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St. John is a Stewardship Parish

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September 8, 2013  
23<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 7, 2013

4:00 – Leonard Shepard – 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Lena Shepard – 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Sunday, September 8, 2013

8:00 – Parishioners of St. John  
9:30 – William McEaney – Memorial

Saturday, September 14, 2013

4:00 – Richard Venesky – 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Sunday, September 15, 2013

9:30 – Parishioners of St. John  
11:30 – Edward Williams -- Memorial

Important Dates

Sun. 9/8 – Youth Ministry Meeting – after 11:30 Mass

Sun. 9/8 – Prayer Shawl Meeting—3 PM

Sun. 9/15 – Annual Picnic following 11:30 Mass

Sun. 9/15 – Cori Forms at Picnic

Sat. & Sun 9/21 & 22 – St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive

Tues. 9/24 – CCD Program Begins

***Please keep the following in your prayers:***

*Pam Adornato, Christopher Berlo, Penny Walsh, Juan Botta, Irene Kimball, Nancy Thomson, Ann P. Katilus, Joseph Pompeo, Bob Marx, David Robichaud, Mei Connelly, Dottie & Eddie Younis, Lillian Wedge, Richard Cerci, Nikki Bosse, Alison LaLond, Joe Bosse, Michael MacDonald, Ann Storti, Susan Lynch, Roy Conrad, Mark DeLuca, Aline Clish, Bobby Marx, Fr. Ed McLaughlin.*

St. John's Youth Ministry is embarking on a **Mission Trip to Nashville, TN next summer, from June 28 to July 5.** The trip is open to youth who have been confirmed. Space is limited, so if you are interested in joining us, we urge you to **attend a meeting after the 11:30 Mass today.**

An \$85 deposit will be due within the next two weeks to secure your spot. **(Only 25 spots available.)** The trip will cost \$350 plus travel expenses, but many fundraisers are planned to offset these expenses.

“The land will never lack for needy person; that is why I command you: Open your hand freely to your poor and to your needy kin in your land.”

*Our Shared Treasure*

*September 1, 2013*

Offertory Collection: \$5233

*Thank you for your continued generosity.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - Sept 8 - Catholic University*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - Sept 15 - Rectory Maintenance*

**FALL MASS SCHEDULE BEGINS THIS WEEKEND**

**SATURDAY – 4:00**

**SUNDAY – 8:00 & 9:30 & 11:30**

**Daily Mass – M-F – 9:00 in the Chapel**



**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>  
AFTER THE 11:30 MASS**

The menu as always will be delicious. Moon walk, face painting, and a count-how-many in the jar contest for all to enjoy!

Tickets will be sold starting August 3<sup>rd</sup> and after each week end Mass and on the day of the picnic at a cost of \$5 per person everything included.

**Hope to see you there!**



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed

**SAINT VINCENT dePAUL FOOD DRIVE IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup>.**

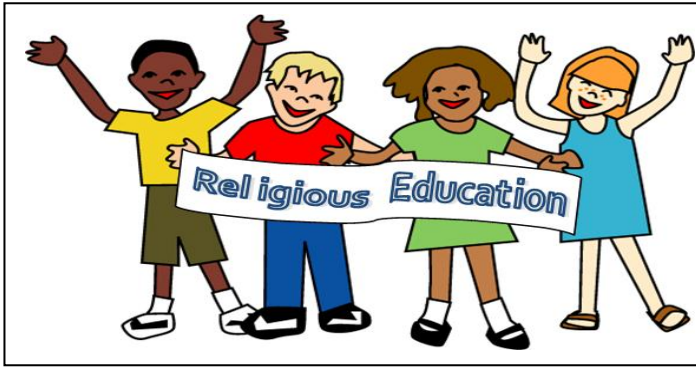
**Bags will be provided the weekend of Sept 14/15**



**300 CLUB WINNERS**

Sheila McLaughlin  
Christine Cassidy  
Linda Painten  
Erica Wasil

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is an outreach to baptized Catholics who were not raised in the faith, did not receive First Communion and or Confirmation and would like to return to the Catholic faith. It is also designed for non-Catholics who seek communion with the Catholic Church. Classes for this program will be held beginning in the fall. Please call the Rectory (508-378-4207) if you are interested.



**NEEDS YOUR HELP.**  
**CLASSES START**

Tuesday, September 24.

Many classes are without teachers or aides. Please volunteer 1 hour per week to pass the word of God onto our children. Call Lorraine at 508-378-1521 if you can help.

### St. John's Choirs Bulletin Notice: Fall 2013

The Adult Choir sings at the 11:30 am Mass beginning Sept. 15. Rehearsals take place before Mass at 10:30 am. The Children's Choir first rehearsal is Monday, Sept. 23 at 6 pm. The first Children's Choir Mass is Sunday, Sept. 29 at the 9:30 Mass. The first Teen Choir Mass is Sunday, Sept. 29 at 6 pm. We will rehearse before Mass at 5 pm. Please contact Paul Hoffman for information about our music program or if you are interested in joining a choir!

ANYONE NOT CORI'D AT ST JOHN'S BEFORE AND NEW TO A PARISH MINISTRY, MUST FILL OUT A CORI FORM BEFORE BEGINNING THE MINISTRY IE. LECTOR, EUCHARISTIC MINISTER, CCD TEACHER, ETC. PLEASE CONTACT THE RECTORY.



**My Dear Friends in Christ,**

I once heard it said that the difference between "involvement" and "commitment" is found in a plate of bacon and eggs. When we look at such a plate, we realize that the chicken was *involved*, the pig was *committed*! The same is true in the realm of discipleship; when one is a disciple, one is not merely involved – one is committed! In the document, "Disciples in Mission" Cardinal Sean (O'Malley) has purposely used the word "disciples" in speaking of members of the (Roman Catholic) Church. When one engages oneself in a life of discipleship, the commitment asked for goes beyond the task at hand; discipleship is more than "getting the job done" – it is engaging in a way of living, a way of life in which God comes first.

Jesus illustrates this point by reminding the listener that God must come first in all that we do, above even family. This can be a hard thing for many, for the commitment to family is important. It cannot be so important, however, that it supersedes the commitment to God. It is from this commitment, this relationship that all other commitments and relationships stem and flow. Jesus further makes the case for committing to discipleship by citing the example of a builder and a king going into battle. Before engaging in either pursuit, one must look at the cost (financially in the first case, availability of soldiers in the second) and ask oneself "is it worth the cost"? If one isn't ready to "pay the price" (even to the extent of one's own life), then one must look at whether they are ready to be called a Christian.

This is a "hard line" which Jesus is taking. This is not, as we would say in the seminary, a "warm and fuzzy Jesus". This is a prophet who is unafraid to speak the hard truth, regardless of whether one wants to hear it or not. This is a Messiah who lays out for folks what it takes to be His follower. If one is ready, however, then the rewards are amazing (one might say "out of this world"!)

May we have the courage to both hear and follow Jesus. May we come to know Jesus as Messiah and Lord, calling us to a new way of living. May we strive to follow the teachings of Jesus, and be unafraid to share them with our brothers and sisters. May we put God first in our lives and allow all other relationships be guided by that one. May we trust that God has set the path before us, and may we have the courage to walk that path in faith, hope and love.

**Have a Blessed Week,**  
**Fr. Paul**

The new bulletins are being printed by Pilot Printing which allows us to make them more creative with colors and images. We are very excited about them and hope that you are too. However, the deadline for having them ready is much earlier now, so we will need all information the Friday the week before the bulletin will be sent to the publisher. Ex. Due Fri, Aug 30 for Sun, Sept 8<sup>st</sup>. Thanks for your cooperation.