

PARISH STAFF

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

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Young Adult Ministry Thomas Patchan

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Email: sjn.pc@saintjn.org

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.*

Prayer and Liturgy



DEAR PARISHIONERS:

On behalf of the parish, I express our gratitude to Carol Swiger who has served on the Finance Council for over 20 years. Effective, July 1 with the beginning of the new fiscal year, Carol has come off the Council. Her leadership and financial knowledge while on the Council these many years have truly been a blessing.

Parishioners Nelson Alvarado and Dean Guerro have joined the Finance Council, also effective July 1. Thank you for your service to our parish.

Welcome, to Chris Booker, who joins the Pastoral Council. Chris is filling a recent vacancy. The new officers for the 2017-2018 Pastoral Council are Stephanie Sturgell, President; Steve Knippler, Vice President; and Catherine Crawford, Secretary.

Thank you to all who volunteered and contributed in any way to the success of our annual Oktoberfest. A good time seemed to be had by all!

For those who may be looking to enhance their spiritual lives, I would encourage you to join a six-week journey exploring the foundation of Salesian Spirituality. See more information in this bulletin under **Explore The Roots of Salesian Spirituality**.

If you are looking for a short retreat experience to help you slow down and "smell the roses," I would highly recommend participating in **Be Who You Are – A Salesian Retreat with Art and Stories** by Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS being held here on October 27 and 28.

Live Jesus,

Fr. Joe

WE WELCOME those who have recently entered into our faith through the waters of Baptism: **Chelsea Leigh Chua**, daughter of Charles and Melanie; **Sierra Kathryn Hartnett**, daughter of Michael and Devin; **Ezra Grey Hortelano**, son of Richard and Vanessa; **Vanelope Leigh Villardo**, daughter of Alain and Maria.



WE PRAY for those who have died, especially **Merle A. Vizza**, father of Paul, and grandfather of Matthew, Michael and Paul Jr; **Michael Whelpley**, brother of John.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Isaiah 55:6-9;
Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18;
Philippians 1:20-24, 27;
Matthew 20:1-16

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks to us about the Kingdom of heaven, where God's generous mercy and goodness far exceeds our concept of justice. St. Francis de Sales notes:

When there is absolutely no human good to hope for, it is precisely then that God's awe-inspiring mercy shines forth and surpasses God's justice. God's ways are not our ways. God would sooner work miracles than leave us without help. For this reason our Savior came to redeem us and deliver us from the tyranny of sin. The heart of our Savior is wholly filled with mercy and kindness for the human family.

God's providence is wiser than what we are. We imagine we would feel better if we were on another ship. That may be, but only if we change ourselves! There is a real temptation to become dissatisfied and depressed about the world we have to live in. Truly we must not lose heart. God will never abandon us. It is we who abandon God.

If you are troubled you never want to leave God. An ounce of virtue practiced in adversity is worth more than a thousand pounds exercised in prosperity. We may be weak but our weakness is not nearly as great as God's mercy toward those who desire to love God, and place all their hope in God. The problem is that all the nooks and corners of our hearts are cluttered with thousands of desires that prevent our Savior from giving us the gifts that He desires to shower on us.

We ought to be like the mariner who, in steering his vessel, always keeps his eye on the needle of the compass. We must keep our eyes open to correct our desires and have only one, that of pleasing God. Let our Lord reign in our hearts, as He desires. Then let us remain at peace, without hurry or fear in our hearts, and go on our little way. So long as we mean well and hold to our desire to love God, we are on the right track.

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

UPCOMING SPECIAL LITURGIES

| UPCOMING SPECIAL LITURGIES | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---|
| Saturday, October 7 | 5:00pm | First Saturday Family Mass (deSales Chapel) |
| Sunday, October 8 | 9:30am | Baptism |
| Sunday, October 22 | 11:30am | Baptism |

PLEASE PRAY for **Baby Rebekah Jeanne Archey**, 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.**

***"Let us learn to go toward
the will of God unceasingly."***

Blessed Louis Brisson, OSFS



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| <p>SATURDAY 5:00pm</p> <p>SUNDAY 7:30am 9:30am 11:30am 1:30pm 5:00pm</p> <p>MONDAY 9:00am 12:10pm</p> <p>TUESDAY 6:30am 9:00am</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 9:00am 12:10pm</p> <p>THURSDAY 6:30am 9:00am</p> <p>FRIDAY 9:00am 12:10pm</p> <p>SATURDAY 5:00pm</p> <p>SUNDAY 7:30am 9:30am 11:30am 1:30pm 5:00pm</p> | <p>SEPTEMBER 23 Howard Hulbert †</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 24 Dolores Connelly † People of the Parish Priscila Canizares † J. Robert Ouimet, Special Intention Maria Leonora Alia †</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 25 Pauline and Edward Baker †† Richard and Anne Lowe ††</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 26 Anne McGrath † Lydia Brancato †</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 27 Howard Hulbert † Jim McNamara †</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 28 Michael Ryan † Marie Bondzuk †</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 29 Edward Ryan † Edward M. Flynn †</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 30 Eileen Allen †</p> <p>OCTOBER 1 Timothy Susco † Louella Roman † People of the Parish Robert Mikulski † George R. McAleer, Jr †</p> |
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**WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO
PRAY FOR SOMEONE WITH
AN IMMEDIATE NEED?**

Most of you know that we have many resources available to provide prayers and spiritual support when you need it. You can request to have your name included in the Prayers of the Faithful during all weekend Masses, to be put on the bulletin sick list for a period of three weeks, or you might write your name in our Book of Intercessions.

What you may not know is that we also have a group of volunteers who pray at home for someone who has an immediate need for spiritual support. If you find you need prayers one day for a specific need, you may call the front office and ask to be put on the Daily Prayer Chain. All you have to do is provide your first name, and if you choose you might tell us what the issue is; it is all up to you. Your name is passed to Pat Schuster, who organizes this group. Pat notifies one or two people on the chain who then have responsibility for calling one or two other people on the chain, etc. and they work their way through the names of the remaining volunteers until all who are reached have been given your name. Some days there are no requests, other days there may be several.

We currently are in need of a few more men and women willing to serve. Volunteers are provided with a specific brief Scripture reading to pray over, along with their personal private prayer sometime during the day. This does not take long, you don't need to leave home, and we all certainly know the power of dedicated prayer. For more information, call Pat at 703-349-2016 or email schusterta@aol.com.

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

Ezekiel 18:25-28 God does not stop with our past. He does not keep before us the sins of our ancestors. He is always ready to offer the gift of life to any who repent.

Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Remember Your Mercies, O Lord It is a fact that we can always refuse God's grace, refuse to be converted. And yet conversion is always possible. God's grace is always present, instructing "sinners in the way."

Philippians 2:1-11 To the Christians of Philippi, divided by their pride, Paul proposes the voluntary humility of the risen Jesus. In order to receive God's gifts of unity and reconciliation, Christians must have in themselves the same attitudes which were in Christ.

Matthew 21:28-32 When we recognize our faults and repent, God does not hold our first refusal against us, but he looks to those works which are the fruits of repentance in our lives. The tax collectors and prostitutes welcomed by Jesus show us this.

LITURGY PRESIDERS NEXT WEEKEND

Assuming there are no changes, the presiders for the weekend of September 30 - October 1 are:

| | | |
|----------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Saturday | 5:00pm | Father Bill |
| Sunday | 7:30am | Father Bob |
| Sunday | 9:30am | Father Dick |
| Sunday | 11:30am | Father Don |
| Sunday | 1:30pm | Father Russo with Deacon Atanacio |
| Sunday | 5:00pm | Father Joe |



PRAY FOR A PRIEST DAILY We

continue our daily prayers for the priests in the Arlington Diocese by praying this week for:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| September 25 | Reverend Patrick Holyrod |
| September 26 | Reverend Edward R. Horkan |
| September 27 | Reverend Jose Eugenio Hoyos |
| September 28 | Reverend James C. Hudgins |
| September 29 | Reverend Michael C. Isenberg |
| September 30 | Reverend Joel D. Jaffe |
| October 1 | Reverend John D. Kelly |

**PRAYING COLLEGE MOMS
EVENTS**



- **Come see who we are!** We will have an information table in the Narthex at all Masses this weekend, September 23-24. We are a group of women who draw peace and consolation from one another and God as our young adults go 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>.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

MASS VIDEO HELP Did you know that St. John Neumann records and posts the 9:30am Mass every Sunday for the benefit of our homebound parishioners? Fr. Heet is looking for several volunteers, high school age (need some service hours?) or older to help record. No experience is necessary. If you are willing to help in this ministry, please contact Father Heet at dheet@saintjn.org.

Parish Information

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." Or, perhaps you may 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.

Join us Wednesday, September 27, at 7:00pm in the Social Room. Please contact Director of Faith Formation, Mickie Abatemarco 703-390-2340 or mabatemarco@saintjn.org for information.

A 100TH BIRTHDAY IS NEAR!

Elizabeth Susanne Hartung-Zangel, mother of Judith Mandrgoc and grandmother of Mark and Matthew, will reach this milestone birthday Thursday, October 5! She will travel to her home town of Fairfax, MN to celebrate with the Hartung and Zangel families and friends. She will celebrate here, Sunday, November 5 at the 9:30am Mass and afterward will share her birthday cake with us at the Knights of Columbus charity breakfast. All are invited for cake. Let's see if we can treat her with either a birthday card or congratulatory note for each and every year! Her address is Elizabeth Zangel, c/o Judith Mandgroc, 13123 Tuckaway Drive, Oak Hill, 20171.



TOGETHER WE CAN DO THIS!

COOKIES FOR KAIROS PRISON

MINISTRY "For I was hungry and you gave me food . . . in prison and you visited me" Mt. 25:35-36)



Once again, some members of our parish will take part in two Kairos retreats for Virginia prison inmates this fall. The first will be for men at the Sussex 1 maximum security prison beginning October 19, and the second for women at the Virginia Correctional Center for Women beginning November 2. Do you have a few hours to help bring Christ to these prisoners? Though not everyone can visit prisoners in person as the Gospel suggests, there are other concrete ways to live this Gospel message.

To help, we can:

- bake cookies (**We need 500+ dozen by October 15 for the men and 150+ dozen by October 29 for the women.**)
- make posters, placemats or Children's Agape, and/or
- pray during the retreats on October 19-22 and November 2-5.

Families, individuals, RE classes or other groups can remind these imprisoned men and women that they are not forgotten. Prayer and cookies are the start of many miracles!

For more information on the above and specific directions for baking (cookie instructions must be followed), please email or call any of the following: Patrick Schambach at pat.schambach@gmail.com (571-218-9787), or Bill Eager at artbyeager@gmail.com for the men's retreat. For the women's retreat in November please email or call Barbara Emery at memery1@gmail.com (703-855-3060), Joanna Fiedler at joanna.fiedler@gmail.com (571-213-7167) or Patricia Schambach at 703-860-1809 or pschambach@verizon.net.

We will have a box marked "Kairos Cookies" in the hall **on weekends from September 30 through October 29**. You may leave your cookies there and we will freeze them until the Weekend.

Anyone interested in joining a Kairos team going into the prison may call any one of us to learn more. It is a life-changing experience, with cookies!

All help will be gratefully accepted. Please don't underestimate how powerful a prayer or poster or a dozen cookies are in the life of an inmate. What you do may just be the first sign of God's love that an inmate has ever experienced. *Everything* matters.

PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY The long awaited St. John Neumann Parish Pictorial Directory should arrive in mid-to-late October. Those who had photos taken this spring will be able to pick up their directory by the Welcome Desk, after Mass, once the directories arrive. There will be a few extra copies for purchase if you did not have your photo taken but would like a directory.

"ALL ARE WELCOME" CORNER RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL

Last week's article in this "corner" of the bulletin summarized one of the themes of Catholic Social Teaching: *Life and Dignity of the Human Person*. This week we briefly summarize another theme: *Solidarity*.

The church teaches that there is one human family that extends beyond national, racial, and economic divisions, and each of us is called to love our neighbor. Pope St. John Paul II wrote in the encyclical, "*Sollicitudo rei Socialis*", that solidarity "is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all."

How are we responsible for all, in this day and age? Pope Francis helps us answer this question. He has initiated a "Share the Journey" campaign, which he will formally begin September 27. It will last through September 2019 and is intended to support migrants – both immigrants and refugees – with prayer and advocacy. The first event of the campaign will be a "Week of Prayer and Action" the week of October 7. During that week, Catholics are encouraged to pray for migrants and to reflect on what they can do to help migrants or help ensure that they are treated with justice and compassion. For more information go to the CRS website: <https://www.crs.org/resource-center/global-migration-campaign-prayer-and-commitment-sheets>

For reflection: In what ways can each of us take on a greater commitment to be "responsible for all?" And when we think of our responsibilities, do we think of what we owe those who have fled persecution or violence, or who came to our community, willing to take on difficult and backbreaking jobs that have helped to build our communities? Finally, in what ways can we, as a parish, show our solidarity with immigrants and refugees?

"LORD I WANT TO SEE": VIEWING THE WORLD THROUGH GOD'S EYES

Please mark your calendars for a special Season of Creation prayer service and talk next Sunday, October 1, in the Classrooms A2/A3 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.

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.

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 Bangley. 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. Books can be purchased at the first session.



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

ROAD TO EMMAUS Do you want to get more out of the Sunday Liturgy of the Word? Are you looking for an opportunity to delve more deeply into the Gospel message and discuss the readings with fellow parishioners? Road to Emmaus (RTE) is an opportunity for you. RTE provides background information and study/discussion questions on the Sunday readings during the week leading up to the weekend liturgy. The following Monday morning we gather for small group discussion to share insights and application of the Word to our lives. The discussion group resumes on Monday October 2 at 10:00am in the Conference Room. To receive RTE materials or to ask questions, send an email to saintjnrte@gmail.com. Please join us!"

A SEASON OF CREATION SUGGESTION: Pope Francis, in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, urges us to make changes to our lifestyles that are more respectful of creation. For example: "avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices" (# 211). Indeed, "living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue" (#217).

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 next weekend, September 30 - October 1. Please fill the bottles with coins, cash and/or checks and return them at the weekend Masses on October 21 - 22. **Thank you for returning the bottles that weekend.** Your continued support truly helps.

HEADS-UP FOR BIRTHDAY CLUB GIFTS Tags will be available next weekend, September 30 - October 1. The gifts will be due back on the weekend of October 14-15.

SHOP AT OUR FARMER'S MARKET AND DOUBLE YOUR BENEFITS Our Farmer's Market now accepts SNAP benefits. If you or your family is enrolled in this program and would like to know how you can double your benefits at our Farmer's Market, please contact Jo-Ann Duggan at: jduggan@saintjn.org or (703) 860-6149.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FAMILY OF THE MONTH

The **Graves Family** has been selected as the Council's Family of the Month for September. Martin and his wife Flor joined Saint John Neumann in October 2001. Shortly after, they became very involved with the Hispanic community in the parish and they were instrumental in its growth. Both Martin and Flor serve as Lectors for the Spanish Mass and as Extraordinary Ministers. Flor worked with the SJN Liturgy Committee and Martin was elected to serve on the Parish Council in 2003 and again in 2012. Martin

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

joined the Knights of Columbus in 2006. The Graves have been very much involved with our sister Parish Niño Jesús in Manta, Ecuador and are members of the parish Niño Jesús Group. They organized three Argentine Night BBQ's and collected over \$25,000 for the construction of the Divine Love Chapel in Manta. For the last three years Flor and Martin have been providing marriage preparation classes to members of the Hispanic community who wish to bless their union through the Church. They are both overnight volunteers to support our parish with the Hypothermia Shelter. Many thanks to Martin and Flor for their dedication and support of the Knights and the entire community!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE The blood drive on September 9 was another huge success. We knew that the Red Cross's resources were strained in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and so did our donors. 36 prospective donors showed up, and the Red Cross collected 35 units of blood. They actually had to turn away the last walk-in donor because they couldn't store any more blood. John Moran, who organizes the K of C blood drives received the following email from the Red Cross:

Mon, 11 Sep 2017
Mr. Moran and St. Neumann Catholic Church family,

In two words, that just don't suffice.....THANK YOU! Last Saturday, we collected 35 pints of blood, helping save up to three lives with each donation!

You have given our community a great gift in a time of need. You stood in the gap and then some..... Thank you!

Warmest Regards,
Jody Palacios, Account Manager
American Red Cross

THE KNIGHTS ARE COOKING BREAKFAST AGAIN!

The Knights of Columbus are preparing to kick off their monthly Charity Fundraising Breakfasts next Sunday, October 1, from 8:30 -11:30am in the Brown-McCarthy Auditorium. We have selected charities that reflect both the outreach of our Catholic Community and the Knights of Columbus principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. We hope you will assist us in supporting these charities

by joining us for these Charity Fundraising Breakfasts between now and next summer. The first beneficiary is Amy's Army, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to increase awareness, support medical research and provide financial support to

Northern Virginia women affected by any cancer. Be there!



WHAT ARE OUR CATHOLIC BISHOPS SAYING ABOUT DACA?
USCCB PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN DENOUNCE ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION TO END DACA AND STRONGLY URGE CONGRESS TO FIND LEGISLATIVE SOLUTION
Washington — The president and vice president along with chairmen of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) have issued a statement denouncing the administration's termination of the deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) program after six months and urging Congress to begin working immediately to find a legislative solution. Part of their statement reads as follows: "as people of faith, we say to DACA youth – regardless of your immigration status, you are children of God and welcome in the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church supports you and will advocate for you." For full statement, visit the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' website:<http://www.usccb.org/news/2017/17-157.cfm>

BROWN BAG LUNCH CATECHESIS

Save your place at the table! Bring your lunch and your desire to learn more about your faith. We will study the *United States Catechism for Adults* beginning on October 5 from 12:30-1:30pm in Room A3. If you are interested email Mickie Abatemarco, who will facilitate the sessions, at mabatemarco@saintjn.org

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.
- **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.
- **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 2nd Monday evening or the 2nd Tuesday morning for shared prayer, support and fellowship. For evening sessions email ksmonroe58@gmail.com, or for morning sessions email madcass5@att.net or joelllanf@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.
- **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: 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.

- **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 27th to receive your copy of the book! Please e-mail Regina at regina.lavalley@gmail.com to RSVP soon so we can order enough books for everyone.
- **Saturday, September 30, 9:00am, Hike at Billy Goat Trail, Carpool from SJN:** Come enjoy the early fall weather with the young adults on a hike along the Potomac River! Please pack a bagged lunch and meet us at SJN at 9:00am to carpool together. Please RSVP to Zach at zachanderson916@gmail.com.
- **Sunday, October 8, 9:20am, Monthly Mass and Brunch, St. John Neumann:** We'll continue our monthly tradition and meet to celebrate Mass and brunch as a community! We'll meet at the narthex welcome desk to sit together, and will afterwards head to a nearby restaurant for brunch! Please RSVP.

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.

LAST CHANCE - JOIN US FOR A BIBLE STUDY
An eleven-week Bible Study covering the Old Testament book **Jeremiah** will begin in early October. See Registration forms for details. They are available on the Parish website and at the Welcome Desk. **Registration is open until tomorrow, September 25.** Contact Mickey Edwards at 202-363-5993 or edwards.mickey@gmail.com for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

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

UPCOMING EVENTS: Mark your calendars for the following:

- **Sunday, October 1,** First of our Sunday Gatherings; Mass at 5:00pm; Dinner and Program, 6:00pm; Brown-McCarthy Auditorium
- **Sunday, October 22,** Diocesan High School Youth Rally; Bishop O'Connell High School. Stay tuned for more details.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY THE QUEST BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY 5:00 - 8:30 PM!

All High School students! You are invited to join us next Sunday, October 1, for an exciting evening as we charge into a new year of High School Youth Ministry! We will begin with Mass at 5:00pm followed by a delicious dinner and an exciting program from 6:00 to 8:30pm in the Brown/McCarthy Auditorium. Our theme for the evening is "The Quest" as together we seek to deepen our relationship with Christ and with each other! We will have food, fun, faith sharing and fellowship. It will be a great opportunity to gather with old friends, meet new friends and enjoy an exciting evening as we charge into this new season of High School Youth Ministry! Bring your friends – they don't have to be members of Saint John Neumann Parish or Catholic. Don't miss this opportunity to begin an exciting new year as together we will develop new and exciting adventures and forge new memories! Please send an e-mail to Doug Johnson, Coordinator of High School Youth Ministry, at djohnson@saintjn.org to let us know you will accept the challenge and join us next Sunday as we begin our quest! It's going to be a great year and we want you to be with us to share the journey.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY E-MAIL LIST:

Contact Doug Johnson at djohnson@saintjn.org if you wish to be placed on the SJN High School Youth 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 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Around the Diocese

IMPORTANT PVI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL EVENT

Join Paul VI Catholic High School's *Panther Parent Organization* for a presentation by **Fr. James Searby' Chaplain at George Mason University**, on *"Retaining Your Child's Faith, Spirituality and Morality in College"* on **Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00pm in the PVI library**. Parents of all grades are invited to attend this important talk. Refreshments will be served.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NIGHT UNDER THE LIGHTS

Middle School students and their families are invited to *Middle School Night Under the Lights* at **Paul VI Catholic High School** in Fairfax. Join us at 6:00pm on Friday, October 20 for pizza, tee shirts, games and tons of prizes. All are invited to join the *VI Man* cheering on our Panther varsity football team. Free to all and no reservations are needed. Email: ehanley@pvipanther.net with questions.

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 1 at 1:30pm 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. Spend an hour, stay a lifetime!

SAVE THE DATE! Fun day for all! St Joseph Church in Herndon will hold its annual Craft Fair on Saturday, October 28 from 8:30am – 3:30pm in the parish hall. There are still a few openings for vendors and sponsors. If interested, contact stjpcraftfair@gmail.com

BISHOP O'CONNELL OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 (1:00-4:00PM)

Bishop O'Connell High School is hosting an Open House on Sunday, October 15 where families are invited to learn more about the Catholic high school experience. Visit renovated science labs, learn more about the curriculum, meet teachers, administrators and coaches, and chat with current students. No RSVP necessary. Presentation begins at 1:00pm in the auditorium. For more information, visit www.bishopoconnell.org or call (703) 237-1433. Bishop O'Connell High School is located at 6600 Little Falls Road in Arlington.

Harm's Way Prayer List



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK the men and women serving in our armed forces and those civilians whose work puts them in harm's way.

*"We may not throw the gifts of God away.
We must use them to produce good fruit."*

Blessed Louis Brisson, OSFS

Special Collection Stewardship

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Thank you for your support of the Religious Education collection last weekend. These funds remain here at St. John Neumann, and will be used for both youth and adult faith formation, including RCIA and children's liturgies.

SJN Weekly Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION *"So the last will be first and the first last" - MATTHEW 20:16*

You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our gratitude and generosity helps us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

OUR THANKS TO
AQUINA BUEHRIG, REALTOR
AQUINA@LNF.COM
FOR SPONSORING AN AD
IN OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN