

PARISH STAFF

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

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Thomas E. Murphy, OSFS 860-8510 x143

Parochial Vicars:

Rev. Gerald M. Dunne, OSFS 860-8510 x159

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

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

In Residence:

Rev. William N. Dougherty, OSFS 860-8510 x144

Permanent Deacons:

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Deacon Dennis A. Holley 860-8510 x222

Deacon Atanacio Sandoval 860-8510 x223

Deacon John A. Wagner 860-8510 x321

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Email: lifesavers@saintjn.org

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Email: sjn.pc@saintjn.org

Finance Council Patricia Maloney 860-8510 x310

Email: sjn.fc@saintjn.org

PASTORAL CARE

INFANT BAPTISM: 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 Sue Colyer 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, APRIL 24

FF Classes

Brown Bag Weekend

Care For Our Common Home Information After Masses

Health Fair: Brown-McCarthy Auditorium; 10:00am

RCIA Dismissal: 10:00am; Conference Room

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

MONDAY, APRIL 25

FF Classes

Road to Emmaus: 10:00am; Conference Room

Boy Scout Troop 124: 7:00pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

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

Welcome Home: 7:00pm; Bridal Room

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

FF Classes

French Conversation: 9:30am; A1

Pax Christi: 7:00pm; Conference Room

RCIA Catechumenate: 7:30pm; A1/A2

RCIA Inquiry: 7:30pm; Bridal Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

FF Classes

Church History with Father Bob: 10:00am; A1/A2

Angel Choir: 5:00pm; Music Room

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

JustFaith: 7:00pm; A1/A2

Legión de María: 7:00pm; B4

Spanish Young Adults: 7:00pm; B3

Divorced and Separated: 7:30pm; Conference Room

Church History with Father Bob: 7:30pm; B5

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Mothers' Group Play Group: 9:30am; Early RE Room

Contemplative Prayer and Lection Divina: 10:00am; Marian Chapel

Contemplative Prayer: 7:00pm; Church

Emergency Preparedness: 7:00pm; B11/B12

Legion of Mary: 7:00pm; B4

Life After Sunday: 7:00pm; B1

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Mothers' Group Bible Study: 10:00am; Conference Room

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Argentine Dinner Ticket Sales After Mass

Spanish Prayer Group: 6:00pm; de Sales Chapel

Parish Dance: 7:00pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

SUNDAY, MAY 1

FF Classes

Argentine Dinner Ticket Sales After Masses

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

RCIA Dismissal: 10:00am; Conference Room

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

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



DEAR PARISHIONERS:

The Pope's recent letter, called an Apostolic Exhortation, has certainly created a buzz in the media world and within the Church. What did he say and what are its implications? There was no change in the Church's teaching that the marriage commitment is one that is intended to be life-long. I do not see how any such intimate relationship could be possible without the intent being that it was a permanent relationship. How could you open yourself up to another person in such a way without the expectation that it be forever? Pope Francis spends much time speaking about the joys of this type of love relationship basing it on a reflection on 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13.

While affirming this position, the Pope goes to great lengths to identify the intricacies and challenges that also occur in some marriages. How should the Church respond? The Church of long ago implied incorrectly that divorced people were excommunicated. Certainly that is not what we would call a welcoming gesture. How do we deal with people who still want to maintain a relationship with the Church but have found true love in a second marriage relationship? The essence of this letter is colored by overtones that speak of a compassionate and loving way of dealing with people who have already experienced the trauma of divorce and do not need another door closed in their face.

He sharply criticizes those who operate solely on the legal level, allowing the cold dictates of legality to define the person and their very challenging situation. He encourages priests and Bishops to open their arms to embrace these people who perhaps have experienced the coldness of a legalistic Church. In no way does the Pope alter the essence of the Church's teaching about marriage but he clothes it in compassionate words of love and understanding. In all my years as a priest, I have never met anyone who deliberately sought a divorce, but rather people who felt the circumstances dictated no other option.

Jesus acknowledges our human weakness and failings but the Pope asks whether a person should suffer for the rest of their lives for a mistake of judgment or a previously unobserved flaw or an irreconcilable difference. The Church is not advocating divorce and encourages couples to work on divisive issues through means such as Retrouvaille weekends, but all admit some situations are of such a serious matter that reconciliation is an impossibility.

Certainly the first suggestion would be to pursue an annulment to investigate the foundations of a marriage to determine whether or not some significant element of a marriage commitment was flawed or absent, thus annulling the sacramental nature of a marriage. Annulments do not deal with the legality of a marriage. That remains the domain of the state, and therefore, this does not challenge the legitimacy of children of such a marriage. But I know of situations I have encountered as a priest that defy a positive response, because of the unavailability of necessary elements of the process. Pope Francis has simplified the annulment process but it still can be an arduous or impossible task for some for any number of reasons.

Francis encourages us to deal compassionately with people and not to allow the constraints of legalism make a person feel like an outsider. If this applies to you, please see one of the priests so we can interpret this document for you and help you to see the implications for your specific situation.

The letter also deals with other types of committed relationships and while he continues to emphasize the essential nature of marriage as a commitment between a man and a woman, he does reach out to those in same sex relationships and invites them into the Church community, stating that all relationships of commitment have some positive elements to them but he does not define them as marriage.

This document is over 250 pages, so this is merely a brief and incomplete synopsis of some elements contained in this letter. I appeal to all who feel ostracized from the Catholic Church because of the relationship they are now in to come and speak with one of the priests so we can offer a clarity as to the Pope's intent.

God bless us and God bless this wonderful Pope,

Fr Tom

Prayer and Liturgy



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Acts 14: 21-27;
Psalm 145: 8-9, 10-11, 12-13;
Revelation 21:1-5;
John 13:31-33, 34-35

Today's readings remind us that to enter the Kingdom of God we must persevere in faith in Jesus Christ. St. Francis de Sales stresses the need to persevere in God's love:

Perseverance is the most desirable gift we can hope for in this life. All our happiness is grounded in perseverance and that is why I urge you to persevere until the end. Our entire good consists not only in accepting the truth of God's word, but also in persevering in it. The Spirit of God makes us consider beginnings so as to arrive at the end. The Spirit has us rejoice in the flowers of spring only in expectation of enjoying the fruits of summer and autumn.

The aim of the Christian life is to transform our own self-centered spirit into that of Christ's. As long as we live we will always have some self-seeking interests that we ought to relinquish. The more we let go of our selfish desires and yield to God's desire for us, the more our human spirit will be at peace and free from interior restlessness.

True love strives to please those in whom it has found pleasure. The example of those we love has an imperceptible power over us. We cannot help conforming ourselves to those we love. By often taking delight in God we become conformed to God, and our will is transformed into that of God's divine will. Conformity of our heart with that of God's love takes place when we place all our affections in God's hands, so that God may shape and direct our spirit. In turn, we respond to God's love through love of others.

Faith teaches that all that is true and good in us is from God alone. You must have great courage and a very firm confidence in God's help. God, who holds you by the hand, carries you along in hardships that seem otherwise unbearable to you. If we persevere in responding to God's love and mercy, God will complete the work of our salvation.

(Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales)

WE WELCOME those who have recently entered into our faith through the waters of Baptism: **Ryan George Chevalier**, son of Brian and Lauren; **Victor Lucas Cortes**, son of Adrian and Paula.



BEST WISHES to **Joanna Kozuch and Alex Kovacic**, who were recently joined in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. May they grow together in Christ's love.



SATURDAY 5:00pm	APRIL 23 Walter Henry Rupell †
SUNDAY 7:30am 9:30am 11:30am 1:30pm 5:00pm	APRIL 24 Matilde Cruz † Leonard Mandrgoc † Jamile Breidy † People of the Parish Ian McKinley, Special Intention
MONDAY 9:00am 12:10pm	APRIL 25 Tommy Fearon † Sandy McCarthy †
TUESDAY 6:30am 9:00am	APRIL 26 Mary Hughes † Lee Ann and Steven Scully, Special Intention
WEDNESDAY 6:30am 9:00am 12:10pm	APRIL 27 Laura Bhadra† James Middlemiss † Berta Volk †
THURSDAY 6:30am 9:00am	APRIL 28 Josephine Calcagno † Hedwig Trunz †
FRIDAY 9:00am 12:10pm	APRIL 29 Leonard Mandrgoc † Gloria Pastrana †
SATURDAY 5:00pm	APRIL 30 Paul Wagner †
SUNDAY 7:30am 9:30am 11:30am(Church) 11:30am(Chapel) 1:30pm 5:00pm	MAY 1 Anthony Ferlaino † Chafica Maalouf † Peg Clarke † William W. Byrne † People of the Parish Helen Hook †



WE PRAY for those who have died, especially **Clifford Buck**, husband of Rebecca; and **David Byrnes**, brother-in-law of Eileen Malloy.

LITURGY PRESIDERS NEXT WEEKEND

Assuming there are no changes, the presiders for the weekend of April 30 - May 1 are:

Saturday	5:00pm	Father Bill
Sunday	7:30am	Father Bob
Sunday	9:30am	Father Bill with Deacon Atanacio
Sunday	11:30am	Father Tom
Sunday	1:30pm	Father Francis Russo with Deacon Atanacio
Sunday	5:00pm	Father Jerry

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Paul and Barnabas leave Antioch for Jerusalem to discuss a serious matter with the other apostles: Must a Gentile Christian submit to the practices of Judaism in order to be saved? When the Church listens to the Holy Spirit, it finds the daring responses demanded by such questions.

Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 This psalm, believed by some to have been composed for a harvest festival, calls on all nations to praise the Lord.

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23 The Book of Revelation portrays the end time in the image of a city founded on the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

John 14:23-29 The mystery of God dwelling with His people exceeds the logic of language. The evangelist must resort to paradox to describe one who departs and yet lives on with His disciples. But the message seems clear: The Lord who seems absent is in truth present in the community of believers faithful to His word.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have asked for our prayers: Charlie Ibarra, Katie Brown, Lila Day, **Maureen McInerney**, Amanda Morris; and for all who are sick and all caregivers who minister to 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 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 added this week appear in boldface type.***

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

April 25	Reverend Jerome W. Fasano
April 26	Reverend Thomas P. Ferguson
April 27	Reverend Donald M. Fest, S.S.J.
April 28	Reverend Kevin J. Fimian
April 29	Reverend Lewis S. Fiorelli, O.S.F.S.
April 30	Reverend Andrew J. Fisher
May 1	Reverend Daniel N. Gee

UPCOMING SPECIAL LITURGIES

Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1	All Masses	Confirmation Rite of Enrollment
Sunday, May 8	9:30am	Baptism
Saturday, May 21	5:00pm	Baptism
Sunday, May 29	11:30am	Baptism

Parish Information

EARTHQUAKE IN ECUADOR: SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

As you all know, Ecuador was hit by a major earthquake last Saturday evening, causing over 230 deaths, 1500 injuries and massive destruction throughout the Atlantic coastal region. The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales have two parishes in Ecuador, located in the areas of Manta and Portoviejo. The Oblates received word that in Manta the earthquake primarily affected the downtown area. Our sister parish, Niño Jesús, and the OSFS formation house are located about two miles from downtown. Much of Portoviejo was impacted, with St. Leonie Aviat School, run by the Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales, being completely destroyed, along with their convent. The Oblates have been informed by the Superior General, Father Aldino Kiesel, OSFS, that all personnel are doing well.

Next weekend, April 30 - May 1, because of our long-standing relationship with Manta, we will hold a special collection for the victims of this terrible earthquake. Please be as generous as you are able, as the need for every possible type of support is overwhelming. Let us thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us, and give what we can to help our friends who now have so little, or nothing.

Donations collected at St. John Neumann will be forwarded directly to Niño Jesús for the Oblates there to distribute locally as they see the best fit.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST Next

Sunday, May 1, the Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly Pancake Breakfast beginning at 8:30am in the Brown-McCarthy Auditorium. The beneficiary this month is the Marian Homes, a certified 501(c)(3) charity established by a Knights of Columbus Council in Fairfax in 1997. The mission of Marian Homes is to own and maintain houses that are used as Group Homes for the intellectually disabled. The first Marian Homes residence "Marian House" was dedicated in 1998 and houses five adult women. The second took in all men, as did the third. "Mother of Mercy," the name of the fourth home, will accept five adult women again, four of which are coming from the Northern Virginia Training Center. This decades-old, state-run institution in Fairfax has housed and facilitated treatment for people with disabilities and is scheduled to close entirely in the next two months. In January, many of our own Knights joined those in Fairfax to work on demolition to prepare for remodeling of this new acquisition. Visit marianhomes.org for information on how to help in other ways.



THANK YOU, BAKERS! A heart-felt thanks to all who baked cookies for the recent Men's Kairos Week-end Retreat. Our parishioners baked 301 dozen cookies! Your treats were brought into Sussex 1 State Prison, a maximum security facility in Waverly, VA. Inmates at this facility have long sentences, usually life or multiple life sentences. Your gift of cookies brought Agape love to incarcerated men who do not feel loved. They greatly appreciated your offerings. The women's Kairos Weekend Retreat at the Virginia Correction Center for Women begins this Thursday, April 28, and you have been very generous with your time and effort baking for this second event. The men and women of the parish who are involved in these important events are proud of and grateful for your continued support.

HERE COMES FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT On

Friday, May 6, we will be showing "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip". Have dinner before you arrive but skip dessert because we will serve ice cream sundaes at 6:30pm, with the movie beginning at 7:00pm. Feel free to bring your friends and get ready for some hearty laughter!



"JOURNEYS OF LOVE", A RECITAL CONCERT

On Saturday evening, May 14, at 7:30pm in the church, Diane Phillips Lott will present a Recital Concert. Diane has been a cantor at our parish for 24 years, usually ministering at Sunday morning Masses. This concert was originally scheduled for last October, but was canceled due to a medical emergency and lengthy illness. Now that Diane has recovered, she is anxious to share this concert with us. She will be accompanied by pianist Dr. Lisa Bloy.

Her selections will help us recognize and connect with the many ways our personal experiences of love change as we journey through various stages of our lives. Composers featured include Samuel Barber, Johannes Brahms, Wolfgang A. Mozart, Claude Debussy, Rolf Lovland, Roger Quilter and Diane herself. A light reception will follow.

*"It only takes a little courage
to become a great saint."*

Blessed Louis Brisson, OSFS

PRO LIFE MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP

We would appreciate your help on Friday, May 6, beginning at 10:00am in the Brown-McCarthy Auditorium. You will learn how to, and then make, beautiful carnation corsages that will be sold on Mother's Day, May 8, after the morning Masses. The past two years' sales have raised almost \$2,500.00 that was donated to Pro Life Organizations. This year's proceeds will be donated to the Tepeyac Family Center in Fairfax. We thank you for your continued support. Please contact Bill Eager if you have questions at artbyEAGer@gmail.com.



**CAR RAFFLE PRIZE DRAWINGS ARE THIS
COMING SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH!**

All Saints Catholic Church in Manassas is holding their annual Spring Festival next weekend, April 30 – May 1 and as part of the Saturday events, they will be drawing the winning tickets for all the cash prizes and automobiles. If you are curious about whether or not you are a winner, you can check throughout the day and evening as the names of the 20 cash winners and five vehicle winners are posted in real time on:

<http://www.allsaintsvachurch.org/news-and-events/parish-festivalraffle/car-raffle/raffle-schedule-and-winners>.



The cash prizes will be drawn every half hour from 1:00 to 5:30pm; the five vehicle drawings follow from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Good luck to everyone and thank you for your support of this effort!

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS STILL NEEDED

Volunteer drivers are needed to pick up bakery products from a local store and deliver them to a local homeless shelter one night per week, or one night every other week. The total time required per night is under two hours. Please call Judy or Dan Young (703-620-0948) if you are interested in volunteering with this on-going project.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

REMINDERS FOR THIS WEEK

- **BROWN BAG WEEKEND** The Cornerstones van will be in our lot all during this weekend. If able, please donate a few non-perishables to help stock their pantry for those in need.
- **SPRING FLING PARISH DANCE** Tickets at \$25 each are still available in the Parish Office for the dance next Saturday, April 30. Heavy hor d'oeuvres, wine and beer will be provided, along with fun and good music!
- **FAMILY MASS NEXT SUNDAY** Our final Family Mass for this school year will take place next Sunday, May 1 at 11:30am in the de Sales Chapel.

Third Annual Argentine Grill Dinner

Saturday, May 14 at 6:30pm.

Dinner served at 7:00pm.

Brown-McCarthy Auditorium

Tickets: \$50 per person (Includes authentic Argentine grill favorites, side dishes, dessert, and a glass of wine or beer. Additional wine and beer tickets can be purchased for \$4 each or 3/\$10).

On sale: 4/30 - 5/1 and 5/7 - 5/8 after all Masses; during the week at the parish office.

Our goal is to reach \$50,000; we have raised \$19,102 to date through your generosity. The Divine Love Chapel is part of Niño Jesús, our sister parish in Manta Ecuador, run by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales in South America.

IN SEARCH OF NEW MEMBERS FOR YOUTH PASTORAL COUNCIL (YPC)



- Who:** Rising 7th-12th graders from all area High Schools and Middle Schools who can attend monthly Sunday afternoon meetings
- What:** YPC advises the Pastoral Council and parish on Youth/Teen matters and activities
- When:** NOW! Nominations will be accepted **until Monday, May 9**
- Why:** SJN community wants to hear from you!

Details: Forms and details are on the parish website, saintjn.org, the Youth bulletin board and the Welcome Desk

Questions? SJNYPCsocial@gmail.com

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.
- **Life+Savers:** On the 3rd Saturday of every month, 7th and 8th graders gather for a special, fun time between 3:00 - 4:30pm. Each Sunday evening, we meet in the Youth Room for about one-half hour after Faith Formation classes. 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 Thursday evening for shared prayer, support and fellowship. For morning sessions, email gallo.kellymarie@gmail.com, and for evening sessions email kmonroe58@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 Marie Ruff at youngadults@saintjn.org.

*“Consider what God is doing and
what you are doing.”*

St. Francis de Sales

50+ CLUB ACTIVITIES: For more information on any 50+ Club event, please email Pat Bossie at grankidsx9@aol.com or call 703-620-3747. Remember to call Pat to make reservations.

- **Thursday, May 12:** Lunch at 11:30am at Madigan's Waterfront Restaurant in Occoquan. Enjoy lunch and then explore the shops on Mill Street or just enjoy the dock behind the restaurant.

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 Marie Ruff at saintjnya@gmail.com.

- **Saturday, April 30, 6:30-10:00pm:** Spring Fling Annual Parish Dance; Join other young adults and members of the parish for a lively evening of dancing in the Brown-McCarthy Auditorium! Heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer will be served. We are in charge of kicking off the party with a photo booth wall. If you are interested in helping out and attending with other young adults, contact Kat at dmb411967@gmail.com.
- **Sunday, May 15:** Enjoy faith and fellowship as we attend the 9:30am Mass as a group, followed by brunch at La Madeleine at Reston Town Center. Email Laura at lgodlewski@gmail.com by Friday, May 13, to let us know to expect you.
- **Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** for five weeks starting May 18: Join us for a study of the wisdom and comfort of the Psalms. Connect with the doubts, dreams and trials of the Psalmists through a month's worth of morning and evening readings. Contact Thomas at thomasp4@vt.edu by Sunday, May 15, if you are interested in participating.

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 Sue Colyer.

- **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** Interested in being Catholic? Do you have questions? A group of inquirers meets on Tuesday evenings.
- **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.
- **Bible Study for Mothers With Young Children** This group meets on Fridays from 10:00 to 11:30am, with child care provided. Email Christy Cottrell for more information at christylc23@gmail.com.

- **Road to Emmaus** This small discussion group meets Monday mornings at 10:00am to discuss the past Sunday's readings. Email saintjnrt@gmail.com.
- **The Power of Story "SPIRITUALITIES" IN THE CONTEXT OF THE HERES AND THE BEYONDS** This program, presented by William R. Stott, Jr. meets at 7:00pm in the deSales Chapel. All are welcome!
- **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.

FAITH FORMATION PRE-K—8TH GRADE

Angela Davis
703-390-2345
adavis@saintjn.org

2016/2017 FAITH FORMATION

REGISTRATION BEGINS MAY 2ND You can register online at www.saintjn.org or in the Faith Formation office. Some classes fill up quickly, so please be sure to register as soon as possible and to include your first and second session choices. Families must be registered parishioners. Registration fee is \$100 for one child, \$150 for two children, and \$180 for three or more children. Online registrations must be completed with a credit card. If you would like to use other means to complete your registration, please use the paper forms which can be downloaded from the website and will be available outside of the Faith Formation office. If you have questions, please contact the Faith Formation office at: 703-860- 2815 or reregistration@saintjn.org.

*"Never look at what the world offers
without considering what it hides."*

St. Francis de Sales

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY (AGAPE)

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

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 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Around the Diocese

BISHOP IRETON HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS SPRING "FIRST LOOK" EVENT

Bishop Ireton High School is inviting 6th and 7th graders a chance to visit the school to learn about and preview Bishop Ireton. This event will take place on Thursday, April 28, at 6:30pm. Please RSVP by April 27 to wilkinsonv@bishopireton.org. For more information about the event, call 703-751-7606.

ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS Honor the men and women who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces at the 22nd Annual Memorial Mass on Sunday, May 15, at 12:00pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. The principal celebrant and homilist will be Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio. Military personnel are encouraged to wear service dress uniform; civilians are asked to wear business attire.

SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious) invites you to a retreat day on Monday, May 2, at the Washington Retreat House. "Let Your Mercy Rain on Us" will be presented by Father Richard DeLillio, OSFS. Space is limited. The fee of \$50 per person includes coffee and lunch. Check-in begins at 9:00am. The program begins at 9:45am and continues through 1:00pm. For information, visit www.soar-usa.org or call Sister Kate Clancy at (202) 529-7627. We look forward to the parishioners of St. John Neumann joining us for a special retreat day!

Special Collection Stewardship

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS Many dioceses right here in the United States do not have enough priests and trained lay ministers to serve their parishes. These dioceses are known as *home missions*. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which will take place this weekend in the second collection, supports these dioceses by funding essential ministries, including seminary education and lay ministry training. Please be generous in this appeal and share your resources to strengthen the Church at home.

OUR THANKS TO
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SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS SUMMER

CAMPS IN THEATRE & ART THIS JULY:

Expert Instructors in Drama, Music, Dance, and Art are providing one week camps this July for students as young as Pre-K and as old as high school. Learn from some of the areas top Catholic teachers within the creative arts through camps like **Camp Broadway**, **Art Explorer**, **Drama Bootcamp**, **Creative Kindergarten**, and **Art Fun Camp**. Families registering three or more kids can take an additional 10% off. All of the details can be found at www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com.

CHECK OUT FATHER CHRIS CHRISTENSEN ON 2MINUTES2VIRTUE:

THE WEEKLY CHALLENGE!

Tune in to *2minutes2virtue* and take the Weekly Challenge with Fr. Chris Christensen, Parochial Vicar at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. He hosts the April videos series designed to help Catholics on the go get the most out of the Sunday readings. Sign-up to receive the weekly videos at arlingtondiocese.org/2minutes2virtue. For more information, contact the Office for Family Life at (703) 841-2550.

MULTICULTURAL CHORAL CONCERT ON

MAY 21 Deepen your faith and listen to the cultural sounds of Catholic music at our free Multicultural Choral Concert on May 21 at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. The concert begins at 7:00pm and will include music from the St. Bernadette's Filipino Choir, Heartsongs: Tam Tinh Ca, a Hispanic Choir, Our Lady of LaVang Vietnamese Choir, St. Paul Chung Korean Choir and the Ghana Catholic Community Choir. The Multicultural Choral Concert is presented by Bishop Ireton High School, in collaboration with the Diocese of Arlington's Office of Multicultural Ministries. For more information, please contact mcm@bishopireton.org or 703-841-3881.

SJN Weekly Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION *"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." JOHN 13:34*

It is easy to love someone when they love us back. But it takes courage to love someone when we feel unappreciated, used or feel our opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage to "love my neighbor" when he may be someone I don't like, someone I don't know or someone who doesn't look like me.