



# ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

601 E. Delp Road, Lancaster, PA 17601

[www.sjnlancaster.org](http://www.sjnlancaster.org) \* (717) 569-8531

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

## Welcome!

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday | 9:00am - 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

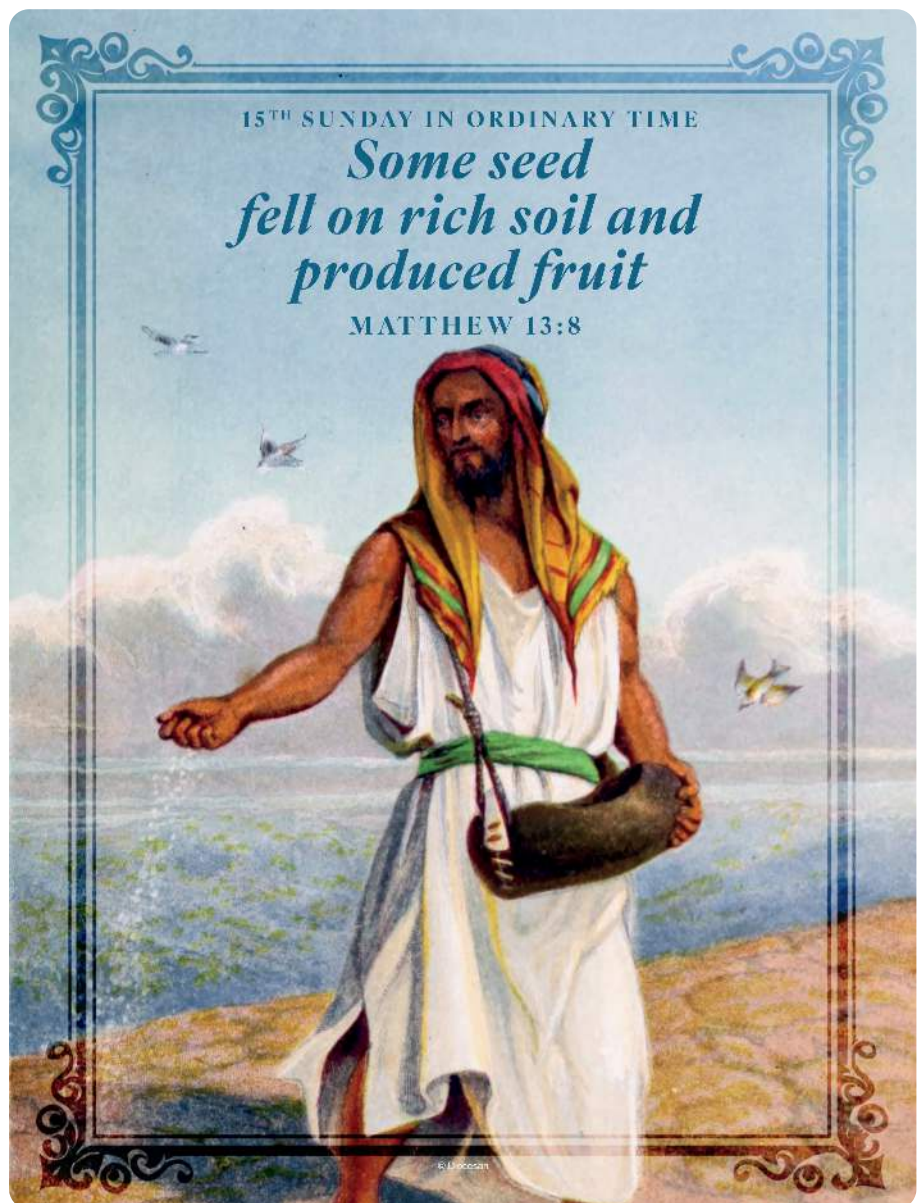
Wednesday | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:45 pm  
Thursday | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm for  
Vocations & Consecrated Life

### DONATE ONLINE

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



## July 12, 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



### STEWARDSHIP

#### July 5, 2026

Sunday Envelopes & ParishSoft  
**Will be posted in a future bulletin.**

*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 ..... \$ 175,051  
Total Cash Collected .. \$ 163,612

### 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.

### Counseling Services Available

Counseling services are now available at St. John Neumann by Kathy Birmingham, L.C.S.W. for a free-will offering. 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.



**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.svinconfvdp.org](http://www.svinconfvdp.org) and click on the **DONATE** button in the upper left corner.

Thank you.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, July 11

4:00 pm | People of the Parish

### Sunday, July 12

7:30 am | Charles & Alice Fox

9:00 am | Rita O'Neill

11:00 am | George A. Ominski

5:00 pm | Lucille Davis

### Monday, July 13

9:00 am | Dr. Jim Smallwood

### Tuesday, July 14

9:00 am | Pauline Waller

### Wednesday, July 15

9:00 am | Special Intention for  
Jeana Murphy

Landis Homes | Special Intention  
for Rebecca Vidmar

### Thursday, July 16

9:00 am | Mark Z. Hanlon, Jr.

6:00 pm | Judith Sullivan

### Friday, July 17

9:00 am | Jan Weisser

### Saturday, July 18

4:00 pm | Paul B. & Margaret Bowers

### Sunday, July 19

7:30 am | People of the Parish

9:00 am | Edwin Quinn

11:00 am | Jack Bogda

5:00 pm | Arlene Brittain



## ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers for the week of  
July 11-17, 2026  
in memory of Melvin Waddy

## WEEKLY READINGS

### For the Week of July 13-18, 2026

#### Monday

Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;  
Mt 10:34-11:1

#### Tuesday

Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8;  
Mt 11:20-24

#### Wednesday

Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10,  
14-15; Mt 11:25-27

#### Thursday

Is 26:7-9; 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab  
and 15, 16-18, 19-21; Mt 11:28-30

#### Friday

Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10, 11,  
12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8

#### Saturday

Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14;  
Mt 12:14-21



## SUNDAY READINGS

### July 19, 2026

#### Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading ~ Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

2nd Reading ~ Romans 8:26-27

Gospel ~ Matthew 13:24-43

## SUNDAY HYMNS

### July 12, 2026

Entrance ~ Sing to the Mountains  
Preparation of the Gifts ~ Christ Be  
Our Light

Communion ~ Eat This Bread

Recessional ~ Sent Forth By God's  
Blessing

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

### Our Sick Parishioners

Bob Beal  
Hans Deatruck  
Dennis Downey  
Michael Jurasinski  
Jeff Lamp  
John Perozich  
Dick Savicky  
Bob Sugra  
Bill White  
Karen Zielinski  
and all those on the Prayer  
Circle/Chain.

### Our Christian Community Welcomes

**CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM  
MYERS, III**

**MADELINE JANE PEARSON**

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

*Congratulations!*

*United in Marriage on...*

## IN OUR HEARTS

### Those Who Have Died

**JAMES LOMBARDO**

*Rest in Peace*

## 04 • CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sun., July 12<sup>th</sup></b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:00-4:00 pm – Secular Franciscan Order Gathering – Social Hall</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Mon., July 13<sup>th</sup></b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church</li> <li>• 9:30 am – 12:00 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry – Conference Room</li> <li>• 6:00-7:30 pm – Walking With Purpose – Social Hall</li> </ul>                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Tues., July 14<sup>th</sup></b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church</li> <li>• 2:00-3:30 pm – Women’s Group – Social Hall</li> <li>• 6:00 pm – K of C Golf Committee Meeting – Social Hall</li> <li>• 7:00-8:30 pm – K of C General Council Meeting – Social Hall</li> <li>• 7:00-8:30 pm – St. Vincent de Paul – Library</li> </ul> |
| <b>Wed., July 15<sup>th</sup></b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church</li> <li>• 9:30 – 11:00 am – Catholic Moms Bible Study – Youth Room</li> <li>• 12:00 – 4:00 pm – Adoration with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:45 pm – Church</li> </ul>                                                                                              |
| <b>Thurs., July 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church</li> <li>• 4:30 – 5:45 pm – Confessions</li> <li>• 4:30 – 6 pm – Young Adult Bible Study – Library</li> <li>• 6:30 – 7:30 pm – Adoration for Vocations and Consecrated Life</li> </ul>                                                                           |
| <b>Fri., July 17<sup>th</sup></b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30 am – Rosary – Church</li> <li>• 9:30 am – Divine Mercy Chaplet – Church</li> <li>• 9:45-11:45 am – CFCL Saint Squad – Playground</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Sat., July 18<sup>th</sup></b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission visit from Food for the Poor</li> <li>• 2:00-3:30 pm – Confessions</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Sun., July 19<sup>th</sup></b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission visit from Food for the Poor</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |



### WE CELEBRATE LIFE!

*"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven." Matthew 10:31-33*

A pastor once wrote that there is no such thing as secret discipleship. Either the discipleship will destroy the secrecy, or the secrecy will destroy the discipleship.

That's why being pro-life cannot just be a personal, private conviction. If it's in your heart, it needs to be on your lips and in your actions.

*"...I will hold the watchman accountable for their blood." Ezekiel 33:6*

Dear Lord, may we not be like the watchman spoken of in Ezekiel. Give us the grace to know what we can do to fight the evil of abortion, and the strength to do it. Amen.



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 July 20th, and 22nd, and 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

Have you signed up yet to welcome the Traveling Vocations Chalice into your home?

Each week, a family takes the chalice home as a reminder to pray together for those discerning God's call to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. It's a simple but powerful way to support vocations right here in our parish.

Ready to participate? Sign up at the Vocations Corner desk in the narthex or reserve your week online through SignUp Genius.

## VOCATIONS CORNER

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

### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest."  
(Matthew 13:23)*

God's Word bears fruit in hearts that are open and receptive. Pray that more hearts will be opened generously to however God may be calling them. Gently encourage young people to consider priesthood, consecrated life, or sacramental marriage as ways to respond with a joyful "yes" to God's plan.

### Nearly 100 Young Men Gather for Quo Vadis Days

What a year for vocations in our diocese! On June 23, Bishop Timothy Senior visited nearly 100 young men gathered at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary for Quo Vadis Days – our diocese's annual discernment retreat. This is one of the largest turnouts the retreat has seen in recent years, a wonderful sign of the Holy Spirit at work among our young people. Reflecting on God's call to Moses and Christ's promise to St. Peter, Bishop Senior told the group, "God's voice can be heard at a lot of different levels. It is always a message of love. He's delighted that you're here." Please keep these young men in your prayers.

### Behind the Collar: Meet Erik Weibel

This Sunday's Gospel gives us the Parable of the Sower, a reminder that God's call is like a seed that needs the right soil to take root and grow. This summer, we're blessed to watch that growth firsthand as Saint John Neumann welcomes Erik Weibel, a seminarian from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, as our visiting summer seminarian. Erik is in the Discipleship Stage of formation and hails from Christ the King Parish in Benton, PA. Over the next two weeks, we'll get to know Erik through a special Q&A. Here's a first look.

### ***Where did you grow up, and what was that experience like?***

I live in Benton, in Columbia County, PA, conveniently located in the middle of nowhere. My family is small but very close. I live with my parents and little sister, and my grandparents live next door. Family matters a lot to us. We spent a lot of time outdoors: hiking, fishing, camping and hunting. I got a little lost during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially when my family stopped going to Mass, but all hope was not lost. After high school, I discovered Catholic Campus Ministry and made the faith my own at Bloomsburg University. I have not looked back since.

### ***What first drew you to consider the priesthood?***

I think the first seeds were planted when I started altar serving in fifth grade, but I ignored them. I didn't feel drawn to the priesthood again until college. The call started as a simple "I could see myself enjoying this life" but grew into a call to change my life. I was studying electronics engineering and physics, but the Lord placed a deeper desire on my heart. He was calling me to act. My sense of that call has continued to grow deeper ever since.

Welcome to SJN, Erik! Stay tuned for more of his story next week.





## 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)

### Saint Monica Ministry

The Saint Monica Ministry was established in 2022 at the request of the Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert, Bishop of the Diocese of Allentown. Featured on the Diocese of Allentown website, the ministry now reaches 41 U.S. states and five continents. Its mission is to support families and friends of Catholics who have fallen away from the Church.

Named for St. Monica, who prayed faithfully for her son Augustine, this ministry honors her enduring love, trust in prayer, and confidence in God's unfathomable mercy. Like Monica, members entrust their loved ones to God through steadfast prayer and petition, which form the foundation of the ministry.

The life of St. Augustine reminds us that no one is beyond God's grace. In Confessions, Augustine wrote that his mother gave birth to him twice: once in the flesh and once in the spirit through her prayers. The Saint Monica Ministry prays that all prodigals may experience this same spiritual rebirth.

Members of the Saint Monica Ministry pray, fast, and offer unconditional care for loved ones who have left the Church. The ministry offers Holy Hours of Petition and Hope, encourages the Rosary of Supplication for Our Prodigals, and promotes the Green Scapular Devotion as a way of invoking the Blessed Mother's help.

Holy Hours of Petition and Hope include a "Pray for Our Prodigals" intention box or book, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, prayers to St. Monica, the Rosary of Supplication for Our Prodigals, and St. Augustine's prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Saint Monica Ministry meetings include prayer, fellowship with others in similar circumstances, intercession for prodigals whose names have been placed in the intention box, and St. Augustine's prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Local Saint Monica Ministry programs are offered at St. Richard Catholic Church in Manheim; they meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month after the 9am Mass from 9:30am-10:30am and at St. Anne and Our Lady of La Vang Parish in Lancaster they meet the first Tuesday evening of each month for meeting & book discussion and first Friday of each month at noon in rm 108. Those seeking support in praying for the return of their prodigals, but who are unable to attend local programs, may email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list or to request resources. Additional information is available on the Parish Health Ministry bulletin board near the rear exit of the church.



## 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 now 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 so give us a call!

Applications are still being accepted for the 2026-2027 School Year. Interested parishioners can complete the online application on the school's website at [www.sjncslancaster.org](http://www.sjncslancaster.org) or reach out to Janice Wolfe at 717-844-6100 or [wolfeja@sjnschoollancaster.org](mailto:wolfeja@sjnschoollancaster.org).

## LANCASTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



(717) 509-0315  
President ~ Kyla (Morrison) Hockley '96  
[khockley@lchsyhes.org](mailto:khockley@lchsyhes.org)  
Principal ~ Sean Van Eman  
[svaneman@lchsyhes.org](mailto:svaneman@lchsyhes.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@lchsyhes.org](mailto:svaneman@lchsyhes.org) for more information.

# HERE IS THE SIGN



SCAN HERE TO FILL OUT THE INFO FORM, THIS FORM IS NOT A COMMITMENT. IT EXPRESSES INTEREST TO LEARN MORE.

## THAT YOU ARE READY TO JOIN A SMALL DISCIPLESHIP GROUP!

SMALL DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS ARE GROUPS OF 8-10 PEOPLE WHO HELP EACH OTHER GROW IN FELLOWSHIP, FAITH, THEIR CHARISMS, AND EVANGELIZATION.



SUNDAYKIDZ

### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| K | T | B | O | A | T | Z | X | I | T |
| A | R | O | C | K | Y | X | D | K | B |
| J | H | Y | P | A | R | A | B | L | E |
| J | R | E | T | H | O | R | N | S | T |
| W | S | D | A | Z | H | C | V | N | G |
| K | Q | Q | G | R | U | S | S | R | A |
| S | E | A | J | E | E | E | O | S | T |
| E | Q | P | A | T | H | E | I | C | H |
| A | S | O | L | V | I | D | L | A | E |
| E | Y | R | V | D | T | P | U | A | R |

Sea Gather Boat Seed Path  
Rocky Thorns Soil Hear Parable

SJN YOUTH MINISTRY



**SJN Young Adult Bible Study Every Thursday: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

**July Summer 2026**

|                            |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SUN 5<sup>TH</sup></b>  | No YG              | <b>Catholic Heart Work Camp</b><br>July 5 <sup>th</sup> - July 10 <sup>th</sup><br><b>Steubenville Retreat</b><br>July 10 <sup>th</sup> - July 12 <sup>th</sup><br><i>I'm away all week</i> |
| <b>SUN 12<sup>TH</sup></b> | 6:00 pm<br>8:30 pm | <b>Youth Group</b><br><b>Theme: Follow the Leader</b><br>Dinner: TBD<br><b>Led by: Bob Cyublski</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>SUN 19<sup>TH</sup></b> | 6:00 pm<br>8:30 pm | <b>Youth Group</b><br><b>Theme: Expectations</b><br>Dinner: TBD                                                                                                                             |
| <b>FRI 24<sup>TH</sup></b> | 6:00 pm<br>8:30 pm | <b>Youth Group</b><br><b>Theme: Treasure Hunt</b><br>Dinner: TBD<br>Matthew 13:44-52                                                                                                        |
| WOM Week                   | Grades 7-12        | <b>Works of Mercy Week</b><br>Sunday July 26 <sup>th</sup> - Friday July 31 <sup>st</sup><br><b>Theme: Give Thanks!</b><br>Hosted by St. Mary's Catholic Church                             |
| <b>AUGUST SUN 2</b>        | No YG              | <b>Medjugorje Pilgrimage</b><br>Youth Festival (37 <sup>th</sup> Mladifest)<br>JULY 28-AUGUST 5, 2026<br><i>I'm away all week : (</i>                                                       |

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

## Works of Mercy Week 2026

**Sunday, July 26 to Friday, July 31, 2026**  
**Historic St. Mary's Church**  
**For Grades 7-12 | Chaperones needed!**  
*Information for parents, teens and chaperones on the QR code.*

THEME: GIVE THANKS!

"GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD  
 FOR HE IS GOOD, HIS MERCY  
 ENDURES FOREVER!" ~ PSALM 107:1

*Spiritual Works of Mercy*

Scavenger Hunt

Volleyball

Daily Mass

Small Groups

Adoration

Service throughout the Lancaster area

*Corporal Works of Mercy*

Street Evangelization

Confession

Karaoke

Games

Basketball

Friends

HersheyPark Friday

...and MORE!!!



Register using the QR code:  
 Questions: Contact Ms. Irma - irma@stmaryslancaster.org



JOIN OUR

# BIBLE

## Study

Learn. Reflect. Grow in Faith





**THURSDAYS 4:30 – 6:00 PM**



**St. John Neumann**  
 601 E Delp Rd, Lancaster PA



Scan for more information and to join the group!



Ages 16–20 are welcome  
 No experience needed!



"For where two or three  
 gather in my name,  
 there am I in the midst of them."  
 — Matthew 18:20




## Order Tickets at a discounted rate!

Youthministry@sjnlancaster.org





## BLACK CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE SPONSORED PICNIC

**August 23**

The Black Catholic Apostolate of the Diocese of Harrisburg is hosting a picnic, August 23, 2026, at the Riverview Pavilion on City Island, Harrisburg from 2–6pm. Come and enjoy the African American Catholic Culture in a celebratory Sunday afternoon. Hotdogs, hamburgers, and drinks will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a favorite covered dish or dessert to share. We are looking forward to having a great time enjoying the outdoors by the Susquehanna. Also bring your favorite games to play. Everyone is welcome!!! For more information, contact Deacon Armando Torres at [datorres@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:datorres@hbgdiocese.org) / 717-657-4804 ext. 221, Angele Mbassi at [ngonombas@yahoo.fr](mailto:ngonombas@yahoo.fr), or Dewitt Miller at [philaman05@gmail.com](mailto:philaman05@gmail.com).

## HISPANIC CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

**August 29**

On Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00am – 5:00pm, we are holding our 3rd Annual Hispanic Catholic Conference, "Walking In Our Faith," at the Diocesan Center, 4800 Union Deposit Rd., Harrisburg. The Theme is "The Creed" presented by Deacon Asterio Velasco from the Diocese of Newark. He is the author of *Sus Testigos en la Historia* (His Witnesses in History). We will have praise, presentations, reflections & Mass. The registration fee is \$20.00 and includes lunch. For registration, visit the Diocesan website. This Conference is held in Spanish. For more information, contact Deacon Armando Torres at the Diocese, 717-657-4804 ext. 221

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

**July 16**

According to Carmelite tradition, Simon Stock received the scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel from the Blessed Virgin on July 16, 1251, in Cambridge, England. The Carmelite order sees in the scapular, now worn by Carmelites and others, a sign of Mary's motherly protection.



## Hispanic Heritage Mass Diocese of Harrisburg, PA



Time | Sunday | 212 State Street  
3:00 pm | September 27, 2026 | Harrisburg, PA 17101

**Saint Patrick Cathedral**

**Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior  
Celebrant and Homilist**

For more information visit: <https://www.hbgdiocese.org/clev/> 717-657-4804 ext.303

## The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



## INSPIRATION DAILY

## More Than Just Storytelling

On the surface level, it may seem like Jesus teaches in parables only to make complex ideas accessible to all people. While there may be an element of that, Jesus explains clearly in today's Gospel that reaching every audience isn't His primary goal. In fact, He explains that the parables fulfill the words of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus explains, "This is why I speak to them in parables, because 'they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand'" (Matthew 13:13). Jesus admits that His parables are meant to be misunderstood by some who hear His teachings.

Why would Jesus want people to see and hear but not listen or understand? Didn't Jesus come for everyone? It is essential to realize that the Lord desired (and still does desire) for everyone to hear His message, repent, and come to believe in Him. Unfortunately, the reality was that some of the Jewish leaders during Jesus's time preferred things the way they were. They held their own ideas of how the messiah would look and act. They enjoyed their authority and positions of power. Their pride prevented them from accepting a message that would require turning from their current habits and humbly accepting a king who would establish his kingdom by dying on a cross rather than leading armies to conquer other nations.

The parables also give the hearers an opportunity to accept an idea or concept without feeling condemned themselves. With the parable of the sower, we are invited to look at our lives and determine which soil we are. Most likely, if you're reading this, you are not the path which receives the seed only briefly before it is snatched up by the birds.

If you have drawn your strength from your faith throughout the difficulties and trials of your life, you are probably not the rocky ground. While we all hope to one day be the fertile soil, producing fruit in abundance, most of us probably fall into the category of the thorns as we struggle through the spiritual life.

Faith can be an important and integral part of our lives, but so often, we allow the busyness and demands of everyday life to draw our hearts away from the Word. Regardless of the season of life we're in, our attention is constantly being bombarded by various things. Family obligations, work commitments, and current events coupled with on-demand entertainment on our TVs and phones can choke out the good seed from the Lord.

As we strive to cultivate good soil in our lives, we can ask the Lord to show us how to step away from the distractions that we allow ourselves. In our commitments and obligations, we can ask Him to be present with us, and show us how to serve others like Him. After all, it is in our families, work places, and communities that the fruit the Lord wants to cultivate in us will grow and multiply.

By Maria Riley

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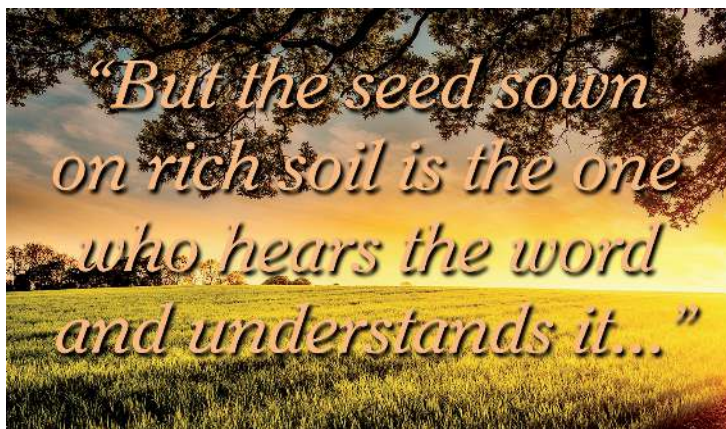
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Though the New York State Thruway runs close by the North American Martyrs' Shrine, traffic's roar never pierces the peace enveloping Auriesville—Osseron to Native Americans—in the lovely Mohawk Valley, where Kateri Tekakwitha was born barely ten years after the martyrdom of Isaac Jogues and his Jesuit and lay companions. Daughter of a Christian Algonquin mother and non-Christian Mohawk chief, Kateri's parents died in a smallpox epidemic widely blamed on the missionaries. Moreover, many Native Americans had experienced exploitation at the hands of "Christian" traders and trappers, further discrediting the faith Kateri embraced in baptism, then pledged to live even more intensely in vowed virginity. Misunderstanding led to harassment, prompting her move to a Christian village farther north along the Saint Lawrence River. Despite this, Kateri's faith remained undaunted, her selfless charity undiminished. Both before and after her death at twenty-four, this young "Lily of the Mohawks" drew countless converts to Christ by the fragrance of her goodness. Through us, does "the aroma of Christ" (2 Corinthians 2:15), attract others to the beauty of his gospel?

—Peter Scagnelli



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