

Community Notes

News of the Community of St. John Baptist **Fall 2016**
Vol. XVIII No. 2

Also Featured: News of the Sisters, Recent Events, Calendar, and Pets!

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www.csjb.org + csjb@csjb.org

ST MARGUERITE'S RETREAT HOUSE

The Chapel has recently been given a 'face lift'!
Through generous donations from people and other sources, we have managed to re-paint the Chapel and replace the carpet. We have also put a new stair and 2nd floor carpet down. Thank you so much to all who helped make this possible.

—

A WORD FROM JENNIE

Hello Everyone, I hope you have all had a lovely summer? I know I have – but oh hasn't it been hot! I am really a North Carolin-er, and I found it so hot some days that I did not want to walk much. Now the weather is cooler I feel so much better. My appetite has come back and I love romping and rolling around in the fallen leaves – it is so good. Then I come and fall asleep, either on my chair, bed or, best of all, someone else's bed! Oh, by the way, my friend Bob asked me to find a picture of us both walking together. I could only find one in last year's snow – I really hope we do not have too much this year!



With love and licks to you all for a Happy Thanksgiving and Blessed Advent and Christmas.

Jennie

A WORD FROM BOB

Hello friends! BOB here. I turned 3 in August! I am full grown now and am just over 10lbs at last check and have a lovely full "Tom" face. The cat sisters say I am very handsome and love to rub my cheeks. It is a rainy day today and cold outside. I have been out and in and out again... and curled up on the chair in the sitting room.

I watched the little birdies at the feeder for a while and then took a long nap. The radiators have become warm and I like to lay near them. It feels good to warm myself after being outside in the damp. Jennie-girl dog is such a good friend and I like to take walks with her when Sister takes her out. Sister has a funny way of calling for me when it is time. Bobbybob Bob Boaaaaarb she sings and whistles...and when I hear her I come running from wherever I am!

Hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas. This little kitty is mighty grateful for a home and all my friends. **BOB**



Pet News

PONY'S POINT OF VIEW

Greetings, dear friends... Well, I hope your summer was refreshing and you had a restful, fun vacation. The warm weather seemed to last right up until recently, when we had a few very warm days. But alas, the leaves are falling and the nights are getting colder. My winter coat is already thick so I am feeling quite comfortable...

Oh, before I forget, if you happen to stop by for a visit, you'll notice I have a new post and rail fence. It was done by a young man named Brian Schultz who was working on moving up to Eagle Scout level. We want to thank him for all his hard work.



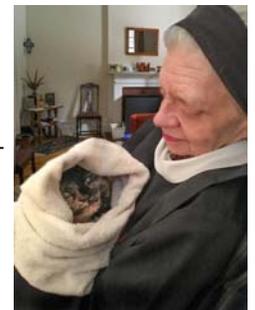
It's only part of the job, though...

The snow fencing is also in need of replacing. We would be most grateful for some more donations! Just send to Sr Margo's attention, PO Box 240, Mendham, NJ. Write out check to CSJB. Thanks, I would be most grateful. If we have more donations than we need, the money will go to ongoing expenses for my special feed (not a lot of teeth left in the back!).

Have a wonderful autumn. This is the time of year for letting go, like the trees releasing their leaves. Without this phase there could be no new growth in the spring... we can learn so much from the changing seasons. Love, **pony**

NEWS FROM NYC

I've been writing stories for three times a year for eight years. Not much new on his side of the fence, you've heard it all. As a 'senior' cat, life is not all that exciting. In regard to my last report, I haven't had a response to my question from any source, so I am assuming that I am living the 'life of Riely'! My latest most favorite activity is sitting on my human's lap, while she is working at the computer. With one, I most often have to be content to sit behind her.



Weather has been a bit unpredictable, so as it is colder the bed warmers are turned on, naturally, for my comfort as well. May you all have a Blessed Advent & Christmas.

Best Wishes, **Kookie**

Coming Events Fall 2016

CONVENT OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST:

82 West Main Street, Box 240, Mendham, NJ 07945 973-543-4641 CSJB@csjb.org www.csjb.org

CENTERING PRAYER Thursdays 7:15—8:15 p.m. Join us for a quiet hour and learn a new way to pray. Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. For info, call Sr. Barbara Jean 973-543-4641 ext. 1 or srbj@csjb.org.

FABRIC OF FAITH 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10—3:00 p.m. Learn about ecclesiastical embroidery and the preservation of church vestments. \$10 includes lunch. Contact Sr. Suzanne Elizabeth at srse@csjb.org or 973-543-4641 ext. 5.

LABYRINTH WALKS Aug. 13, 27; Sept. 10, 24; Oct. 15, 29; Nov. 5, 19; 2—4:00 p.m. Walk our labyrinth and learn about this ancient way of prayer. Phone Sr. Barbara Jean at 973-543-4641 ext. 1 or e-mail srbj@csjb.org Meet at the white Convent building.

YOGA AT THE CONVENT at St. Marguerite's Retreat House. Join us Mondays from 4:45—6:00 pm for gentle Yoga. Experience how Yoga can benefit your overall well-being. \$12.00 per class ~ *Classes are subject to change.* Contact: Jean Marie at 908-850-6475. *Send us your email address and we will add you to the class update list.*

EMERGENT SPIRIT: Spiritual Practice for a Pluralistic World 3rd Saturdays, 9—2:30 p.m. at the Convent. Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. Retreat 21-22, Feb. 18, Mar. 18, Apr. 22, May 20. A combination of Meditation, group spiritual practice, and worship led by the Rev. Robert Corin Morris, Founder of Interweave. Info at 908-277-2120 or www.interweave.com. Tuition \$1300 (includes lunch).

THE PATH OF LOVE: A Workshop with Rabbi Shefa Gold Sunday, Nov. 6, 2—5:00 pm at the Retreat House. Rabbi Shefa Gold develops and leads Hebrew chants for transformative spiritual growth. She also offers spiritual coaching. Rabbi Shefa's workshops offer a message of healing to persons of all faiths. Contact Sr. Eleanor Francis at sref@csjb.org or 973-543-4641 ext. 3.

HARMONIUM OUTREACH CHORUS CONCERT: "Peace on Earth" Sunday, December 4 at 4:00 p.m. Conducted by Anne Matlack, Artistic Director. Enjoy music for the holiday season. Proceeds for the Sisters' reconstruction fund. Contact Sr. Pamela at sr-pamela@csjb.org or 973-543-4641 ext. 9.

2017

THE EPIPHANY PARTY! Sunday, January 8, 2017 5:00 p.m. This event is for old and new friends of the Community. Enjoy an evening of music and fellowship with the Sisters. Vespers and Reception of Associates - 4 p.m. Informal Supper and Musical Evening at 5. *Bring hors d'oeuvres, veggie platter, finger food or dessert Come when you can!*

WINTER SEARCH PROGRAM February 17-20 2017 For those seeking God's Call in their lives. A Live-in with the Sisters to experience the Religious Life and the opportunity to learn about any vocation in the Church. Write or e-mail Sr. Barbara Jean 973-543-4641 ext. 1 or srbj@csjb.org

ST PAUL'S CHOIR SCHOOL IN CONCERT: Sunday March 26th 2017 at 4 p.m. The St Paul's Choir School will perform a variety of sacred and secular works. Mark your Calendars now.

ASSOCIATES' SPRING RETREAT: "The Seasons of Life." with Barbara Crafton: Saturday April 1, 9—3pm at the Convent. Contact: Sr. Eleanor Francis. Phone: 973-543-4641 ex.3 or sref@csjb.org.

DRAWING & PAINTING GOD'S BOTANICALS with Debra Cook. Saturday April 22, 2017 9.30am—4.30pm at the Convent, using Acrylic paints on canvas. All materials supplied. \$130 including Lunch. Contact Sr Pamela 973-543-4641 x 9 or email sr-pamela@csjb.org

Celtic Journeys 2017

IRELAND May 16-27

Wales & Northumbria September 5-15

For more information: Contact Sr. Margo at srmargo@gmail.com or 973-543-4641 ext. 4.

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FALL 2015

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