

St. John Neumann Council's Continuing Word

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President's Corner

Monday, February 9th was our wettest general meeting in a long while. I was surprised that we had many members come with the downpour. The theme of the meeting was on matters of the heart; the physical, anatomical heart as well as the emotional, spiritual heart. There were facts like the first successful heart transplant was done in South Africa; that the adult heart is about the size of two fists put together; and that the blood vessels fed by your heart are more than 60,000 miles long. Then Barbara Speziani gave us information on the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, of which dates back as far as the Middle Ages. Many saints and mystics have passed on these devotions, which have beautiful prayers and litanies concerning the Sacred Heart.

We are beset with challenges often these days, though that is just a part of life. We get comfortable in our routines; then circumstances can change overnight. We need some time to assess our priorities and see if what we are doing is reflective of our values and worth our time and commitment. So as the Lenten Season rolls in, this seems the perfect time to make a special effort to meditate and pray more; to hear that still small voice calling to us.

Jesus, meek and humble of Heart, make our hearts like unto Thine.

We say farewell to Fr. Buck, our pastor and our CCW Spiritual Advisor for the last eleven years at St. John Neumann and wish him the very best as he retires. We welcome Fr. Andrew Mallick to shepherd us now. We hope and pray that he will feel our love, acceptance and support as he has to make many changes in his routine. And may each of us know that we are loved and treasured by our Heavenly Father as we walk through this season of fasting and making reparation. Make it a good Lent.

Yours in Christ,
Diane DiSalvo and Shelia Thomas

National Council of Catholic Women Mission Statement

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its membership to support empowers and educates all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

**Western Deanery Council of Catholic Women
Shindig**

The Church of the Resurrection is the host location for a St. Joseph's Day Celebration, starting at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 14, for the Western Deanery benefit. Entertainment will include Scott Niebauer playing the classical guitar and a fun round of Catholic Jeopardy! Lunch will include Lasagna and Chicken Marsala, bread & dipping sauces, salad and varied desserts. Raffle prizes include wonderful baskets prepared by our affiliations and door prizes. Contact Diane DiSalvo at 937-7100 to purchase the tickets for \$15.00. Celebrate this feast day with your Deanery Sisters!

March Birthdays

3/7- Betty Jean Seigler

**3/8- Claudette
Bordelon**

3/17- Pat Piersa

**3/19- Mary Kay
Zaccarella**

3/26 Teddy Stasiak

3/30 - Fr. Andrew Mallick

March Meeting

We had to change the March General meeting date due to the fundraiser for the WDCCW being on March 14th. It will be Monday, March 9th, at the 7 p.m. time slot. Hope to see you there! We will be voting on three new officers; president, treasurer, and secretary. Some of my unexpected changes are three grandbabies that are due; one in April, one in July and one in September. Wonderful news but challenging dynamics will be in the mix. I have learned a lot this year and plan to stay involved, though not so much in the fall. Please consider how you can serve when Bonnie Hicks, Karen Lombardo or Linda Brophy approach you. Thanks!

Caps of Love Revisited

Cathy Petroff asked that we collect the plastic caps to donate for the "Caps of Love" project and hand them in when we come to the ODCCW Conference at the end of April. I already have about 8 lbs. from friends who continued collecting the caps. Would you bring the caps for the March and April meetings and I will see if I can put the container out there for just the next two months.

Please clean and remove paper or foil from the caps. No metal ones, please. And please keep flimsy opaque separate!

Mothers Day

In honor of your deceased mother, grandmother or mentor, consider making a \$20 donation in their memory. Their name will be in the ODCCW 2015 convention program book. Please send name, \$20 cash or check (payable to ODCCW Convention fund) to Sheila Thomas in the parish office by March 1.



An interview with Reverend Andrew Mallick
by Bonnie Hicks

Who is our new Pastor?

Many of us have heard his personal introduction at the first Mass Fr. Andrew celebrated as our new pastor. He shared with us that he had attended St. Joseph and Santa Fe High Schools followed by the local community college. We also learned he enjoys playing tennis. To learn more about Father, an interview was requested and he graciously took the time, in spite of his busy schedule of settling in.

I will share with you the answers to some basic questions such as:

Do you cook? "Yes, frozen dinners."

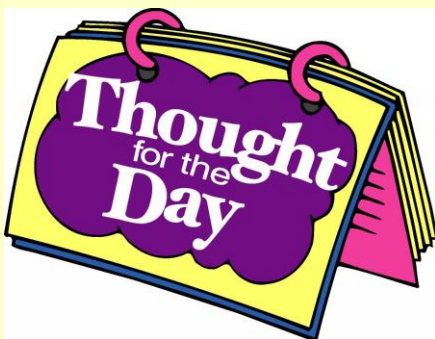
How many brothers and or sisters do you have? "I have one brother".

What would we find you doing in your "spare time"? "Reading."

Regarding his vocation, Fr. Mallick doesn't remember not considering becoming a priest. His favorite subjects in school were Religion and English. His travels have taken him on a pilgrimage to Lourdes and to Rome where he prayed alongside Pope John Paul II.

When we talked about the future of the Church, whether it was the youth or the adults, he easily responded that it was about all of us and added that we should recognize and appreciate the wisdom of elders. Father spoke of the sacraments and how the strength of the church comes from the sacraments. The depth of his spirituality radiated through his easy smile when he answered the question about what gift he was given by God, to share. Father Andrew quickly responded, "God, all that He is."

We welcome our spiritual leader, a Eucharistic and Marian priest and pray for him as he begins a new journey with his family at St. John Neumann.



"Gravitation is not responsible for people falling in love".
-Albert Einstein

"If a thing loves, it is infinite".
-William Blake

"What we have once enjoyed we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us."
-Helen Keller

"Love does not consist of gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction."
- Antoine de Saint-Exupery



Size 7 or 8

No, not your dress size! We are being invited to help our Sister Diocese in the Dominican Republic by donating new shoes, adult sizes 7 or 8. Imagine if all CCW members were to participate what a difference it would make! You can bring the shoes to the March or April SJNCCW meeting or leave with Shelia in the parish office. Thank you!



SPECIAL EVENTS

3/2 SJNCCW Board meeting at 7 p.m. in Gathering Room

3/3-3/5 Catholic Day at the Capitol

3/9 CCW General meeting at 7 pm; Parish Hall with Rosary at 6:30 pm

3/12 Western Deanery Board meeting at 7 pm in St. John Neumann's Parish Hall

3/14 Western Deanery Fundraiser at Church of the Resurrection in Parish Hall at 11:30 for luncheon and entertainment- \$15.00 per ticket

3/29 Palm Sunday

4/5 Easter Sunday

4/25-4/27 Orlando Diocese CCW conference at the Crowne Plaza in Melbourne, FL

My Spiritual Journey by Janet Nicolella

I was born in Gloversville, New York in 1947. I attended St. Mary's School in Gloversville, and then attended the public school for my junior and senior high years. My father, who enjoyed music as a band director in the 1940s, encouraged my music vocation. After he heard me sing the "Hail Mary" in the church choir, I was on my way to taking voice and piano lessons at an early age. I sang for many community events in the Gloversville area. In high school, I participated in several musicals and landed the role of Eliza Doolittle in the musical *My Fair Lady* in my senior year. After graduation I attended Ithaca College in New York. There I studied voice and piano and Liberal Arts with a focus on music education. I felt my "calling" to teach music and after graduation I obtained a job at Shenendehowa Central School in elementary vocal music. I continued my graduate education in elementary education and permanent certification in music education. I taught at Shenendehowa for 34 years and gave many choral concerts. I was able to reach so many children with my gift of music. Also, as a single parent, I taught private piano lessons to aid my daughter's college education funding. I have a sister, Pam, who is an assistant teacher of special education and a brother, Christopher, who is a postal worker. Both live in upstate New York, where I also taught piano following retirement and was a substitute teacher. My daughter Colleen is married and lives near Atlanta. She is an elementary teacher of 28 years. My two granddaughters, who are the love of my life, are God's special gift to me. I moved to Florida in 2006 with hopes of bringing my mom here for the winter months. She came and enjoyed being in Florida so much. I was hired at Jesse Keene Elementary School for two years teaching in ESE (special education) and then in Elementary Music Education before mom's health weakened. I returned to New York to help care for her. My mom passed away three years ago. I am trying hard to re-establish my roots in Florida and am very thankful for the warm welcome of the wonderful people of St. John Neumann's. I hope I will be able to help with the important projects of the CCW. Thank you for your encouragement and love.

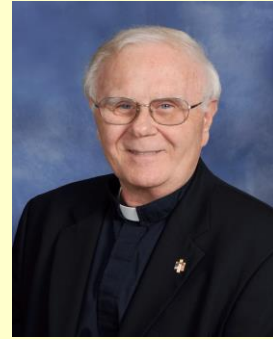


“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”

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ODCCW Convention

“Teaching and living the Light of Christ” is the theme of the Orlando Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention. It will be held at the Oceanfront Crowne Plaza Hotel in Indialantic from April 25-27. Registration fee for full time attendance is \$145 and hotel is \$117. If you are interested in more details such a speakers and what meals are included in the registration, please go on-line at Orlando Diocesan Council of Catholic Women/events. Hope you will consider attending. It is an opportunity to pray, share and grow with your sisters in council. Attending convention is one way to be of support. Purchasing raffle tickets is another. Purchase 1 ticket (\$1.00) or 6 tickets (\$5.00) and you could win: Heirloom Quality Quilt, queen size; two nights, three days at Crowne Plaza, plus \$200; “Catholicism”, 10 part DVD series by Fr. Robert Barron; Original Artwork by Spring Hill, Florida Artist. Tickets are available from the following CCW members: Faye Johnson, Diane DiSalvo, Mary Miske and Kathy Kirchon.



**Footsteps of Reverend Frank Buck
By Bonnie Hicks**

Fr. Buck, second pastor of St. John Neumann Catholic Church, arrived during the summer of 2003. Treading quietly and slowly at first, he eventually picked up the pace and added more ministries to include the Knights of Columbus and for a time, a Boy Scout Troop. Fr. Buck was very supportive of St. John Neumann Council of Catholic Women and faithfully attended the ODCCW Convention (known to be the first to register). Fr. Buck encouraged and supported the “Emmaus” retreats and he was active with our junior/senior high youth, present at their retreats.

We joyfully celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his ordination in 2010, which gave us the opportunity to learn a little more about him and the importance of the Nuns, where he was teaching, playing an important role in his vocation.

Just as quietly as he arrived, he chose to quietly leave.

We give our thanks to Fr. Buck as our spiritual advisor and leader of St. John Neumann and ask for God’s blessings as he begins his retirement.

