

Sunday

January 28, 2018



Mass Intentions

Monday, 1/29

7:00 a.m. **Quinton Wackley by
Grace Geigel & family**

Tuesday, 1/30

7:00 a.m. **Giuseppina Scaturro by
the DiMaggio family**

Wednesday, 1/31

7:00 a.m. **Al Geigel by Dianne**

Thursday, 2/1

7:00 a.m. **Charles Jager by
Michael Horohoe**

Friday, 2/22

7:00 a.m. **John P. Shea by
the Hummel family**

Saturday, 2/3

5:00 p.m. **James Ritter by
Christine Ritter**

Sunday, 2/4

8:30 a.m. **Parishioners of St. John's &
Raymond Applegate by
the Switzer family**

10:30 a.m. **Antonino & Caterina
DiMaggio by Santa &
Salvatore**

This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of **Donna Jean Rabke by Gwen Kane.**

Sacrificial Offerings 2018

Sunday, January 21

Average needed from weekly offerings to cover expenses **\$7,000.00**

Regular Collection: \$4,621.30

Children's: \$ 39.00

Under: \$2,378.70

Diocesan Collection – Foundation for Catholic Education: \$923.00

Poor Box Collection

Monies collected in the poor boxes located in the Church entryway are used for the needy in our parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. **Please be as generous as your means allow.**



Altar Servers Needed!

We are currently in need of altar servers. Any boys or girls from 3rd grade and up who are interested are welcome to serve. If your child is interested please contact the Parish Office.



Coffee & Doughnut Reception

The monthly Coffee & Doughnut reception will take place next **Sunday, 2/4, after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses in the Church auditorium.** All are welcome to join us!

This week our Chapel Candle is lit in memory of **Al Geigel by St. John's staff.**

St. John Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry for those less fortunate is in need of the following food products: Dry pasta, cereals, tomato sauce, canned soups, canned meats, canned fruit and juice. Please note that all foods that are donated to St. John's will be brought to the FISH Food Pantry located on New Market Rd., Piscataway. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

Social Concerns

Do you know a needy person or family? Could one of your neighbors benefit from assistance with food and/or other essentials? Please call the Pastoral Center, 732-968-2621, in confidence, and we will do whatever we can to help. Please continue to bring men's toiletries, tooth brushes, and large and medium thongs or slippers for the Ozanam Men's Shelter. Articles may be left in the vestibule. Thanks for not forgetting the "guys"

Time, Talent and Treasure



Fostering stewardship is a way of life. Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure. We gratefully acknowledge and salute:

Mary Lou Chingery

Thank you for your participation!

Calendar Raffle

The winner of \$200
for Week 12, ticket #1342 is:
Ronald and Donna Fojtlin



Sixth Annual Casino Night



You Don't Want to Miss This! Our annual Casino Night is a fun night out and has something for everybody! If you are an experienced gambler or just looking to try out your luck for the first time, join us on **Saturday, February 10**. Event and 50-50 raffle tickets are available after all masses. For more details on the event, please see our website.

Did You Know?

Much of the educational research over the last 50 years has proved that Catholic Schools are an unquestioned success in every way: Spiritually, Academically & Communally. Statistics tell us that Catholic School graduates emerge as lifelong practitioners of their Faith. Statistics also tell us that the academic strength of Catholic Schools is unassailable, because when learning is done in an environment with moral values, students' test scores and achievements outstrip their public school counterparts. The two FACTORS that affect this are the influence of Catholic Values and the fostering of Faith and Morals. These are the single biggest supports for the success of many young people (Catholics and non-Catholics) educated in our Catholic Schools. So, Catholic Schools are about supporting parents as the primary educators of their children. The Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Metuchen will assist you with the means to accomplish this for your children. Come visit us!

Holy Hour For Religious Freedom & Persecuted Christians

A Holy Hour for Religious Freedom will be held **every Sunday at 7:00 p.m.** in the Eucharistic Adoration chapel in the Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center at 50 Van Winkle Place in Piscataway. Participants are invited to silently pray the rosary and other special prayers for the intentions of Christians world-wide who are being persecuted for their faith.



Prayers for Our Service Members

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

U.S. Navy Lt. Michael Bartilotti

U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney

U.S. Army Pvt. Raymond C. Pizzigoni

U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

RCIA: 4th Sunday In Ordinary Time **A Crisis Of Identity**

Scripture tells us that people were spellbound by Jesus' teachings. They wondered about who he was. He spoke as though he knew the Father intimately. He did wondrous things...gave sight to the blind..healed people of their afflictions..."fixed" broken bodies. What must it have been like to have lived during the time that he lived? Would we too have asked, "Who is he?" What do we know of him today? We Christians believe that this same Jesus who freed the man of his blindness, who freed the man of his lameness, who freed the man with an unclean spirit, wishes to free each of us from those things that have power over our lives. He wishes to free us from any barriers that prevent us from following him more closely. If you, or someone you know, wish to know Jesus better and wish to see Jesus through the perspective of the Catholic Faith Family...come to an RCIA Inquiry Session. Inquiry sessions are open to anyone who is unbaptized, baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but has never received BOTH Sacraments of Confirmation AND Eucharist. Inquiry sessions DO NOT require a commitment to join the Catholic Faith. They are a vehicle for learning more about the Catholic Faith in order to make an informed decision about becoming a member of the Catholic family. For more information, call RCIA at 732-562-1990 x 1633.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

Please watch your mailbox for a letter from Bishop Checchio coming to you this week announcing the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The campaign will again be conducted during Lent and our parish can earn a rebate of 50% of the amount collected over those weeks. Through your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal you help those in our diocese whose needs are the greatest—the poor, the homeless, and those struggling with illness or grief. Among other needed pastoral ministries, your gift also supports our priority ministries of Evangelization & Communication and enhances the work of forming our youth. The many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen would not be possible without a generous contribution from every household. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Senior Bible Study Classes

The Family Life Office of the Diocese of Metuchen is sponsoring Senior Bible Study Classes on **Wednesdays, 1/24-3/21**, from **10:30 a.m-12:30 pm** in the **St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway**. Registration fee is \$5 per session. The classes, which will concentrate on all three readings of the following Sunday's liturgy and how to use the Bible as a prayer book, will be presented by Fr. Greg Uhrig. For more information or to register, call (732) 562-1990, ex. 1705 or email: amatos@diometuchen.org.

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer
UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Registration required; call 908-753-2091 or email: mshhope@mshhope.org.

COUPLES GUIDED RETREAT

Mindful communication and acceptance strengthen the loving bond between couples. Limited overnight accommodations. **Feb. 2, 7 p.m.-Feb 3, 7 p.m.** (\$160/couple; non-refundable deposit \$50).
Facilitators: Jim & Donna McCabe



THE DEACON BEACON

Time Talent and Treasure

So what's up? Stewardship. If you haven't considered it, please think about it. Just in case you didn't know, stewardship is at the heart of being a Christian. I can hear the sighs already..."oh no, he's going to talk about money." Stewardship is not just about money...it's about being good care takers of **all** that God our father has blessed us with. My friends, this includes Mother Earth and **all** life on this planet, wild as well as human. I refer you to the book of Genesis, chapter 1. We can't save the world by ourselves, but we can help try, and I'm sorry, this is one of those things where **ACTION** is just as important as prayer and faith. Here we go!

Time: Have you ever heard someone say, my time is precious? Time is a blessing. Some of us seem to never have enough, and some of us seem to have too much. You will see this distinction with all things that God blesses us with, especially talent and treasure. It is very rare that one hasn't been blessed with at least one of these, if not all three. There's a reason for this. Just as the Father, so too can Jesus and the Holy Spirit know **and** understand what lies in someone's heart, what and how much we can deal with, what and how much we can be trusted with. Things we don't even know ourselves. This is where prayer, faith and enlightenment comes in, driven by the Holy Spirit. One of its many jobs is discernment and direction. Now you're probably saying, "now hold Deacon, my time is my business not God's". Really? Once again I refer you to sacred scripture **and** to writings of the Saints. God pays attention to time, serious attention. Remember what Jesus said to Peter, James and John in the garden? "Could you not keep watch for one hour?" (Mark 14:37). Hmm...there's the question to ask about going to Mass on Sunday! You see, He doesn't ask for much. Whether it's at Church, or in prayer He just wants some.

When a woman he was advising was apprehensive about the amount of time she had to spend in court as concerning her prayer and spiritual time, St. Francis De Sales said this, "For if you are faithful to God, He will never fail you; even though He has to stop the sun and the moon, He will give you enough time to perform your exercises and all else you must do." Wow, isn't this awesome? When are we going to realize that when we give Him something, we get more of it back? Yes, that includes time. So remember, we give Him the best of what we have, He continues to bless us with more of it...including time.

Until next time... may Jesus keep you smiling, may God's grace shine on you and always take the **time** to pray for your Pastor.

Deacon Phil

Whole Community Catechesis

Readings for Sunday, 1/28:

First: Deuteronomy 18:15-20;

Second: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35;

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28



Union Catholic Fish Fry



Come join us for the Parent Athletic Club Annual Fish Fry on **Friday, 2/16** from **5:30 – 8:00 pm** at **Union Catholic High School, 1600 Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains**. The meal is catered by Argyle Restaurant, Kearny, NJ. Tickets: Fish Dinner \$15, Pasta Dinner \$10. Dessert & Beverages included. Menu: Fish & Chips or Baked Ziti. Take-out orders also available. For questions or tickets, contact Edward Thornton at ethornton@unioncatholic.org