



2230 Rochester Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust September 25, 2011 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

PARISH PHONES

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PARISH STAFF

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Barbara Matera, Ext. 18
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**Parish
Mission Statement**

It is the purpose of St. John Neumann Parish, a gathered people, to act in word, sacrament, witness and service toward all, in gratitude to God our Father, through Jesus Christ our Brother with the Holy Spirit as our Guide.

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 9:00 AM & 5:30 PM (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 5:30 PM

Weekdays: 9:00 AM - Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday
7:00 PM - Wednesday

Holy Days: 7:00 PM (Vigil) 9:00 AM, 7:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

9:30 - 10:00 AM Saturday (or by appointment; call the Office)

Sacrament of Baptism:

Celebrated on the last Sunday of every month or during Mass by appointment only - call the Parish Office. Parents are to attend Baptism preparation classes; for class information please call 412-366-5885 (ext. 12).

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to Wedding Date. Next date to be announced. For more information please call 412-366-5885 (ext 12).

Web Site: www.stjohnneumannpgh.org

Prayer Site: <http://stjohnneumannpghprayer.blogspot.com>

Pastoral Council: snpc@stjohnneumannpgh.org

Victim Assistance Hotline: 1-888-808-1235

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, SEPT. 24

9:00 AM TOM O'LARE (Family)
 3:00 PM STEIGERWALD/TISHKY WEDDING
 5:30 PM CHARLES JONES (Cindy & Jim Hall)

SUNDAY, SEPT. 25, 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME

8:00 AM FOR THE PEOPLE OF SJN
 9:30 AM NANCY LA VOICE (Tom)
 11:30 PM RUTH & MICHAEL GERVAS
 (Bill & Rosemary McLaughlin)

5:30 PM

MONDAY, SEPT. 26

9:00 AM YVONNE WHITSON (Renew Group)

TUESDAY, SEPT. 27

9:00 AM Jim O'Leary (Rose Lenihan)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, ST. WENCESLAUS, ST. LAWRENCE RUIZ, MARTYRS & THEIR COMPANIONS

9:00 AM JOSEPH & BERTHA GASHIE
 (Bill & Pat Post)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 29

9:00 AM ROSE M. WEBB (Mary Jones)

FRIDAY, SEPT. 30

9:00 AM FRANCIS CRAIG (Ruth & Family)

SATURDAY, OCT. 1

9:00 AM REPARATION FOR THE BLESSED MOTHER

3:00 PM BURNETT/REIF WEDDING
 5:30 PM CARL BALUCHA (Elizabeth Balucha)

SUNDAY, OCT. 2, 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM FOR THE PEOPLE OF SJN
 9:30 AM BETTY SCANLON (Mike Conroy)
 11:30 PM MARY & CARL BACK (Family)
 5:30 PM

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Oct. 1 - 5:30 PM - P. Thompson, D. & M. Dewey, L. Juhascik, E. & G. Mandl, D. Wolf

Sun. Oct. 2 - 8:00 AM R. Caruso, N. Stephens, T. Kiliany, M. Brunner, S. Mohrbacher, K. Deken, C. Hogan

9:30 AM - E. & C. Gillis, A. Guzzetti, B. Chufo, K. Magdic, F. Greco, T. Hart

11:30 AM— R. Full, A. & P. Skorupka, D. Migliozi, A. Betancourt, D. Schwartz, E. Macken

LECTORS

Sat. Oct. 1 5:30 PM R. Martz, T. Hartnett
 Sun. Oct. 2 8:00 AM M. Decker, J. Kohler
 9:30 AM G. Jezerc, V. Siclari
 11:30 AM J. Full, P. Furiga

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat., Oct. 1 5:30 PM S. & C. Bojarski,
 C. Schweiger
 Sun. Oct. 2 8:00 AM J. & J. Kenna, A. Kohler
 9:30 AM S. & C. Ebbert, J. LaRocca
 11:30 AM Swartz Family

THIS WEEK...

Sunday, Sept. 25 Mission Sunday
 10:30 AM Appalachia Kick-Off
 1:00 PM Baptisms

Monday, Sept. 26

Tuesday, Sept. 27

9:30 AM Centering Prayer

Wed., Sept. 28

7:15 PM Choir

Thurs. Sept. 29

9:45 AM Scripture Study

Friday, Sept. 30

6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal

Sat., Oct. 1

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Lk 9:46-50
 Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56
 Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62
 Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a;
 Jn 1:47-51
 Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16
 Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24
 Sunday: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Deposits

Sept. 18

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Operating | \$7,106.00 |
| Building Fd. | 2,212.00 |
| Parish Share | 5,780.00 |
| Faith Formation | 1,090.00 |
| Bishop Ed. Fd. | 264.00 |
| | \$16,452.00 |



CONGRATULATIONS TO RICK CARUSO

Rick Caruso is studying and preparing to become a Deacon in the church. Part of his preparation includes receiving "minor orders;" These are steps along the way readying him for service to the church and its people. This past Sunday Rick received the order of Acolyte at a ceremony held at St. Malachy Church, with Bishop Zubik presiding.

The acolyte is the highest of the minor orders. The term is derived from a Greek word which signifies "to follow, to accompany." The acolyte's duty and privilege was and is to assist Bishops and priests at the celebration of the Eucharistic sacrifice and other liturgical functions; he takes care of the light and serves the wine and water at holy Mass.

We want to congratulate Rick and make sure that he knows the time and effort he is putting into his preparation for Deaconate is appreciated. Please keep Rick and others in the Deaconate program in your prayers.

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us this Fall for an eight week study of the Books of Kings beginning September 26. Find out what happened to the twelve tribes of Jacob and how it led to the writing of the Old Testament. Meetings will be Monday evenings 7:30-9 PM in the Youth Room at SJN.



MASS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 WILL BE AT 9 AM INSTEAD OF 7 PM.



BABY BOTTLES

October is Respect Life Month. In honor of this, the Respect Life Committee is having its annual Baby Bottle Campaign. Baby Bottles will be distributed after all Masses on October 1 & 2. Please take the bottles home and fill it with your spare change for the week and bring it back with you to Mass on Oct. 8 & 9. All proceeds will benefit The Women's Choice Network which helps provide medical services, sonograms, and counseling at no charge to expectant mothers.

FALL BEYOND RENEW SEASON BEGINS OCTOBER 9

We will work with the book Longing for the Holy, Spirituality for Everyday Life. All are welcome to join this 6 week Small Group Faith Sharing program. Sign-up Sunday for Beyond Renew will be September 25. For more info call Kim Woodward at 412-630-8637. See the insert in this week's bulletin.



APPALACHIA WINE DINNER

You are invited to the Annual Appalachia Wine Dinner on Sat. October 15 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM. Wine selections from Narcisi Winery will again be featured along with our delicious home cooked dinner. Tickets are \$30 and will be available next week at all Masses. Tables may be reserved. Call Laura Juran at 412-367-4264 or lejuran@verizon.net

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, LECTORS & ALTAR SERVERS

New serving schedules will be prepared shortly. If you have any changes to your availability, please call the Parish Office at ext. 10 by Monday, October 2.

EAT, PRAY, POLKA

Vincentian Regency is hosting "Eat, Pray, Polka," a polka Mass and dinner dance to benefit residents of their nursing and rehabilitation facility on Saturday, October 8 at SJN. The Polka Mass begins at 5:30 PM with a buffet dinner and dancing beginning at 7 PM with music by the Dick Tady Orchestra and a traditional dance performance by the Pittsburgh Slovaks. Reserve your tickets for \$50 each or two for \$90 by calling 412-548-4056 or purchase tickets online at www.vcs.org.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anyone in need of the power of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is invited to come to the 9AM Mass on Saturday, Oct. 1. This sacrament offers strength to us in body, mind or spirit. It is a consolation to us individually and to our family to join in the sacramental grace of the church as we struggle with illness. Please come and share this amazing power of God's love and mercy. Confessions immediately follow this sacrament.



PLEASANT VALLEY MEN'S SHELTER

Dinner for the Men's Shelter is Friday, Oct. 7. If you are interested in preparing a dessert, salad or side dish, please contact Phyllis Huber at 412-367-1437.

TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be here NEXT week-end for their annual Tootsie Roll collection for the benefit of St. Anthony's Regional School Program for exceptional children and the McGuire Memorial Home for handicapped children. They thank you in advance for your generosity to God's Special Children.

WELCOME Good Shepherd sessions begin the week of Tuesday, September 27. We are looking forward to getting started and seeing all the families back in the Education Building!

ATTENTION! GIRL SCOUTS AND BOY SCOUTS
 With the return to school many of our scouts may be looking for opportunities to earn religious emblems and awards. Forms providing details about the various awards offered by the Catholic Committee on Scouting are available in the church lobby display or the Rel. Ed. Office. For more information, contact Andrew James at ajames@stjohnneumannpgh.org. Ad Altare Deiration preparation sessions begin on Sunday, October 2nd at 6:30 PM.

BLESSING OF PETS



We are fortunate during this beautiful autumn season to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 4th. St. Francis had a great love for the Lord and a deep reverence for all that God created - life in people, nature and animals. As a small way of remembering his life and legacy, we offer a **BLESSING OF PETS ON SUNDAY, OCT. 2 AT 5 PM** in the front parking lot of SJN. Please bring your pet (in a cage or on a leash) for this short blessing. St. Francis called the earth and all creatures to praise and thank God the creator for the gift of life. Pray that all the world come to Peace and Respect for Life.



SHARING TREE

The Giving Tree is a tradition here at SJN that provides joy to many children and adults for more than 25 years in our local area who otherwise might have little at Christmas. We need several volunteers who can take on the responsibility for coordinating this outreach. Help is needed to coordinate with local social service agencies to get lists of recipients and to arrange pick up, making tags for the Giving Tree and overseeing the display for several weeks. If you have any questions, or if you can help in any way, please call the Parish Office at ext. 10.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL KICK-OFF EVENT:
 MINUTE TO WIN IT!**

We will be having our kick-off event for the Middle School Youth Ministry Program on October 16th, 2011. This event will take place just before the 5:30pm youth mass, starting at 4pm and going until 5:15pm. Keep an eye out in the upcoming bulletins for more information on this event and other Middle School Youth Ministry Events. All Middle School Youth Ministry events are open to youth grades 6-8. We look forward to seeing you there.

**RCIA- LOOKING CLOSER AT
 THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Our weekly sessions for those who are interested in looking closer at the church will begin on Sunday, October 2 after the 9:30 Mass. These sessions are open to anyone who wants to seek full communion through baptism and also to anyone who wants to complete their initiation in the church through the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation. Please call Barb Stokes or Fr Al for more information or to register for the RCIA process. Also feel free to extend this invitation to anyone who you know that might be interested in discovering the treasure we have in our Catholic way of worship and sacrament. The work is ours to spread the Good News. Can you help too?

CENTERING PRAYER UPDATE

We will begin meeting every Tuesday morning beginning Sept. 20 at 9:30 AM in the Level III atrium room. Wear your walking shoes since we will "lectio on the go" as we walk on the trail across from SJN during our lectio time. We will keep the meeting time to one hour in total. Centering on Wednesday evenings will begin on Nov. 9.

HELP FOR GRIEVING SINGLES

Widowed, divorced or separated? Beginning Experience offers help to hurting "single again" folks. The weekend and optional post weekend sessions focus on a personal inward journey to begin a new life with renewed courage and hope. Grief, regrets, confusion, self doubt? You don't have to go through this alone. There are others walking this hard road. We know the pain. Come to a safe place. Travel from heartache to hope. The next weekend will be held October 14-16 at the Gilmory Center in Moon Twp. Payment arrangement & possible financial assistance are available. For more info, visit www.BeginningExperience.org or make a confidential call to Steve Smith at 412-367-4948.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORE TEAM:

Are you a high school student or an adult who has been looking for an opportunity to serve? We would love to have you on our Middle School CORE team. This team will consist of a group of adults and high school students who will work closely with the youth ministry staff in planning for the once a month middle school gatherings. Please contact Josh Wattenbarger or Connor Flanagan if you are interested.

**OCTOBER 9th, 2011
 HIGH SCHOOL KICK-OFF EVENT:
 PARKING LOT PALOOZA!**

We will be having our kick-off event for the High School Youth Ministry Program on Sunday October 9th, 2011 following the 5:30pm youth mass. The theme for the event is "Parking Lot Palooza" and is for youth grades 9-12. Grab your friends! We can't wait to see you there. Look for flyers in the upcoming bulletins for more information on this event.

**GREATER PGH COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
VOLUNTEER TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
BENEFITS PERRY HILLTOP FOOD BANK**

Earn free food for Perry Hilltop Food Bank on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at the Greater Pgh. Community Food Bank. Adults and young people ages 12-18 (must have signed permission form) are invited to join the SJN crew. We'll pack a selection of foods for senior citizens to be distributed through food banks in 11 counties. Meet at the church's back doors at 8:15 AM; return approx. 1:30 PM. Bring a bag lunch. Limit: 10 volunteers. Register at 412-366-5638, ext. 12 with your name, phone #, email address by noon, Friday, Sept. 23. SJN parish has been volunteering at GPCFB since January 1991.

LIGHT OF LIFE DINNER - WEDS. OCT. 5
Please join other SJN parishioners as we serve dinner at Light of Life Missions on Weds. Oct. 5. Meet at 4:15 PM and we finish at 6 PM. Call Marie Minsky for more information at 412-366-0913.

VINCENTIAN VOLUNTEERS


Please join us on Tuesday, October 11 at 2 PM at Vincentian Assisted Living. The Women's Guild is hosting a bingo for the residents and we can always use a little extra help. The residents are always very appreciative of our visits. Need info, call Marlene Yokim @ 412-366-8840

BASKETWEAVING AT THE WOMEN'S GUILD

Please join us Thursday, October 13 @ 7:00 PM at SJN as we welcome Sister Donna Wojtyna, of the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh as she gives a presentation on Basketweaving and the history, uses, style and care for baskets. This gifted nun is a professional Basketweaver and Woodcarver with over 30 years experience. She inspires creativity with classes, retreats and workshops at St. Benedict Monastery in West View. Basket Creations by Sister Donna will be available for sale. Guests welcome. RSVP to Ginny Cox at ginnycfcd@aol.com or 412-364-2583.



PARENTS AND TODDLERS

 Soon enough the weather will be turning cold and you might be looking for a great space for young children (birth to 4years old) with their parents to get together. If you are interested in forming a P&T group here at SJN, give Barb Stokes a call and let's get organized so everyone feels welcome.

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

- ?? BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS
- ?? PERRY HILLTOP COLLECTION
- ?? BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

ST JOHN NEUMANN PRAYER MINISTRY

The St. John Neumann Ministry of Prayer is intended to motivate everyone in the St. John Neumann parish community to pray each day for parishioners and family and friends of parishioners. All in the Parish are encouraged to check the S J N Prayer blog <http://stjohnneumannpghprayer.blogspot.com> and respond to Christ's challenge to "Pray always and never lose heart" (Lk18:1). If you need prayer, please send an e-mail to snjprayer@gmail.com. Instructions are provided at the St. John Neumann Prayer Blog. You can also call Kathy Buzzard at 412-366-0781. If you have any questions regarding the ministry, please contact Rick or Carol Caruso at 412-369-5794. Please raise up in prayer our most recent additions:

- Darlene Konorma** **William Miller**
- Barbara Shaw** **Keith Fowler**

PERRY HILLTOP

Perry Hilltop is looking for a refrigerator, gas and electric stove and a computer. Please call Peggy at 412-613-8946 to set up a delivery time and date.

UNEMPLOYED? GOOD NEWS!

Interested in finding out how not having a job could possibly be a good thing? Come join us Wednesdays at 9 AM to find out more about the Good News of Unemployment.

GIFT CARDS

McDonald's Bucks are back. Did you know that McDonald's gives SJN back 50 cents on every dollar bought from our fundraiser? We are also selling Sir Pizza gift cards for the Ross location. Sir Pizza will give SJN 10% back. Overall, 25% of our profit goes to local foodbanks.

FAMILIAR INSIGHTS

Spiritual teachers tend to repeat themselves, and to repeat other teachers. Maybe there really aren't that many different truths to tell. Just a lot of slow, sleepy human beings--like us--who need to hear the basics over and over. Consider today's readings.

People complain God isn't "fair," and Ezekiel answers that God is more than fair. People choose their own fates, and people can change. Even evildoers can turn, do right, and live. "Actions speak louder than words." A fresh new insight? Hardly.

Paul tells the Philippians that he would truly be encouraged if those who claimed to be believers would look to others' interests and not their own. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." A novel idea? I don't think so.

In Jesus' story of the farmer and his sons, everyone knows that the one who said he wouldn't work--but did--is way ahead of the one who said he would work--but didn't. "Talk is cheap." Heard that before?

**SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, OCT. 16 AT 1 PM
SJN PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN**



PENNSYLVANIA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

223 North Street • Box 2835 • Harrisburg, PA 17105 • (717)238-9613 • FAX 238-1473

Conscience Rights Violated by Sweeping HHS Contraceptive Mandate Take Action at www.pacatholic.org by September 30

In implementing the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the new health care reform law), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently issued a rule requiring almost all private health plans to cover contraception and sterilization as “preventive services” for women. The mandate even forces individuals and groups with religious or moral objections to purchase and provide such coverage if they are to receive or provide health coverage at all. This poses an unprecedented threat to individual and institutional religious freedom.

The rule includes a religious exemption so extremely narrow that it protects almost no one. It covers only a “religious employer” that has the “inculcation of religious values” as its purpose, primarily employs and serves persons who share its religious tenets, and is a church organization under two narrow provisions of the tax code. A great many religious organizations -- including Catholic colleges and universities, as well as hospitals and charitable institutions that serve the public -- will be ineligible. Individuals and religiously affiliated health insurers will not qualify for the exemption.

The new rule would force insurance plans to cover “all Food and Drug Administration approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures, and patient education and counseling for all women with reproductive capacity.” Never before has the federal government required private health plans to include such coverage. The FDA-approved “emergency contraception” (EC) drugs that are covered by this mandate can work by interfering with implantation of a newly conceived human being. Also, the drug the FDA most recently approved for EC, “Ella,” a close analogue to the abortion drug RU-486, has been shown in animal tests to cause abortion. Thus, the mandate includes drugs that may cause an abortion both before and after implantation.

ACTION: Please send an e-mail message to HHS by visiting www.pacatholic.org. With just a few clicks of the mouse, you can send a message to HHS asking them to respect religious liberty and to your elected representatives in Congress, urging them to support the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179/S. 1467) to ensure that such federal mandates do not violate Americans’ moral and religious convictions.

MESSAGE TO HHS: “Pregnancy is not a disease, and drugs and surgeries to prevent it are not basic health care that the government should require all Americans to purchase. Please remove sterilization and prescription contraceptives from the list of ‘preventive services’ the federal government is mandating in private health plans. It is especially important to exclude any drug that may cause an early abortion, and to fully respect religious freedom as other federal laws do. The narrow religious exemption in HHS’s new rule protects almost no one. I urge you to allow all organizations and individuals to offer, sponsor and obtain health coverage that does not violate their moral and religious convictions.”

WHEN: Please send your comments to HHS by the September 30 deadline. You can send your message at www.pacatholic.org.

In early August the Department for Health and Human services issued guidelines requiring Catholic institutions to include contraception and sterilization procedures in their health insurance plans. Although the mandate contains a so-called "religious exemption", this exemption is so narrowly drawn that it would not apply if non-Catholics are employed or served by a Catholic institution. Subsequently, this mandate would apply to Catholic Charities, as well as Catholic hospitals, universities, colleges and virtually every Catholic social service agency. All would be required to violate their fundamental beliefs or cease to exist.

The public comment period on the guidelines ends September 30th. To express your concern, please write to:

Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary
U.S. Department for Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

The following is a sample letter:

Dear (Representative):

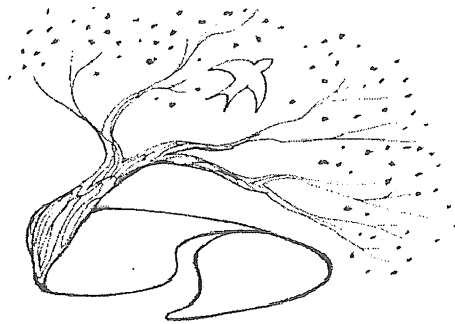
In early August, the Department for Health and Human Services released guidelines that would force Catholic institutions to subsidize through their health care plans contraception and sterilization procedures.

This is a direct threat to the religious liberty of Catholics, freedom of conscience and the social service ministry of the Catholic Church. The so-called "religious exemption" in the mandate is no exemption at all as it would require any Catholic institution that serves non-Catholics or employs non-Catholics to violate Catholic belief or close its doors.

I ask that you do all possible to rescind the "Preventive Service Mandate" as an unprecedented federal interference in the right of Catholics to serve their community without violating their fundamental moral beliefs.

BEYOND RENEW – Small Faith Sharing Groups

Starting the week of October 9th, groups meet once a week (about 1 ½ hr) for six weeks, working with the book *Longing for the Holy, Spirituality for Everyday Life*.



Sign-up NOW! Stop by Bovard Hall after Mass to select the group/day you would like to join.

- ❖ The following groups/days are currently available. Groups consist 6-14 people.
 - 3 Sunday evening groups
 - 1 Monday morning group
 - 1 Tuesday afternoon group
 - 1 Tuesday evening group
 - 2 Wednesday evening group
 - 1 Thursday evening group
 - 2 Friday morning groups
 - 1 Friday evening group

If there is enough interest in another day or an additional group, we will make every effort to create new groups.

- ❖ For more information contact Kim Woodward at 412-630-8637 or kimcwoodward@gmail.com