

# NEUMANN NEWS

*“Making the name  
of the Lord known  
in this place.”*

VOLUME THIRTY-SIX

ISSUE THREE

JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2017



## The Season of ORDINARY TIME

As we approach the summer months, it is important to remember that we have been given an excellent opportunity to strengthen our spiritual habits. For some, summer is a time of relaxation and lollygagging. For others, it is a time constantly buzzing with activities, day camps, and trips. Liturgically, we are heading back into ordinary time.

Upon first hearing this you, might begin to groan, “Ordinary time? How boring!” Ordinary time can sometimes seem uneventful. This particular ordinary season is a long one; it stretches all the way to Advent. It may seem like there is nothing to look forward to. Spiritually, we may be tempted to slip into the sin of sloth. Now that the Lent/Easter season has passed, our spiritual habits and routines may be harder to keep up.

The sin of sloth, or *acedia*, is more than just general laziness. Fr. Mike Schmitz explained in one of his recent videos that this sin is the sin of procrastination. Procrastination isn't doing nothing; it is doing anything *but* the one thing we are supposed to be doing. I remember in college I would often find myself fall victim to this sin when it came to writing. I would have a five-page essay due the next day but I kept finding excuses as to why I couldn't sit down and begin. I would start a load of laundry, or decide that I needed to work at the soup kitchen that night (even though I hadn't helped there in months). While my actions were not intrinsically evil, it was not good that I was avoiding the task at hand. God wants us to do our work. It is good and holy to perform the task at hand, to offer it up to Him.

We've all had moments like that. Everyone struggles with this sin, especially during the seasons of our lives when not much is changing. The summer months are an excellent example of a time for this sin to grow. At first, the summer is fun and seems open with endless possibilities, but after a while, we get bored with the routine. Each day is the same. The weather becomes more predictable, and we're stuck in the middle of a season we'd rather not be in.

It is during this season that we need to examine what it is that we are *supposed* to be doing. Yes, we have work and we have our kid's soccer camp to drive to, but what is that one thing you have been avoiding? Perhaps you have had a desire to go to daily Mass placed on your heart. Maybe there is a holy hour you have been meaning to get to. Or maybe that rosary swinging from your rearview mirror is begging to be used.

When combating this temptation, the simplest solution is to look upon Christ and His love for us. The incarnation is a wonderful thing. Jesus felt all the things we feel! Without the incarnation, our emotions would be invalid. But because of it, we can look upon Him and know that He understands what it means to be human. There were plenty of times Jesus didn't want to do things, but He persevered because of His love for God and for us. He said yes to the Father's will. When we look upon the cross, we see this most clearly. It was not the nails that held Him there, but **His love for us**.

What is holding your life in place? My hope for us during this ordinary season is that we realize it is love that holds us together. Now is the perfect time to act. Examine your life during this time and make a real effort to do what God is calling you to do. Resist the temptation of sloth and persevere in following Christ!

Peace  
Emily Branscum



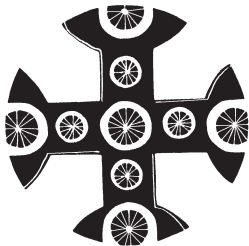
**The Birth of the Church**

*This year, we celebrate Pentecost on June 3rd and June 4th. We invite everyone to wear red for our celebration of Pentecost at the 5:00 p.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Mass. Red symbolizes the intense love and fire of the Holy Spirit. The dove, wind and tongues of flame are other symbols of the Pentecost event. (Parts of the article are from Catholic Customs and Traditions, by Greg Dues.)*

**Come, Holy Spirit**

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful  
and enkindle in them the fire of Your love.  
Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created.  
And You shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,  
grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise  
and ever to rejoice in God's consolation.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen!*



**Happy Father's Day  
A Father's Cross**

*A father's love is unconditional  
Just as Jesus' love for us.*

*He never stops caring, nurturing  
loving and worrying.*

*He carries that love for his child  
with him throughout his life.*

*Just as Jesus carries our burdens,  
a father's love never stops.*

*So thank you for always being  
there for me, always teaching,  
always loving, always caring.*

*You are the best father a child  
could ever ask for!*

**SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

This solemnity of the Church is celebrated on the Sunday after Pentecost every year. Picture the Trinity. What do you see? Perhaps it is the image of a shamrock or it is the image of a dignified elderly man and the Risen Jesus with a Dove hovering above them. The mystery of the Trinity – God as Father and son and Holy Spirit – baffles the mind. Three in One, One in Three. Who can makes sense of it? All the mind and heart and spirit can do is bow down in wonder and awe. We can come to this posture in different ways: experiencing our own delight in creation, opening our heart to the person of Jesus found in the Gospels, and being attentive to the way the Spirit continues to work in our world and our lives. How do you imagine the Most Holy Trinity?

*The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity  
is celebrated on June 11th this year.*

**SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY  
AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

This Solemnity of the Church is celebrated on the second Sunday after Pentecost every year. We move from the mystery of God as Trinity, a community of life and love, which we entered at our Baptism, to the mystery of the Eucharist, the ongoing presence of the risen Lord as food for the journey, a meal rich in blessing. The readings for this Solemnity place us at three meals, preparing us to participate more fully in our Eucharistic meal. At every Mass, when we eat and drink this blessed food and drink, we enter into communion with the mystery of His body broken and blood poured out. We invite you to extend this celebration of communion by coming to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. When you count your blessings, is the Eucharist among them?

*The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and  
Blood of Christ is celebrated on June 18th this year.*

**Blessings to our Graduates!**



This is a time to celebrate endings and new beginnings. We wish the best for all of our graduates. Be assured of the prayers and God's blessings with you always from the staff of St. John Neumann. We share the following prayer with you.

*Each of you is a unique creation,  
people blessed by God with life, people called, in love, to grow  
and to share your gifts with others.*

*We rejoice in who you are for us as a family and a as a  
parish community, calling to mind the gift you are to us.*

*May God continue to bless you and challenge you. May  
you always be surrounded by people who support and love  
you. May you grow more fully into the men and women whom  
God wants you to be, and that the world so desperately needs.*

*We ask this today, in hope and expectation that God will  
continue the great things already begun in you. Amen.*



### Youth Ministry News

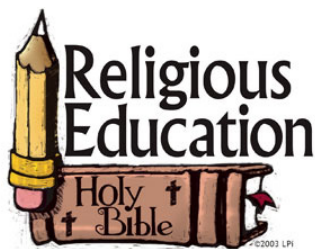
High School students from St. John Neumann will be attending the Steubenville Youth Conference on June 16-18, 2017 at Franciscan University. They will be joining

thousands of other young Catholics from around the country who are searching to learn more about the Church. Through dynamic speakers, inspirational music, daily mass, and Eucharistic Adoration, our teens will grow in their Catholic faith. Please pray for our young people and adults who are attending this conference.

Please pray for our high school students attending the Young Neighbors in Action Mission Trip in Buffalo, New York, from July 16-22, 2017. Our teens will be participating in area service projects, meeting teens from across the country, and worshipping and praying as a small community. We look forward to sharing our experiences in the next Neumann News.

Middle School and High School Students, Mark Your Calendars! The 4th Annual Shaving Cream Wiffle Ball and Cookout will take place on Sunday, August 27th, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to attend. See the bulletin for sign-up information.

Regular meetings for Kid's Ministry, Middle School and High School will resume in September.



### Religious Education School (RES)

These formal Religious Education classes are offered for all students in grades 1-8 who are attending public schools. Classes are held in a two-week time period in the

summer in conjunction with Corpus Christi and St. John the Baptist Parishes.

*The dates for this year's RES sessions are on June 19-23 and 26-30, 2017. We meet with prayer starting at 8:30 a.m. and go until 12:30 p.m. every day.* During the forty hours of the two weeks, we get a whole year of religious education accomplished. We also have field trips for the older grades, snack, art, and liturgy music for all of the young people. We utilize a textbook series approved by the diocese entitled "Call to Faith" by Harcourt. Certified catechists are responsible for the teaching. Our closing prayer is led by a grade level each day and families are encouraged to attend.

The cost is \$50.00 dollars per child and there is still time to register. Please call the office as soon as possible to register so that a textbook can be ordered for your child. If you have not been mailed registration information, you may not be on our list. For more information, or if you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact Dottie Foster in the Parish Office at 742-0953, ext. 13 or [edassist@sjnew.org](mailto:edassist@sjnew.org).



### Education Fund

We know that our economic times can be difficult. There are families who need extra assistance with their Catholic School tuition. If you can help with a donation to our Education Fund it would be greatly appreciated. Your donation can be dropped in the Sunday collection basket or dropped off at the Parish Office. Thank you for your continuous support!



### New Parishioners

We welcome new parishioners: *Teresa Dade and children, Andrea and Tessy, Antonio and Jennifer Torres and daughter, LeAna and George Volker and children George and Ashlynn*, who have recently joined our parish family.



### Baptisms

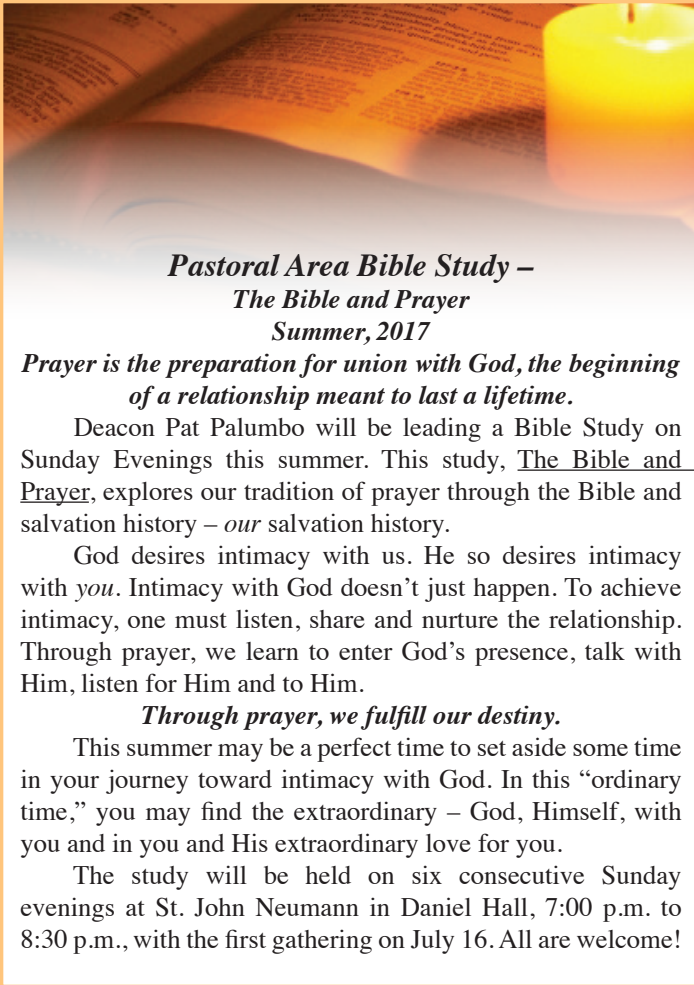
The newest members of our Christian family are: *Andrew Steven Meyer*, son of Matt and Teresa, *Lilian Josephine Raymond*, daughter of Sebastien and Nicole, *Max Joseph Siebenaller*, son of Jordan and Kaitlyn and *Adeline Kristine Tricase*, daughter of Andrew and Lindsey. These children were recently baptized at St. John Neumann. May they grow healthy, strong and steadfast in their faith with the love of each other and the Lord.



### Parents of Grade School Children

#### *Did You Know...?*

There are booklets for your children on the table at the rear of the Nave of the church to help them follow the Mass and the Readings? We hope you will find them useful in your efforts in forming your child in his/her faith.



**Pastoral Area Bible Study –  
The Bible and Prayer  
Summer, 2017**

***Prayer is the preparation for union with God, the beginning  
of a relationship meant to last a lifetime.***

Deacon Pat Palumbo will be leading a Bible Study on Sunday Evenings this summer. This study, The Bible and Prayer, explores our tradition of prayer through the Bible and salvation history – *our* salvation history.

God desires intimacy with us. He so desires intimacy with *you*. Intimacy with God doesn't just happen. To achieve intimacy, one must listen, share and nurture the relationship. Through prayer, we learn to enter God's presence, talk with Him, listen for Him and to Him.

***Through prayer, we fulfill our destiny.***

This summer may be a perfect time to set aside some time in your journey toward intimacy with God. In this "ordinary time," you may find the extraordinary – God, Himself, with you and in you and His extraordinary love for you.

The study will be held on six consecutive Sunday evenings at St. John Neumann in Daniel Hall, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., with the first gathering on July 16. All are welcome!



**Prayers for Travelers**

*O Almighty and merciful God, who hast commissioned Thy angels to guide and protect us, command them to be our assiduous companions from our setting out until our return; to clothe us with their invisible protection; to keep from us all danger of collision, of fire, of explosion, of fall and bruises, and finally, having preserved us from all evil, and especially from sin, to guide us to our heavenly home. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen*

**Cancer Ministry Support Group**

To better meet the needs of cancer patients and survivors, we will now schedule meetings of our Cancer Ministry Support Group on demand as requested by cancer patients needing support. If you are a cancer patient or a survivor, and want to be included on our list and be notified as new meetings are scheduled, please contact Eileen Armbruster at 923-2127 or email [jandel1@roadrunner.com](mailto:jandel1@roadrunner.com).



**St. John Neumann's  
Annual Parish Picnic on Friday, June 9th**  
Gates will open at 5:00 p.m. and close at 10:30 p.m.  
Rides from 6:00-10:00 p.m.  
**Free Soft Drinks ~ Bring a dessert to share!**  
**Special Thanks to the SJN Men's Society  
for providing the Picnic Buffet!**



**St. John Neumann  
Women's Organization**

The purpose of the SJNWO is to minister to the people of the parish, to create community, to promote self-development, and to direct spiritual growth among women. This purpose is accomplished in many ways: from providing casseroles to families in need to special speakers at monthly meetings, from community activities such as the House of Santa Mouse craft show, events for children to special liturgies and retreats for women.

All women, eighteen years of age and older, are invited to become members of the St. John Neumann Women's Organization. But whether or not you decide to join the Organization, all women are welcome to attend meetings and to use the services provided by the SJNWO. Membership dues are \$10.00 per year (June-May).

Meetings are held in Daniel Hall on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. (no meeting in July), May and December, a Mass/Communion Service is held in Our Lady's Chapel at 7:00 (unless otherwise noted in the church bulletin) with meeting and dinner to follow.

Contact Gena Sheets (President) at 513-616-8870 or [gmsbearcats99@yahoo.com](mailto:gmsbearcats99@yahoo.com) for questions or more information.

**SJNWO 2017-2018 Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Gena Sheets</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Gail Ulanski</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Julie Sheets</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Tricia Spears</b>

## St. John Neumann Men's Society

The Men's Society supports the general welfare of the parish through numerous social and fund-raising events. All men of the parish age 19 and over are welcome to join. Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 6:15 p.m. in Daniel Hall. Attend the next meeting to sign up and join in the camaraderie of this hard-working, fun-loving group. If interested in joining this organization, contact Ryan Rothert at 829-7877.



## Catholic Resources Available Every Week in the Gathering Space...

The Lighthouse Media kiosk, located in our Gathering Space, displays a collection of CDs and books on a wide variety of Catholic topics.

Available for purchase at a low cost (CDs are \$3.00, books are only \$4.00, and small booklets for \$2.00), these resources are for anyone who wishes to know more about their Catholic faith. Hear testimonies from those who have converted, find out more about the popes, read about modern day saints, and learn more about Mary our Mother. During Lent and Easter, materials are displayed to help our parishioners grow even deeper in their faith during these seasons of the Church year.



## St. John Neumann Festival is Coming Soon – How Can I Help?

What makes a Festival great – truly great? In my opinion it is the people. The many wonderful people that play a part in putting the Festival on, the spirit the parish volunteers show to the community and all the smiling faces having a blast on the grounds. It takes a lot of people in a lot of capacities to make it work! *So – how can I help you ask?*

Each year, those that put on the Festival are so touched and so blessed by all the outpouring of hard work and commitment so many show. Meeting new people in our parish family and helping them find a way to contribute is so rewarding. There are so many opportunities to help and support the Festival!

Perhaps it is as simple as purchasing one of the (500) Grand Prize tickets to support the largest fund-raising aspect of the Festival. Many enjoy picking out a tag from the Merchandise Booth board and shopping for a piece of what will be an amazing basket.

Another wonderful way to share in the fun and the success is by working a shift in one or several of the booths. I encourage all to sign up for several shifts throughout the weekend. This provides a chance to meet several groups of your parish family and share those experiences. There is a booth for everyone's likes and interests! Some parishioners enjoy helping with the set up and/or take down of the Festival and contribute in that manner.

Of course – the number one way to get involved is to come and enjoy the Festival! Have a hot dog and a funnel cake. Play a game. Watch the kids on the rides. Dance to the band. The Festival really is our number one social event as a parish. We are afforded the opportunity to meet new people, to deepen current relationships and to share in the fun. It is also our time to shine our faith and our Light of Christ's spirit to the community at large and nothing could be more of an example as to how we support each other and come together.

Every year – as a General Festival Chair – I am reminded of what this parish was founded on and what helped it grow into the vibrant, faith-filled parish community it is today. There is such a spirit of cooperation, of willing to roll up our sleeves, of financial support and of prayer. We're truly blessed. Hopefully you can find your way to best share in the success and the fun! Festival weekend is **Friday-Sunday, September 1-3**. Set-up times will begin Tuesday evening, August 29 and tear down happens right at the end of Sunday night and continues Monday morning. Keep an eye out in the bulletin for more information and hopefully you will be a part of it and share in our success and all the fun!

If you have any questions or want to find ways to help – please contact Brian Rawlings at (513) 218-9105, Neal Gellenbeck at (5136) 312-6323 or Mike Wicktora at (513) 319-5534.

### Early Bird Drawings!!!

**Two (2) Early Bird Drawings will be held prior to the Festival start date. These drawings will be on July 10th and August 14th for \$500.00 Shopping Cents gift cards for each drawing. One ticket number from those sold through the above dates will be drawn and that ticket owner will receive the appropriate prize. Early Bird drawing winners will remain eligible for the Grand Prize.**

**ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH**

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