

Saint John Neumann Catholic Church

8451 Idlewild Road • Charlotte, NC 28227
704.536.6520 • www.4sjnc.org

The welcoming community of St. John Neumann encourages and enables parishioners to use their gifts in service to others as Jesus has taught us.

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Rev. Thomas J. Meehan, OSA
Permanent Deacon: Rev. Mr. John Parrish
Director of Faith Formation: Connie Milligan
Faith Formation Secretary: Sondra Skibbe
Faith Formation Program Assistant: Benita Bryson
Confirmation Coordinator: Donna Tarney
Director of RCIA: Donna Rayle
704.545.8916
Youth Minister & Music Associate: Marsha McIver
Special Needs Ministry: Sue Rebich
704.545.0242
Director of Music and Liturgy: R. Lance Burnette
Open Arms Preschool Director: Nancy Chiarelli
Business Manager: Earl Bell
Scheduling Coordinator: Benita Bryson
Parish Secretary: Mary Beall
Pastoral Council Chairperson: Eric Wagner
Finance Council Chairperson: Joe Fiato
Bereavement Ministry Director: Vacant

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.-Fri. 9am—Noon, 1pm—4pm

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.-Thurs. 9am—3pm

PHONE NUMBERS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Parish Office: 704.536.6520
Fax: 704.536.3147
Faith Formation Office: 704.535.4197
E-mail Address: sjncc@bellsouth.net
Web site: www.4sjnc.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Friday 4 p.m. of previous week.

All bulletin items must be approved by the Pastor.

MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: Saturday 5:30pm
Sunday 7:30am, 10am, 12 Noon, 6pm

HOLY DAYS

Vigil: 7pm; Holy Day: 9:15am, 7pm

DAILY MASSES

Mon.-Fri. 9:15am (Rosary following)

CONFESSIONS

Sat. 4pm-5pm and by appointment (Call Parish Office)

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

10am - 6pm

CO-OP BABYSITTING AVAILABLE

Sunday during 10am Mass
(for ages infant to 2 years of age)

BAPTISMS: Parents and expectant parents who wish to have their children baptized in the Catholic faith must attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. This class is held at SJN on a monthly basis. Please call the Parish Office to register for the class and schedule the Baptism.

WEDDINGS: Couples planning to be married should call the Parish Office and schedule an appointment with a priest at least six months prior to your planned wedding date.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please pick up a registration form in the Gathering Area or stop by the Parish Office to register.

HOSPITALIZED & HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: It is very important that you contact the Parish Office to receive Anointing of the Sick or Communion. Otherwise, we might not know of your need.

Our Parish Needs Your Help!!

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service, but the same Lord ... To each individual, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.” (1 Corinthians 12:4-5, 7)

The Holy Spirit has blessed us all with different gifts and talents. SJN has many opportunities for you to utilize your gifts and talents. We are looking for people to come forward to fill positions on our Parish Pastoral Council and to head our Service and Education (Word) Commissions.

You can use your gift of leadership experience to help set the direction for our Parish, support our ministries and volunteers, and provide parish representation to our Pastor.

If you feel you have the talents and the calling to serve SJN in this way and would like to learn more about these opportunities, please contact Fr. Thom, Patty Matys (704-847-4676) or any member of the Parish Pastoral Council. Members are listed on the SJN Web site, at www.4sjnc.org.



DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL: 'TOUCHED BY CHRIST'

“Touched by Christ, We Respond With Gratitude” is the theme of the 2006 Diocesan Support Appeal.

Bishop Jugis asks each of us to prayerfully consider how we might participate in the work of the diocesan ministries that serve as the hands of Christ to thousands of Catholics in western North Carolina.



GREAT NEWS!!! SJN FAMILY REACHES OUT

Thanks to the awesome generosity of the SJN parish community, we have achieved our goal and raised enough money to purchase the Eyegaze machinery to help parishioner Lenore Rickey.

As you might recall from an article in the parish bulletin two weeks ago, Lenore is in a Taylorsville nursing facility, immobilized by multiple sclerosis.

The SJN response was overwhelming!!!! Thank you so much. We'll keep you updated.

We also ask that you remember the fund for Lois Clorite, an SJN parishioner and mother of young children. She died suddenly on Christmas Day. You can drop your checks in the collection basket, marking "Lois Clorite" in the memo field.

Thank You, Thank You !!!

On behalf of the American Red Cross, SJN's Knights of Columbus Council #7343 would like to thank Fr. Thom for the use of the Parish Hall during the blood drive that was held on Sunday, Jan. 15.

We also would like to thank Lance Burnette and the visiting priests, for making announcements during Mass, informing the community of the urgent need for blood.

Most of all, we thank the people of St. John Neumann Parish and everyone else who came out to support this cause. During this period of critically low supply, 79 people presented themselves to donate.

As a result, we obtained 76 productive units — six more than the goal we were given by the Red Cross.

Please note: The Knights of Columbus and the Red Cross will now be doing three blood drives annually as SJN. The next drive will be May 21. Please mark your calendars.

Holy Masses This Week



| | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| MONDAY | 9:15 AM | +William H. Parsons (Mr. & Mrs. Lee Kales) |
| TUESDAY | 9:15 AM | +Celedonia Braza (Arsenior & Rose Braza and family) |
| WEDNESDAY | 9:15 AM | +Kenneth Raeker (50+ Club) |
| THURSDAY | 9:15 AM | +Mark Xavier (Mark's parents) |
| FRIDAY | 9:15 AM | +Deceased Members and Benefactors of the Augustinian Order |
| SATURDAY | 5:30 PM | +John & Mark Klein (The family) |
| SUNDAY | 7:30 AM | +Joe Layden (Gene & Agnes Dedrick) |
| | 10:00 AM | +Kenneth Mark Raeker (Bill & Connie Milligan) |
| | Noon | People of the Parish |
| | 6:00 PM | +Olive Pereira (Her daughters) |



IN OUR PRAYERS — Helen Bell, Bob Betters, Cathy Davison, Lori Demmery, Linda Dolezan, Ryan Dolezan, Robert Dopman, John Flaherty, Gerry Grant, Shirley Hill, Wayne Hisgen, Dee Dee Irvine, Lee Kales, Bette Keller, Frank Kocher, Monica Lee, Walt Lesko.

Mary McGonagle, Barbara Mullally, Josh Nickerson, Mark Nyantakyi, Teri O'Hara, Elissa Packard, Mary Pappas, Jeff Patton, Terry Peeters, Reagan Potter, Richard Prior, Kathy Rice, Lenore Rickey, Carol Savetski, Chantal Saxon, Helen Servicky, Samantha Speer, Robert Tarr, James Wiberly, Douglas William, Marie Yoka.

PRAY FOR DECEASED —
Robert Griffith and Joan Battista.

This Week's Readings

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20.

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3;
Mk 5:21-43.

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6.

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
(22-32).

Friday: Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29.

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34.

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23;
Mk 1:29-39.

A Peek at the week!!



Today (January 29)

8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
Noon-6 p.m. — Cub Scout activity (PH)
4:45-5:45 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
5-6 p.m. — Youth Choir rehearsal (Chu)
7-8:30 p.m. — Confirmation classes (EW, AH)
7-8:30 p.m. — Older Confirmation class (CR)
7-8:45 p.m. — Youth Group (PH)

Monday (January 30)

9 a.m.-1 p.m. — Open Arms Preschool
10-11:30 a.m. — 50+ Club board meeting (Lib)
10 a.m.-noon — Bible Study (CR)

Tuesday (January 31)

7-9 p.m. — Sunday choir rehearsal (Chu)
7:30-9:30 p.m. — Prayer Group (Lib)

Wednesday (February 1)

9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Open Arms Preschool
4:30-5:30 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
6-7 p.m. — Children's Choir practice (CR)
7-9 p.m. — Quilters group (AH)
7-9 p.m. — RCIA (Lib)

Thursday (February 2)

10-11 a.m. — Exercise class (PH)
7-8:15 p.m. — Youth Engaging Scripture program (AH)
7-8:30 p.m. — ESL classes (PH)

Friday (February 3)

9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Open Arms Preschool
6:30-8:30 p.m. — Girl Scout Troop 1112 and 1850
meetings (AH)
7-11 p.m. — Bingo (PH)

Saturday (February 4)

4-6 p.m. — Teacher Appreciation luncheon set-up (PH)

Next Sunday (February 5)

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
(PH)
1-4 p.m. — Women's Guild meeting (AH)
5-6 p.m. — Youth Choir rehearsal (Chu)

EVENT SITE ABBREVIATIONS

AH — Austin Hall (house next to the church)

Chu — Church

CI — Classroom

CR — Council Room

EW — Education Wing

GA — Gathering Area

Lib — Library

MH — Mini-Hall (in Classroom wing)

PH — Parish Hall



First Reconciliation for SJN Students

First Reconciliation for SJN second-graders and RCIC students will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11.

Children and parents should arrive at 10 a.m. *Teachers arrive at 9:45 a.m.* Children should go to the assigned classroom (assignments will be posted in the Gathering Area). Parents should go to the church and sit in the last pews, toward the back of the church.

Parents should stay at SJN until their children have completed Reconciliation.

REQUIRED MEETING FOR 2ND-GRADERS' PARENTS

The Diocese of Charlotte and St. John Neumann Parish *require* parents of children preparing for First Communion to attend a theological update.

Several times will be offered for the Update and important information. Parents may attend during their children's class time or at any of the other times offered. The programs will be offered at:

Sunday, Feb. 12:

8:30-9:30 a.m.

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

4:45-5:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 15:

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Monday Morning Bible Study Under Way

"Lord, teach us to pray." Luke 11:1

How many times this past month has a friend, loved one, or even a stranger asked you to intercede for them in prayer? We are asked to pray for people, situations and various special needs of others.

Come join us as we discover what Scripture teaches us about praying for others, with an increased sense of God's presence and will. (Babysitting provided). The class began last week, but you're still welcome to join.

We will use "Intercession, A Guide to Effective Prayer," by Sr. Ann Shields, S.G.I. The cost is \$8.

Call Sandra, (704) 841-7562, to register and order a copy of the book. Or e-mail [sstclair2@carolina.rr.com](mailto:ssclair2@carolina.rr.com).

SJN Submits Pastoral Plan; A Guide to Our Growth

The parish of St. John Neumann has submitted its three-year Parish Pastoral Plan to the Diocese of Charlotte.

This plan addresses the parish history from its inception to where we are today; the demographics of the local area and the parish itself; the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council; the seven commissions and the ministries within those commissions; and the goals and objectives that have been established that we will strive to achieve over the next three years.

You may view the Parish Pastoral Plan at the St. John Neumann Web site, www.4sjnc.org

Fr. Thom Recovering; Others Filling In

On Jan. 11, Fr. Thom underwent surgery for problems with his sinuses and related issues. Before the day of his surgery, Fr. Thom made arrangements for others to take on his responsibilities while he recovers.

We ask for your patience while Fr. Thom recovers — should you need assistance, and the response seems slow. Those who are filling in for him will be working as quickly as they can. We also ask that you pray for Fr. Thom and for his speedy recovery.



Start Thinking Baseball!

Sign-ups for spring baseball are right around the corner! Come join the fun, make new friends, learn new skills, and enjoy the sport of baseball!

Baseball, softball and T-ball — ages 5-16 (boys must be 5 by Jan. 1, 2006; girls must be 5 by April 30, 2006). Girls' softball returns to slow-pitch this year.

Sign up in the Parish Hall after the 10 a.m. and noon Masses on Feb. 19 and 26. Questions? Call Dave Maher, (704) 442-1201.

Piano Lessons held at SJN

Are you or your child interested in learning to play the piano?

Robert Kennedy will be teaching at St. John on Thursday afternoons beginning at 3 p.m.

- 2nd Grade & up
- All levels (beginner to advanced)
- 30 minute lessons
- \$15 per lesson, plus materials

Contact Robert at 704.568.3358 to sign-up.

Respect Life Corner...



Stem Cell Update: Human embryonic stem cell research destroys developing human life and can never be morally acceptable, even for an intended good.

However, it has recently been discovered that adult bone marrow, liver, brain and fat tissue harbor stem cells. Also, stem cells are particularly numerous in the placenta and in the umbilical cord

Right to Life

of newborn infants.

Infant cord blood is considered "adult," compared to an embryo. Adult stem cell research is already yielding clinical results and is fully supported by the Catholic Church.

Where's Father Art???

For those of you who might have missed the news, Fr. Art has been reassigned to a parish in Massachusetts.

If you want to write him, here is his new address:

Fr. Arthur D. Johnson, O.S.A.
Our Mother of Consolation Friary
300 Haverhill St.
Lawrence, MA 01840-1264

2005 Contribution Report Request

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone #: _____

Please place in the offering basket or drop in the mail slot at the Parish Office.

SJN WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

| | Actual | Budget |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Jan. 21-22 weekend | \$ 12,543 | \$ 14,658 |

By using your Offertory envelope your contributions can be easily recorded and a year-end charitable contribution report generated for tax purposes.

The budget represents the amount needed to meet SJN's financial obligations. Thank you for your support of our parish community.

Parish News

SPACE DERBY TAKES OFF!! Come out today (Sunday) for the annual Pack 12 Space Derby. Bring your rocket, your family and be ready for some great fun.

It all starts at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, where you can register your rocket and enjoy the movie "Down and Derby," as the leaders finish final preparations for the big race. Details: John Silvestri, (704) 844-6720.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Needs You! Attend Mass next week and find out why and how.

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, in Austin Hall. All interested parishioners are invited.

ROSARY-MAKING CLASS — For those of you who expressed interest in learning how to make the twine Rosaries we recently sold, there will be a "how-to" class from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9.

This will take place in the Parish Hall. There is no cost, and all supplies will be provided. Details: Mike or Sue Tinker, (704) 573-9695.

COMPANION WANTED — An 84-year-old French Catholic grandmother seeks a live-in companion at Calloway Forest (3 bedroom/2 bath). Our church is 1 mile from Calloway Forest. The companion will help pay for utilities. Details: James Sirico, (704) 821-7121 (leave a message).

COMING IN MARCH — The Labyrinth Prayer Path and Family-Centered Lenten Soup-and-Salad programs. Volunteers will be needed. Call (704) 545-8916 for details.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY — Charlotte Right to Life is announcing its Hero for Life Scholarship Award. This award grants a \$2,000 educational scholarship to the winning applicant whose actions best champion the unborn and respect for life.

Applicants must be 14-18 years of age. For information, visit www.charlottelife.org. Applications are due by Tuesday. For info, e-mail Jason Beckert, at stockwiz30@aol.com, or Debbie Capen, at dmcapen@earthlink.net.

WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED of teachers and assistants for the ESL classes, sponsored by the Evangelization Commission. Come by the Parish Hall any Thursday before 7 p.m. The next class is this Thursday.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN'S RAIN TEAM has been helping individuals with HIV/AIDS for many years. "Won't you join us"? The CareTeam at SJN needs a few more members to keep this ministry going. To know more about what is involved, contact Debbie Kidd at the Regional AIDS Information Network (RAIN), (704) 372-7246, ext. 111, or at d.kidd@carolinarain.org.

Diocesan News ...

A POLKA MASS, the first ever in Charlotte, is planned for 4:30 p.m. next Saturday, at St. Ann Church. St. Ann is on Park Road at Hillside Drive. Call Jim Rebol, (704) 525-1832, for details.

"CHILDREN AND GRIEF" is the topic of a grief workshop scheduled from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Feb. 8 at St. Gabriel Church's Ministry Center (Room C). The church is at the corner of Providence and Sharon Amity roads. Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region will sponsor the program, which is designed to help people understand the ways children deal with deaths of friends and family.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT at St. Ann Parish will be from 6:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. There'll be gaming tables, food, music and the chance to win prizes. Cost is \$30 a person for entrance to the gaming room, food, one drink ticket, and 25 gaming chips. Reservations: call the St. Ann office, (704) 523-4641.

YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINICS — The Holy Trinity Athletic Association and the Charlotte Royals Basketball program will hold clinics for boys and girls, grades 3-7, on Feb. 20 at Holy Trinity Middle School, on Park Road in south Charlotte. Clinics are from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with a cost of \$25. Discounts are offered for teams or multiple family members. The clinic is directed by Sean Kilmartin, a former NCAA Division I coach and professional player in Europe. Details: Lynn Selland, (704) 366-6699, or contact Sean Kilmartin at rmssek@aol.com.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER — Are you looking to put romance back into your relationship? Learn what other couples have learned. Treat you and your spouse to a romantic weekend. Call for details and upcoming weekends. Details: Tom and Emilie, (336) 274-4424, or www.wwme-nc.info.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES is a support program for grandparents and/or other relatives raising children age 5 or younger. The group is seeking volunteers to watch children during support group meetings for grandparents. Virtus training and background checks are required. Interested? Call Colleen Cranford, (704) 370-3248.