LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)
Do you know that this week is Random Acts of Kindness Week? The goal of Random Acts of Kindness Week is to change schools, the workplace, families, and society through kindness. According to randomactsforkindness.org, they report “Psychiatrists say the benefits of kindness include: fueling personal energy and self-esteem; makes you happier; good for your heart; helps you live longer; decreases harmful chemicals in your body.”

Paula Spencer Scott wrote an article in Parade Magazine (1/17) noting that “only 25% of Americans believe we’re living in a kind society (poll by Kindness USA). More than half of those polled said that kindness has deteriorated in the past 10 years.”

St. Lucy’s Parishioners also said that “kids are bullied too” in a survey of 10,000 teens (survey by Making Caring Common) 4 in 5 said their parents are more concerned with achievement or happiness than caring for others.” A sad reflection of what we as a society have moved into, especially knowing that children live what they learn and observe first-hand. How about we take on those survey statistics and begin to change them in our corner of the world?! As the saying goes, “it’s better late than never!” Let’s, as Catholic Christians make use of this challenge to live our faith in concrete ways! Kindness and caring for/loving our neighbors is contagious you know! It only takes one person – YOU – to perform an act of love for another, which Jesus calls us to. Then, that person who has been touched by your loving act will “feel the love” and hopefully will be moved enough to “pay it forward.”

The kind act not only affects those who are the giver and receiver, but the loving action also has an affect on those who may witness it. Kindness is an incredible gift that we can give to another, it’s something that’s not necessarily planned and often times takes only a moment – it’s blind to race, faith, age, economics, etc. Isn’t putting other people’s needs first a value that we’d like to leave our children and our world with? If you’ve got an extra 5 minutes, in between your extended round acts of kindness week, please watch the youtube video “Life Vest – Kindness Boomerang – One Day” found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Eyd_VoFQU. You can get kindness ideas at random actsforkindness.org. As I said at LIFE, don’t let your light of faith be dim or your life be without flavor; be the light that shines brightly and for others, and be the exact amount of salt needed in our world!

Written by Colette M. Savaria, LIFE Coordinator

First Eucharist Class: Class will not meet during school vacation week, but will meet again on Thursday, Feb. 27 from 3:30-4:45pm in the Parish Center.

RCIA classes for those who would like to become Catholic are ongoing. Please email Jane at janprill@yahoo.com if you would like more information.

Soup Kitchen Needs
Tuesday, February 18
Assorted finger desserts (cupcakes, cookies, brownies, etc.)
4 extra large sponges
4 bags oranges
2 loaves bread
If you would like to help with any of the above items, please call Sylvia Bunker at 683-0320. You may drop off your donations at the rectory anytime before 3pm on Tuesday, Feb. 18. In January we served 97 meals.

CHURCH SUPPORT
February 8-9, 2020
Weekly Collection $4688.00
ElectronicGiving $1275.00
The second collection this weekend will be for the Building and Maintenance Fund.
Thank you for your generosity!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:1-2/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday: Jas 2:1-9/Mk 8:27-33
Friday: Jas 2:1-24, 26/Mk 8:34-9:1
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mk 16:13-19
Sunday: Lk 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Cor 3:16-26/Mk 5:38-48

Please pray for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. Pray also for our hometown Parishioners and all those sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes). Pray for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: “Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” Learn the tools of forgiveness and healing by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are March 13-15 in Dixbury, MA and April 18-19 in Brewha, MA. For more information, call Stephen or Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at https://www.mema.org.

Pregnant? Need Help? The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is declaring a year of service called “Walking with Moms in Need.” This is also the mission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence’s special ministry called “St. Gabriel’s Call.” The Diocese has seven locations that reach out to help moms, families and babies during and beyond pregnancy. Help is free and confidential! For more information, call Carol Owens at 278-2518. St. Gabriel’s Call located at Jesus Saviour is available Tuesdays (9-12) and Wednesdays (10-1) at One Vernon St., Newport, by appointment or walk-in. Call St. Gabriel’s Call at 278-4508.

FORMED: Why do so many people seem to chase what they believe will make them happy only to find out they don’t feel any happier when they obtain it? In a 7 part program, “Happiness,” this topic is examined to help us achieve lasting happiness rather than a transitory feeling of happiness. Use the free parish code B84KHM at www.formed.org to access this presentation as well as many others.

Grateful for God’s Providence Capital Campaign Thank You.

As reported in the Feb. 6, 2020 issue of Rhode Island Catholic, the Grateful for God’s Providence Campaign has exceeded its goal of $50 million in pledges. As of January 28, 2020 a total of $51,224,268.00 has been pledged.

St. Lucy’s Parish has reached 68% of its goal with pledges totaling $275,902.00 as of February 10. Thank you to all who have donated to this Campaign! Bishop Tobin has prepared a brief video message thanking everyone who has contributed to the success of the campaign. To view Bishop Tobin’s thank you video, please go to www.stlucy.org and click on the image for Grateful for God’s Providence image at the bottom of our home page. Thank you again for your generosity and support resulting in the success of Grateful for God’s Providence Capital Campaign here at St. Lucy’s Parish.

St. John, Marty, Dutra, and David Steele

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 16, 2020

Saint Lucy Catholic Faith Community (401-847-6153) Middletown, RI

Children’s Homily continues at the 10:30am Sunday Liturgy on Feb. 16 and 23.

Bible Study Every Tuesday immediately following the 9am Mass in the Family Room.

The Rectory office will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17 in observance of President’s Day.
40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign: The Lenten Campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 26 and conclude on Saturday, April 4. We are asking parishes to adopt a day (7am-7pm) or individuals to adopt an hour for a peaceful and prayerful vigil at Planned Parenthood, Providence during the 40 Days of Lent. Please do not stand alone! If you are interested in learning more about the campaign that calls for prayer, fasting and community outreach to pray to end abortion in our nation, contact: Carol Owens, Office of Life and Family Ministry at 278-2518.

Visiting the Sick: When a family member is in the hospital, please notify Sr. Sheila Murphy at 847-6153 (x205).