

# The Parish of ST. JOHN NEUMANN

*Fostering Christ's Love in Our Lives*

17951 Dixie Highway, Homewood, IL 60430  
(708) 798-0622 [rectory@sjnhomewood.org](mailto:rectory@sjnhomewood.org)  
[sjnhomewood.org](http://sjnhomewood.org)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

"John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!'" - Mt 3:1



### P A R I S H   S T A F F

Rev. Edmond Aristil, Pastor [edaristil@archchicago.org](mailto:edaristil@archchicago.org)

Rev. Ralph Zwirn, Retired Associate

Rev. Ted Ostrowski, Resident Priest

Christina Rios, Operations Director [crios@archchicago.org](mailto:crios@archchicago.org)

Carlos Roman, Faith Formation [croman@archchicago.org](mailto:croman@archchicago.org)

Jasmine Dowdy, Rel Ed Asst. [jcdowdy@archchicago.org](mailto:jcdowdy@archchicago.org)

Karen Canty, Music Director [kcanty@archchicago.org](mailto:kcanty@archchicago.org)

William Rosas, Music Coord. [wrosas@archchicago.org](mailto:wrosas@archchicago.org)

Jama Dowdy, Bookkeeper [jdowdy@archchicago.org](mailto:jdowdy@archchicago.org)

Agatha Kienzle, Office Manager [akienzle@archchicago.org](mailto:akienzle@archchicago.org)

Robert Chan, Maintenance Coord. [rchan@archchicago.org](mailto:rchan@archchicago.org)

### D E A C O N   M I N I S T R Y

Deacon George Maddock

Deacon Gary Michael Miarka

### W E E K E N D   L I T U R G I E S

Saturday Mass.....5:15 PM

Sunday Mass.....8:00 & 10:30 AM

### W E E K D A Y   L I T U R G I E S

Monday—Saturday Communion.....6:30 AM

Monday - Friday Mass .....8:30 AM

### H o l y   D a y   M a s s e s

Holy Day Masses.....8:30 AM, 7:00 PM

### S a c r a m e n t   o f   R e c o n c i l i a t i o n

Saturday....4:30-5:00 PM

**Adoration**

Monday...9:00 AM-10:00 AM

### C O N T A C T

**Rectory** .....708-798-0622, fax 798-6137

**Religious Education**.....708-798-0622, ext. 4

**Music**.....(708) 798-0622, ext. 7

**Parish E-mail**.....[rectory@sjnhomewood.org](mailto:rectory@sjnhomewood.org)

### R E C T O R Y   O F F I C E   H O U R S

Mon, Tu, Wed, Th, Fri.....8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sat, Sun.....closed

# Faith Formation

## A SEASON OF FAITH AND PREPARATION

As we step once more into the holy season of Advent, we are invited to lift our eyes toward the horizon of faith. This faith is steady and enduring, for it rests in God's Word and His unfailing love. In these long, cold nights, when darkness seems to linger, we await the coming of Christ, the Light who shines into every corner of the world where there is pain, suffering, and despair. Advent calls us to pause, to examine our hearts, and to set aside what has not brought life, so that we may discover new ways of living with greater love, justice, and faith.

This journey of Advent is not one we make alone. It is a communal season, a time when we walk together as the People of God. We wait patiently, but we also wait actively—by preparing ourselves, by nourishing our heart, mind, body, and soul, and by rediscovering our relationship with God and with one another. Again and again, God reveals Himself to us, inviting us to grow deeper in faith and to prepare ourselves spiritually for the gift of His Son.

As we prepare our homes for Christmas—by welcoming guests, by buying and wrapping gifts, by decorating trees—we are asked a deeper question: *What gift will you bring to the Infant Jesus?* Beyond material offerings, Advent challenges us to prepare spiritual gifts: by practicing charity, by standing on the side of justice, by strengthening friendship and community, by loving our families, and by deepening our relationship with God. Christmas is not only one day; it is a way of life. Each day we are called to be better human beings, to give of ourselves, and to live faithfully.

Let us hold onto the spirit of Christmas with the wonder of children—by recalling the joy of waiting, by remembering the excitement of gifts under the tree, and by cherishing the warmth of welcoming loved ones into our homes. Advent gives us time to revisit these memories and to prepare our hearts to welcome the Newborn Savior with the same joy, laughter, and love.

This week, we also hear the voice of John the Baptist preaching in the desert:

*"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! Prepare the way of the Lord."* (Matthew 3:1-3)

John reminds us to renew our Baptismal and Confirmation promises—by turning away from sin, by opening ourselves to grace, and by preparing the way for Jesus, who baptizes with the Holy Spirit and fire. The Spirit that filled Jesus at His baptism also fills His disciples—the Church—empowering us to live as witnesses of the new age.

The sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation form the foundation of Christian life, initiating us into a community of faith and mission. Alongside the Eucharist, they strengthen us to bear witness to Christ, even to the ends of the earth. Pope Francis reminds us:

*"In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples. All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization. The new evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized."* (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 120)

This Advent, let us embrace our call to be missionary disciples—by sharing the joy of the Gospel, by bringing light into darkness, and by preparing the way of the Lord in our families, communities, and world.

In this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and strive to become better versions of ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem, and we ask ourselves: *What has my journey toward Christmas been like so far?*

As we wait on the Lord, let us tune our voices in harmony, anticipating the miraculous celebration of His birth. May the Lord bless you in this holy season. May this Advent season bring you hope, faith, joy, peace, and love.

Carlos Roman, Director of Faith Formation

## WELCOME!

St. John Neumann Parish is a joy filled, Eucharist-centered community of missionary disciples, rooted in Scripture, Sacrament and Prayer, dedicated to encountering Christ in our lives, and creating a culture of belonging, unity and compassion as we reach out in service to others and embrace all people to give witness to the Love and Mercy of God in the greater community.

### WEEKLY OFFERING TOTAL

#### NOVEMBER 15 & 16

Weekend Collections....\$7,001.00  
Electronic Giving.....\$2,361.25

Total Donation.....\$9,362.25

Building/Utilities: \$539.00

Sharing: \$186.00

All Saints: \$10.00

All Souls: \$25.00

Flowers: \$5.00

Retirement: \$25.00

CCHD: \$42.00

#### NOVEMBER 22 & 23

Weekend Collections..\$11,963.00  
Electronic Giving.....\$1,756.25

Total Donation.....\$13,719.25

Building/Utilities: \$86.00

Sharing: \$40.00

Catholic Charities: \$100.00

Thanksgiving: \$174.00

CCHD: \$2,024.00

#### NOVEMBER 29 & 30

Weekend Collections....\$3,697.00  
Electronic Giving.....\$1,466.25

Total Donation.....\$5,163.25

Building/Utilities: \$.00

Sharing: \$24.00

Thanksgiving: \$1,186.00

CCHD: \$55.00

Flowers: \$85.00

Christmas: \$20.00

Thank you for your generosity!



## Around the Parish

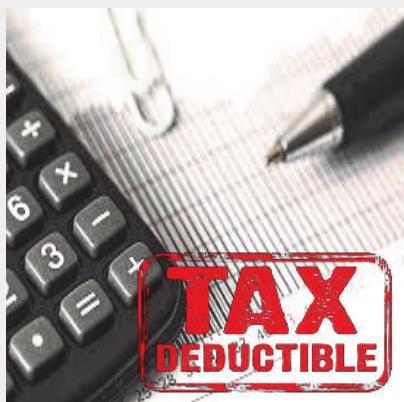
### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

#### MASS SCHEDULE

St. John Neumann Parish

8:30am and 6:30pm



### A TAX-SAVY WAY TO SUPPORT ST JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

When you donate appreciated securities or mutual funds to our parish, you can reduce or even eliminate federal capital gains taxes on the transfer. You may also be entitled to a federal income tax charitable deduction based on the fair market value of the securities at the time of the transfer. For more information about donating stock or securities, please contact your financial advisor.

To make a stock or IRA donation to St. John Neumann Parish, please contact:

Christina Rios, St. John Neumann Parish Operations Director  
at 708-798-0622, ext. 23 or [crios@achchicago.org](mailto:crios@achchicago.org)

### LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT?

Our church sweatshirts make meaningful and cozy presents for family and friends. You can purchase or order your sweatshirts after all masses on the weekends of

December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

Give the gift that warms the body and the heart.



# Around the Parish



## South Holland Master Chorale Presents free family concert HOLIDAY JOY AND FANFARE



South Holland Master Chorale will be joined by Chicago Gargoyle Brass Ensemble and organist Mark Sudeith in a holiday concert

**Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 4pm**

St. John Neumann Parish  
17951 Dixie Hwy, Homewood, IL

The 70-member Chorale, directed by Philip J. Bauman with piano accompanist Marilyn Bourgeois, will present a variety of contemporary works, traditional holiday favorites and sing-alongs suitable for all ages. Among the contemporary works on the program is an arrangement of "Ave Maria" by British composer Philip Stopford, along with an arrangement of the spiritual "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" by American Stacey V. Gibbs, and the more traditional "Nativity Carol" by English composer John Rutter.

Also included is "Christmas Joy," a three-part work by American composer Dan Forrest based on the English carol "On Christmas Night," the Polish carol "O, Come Rejoicing" and the hymn "Joy to the World." Two lesser-known but quite beautiful hymns are "Where the Light Begins," a musical setting by Susan LaBarr of a poem by American writer and artist Jan Richardson, and a new setting of the traditional English carol "What Child Is This" by American composer Gwyneth Walker.

As a regular part of the Chorale's holiday concerts, audience members will be invited to join in singing several traditional Christmas carols, closing the concert with "Silent Night."

Admission is free; donations will be accepted. For more information, visit [southhollandmasterchorale.org](http://southhollandmasterchorale.org)



## PARISH MINISTRIES

### ALTAR SERVERS:

Contact: Fr. Edmond Aristil

### ARTS & ENVIRONMENT:

Contact: Erin Roeper

### ATHLETICS

Contact: John Blasgen

### BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Contact: Elaine Bulanda, Mary Paetsch

### BOOK CLUB

Contact: Helen Hillegass

### CATECHISTS/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Contact: Carlos Roman

### 6:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Contact: Steven McDowell

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

Contact: Jama Dowdy

### ELIZABETH MINISTRY

Contact: Marge Hayes

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

Contact: Jack Hayes, Tom Blaszczyk

### FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Contact: Serena Hewitt

### FOOD DRIVE

Contact: Mary Ellen Brabec

### GARDENING TEAM

Contact: Elaine Hoffman

### GUADALUPANAS

Contact: Caitlin Amescua

### HOSPITALITY

Contact: Mary Ellen Brabec

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Contact: Timothy Gsell

### LECTORS

Contact: Mary Ellen Brabec, Tom Brabec

### LITURGY WRITING TEAM

Contact: Julie Orbik, Ruth Austing

### MEALS-PLUS

Contact: Jim Bova

### MEN FOSTERING FAITH GROUP

Contact: Frank Casella, Oscar Griffin Jr

### MINISTERS OF CARE

Contact: Jack Hayes, Tom Blaszczyk

### MUSIC MINISTRY

Contact: Karen Carty, William Rosas

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Maureen Kelly, Dave Wolken, Helen Hallman, Angela Murray, Paul Lynch, Susan Gates, Connie Callahan, Sandra Cutz, Marge Gleason, Katie Seidel, Justin Mahikizi, Dobaro Dogisso

### PIECEMAKER QUILTERS/PRAYER SHAWL

Contact: Helen Hillegass

### PRAYER MINISTRY

Contact: Julie Orbik

### SANCTUARY GUILD

Contact: Sue Wolken

### SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUP

Contact: Elaine Bulanda, Mary Paetsch

### SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Contact: Elaine Bulanda

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY

Contact: Janice Scott

### USHERS

Contact: Patrick Nevins

### YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

Contact: Carlos Roman

# Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

**9:00AM FUNERAL@ST ANNE: BARBARA MAHER**

**5:15PM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

† People of St. John Neumann Parish

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

**8:00AM FR. TED OSTROWSKI**

Birthday Blessing Augustine Rummage  
† Renee McDowell  
† Lucille M. Torres  
† Lucy Jakubik

**10:30AM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

Special Int. Bodnar Family  
† Lucille Tijerina  
† John Hac  
† Philip Schmitz  
† Martha Gadrim

**11:00AM BAPTISM: EMMA AGGENORA McDANIEL**

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**8:30AM FR. RALPH ZWIRN**

† Tom Peters  
† Arlene Koehn

**6:30PM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

† People of St. John Neumann Parish

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

**8:30AM FR. RALPH ZWIRN**

† Joseph Hook  
† Kathleen Campbell DeBiasio

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

**8:30AM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

Special Int. Fr. Sammy  
† The Hill and Durkin Families

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

**9:00AM FR. RALPH ZWIRN**

† Michael Ormsby

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025

**8:30AM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

Special Int. for the lost children of the church  
† Helen Cyborski  
† Mercedes Guadalupe Andrade

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

**5:15PM FR. RALPH ZWIRN**

Birthday Blessing Joanne Middleton  
Birthday Blessing Fr. Ron Kondziolka  
Special Int. Arsenia & Ed Nepomuceno  
† William Werner

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

**8:00AM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

Special Int. Arsenia & Ed Nepomuceno  
† Domingo Garcia  
† Amparo Ortega  
† Mary Kay Monahan

**10:30AM FR. EDMOND ARISTIL**

Birthday Blessing Joanne Middleton  
Healing Cheryl Sullivan  
Special Int. Sophia Delegato & Andy Warren  
Special Int. Ylondia & † Glenn Hudson  
† Joseph Bandera  
† Thomas & Mary Rita Halleran  
† Helen Kuzma  
† Dan Gehr  
† Jacob Sullivan

## MASS INTENTIONS

(Stipend per Mass Intentions is \$10. PLEASE PRINT)

*Please submit this form 2 weeks before the mass date.*

Name of Person for Whom Mass is Requested

(\_\_\_\_\_  
(*Phonetic Pronunciation of Name if Applicable*)

*Circle one: Living, Deceased, Healing, Special Int. or Birthday*

Mass Date Requested

Your Name

Phone number      E-mail (to receive email confirmation)

Mail the mass card to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PREPARE FOR AN OVERWHELMING IMMERSION IN A NEW WAY OF LIFE

Advent is a season of announcements to prepare us for a coming of something new and different. John the Baptist, in the opening of this passage from Matt's Gospel (Matt 3: 1-12) announces to all who will listen that "*the kingdom of God is at hand.*" JB is the embodiment of what the prophet Isaiah foretold of "*the voice of one in the wilderness (calling us) to prepare the way for the Lord*" in our hearts. This part of Matt's Gospel is the tail end of the tale of JC's "Infancy Narrative." Matt's images and references in this narrative are infused with royalty and kingship. The 1<sup>st</sup> reading opens with Isaiah's prophesy that out of the line of (King) David will come a new king to restore the ancient values of a God-fearing people. These passages describe both what is to happen and how it is to unfold. This kingdom is nothing what earthly expectations predict.

JB was humbly direct about his role. "*I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*" JB's approach was straightforward. The form of his baptism, which in its original Greek means an '*immersion or complete overwhelmment*,' was more than a ritual and physical cleansing. It was a symbolic act of repentance as well. To 'repent' is to turn away from turning away from God. This '*turning away from God*' and all that we know to be right and proper is the essential definition of sin. Isn't a thorough scrubbing of our old habits a good way to ritually embark on a new life?

These passages in today's Lectionary announce more than a spiritual renewal. What Jesus expects for us, as he counseled Nicodemus (John 3), is to be 'born again.' We all know that Jesus eventually promises the coming of the Holy Spirit (John 14) to His Apostles. As we all know (Acts 2), the Holy Spirit descended upon them on the feast of Pentecost after Jesus' Ascension into heaven. Throughout the Old Testament, the presence of the (Holy) Spirit was a sign of an awareness of the presence of God's 'awesomeness.' This sense of awe is the Greek word that describes the reverent '*fear of the Lord.*' This presence was always a signal of empowerment. This gift of the Holy Spirit was their '*confirmation.*' Those immersed in the Spirit were imbued with a graceful courageousness to boldly share their faith. Doesn't this sound like the effects of the sacrament of *Confirmation* according to our catechism? Of course it does. This passage from Isaiah (11: 2-12) confirms the purpose of this pairing of Scripture. What Isaiah describes here are the '*Gifts of the Holy Spirit.*' This infusion of the Holy Spirit, a source of God's grace, always fuels transformative behavior. We cannot help but to be converted. A good measure of the effectiveness of such change is the appearance of the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5: 22) blossoming within us.

'*Baptism of the Holy Spirit*' thus describes our initiation into the body of Christ in His Church. Paul explained this in 1 Cor 12: 13. Our formal incorporation into the Church initially occurs in the sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation. Sacraments are our channel to the boundless font of God's grace if we choose to partake.

JB's reference to 'fire' has a two-fold implication. The minor prophet Malachi talks of '*purifying with fire*' to refine gold from its impurities and dross. At the end of this day's Gospel, JB offers an agricultural metaphor. The good wheat is separated from the bad chaff, which is then destroyed by an unquenchable fire. This is the judgment and its consequence for unrepentant sin. Such are the sanctifying effects of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. How are you preparing for your transformation this Advent? Will you be purified by the fire of the Spirit's baptism?

John baptized with water for repentance. Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit and Fire for inner change. Matthew 3:11



## Readings for the Week

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 2025

**Sunday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

**Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18 bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Next Sunday:** Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

[Daily Readings > https://sjnhomewood.org/daily-readings-and-gospel](https://sjnhomewood.org/daily-readings-and-gospel)



## Around the Parish

Join us this Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate the **Feast of Saint Nicholas!**



Immediately following the 5:15 PM Mass Bring your family and enjoy the opportunity to take pictures with Saint Nicholas. All are welcome—come share in the joy of this special tradition!

## CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

**Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:15pm Mass**

The Guadalupanas invite you and your family to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at 5:15pm Mass on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Following the mass, there will be light refreshments to enjoy in Fr. Sayers Hall.



**JOIN US • GET INVOLVED**  
**YOUNG ADULTS**  
**in 20's and 30's**

Meet Thursdays at 6:30 PM  
in the School Building



For more information contact Carlos Roman at [croman@sjnhomewood.org](mailto:croman@sjnhomewood.org) or 708.798.06, ext. 4



*The second collection next weekend, December 13 & 14, will be for Retirement Fund for Religious.*

## Around the Parish



### ANOTHER STUNNING SUCCESS!

#### CLOTHING PLUS COLLECTION DRIVE for VETERANS' HOME at MANTENO

On Saturday, November 8, 2025, the Good Lord smiled upon us again and provided the trifecta of good weather, incredible volunteer support and the most generous community in the Chicago Southlands to help make our Clothing Plus Collection Drive for Veterans' Home Manteno **another stunning success**. The economic value of all items collected was **\$25,545.22** and in addition more than **\$7,015** in checks and cash for a total of **\$32,560.22**. These totals exceeded last year's by over **\$9,500**! The Meals Plus fka PADS Ministry here at St John Neumann



Parish was honored to partner with Commander John Kearns and his great group of veterans and supporters from American Legion Post 1139, East Hazel Crest, IL to plan and execute this event. We are sincerely grateful for the opportunity to work with such an honorable group of true American heroes.

Starting on Friday, November 7, 2025, a team of dedicated ministry members worked quickly and efficiently to convert the Tolton Room to Collection Drive Central. Their efforts really set the pace for how well the collection day would go. The team included Don and Sue Pelka, Mary Ellen Brabec, Anna Egofske, Yasmin Vaughn, Erin Roeper, Allisa Opyd, Theresa Funke and Chuck Funke, Sue Benigni, Jim and Kathie Adduci and Helen and John Kearns.

On Saturday, great support in Collection Central continued from even more team members. That team kept the steady flow of items moving throughout the morning and gotus ready for the final stage of storage. This team included Sue Cervik, Sue Benigni, Erin Roeper, RoseAnn Ronney, Sue Pelka, Helen Kearns, Mary Stubblefield, Debbie Nicolson, Yasmin Vaughn, Angela Desmond, Kathie Adduci, Angela Murray, Claude Zaba and Anna Egofske.

*(Continued on page 9)*



### FLOWER OFFERING

*Christmas Flowers* offering envelopes are available in the back of the church until New Year's Day. You will notice that the envelopes have a line for "given in memory of...." so that you can remember a loved one with your flower offering. We will print the names of those being remembered in the bulletin. Please return your flower offering in the regular collection or drop it off at the rectory anytime before January 1<sup>st</sup>.



### “OPLATKI” CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Christmas Wafers “Oplatki” are available for purchase at the rectory office during business hours.

This Christmas tradition originated with Polish, Slovak and Lithuanian Catholic families. Family members and friends break off a piece of oplatek and give it to one another to eat, expressing the best wishes and blessing upon them and asking for forgiveness. This is a family celebration of love and forgiveness.



## Around the Parish

(Continued from page 8)

We are once again indebted to Don "Radar" Pelka and his wife Sue for creating an amazing inventory system that allowed us to tally all items collected in an quick and organized way!



We are also very grateful for the team that worked outside to keep the collections process organized and moving quickly and efficiently. From the signage and traffic flow logistics managed so well to the great support provided by the Commander himself, John Kearns and his crew of legion veterans. We express thanks to Mary Ellen Brabec, Sue Benigni, Rose Ann Rooney, Anna Egofske and our terrific Legion partner, Jim Hansel for their sourcing of the boxes we used. A special thanks to Ron Schmitt for once

again getting us access to shopping carts to transport the items to Collection Central. A grateful shout-out to Helen Kearns and Sue Connelly for providing and setting up the coffee and pastries the team enjoyed throughout the day.

We are especially appreciative of all the youth volunteers that came out to help with the unloading and moving of items to Collection Central! It was heartwarming to see them interact with all the veterans in attendance. I hope you all will remember this experience for a long time to come.

We had two highlights of the day! The first was when the East Hazel Crest Fire Department pulled up in their bright red firetruck to deliver items for the collection drive. These guys truly represent the best in public service, and we sincerely appreciate their support and generosity. The second came when a woman drove up in her car and handed us \$30.00 in lottery ticket winnings! She was driving along Dixie Highway, saw our signs and decided this was a great cause to donate her winnings!

A huge thanks to Father Edmond, Father Ted and Father Ralph for their continued support in our efforts to serve our community and those in need!

Finally, we are indebted to all of you, the Parish of St John Neumann and the community of Homewood. Your continued generosity and support especially for those being honored for serving our country is sincerely appreciated. May God bless you and keep you all in His loving arms.

Jim Bova



*Now to him who is able to immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!*

**Ephesians 3:20-21**

# Body & Soul

## Pray for the Sick

LIZ ADDUCCI  
 NORMA ALFORD  
 WILBER "LEROY" ARCHER  
 SUZETTE D. ARISTIL  
 BALASKAS FAMILY  
 MARIA BEELE  
 FR. THOMAS BELANGER  
 JO ANN BLASZCZYK  
 DONNA BOOKER-KNIGHT  
 BARBARA BOZZO  
 ALEX BRANDT  
 GLEN BROWN  
 RUSSELL BROWN  
 CONNIE BRUSICH  
 JOAN BULF  
 DOROTHY BURKES  
 SEAN BURTON  
 BETTY BUTLER  
 VICKY BUTLER  
 HELEN CARROLL-O'BRIEN  
 HAROLD CHAPMAN  
 FRANK CASELLA  
 CARLA CASSARO  
 VICTORIA CHAVEZ  
 MELISSA CHLOPECKI  
 ANDREA CRAFTON  
 SHIRLEY & BITH CURRY  
 OSBORN CURTIS  
 FRANK DANIELS  
 RARICK DAY  
 MAURICE & SANDRA  
     DELANEY  
 CHAR DROZDOWSKI  
 RENEE ELIACIN  
 SERGE ELIACIN  
 KAREN & DAVE ERICKSON  
 ROBERT EVERAERT  
 MARIA ELANA ESTRADA  
 SUSAN EYSENBACH  
 CANDIDO ESPARZA

MARGE FASANO  
 ED FASANO  
 MARY FERNANDEZ  
 JUDY FISHER  
 ALMA FITZPATRICK  
 DOLLY FORCH  
 AIDEN & ASHTON  
 FOSTER  
 BARBARA & JOHN FOX  
 JIM & DEBBY FOX  
 DEBBIE FRAMARIN  
 RACHEL FRAMARIN  
 PAUL FREGEAU  
 ETHEL GAINES  
 CATHERINE GIBBONS  
 JOHN GIBLIN  
 ANDRE' GLENN  
 MAUREEN HALLERAN  
 JACK HAYES  
 MARGE HAYES  
 JUANITA HERNANDEZ  
 SAVANNA HILLEGASS  
**SHERI HILLEGASS**  
 HOGUEISSON FAMILY  
 SUSAN HOOTER  
 TERRY HORNE  
 NORM HOUSEWORTH  
 ANNE HUDSON  
 LINDA HUDSON  
 M. CHRISTINE  
     HUTCHINS  
 JIM ISOM  
 MARGE ISOM  
 JIM JACKSON  
 LORETTA JAMES  
 CARL JENNINGS  
 STANLEY JOHNS  
 APRIL JOHNSON-  
 LEONARD  
 KIMBERLY JOHNSON  
 GAIL JONES

GAIL JORDAN  
 ROSEMARIE KEARNEY  
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Color denotes  
 recently added  
 attention family  
 members.

After 8 weeks,  
 please notify the  
 Rectory if your loved  
 one still needs to be  
 on our prayer list.

## Prayers for Our Troops

Please pray for the men and women in our Armed Forces. May God protect them and return them safely to their families:

AMY BAWA, US ARMY  
 SEBASTIAN ASCENCIO, US AIR FORCE  
 BRUNO BRITTANY, US ARMY  
 BRADLEY BRUNO, US NAVY  
 LT. COL. ANGELA BULANDA, US ARMY  
 CAPT. ROBERT BULANDA, US AIR FORCE  
 ANTONIO FABIAN CAMPOS, US ARMY  
 LT. REBECCA CONTI-VOCK  
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 CAPT. AARON CHRISTIAN DEAL  
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 SCPO PETER DONALDSON  
 AIRMAN ALEX FUENTES  
 ALAN GRAGE, US ARMY  
 COL. DAWN HARDEMAN, US ARMY  
 E4 SPECIALIST ROLAND HARGROVE II  
 SF RANGER CHRISTOPHER JOHN JONES  
 PO2 MATTHEW JURON, US NAVY  
 PRIVATE ARTHUR KRUEGER  
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 PVT. NATHAN A. MACH  
 SFC AMY MACKOWIAK, ILNG  
 SPECIALIST JOSHUA S. MITCHELL  
 MAJ. SAMUEL MODICA, USMC  
 LT. DANIELLE PETERSON  
 A1C. JESSICA POLACEK  
 GYSGT LOUIS RODRIGUEZ  
 CAMRYN SHUPRYT, US ARMY  
 NICHOLAS SHUPRYT, US ARMY  
 LNCPL DILLON THOMPSON  
 AIRMAN GAVIN TIENSTRA  
 MAJ. JONATHAN TROUTMAN  
 PRIVATE JOSHUA TYLER, USMC  
 MGYSGT JOSEPH UNWOOD  
 PFC ALEXANDER D. URBAN  
 LT. COL. KEVIN J. WALKER  
 1ST LT. DANIEL J. WEBB  
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