



ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

601 E. Delp Road, Lancaster, PA 17601

www.sjnlancaster.org * (717) 569-8531

VERY REV. DANIEL F.X. POWELL, V.F., PASTOR

Welcome!

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday | 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Closed Fridays

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 4:00 pm Vigil
Sunday | 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,
5:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Monday | 9:00 am
Tuesday | 9:00 am
Wednesday | 9:00 am
Thursday | 9:00 am, 6:00 pm
Friday | 9:00 am

Live-Streamed Masses

Saturday | 4:00 pm Vigil
Sunday | 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Monday through Friday | 9:00 am

Confession

Thursday | 4:30 pm - 5:45 pm
Saturday | 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Other | By Appointment

Adoration

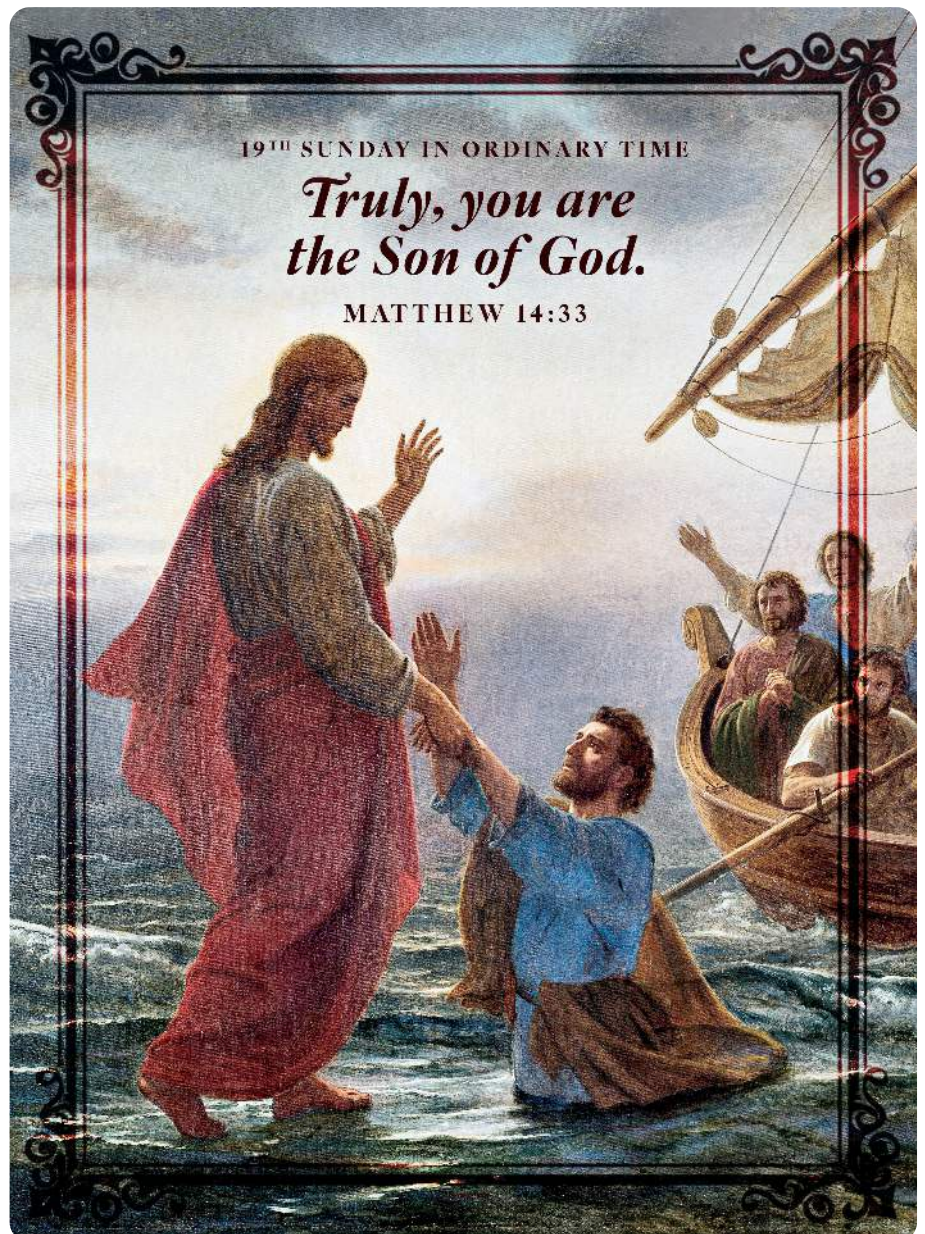
Wednesday | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:45 pm
Thursday | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm for
Vocations & Consecrated Life

DONATE ONLINE

Donating online is easy! Just aim your phone camera at the QR Code and follow the link. Thank you!



August 9, 2026





PARISH CLERGY

Pastor

Very Rev. Daniel F.X. Powell, V.F.
frdan@sjnlancaster.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Gregory Aabaa
frgreg@sjnlancaster.org

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Peter Jupin
pjupin@sjnlancaster.org
Deacon Michael Oles
moles5@comcast.net

Substitute Priest

Rev. Michael Culkin

PARISH STAFF

Parish Manager

Tom Conner
tconner@sjnlancaster.org

Parish Secretary

Kim Mikulski
kmikulski@sjnlancaster.org

Youth Protection / Admin. Staff

Linda Gowarty
lgowarty@sjnlancaster.org

Parish Health Ministry

Tonianne Bertel
tbertel@sjnlancaster.org

Music Coordinator

Kurt Kehler
kmk@pa.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Director of Religious Education

Nate Gulya
ngulya@sjnlancaster.org

Assitant to the Director of Rel. Ed.

Erin Houser
ehouser@sjnlancaster.org

Youth Ministry

Udoka Ugoagwu
youthministry@sjnlancaster.org

Counseling Services Available

Counseling services are now available at St. John Neumann by Kathy Birmingham, L.C.S.W. for a free-will offering. Donations received defray a portion of the cost of required continuing education for maintaining licensure and professional insurance. If you are interested in hearing more about this opportunity or would like to schedule a time, please call Kathy at (717) 397-8647.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parishioners who would like to have their child baptized at SJN are asked to go to the "How Do I" tab on our website to personally schedule a date. Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:00 pm and Saturdays by request. At least one sponsor must be a practicing Catholic, age 16 or older, Confirmed, and must present a sponsor certificate if from another parish. A Baptism class is required if you have not completed one already. More information available on the website.



STEWARDSHIP

August 2, 2026

Sunday Envelopes & ParishSoft
\$29,409.28

Each parish in the diocese operates as an independent Charitable Trust. Contributions provided to our parish are used solely for the operation of our parish and its missions.

ParishSoft
by Ministry Brands



If you are interested in enrolling in ParishSoft Giving, please visit our webpage and click on the Donate Now Tab or scan this QR Code. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Gowarty at 717-569-8531.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

2026 Diocesan Annual Campaign

FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Goal \$ 223,042
Total Pledged \$ 195,221
Total Cash Collected . . \$ 185,322

Find A Mass

Are you planning a trip? Check out FindAMass.org and masstimes.org.

With these tools, you can easily locate the most up-to-date Mass and sacrament times, as well as Catholic Church locations across the United States.

Hospital Visiting

The local hospitals are not obligated to notify us when you are admitted. If you or a loved one enter the hospital, please contact Tonianne at the Parish Office to let her know.

Meal Ministry

Parish Health Ministry volunteers will provide meals for people recently released from the hospital and for women or families who have recently given birth. Please contact Tonianne at the Parish Office if you would like to receive a meal.



Please remember our neighbors in need. Help us to help them.



You can now use our new website for donations. Use the QR code or go to www.sinconfvdp.org and click on the **DONATE** button in the upper left corner.

Thank you.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 8

4:00 pm | James Gallagher

Sunday, August 9

7:30 am | Lena & Al Bogacki

9:00 am | Melissa Book Eberly

11:00 am | Daniel Jerome Gambale

5:00 pm | People of the Parish

Monday, August 10

9:00 am | Special Intention for Nic

& Rosemary Bianco

Tuesday, August 11

9:00 am | Larry Burt

Wednesday, August 12

9:00 am | Chuck Mayo

Long Community | Joseph Conzoneri

Thursday, August 13

9:00 am | Ella, Francis, Jr. & Francis

Donohue, III

6:00 pm | Dennis DeVorchik

Friday, August 14

9:00 am | Richard Lucas

Saturday, August 15

4:00 pm | Angela Kathleen Ramig

Sunday, August 16

7:30 am | People of the Parish

9:00 am | Mary Kernaghan

11:00 am | Family of Angelini, Platz &

Roman

5:00 pm | Lucille Davis



ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers for the week of August 8-14, 2026
in honor of Cindy & Chris Dempsey
25th Wedding Anniversary

WEEKLY READINGS

For the Week of August 10-15, 2026

Monday

2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9;

Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday

Ez 2:8-3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111,

131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday

Ez 9:1-7; 10-18-22; Ps 113:1-2, 3-4,

5-6; 2 Cor 5:19; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday

Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-57, 58-59,

61-62; Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday

Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or Ez 16:59-63; Is

12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday

Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10, 11,

12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56



SUNDAY READINGS

August 16, 2026

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading ~ Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

2nd Reading ~ Romans 11:13-15,
29-32

Gospel ~ Matthew 15:21-28

SUNDAY HYMNS

August 9, 2026

Entrance ~ Holy! Holy! Holy!

Preparation of the Gifts ~ Here I Am, Lord

Communion ~ You Are Near

Recessional ~ How Firm A Foundation

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Our Sick Parishioners

Bob Beal

Hans Deatrick

Dennis Downey

Michael Jurasinski

Jeff Lamp

John Perozich

Dick Savicky

Bob Sugra

Bill White

and all those on the Prayer
Circle/Chain.

Our Christian Community Welcomes

*For by one Spirit we were all
baptized into one body...*

Congratulations!

STEVEN SCHAUB & THERESE LEWIS

United in Marriage on...

Saturday, August 1, 2026

IN OUR HEARTS

Those Who Have Died



Rest in Peace



Sun., August 9th	• K of C Pig Roast Ticket Sales – Narthex • 10:00 am–12:00 pm – OCIA – Youth Room • 1:00–4:00 pm – Secular Franciscan Order Gathering – Social Hall • 6:00–8:30 pm – Youth Group – Youth Room, Social Hall
Mon., August 10th	• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church • 9:30 am – 12:00 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry – Conference Room • 6:00–7:30 pm – Walking With Purpose – Social Hall • 6:00–8:00 pm – Altar Server Training – Church
Tues., August 11th	• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church • 2:00–3:30 pm – Women’s Group – Youth Room • 6:30–8:30 pm – Sheepfold Council Meeting – Conference Room • 6:00 pm – Men’s Hour – Social Hall • 7:00–8:30 pm – K of C General Council – Social Hall • 7:00–8:30 pm – St. Vincent de Paul – Library
Wed., August 12th	• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church • 9:30 – 11:00 am – Catholic Moms Bible Study – Youth Room • 12:00 – 4:00 pm – Adoration with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:45 pm – Church • 6:00–8:00 pm – Altar Server Training – Church
Thurs., August 13th	• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church • 9:30 am – Pro-Life Stations of the Cross – Church • 1:00–3:30 pm – Pinochle – Social Hall • 4:30 – 5:45 pm – Confessions • 4:30 – 6 pm – Young Adult Bible Study – Library • 6:30 – 7:30 pm – Adoration for Vocations and Consecrated Life
Fri., August 14th	• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church • 9:30 am – Divine Mercy Chaplet – Church • 9:45–11:45 am – CFCL Saint Squad – Playground
Sat., August 15th	• 2:00–3:30 pm – Confessions
Sun., August 16th	• 12:00–3:00 pm – K of C Pig Roast – Take Out Only

HelpOurMarriage.org

RETRouvaille®

FOR A STRONGER MARRIAGE



NO MARRIAGE IS BEYOND HOPE

Since 1977 Retrouvaille has helped heal and renew the marriages of over 200,000 couples in over 26 countries.

Whether you:

- have been married for many years or a short time;
- are not communicating well;
- are bored, angry, or frustrated in your marriage;
- are in a state of hopelessness;
- are separated or divorced

WE CAN HELP!

Upcoming
Eastern PA
Weekend
September 11-13



For more information
Scan QR code
717.356.2185



Altar Servers play a crucial role in assisting the priest celebrate God through the Mass. Serving at the Altar is an amazing way to grow in faith, learn more about the Mass, and serve our parish.

If you know any students in grades 4 through 12 who have had their First Communion and are interested in becoming an

Altar Server, there will be Altar Server training sessions held at the church from 6 to 8 PM on August 10th and 12th.

Current and previous Altar Servers are also invited to attend the training sessions, as certain parts of the Altar Server program at Saint John Neumann have changed.



COFFEE & DONUTS

We are currently on summer hiatus.

Please watch this space for next year's sign-up.



TRAVELING CHALICE

Sign Up for the Traveling Vocations Chalice!

Have you taken the Traveling Vocations Chalice home yet?

Each week, a parish family brings the chalice into their home as a visible reminder to pray for those discerning God's call to the priesthood and religious life. It's a simple but powerful way to make vocations part of your family's daily prayer life.

Ready to participate? Stop by the Vocations Corner desk in the narthex to sign up on our paper form, or reserve your week online through SignUp Genius.

VOCATIONS CORNER

Adoration for Vocations to the Priesthood every
Thursday 6:30~7:30 pm



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." (Matthew 14:27)

In the midst of uncertainty and challenge, Jesus calls us to trust in His presence. Vocations invite us to step out in faith, whether to priesthood, consecrated life, or sacramental marriage, placing our lives in His hands and allowing Him to guide us. How is He calling you? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (717) 657-4804 ext. 282 or via email: vocations@hbgdiocese.org.

SJN Men's Hour



Connect and Grow

A monthly gathering where SJN Catholic men slow down together, grow in faith, and talk honestly about real life.

August '26 Topic: ***Pornography, Lust, and the Battle for Integrity***

Searching for A few Good Men

AUGUST 11, 2026
6-7 PM

Social Hall, Main Church, SJN

Discussion Led by
Deacon Peter Jupin





VETERAN BOARD

PHM maintains an honor board for both our veterans and active service members. If your loved one's name is on this bulletin board, in the back entry way, and their assignments have changed please call Tonianne at 717 569-8531 ext. 229 to update information. If a loved one, especially any of our SJN members have recently entered a service branch and you'd like us to honor them please send details of their name, branch, rank, and assigned location- forms can be found at the bulletin board or call the office.

Have you disconnected your landline? Is your primary means of communication now through a mobile phone? Please notify SJN staff of this phone number so we can update your records.

Do you regularly attend Mass at SJN but have not registered as a parishioner- please call office to register or go to web page and complete registration online. This allows SJN to stay in contact with you and share with you church information and events.

Our team at Neffsville Rehab & Nursing (Lancashire) are in need of a few more Extraordinary Ministers- If interested please reach out to Tonianne at 717 569-8531 x 229



PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY (PHM)

WHAT IS COGNITIVE RESERVE

Cognitive reserve is the brain's ability to keep functioning well, even when it has age-related changes, injury, or disease. It explains why two people with the same amount of Alzheimer's pathology or vascular damage can show very different levels of cognitive impairment.

What Cognitive Reserve Means

- It is the brain's resilience—the capacity to maintain thinking, memory, and problem-solving despite underlying damage.
- People with high cognitive reserve can improvise, use alternative neural pathways, and recruit different strategies to complete tasks.
- Research has shown that people with greater cognitive reserve are better able to stave off symptoms of degenerative brain changes associated with dementia or other brain diseases, such as Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, or a stroke.
- A more robust cognitive reserve can also help you function better for longer if you're exposed to unexpected life events, such as stress, surgery, or toxins in the environment. Such circumstances demand extra effort from your brain
- It is distinct from brain reserve, which refers to structural advantages (larger brain volume, more neurons). Cognitive reserve is the functional ability to adapt.

The concept of cognitive reserve came from autopsy studies in the late 1980s that found individuals who had advanced Alzheimer's disease pathology but showed no symptoms during life. Their brains compensated for the damage—this gap between pathology and symptoms led researchers to define "cognitive reserve."

How Cognitive Reserve Is Built: Research consistently shows that reserve is accumulated across a lifetime through such things as: Education (each additional year contributes measurable benefit). Mentally demanding occupations and problem-solving work. Cognitive engagement: reading, writing, puzzles, music, learning new skills. Social engagement and strong social networks. Physical exercise, which supports both brain structure and network efficiency. Bilingualism, associated with a 4–5-year delay in dementia symptoms.

Cognitive Reserve matters because it can delay the onset of dementia symptoms, even when disease is present. It helps people recover better from stroke, injury, surgery, or stress. High reserve may mask symptoms until a threshold is crossed after which decline can appear more rapidly.

GRIEF SHARES FALL SESSION TO BEGIN ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST 10-11:30AM

This 13-week program is a safe place offering a healthy group experience for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. This Christ-centered support group program is built around a 3-part design. Each session will show a short 20-30-minute video with valuable insight based on the topic of the week from counselors, pastors and personal stories of people who found healing after a loved one's death. There would then be a small group discussion with opportunity to talk about information shared in the video and/or any challenges you may be experiencing. There is a workbook that follows the 13-week topics and offers support references for the week between sessions.

Registration is required and a \$10 fee is collected during first 3 sessions to off set cost of the workbook that is provided to all participants.

Call Tonianne at 717-569-8531 ext. 229 to register.



ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

As an authentically Catholic community, we welcome and value each person's giftedness while inspiring growth in Truth, Wisdom, Faith & Virtue. We exemplify Christ's love in service to others.



(717) 844-6100

Principal ~ Karen Henry
henryka@sjnschoollancaster.org

This Week at SJNCS

St. John Neumann Catholic School is still operating under summer office hours. The school office will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 am – 12 pm.

Tours are still able to be scheduled over the summer!

If you are a new family just joining SJNCS this year, we look forward to seeing you at the New Parent Orientation on Monday, Aug. 17. The meeting, for parents with children in PK-grade 8, will begin at 6 pm in the school cafeteria. Come and hear everything you need to know for the upcoming school year and ask any questions you may still have. We do ask that children not attend so that parents may focus on the information being presented.

We hope to see all of our SJNCS families at the PTO Back to School Social on Saturday, Aug. 22 at the SJN Parish Pavilion. Please check the SJNCS Weekly for details. What a great way to kick off the school year by seeing some old classmates & parents – and meeting some new ones!



LANCASTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



(717) 509-0315

President ~ Kyla (Morrison) Hockley '96

khockley@lchsyes.org

Principal ~ Sean Van Eman

svaneman@lchsyes.org

Lancaster Catholic High School is seeking substitute teachers for this academic year. If you or someone you know would be a great fit to help support our school community in this way, please contact Sean Van Eman at svaneman@lchsyes.org for more information.

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Be part of the Crusader story at our 10th Annual Crusader Legacy Golf Classic on September 21st!

Whether you join us on the course or support the event as a sponsor, your investment makes a lasting impact on our students. Your generosity helps provide exceptional opportunities in academics, athletics, fine and performing arts, campus ministry, student life and tuition assistance, empowering every Crusader to learn, lead, serve and succeed.

For more information and to register, please visit

<https://www.lchsyes.org/apps/pages/legacygolfclassic>

or contact Mandee Sahd-Havrilla 717.509.0313/

msahd-havrilla@lchsyes.org

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LCBS CLASS OF 1976 REUNION

The Lancaster Catholic High School Class of 1976 will hold its 50th Class Reunion on Saturday, August 22, 2026 from 6-10 pm at Media Heights Golf Club, 402 Golf Rd., Lancaster.

We would like to invite you and a guest to join us for the celebration!

Cost will be \$55 per person and we are asking you to RSVP with payment ASAP. Checks payable to LCBS Class of 1976 Reunion and mail to Joan Carey Glassmyer, 220 Johns Ally, Mt. Joy PA 17552.

Please spread the word to any classmates you think we may have missed. Questions to Joan 717 615-6229 or Cindy 717 575-5810.



All adult parishioners and guests are welcome to join the St. Anne-Neumann Senior Club for:



The inspiring true story about Carole King spans from her early days as a Brooklyn teenager struggling to enter the record business to her years spent as a chart-topping music legend. Hear *So Far Away*, *Natural Woman*, *One Fine Day*, *It's Too Late* and more.

Date: Friday, October 16, 2026 – Lunch at 11:30, Show at 1pm

Venue: Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre 510 Centerville Road, Lancaster

Cost: \$75 per person includes lunch, show, tax, and gratuity

Due date: August 16, 2026 (No refunds after September 1, 2026)

Make payment to: Ginny Mahony 931 Founders Way, East Petersburg, PA 17520

SJN YOUTH MINISTRY



August 2026

SJN Young Adult Bible Study Every
Thursday: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Ages 16 + Youth group is grades 6th and up

Medjugorje Pilgrimage
Youth Festival (37th Mladifest)
JULY 28-AUGUST 5, 2026
I'm away all week : (

SUN 2ND	6:00 pm 8:30 pm	Youth Group Theme: TBD Yg will be ran by Bob Cybulski
SUN 9TH	6:00 pm 8:30 pm	Youth Group Adoration Night - Theme: Transfiguration*
MON 10TH	Grades 7-12	Annual SJN YG HERSHEY PARK TRIP All Day
SUN 16TH	6:00 pm 8:30 pm	Youth Group Theme: Assumption of BVM*
SUN 23RD	6:00 pm 8:30 pm	Youth Group Theme: Keys and Kingdom*
SUN 30TH	6:00 pm 8:30 pm	Youth Group Theme: Doctor*

SJN Youth Minister & St. Mary's YM Assistant: F. Udoka Ugoagwu
Contact: youthministry@sjnlancaster.org

Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima Parish Visitation

The world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue, which has been traveling for 75 years is coming to the area! The mission of the Statue is to bring the message of Fatima—the Peace Plan from Heaven—to a world in need.

Where:

St. Mary's Catholic Church
119 S. Prince St.

When:

Friday, September 11, 2026
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Schedule:

Holy Mass

Brown Scapular Enrollment

Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary talk by Statue Custodian

Prayer for Victims of Violence

Adoration

Rosary

Veneration of Statue

Contact:

Parish Office @ 717-392-2578
for more info

Donations will be accepted

Parking will be available in Steinman Parking
Garage or on the street






View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



The mission of Crusader football is to provide a strong Catholic football program to develop our young men in a Christ-like manner, while also striving to perform at the highest level, athletically.

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Boys Grades 10-12

Lancaster Catholic High School

Head Coach: Chris Maiorino

cmaiorino@lchsyas.org

JR. HIGH FOOTBALL

Boys Grades 7-9

Attending LCHS or Partner Schools

Head Coach: Jackson Houston

jacksonhouston61@yahoo.com

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Boys Grades 1-7

CYAA

Attending Partner Schools or Parishes

Director: Jim Manley

jmpmanley@gmail.com

FAITH. FAMILY. FOOTBALL.



ST. JOHN NEUMANN
CHURCH

Join Us For Our **Women's Bible Study**

No prior knowledge
needed. Open to women
of all ages.



This fall, we will dive into the Gospel
according to Matthew, a study from
Ignatius Catholic Study Bible.

Mondays in the Social Hall
September 14, 2026 - June 21, 2027
at 6:30 PM

or

Thursdays in the Social Hall
September 17, 2026 - June 24, 2027
at 9:30 AM

To register for one of the sessions,
please scan the QR code





WE CELEBRATE LIFE!

"Though innocent, Jesus is condemned by the power of the State. In like manner, our innocent brothers and sisters in the womb have been condemned. Their rights and dignity are not recognized. In this, they bear a special likeness to Jesus." ~ Meditations for Pro-Life Stations of the Cross ~ The First Station: Jesus is Condemned to Death

For a meaningful, peaceful time of reflection, please join us for our Pro-Life Stations of the Cross this Thursday, August 13th after the 9 am Mass. Weather permitting, we will be in our beautiful Memorial Grove.

Pro-Life Stations are held every second Thursday of the month either in the Grove or the church sanctuary.

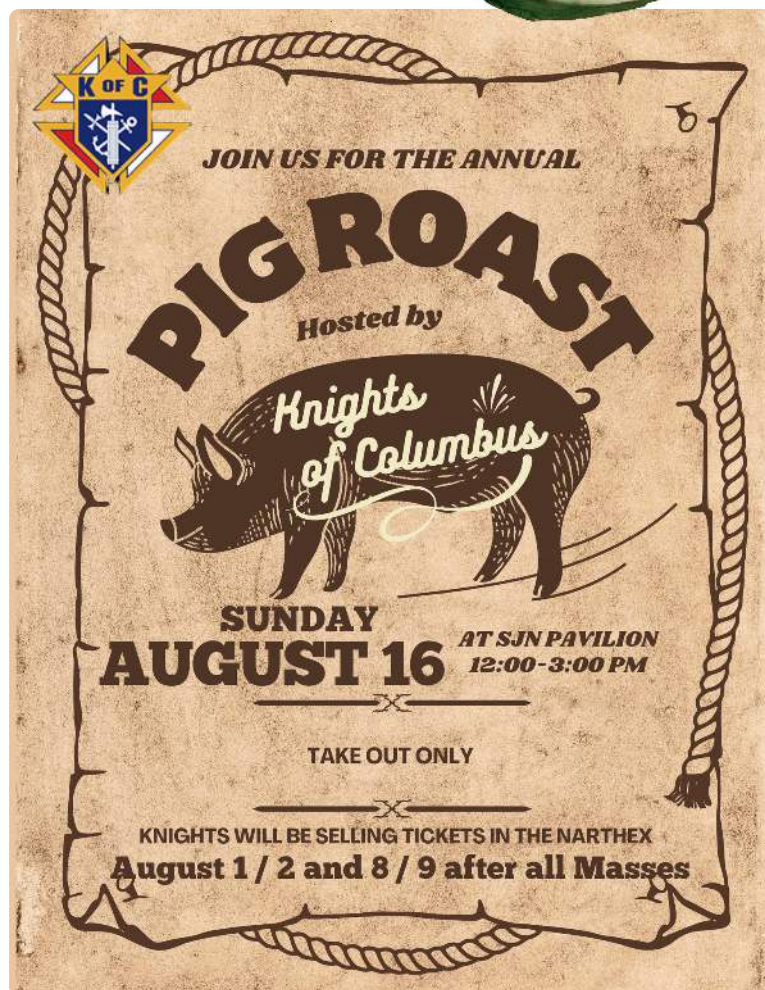
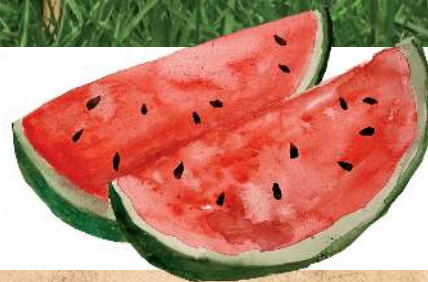
If you are unable to join us for our Thursday sessions, please consider doing personal Stations at your convenience. There is a box located at the entrance to the pathway that contains several

versions of Stations, including the Pro-Life Stations. The box was installed by members of the parish's Our Lady Queen of the Angels Secular Franciscan Order.

"Many watched the Lord suffer. Simon the Cyrenian helped alleviate that suffering. Many lament abortion. Some actually get involved to help stop it. We pray that all people may take their active place in the pro-life movement." ~ The Fifth Station: The Cyrenian Helps Jesus Carry His Cross

"A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world...from every family and from the heart of every believer."

Pope St. John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae





JOIN US...

Pinochle

Our next get together will be
Thursday, August 13



Are you looking for something to do? Do you enjoy playing cards? We have a Pinochle group that meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 1 - 3:30 pm in the Social Hall. Just show up and join a table.

Questions? Call Dale Kopp
717-203-6766



DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG

Vacancies – Development Office

Campaign Gift Processor

The Diocese of Harrisburg is seeking a Campaign Gift Processor to play a critical role in the success of the Ignite! initiative by ensuring the accurate, timely, and confidential processing of all campaign contributions. This position supports donor stewardship efforts by maintaining precise gift records, generating acknowledgments, and assisting with reporting that informs campaign strategy and progress. The ideal candidate will have an Associate or Bachelor's degree in business, finance, nonprofit management or related field, a minimum of 1–3 years of experience in data entry, gift processing, accounting, or administrative support, and experience with donor databases or CRM systems. Please send resume and cover letter to kroche@hbgdiocese.org. Full job description is available at www.hbgdiocese.org/careers/.



Capital Campaign Manager

The Diocese of Harrisburg is seeking a qualified candidate to join a team of capital campaign managers to conduct the Ignite! initiative in support of the Diocese of Harrisburg.

What boxes are you looking to check in your career?

- Integrating your Catholic faith journey with your professional work to make a real and lasting impact on the lives of those in need in Central Pennsylvania
- Competitive salary, benefits
- A culture emphasizing creativity, fun, exemplary service and a strong work-life balance
- Collaboration with an outstanding team of professionals
- Engagement with pastors and parish communities to help realize their goals

If this sounds intriguing, we'd love to hear from you. Qualified candidates for our team are spiritually motivated, enthusiastic, attentive to detail, organized, creative and strong communicators. Familiarity with Microsoft Office is essential. Past experience in the fields of development or ministry preferred. Training will be provided for the particulars of the role, but finding the right person with a heart for the mission of the Catholic Church is key. Travel is an important part of the role – our campaign managers serve our pastors, parish staff and campaign volunteers in parishes across 15 counties in Central Pennsylvania.

At the Diocese of Harrisburg, we are primed to grow in service to our partners and in our mission. Join our team and help us achieve bold, noble goals in true service to God and neighbor. Please send resume and cover letter to kroche@hbgdiocese.org.

Full job description is available at www.hbgdiocese.org/careers/.

Welcome to Our New Parishioners

Wally & Katie Rutecki and Children
Lynne Groff
Benjamin Zanowski
Brian O'Neill
Shirley Raczka
Trey & Elisabeth Baker
Henrietta Thomas
Bonnie Detz
Allie Coulton and Daughter

Brad & Johanna Koehler and Children
Jordan Cassidy
Kevin & Paulette Bogert and Son
Molly Clifford
Greg & Catie Krajewski and Children
Sarah Harvey
Al & Marilyn Frantz
Kendall Feliciano-Martzall & Samuel Martzall and Son
Joseph & Wilma Vetrano





The Union of Heaven and Earth

During the Holy Triduum this year, I was battling a cold that just wouldn't go away. I had already been sick for over a week and was still coughing. Nevertheless, I had volunteered to be a lector for the Holy Thursday liturgy, as they hadn't been able to find enough volunteers. So, I asked God to help me read for His glory, and without coughing, if at all possible.

Precisely because I wanted to save my voice, I decided not to sing the hymns prior to the readings. I simply mouthed the words, participating as best I could, and listened as the entire community sang behind me.

During the "Gloria" I had a profound experience. I felt as though heaven and earth were united in one massive choir, and that Jesus, seated at the right hand of His Father, was present with us right there above the altar.

The reality is that the Most Holy Trinity, along with the angels and saints, is in fact present with us at every Mass. I recall watching a short video entitled "The Veil Removed" which depicts angels processing down the church's main aisle until they reach the altar and surround it. During the consecration of the bread, the angels offer praise to Jesus, present in the host. During the consecration of the wine, the blood of Christ is shown dripping into the chalice from the crucifix hanging behind the altar, reminding us once again that what we consume is truly His Body and Blood.

In today's readings, we also see how God makes Himself present in various ways. Elijah does not find Him in the heavy wind, nor in the earthquake, nor in the fire, but rather in a tiny whispering sound. In the second reading, we see the Spirit of Christ present in Saint Paul, who is deeply anguished over his brethren and willing to do whatever it takes for their well-being. And in the Gospel, Jesus makes Himself present to His disciples as they struggle in their boat amid a violent storm. After telling Peter to walk on the water and saving him when he began to sink, they proclaimed, "Truly, you are the Son of God."

Just like that experience I had on Holy Thursday, and just like that video I watched, today's readings are another demonstration of the unity of God with His people, of heaven with earth. May God help us realize in a much deeper way the union of His divinity with our humanity. May we be filled with joy, knowing that soon we will be fully united with Him forever in heaven.

By Tami Urcia

SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE (1894-1941)

August 14

Perhaps most well known for his martyrdom in a concentration camp where he offered to die in place of a father with a family, his story of sainthood began much earlier. He entered the minor seminary of the Conventual Franciscans in his native Poland at a young age and was ordained a priest at 24. He founded The Militia of the Immaculata to fight evil through the positive witness of a holy life. He also began a magazine to spread the good news and it eventually reached one million subscribers. All that he did was driven by his devotion to the Blessed Mother, for it was she who appeared to him holding in her hands one white and one red crown, asking him if he would like to have purity or martyrdom. He chose both and lived out his days dedicated to her and her son, until he died by starvation and lethal injection to save another man's life. Although we may not be called to physically die for another, there are many ways we can die to ourselves each day in love and service to others. Let us follow the example of Saint Maximilian Kolbe and be willing to lose our lives that we might find eternal life in heaven.

—Tami Urcia



SAINT TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS (EDITH STEIN) (1891-1942)

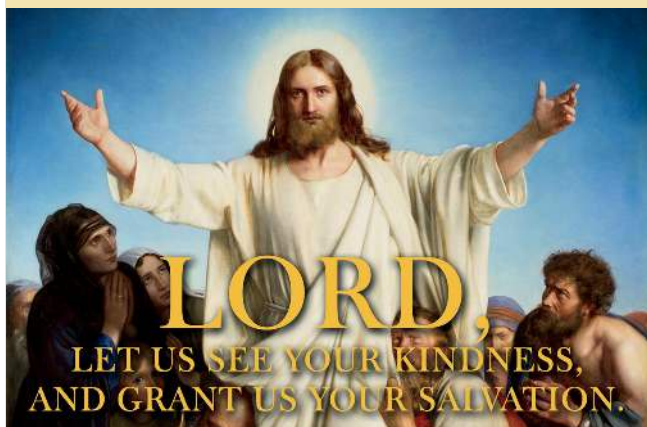
August 9

"Come," Edith gently whispered, taking her sister Rosa's hand, "let us go for our people!"

These were Edith Stein's last words as the Nazis, enraged at the Dutch bishops' condemnation of their genocide, took into custody all Catholic converts from Judaism.

Born Jewish, but non-practicing from her teens, Edith's search for truth led to a doctorate in philosophy, a brilliant career as professor and author and, finally, to the Autobiography of Saint Teresa of Ávila, which she read in one sitting, then declared, "That is the Truth!" Baptized on January 1, 1922, observed then as the feast of Jesus' initiation into the covenant of Abraham, confirmed on February 2, the feast of Jesus' Presentation in the Temple, Edith entered the cloistered Carmelites in Cologne, transferring to a convent in Holland when she realized that, because of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, her presence could imperil the safety of the other nuns. She died in the gas chambers of Auschwitz as a daughter of Israel and of the Church.

—Peter Scagnelli



"Let it be Done for You as You Wish"

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus was not deaf to the pleas of the Canaanite woman, but he did not respond to her right away. When he did respond, he appeared to be insulting her. Why? Theologians have offered various perspectives on this interaction, but Jesus' response certainly wasn't due to prejudice! Jesus may have been using this lesson to help his apostles see what was on the horizon. A bridging of the gap between the old attitudes and the new realities; between the Old Covenant understanding that foreigners were excluded from salvation and the fact that Jesus would soon offer the gift of salvation to the whole world. But the one message that comes through loud and clear in today's Gospel is the faith of the Canaanite woman. Jesus tests her faith, and she comes through with flying colors!

Something I find interesting about this story and others like it, is how our Lord allows others to "persuade" him to act. In a shocking, deeply mysterious cooperation with us, and never outside of His providential will, He gives mere human beings the ability to change outcomes. At the wedding at Cana, He is seemingly reluctant to do his first miracle, but his mother's intervention prompts him to act. In another scenario, He is walking toward Jairus' home in the midst of a large crowd and the woman with the hemorrhage covertly touches his garment. Without Jesus' clear permission, she receives healing. Then there is the woman in today's Gospel who doesn't allow Jesus' comment to crush her but continues to plead her cause and thereby receives the blessing of her daughter's deliverance.

These faithful women do not perceive themselves as entitled. Quite the opposite! They are extremely humble. This humility, this knowing-who-they-are, helps them to recognize who Jesus is and what he is capable of. These women do not demand what they want, but they have great confidence in Jesus, and they persist. Their faith is astounding.

Many of us have an inability to perceive how great our need is (I'm okay, you're okay), and mistakenly think we must solve our problems independently. We don't like to think of ourselves as helpless, weak, and unable to produce results without someone else's assistance. "Believe in yourself," is a much more popular motto than "Believe in Jesus."

This is all nonsense. I am not okay. You are not okay. We are sinners and we need a savior. We need help every moment of every day to live the life God is calling us to. God provided a remedy for our sin problem, and Jesus alone is the Savior we so desperately need. Mother Mary, the woman with hemorrhage, and the Canaanite woman from today's Gospel knew that Jesus was the answer to every problem. Jesus' response to all three of them can be summed up in his response to the Canaanite woman: "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

By Christine Hanus





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