

PARISH STAFF

(NOTE: Please use the 703 area code for all numbers.)

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Rev. Donald J. Heet, OSFS 860-8510 x157

Rev. Robert A. Mancini, OSFS 860-8510 x145

In Residence:

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Deacon John A. Wagner jwagner@saintjn.org

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Youth Minister 9-12 Doug Johnson 860-6141

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Finance Council Patricia Maloney 860-8510 x310

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PASTORAL CARE

INFANT BAPTISM: Please call to register for the Baptism Class, offered monthly. English 703-860-8510; Spanish 703-860-8510, x353.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA):

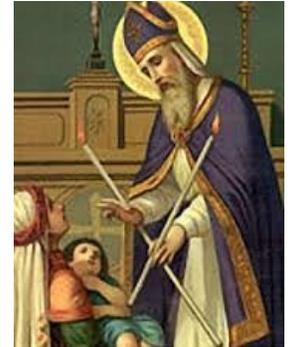
Please call Mickie Abatemarco at 703-390-2340, to inquire about becoming Catholic.

MARRIAGE: Begin preparation with one of our parish priests at least six months before the desired marriage date.

SICK: Please call the office if you know of someone who is hospitalized, seriously ill, or home-bound.

**Please Note: Material for the bulletin must be submitted no later than Thursday, ten days prior to the intended publication date.*

THIS WEEK AT SJN...



SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Faith Formation Classes

Brown Bag Weekend

Sunday Morning Coffee: 8:30am;

Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

RCIA Dismissal: 10:00am;

Conference Room

High School Teens: 6:15pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

Faith Formation Classes

Road to Emmaus: 10:00am; Conference Room

Boy Scout Troop 124: 7:00pm; A1/A2

Power of Story: 7:00pm; de Sales Chapel

Lectio for Lectors and Anyone Else: 7:30pm; Youth Room

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

Faith Formation Classes

French Conversation: 9:30am; A1

RCIA Catechumenate: 7:30pm; A1/A2

RCIA Inquiry: 7:30pm; Bridal Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Faith Formation Classes

Saying Yes Discussion Group: 10:00am; B6/B7

Angel Choir: 5:00pm; Music Room

Children's Choir: 5:30pm; Music Room

Legión de María: 7:00pm; B4

Saying Yes Discussion Group: 7:00pm; A1/A2

Welcome Home: 7:00pm; Bridal Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Mothers' Group Playgroup: 9:30am; Early Religious Room

Newcomers Group Book Club: 10:00am; A1

Contemplative Prayer: 7:00pm; Church

Legion of Mary: 7:00pm; B4

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Praying College Moms: 9:45am; Conference Room

Mothers' Group First Friday Social: 10:00am; Early Religious Room

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Life+Savers: 3:00pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

Spanish Prayer Group: 6:30pm; de Sales Chapel

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Knights of Columbus Charity Fundraising Breakfast: 8:30am; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

RCIA Dismissal: 10:00am; Conference Room

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Prayer and Liturgy

FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

We know more about the devotion to Saint Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. In 1222, the Council of Oxford prohibited servile labor in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor, and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual Saint Blaise blessing for their throats.

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary *Acts of St. Blaise* were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

The legend has it that as the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. Finally, he was beheaded.

REFLECTION

Four centuries give ample opportunity for fiction to creep in with fact. Who can be sure how accurate Blaise's biographer was? But biographical details are not essential. Blaise is seen as one more example of the power those have who give themselves entirely to Jesus. As Jesus told his apostles at the Last Supper, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). With faith we can follow the lead of the Church in asking for Blaise's protection.

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Please Note: Friday, in remembrance of Saint Blaise, the blessing of our throats will take place at both the 9:00am and 12:10pm Masses.



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13
Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
I Corinthians 1:26-31
Matthew 5:1-12

The Gospel for today focuses on how to be happy by living the beatitudes. If one takes apart the word *beatitudes*, one sees the expression *Be-attitudes*. In other words, beatitude is a positive attitude that permeates our whole interior life in such a way that it comes out in our actions by praising and thanking God. When we are blessed, we don't have all the material comforts we want but all that we need. In our present condition there is joy and peace. Everything that comes into our life advances our love of life and God. The Beatitudes are God's plan for us right now. Beatitude is a spiritual attitude of recognizing that all that we have is pure gift. Beatitude is the attitude of a loving person who relies totally on God, not worrying about self-interest. People who possess the gift of beatitude entrust all their interests to God.

St. Francis de Sales speaks of beatitude as a gift of love that makes us moldable and willing to listen to God's commandments, counsels and inspirations. However, he adds that while Our Lord taught us "Blessed are the poor," we eagerly desire and seek to be so wealthy as to lack nothing. Jesus adds, "Blessed are the meek" but each of us wants to lord it over others. "Blessed are those persecuted for justice sake," yet we want to be avenged and suffer nothing, for fear of being despised. "Blessed are they who mourn," nonetheless everybody wants to rejoice in this mortal and passing life as if here were found our true happiness.

The wisdom of the Beatitudes is wholly contrary to that of the worldly wise who cannot embrace this wisdom. Let us submit ourselves to the things that are taught us concerning God's will for our perfection and spiritual advancement. Let us place ourselves out of danger of being lost in worldly things by persevering in the truth, in living according to it, and making ourselves capable of understanding it. They who keep the Word of God are declared blessed by Our Lord.

*(Adapted from Rev. Lewis S. Fiorelli, OSFS, ed.,
Sermons, V.3)*

*"It is love that gives value to our great works;
it is not by the greatness or multiplicity of our works
that we please God,
but by the love with which we do them."*

St. Francis de Sales



WE PRAY for those who have died, especially **Joyce Moscato**, daughter of Walter and Annette Kowalski and sister of Joan Kowalski.



SATURDAY JANUARY 28
5:00pm Kevin Briggs †

SUNDAY JANUARY 29
7:30am Tom Casey †
9:30am Richard Hamoush †
11:30am Rosemary Palmisano †
1:30pm Carol Alsip †
5:00pm People of the Parish

MONDAY JANUARY 30
9:00am Sabino Vasquez †
12:10pm Lou Ann Donahue Row †

TUESDAY JANUARY 31
6:30am Gary Robert Fugger †
9:00am Clifford Buck †

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 1
9:00am Terese Prendergast †
12:10pm Mary Burgess †

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2
6:30am Paul Interdonato †
9:00am Mrs. Kos †

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3
9:00am Joe Cuccurullo †
12:10pm Zachary Ruth †

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4
5:00pm (Chapel) Barbara Kurtz †
5:00pm (Church) People of the Parish

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5
7:30am Rustico Lim †
9:30am Rosemary Palmisano †
11:30am Janet Dunn †
1:30pm Jackie Reiley †
5:00pm Gian Carlo Yu Goyone †

UPCOMING SPECIAL LITURGIES

Saturday, February 4	5:00pm	Baptism
Sunday, February 12	9:30am	Baptism
Sunday, February 19	11:30am	Baptism

PRAY FOR A PRIEST DAILY We continue our daily prayers for the priests in the Arlington Diocese by praying this week for:



January 30 Reverend Joseph Quang Van Tran
January 31 Reverend Clarence M. Trinkle
February 1 Reverend John T. B. Trong
February 2 Reverend Thomas P. Tunney, C.S.Sp.
February 3 Reverend Christopher T. Vaccaro
February 4 Reverend John Van de Paer, C.I.C.M.
February 5 Reverend Thomas P. Vander Woude

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS: Next weekend we celebrate **The Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time**. Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from God's Word:

Isaiah 58:7-10 The Jews who have returned from exile once again think that success will be based on their political restoration and their scrupulous observance of the Law. The prophet reminds them that they will become a light for the nations only when they become a community of justice and sharing.

Psalms 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 The just man is a light in the darkness to the upright.

I Corinthians 2:1-5 Paul suffered an astounding defeat in Athens when he had recourse to the wisdom of the world and human eloquence. But before the Corinthians he relies only on the impact of the Easter message: Christ has died and is risen.

Matthew 5:13-16 To the small and lowly, Jesus says, "You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world." They are in and for the world.

LITURGY PRESIDERS NEXT WEEKEND

Assuming there are no changes, the presiders for the weekend of February 4 - February 5 are:

Saturday	5:00pm	Father Bob (de Sales Chapel)
Saturday	5:00pm	Father Joe (Church)
Sunday	7:30am	Father Bob with Deacon John
Sunday	9:30am	Father Dick DeLillio, OSFS
Sunday	11:30pm	Father Bill
Sunday	1:30pm	Father Charles Phukuta, C.I.C.M. with Deacon Atanacio
Sunday	5:00pm	Father Jerry

PLEASE PRAY for those who have asked for our prayers, **Patricia Bell**, Nancy Maiello, William Morris, Larry Murray, and Elizabeth Terrell and for all the sick.

When you call to add a name to our prayer list, please leave your name and number as a contact and let us know what the illness is. Before calling, please be sure that you have spoken to the person or a member of the family about adding their name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or injured will be kept on the list for three weeks unless you specifically request a shorter period of time or call to ask that the name be removed. Names that are new this week are in boldface type.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Parish Information

HEALTH MINISTRY OFFERING A UNIQUE RETREAT

The parish Health Ministry is planning a Spiritual Retreat Day at church for homebound parishioners. The retreat day is scheduled for Saturday, April 1 from 10:00am to 1:15pm. The day will feature two talks, Mass, anointing of the sick, and an opportunity for private confession, along with both continental breakfast and lunch. There will be no fee for attendance at the retreat. For more detailed information, contact Lucy Boland at 703-591-0125 or by email at lboland.gmu.edu.

BROWN BAG WEEKEND Did you forget to bring some food for Cornerstones? There is still time, since the van will be here after all the Masses this weekend. Please remember to bring your donations for those in need in our community. This month they especially need canned meats, vinegar, oatmeal, canned fruit, applesauce, cooking oil, and dry beans. Thank you!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANOTHER



THE
GABRIEL
PROJECT

HEARTY BREAKFAST!

The Knights of Columbus will host their monthly Charity Fundraising Breakfast next Sunday, February 5, from 8:30 to 11:00am. The beneficiary is the Gabriel Project in the Arlington Diocese. Gabriel Project Arlington (GPA) helps pregnant women with long or short-term needs by offering assistance at the parish level. It involves a network of churches, crisis pregnancy centers and other agencies working together to assist the mother with physical, material, spiritual, and emotional support. Join us for breakfast, and take some time to chat with a representative from Gabriel Project about their work and ways in which you can help their efforts.

2016 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Parishioners will receive an email Tuesday, January 31 with a link to their 2016 Contribution Statement. In addition, instructions for viewing and printing Contribution Statements are on our website, www.saintjn.org under **Events** on the home page. Anyone requiring a Contribution Statement mailed to them may call the Parish Office between 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday at 703-860-8510.

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT All Pre-K through 5th Grade families are invited to participate in another of our fun-filled family dinner nights Monday, February 6. This time, everyone can join in and play Bible Bingo! What a great way to spend a winter family evening. RSVP to Mickie Abatemarco at mabatemarco@saintjn.org by this Monday!

IT'S TIME FOR THE 5-CAR RAFFLE! St. John Neumann is again participating in the All Saints Church 5-Car Raffle! Prizes include five 2017 vehicles and \$20,000 in cash prizes. New parishioners and those who participated the past three years will soon be receiving car raffle tickets by mail to sell. With these great prizes, the tickets will sell themselves! After-Mass weekend ticket sales will begin February 11!



As in past years, all the earnings go directly to worthy charitable groups. A portion of the money will again be used to help the parishioners of Niño Jesus (our sister parish). This year we also will contribute to three additional worthy organizations: Guest House, Kairos and the St. Luke Foundation.

MOVIE NIGHT FOR ADULTS: SULLY

On January 15, 2009, Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger (Tom Hanks) tries to make an emergency landing in New York's Hudson River after US Airways Flight 1549 strikes a flock of geese. Miraculously, all of the 155 passengers and crew survive the harrowing ordeal, and Sullenberger becomes a national hero. Join us Friday, February 10! Wine, cheese and popcorn will be available at 6:30pm with the movie beginning at 7:00pm.

SOUPER BOWL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND!

Agape teens will be conducting a collection after all Masses **next weekend**. This collection was started a few years ago as a reminder that as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game in the warmth and comfort of our homes, we should



be mindful of those who have not even a bowl of soup to eat. The teens will be standing outside the church after Mass holding soup pots in hopes that our parishioners will make a monetary donation for those less fortunate than us. All donations will be used by Agape to provide funds, meals, canned goods and other items to the poor locally and globally. **We encourage all parishioners to donate generously to this worthy cause!**

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT BLOOD

PRESSURE SCREENING Sunday, February 12 from 2:30 - 3:30pm health professionals from the parish Health Ministry will be available to check your blood pressure. This is a quick, non-invasive and potentially life-saving test. Do yourself and your family a favor by assuring your blood pressure is within healthy ranges!

HYPOTHERMIA PREVENTION SHELTER

From January 15 - 22, St. John Neumann participated in Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Response Program. Each night, we hosted 50 - 60 homeless guests sponsored by the non-profits FACETS and Northern Virginia Family Services. Our shelter provided snacks, dinner, breakfast, lunch and a warm place to sleep. Just as important, we offered fellowship and lively entertainment. The guests said that St. John Neumann was a warm and welcoming place and that they were treated with dignity. One former guest came by for dinner and to be sure we knew that he now had housing.

Last week's shelter took the work of many, many volunteers. Here is a glimpse of what you and our faith partners at St. Thomas à Becket, St. Mark, and Congregation Beth Emeth provided for our guests last week:

- more than 3500 volunteer hours by hundreds of different volunteers, many of whom stayed overnight with our guests
- the assistance of our parish's priests and staff in the planning and implementation of our week. We could not have accomplished this without you!
- delicious hot dinners prepared by Agape, the Knights of Columbus, RCIA, St. Thomas à Becket, Congregation Beth Emeth, and the SJN Hispanic Community
- setup, serving, and cleanup of china and flatware by the Care for our Common Home group for a special dinner
- hot breakfasts prepared by Bill Behan and Virginia Kitchen Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- transportation to and from our church
- hundreds of restaurant gift cards used by our guests and to be used this season by the guests at Embry Rucker, North County Hypothermia Prevention Center, the Lamb Center, and the Reston Drop-In Center. These cards enable our guests to warm up in restaurants.
- a record 240 homemade casseroles, some used this week at our shelter, and some to be used at Embry Rucker or other shelters this season. They were delicious and much appreciated by our guests.
- donations of warm clothing, shoes and boots, blankets, breakfast, lunch, and snack food, supplies, toiletries, books, magazine and games, and money to purchase these items
- financial donations that were used to purchase gasoline for our guests with cars, or SmarTrip cards to enable those without cars to take public transportation
- live music and dance: St. Thomas à Becket's Bank Street Band; Happy Feet Cloggers, the Congregation Beth Emeth Chorale, our 5:00pm Sunday Mass music group and friends, and Moonlight Cabaret Singers. There were even a few cameo performances by some of our guests!
- haircuts by stylists from Black Orchid and PR at Partners salons

- Bingo and Dominoes (very popular), movies, and therapy dogs (adorable)
- foot care by our Health Ministry
- hand and sewing machine clothing repair
- placemats made by religious education students, and banners made by Agape members
- fellowship, care, and consideration

Thanks so much to all those who took part in this enormous effort. Every single donation of time, talent or treasure was noticed and appreciated. Our guests were overwhelmed by your generosity. You have shown that St. John Neumann is truly a place where all are welcome.

ARE YOU CATHOLIC AND WANT TO RETURN TO THE CHURCH?

We at Saint John Neumann welcome your return. Whatever your situation, we welcome you and will listen attentively and respectfully to your concerns and feelings with acceptance and without judgment. There will be no pressure nor anticipated commitments of any type. There is a group of Catholics who have struggled with faith, and, in some cases, have been away from the Church for an extended period of time.

For some, after time away, their understanding of the Catholic faith may be incomplete or may include "misinformation." Perhaps you have specific questions regarding Church teachings. We want to provide a forum where issues of faith and doubt can be honestly and openly addressed. We can also provide excellent catechetical resources if you would like them.

Welcome Home sessions began last Wednesday, but there is still time for you to join our group. Contact Director of Faith Formation, Mickie Abatemarco at 703-390-2340 or mabatemarco@saintjn.org for information.



ADULT CONFIRMATION If you are a Catholic adult (18 years or older) and are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, classes will begin in February. We will meet on February 23, March 16 and April 27. For information, please email

Mickie Abatemarco at mabatemarco@saintjn.com.

2017 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL BEGINS

This month many of us will receive a mailing from Bishop Burbidge regarding the 2017 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). The theme for the 2017 BLA is "*Offering hands to serve and hearts to love.*" After reflecting upon the many blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making a pledge of support to this important appeal that funds many programs and ministries that serve the people in our diocese, using the return envelope provided by the diocese. If you prefer to donate online, please follow the instructions found on the reverse side of your pledge card. *Every pledge is an expression of God's love and mercy!*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



BIRTHDAY CLUB TAGS WILL BE AVAILABLE NEXT WEEKEND

The Social Action Committee will place tags for the Birthday Club in the main hallway next weekend, February 4 - 5. Please take a tag, purchase the wished-for gift and **return the wrapped and tagged gift by the weekend of February 18 - 19.** For most of these children the gifts we purchase will be the only gifts they receive on their special day. We hope you can help put smiles on their faces. Thank you for your continued support.

“May faith be the torch which illuminates, animates, and sustains you.”

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

Fellowship

ONGOING FELLOWSHIP AT SJN:

- **Sunday Coffee** Join us for coffee, juice, muffins, and fellowship each Sunday from 8:30—11:30am. All are welcome!
- **9:00am Daily Mass and Fellowship:** Following Mass in the Chapel, join us in the Bridal Room for coffee and cookies.
- **Knights of Columbus:** Are you a male, age 18 years or older and a practicing Catholic, and wish to embark on a journey that emphasizes faith, fraternity, and fellowship with a real commitment to service in our community? If so, please consider becoming a member of the K of C Family of Man Council #7566. Take that first step and contact us at info@kofc7566.us.
- **Legion of Mary** Would you like to have the Pilgrim Virgin Statue visit your home for two weeks? If interested, the Legion of Mary will deliver and retrieve the Holy Virgin at your convenience. For information email pilgrimvirginmarystatue@gmail.com or call 703-968-3337.
- **Life+Savers:** 7th and 8th grade teens gather on the 1st Saturday of each month, (except December) for fun activities, guest speakers and refreshments from 3:00 - 4:00pm. Drop into the Youth Room to relax or play after Sunday Faith Formation class while waiting for parent pickup or siblings attending Agape. Contact Kevin McManus at lifesavers@saintjn.org.
- **Mothers' Group:** Join us for weekday, evening and weekend playgroups, nights out, special events and more. Membership is open to all new, veteran and expectant caregivers of small children. Membership is free and participation is voluntary in all group activities. For more information please send email to momsgroup@saintjn.org.
- **Praying College Moms:** Join us on the 1st Friday morning or the 2nd Monday evening for shared prayer, support and fellowship. For evening sessions email kmonroe58@gmail.com, and for evening sessions email gallo.kellymarie@gmail.com.
- **Shawl Ministry:** On the afternoon of the third Sunday of every month we gather to pray, talk, and create beautiful handmade shawls for those who are ill or grieving. Contact Teresa Westhues at 703-969-8430 to join or request a shawl.
- **Women's Newcomers Group:** Have you just moved to the area? Consider joining our new support group, meeting weekly during the day. For information, email Megan Murphy at megan.murphy218@gmail.com.
- **Young Adults:** If you are in your twenties or thirties and are looking for a community to socialize, do service and pray with, then come join us! For more information, email Thomas Patchan at youngadults@saintjn.org.

YOUNG ADULTS: Watch here for upcoming activities for singles and couples in their 20s and 30s. Unless otherwise noted, for more information on any event, or to be added to the YA email distribution list, email Thomas Patchan at saintjnya@gmail.com.

- **Tuesdays, January 31 - February 7 at 7:00pm, "Saying Yes" Book Study; Stephanie's House in Reston** We will take a look at our response to God's will in our lives, studying the same guided reflection and discernment as the rest of the parish. We will start with Chapter Three on the 31st and will have extra copies of the book if needed. Please e-mail Stephanie at stephanie.skinner11@gmail.com to get her address if you're interested in participating.
- **Friday, February 3, 6:00pm, Dinner and a Movie, Worldgate Center in Herndon:** We'll meet at Worldgate Center to grab some dinner, and then will head to a movie, (possibly "Silence", about a journey by two Jesuit priests) around 7:00 or 7:30pm. Please e-mail Thomas at saintjnya@gmail.com if you're interested in joining us.
- **Sunday, February 19, 9:30am, Mass and Young Adult Brunch, St John Neumann:** Come worship with other young adults at Mass, and then we'll all head out to brunch right after! We'll meet in the narthex around 9:20am to get seats together and will meet after mass near the narthex welcome desk at 10:40am. Please e-mail Katie at Kathryn.c.harris@saic.com if you'll join us.
- **Friday, February 24, 7:00pm, Board Game Night, Cara's House, Reston:** Break out the Parcheesi, it's time for board game night! We'll have plenty of games, as well as drinks and snacks, and you can bring your favorite game too! Please e-mail Cara at caraferraro703@gmail.com.

Faith Formation

Mickie Abatemarco, Director
703-390-2340
mabatemarco@saintjn.org

ONGOING ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES:

Unless otherwise noted, for more information on any program, contact Mickie Abatemarco.

- **Becoming A Catholic** Are you or someone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church? Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) meets year-round on Tuesday evenings. Email rcia@saintjn.org for information.
- **Contemplative Prayer** There is quiet prayer together every Thursday evening at 7:00pm. We also meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 10:00am with Lectio Divinia.
- **Road to Emmaus** This Scripture Study group meets Mondays at 10:00am in the Conference Room.
- **Mothers' Group Bible Study** This group meets from 10 to 11:30am most Fridays from September through May, and covers the upcoming Sunday scripture. Childcare is available. RSVP is required to attend. Email Christy Cottrell for more information at christylc23@gmail.com.
- **Independent Online Bible Study** This 8-session course, "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible" will help uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, to get the "big picture" of the Bible. Details and registration link are available on our website under Faith Formation/Adults.
- **Power of Story** This program, presented by William R. Stott, Jr. meets Monday evenings at 7:00pm in the de Sales Chapel. Class schedule and registration forms are in brochures available at the Welcome Desk.

WINTER BIBLE STUDY: REGISTRATION EXTENDED!

A seven-week Bible Study covering **Second Corinthians** will begin in *early February*. Join us as we explore God's Word in small groups using study materials developed by Catholic scholars from Little Rock Scripture Study Institute. Come to know the forceful but loving character of Paul as he continues to promote unity in a divided and confused Corinth by reflecting on his own weaknesses as an opportunity to find strength in Christ. He calls the Corinthians to generosity in care for the poor who live outside their own community.

All are welcome and you may audit a meeting before committing. For your convenience, multiple small groups meet at various times throughout the week. See registration forms for details. They are available on the Parish website and at the Welcome Desk. Tuition of \$25 is due at time of registration. Scholarships are available. Registration has been extended through Monday, **January 30**. Contact Janet Broderick at broderickjmb@gmail.com or 703-860-5029 with questions.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY (AGAPE)

Doug Johnson
703-860-6141
djohnson@saintjn.org

UPCOMING AGAPE EVENTS:

Mark your calendars for the following exciting, fun-filled upcoming Agape or Agape related events and make plans to attend:

- **Sunday, January 29** - High School Teen Night: 6:15 – 8:30pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium
- **Saturday, February 4** - Mini Work Camp: 9:00am; Parking Lot
- **Sunday, February 5** - High School Teen Night: 6:15 – 8:30pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium
- **Sunday, February 12** - High School Teen Night: 6:15 – 8:30pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium



MINI WORK CAMP Calling all teens and adults! Make a difference in someone's life. Would you like to help those in need, learn some new skills, do hands-on basic home repairs and have fun? Sign up and join us for the next Mini Work Camp on Saturday,

February 4 from 9:00am - 3:00pm! No experience is necessary; help bring hope by sharing your Christian love with those in need in our community. Permission Slips are required! Contact Phyllis Rienzo by phone at 703-795-0339 or e-mail at prienzo@verizon.net for a permission slip and to let her know you will be participating in the work camp.

*"It is your life that Jesus wants to enter
with His word, with His presence.
Please, let Christ and His word enter your life,
blossom and grow."*

Pope Francis, World Youth Day, Rio, 2013

HIGH SCHOOL TEEN NIGHT (AGAPE)

Calling all teens! Join us tonight Sunday, December 29, for food, fellowship, faith sharing, meeting new friends and having lots of fun. Come and learn more about our Catholic faith and traditions and how we can apply our Christian values to our daily lives and in our relationships with others. This will also be a great opportunity to share snacks, enjoy fellowship and make new friends! All high school teens are invited and welcome, so bring a friend.

HIGH SCHOOL TEEN MINISTRY E-MAIL LIST:

Contact Doug Johnson at djohnson@saintjn.org if you wish to be placed on the SJN High School Teen Ministry email list. This is a great way to learn the latest information on events, programs and opportunities to serve in our high school teen program.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Around the Diocese

OUR NEW DIOCESAN WEBSITE: COMING SOON!

Our new diocesan website is almost here! It's mobile-friendly, easy to navigate, welcoming, sensible and robust. It's bursting with photos of smiling faces and beautiful church architecture. It seamlessly integrates social media. To see it for yourself, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org the week of January 30.

DISCOVER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS! St. Joseph School in Herndon is hosting an Open House on January 31 in the Parish Hall from 9:30—11:00am. Please contact Mrs. Mary Lewis, Admissions Coordinator, for more information at mlewis@sjschoolva.org.

INTERESTED IN SUBSTITUTE TEACHING?

St. Joseph School in Herndon is in need of several substitute teachers. If you have questions and would like more information, email your resume to Mrs. Cindi Conroy, Principal, at cconroy@sjschoolva.org or call Mrs. Mary Lewis at 703-880-4315.

Special Collection Stewardship

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA Thank you for your generous support last week of the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Your donations will be used to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "How to Give" on the left. Your gift will certainly make a difference!

NEXT WEEKEND A special collection will take place next weekend for The **Arlington Catholic Herald**. It is the official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and has a weekly circulation of over 61,000. This newspaper is distributed locally, nationally and internationally. **The Arlington Catholic Herald received 34 awards from the Catholic Press Association in 2016.** For more information, visit <http://www.catholicherald.com/>.

OUR THANKS TO
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IN OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN

TEACHER JOB FAIR The Office of Catholic Schools invites prospective teachers to a Teacher Job Fair on Saturday, March 11. The Fair will be held at Paul VI High School from 9:00 –11:00am. Principals from over 30 diocesan elementary schools, high schools and preschools will be on hand to talk with you about openings for the 2017-2018 school year. Representatives from the Office of Catholic Schools will answer questions about the application process. New teachers and those returning to teaching are welcome. All teachers must be certified or ready to seek certification. Paul VI High School is located at 10675 Fairfax Boulevard (Route 50) in Fairfax. For more information, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholicschools or call 703-841-2519. We believe in our teachers! Join our excellent schools for a faith-filled experience.

YOU CAN FIND EMPLOYMENT Christians are Networking (CAN), a ministry of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, assists people who are unemployed or under-employed. This is also a tremendous resource for recent college graduates who are new to the job market. CAN provides free career counseling, skills in navigating today's job market, resume reviews, practice job interviews and networking opportunities. CAN is offered at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Ashburn; St. Philip Catholic Church, Falls Church; and at Epiphany Middle School, Culpeper. For details, please visit our website: www.cda.net/programs_jobs.php.

DONATE YOUR USED CAR AND

HELP A FAMILY BECOME MORE SELF-RELIANT!

If you are thinking of replacing your old car with something new, please consider donating your old car to Catholic Charities. We take used vehicles and give them directly to families in desperate need of transportation. Donating to Catholic Charities is easy. We handle all the paperwork and you receive an IRS donation receipt. Avoid the hassle of selling your car, simplify your life and reclaim that space in your garage. To donate, please call (703) 841-3898.

SJN Weekly Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

MATTHEW 5:3

This one confuses people. Replace the word "humble" for "poor" and it makes more sense. People that are humble recognize their dependence on God and trust that He will provide all that they need. Unfortunately, for many of us, pride and ego enters our lives and we think we can live without God. Remember – God first in all circumstances.