

# St. John Neumann Parish

August 6, 2023

## The Transfiguration of the Lord



### MASS

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:15 pm

**Sunday Mass:** 7:30 am, 9:00 am\*\* Public & Livestream\*  
10:30 am, 12:00 pm, 5:15 pm\*\*\*

**Monday—Saturday:** 8:00 am Public & Livestream\* Mass

\* [www.sjnparish.org/livestream](http://www.sjnparish.org/livestream)

\*\* **Little Church School** every week; **Children's Liturgy of the Word** 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

\*\*\* **Youth Mass** every 3rd Sunday of the month

### CONFESSIONS

**Tuesdays at 6:00 pm**—in the Gathering Room.

### DEVOTIONAL PRAYER

**Rosary** — Daily at 8:30 am

— Mondays at 7:00 pm (in church)

**Adoration** — Thursdays 8:30 — 9:30 am

**Divine Mercy Chaplet** —Fridays at 8:30 am

### THE SACRAMENTS— ANOINTING OF THE SICK; BAPTISM OF CHILDREN; MARRIAGE; RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Please contact the Parish Office to speak with Msgr. Matz or Deacon Kevin. Baptisms are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 1:15pm.

### NEWCOMERS WELCOME!

Please contact the Parish Office for an appointment with Msgr. Matz to register and become a member.



**Follow us on Facebook**

(an account on FB is not needed to visit us!)

### CONNECT WITH US!

[www.sjnparish.org](http://www.sjnparish.org)

**Parish Office**

[mainoffice@sjnparish.org](mailto:mainoffice@sjnparish.org)

610-525-3100

380 Highland Lane

Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

**Saints Colman—John**

**Neumann Catholic School**

[www.scjnschool.org](http://www.scjnschool.org)

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372 Highland Lane

Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

### STAFF

- ◆ **Pastor:** Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Matz
- ◆ **In Residence:** Rev. Robert J. Chapman
- ◆ **Permanent Deacon:** Deacon Kevin Harrington
- ◆ **Parish Services Director:** Ms. Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Sunday Assistance:**
  - Rev. Gerald D. Canavan
  - Rev. Robert J. Murray, OSA
- ◆ **Business Mgrs:** Mrs. Joy Falcone, Mr. Paul Selvaggi
- ◆ **Administrative Assistants:**
  - Mrs. Norma Guzmán
  - Mrs. Terri Giangiulio
- ◆ **Safe Environment Coordinator:** Mrs. Kathy Selvaggi
- ◆ **School Principal:** Mrs. Kelly Ciminera
- ◆ **Director of Liturgical Music:** Mr. Andrew Puntel
- ◆ **Director of Religious Education:** Mrs. Katie DiRienzo
- ◆ **Assoc. DRE:** Mrs. Katie Keating

### COORDINATORS OF PARISH MINISTRY

[www.sjnparish.org](http://www.sjnparish.org) visit 'Ministries' to learn more; to email a ministry, click on their name in our digital bulletin:

- ◆ **Adult Group:** Jack McNamara
- ◆ **Adult Faith Formation:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Altar Guild:** Nora Saraceni
- ◆ **Bible Study:** Craig Callaghan
- ◆ **'Caring for Friends':** Cheryl Calnan
- ◆ **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Katie Keating
- ◆ **CYO Athletics:** Carrie Tornatela; Robert Lythgoe
- ◆ **Disabilities Partnership:** Sheila Sheaffer
- ◆ **Family Promise/Main Line (IHN):** Mary Beth Wolanin
- ◆ **Garage Sale:** Isabel Momenee
- ◆ **Good Samaritans:** Craig Callaghan
- ◆ **Healing/Communion & H.O.P.E.:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Hospitality:** Kim Duska
- ◆ **Lectors:** Jack McNamara
- ◆ **Little Church School:** Janet Baffa
- ◆ **Liturgical Environment:** Jackie Falcone; Nancy Case
- ◆ **Men's Fellowship:** [mensfellowship@sjnparish.org](mailto:mensfellowship@sjnparish.org)
- ◆ **Prayer Line:** [prayerline@sjnparish.org](mailto:prayerline@sjnparish.org)
- ◆ **RCIA:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Respect Life:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Ushers:** Jack McNamara
- ◆ **Walking with Purpose:** Mary Beth Wolanin



# Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

5:15 pm The Hayden Family

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

7:30 am Jane Goggin  
9:00 am People of SJN Parish  
10:30 am Joe Hayden  
12:00 pm Alice Sebra  
5:15 pm Suzanne Lynch

## MONDAY, AUGUST 7

*St. Sixtus II and Companions; St. Cajetan*  
8:00 am Margaret and Michael McKenzie

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

*St. Dominic*  
8:00 am Gerald Fitzpatrick

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

*St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross*  
8:00 am Margaret Girard

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

*St. Lawrence*  
8:00 am Patrick Carey

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

*St. Clare*  
8:00 am Pauline Bell

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

*St. Jane Frances de Chantal*  
8:00 am Donna Daley Wilson

# SJN GARAGE SALE

In 10 Weeks □ October 14th & 15th



"This isn't a retirement home for old furniture, young man. It's called an antique store."

We have had much success with the sale of furniture at our garage sale.

If you have some that you are ready to "retire" and it's in good condition, please donate it when October comes. (Note: sofas, hutch cupboards, large entertainment centers, console stereos and sofa beds are not saleable).

Pick ups can be arranged as the date gets close. Drop offs begin on October 6th.

Info: Mary Ann 610-353-1875

## THANK YOU!

### OFFERINGS:

- July 30: \$15,753
- Mission Appeal: \$1,169



Online Giving

Click on image to visit our online giving site

## SCJN GOLF AND TENNIS TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 2, 2023



Click on image to register



## CONFESSIONS

TUESDAYS  
AT 6:00 PM  
IN THE  
GATHERING  
ROOM

## Altar Flowers

Flowers presented at the Crucifix, in front of the Altar, at the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Mother statues -



in Memory of Josefina Gatmaitan Dimalaluan  
from Jaime and Maria Gatmaitan



Join us Friday mornings after the 8:00 am Mass to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Our Chaplet is offered for all who are suffering.



An older woman sits in her living room alone and in tears. Even though her husband died four years ago, she still gets overwhelmed by waves of depression. Her children are

all married, but only one still lives in the immediate area. They try to help their mother, but they just don't understand how lonely she feels. There are days when this woman wished that she had been the one to "go" first.

A man in his early forties has just been told by his wife that she wants a divorce. He could sense that there had been a lot of tension in the past few months and that she seemed to be out a great deal. But he never thought that things were heading in *this* direction. It's the worst thing that has happened in his entire life! He has no idea how he will get through it, and he is angry at the world.

A man in his mid 60's is called by his doctor and told that they didn't like the results of his recent chest X-ray. There is a spot on his lung, could he please come in for further consultation.

The scenarios can go on and on. But the common thread in each of these stories is that these people are faced with something that has upset the course of their lives. Yet, they are the kinds of things that happen to people. But the common thread is that each person is overwhelmed by the present moment, the present situation, and they don't know what to do. They are also afraid of what lies ahead.

I think we can all identify with these kinds of circumstances. They've happened to us or to those we know and love. And there are a lot of emotions that surround things like this.

That's why I love the passage from Romans 8: Brothers and sisters: We know that *all things work for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose.*

All things work for good.

Yet, the people in the stories are probably not thinking at that moment that any good could possi-

bly come from what they are experiencing and feeling.

In time of crisis, the best thing you can do is turn to Christ. Maybe for some, they have tried everything else and they figure, "let me give Jesus a try". And they eventually find that it's the best thing they ever did. It's the thing that saved them, or at least held them together.

There are times when we panic when faced with a challenge. Yet, sometimes those challenges can actually be the "birth pangs of a new beginning, a new birth, a new direction." Maybe—just maybe—they might even be blessings in disguise. And the more we open ourselves to Christ, the more we see the pattern of how God works in our life through His Son, Jesus: from suffering to salvation, from cross to resurrection, from humiliation to exaltation.

What we are asked to do when we are faced with a challenge is "go with God", and live with unanswered questions for the time being.

Here are words of wisdom from a great Jesuit thinker that might help us understand what "going with God", and, at the same time, being at peace within ourselves, really means:

Trust in the slow work of God. We are, quite naturally, impatient in everything to reach the end without delay. We should like to skip the intermediate stages. We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new, and yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability—and that it may take a very long time.

Your ideas mature gradually—let them grow, let them shape themselves, without undo haste. Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time and grace and circumstances will make them tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be. Give our Lord the benefit of believing that His hand is leading you and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.



*Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.*

## SCJN CYO Fall Sports

*Registration is Now Open for  
all Parish Students!*

Please register at [www.scjnsaints.org](http://www.scjnsaints.org)



## OUR FALL PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- ◆ *Cross Country: Boys and Girls (Kindergarten—8th grade)*
- ◆ *Field Hockey: Girls (5th—8th grades)*
- ◆ *Soccer: Boys and Girls (5th—8th grades)*
- ◆ *Volleyball: Girls (5th—8th grades)*

REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE ON AUG. 27TH.

ANY questions please contact the CYO Board at  
[SCJNSaints@gmail.com](mailto:SCJNSaints@gmail.com)

**Thank you!** This is the last article I will be writing for the bulletin. My summer assignment is over August 7<sup>th</sup> after which I have 2 weeks of vacation before returning to the seminary. While I will be returning with another seminarian on Thursdays during the school year, I wanted to express my gratitude to the community of St. John Neumann parish for their warm welcome. In particular I would like to thank Msgr. Matz and Fr. Chapman for all of the guidance they've given me this summer and their generous hospitality. I would also like to thank all of the parish staff and in a particular way Clare Frissora who was responsible for a lot of my day to day scheduling and was extremely welcoming and helpful. My heartfelt thanks to Terri, Norma, Paul, Joy, Kathy and all those in the rectory who all contributed to my enjoyable time here. I'd also like to thank all the members of the parish who welcomed me into their meetings and activities; I learned a lot and am grateful for the experience. It's been my pleasure and privilege getting to know so many of you as well as the parish of Saint John Neumann as a whole. Each parish has a distinct feel and character and I've come to know Saint John Neumann's. I'm thankful to God that I have been placed here. I will keep all of you in my prayers; please keep the seminarians at St. Charles in yours. We need them!



## The Saints' Stomp 5K & 1 Mile Run/Fun Walk

The 11th Annual SS. Colman-John Neumann Saints' Stomp 5K Run and 1 Mile Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, September 23rd.

**THE RACE STARTS AT 9AM IN FRONT OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH**

The race and walk is for all ages and abilities, every participant receives a t-shirt. Refreshments will be served.



ALL OF THE PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE SCJN CYO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

To sign-up for the race or walk, please go to [www.brynmawrracing.com](http://www.brynmawrracing.com) under the Race Calendar tab.

## Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) 2023-2024

Registration now open for grades 1-7  
Please register [HERE](#).

St. John Neumann PREP will be on  
Tuesdays 4:30 PM - 5:45 PM on campus  
Sept. 19-May 14



All registrations are to be completed online by Sept. 1.

Early registrations are greatly appreciated for materials ordering and other preparation.

## ALL 7th Grade Students

ARE INVITED TO REGISTER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION APRIL 2024.

PLEASE CONTACT US AT [PREP@SJNPARISH.ORG](mailto:PREP@SJNPARISH.ORG)



## JOIN OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILY

We need YOUR help. Grow in your own faith while helping our young parishioners grow to love Jesus and the Church. We are in need of catechists, aides, hall monitors and substitutes.

Previous experience is not necessary, but a love for Jesus and his children are! (Catechists are paid positions; tools, training and guidance provided!)

Contact Katie Di Rienzo at [prep@sjnparish.org](mailto:prep@sjnparish.org)

Classes: Tuesdays, Sept. 19-May 14, 4:30-5:45 pm



## ALL 2nd Grade Students

ARE INVITED TO REGISTER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION APRIL 2024.

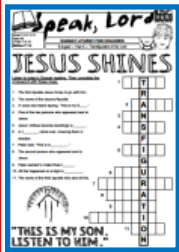
PLEASE CONTACT US AT [PREP@SJNPARISH.ORG](mailto:PREP@SJNPARISH.ORG)



# Family Faith



Click on images for activity sheets!



## Catholic Mass Scavenger Hunt!

**GREAT FOR ADULTS!**

Click on links in the online Bulletin or visit our website homepage.

[What is the full role of the cantor?](#)

[Last Week: Why do we say "It is right and just"?](#)

### FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

#### Edith Stein: The Seventh Chamber



This film is a moving, artistic portrayal of the life of Jewish philosopher, Catholic convert, and Carmelite martyr, Edith Stein. It powerfully captures the interior struggles of this extraordinary woman and her journey toward the Lord.

#### Clare and Francis

This outstanding movie is unique among films about St. Francis because of the historical accuracy of the story and its authentic spirit of joy and piety so characteristic of Francis, as well as the major role played by Clare. Both founded major religious orders, and together they inspired many to follow their radical call to live the Gospel.



#### The Transfiguration | Sacred Art



Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp sit down with Raffaello Sanzio's painting, "The Transfiguration," to discuss its theological meaning and how it can speak to us today.



STUDENTS AT OUR SISTER PARISH IN PHILLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

**DROP-OFF AT CHURCH SEPT 2—10**  
AND HELP THESE STUDENTS BE PREPARED FOR A GREAT YEAR AHEAD!



#### Suggested Items:

- MARBLE COMPOSITION BOOKS; LOOSE LEAF PAPER (WIDE OR COLLEGE RULED); *NO SPIRAL BOOKS*
- PENCILS, ERASERS, ERASABLE BLACK INK PENS, CRAYONS, MAGIC MARKERS, COLOR PENCILS
- RULERS, SCISSORS (FOR LITTLE FINGERS)
- GLUE STICKS, CONSTRUCTION PAPER
- BACKPACKS



Our Mother of Sorrows/  
St. Ignatius of Loyola  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
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*Thank you for helping these children & families make the most of their education!*



Thanks to all donors who helped 'keep our blood supply afloat'.

We reached our goal for July 20 and over our two-day drive, collected 35 units; 105 lives were impacted!

# Pray FOR THE SICK

©JPPC

- Joe & Debbie Difelice
- Richard John
- Stephanie Manko
- Rylee Monahan
- Terry Pennoni
- Loretta Ribecca
- Eric Rudolph
- Coy Saul

*If you would like to add your name or the name of your loved ones to the Prayers List, please call the Parish Office: 610-525-3100*



**SJN VOLUNTEERS HELP IN MANY WAYS! ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN!  
ALL NEW OR PREVIOUS PARISH & SCJN SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS MUST CHECK IN!**

Please contact our Safe Environment Coordinator, Kathy Selvaggi before beginning your support this fall. Thank you! [kathy.selvaggi@sjnparish.org](mailto:kathy.selvaggi@sjnparish.org)



**YOU CAN HELP OVERCOME POVERTY & HOMELESSNESS!**

**VOLUNTEER August 20—27**

Contact Mary Beth Wolanin:

[ihnsjn@gmail.com](mailto:ihnsjn@gmail.com) call/text 610-550-9383

- \* SET-UP — Arrival Sunday at 4 PM (~ 1 hour)
- \* DINNER PREPARERS — 6:15 PM Drop Off meals
- \* EVENING HOST — 6:30–8:00 PM
- \* OVERNIGHT HOST — 8:00 PM–6:00 AM
- \* BREAKDOWN — Departure Sunday 8 AM (~45 mins)
- \* LAUNDRY HELP — Departure Sunday.

## LITTLE CHURCH SCHOOL



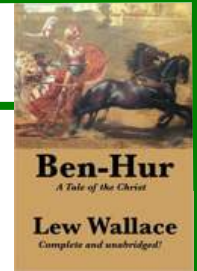
**STARTS SUNDAY, SEPT. 24 AT THE  
9:00 AM MASS FOR CHILDREN  
3 YEAR OLD—KINDERGARTEN.**

We are always looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to help our youngest learn about the Gospel message. Volunteers assist the ministry leader; more volunteers will facilitate a team-rotation schedule.

## Book Club

**Ben-Hur:  
Book 5,  
Part 2 and  
Book 6,  
Part 1**

**[Spoiler alert]**



Excitement is growing in the city in anticipation of the chariot race; revelry and careless expenditure ensue – particularly those “gifts to the voluptuous city by princes careless of expenditure where, as in this instance, they thought they were eternizing themselves” – we noted the ease at which monuments and other items are built as a tribute to keep oneself ‘eternal’ in the eyes of man, rather than deeds and prayer which may have enduring impact on lives... that spill over to others’ lives, and so on. The colors of each team are being worn in some fashion or another. Very little betting is underway, after all, who would bet against Rome and her representative, the much-accomplished Messala? Malluch takes advantage, on instruction from Ben-Hur, who is seeking Messala’s utter humiliation (his loss of fortune in addition to losing the race). Malluch goads Messala and his supporters into 6:1 odds should Ben-Hur win; they take the gamble based on their pride, “Shall it be said... that a dog of Israel [Malluch]... laid five talents in a challenge, and they had not the courage to take it up?” “The sting was unendurable.” Oh, the sin of pride! The bets are large. By race day, Ben-Hur has come to represent all those who hate the Romans and want to see them beaten and humbled. The chariots enter the arena – Iras’ eyes are on Messala (assuming he will win – we learn where her heart truly lies; we wonder how she came to be so different from her father, Balthasar, the wise man) while Esther’s eyes are on Ben-Hur. We are warned: “It is not strength, but art, obtained the prize, And to be swift is less than to be wise.” We appreciated the nod to thought and patience versus strength and speed. But to whom does this refer? And what are the consequences? The race begins and in a grotesque description, the Athenian’s cart gets ensnared, fractures and the charioteer falls, being crunched and wheeled over by horses and chariots. Messala plays unfair and whips Ben-Hur’s horses – who have never known the lash. God’s plan unfolds, making right thru wrong: Ben-Hur’s years in the galley allow his strong arms to manage the surprised horses. Messala in the lead and in the final round—his horses are at full speed. Ben-Hur can’t catch him... The finish line is but 600 feet away. But then Ben-Hur releases his hold on the Arab horses and as they fly, he maneuvers them around and up to Messala’s chariot; his patience and knowledge of the horses’ temperaments pays off! The decorative ‘spear’ on his wheel catches those of Messala’s. Crack! Messala’s chariot begins to fall apart. Again a vivid description of the crash, similar as before, completed only when Messala lies still on the ground. The Athenian is declared dead. Messala survives, never to walk again and in agonizing pain. A lot like how his treatment of Simonides ended: subdued to a chair. (What goes around comes around?) Ben-Hur wins and the Romans recant on their bets. Negotiation ensues and it seems the money will be coming: disgrace from losing *and* disgrace from not honoring the bets? The Romans are cornered. Ben-Hur wants the value of the winnings to stay with his benefactors, however, kept on the ready to support the supposed new King that will need to form an army with arms. All agree. Iras invites the winner, Ben-Hur, to visit her at her palace. It is a trap, Iras doesn’t appear to be involved. The mastermind is Messala, who has sent his henchmen to kill Ben-Hur who is trapped in the palace entry with all doors locked behind him. The men arrive and through a few questions, Ben-Hur finds that the lead is his former gladiator trainer when in Rome. To prove it, he takes on a fight (death determines the winner) with the accomplice and wins through a technique that only the henchman knows – he proves he is the beloved student! Ben-Hur schemes with the henchman, dresses the dead man in his clothes (he looks similar enough), and word is given to Messala that Ben-Hur is truly and finally dead. Messala hasn’t learned that he’s not the only one who can scheme. Meanwhile, Simonides manages the extraction of Valerius Gratus from his role as procurator and installs, instead, Pontius Pilate. It seems Pontius Pilate, evil though he is, wants to demonstrate he is an organized and capable Roman leader. He sets about verifying that those jailed are so due to just reason; he releases those held without accusation. They learn of a falsified prison diagram; there are actually additional rooms. Access to the rooms is through a prisoner who is both blind and now tongueless (love those Romans). Though freed, the prisoner returns to alert that there are prisoners in the secret room. Who do the jailers find? Ben-Hur’s mother and sister! They are freed, but not before we find out that they have contracted leprosy from prisoners.

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