

Sunday

June 3, 2018



Mass Intentions

Monday, 6/4

7:00 a.m. Mary Anderson by
Joseph Jones

Tuesday, 6/5

7:00 a.m. Alfred Geigel by Catholic
Daughters Court Regina Coeli
#940

Wednesday, 6/6

7:00 a.m. John & Julia DiQuollo by
daughter Nina

Thursday, 6/7

7:00 a.m. Rev. Justin Herbest by
Betty Lockwood

Friday, 6/8

7:00 a.m. Lillian Alford by
the Hummel family

Saturday, 6/9

5:00 p.m. Paul Rabouin by
Nancy & Rick Chesler & family

Sunday, 6/10

8:30 a.m. Fred Kugelman by Lynn &
Gary Guthreau

10:30 a.m. Al Rifino by Nancy & Rick
Chesler & family

*This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of
Butch Spagnola by the Duhamel family.*

Sacrificial Offerings 2018

Sunday, May 27

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

Regular Collection: \$3,990.20

Children's: \$ 12.00

Under: \$3,009.80

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 Rosary Group Meeting

St. John's Altar Rosary Group will meet at
5:30 p.m. on **Monday, 6/4** in the
Auditorium for pot luck dinner. After dinner
we will pray the Rosary and have dessert.
You are invited to bring a guest to our last
meeting.

Father's Day

Gift Basket Raffle



St. John's Music Ministry will be
selling chances after all Masses
this weekend for a Father's Day
Gift basket. Take a chance on
a great gift for Dad and help us
to raise funds toward instrumental
musicians for our major liturgies.

*This week our Chapel candle is lit in memory of George
& Catherine Stengle by Sue Kelly.*

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

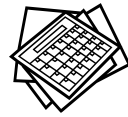


Fostering stewardship is a way of life. Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure. We gratefully acknowledge and salute:

Joan Nowicki and Eileen Capozzi for organizing the Summer Bake Sale

Thank you for your participation!

Calendar Raffle



The winner of \$125 for Week Nine, ticket #1484 is: **Daniel Paez.**



Calling All Bakers!

St. John's will host their popular Summer Bake Sale after all Masses on **6/23** and **6/24**. Please consider sharing your culinary talents by donating baked goods. **Sweet and/or savory baked goods may be dropped off at the Church Auditorium on Saturday, 6/23 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.** If you have any questions, kindly call Joan (908) 917-9205 or Eileen (908) 334-2154. We truly appreciate the time, talent and treasure of our wonderful parish bakers!



Pray for the Military

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
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Paul Frabizzio
U.S. Marine Lnc. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak
U.S. Army Pfc Sean Parente
U.S. Marine Pvt. Dante Parente
U.S. Army Off. Candidate Casey Patrick Wenzel

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

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.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Lighting a Fire in the Heart of Our World

To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$30,630.42 and payments totaling \$28,668.52 from 164 parishioners. This represents 95.7% of your \$32,000.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts!

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Registration required; call 908-753-2091 or email: msmhope@msmhope.org.

POETRY AS SACRAMENT OF ATTENTION AND PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Bring a poem that woke you and made you grateful. Participants will be given an opportunity to write one to add to the Universe's abundance!

Wed, Jun 6, 7-9 p.m. (\$20-30 As You Are Able)

Presenter: Mary Bilderback, RSM

Sister Mary, a Mercy Sister, is a member of the GCU Biology Department who loves and writes poetry.

Our Lady Of Czestochowa Feast Of St. Anthony

Our Lady of Czestochowa parish, **909 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield**, is holding their annual Feast of St. Anthony celebration from **June 5-9, Tuesday - Thursday 6-10PM, Friday 6-11PM, Saturday 1-11PM**. Homemade Polish, Italian and Vietnamese foods, plus American Classics. Great Rides & Games. For information call 908-756-1333.

Date Nights For A Joyful Marriage

The St. Ann Catholic Marriage Ministry presents: an invitation to newlywed couples or married several years...Date Nights for a Joyful Marriage! **Saturday 6/9, 6:30 – 9:00 PM**. Dinner and Dessert /\$35 per couple. Location: **Catholic Church of St. Ann, 45 Anderson Street, Raritan, NJ. 08869, Church meeting room**. For more info/rsvp-Ron & Tammi Allen 908-581-5113. Pay by cash or check, send to: 'Catholic Church of St. Ann 'Date Nights'.



St. Ann's Italian Festa

The Catholic Church of St. Ann, **45 Anderson St., Raritan**, will be holding their Italian Festa from **June 13-16, Wednesday-Thursday 6-10 pm, Friday 5:30-10:30 pm, Saturday 5-11 pm**. All food prepared fresh daily in our own kitchen. Free admission, free parking, local DJ nightly, rides and games, delicious food and drink! Many Italian specialties and much, much more! For additional information please call Jim Wilson, 917-488-9835.

Mother Seton Regional HS Home Run Derby

For those up for the challenge or just looking to have some fun, come to Mother Seton's Home Run Derby on **Sunday, 6/10**. For \$15.00, participants will receive entry and a commemorative t-shirt. Food, drinks & snacks will be available for purchase throughout the event. So get ready to swing the bat **starting at 11:00am** with ongoing Home Run Tournaments throughout the day and come support Mother Seton's sports programs! For more information and to register online visit www.MotherSeton.org



I hope you've been enjoying the series.

Symbols continued...Water

Water is a powerful element. We use it every day to clean with, cook with, wash with and yes, even have fun with. Our bodies are made mostly of water, the world is made up mostly of water; water is the essence of life. Water is very, very powerful. Trust me, as a sailor I can tell you stories. So is it a small wonder that water is used to baptize. Water is present during the Creation (Gn, 1: 20-23), the flood (Gn, 6-8), the crossing of the Red Sea (Ex, 14: 10-31), etc. In these instances as well as baptism it signifies the same thing. It is a purifier. It purifies whatever it touches. Now there is a big difference between cleansed, and purified. In its natural form water is a cleanser, it makes us clean. It cleans off the dirt and grime, but that's only on the outside and skin deep. But when God's presence is in the water...Oh mama! It takes on a totally different nature. It can heal, it can save, it can purify. This is what happens when the priest or deacon blesses the water and makes it holy. Now if you've been paying attention to my writings then you realize that this is false. Remember what I told you about symbols. Only GOD can give the symbol power and water is a symbol. What actually happens is that the priest/deacon invokes God's presence (the Holy Spirit) upon and into the water. God makes the water holy not the priest or deacon, hence its ability to purify. Unlike cleansing, purifying goes much deeper, beyond the skin and flesh and into the very soul. But remember what I said, without faith the symbol is useless and this is the same for the water. Here's Deacon Phil's spin on it: the water is poured three times. The first pour is to wash away the dirt and grime of sin. Ever see a kid totally

filthy? You can't recognize them until the filth is washed away. Sin makes us spiritually unrecognizable, the Father wants a better look at us...so we get a washing. The second pour cleanses our soul, it's a deeper wash to get to the original sin, and what is that sin? If you say disobedience, buzzer!!!!!!! If you say I choose not to rely on you, "can I get a woo woo!" So we have to wash away the hurt and realize that it was a sad day for him and it really, really, hurt. The third pour is the purifying one. This is sort of like a power washing. Ever done or seen one? The water is powerful enough to strip away almost anything. Everything gets stripped away and exposes the soul to God and oh how beautiful that soul is!

Next week...Candles

Until next time... may Jesus keep you smiling, may God's grace shine on you and always pray for God's grace. Love ya! Deacon Phil

Whole Community Catechesis

WELCOME A New Addition to our Religious Ed Program!!!!



We will now be offering KINDERGARTEN beginning this September! If you are interested in registering your child, please email stjohnpcl@gmail.com prior to June 15th.