

Sunday

August 12, 2018



Mass Intentions

Monday, 8/13

7:00 a.m. Gerard E. Cunningham by
his children

Tuesday, 8/14

7:00 a.m. Alfred Geigel by
Diane & Craig Neunert

Wednesday, 8/15

7:00 a.m. Natalia Lazirko by the
Szulczewski family
Noon Violet Capozzi by Kevin &
Alicia Donovan
7:00 p.m. The deceased members of the
Marren family by Jeff Marren &
family

Thursday, 8/16

7:00 a.m. Mariano & Cipriana Aquinaldo
by granddaughter

Friday, 8/17

7:00 a.m. Severo & Gervacia Ranjo by
great granddaughter

Saturday, 8/18

5:00 p.m. Joan Rosiak by Dianne
Applegate & family

Sunday, 8/19

8:30 a.m. John Confalone by wife Sue
10:30 a.m. Dan Shaguhnessy by
Mary Ellen Toolan

Sacrificial Offerings 2018

Sunday, August 5

Average needed from weekly offerings to
cover expenses **\$7,000.00**
Regular Collection: \$6,133.25
Children's: \$ 3.25
Under: \$ 866.75

Missionary Collection: \$1,056.25

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.**

Feast of the Assumption

Wednesday, 8/15, the Feast of the
Assumption, is a holy day of obligation.
Masses will be held in the church at **7 a.m.**,
Noon and **7 p.m.**

Mentor Opportunity

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, is
seeking volunteers for their Connections
program, which provides positive adult role
models for children in Middlesex County
who have suffered a loss or who have
special needs. Mentors are asked to
volunteer a minimum of three hours per
week. For more information, please
contact Jeanette Cullen at
jcullen@ccdom.org or 732-738-1323.

*This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of
Gerard E. Cunningham by his children.*

*This week our Chapel candle is lit in memory of Bob
Price by his wife.*

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:

Our Eucharistic Ministers

Thank you for your participation!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Sister Vera Sheenan, Medical Mission Sister, on her 60th anniversary. Sister Vera has served 15 years in Ghana, West Africa. She has also served in Washington, D.C., California, Florida and Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of the late Vera and Ray Sheenan. Sister Vera graduated from St. John's Grammar School and St. Peter's High School in New Brunswick. We are proud to call her our own! If anyone would like to write to Sister Vera, her address is:

Sister Vera Sheenan
Medical Mission Sisters
8400 Pine Road, House 5
Fox Chase, Philadelphia, PA 19111

Save the Date!



St. John's Annual Fall Golf Classic will be held on **Sunday, 10/7** at Rutgers University Golf Course in

Piscataway. Sponsors and golfers are needed. Registration including lunch is \$130 per golfer. More details to follow or contact John Nicholson at 732-563-1473 or email: stjdunellengolf@gmail.com. Mark your calendars now for this exciting event!

International Overdose Awareness Day

The diocesan Family Life Office will host a prayer service to mark International Overdose Awareness Day on **Friday, 8/31**, at **7:00 pm** at **St. John Neumann Parish, 398 County Road 513, Califon**. Everyone, but especially any person or family whose life has been touched by the pain of addiction or loss or who seeks the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the struggle to recovery, is welcome. Refreshments and fellowship will follow. For more information call 732-243-4573 or 908-832-2513 or email familylife@diometuchen.org.

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CHECCHIO

Since becoming your bishop just over two years ago, I have been regularly uplifted—and affirmed in my own ministry—by so many faithful and committed priests, religious and lay people. I am constantly amazed to learn about new initiatives here which strive to deepen our friendship with Christ, and the numerous efforts that so many undertake to provide genuine responses to tragic situations that call upon us to show the mercy of God to those in need. I also feel strengthened by the examples of generosity that I have experienced when I have called upon you to help me respond to building up our local Church, in order that we can meet so many needs together. The people of the Diocese of Metuchen are an inspiration.

I continue to be saddened and ashamed, however, by reports of the abhorrent events we have been learning about in regard to Archbishop McCarrick—and I know you must be too. Our efforts to evangelize and spread the Good News of Christ have been hobbled by these atrocities. I am praying for all those who have been hurt and praying that God's mercy will bring healing and consolation. My heart also breaks for our faithful people and the clergy and religious of our diocese, as we face another tragic situation within the Church that we love. Nonetheless, I am grateful that the processes the Church has in place regarding child sexual abuse have been shown to work. The case of Archbishop McCarrick demonstrates that the culture of the Church is changing and that no one is exempt from its censure—regardless of a person's rank or status, or the number of years that have passed since an incident occurred. As I have done in the past, I continue to urge anyone who has been abused to bring the situation to the attention of law enforcement officials. Also, I want to reiterate that the Diocese stands poised and ready to help any who have been abused.

I am also working to address how we can ensure that similar abuses, especially of seminarians or young priests, will not happen again, particularly by those in positions of authority over them. I have begun to bring together a senior team of advisors to examine reporting processes. Clearly, the safety of an independent reporting structure, that allows for anyone to bring an allegation forward without the fear of retribution of any kind, is needed. Accountability on all levels helps to ensure that a healthy, wholesome environment prevails to form and train our future priests. I know that I do not have to reiterate to the people of this diocese that proper priestly formation is central to renewal in the life of the Church.

In the Diocese of Metuchen, we are seeing a new springtime with men studying for the priesthood. We are blessed with the most seminarians we have had in 25 years. They are good men, striving to make over their hearts like the Good Shepherd's own caring heart. Of course, years ago it might have been relatively easy to enter the seminary, and receive the accolades of family, parish and society at large for deciding to become a priest. That is not the case now. Our young men seek to join in this life of service to God and His people at a time when it would be easy to ignore the call and choose another path. Yet, they choose to listen to the quiet call of the Lord, asking them to "follow me" just as our Lord asked the apostles two thousand years ago. I thank God for them, as I thank God as well for you, who support these dedicated young men in their response to God's call in these challenging times.

I ask for your prayers as the Church faces so many challenges in our world today. We know that the Holy Spirit protects the Church by insuring the truth of the presence of Christ who is its keystone, its heart and its foundation. The Holy Spirit wraps the Church in this protection in spite of our sinfulness—and, it must be said in candor, in spite of the sinfulness of some of its leaders. Despite the failings of the past, however, we remain steadfast in hope. This hope anchors our faith in the credibility of this sinful yet holy Assembly of Believers, a living paradox of unity in diversity, as we endeavor to build the Kingdom of God established through the incarnation, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ who is "the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

In the midst of the trials we currently face, I do not want to miss pointing out that Christ is still at work in His Church! This summer, in addition to my weekend visits to parishes for Mass, I have been taking advantage of the lighter weekday schedule to visit some vacation bible schools, religious communities of sisters, nursing homes, prisons and some parishes for daily Mass. It is an honor to be with you, and it is evident that people everywhere are still yearning to see Christ in us—a willingness to place their hope in the many ministries and initiatives through which the Lord Himself uses our humble humanity to touch us with His grace. We must never forget that, in every age, the antidote to the ills that beset the Church is for men and women everywhere to rise up in sanctity. Let us not lose our vision: to "keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who inspires and perfects our faith" (Heb 12:12). To Him be glory and praise forever.

Be assured of my prayers for you and know of my gratitude for you. Please remember to pray for me too. God bless you!



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**
- U.S. Army Recruit Timothy Francisco**
- US Marine Pvt. Stephen Wright**
- U.S. Marine Pvt. José Citron**

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

World Apostolate of Fatima Event

Join with His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke on **Monday, 8/13 at the Blue Army Shrine, 674 Mt. View Rd. E., Asbury, NJ 08802**, to celebrate the August Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. **10:30:** Confessions; **12:00:** Rosary Procession; **12:30:** Guest Speaker- Mr. Thomas McKenna; **1:15:** Holy Mass-Celebrant: *His Eminence Raymond L. Cardinal Burke*; **3:00:** Divine Mercy Chaplet; **3:15-5 p.m.:** Talks at Holy House USA and Fatima video for children. www.bluearmy.com; 908-689-1700.

Save The Date!

Join Life Choices Resource Center on **Saturday, 10/13 (rain or shine) from 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** in **Merrill Park, Iselin** for their annual Walk for Life and make a difference in the life of an unborn child. Registration opens on 8/20. Take a walk...save a life. Your love matters!

Attention Religious Ed Parents



The last textbook/Google Classroom training session will be held on **Tuesday, 8/14 at 6:15pm** in the **Parish Center**. Please email Sharon at stjohnpcl@gmail.com to register for the session.

Also, parents need to have created a gmail account for each child in the Religious Ed program. "Classrooms" will be opened using the Gmail accounts as of Aug 20th.

Discover the Joy of being a Hospice Volunteer

If you have a warm heart, a listening ear, and the gift of compassion, you can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member. VNA Health Group is offering training for all individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers. Training will be provided by members of the VNAHG Hospice team on **Tuesdays, Aug 14th from 9:30am -4:00pm** and **August 21st from 11:00 am till 4:00pm** at **RWJ Visiting Nurses, 972 Shoppes Blvd, North Brunswick, NJ**. There are many rewards and opportunities available to hospice volunteers though home visitation, phone calls, companionship, administrative support, pet therapy, or any complimentary therapies. Volunteers must attend all sessions. **To register, please call Nicole Giacomino, MT-BC at 732-839-3364.** For more information about VNAHG volunteer services visit www.vnahg.org