

**PARISH STAFF**

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

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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.*



**DEAR PARISHIONERS:**

At the end of September, Beth Farmer, who has served as our front office secretary for the last four years and before that served for three years in the Faith Formation office, will be retiring. Beth and her husband Rick, who is also retiring, will be moving out of the area.

Beth is the first person who greets people at the front desk of the office or over the phone. Greeting people is just one of the many responsibilities that Beth has carried out so well. Her professionalism and welcoming spirit has been a blessing. The parish and staff have truly benefited from her skills and dedication.

Though we will miss Beth, I am happy to announce that Mary Hastings will be joining the staff as our new front office secretary on September 18. Mary and her family have been parishioners since 2015 when they relocated from Northern California. Mary and Beth will have the next two weeks to work together, allowing for a smooth transition.

On behalf of the entire parish, we wish Beth and Rick the very best as they begin the next phase of their life. May they experience many blessings in the future as they certainly have been a blessing to us.

Live Jesus,



**BEST WISHES** to **Crista Salvesson** and **William Tyler Sarnowski**; and **Angela Roller** and **Jason Dreyzenner** who were recently joined in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. May they grow together in Christ's love.



**WE WELCOME** those who have recently entered into our faith through the waters of Baptism: **Molly Lucia Clayton**, daughter of Phillip and Rachel; **Nathaniel C. Latham**, son of Mario and Elena; and **Andrew James Zeigler**, son of James and Betzady.

**WE PRAY** for those who have died, especially **William Kunkler**, father of Kirsten Kunkler Rucker; **Joyce Thibeault Powell**, mother of Donna Gilstrap and grandmother of Laura Branch and Erin Eberly; and **Thomas Simmons**, brother-in-law of Kathleen Ray; and **John White**, father of Patti White Welch and grandfather of Emmanuel.



## THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



### THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:

**Sirach 27:30-28:7**  
**Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12**  
**Romans 14:7-9**  
**Matthew 18:21-35**

Today's readings challenge us to forgive each other. Gathered here are some thoughts on forgiveness that reflect the teachings of St. Francis de Sales:

Forgiveness is hard to do. While we desire to forgive, we still let our feelings of anger sway us. Yet, if we let anger reign in our heart it grows from a twig to a large branch. The greatest motive for not harboring anger in our heart is that it does not allow us to flourish as a healthy, lively human being. Forgiveness, on the other hand, leads to our wholeness in Christ, whose Spirit floods our hearts with eternal love.

Yet, deep hurts that return again and again remind us that they can never be fully eliminated. Just when we think we've been victorious in forgiving, we find our anger stirred up again in our hearts. We've thrown it out the front door, but like a strong wind, anger comes again through a back window in need of repair.

Nonetheless, we do not have to let our weaknesses control our lives. God does not order us to keep anger from coming into our heart, only that anger ought not to reign in our heart. Little by little we become forgiving as we very gently put our heart back into God's hands and ask God to heal it. Tell God how you desire to forgive as Jesus forgives. For it is in Jesus that we must place all our affections.

By nurturing sacred love in our heart through prayer and the sacraments, we become open to the power of forgiveness. Forgiveness comes more fully when we allow our Savior to enter our hearts and explore the rooms that require repairing. We must not be disturbed but rather glory in our infirmities so that God's power may shine through us. Our deepest hurts remind us of our own weaknesses, and of our need to be more compassionate with others' weaknesses. In that lies the power of forgiveness.

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

**PLEASE PRAY** for Raymond Dunn, Beatrice Gyra, Alysia Boswinkle-Magrum, Irene Steiner, Joe Toussaint Michael Yost and all the sick.

*"The bed of the sick is an altar of sacrifice." St. Francis de Sales*  
 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 new this week are in boldface type.***

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

**Isaiah 55:6-9** Since the ways of God go beyond human judgment, the sinner has no reason to fear an encounter with God. The sinner must repent and will be forgiven.

**Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18** **The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.** The divine wisdom and mercy are infinite: "His greatness is unsearchable."

**Philippians 1:20-24, 27** Faced with his approaching death, the imprisoned Paul sends his sentiments to his brothers and sisters. Renouncing the joy of rejoining Christ, he prefers to continue his work of evangelization among them.

**Matthew 20:1-16** It is useless to discuss here the logic or social import of the attitude of the vineyard master. With God there is no question of rights. Christians, who have come last, are as much the objects of God's love as those first called, the people of Israel.

### LITURGY PRESIDERS NEXT WEEKEND

Assuming there are no changes, the presiders for the weekend of September 23 - September 24 are:

Saturday	5:00pm	Father Don
Sunday	7:30am	Father Don
Sunday	9:30am	Father Dick
Sunday	11:30am	Father Joe
Sunday	1:30pm	Father Jean Marie with Deacon Atanacio
Sunday	5:00pm	Father Bill

**HEARING IMPAIRED?** Amplification devices are available for anyone having difficulty hearing the Mass. If you would like to use one, just ask an usher before Mass. Also, the parish has purchased large-print Sunday Missals to help you worship. If you would like one for your personal use contact Jo-Ann Duggan at [jduggan@saintjn.org](mailto:jduggan@saintjn.org) or 703-860-6149.

### UPCOMING SPECIAL LITURGIES

Sunday, September 17	9:30am	Baptism
Sunday, September 24	11:30am	Baptism



## CHILDREN! MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD IN ONE OF OUR YOUTH CHOIRS!

Do you know that all children from PK4 - 12<sup>th</sup> grade may participate in our weekend liturgies by joining one of our choirs? What a wonderful way for them to learn about Mass, to share their time and talent, make new friends, and have lots of fun! **We have a place for every child to praise God in song!**

Choir	Age Group	Rehearsals	Mass Participation
Angel	Age 4 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Weekly; Wednesday 5:00 – 5:30pm	Occasionally during the year, with the Children's choir at the monthly Family Mass, Christmas and Easter
Children's	Grades 3 - 6	Weekly; Wednesday 5:30 – 6:30pm	Saturday 5:00pm Family Mass, 1 <sup>st</sup> week of the month; Saturday 5:00pm Mass, 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of the month; Christmas and Easter
Youth	Grades 6 - 12	Bi-weekly; Saturday 4:00 – 5:00pm; 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> weeks of the month	Saturday 5:00pm Family Mass, 1 <sup>st</sup> week of the month; Saturday 5:00pm Mass, 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of the month; Christmas and Easter
Advanced Choirs	Grades 9 - 12	Varied, depending on individual choir participation	Eligible to participate in Women's Ensemble (Saturday 5:00pm); Sunday 9:30am Mass Choir; Contemporary Ensemble (Sunday 5:00pm)

Auditions are not required and there is no fee. Angel and Children's Choirs begin rehearsing this Wednesday, September 20; Youth Choir will begin on October 7. Registration forms are in the main hallway near the Welcome Desk and online.

## FATHER DON, ON CHURCH ARCHITECTURE 101



Spaces and structures in churches have unique – and sometimes confusing – names. Some people wonder why we don't use good simple English terms like pulpit, lobby and sink. The answer is that they are not simply the same as our everyday items; in our worship of God they have a special use and a special meaning, and so they have special names. So, let's look at some of them. (And in the interest of full disclosure, where the following material appears in quotations, it is based on the US Bishop's document, *Built of Living Stones: Art, Architecture, and Worship*)

**The Narthex:** This is the area between the outside of the church and the nave (see below). "The narthex is a place of welcome—a threshold space between the congregation's space and the outside environment. In the early days of the Church, it was a 'waiting area' for catechumens and penitents. Today it serves as gathering space as well as the entrance and exit to the building. The gathering space helps believers to make the transition from everyday life to the celebration of the liturgy, and after the liturgy, it helps them return to daily life to live out the mystery that has been celebrated."

**The Nave:** This is the inside of the church, the area where the Eucharist is celebrated. "The space within the church building for the faithful other than the priest celebrant and the ministers is sometimes called the nave. This space is critical in the overall plan because it accommodates a variety of ritual actions: processions during the Eucharist, the singing of the prayers, movement during baptismal rites, the sprinkling of the congregation with blessed water, the rites during the wedding and funeral liturgies, and personal devotion."

**The Sanctuary:** This is the raised area where the altar, the presider's chair and the ambo (see below) are located.

**The Ambo:** "The central focus of the area in which the word of God is proclaimed during the liturgy is the ambo." While we might be tempted to think of it as simply a lectern, as the location for the proclamation of the word of God it has a sacred nature. In medieval churches, the scriptures were read (silently) at the altar, and a pulpit, a place for preaching, often outside the sanctuary -- was used for giving the sermon. By locating an ambo in close relationship to the altar, we now emphasize the importance of the liturgy of the word and its relationship to the liturgy of the Eucharist.

**The Ambry:** The word is derived from the Latin word for closet; originally it was a locked cabinet where vestments, chalices, sacred oils and – before tabernacles came into use – the Blessed Sacrament were secured. Now it refers to the cabinet where the Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens, and Sacred Chrism are kept. Our ambry is to the right of the baptismal font as you enter the nave.

**The Sacristy:** The sacristy is the room where vestments, altar cloths, chalices, unconsecrated hosts and wine, liturgical books and other items used in the liturgy are kept. It is also the place where the priest and servers vest, and lectors and Eucharistic ministers prepare for their roles at Mass.

**The Sacarium:** Located in the sacristy, the sacarium is "the special sink used for the reverent disposal of sacred substances. This sink has a cover, a basin, and a special pipe and drain that empty directly into the earth, rather than into the sewer system. After Mass when the vessels are rinsed and cleansed, the water is poured into the sacarium so that any remaining particles that might be left will not be poured into the sewer but will go directly into the earth."

## THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

**TAIZÉ** This September, as we are coming off of summer vacation and as our lives are getting busy once again with our routines, we invite you to come for a meditative Taizé service so as to re-center ourselves. Prayer in the spirit of the Taizé community is a meditative form of common prayer, expressing a basic reality of faith through songs in repetition to reinforce the meditative quality of prayer. Join us Wednesday, September 20 from 7:30 - 8:15pm.



<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 16</b>
5:00pm	Joseph and Mary Laurich ††
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 17</b>
7:30am	People of the Parish
9:30am	Jerry Schroeder †
11:30am	Betty Jane Oliveto †
1:30pm	J. Robert Ouimet, Special Intention
5:00pm	James Ranker †
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 18</b>
9:00am	Winifred Sullivan †
12:10pm	Theodore Les †
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 19</b>
6:30am	Angela Sylvester †
9:00am	Helen Zorn †
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 20</b>
9:00am	Kathleen Laino, Special Intention
12:10pm	Rafael Mutis †
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 21</b>
6:30am	Muriel Bendernagel †
9:00am	Marie Stromowski †
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 22</b>
9:00am	Ernie Wolfman †
12:10pm	Richard Creedon †
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 23</b>
5:00pm	Howard Hulbert †
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER 24</b>
7:30am	Dolores Connelly †
9:30am	People of the Parish
11:30am	Priscila Canizares †
1:30pm	J. Robert Ouimet, Special Intention
5:00pm	Maria Leonora Alia †

### PRAY FOR AN OBLATE DAILY

We continue our daily prayers for the priests and brothers in the Wilmington-Philadelphia province of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales by praying this week for:



September 18	Reverend William F. Walsh, OSFS
September 19	Reverend Nicholas R. Waseline, OSFS
September 20	Reverend Steven P. Wetzel, OSFS
September 21	Brother James F. Williams, OSFS
September 22	Brother Daniel P. Wisniewski, OSFS
September 23	Reverend Mark J. Wrightson, OSFS
September 24	Reverend James R. Yeakel, OSFS

### WE STILL NEED LITURGY VOLUNTEERS!

- **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW) TEAM**  
CLOW is celebrated during Sunday 11:30am Mass when children in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to gather to hear God's message and grow in their faith in an interactive, lively, and youthful environment. The CLOW team is seeking more adults and teens to volunteer as prayer leaders, homilists, and cue ministers. We begin holding CLOW again this Sunday; this is a great time to join the team so you can "shadow" a veteran volunteer. You'll discover a whole new way to grow in your faith! Want to know more? Contact Mr. Chris Overton at (703) 885-1517 or [cdoverton@verizon.net](mailto:cdoverton@verizon.net).
- **YOUTH USHERS AND ADULT SUPERVISORS** are needed to welcome and seat congregation members at Masses, conduct the collection, help guide parishioners during the Communion procession, hand out bulletins at the end of Mass and ready the church for Mass. We are looking for interested young people (3rd grade and older) and their parents, excited about serving at the 5:00pm Saturday Vigil, or the 5:00pm Sunday or the once-monthly 5:00pm Vigil Family Masses. Contact Patty Bartnick.

*"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the love of a Mother."*

*St. Therese of Lisieux*

### PRAYING COLLEGE MOMS EVENTS



- **Come see who we are!** We will have an information table in the Narthex at all Masses next weekend, September 23-24. We are a group of women who draw peace and consolation from one another and God as our young adults to off into the world. We feast on prayer and fast from worry. If you have a child who recently left for college or elsewhere, we might be just what you need! Learn about the work, support and praying we do for our college-age children and each other, and, learn about the books used in our small group meetings. We offer meetings both in the morning and evening.
- We also invite you to attend **"Turn Active Parenting Into Active Praying"**, a workshop facilitated by Maribeth Harper, author of the "And So We Pray" books and Melissa Overmyer, the founder of Something Greater Ministries. This workshop is intended for parents, grandparents, relatives and friends of college-age young adults. The workshop will be held at St. Timothy's Catholic Church in Chantilly on Sunday, October 1, from 2:00 - 4:00pm, followed by 5:00pm Mass. There is no charge for the workshop but RSVPs are encouraged since space is limited. For more information visit <http://www.prayingcollegemoms.org/fall-seminar>.

Parish Information

**IN SEARCH OF...MORE HEALTH MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS** Our group is composed of health care professionals and those just interested in health and wellness who wish to help educate and encourage positive health behaviors here in our Faith Community. Our next meeting is this Thursday, September 21 at 7:00pm in the Social Room. For information please email Terry Barlow [terry@terrybarlow.com](mailto:terry@terrybarlow.com) or Mary Kay Crain ([crain3106@outlook.com](mailto:crain3106@outlook.com)).

**MOVIE NIGHT FOR ADULTS** Join us for wine, cheese, fruit and cookies Friday, September 29, at 6:30pm in the Brown-McCarthy Auditorium before the showing of the movie, "Gifted", at 7:00pm.



**BROWN BAG WEEKEND** The Cornerstones van will be in the parking lot next weekend, September 23—24 to collect your non-perishable food donations. Thank you for your support!

**SEASON OF CREATION EVENT!** Please mark your calendars for a special Season of Creation prayer service and talk on Sunday, October 1, in the Brown-McCarthy Auditorium following the 5:00pm Mass. Our speaker will be Fr. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM, from St. Camillus Parish in Silver Spring, a leading member of the Care for Creation Team for the Archdiocese of Washington. Stay tuned for more information.

**CALLING ALL MOMS!** From playgroups to Bible study to nights out with friends, the SJN Mothers' Group has spiritual growth and fellowship opportunities for you! We have activities on weekdays, weekends, and evenings, so you can be sure to find something that fits your busy schedule. If you want to stay up-to-date on all of our opportunities, please register with us for our 2017-2018 member year by completing our online registration form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/erAmuJXDH7jQXfH52>. You can also email [momsgroup@saintjn.org](mailto:momsgroup@saintjn.org) with any questions or for the link to register. We hope to see you soon.

**DIVORCED AND SEPARATED PROGRAM - "MOVING FORWARD"** A support group for those experiencing the pain and difficulties of separation and/or divorce is meeting at St. John Neumann every other Tuesday at 7:00pm. The next meeting will be on September 26 in the Conference Room. For more information, please contact: Jo-Ann Duggan at [jduggan@saintjn.org](mailto:jduggan@saintjn.org)

**"ALL ARE WELCOME" CORNER  
MASTERPIECES OF GOD'S CREATION**

Last week's article in this "corner" of the bulletin summarized the *seven themes of Catholic social teaching*. These themes are drawn from a number of church documents, many of which are linked on the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website at <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/foundational-documents.cfm>. This week we briefly summarize the first theme: *Life and Dignity of the Human Person*.

The church teaches that human life is sacred, that the dignity of the human person is the foundation for social morality, and that each of us is created in the image of God, redeemed by Jesus, and therefore worthy of respect as a member of the human family. Pope Francis has written that "Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor are *masterpieces of God's creation*, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

For reflection: In what ways do each of us, as individuals, fall short of treating each person as "a masterpiece of God's creation," and what can each of us do to treat people with the respect that they deserve? And in what ways can we, as a parish, minister to those who are scorned or neglected so that we bear witness to human dignity, which is the starting point for the rest of our church's social teaching?

*"There is nothing small in the service of God."*

*St. Francis de Sales*

**ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHRONICLES** Do you have an interest in helping to capture the history of St. John Neumann parish? If so, please consider joining a new group that is planning to do just that. We will honor the past by cataloging existing artifacts and collecting oral histories from long-term parishioners, while at the same time exploring ways to most effectively document the richness of our parish life today and in the years ahead. All are welcome to join this group, but skills or interest in interviewing, photography, videography, information management, web design, and related fields would be especially valuable to the team. Please email Catherine Crawford at [catherine.l.crawford@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.l.crawford@gmail.com) to volunteer.

**A SEASON OF CREATION SUGGESTION:**

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis states, "The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume" (#204) and in this state of mind "people are led to believe that they are free as long as they have the supposed freedom to consume" (#203). This is why the Pope exhorts us "to take an honest look at ourselves, to acknowledge our deep dissatisfaction, and to embark on new paths to authentic freedom" (#206).

## THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

**FROM A SALESIAN PERSPECTIVE...** Our Lady of Good Counsel is hosting monthly talks on various topics of faith drawing on the wisdom of St. Francis de Sales, St. Jane de Chantal and other Salesian Saints.

September 20

“Transforming the Ordinary with Great Love”

Fr. Matt Hillyard, OSFS

October 18

“Prayer and the Salesian Tradition”

Fr. John Dolan, OSFS

November 15

“Holiness and the Laity”

Fr. Louis Fiorelli, OSFS

December 13

“Advent and the Virtue of Hope”

Fr. Kevin Nadolski, OSFS

All talks will be held in Sacred Heart Chapel at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna, at 9:00am and repeated at 7:00pm. For more information contact Gerard Hall [liturgy@olgcv.org](mailto:liturgy@olgcv.org) or 703.896.7411.

### IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW SERIOUSLY ILL?

Please help us reach those facing a serious physical illness who might be interested in attending a weekend retreat of spiritual renewal and refreshment. The retreat will be held at the San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, VA from **September 22 - 24** and includes talks, daily Mass, anointing of the sick, meals, sharing, Holy Hour and Benediction. The retreat is open to people of all faiths. There is **no cost** to attend. Please share this information with those who might want to attend. There is additional information on our website: <http://www.cdda.net/seriousillnessretreat.php>. We hope you can help spread the word about this great spiritual and healing ministry to those we all serve! To register, please email contact information to [Retreat@cdda.net](mailto:Retreat@cdda.net) or call the main phone line at 703-841-3830 to leave a message. A nurse from the retreat team will contact you about care needs and the application process.

### EXPLORE THE ROOTS OF SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

Join us for a six-week journey as we explore the foundation of Salesian Spirituality. Carol Swiger will facilitate this introduction to Salesian spirituality using the book *Authentic Devotion* by Bernard Bangle. You may register for either morning or evening sessions. The sessions will meet on Tuesdays at 10:00am beginning October 3 or Thursdays at 7:00pm beginning October 5. All sessions will be held in the conference room. You can register through the website beginning September 5. Books can be purchased at the first session.



**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN** The Pro-Life Ministry is hosting a Baby Bottle Campaign to benefit Sanctity of Life Ministries (SLM) who offer free support, education, and medical services including ultrasounds to women facing an unexpected pregnancy. SLM exists to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and to affirm life in the womb to the many women in Northern Virginia who are in this situation. Baby bottles will be available for you to take with you after Masses on the September 30 - October 1 weekend. Please fill the bottles with coins, cash and/or checks and return them at the weekend Masses on October 19 - 20. **Thank you for returning the bottles that weekend.** Your continued support truly helps our community.

### 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 Social 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](mailto: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](mailto:pilgrimvirginmarystatue@gmail.com) or call 703-968-3337.
- **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](mailto:momsgroup@saintjn.org).
- **Praying College Moms:** Join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday evening or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning for shared prayer, support and fellowship. For evening sessions email [kmonroe58@gmail.com](mailto:kmonroe58@gmail.com), or for morning sessions email [madcass5@att.net](mailto:madcass5@att.net) or [joellanf@aol.com](mailto:joellanf@aol.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](mailto: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](mailto:youngadults@saintjn.org).

**YOUNG ADULTS:** Unless otherwise noted, for more information on any event, to RSVP, or to be added to the YA email distribution list, email Thomas Patchan at [saintjnya@gmail.com](mailto:saintjnya@gmail.com).

- **Saturday, September 23, 7:00pm, Bonfire Prayer Service, Thomas' House, Herndon:** We'll celebrate the end of the summer and take some time to pray together with a fireside prayer service, followed by s'mores and community fellowship! If you can join us, please RSVP and receive the event address.
- **Wednesdays, starting September 27, 7:00pm, Book Study with Father Joe, SJN Conference Room:** We'll be starting a new book study with our pastor, Father Joe, by discussing a book on Salesian Spirituality, *Falling in Love with God*. Please consider joining us for this powerful study, especially on the 27 to receive your copy of the book! Please e-mail Regina at [regina.lavalley@gmail.com](mailto:regina.lavalley@gmail.com) to RSVP soon so we can order enough books for everyone.

**50+ CLUB ACTIVITIES:** For more information on the 50+ Club event and upcoming fall events, please email Pat Bossie at [grankidsx9@aol.com](mailto:grankidsx9@aol.com) or call 703-620-3747.

Normally, we leave from church following the 9:00am Mass, but since all travel is by private vehicle, you might decide to drive from home. We are no longer able to provide carpools, so we ask that you get with friends to set up your own group for these outings. Please call Pat Bossie to let her know you will attend.

- **Thursday, September 21 – Visit Mount Vernon** School is back in session, summer tourists have gone back home, and it is probably too early for most scheduled school trips. The museum and visitor center are great and walking through the main house brings you back more than 200 years. Visit the graves of George and Martha, walk down to the river, and see the farm. We plan to have lunch at the Mount Vernon Inn. Admission is \$20 or \$19 for seniors age 62 and older. There is an additional discount if tickets are purchased online. Check out the website to learn more: <http://www.mountvernon.org/>.
- **Tuesday, October 10 to Thursday, October 12 – Fall Foliage Trips to Blackwater Falls, WV or Lancaster, PA**
- **Thursday, October 26 – Visit Fredericksburg Battlefield and Chatham Manor in Fredericksburg, VA**

## Faith Formation

Mickie Abatemarco, Director  
703-390-2340 [mabatemarco@saintjn.org](mailto: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.
- **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.

- **Life After Sunday** A small group meets Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm for faith-sharing based on spiritual friendships and the Gospel message.
- **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 Caroline Obeng for more information at [c.obeng@outlook.com](mailto:c.obeng@outlook.com).

### JOIN US FOR A BIBLE STUDY

When external threats, internal divisions, and discord seem to be everywhere it can be hard to see God at work in the world. And so it was for Jerusalem in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. poised on the brink of destruction and exile. The reluctant prophet Jeremiah brought God's words of challenge and unwavering love for his errant people: "I know well the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope." If you're looking for that future join us for an eleven-week Bible Study covering the Old Testament book **Jeremiah** beginning in early October. The course will break for Advent and resume after the holidays. Using study materials from the pre-eminent Catholic Bible study program, Little Rock Scripture Study (now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year at our parish), we will meet in small groups to read Jeremiah and explore its meaning for our lives today.



All are welcome and you may audit a meeting before committing. Small groups meet at various times throughout the week so you can find a day and time that work for you. Registration forms are available on the Parish website and at the Welcome Desk. Tuition of \$25 is due at time of registration. Scholarships are available. Registration is open until **Monday, September 25**. Contact Mickey Edwards at 202-363-5993 or [edwards.mickey@gmail.com](mailto:edwards.mickey@gmail.com) for more information.

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Doug Johnson 703-860-6141  
[djohnson@saintjn.org](mailto:djohnson@saintjn.org)

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Mark your calendars for the following:

- **Wednesday, September 20, Drop-in For All High School Teens:** 6:00 to 8:00pm; Youth Room. We are excited to announce that *we are initiating a Wednesday Night Drop-in Program* throughout this school year for all High School teens! This will be a great opportunity to gather with old friends, meet new friends and enjoy food, games, music, fellowship and faith sharing.
- **Sunday, October 1,** First of our Sunday Gatherings; stay tuned for location.
- **Sunday, October 22,** Diocesan High School Youth Rally; Bishop O'Connell High School. Stay tuned for more details.

All teens are invited and encouraged to bring friends regardless of their faith. It's going to be a great year and we want you to be with us to share the journey!

## THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

### Around the Diocese

**TAU FRATERNITY OF THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER** invites you to come and see if the Franciscan journey is the path for you. You are invited to the annual Open House on Sunday, October 1st at 1:30 pm in room 205 in the Parish Hall. St. Joseph address is: 750 Peachtree Street, Herndon, VA 20170. Please see our website for further details, <https://taufraternity.wordpress.com> or contact our Minister Pam Brooks at [pbrooks06@verizon.net](mailto:pbrooks06@verizon.net). Spend an hour, stay a lifetime!

### SJN Weekly Stewardship

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** *“For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s” – ROMANS 14:8*

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He wants you to use the gifts He has given you.

### Special Collection Stewardship

**THIS WEEKEND** parishes throughout the Arlington Diocese will hold a special collection for Religious Education expenses within their parish. These funds will go towards youth and adult religious education, including children’s liturgies and RCIA. Contributions to this collection will remain at St. John Neumann.

**UNEXPECTED SPECIAL COLLECTIONS** In addition to your support of our scheduled special collection, thank you for your very generous contributions to the unplanned requests for assistance to those in the face of dire circumstances. Our parish continually shows compassion to those victims and survivors who have such great need. You always dig deep into your pockets in these cases, and are generous beyond expectations.

OUR THANKS TO  
REMODELING BY REINDER, LLC  
[www.reinderonline.com](http://www.reinderonline.com)  
FOR SPONSORING AN AD  
IN OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

*St. Francis de Sales*

**A LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN ON EARTH** Are you looking for an opportunity to grow in your own faith and extend that gift to others through your personal witness and service to the Church? We invite you to become a docent (tour guide) or tour desk receptionist at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Hours and days are flexible and training will be provided. We also offer community service hours to high school juniors and seniors who participate in this program. We will have information sessions at the Shrine Visitors Center on October 2 from 10:00am - Noon and again from 7:00-9:00pm. We also need volunteer nurses and doctors to assist in first aid at large events at the Shrine. Anyone interested may contact Dee Steel via at (202)526-8300 ext. 111, or [visitorservices@bnsic.org](mailto:visitorservices@bnsic.org).

**AN ENTERING CANAAN DAY OF PRAYER AND HEALING** for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, September 30. Come begin your healing journey and experience God’s hope and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing. For further information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel at 888-456-HOPE (4673) or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org).

*Save The Date*  
*Golden Anniversary?*  
*Silver Anniversary?*  
*If you were you married in 1967 or 1992,*  
*you are invited to join*  
*Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the*  
*2017 Marriage Jubilee Mass*  
*Sunday, October 15 at 2:30pm*  
*at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church*  
*in Potomac Falls, VA.*

*To register, stop by the Welcome Desk*  
*to complete the registration form*  
*no later than September 22.*  
*For more information, please visit*  
[www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM).