.diometuchen.org (search Holy Name)

Email: MetuchenHolyName@gmail.com Phone: 732-826-3979

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

SEPTEMBER 25, 2011 – 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Son, go out and work in the vineyard today." - Matthew 21:28

God does not just invite us to do His work. He clearly commands us, "Go out and work in the vineyard." How can we work in God's vineyard when we have job and family responsibilities? We can follow God's command through prayer, sharing some of our talents in parish ministry and donating some of the income we make at our jobs to support God's work in the world.

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 September 19, 2010

71 Weekly Donors	\$2,022.00
34 Monthly Donors	\$3,633.00
Loose Money	<u>\$57.00</u>
Total	\$5,798.00
20 Direct Deposit.....	\$971.00

For September 18, 2011

60 Weekly Donors	\$1,868.00
29 Monthly Donors	\$3,615.00
Loose Money	<u>\$124.00</u>
Total	\$5,607.00
19 Direct Deposit.....	\$968.75

Weekly Averages

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
September.....	\$5,608.00

Weekly Need\$8,182.00

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Office Angels

Monday, 10/3	Angel Needed
Tuesday, 10/4	A. Sawczuk
Wednesday, 10/5	Angel Needed
Thursday, 10/6	B. Pannone

Grocery Cards

September 24 & 25

5:30 p.m.	D. Hingos
8:00 a.m.	K. Dabrowski
10:30 a.m.	C. Zelesny

October 1 & 2

5:30 p.m.	E. McCabe
8:00 a.m.	S. Pojedinec
10:30 a.m.	J. Varcadipane

Church Center Plant Watering

Week of 9/25	T. Menzie
Week of 10/2	B. Lee

Church Center Cleaning

September 30	Team E
October 7	Team A

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.**

DO OUR PART TO REDUCE WASTE

From the Stewardship Committee

Worried about the debt crisis? You can't escape the news – talk of the debt crisis is everywhere. The enormity of the problem can make us feel helpless but we're not. Our everyday actions when added cumulatively and have a long term impact on the over health of our community and nation. What does the debt crisis have to do with environmental stewardship? So glad you asked! Reducing waste reduces cost.

Consider that:

- On average, it costs \$30 per ton to recycle trash, \$50 to send it to the landfill, and \$65 to \$75 to incinerate it.
- Solid waste disposal is the **third largest municipal government expense** after police protection and education.
- The **Institute for Local Self-Reliance** calculates that recycling creates 36 jobs per 10,000 tons of material recycled compared to 6 jobs for every 10,000 of tons brought to traditional disposal facilities.
- Let's not forget our oil dependency: **plastic is almost always the product of petroleum, a non-renewable resource**. For example, 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.

Have you been paying attention to your waste disposal bills? The costs of waste disposal in Hunterdon County have been steadily increasing over the past three years.

Let's do our part to reduce the cost of waste disposal. Here are some suggestions for reducing waste in your routines:

- Say no to plastic bags – make a commitment to just not use them - ever. Once you make the commitment it's really not a big deal to stick with it!
- Pack your lunch. Take out just creates waste and costs more than making your own sandwich.
- Carry items out of the store – do you really need a bag for a magazine or a bag of potatoes chips? We take bags (and clerks give them to us) out of habit not out of need. Say it with me: "I don't need a bag."
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.
- Use a sponge or cloth instead of paper towels.
- Say no to Ziploc! Use containers over plastic bags. For example, freeze food in glass Pyrex bowls (they come with reusable plastic lids) and never in a plastic bag. Use a container to bring your serving of chips and pretzels instead of a plastic baggie.
- Use rechargeable batteries instead of disposable ones.
- Create a library exchange at work for books, magazines, and newspapers. Good for the environment – good for your wallet!
- Purchase items like juice and detergent in concentrate when possible
- Buy used instead of new – get in on the online auction fun! And let's not forget the St. John's tag sale.
- Use plates, cups, and utensils that can be washed instead of ones you throw away.
- What are you going to do with that old TV? Don't throw it away – Lupus will probably take it. www.lupus.org – they come to your house and take your stuff away. Support a cause and reduce waste (they sell and scrap your stuff).
- Single serving packages costs a fortune! Save the expense – reduce the waste. Make your own single servings using reusable containers.
- Before deciding to throw away and replace an item ask: Can I live with the imperfection? Can it be fixed?