

CCD Happenings

November 2015

Issue 7

The Church of St. John and St. Mary Chappaqua, NY

Tomorrow's Forecast:

God Reigns and the Son Shines!



Find your Faith in Fall

Fall has always been my favorite season.

The oranges and reds of changing leaves paint the horizons with blazing colors. I love as the weather turns cooler and the crunch of fallen leaves and acorns are heard underfoot. I eagerly await the days I can wear my cozy sweaters and sit by the fireplace with my family. Pumpkin and apple picking still a yearly ritual that brings joy and smiles to my children. I

welcome the steady change and the faithful return of fall. The autumn of life is a strange mixture of nostalgia, blessings and potential. It yields the harvest of

seeds we have sown throughout life and prepares us for the colder days to come! Yes, fall also means that winter is right around the corner.

It may be difficult for us to envision new beginnings when all around us life seems to be fading. But after searching deeper, I have discovered that a cycle of birth, death, and new birth is an integral part of the natural order. For example, Autumn is the time of bulb planting. The bulbs may be buried for a time, but they are resting in soil that is enriched by the falling leaves waiting for springtime to burst through the soil. This is the cycle "Mother Nature" follows and I have come to realize that this cycle is also the same for our Christian faith.



Autumn is the beginning of the liturgical year in the church. We begin by celebrating the season of Advent. Advent means "coming" and we observe this time in a spirit of waiting, preparing, and expectation as the time draws closer when we will again celebrate the birth of

our Savior, Jesus Christ. As Christians, this preparation time is significant as we pause to contemplate and

remember what is about to happen. We celebrate with anticipation because it is through the incarnation of Jesus, through his life, death, and resurrection that we come to know that at the core of God's nature is love, a love shared in relationships and family.

So, as we run off to football games or apple and pumpkin picking or drink pumpkin spice lattes we need to take a moment to renew our faith and make the resolve to bring Christ more prominently into our daily lives!

Happy Fall,
Lina and Lori



Save the Date

Monthly
Birthday Mass
Sunday, November 15,
10 am

Inter-Faith Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 22,
4:00 pm

Christmas Fair
Saturday, December 5,
10 am- 3pm

Third Grade Level Mass
Sunday, December 13,
10 am



Building a Faith Community



Lori and I are pleased to tell you that our CCD year is off to a great start! We are fully staffed and the children all "468" of them have already embraced our religious education program. Our church is filled with joy each week as your children begin their journey on this faith-filled year. None of this would be possible without our amazing catechist and support staff. From our substitute teacher and bus coordinators to our office volunteers they are all very important "spokes" that make the CCD wheel turn!

Westorchar Catechists

Jennifer Lee
Rita and Isabella Santelia
Seena Cushman
Kelly Nocca
Claudia Ulloa
Marie Short
Sarah Girardi

Grafflin Catechists

Jennie Narcissi
Anne Dreyer
Kimber Sanseverino
Christine Bueti
Jesse Ciaramitaro
Shahnaz Farha
Giselle St. Vincent
Anna Yates

Roaring Brook Catechists

Diane Conway
Katie Rauch
Meyi and Camilla Sobon
Joan Corso-Boutross
Anna Lampe
Coleen MacGreevey
Mimi Goodwin

Bell School Catechists

Lillie Nike
Beth Powell
Deb Coffino
Lane Shea
Linda Bosco
Rita Santelia
Christine Magardino
Joan Corso-Boutross

Our Clergy

Msgr. Thomas Gilleece
Deacon Charles Devlin
Deacon Walter Brady

Seven Bridges Catechists

Jennifer Daly
Dawn Gonick
Phyllis Giedra
Liz Kasulka
Jean Moran
JoAnn Larizza
Becky Mildenhall
Erin Ginsburg
Linda McGetrick
Lisa Enright
Joan Corso-Boutross

CCD Bus Coordinators

Clare Salamida
Deana Caixeiro
Chris Madden
Keira Treanor

Office Staff Volunteers

Ellie Durr
Clare Keenan Devlin
Vera Pfisterer
Lenore Walding

Substitute Teacher Coordinator

Jennifer Waterhouse

Director of Music

Kyle Mange

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Thank you, Father, for having created us and given us to each other in the human family. Thank you for being with us in all our joys and sorrows, for your comfort in our sadness, your companionship in our loneliness. Thank you for yesterday, today, tomorrow and for the whole of our lives. Thank you for friends, for health and for grace. May we live this and every day conscious of all that has been given to us.

AMEN

