
St. John is a Stewardship Parish

July 20, 2014
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 19, 2014

4:00 – John McHugh – Birthday Memorial

Sunday, July 20, 2014

8:00 – Richard Hutchins, Sr. – 2nd Anniversary

10:30 – James W. Thompson – 18th Anniversary

Saturday, July 26, 2014

4:00 – Marie Ponte – 21st Anniversary

Sunday, July 27, 2014

8:00 – Parishioners of St. John Parish

10:30 – Irene Souto -- Memorial

Important Dates

Fri. 7/25 – Fireside Friday – 7 pm

Mon. 7/28 – Fri. 8/1 – VBS – 9:00 – 12:00

Sun. 8/3 – Thurs. 8/7 – Leadership Retreat

Sun. 8/10 – Mass for College-bound students – 10:30

Fri. 8/15 – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary –

Holy Day of Obligation

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pam Adornato, Mei Connelly, Dottie & Eddie Younis, Lillian Wedge, Richard Cerci, MacDonald Family, Susan Lynch, Roy Conrad, Mark DeLuca, Michael Terry, Harvey Day, Audrey Ribero, Bill Maloney, John Gomes, Jon Olson, Pat Sweet, Bill Clements, Rita Orr, Nancy Porter, Dawn Bono, David LaRosa, Bill Monaghan, Nancy Belisle, Ann Storti, Karen Debenedictis, Manuel Amaral, Gerald Ahl, Henry "Harry" Wedge.

The residents of Sachem & Westview.

If you know of anyone in who is need of a Pastoral visit from either our Eucharistic Ministers or Fr. Paul (in the case of the Sacrament of the Sick), please call the rectory.

Religious Education



Registration began July 1st.

The deadline for registering is August 31st.

You can register on-line in our website or in person in the Religious Education Office located in the basement of the church between the hours of 9:00 AM & 4:00 PM

Payments this year may be made in cash, check, credit or debit cards through one-time payments or on the installment plan.

Our Shared Treasure

July 13, 2014

Last Wk

Year to Date

Collection

\$ 4752.00

\$ 10,158.00

Grand Annual to Date: \$27,759

Grand Annual Budget: \$40,000 = **Short \$12,241**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

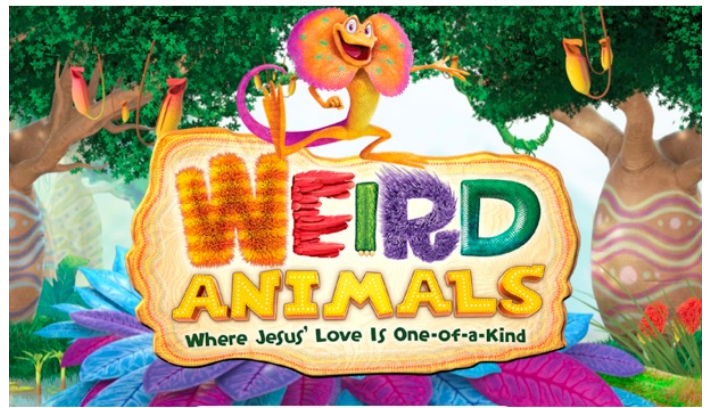


FIRESIDE FRIDAY

JULY 25, 2014

AT 7 PM

Casual conversations around the fire
Sharing stories and getting to know each other.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
BEGINS MONDAY, JULY 28TH
THROUGH FRIDAY, AUGUST 1ST.

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

REGISTER ON-LINE OR WITH NANCY SMITH
Programs for children 3 years old to going into 6th
grade in the fall.

COST IS \$43 per child with a cap of \$100 per family.
GREAT FUN!

Like us on
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JOHN CHURCH = Friend
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST EB = Page

THE MISSION TRIP HAS RETURNED!
A GREAT JOB & A WONDERFUL TIME!!



The kids are doing awesome and St. John's has much to be proud of! Our kids ROCK! They are dirty and tired but all had a great day. Many of the kids are working in the same location and they range from people's homes, a farm, daycares or a camp.



"An amazing trip with an amazing group of young people and adult leaders! God is Good...All the Time...and All the Time...God is Good" Fr. Paul

"An amazing and powerful look into the lives of other kids my age and their faith from all around the country". Lauren B

The week at Catholic Heart Work Camp was a magnificent display of faith from our youth and a personally moving experience for me. Through the worship we shared and the service we offered, Jesus is alive. The youth attendees showed that they are beautiful people through their thoughts and actions. I have never experienced such a wonderful faith changing experience as the week that I spent with the group from St. John "Who Dat". Kevin S

"The week brought beautiful people and beautiful memories into my life." Rachel F

" This trip was more than great, it was tremendous! I would, most definitely, go back for seconds" Jake

"CHWC has awakened me to seeing how beautiful we are to have been made in God's image, but also has shown me that we tend to make a mess of things. We are a beautiful mess and have to take responsibility for our messes and serve everyday with the same commitment as we did last week." Libby C

"Last week was definitely a week that pulled many of us out of our comfort zones--a week that challenged us physically, emotionally and spiritually. It was amazing to see the teens from our parish rise to every challenge that was placed before them...doing back-breaking work all day and coming back to camp to praise and worship Jesus in our evening program!!! God is oh, so good and We are blessed beyond measure." Karen C

It was an amazing week that tested our strength emotionally and physically. With the grace of God by our side we became the hands and feet of our faith and we grew in our own unique ways. We made new friends, we found ways to express our faith in our own ways and we are ready to handle whatever comes our way in the coming year. Kaeleigh S

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Anyone who has lived a certain length of time knows that there is evil in the world. Our young people may not know this reality (which is a good thing, for sure), but (sadly) one day they will come to experience this truth. For centuries theologians, philosophers and scholars have wrestled with the question of evil, its existence and how and why it comes about in the world. I'm not sure they're any closer to figuring it out than they were when they first tackled it!

The reality of the Christian life is that, along with the good in our life, there is evil in the world. God does not cause this evil to occur (contrary to what many in the world may think), but He does allow it to exist. This is known in theological terms as "the permissive will of God", and it basically states that God allows suffering and evil in the world as part of God's "overall plan". We may *speculate* as to why this happens, but no one can say with absolute certainty why it does. As my father used to say, "God only knows, and He ain't tellin' ", which I always took as a pretty direct way of saying "Don't worry about it, God will let us know when we get to Heaven". I'm sure for most of us, in fact, that may be on the top of our list of questions that we'll want to ask God if/when we get to the Kingdom. It is one of life's great mysteries, this question of evil and suffering.

In today's gospel, the disciples ask Jesus to explain the parable about "the weeds and the wheat". In doing so, they are trying to probe the mind and heart of someone who knows all and sees all. Most likely, they don't ask Jesus to explain the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, because they speak to the same point: the beginnings of the Kingdom here on earth may be small at first, but they are yielding (and will continue to yield) great results. The "weeds and the wheat" is a little trickier, because it seems that prudent thing to do would be to uproot the weeds when they grow; they are, however, "entangled" in the roots of the wheat and thus would uproot the wheat if pulled. One must allow for evil to exist, for at the harvest (read: the end of the world), the harvest master (read: God) will separate the weeds from the wheat and cast them into the furnace (read: Hell), taking the wheat with him into the barn (read: the Kingdom). This requires great patience on our part, a patience which only comes from God.

Let us pray for patient endurance, recognizing the "bigger picture" at work in the plan that God has for us all. Let us know that God, who knows and sees all, will see the good we do and reward that good. Let us pray that we may gathered up with the wheat (i.e. the good people of God) and put into the barn (i.e. the Kingdom) where we will "shine like the sun" (Mt 13:43).

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul