

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: sjnc@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.

Lent Is Under Way; Here's How to Take Part

The season of Lent began last week and continues into mid-April. Here are some special events planned at our parish — along with a reminder of those Lenten regulations:

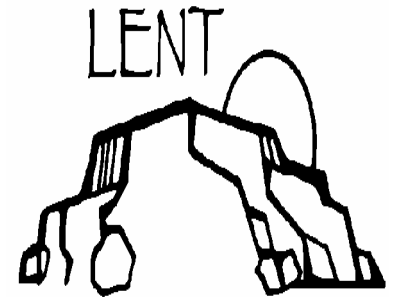
Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are said at 7 p.m. every Friday during Lent. Watch upcoming bulletins for additional events in Lent, including a special Mass schedule for Easter Sunday.

Family-Centered Learning

The Evangelization Commission also invites you to join in the Soup-and-Salad Intergenerational Learning program on Wednesday evenings — starting this week, and continuing March 15 and 22. This family-centered evening program, with a Lenten theme, begins with soup and salad at 6:30 p.m. Each family is asked to bring a salad fixing to share. Organizers still need a teacher for grades 3-5.

Fr. David Valtierra from the Oratory in Rock Hill will lead the group at the first program this week. Details: (704) 545-8916.



Lenten Regulations

We are reminded that Abstinence and Fast are a part of our Lenten observance.

ABSTINENCE: All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat and meat products on all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday.

FAST: All Catholics between their 18th and 60th birthdays are bound to observe the Law of Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This involves limiting oneself to one full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions during the day.

Here's A Special Call to Stewardship

Today, we are asked to make a Stewardship of Prayer commitment.

This is a personal commitment of the time you are willing to give towards your relationship with God and all that He is asking of you. Keep in mind that the definition of prayer is not necessarily confined to spoken words, but includes any act that "speaks" of our faith.

If for some reason you are not able to participate at this time, there will be commitment cards available in the Gathering Area. Once you have filled out the card, place it in the bowl near the altar.



Lenten Booklets ... Can be found near the bulletins. Please feel free to take one home (one per family, please). Also, there are copies of a special Lenten edition of ***The Catholic Digest*** available in the Gathering Area. A small donation will help defray the cost.

Catholic Bookstore ... Items from the Catholic Bookstore will be available after all Masses next weekend in the Gathering Area. Please feel free to browse and make purchases.

Stewardship Thought — God has taught us that you cannot love without giving. Love is not a feeling. It calls for action, which includes giving of our time, talent and treasure.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL: 'TOUCHED BY CHRIST'

As we look at our lives and the many ways God has blessed us, let us give back a proportionate gift to the DSA as a way of saying thank you to the Lord. God will never be outdone in generosity.

As you heard last week from Mark Wahl, an SJN parishioner, only a small contribution from all of us will help the parish reach its goal of \$89,572. Please consider helping this important effort.

Holy Masses This Week



MONDAY	9:15 AM	+Kenneth Raeker (The family)
TUESDAY	9:15 AM	+Joe Layden (Charles E. Layden and family)
WEDNESDAY	9:15 AM	Holly Demick birthday Intentions (Holly Demick)
THURSDAY	9:15 AM	+Mother of Jose and Lenoir Xavier (Lenore & Jose Xavier)
FRIDAY	9:15 AM	Fr. Arthur Johnson, O.S.A. (Mary Ann Maher)
SATURDAY	5:30 PM	+Jim Matys (Bill & Marge Cooper)
SUNDAY	7:30 AM	+Ron Bates Sr. (Rita Bates)
	10:00 AM	+Lottie Kleparek (Linda Misiuda)
	Noon	People of the Parish
	6:00 PM	+Donna Gallagher (Jean & Larry Coleman)



PLEASE PRAY for:

IN OUR PRAYERS — Bob Betters, Lori Demmery, Linda Dolezan, Ryan Dolezan, Robert Dopman, John Flaherty, Shirley Hill, Wayne Hisgen, Lee Kales, Bette Keller, Frank Kocher, Walt Lesko.

Patti Matys, Mary McGonagle, Alexzander Molnar, John Mood, Barbara Mullally, Josh Nickerson, Mark Nyantakyi, Teri O'Hara, Mary Pappas, Jeff Patton, Reagan Potter, Richard Prior, Lenore Rickey, Carol Savetski, Chantal Saxon, Gerry Scanlon, Ann Solnick, Samantha Speer, Robert Tarr, James Wiberly, Marie Yoka.

OUR APOLOGIES — In the Feb. 19 bulletin, we mis-identified the person being remembered in the Feb. 20 Mass. That Mass was said for Mary Kay Crotty. We apologize for the mistake.

This Week's Readings

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46.

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15.

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32.

Thursday: Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12.

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26.

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48.

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116;
Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10.

A Peek at the week!!



Today (March 5)

8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
1:30-4 p.m. — Women's Guild meeting (Offsite)
4:45-5:45 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
5-6 p.m. — Youth Choir rehearsal (Chu)
7-8:15 p.m. — Confirmation classes (EW and AH)
7-8:30 p.m. — Youth Group (PH)

Monday (March 6)

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Open Arms Preschool
10 a.m.-noon — Bible Study (CR)
7-8 p.m. — Line-dancing class (PH)
7-9 p.m. — Boy Scout Troop 12 committee meeting (CR)

Tuesday (March 7)

7-9 p.m. — Sunday choir rehearsal (Chu)
7-8:30 p.m. — Cub Scout Pack 12 meeting (PH)
7-9 p.m. — Pastoral Council meeting (AH)
7:30-9:30 p.m. — Prayer Group (Lib)

Wednesday (March 8)

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Open Arms Preschool
11 a.m.-1 p.m. — 50+ Club luncheon (PH)
4:30-5:30 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
6-7 p.m. — Children's Choir practice (CR)
6:30-8:30 p.m. — Lenten Soup & Salad Program (PH)
6:45-8:15 p.m. — Girl Scout Troop 1850 meeting (CI 10)
7-9 p.m. — Quilters group (AH)
7-9 p.m. — RCIA (Lib)

Thursday (March 9)

10-11 a.m. — Exercise class (PH)
11 a.m.-1 p.m. — K of C Auxiliary (PH)
7-8:30 p.m. — ESL classes (EW)

Friday (March 10)

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

(Continued on next page)

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



SJN Vacation Bible School

Set Sail for **Son Treasure Island**

June 19-23, 2006; 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

For Rising K-4th graders
Volunteers needed for all areas!
Call Donna Tarney, (704) 535-4197

ATTENTION TEENAGERS!!

Are you a Teen in grades 9-12?
Do you wonder why the church thinks the Bible is so important?
Do you want to better understand what the Bible has to say to you?
Do you like to hang out with other Teens and have fun?

If you answered YES to any of these questions then:

Come on Thursday and join the rest of us
for

Youth Engaging Scripture!

We are now in a **NEW PLACE:**

Dilworth Coffee House,
3655 Matthews-Mint Hill Road
Our **New Time** is: 8:00pm – 9:00pm
Call Colleen Ogradnick with questions @
704-845-2495

It's Time to Register...

Religious Education Registration is in process for the coming school year — 2006-07. The deadline is March 27. After March 27 the tuition will increase. Forms have been given via Religious Education classes. Forms also are available in the Religious Education office, the Parish Office, and the Gathering Area.

A Peek at the week!!



(Continued from previous page)
Saturday (March 11)

No events scheduled

Next Sunday (March 12)

8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
4:45-5:45 p.m. — Faith Formation classes
5-6 p.m. — Youth Choir rehearsal (Chu)
7-8:15 p.m. — Confirmation classes (EW and AH)
7-8:30 p.m. — Youth Group (PH)

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Mark Your Calendars for St. Patrick's Day Fun

The Family Life group will hold a St. Patrick's Day Dinner-Dance in the Parish Hall from 7-11 p.m. Saturday, March 18.

The event will include a traditional Irish dinner — corned beef and cabbage, colcannon (mashed potatoes), green beans, Irish Soda Bread, coffee and tea. Each attendee will receive two tickets for glasses of beer, with additional glasses available for \$1 each.

Entertainment will be the Irish Dancers, and Reggie from Sonic Sounds as DJ. Prizes will be given out throughout the evening.

Babysitting will be available, by our very own Girl Scout troop. The children will be in the Open Arms preschool area, and there will be adult supervision. The service is being provided by the troop for donations.

We will be selling tickets after all Masses this weekend and next. Tickets are \$20 a person. Singles and couples are welcome. Please come join the fun!



Open Arms Preschool Taking Applications for 2006-07

St. John Neumann's Open Arms Preschool,
enriching
the spiritual, academic and social growth and development of children,
**is now taking applications
for the 2006-2007 school year.**

Open Arms is for children ages 2, 3 and 4 (on or before Oct. 16, 2006). A non-refundable \$60 registration fee is due with the application.

For additional information or to register, call Nancy
At
(704) 536-6520, ext. 234, or (704) 882-1918.

SJN WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

	Actual	Budget
Feb. 25-26 weekend	\$ 14,649	\$ 14,658

Stewardship Thought — God has taught us that you cannot love without giving. Love is not a feeling. It calls for action, which includes giving of our time, talent and treasure.

Parish News

THE WOMEN'S GUILD will visit the Little Flower Assisted Living Residence, 8700 Lawyers Road, this afternoon. For those interested, we will meet at the Little Flower at 1:30 p.m. A bingo game is planned, and refreshments and gift bags will be provided for the residents. Please join the group.

THE K OF C LADIES AUXILIARY will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday in the Parish Hall. All members should bring a sandwich. Dessert and few side dishes will be provided. If anyone is interested in joining the organization, contact Alice Hallett, (704) 364-7441, or Claire Schmitz, (704) 882-5474,

THE ST. JOHN NEUMANN PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL meets on the second Tuesday of every month, and meetings are open to all interested parishioners. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. March 14 in Austin Hall.

THANKS, SJN!!! — Catholic Social Services has sent a letter to Debbie Santore, head of the annual SJN Angel Tree Christmas charity program, thanking the people of SJN for their help.

"Your contribution of Christmas gifts for dialysis patients has helped our neighbors enjoy the celebration of Jesus' birth this Christmas season," CSS wrote.

DO YOU HAVE special health, financial, emotional or spiritual concerns? Why not come and pray with the Prayer Group on Tuesday nights, from 7:30-9 p.m. in the Library?

PARA NUESTROS FELIGRESES ESPAÑOLES: El grupo de oración se reúne todos los martes a las 7:30 p.m. en la biblioteca de la Iglesia. Todos son bienvenidos. Queremos orar en todos los idiomas.

FREE BABYSITTING is available at the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass. It's for children 3 and younger. All you need to do is take a turn babysitting, every four to six weeks. Details: Moya, (704) 321-2786; or drop by the Babysitting Room in the Parish Hall before Mass.



Headed for Branson

The 50+ Club from St. John Neumann Parish is planning a trip April 30-May 8 to Branson, Mo.

If you're interested in going on the trip, contact Bob or Barbara Daigler, (704) 662-9572.

Diocesan News ...

MENTAL RETARDATION MASS — St. Gabriel disability Ministry will observe National Mental Retardation Awareness Month with a special liturgy at 5 p.m. today (Sunday). Members of the parish and community with mental disabilities will share their many gifts and talents, serving as greeters, readers, ushers' assistants and music. Details: Mary Kennedy, (704) 364-6964.

THE NEXT CHRISTIAN COFFEEHOUSE PROGRAM takes place from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, at St. Matthew Church's Parish Center gym. There will be live music from Kathy & David with Redeemed, performing a mix of rock, jazz, blues and gospel; plus food and beverages. There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted.

DEALING WITH LOSS — "Dealing With Loss in the Years That Follow" is the topic of a special grief workshop planned from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, at the St. Gabriel Ministry Center's third-floor conference room. The church is at the corner of Providence and Sharon Amity roads. Presenter Janice Olive, from Hospice of Charlotte Palliative Care, will talk about how to deal with the long-term effects of grief.

PUT SOME SIZZLE in your marriage. Give your spouse a romantic weekend you'll never forget. World-Wide Marriage Encounter has a weekend planned next Friday-Sunday in Charlotte and again in May in Hickory. For details, contact Tom or Emilie at (336) 274-4424 or check www.wwme-nc.info.

THE CAPUCHIN FRANCISCAN FRIARS are conducting a vocation retreat for single Catholic men (ages 18-35) who are seeking their calling in life and considering the possibility of priesthood and religious life. Learn more about St. Francis of Assisi and the priesthood March 24-26 in Hendersonville. Details: Bro. Miguel Ramirez, O.F.C. Cap, (201) 863-3871 or capuchinlife@aol.com.

AN "EVERYTHING" CONSIGNMENT SALE is planned from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at St. Gabriel School's cafeteria, 3028 Providence Road. There will be furniture, household items, children/baby items, outdoor equipment, clothing, etc. Sellers receive 70% of sales and early shopping privileges. Hours are 7-11 a.m. (regular price) and 12-3 p.m. (half-price on selected items). Middle school and high school volunteers also are needed. To volunteer or consign, contact Karen Moore, (704) 364-9236 or kfmtrm35@aol.com.

HELP WANTED: St. Gabriel Church is looking for a part-time nursery coordinator, to work from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sundays. This is a wonderful opportunity for someone who enjoys childcare and is interested in working only a few hours a week. Details: Susan Krasniewski, (704) 362-5047, ext. 210.