



**April 18, 2021**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

## ***St. John Neumann*** ***Roman Catholic Church***

A Parish of the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington

11211 Beauchamp Road

Berlin, Maryland 21811

410-208-2956 (phone); 410-208-4584 (fax)

410-208-4580 (Assistant to the Pastor)

[www.stjohnneumannrcc.com](http://www.stjohnneumannrcc.com) [parishoffice@stjnrcc.com](mailto:parishoffice@stjnrcc.com)

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 10 AM-Noon and 1-3 PM

### **Pastor**

Rev. Joseph MPR Cocucci, KHS

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Deacon Charles A. Weschler

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Mrs. Marilyn Low

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Mr. Jamey Sturgill

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### **HOLY EUCHARIST (THE SACRIFICE OF THE MASS)**

Due to COVID19-related restrictions, we are currently admitting people to weekend Masses by reservation. Call 410-208-2956 and ask for extension 211 to make a reservation. If our automated phone system answers, immediately enter “\*211” (i.e., star-2-1-1).

Masses are being celebrated publically on Saturday afternoon at 4:00 PM, on Sunday morning at 9:00 and 11:00 AM, and on Monday, Tuesday and Friday at 9:00 AM. Reservations are not required for Monday, Tuesday or Friday. Church doors are locked 10 minutes prior to the start of Mass; all attendees must be seated by then.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Reconciliation is always available by appointment. In addition, times set aside for “walk in” reconciliation will be announced from time to time in this bulletin.

**BAPTISM:** Please contact the Parish Office. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays, generally the first Sunday of the month.

**MATRIMONY:** Please contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance of desired date and prior to making any arrangements for the wedding reception. Weddings are celebrated on Saturdays.

**CONFIRMATION:** Please contact the Director of Religious Education (410-208-2854) for information. Confirmation is conferred in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please inform the Parish Office about parishioners who need this sacrament as soon as their illness becomes serious.

**HOLY ORDERS:** If you believe you are being called by God to serve the Church as a Catholic priest, please contact Father Norman Carroll, Director of Vocations (302-573-3113) or speak to the Pastor; if you believe you are being called to the Diaconate, please call Rev. John Grasing (302-573-2390).

**SACRAMENTALS:** For the renewal of marriage vows and the blessing of homes, religious articles, automobiles, boats, and other appropriate items, please contact the Pastor.

**Please Take This Bulletin Home With You.**  
**Do Not Leave In The Pew. Thank You.**

## SAINT JOHN NEUMANN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead – which we continue to celebrate throughout this beautiful Easter season – is the most earth-shattering event in the history of the cosmos since creation itself. It's God's definitive response to the powers of darkness that tried to subvert His work. What He created – including you and me – He loves, and what He loves, He redeems. In the resurrection of Jesus Christ you and I are freed from sin and death, freed to love God and others in such a way as to enjoy love forever in God's Kingdom. The resurrection is so important that it becomes part of our identity: the great St. Augustine writes "We are Easter people and alleluia is our song!" How blessed we are, how thankful we should be!

One of the ways we give thanks (and one of the ways we proleptically enter into the Resurrection of Jesus) is through participation in the celebration of the Holy Mass. In fact, since the earliest days of the Church, the faithful have practiced the good and pious custom of having Mass "offered" even for other people, i.e., for our loved ones, living and deceased. This is understood as enabling a loved one to share in the merits and graces to which we are privileged during the sacrifice of the Mass. (The language is a little imprecise: all Masses are primarily "offered" for the glory and honor of God.)

Frequently people speak of "buying a Mass card" or "buying a Mass." Again, the language is troublesome. We can't "buy" a Mass. We can ask to have a person's intention remembered at Mass on a particular day, and, customarily, a person makes a donation when doing that, a donation which supports the priest who celebrates the Mass. But we don't "buy" Masses; that Mass doesn't become "our" Mass – all Masses are primarily for the glory of God and the good of the entire Church.

When a person arranges for Mass to be said with the intention of praying for someone, we generally provide a "Mass Card" which can be used to inform the family of the deceased (or the living person, in some cases) of what we've done. The "intention" is recorded in a ledger commonly referred to as the "Mass Book."

The 2022 Mass Book for St. John Neumann Parish will officially open on Monday morning (19 April). In order to ensure that as many parishioners as possible have the opportunity to arrange for Mass to be celebrated for their loved ones, the following procedures are in place.

- 1) Until the end of May, only 4 Masses can be arranged by any one household. Once May has ended, people will be able to arrange more than 4 Masses at one time.
- 2) Some days will be "reserved" to ensure that, when a parishioner dies, Mass can be offered for that person relatively soon after the death.

Mass "intentions" are taken for living or deceased people. In general, one would not reserve a Mass for a private "special intention." Why? Because it's important that the priest know the intention for which he is offering Mass. In addition, not all intentions are appropriate for Mass (e.g., the outcome of an election, winning the lottery, et al). For that reason, it makes more sense – if one has an intention he or she does not wish to be public – simply to have the Mass "offered" for the person himself, asking God to bless him in the way God knows is best for him.

It's especially important to offer Mass for the souls in Purgatory. If a soul is in Hell, Mass cannot help him; if a soul is in Heaven, she doesn't need Mass. But souls in Purgatory eagerly await the help we provide them by offering Mass for them. The Catechism puts it well: "From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God" (#1032). Those souls can help us with their prayers, too; after all, the souls in Purgatory are part of the communion of the Church (Catechism #954).

May God bless us and all those whom we remember at Mass. May He bring us – together -- into the new life of His Kingdom!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Joe Cocucci, KHS". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rev. Joseph MPR Cocucci, KHS  
Pastor

Masses for the Week

<b>Saturday, 17 April</b>	4:00 PM	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday, 18 April</b>	9:00 AM	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Bryan James Schmidt
	11:00 AM	Patricia Campbell
<b>Monday, 19 April</b>	9:00 AM	John Creighton, Jr.
<b>Tuesday, 20 April</b>	9:00 AM	In Honor of Saint Joseph
<b>Friday, 23 April</b>	9:00 AM	<i>Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop, Martyr</i> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Saturday, 24 April</b>	4:00 PM	Jean Shannon
<b>Sunday, 25 April</b>	9:00 AM	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> People of the Parish
	11:00 AM	Jean Shannon

SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week the Tabernacle Candle is burning for the intention of Dominic and Stella Troy.



Offertory Collection for April 10/11

Envelopes: \$9,247

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Please, if you can, continue to mail in your weekly donation or consider making your donation electronically.

Call Deacon Weschler (410-208-2956 Ext. 207) for more details.

RAFFLE WINNER

We congratulate Nick Salafia of Berlin, MD, who was the winner of \$300 on April 12, 2021.



WEEKLY READINGS



Readings for the week of April 18, 2021

- Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
- Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29
- Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
- Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
- Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
- Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
- Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69
- Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18



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This program allows Fr. Cocucci to get important and sometimes urgent information to you efficiently. Thank you for your cooperation.

Your Help Is Needed...

Has your mailing address or other contact information changed? Are you planning to move out of the Parish? Please help us to keep our parish records up-to-date by contacting the parish office with any changes. Thanks.

A Prayer to My Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God’s love entrusts me here, ever this day be at my side to light, to guard, to rule and guide.

Angel sent by God to guide me, be my light and walk beside me; be my guardian and protect me; on the path of life direct me.



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St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church  
Third Sunday of Easter (18 April, 2021)

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

**Gloria:** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**First Reading:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Peter said to the people: "The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence when he had decided to release him. You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses. Now I know, brothers, that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did; but God has thus brought to fulfillment what he had announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer. Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away.

**Psalm Response:** Lord, let your face shine on us.

**Second Reading:** 1 John 2:1-5a

My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments. Those who say, "I know him," but do not keep his commandments are liars, and the truth is not in them. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him.

**Gospel:** Luke 24:35-48

The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread. While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them. He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me

**Gospel:** Luke 24:35-48(cont.)

in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, “Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

**The Profession of Faith:** I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Communion Antiphon:** The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

**An Act of Spiritual Communion:** My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

***Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel***

Saint Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our protection against the wickedness  
and snares of the devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;  
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host,  
by the power of God cast into hell  
Satan and all the evil spirits  
who prowl throughout the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.  
Amen.



**2021 Annual Catholic Appeal**  
*Disciples of Christ, Witnesses of Hope*

As Luke recalls for us in today’s Gospel, only after the Apostles had absorbed the excitement and wonderment of seeing Jesus alive when they thought Him dead, did the importance of His words take on meaning.

Jesus had chosen them as His witnesses to His mission and His true identity. If anyone among them had thought that Jesus had some other way of telling the world about Himself, these thoughts were dismissed when they realized that they were the means, that they would be God’s instruments.

Just as the disciples realized that with the death and resurrection of Jesus they were suddenly forced to confront the radical change in their lives, we too are called to do the same. As Christ’s followers, we must make Easter season a time of new beginning in our lives. As Disciples of Christ, being witnesses and believers, we cannot separate ourselves from being doers of the Word.

The Annual Catholic Appeal works to ensure the viability and growth of many charitable, pastoral and educational ministries throughout Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore. With its theme, “Disciples of Christ, Witnesses of Hope” the Appeal brings hope and the good news of Christ’s love to thousands of men, women and children each year.

Recently, you were invited to participate in the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have already provided a gift, thank you for your generosity. If you have not, please give prayerful and thoughtful consideration to your resources and the needs of those served by the Annual Catholic Appeal.

You can contribute to the Appeal by using the pledge card and return envelope mailed to your home, by accessing the Appeal website at [www.cdown.org/annualcatholicappeal](http://www.cdown.org/annualcatholicappeal) and clicking “How to Donate” or by completing a pledge card located on the table in the gathering area. To learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal visit the diocesan website at [www.cdown.org/annualcatholicappeal](http://www.cdown.org/annualcatholicappeal). Consider viewing a brief video highlighting a few of the supported ministries at <https://youtu.be/1789oOHmTkg>.



**REMEMBERING THE SICK**  
**OF THE PARISH**

Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish: Eva DelCorio, Betty and Joseph Davis, Bob Riordan and all those whose names appear on the *Parish List of the Sick*.

If you would like someone added to the *Parish List of the Sick* send your request to [snprayforus@gmail.com](mailto:snprayforus@gmail.com). Privacy protocols require you to obtain permission before submitting a name other than your own.



**Parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders:** April 25 First Communion Workshop at St John Neumann. First Communion folders are due May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Confirmation 2021:** Confirmation rehearsal is 2 May at 1 PM at St. John Neumann church.

**Young Adults: Theology on Tap:** Apologetics 101 Questions and Answers April 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM at St Francis de Sales Parish Center Conference Room/Library.

**Resource: Pints with Aquinas:** Podcasts, website & YouTube channel. Matt Fradd has relevant debates and great interviews.



**ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...**

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

Send an email to [jsturgill@stjnrc.com](mailto:jsturgill@stjnrc.com).

**SAINT JOHN NEUMANN SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship applications must be received by **May 1, 2021**. Please make sure you have completed the application fully and that all your attachments of letters and verification are included. Any applications received after May 1<sup>st</sup> cannot be guaranteed. Applications that are incomplete will not be returned but will be reviewed accordingly and award amounts will be altered. Forms are available on our website and at the parish office.

**MOTHER’S DAY**  
**MASSES OF REMEMBRANCE**

If you would like to remember your mother or grandmother (living or deceased) in our Annual Masses of Remembrance, please return your Mother’s Day Spiritual Remembrance Envelope by **Sunday, 2 May**. The special insert of names will be included in the Mother’s Day weekend bulletin May 8/9. What a great gift for our mothers to have special Masses said for them!

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