

The month of January stands at the head of the calendar; it is the month of new beginnings. It's never too late to make resolutions. Perhaps this poem may inspire you to reach higher.

Life, I am the New Year!

I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.
I am your next chance at the art of living.
I am your opportunity to practice
what you learned about life
during the last twelve months.

All that you sought and didn't find
is hidden in me,
waiting for you to search it out
with more determination.
All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve
is mine to grant
when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do,
all that you hoped but did not will,
all the faith that you claimed but did not have—
these slumber lightly,
waiting to be awakened
by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity
to renew your allegiance to the One who said:
“Behold I make all things new.”

I am the New Year.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 17, 2010

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Charlie Lombaerde at the
Request of his wife, Carol

TUESDAY, January 19

8:00AM – Charlie Lombaerde
req. by his wife, Carol

SATURDAY, January 23

8:00AM – Daniel Kelly
req. by Edna Schoepfer

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 24

8:00AM – William Smith
req. by Edna Schoepfer

11:30AM – Joan Spoolstra

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,220.00 – Regular Collection – January 10, 2010

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,435.00 – Regular Collection – January 11, 2009

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,396.00 – Regular Collection – January 10, 2010

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,599.00 – Regular Collection – January 11, 2009

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Gertrude Lewis

MONDAY, January 18

9:00AM – Mary Carroll
req. by Sr. John Marie

TUESDAY, January 19

9:00AM – Gertrude Lewis
req. by Mary Flexer

WEDNESDAY, January 20

9:00AM – Margaret Rucinski
req. by Josephine

THURSDAY, January 21

No Mass

FRIDAY, January 22

9:00AM – Leonie Flaskamp

SATURDAY, VIGIL, January 23

5:30PM – Deacon Ellis Schweitzer
req. by Chris Higgins

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 24

9:30AM – William Crawford
req. by Donny & Hilary Hall

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Bree Andrews, Vickie Bennett, Joseph Bruno, Eric Cerra,
Jerry Cooper, Jason DeLorenzo, Geri Fawyer, Ronnie
Ferriere, Nancy Green, Eric Harper, Horace Harper, Sharon
Hubbell, Peter Jaycay, Sharon Johnson, Chuck Lombaerde,
Florence Majewski, Karen Morgan, Richard Nowicki, Joseph
Peraino, Flo Puccio, Evelyn Schweer, Deena Slain, Bill
Sousa, Catherine Vecharello, Lisa Vergona, Tarra Wagner
and Gabriel Wyzga

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Warmth for the Sole

This past November, our Fifth Grade Class, as part of their Christian Service Project, participated in *Warmth for the Sole* by bringing in new men's socks that would then be given to the men at the Goodwill Rescue Mission in Newark. Jeff Lukawski, a retired Newark Firefighter and now a part time employee at Wood Funeral Home, came to our class to pick them up. He shared much with the children about his ministry to the men at this homeless shelter and of their plight. After he spoke to them, the children asked if they could provide even more socks for these men by asking the parishioners to help out too.

On the weekend of January 23rd and 24th, our fifth grade students will be collecting **new men's socks** before and after the Masses. If you are able to help them out with this project, just bring a pair (or more) with you to Mass and place them in the container that will be set up in the gathering space. They will then be taken to the shelter by Jeff. We thank you in advance for your kindness and compassion to those in most need during these bitter cold winter months.

TV Donation

Did anyone get a new TV from Santa this year? Well, if you did and you are looking to find a new home for the old one – the Religious Education Center would welcome a 19 or 25 inch used TV. Just call – we'll be glad to come and pick it up!

From the R.C.I.A.

The R.C.I.A. adults will meet next on January 24 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - topic is Reconciliation and prep for.

Our Parishes are blessed with truly devoted candidates who are questioning with much thought all that is Catholicism. Please feel free to come and be with these candidates as they continue to journey toward the Easter Sacraments. Also keep in mind as we begin 2010, that preparation of candidates for the Easter Sacraments is both parishes joy-filled responsibility and not just the R.C.I.A. coordinator. As the coordinator, I continue to extend a welcome to all adult parishioners to be with us at R.C.I.A. sessions. Peace, Patricia Hope

St. James Venison Dinner

Our dinner will be held on **Saturday, February 13th**. Tickets are \$25 per person, and they will be on sale at all Masses **today**.

PILGRIM VIRGIN OF FATIMA STATUE

This beautifully adorned statue is a visible reminder of the love God has shown in the Blessed Mother. Placing such a beautiful image in your home turns hearts to prayer and brings grace to those who open their hearts to any image of God's love. If you would like to have the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in your home, please contact Diana, Legion of Mary at 973-948-7601. *Pray the Family Rosary*

Don't know what to do with those Christmas Cards?

Donate your Christmas Card fronts to St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Boulder City, Nevada. The ranch deals with at-risk children. Their motto is..."with help comes hope." The children trim the fronts and attach them to new backs. The children would get \$.15 for each card made as spending money. St. Jude's would resell the new cards. If you would like to donate your used greeting cards to Chris Higgins (201-738-9968) I will see that they are sent to the ranch. St. Jude's Ranch for Children is not associated with St. Jude's Children Research Hospital in Tennessee. I will have boxes at both churches for you to place your cards. Thank you in advance.

Pot Luck Dinner

On **Saturday, January 23rd**, we will be holding the first pot luck dinner of the New Year at St. Thomas after the 5:30pm Mass. Please join us in celebrating the New Year with your friends and neighbors. There is a sign up sheet in the gathering space. Please sign up and bring a dish or call the parish office, and we will add you to the list. Thank you.

Right to Life March

On **Friday, January 22, 2010**, the annual Right to Life March will be held in Washington, D.C. There will be a bus leaving from St. Joseph's Church in Newton at 6 AM for anyone who wants to attend the March. The cost per person is \$20 – if this is a hardship, please call Marion, 973-293-3850. There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering space or call the parish office. Checks should be made payable to St. Thomas Church.

Beyond the Parish

Camp Auxilium Learning Center (Preschool Program for 3, 4, 5 and Full day Kindergarten) 14 Old Swartswood Road in Newton will be having "Open House/Registration Days" on January 26th and 27th from 9 – 11am for the September 2010 school year. For further information, please call 973-383-2621 between 9am and 2pm for check our website.

Attention Men of our Parish: The 4th annual Our Lady of Mount Carmel Men's Retreat is planned for January 29 through 31 at Sacred Heart Spirituality Center. Those who attended our three previous retreats found them to be a very special time that brought them closer to God. All men are welcome; you do not need to be a member of our parish, so please bring along a friend or relative and join us for a weekend of spirituality, prayer and fellowship. For more information or to register, please contact Deacon Tony at barile@ptd.net or 973-383-3430.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

STC -- St. Thomas Ch. or Fr. Lewis Center

SJC -- St. James Ch. or Church Hall

REC -- Fr. Gacquin Religious Ed. Center

Sunday, January 17, 2010

9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.

9:30 a.m. STC & REC Gr. 6-7-8 Mass & Class

11:30 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass

3:00 p.m. STC Columbiettes' Mtg.

4:00 p.m. REC Confirmation Prep.

Monday, January 18

11:00 a.m. REC Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesday, January 19

10:00 a.m. STC Reflection on Readings

4:00 p.m. REC Gr. 1 & 2

Wednesday, January 20

4:00 p.m. REC Gr. 3, 4 & 5

Thursday, January 21

9:30 a.m. STC Moms & Tots Group

Friday, January 22

Right To Life March, Washington D.C.

?? All day: STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

?? 3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

?? 4:00 p.m. Evening Prayer & Benediction

Saturday, January 23

9:30 a.m. REC Legion of Mary Mtg.

10:00 a.m. B-Ball Free Throw at Sandyston School

5:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Dinner after Mass

Sunday, January 24, 2010

2:00 p.m. STC 8th Grade Spelling Bee

Future Events

Sat. Feb. 13 6:00 p.m. St. James Venison Dinner at Port Jervis Naval Ship

Prayer: How powerful is it ? "Prayer is the means by which we share God's life *already* in this world, and prepare to share it *fully* in the next." Commentary in current *We Celebrate Missalette*, p. 62

Why Catholic? Sign-Up Sunday is next week-end. This new series is entitled: "*The Celebration of Christian Mystery*" and will be a study of our Seven Sacraments. You will come to understand better the power and strength that each Sacrament has to offer. We speak of the Sacraments as Jesus' way of continuing His work on earth. Join us for six hours, during the six weeks of Lent, and come to see how they are the center of the Church's life. **Sign-up** will be after each Mass. Let this be your "extra effort" during Lent. You will be greatly rewarded.

Home Blessings. Several families have asked if a traditional Home Blessing is possible. Blessings can be scheduled on Sat. afternoons, on the hour, from 12 Noon through 4 p.m. To set up a date and time, please call the Parish Office, 973-948-2296, from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

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**Registration Form
for B-Ball Free Throw**

To be held at the Sandyston School on Sat. Jan. 23rd at 10 a.m. Boys and girls, ages 10 – 14 can enter. Proof of age (birth or baptism certificate) is required. Best of 15 throws moves on to District Competition. Sponsored by our K. of C.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Age: _____

School: _____

Parent's Permission: _____

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**Registration Form
For Eighth Grade Spelling Bee**

To be held at St. Thomas on Sun. Jan. 24 at 2 p.m. All 8th Grade students of our parishes and area are welcome to enter. Proof of Grade will be required. First Place winner will go on to K. of C. Competition in February. Good luck !

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Age: _____

School: _____

Parent's Permission: _____