Community Notes

News of the Community of St. John Baptist        Spring-Summer        2014
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The Community of St. John Baptist, Box 240, Mendham, NJ  07945
973-543-4641   www.csjb.org
What Do the Sisters Do?

By Sister Barbara Jean

One day a few months ago, a woman rang our doorbell. It was late and she was crying uncontrollably when I answered the door. I let her in and she sat with me in our front room for about 20 minutes, weeping, before she was able to speak. She had nowhere to go and asked if she could stay for the night. She was afraid to go home. The Sisters agreed that she could stay, and this led to a visit of about a week, when gradually some of her family issues came to the surface. There was also a period of about a month when she went home in the daytime but came back in the evening. She is back home now, and there has been some healing in the family.

This kind of ministry has been done in monasteries and convents for over 2000 years. We are here 24 hours a day, seven days a week, when all other doors are closed. Our Community has been in existence for 162 years, and we now span three centuries. During this period in history, the needs of the Church and the society have changed. We have had to change with the times, but our ministry is one of Presence, and will continue to be. A monastery is an oasis in a chaotic world.

The question, “What do the Sisters do?” is frequently asked by many applicants to the Novitiate, Associates, and persons who are just curious about the life and work of Sisters. Most recently, those interested in our Capital Campaign have asked this question. Here is a little history, leading up to the present time.

A History of Institutional Work

Like most religious orders for women, our Community has a long history of institutional work. This began in the 19th century. In the 20th century we founded and operated two preparatory schools, three homes for girls and a convalescent hospital that provided long-term nursing care. After the Second World War, the states took over these kinds of institutions, and without state aid, it was financially impossible to keep them open. This change in society opened the door to a new venture: parish work.

Parish Ministry

Although our parish work began in the 19th century, after the war there were more Sisters available to fan out in New York and New Jersey, helping in parishes wherever they were needed. We were in residence in Jersey City for 30 years and in Greenwich Village in New York for 26. We have now been on Times Square for seven years so far. We also have done part-time work in several parishes.

Spiritual Needs in Today’s World

The second half of the twentieth century has been a time of major spiritual change in the developed countries. Church attendance in Europe and the United States has dropped dramatically. Many people no longer believe in God. However, all of these people still have spiritual needs. The great theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, wrote from a Nazi prison in 1944, “We need to be able to think and speak of God in a secular way.” What is meant by this is that the Church needs to reach out to the general population with healing and help, sometimes without words.
**Our Response to the Needs of the Day**
The Sisters, recognizing this trend, founded St. Marguerite’s Retreat House in 1961. It is open not only to church groups, but to writer’s philosophers, school groups, interfaith spirituality, and most recently, a yoga class. This Lent has been a busy time for the Sisters, and Eastertide will be as well. In the months of March, April and May, twenty-five outside groups have been scheduled so far. Besides these, there are regular groups who come weekly or semi-weekly: Education for Ministry, Yoga, Centering Prayer and Fabric of Faith. There also is a steady stream of individual retreatants, guests, and those with appointments for spiritual direction. This schedule will continue throughout the year.

**Outreach in the 21st Century**
At present we are involved in four parishes. Two Sisters are full-time residents at St. Mary the Virgin in New York City. We work part-time at St. Mark’s in Mendham, the Church of the Messiah in Chester, and All Saints in Millington. Parish work includes visits to the sick and shut-ins, music ministry, conducting services, preaching, teaching Sunday School, working with parish groups, and outreach to the homeless. Between our parish work and the retreat ministry, many Sisters have individual ministries, such as Celtic Journeys, Good Shepherd Home in Cameroon, the Community Garden for the homeless and indigent, and outreach to Daytop, the drug rehabilitation center in our school. However, none of this would be possible without our daily prayer life.

**A Calling to Prayer**
Our Community was founded in 1852 “for the promotion of the honor and worship due to Almighty God…and for active service, both in spiritual and corporal works of mercy.” Prayer is an essential part of our calling, and the Sisters are expected to spend four and a half hours each day in prayer. This includes six worship services except on Monday, our Sabbath day, and two hours in private prayer and reading. It is this life of prayer that provides the bedrock for our ministry of presence. Because we are here, people can come at any hour of the day or night.

We recently had a visit from the woman to whom we had given shelter. She said, “You opened the door when I had nowhere to go. I will always be thankful for your prayers and encouragement.”

**New Life**
We are blessed presently with two new Sisters in the Novitiate and buildings that have had major improvements. We pray that we may continue to answer God’s call in this new century.
Completion of the Convent Roof
By Sister Linda Clare

In spite of the cold and snowy winter, we are happy to report that the convent west and north roofs have been completely retiled. We now have a restored and preserved roof on the entire convent. This includes new gutters, downspouts and underground drainage. The dormer windows were repaired and releaded making them more airtight and energy efficient.

Many thanks to all who contributed to this major project. It is only through your assistance that we were able to complete this phase of our preservation.

The construction committee is now investigating future projects. Under consideration is the repair of the cemetery walls, altar and lych-gate. Also, St Marguerite’s is in need of a new boiler and asbestos remediation in the boiler room. As the preservation of these historic buildings continues, we depend on your prayers and support for the success of our work.

Honoring Members of the Capital Campaign Committee

Our Capital Campaign began in 2007, when the Sisters made a commitment to remain here on the property after our heating system breakdown. The call went out requesting volunteers to help us raise an initial 2.5 million dollars for urgent repairs to both the Convent and St. Marguerite’s, and the response was immediate and enthusiastic. Plans in that first year were made for a “kickoff” event that was held in 2008. Meanwhile, the repairs began on the heating system, the Retreat House barrier-free access, and new leaded windows. Slowly, enough funds were raised to complete barrier-free access at the Convent, including a new underground walkway and new tile roofing and dormers for the Convent. Many people have served on this committee over the past seven years. In February, we held a dinner to thank all those who have served.

The work, however, is ongoing. Our Preservation Plan calls for more upgrades, and grants are available from Morris County if we can match 20% of the cost of each project. Willing volunteers have signed on to help with the next project: repair to the cemetery walls. Want to volunteer? Call Sr. Barbara Jean at 973-543-4641x1 or srbj@csjb.org. Meetings are monthly.
Please join in supporting our works by becoming a “Sustaining Supporter” of our Capital Campaign. Your ongoing support provides the Community with an invaluable resource – a regular and stable source of revenue to support both our ministry and the development of future projects and programs.

Your contributions may be deducted automatically from your checking account on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis. Your regular Sustaining Support guarantees a solid financial future to address the challenges of preserving this sacred space for the many who find comfort and peace in our buildings and on our grounds.

All contributions will be tax deductible and we will provide proof of your annual charitable contributions. You may cancel or alter your payments at any time. Please contact our Business Manager for more information. The phone number is 973-543-4641 ext. 0 and the email address is office@csjb.org

Examples of how your contribution would assist us: a $10 weekly contribution would produce $520 annually; a $100 monthly contribution would produce $1,200 annually. We can accommodate any amount at any frequency.

Thank you for your past contributions and we look forward to your Sustaining Support in the future.

Wish List

We are starting a Convent Wish List account so that we may put all wish list donations into a separate bank account. The funds from the Wish List would be used to update the kitchen at the Retreat House and Convent, updating bathrooms at Convent, replace the stairway carpet at St. Marguerite’s Retreat House, update our laundry facilities, etc. If you wish to donate to our Wish List, please mark the memo line of your check “Wish List”

Laptops Needed
At Good Shepherd Home

As you know Sr. Mary Ruth is staying at the Convent. During her stay with the Sisters, she would like to ask our Associates, Alumnae and Friends if they have any unused laptops that can be shipped to the children of the Good Shepherd Home.

Remember the Community of St. John Baptist

Planned giving is the means by which persons may make use of their resources by supporting the Community through Bequests, Life Income gifts, Life Insurance, A Life Estate, or Appreciated Property. Income from an Endowment Fund will be available for programs of retreat, worship, education, or special projects, as well as the future support of the Sisters.

For further information, please contact Sr. Barbara Jean at 973-543-4641 ext. 1.
Sister Mary Ruth Akuphe arrived here from Cameroon on January 12, and hopes to stay for one year. During her stay here, she is learning about accounting and business management, so that when she returns to Africa she will be able to assist Sr. Jane Manka, the founder of Good Shepherd Home, by producing the financial reports expected by American donors. She is also spreading the word about the Home and visiting churches in the area with Sr. Mary Lynne to speak about the work in Cameroon.

Sr. Mary Ruth has been working as the Sister in charge of the Good Shepherd Home Annex, located in the village of Batibo, some distance away from the city of Bamenda. One third of the Good Shepherd children live in Batibo. The setting is rural, and the older children walk miles to school every day. Two main sources of food are farming and bread-making. Children return from school around 3 p.m., and after the main meal of the day, they help in the bakery and perform other chores. On weekends they work on four plots of land where they are permitted to farm. Crops are being planted now. Members of the Home hope to produce corn, beans, cocoyam’s, cassava, plantains, and potatoes this year.

“Our greatest need is for a car,” Sr. Mary Ruth said. We need to be able to take children to the hospital, especially at night. Right now, we have to carry them. A car would also be a great help in taking the children to work on the farms and to transport the crops.”

The greatest help to the Home at this time would be the finding of new sponsors. Sponsorship is the greatest source of support. If you know someone who would like to sponsor a child for $30 a month, please contact Maureen Woods at office@csjb.org or 973-543-4641 ext. 0.

Some of the children at Batibo with Sr. Mary Ruth

Children from the Home walking to school

RECENT CONCERTS

March 16:

Traonach Ceili Concert

Our first Irish Ceili concert, organized by Sr. Margo, was a great success with about 70 attendees. We hope to have another one next year. It was a great St. Patrick’s Day celebration. Proceeds went to the work of the Community.

March 30:

The Adelphi Chamber Ensemble

This young and talented ensemble brought live classical music to a large audience. The Main Chapel rang with the beauty of sound. Sr. Pamela thanked the performers, whose benefit concert has aided our Capital Campaign.
NEWS FROM NEW YORK

“Richard” by Sr. Deborah Francis

At St. Mary’s on any given day, one can see homeless people napping in the pews on the left-hand side of the church. It’s a safe place and a haven from the streets. When the church closes in the evening, some of them move to the front steps. Most people walk by them as if they weren’t there. Almost no one talks to them.

I first met Richard on the steps of St. Mary’s about a year ago. He had his walker & backpack next to him, so I said hello and asked how he was doing. He was friendly and I got an earful. He told me he used to work in sound & lighting in the theater, but could no longer do so, as he has a heart condition and several stents in his body. He also has had a stroke. He slept in the pews and liked to attend Noon Office & Mass. I continued to wave hello & talk to him.

Through Richard, I found out which subway stations are homeless friendly, and how to be made welcomed in Penn Station. When he had enough money he would visit his mother in a nursing home and his brother in a group home. When he was not in the church, I would worry about him. Later, I found out that he had been in the hospital. He came back because he feels welcomed at St. Mary’s. The clergy and weekday regulars have befriended him. He returned the favor by letting the Rector know why we were having problems with the sound system.

One day Richard fell asleep on the subway and his backpack containing all his worldly possessions was stolen. He confided in George, who is a remarkable man, a disabled veteran who owns and operates a number of clothing stands where sells tee shirts, hoodies and other items to tourists in Times Square area. He hires other disabled vets to work the stands. George gave Richard some clothes. When he found out that he was computer literate, he hired him to coordinate day to day business paper work. Richard rents a room in George’s house and is so grateful to be off the streets.

Unfortunately, since I don’t see Richard any longer, I miss him. It makes me wonder how many “Richard’s” there are on the streets and how much difference a few friendly words and a welcoming community can make.

A NEW VENTURE AT ST. MARGUERITE’S

Last spring on Cornerstone Day, it was announced that our Oblates, Pat and Doug McKenzie were working with the Sisters to create a space in the Retreat House where they could live and participate in the life and ministry of the Community. This dream came to fruition recently, when we held a blessing ceremony for their new apartment. Their transition will be gradual, but they will soon be residents here with us.

We have two other residents: Donna MacKenzie (no relation), who is employed full-time, and Janet Thomas, who is an Oblate. Jean Marie Duhamel, who resided here for three years, has now moved to her own apartment.
We now have Associates and Oblates in 37 states. Of those we have two long distance Oblates and one long distance Oplate probationer! This is exciting news! Associates and Oblates are playing an important part of the future of the Community. Both are asked to pray for and serve the Community in whatever way they are able. Imagine the hundreds of Associates praying for the Community on a daily basis. A wondrous thing! Now imagine each one taking the message of CSJB into the world.....

Some news of the Oblates: The Oblates had their annual Retreat March 7-8 given by Sr. Josita, SCC. It was titled "How Big is your God?" At that time five Oblates renewed their promises. Renewal of promises is a yearly commitment made with the Director of Oblates and an Officiating Priest in the Chapel. It’s always a moving service!

The Rev. Mary Adebonojo of New Hampshire was able to travel to New Jersey to attend the Retreat and renew her promise.

Prayers are needed for John Van Dine who is recovering from an injury and subsequent surgeries.

We now have three Oblate probationers. Welcome!

“Jackson Pollack”, the beloved cat of CSJB, passed away at the Mendham Animal Hospital on January 2, 2014 after a long battle with thyroid disease and congestive heart failure. He was 15 years old. Sister Deborah Francis, Sister Eleanor Francis and Sister Julia Ann found Jack at St. Hubert’s Animal Shelter in Madison, NJ in 2002. He was named after the painter, Jackson Pollack, because the white flecks of fur in his black spots made it look as if he’d been spattered with white paint. Everyone called him Jack. Sister Deborah Francis was Jack's main human until she moved to the St. Mary the Virgin Branch House New York City in 2008, at which time CSJB’s live-in Oblate Janet Thomas became his primary human. Jack lived in his own apartment on the 4th floor of the Convent, with Janet as his personal assistant, from 2002 until his death. His ministry was wide and far-reaching and ranged from keeping the Convent free of rodents to sensing when a Sister, friend or guest needed companionship and consolation. He was an unusually easygoing and cuddly cat until the Fall of 2010, when he suddenly became overly intense about his job as a rodent-killer and he began to stalk and kill chipmunks at an alarming rate. By the time he was taken to the vet to investigate this startling change, he was up to five chipmunk executions per day. He was found to have a thyroid disorder that was causing this mania, and by Winter 2010 he had responded so well to his medication that he calmly welcomed a chipmunk named Charlene to move into his apartment with him while his human Janet was out of town. He concealed his new roommate from his babysitters, and Charlene lived in Janet’s laundry basket inside a black sweater and enjoyed life (and cat kibble) with Jack for about a week until Janet returned and found the apartment in disarray. Charlene moved out but Jack retained many fond memories of her. Jack was preceded in death by his good friend and brother Petie.

A Poem Contributed by Sr. Victoria Michelle

We walk in a world that is strange and unknown, and in the midst of the crowd we still feel alone.
We question our purpose, our part and our place, in this vast land of mystery suspended in space.
We probe and explore and try hard to explain - the tumult of thoughts that our minds entertain.
But all of our problems and complex explanations - of our inner feelings and fears and frustrations,
    still leave us engulfed in the mystery of life, with all of its struggles and sufferings and strife;
    unable to fathom what tomorrow will bring, but there is one truth to which we cling.
For while life’s mystery we can’t understand, the great Giver is holding our hand,
    and safe in GOD’s care - there is no need for seeing: for in Him we live and move and have our being.

“A With GOD all things are possible.” - Matthew 19:26
1941 Sr. Marjorie Raphael Wysong, SSM recently spent her 90th birthday in Haiti, where she served for many years as a Sister of St. Margaret.

1941 Kit King Rockwell is an Oblate of our Community, and recently attended an Oblates’ retreat. She still lives in her own apartment. She keeps up with her roommate, Sr. Marjorie Raphael Wysong ‘41. Her family gave her a beautiful 90th birthday party.

1952 Charlyn Crandall Heidenreich stays in touch. She lives in Duxbury, MA and is very close to the St. Margaret Sisters.

1956 Nancy Munch Bilheimer sent Christmas greetings

1957 Martha Gobdel Blacklock lives in New Mexico, where she is active as a priest in her diocese.

1959 Barbara Belet Sampson sent Christmas greetings.

1960 Susan Habel Alnasrawi wrote, inquiring about her roommate, Barbara Boyd. If anyone is in touch with Barbara, please email Sr. Barbara Jean at srbj@csjb.org.

1960 Chris Chrystal sent Christmas greetings with pictures of herself with her sister Lois (former SJBS student) and Lois’s sons and grandson.

1960 Jane Bramhall Carter sent a picture of herself and her husband, Dick making a Christmas visit with two grandsons to Volunteer Park Conservatory. Jane and Dick live in Seattle.

1960 Marilla (“Holly”) Holland Savage sent Christmas greetings.

1961 Maryann Lewis Renn visited with Sr. Barbara Jean recently at a supper for St. Mark’s Church in Mendham. Her daughter Julie and her family are members. Maryann and her husband, Wade live in Upper Montclair and he is soon to retire from his position as a priest in Newark.

1965 Lynn Wilder Mullin visited her classmate Judy Smith Boyd in February. Judy is now retired. She has a daughter and two grandchildren. Suzanne Carrell Feldman visited classmates Lynn Mullin and Jane MacNeil last October for a mini-reunion. Suzy is researching her family genealogy, which has deep roots in Morristown.

1966 Peggy Salter Barrus sent Christmas greetings.

1967 Sandi Maxwell Gordon sent Christmas greetings.

1967 Marjory Watts Hopper sent a Christmas letter about her activities and those of her family.

1967 Pam Herrmann O’Leary sent Christmas greetings

1968 Nadine Boyd Sutcliffe teaches elementary school music and recently attended Ellen Kohn Perry’s ordination.

1970 Lisa Kaltenbach Boynton and her husband, Bud sent Christmas greetings. They are active in St. Francis Episcopal Church in Cherokee, NC, where Lisa serves on the vestry.

1972 Jane Watts Hanson sent Christmas greetings.

1972 Chris Brodeur MacClellan celebrated her 60th birthday with a party at her church.

1972 Celia Kaltenbach Crotteau has written a work of fiction based on her four years at SJBS. Its title is The Profit of Her Fellowship. Copies can be ordered by email from Orders@Xlibris.com. The author listed is “Celia Crotteau.”

1977 Daryl Tucker DeRogatis sent Christmas greetings. Her mother, Norma Tucker, (known as “mom” to many of her classmates) participates actively at events of the Diocese of New Jersey, and her sister Chris Tucker’79 teaches Phys Ed at a girls’ school in Elizabeth, NJ.

1980 Ellen Kohn Perry was ordained to the Episcopal priesthood on December 14 at Christ Church, Short Hills, NJ. Sr. Barbara Jean was invited to be the preacher. Nadine Boyd Sutcliffe ’71, a member of the church, was present for the occasion. Ellen is the second SJBS alumna to be ordained. The first one was Martha Gobdel Blacklock ’57, who was ordained in 1977.

1983 Terry Swartout Boos is back in the USA after a long stay in Germany with her family on a military base. She is now pursuing a degree in nursing.

1983 Elizabeth Rubin still lives in New York and has a career as an executive recruiter. Her adopted son Joey is now three years old.

FACULTY

Betty Bergman lives in Mendham and is nearing age 90. She still plays golf and tennis!

Barbara Knox now serves on the SJBS Corporation board, she is a social worker at Holly Manor Nursing Home in Mendham. Margaret Price is active at St. Peter’s in Morristown and comes here for our events.

Marge Almy sent Christmas greetings.

Helen Holmes passed away last year after a long illness.
Meet BOB our new grey and white 6 month old kitten! BOB is a rescue cat who came from a Highkill shelter in Newark. He was fostered in two homes with dogs and other cats and gets along very well with our dog, Jennie. He came home to us on March 9th and has been a bundle of kitten joy ever since. BOB is unusual in that he has NO tail, but that didn't stop him from chasing his "phantom tail" in a moment of frenzied playtime! BOB looks forward to telling his own "tales" soon.

From Kookie, the New York Cat

Dear Friends, As you may know, most humans do not speak Feline. Cats, among themselves, mostly use non-verbal communication such as growls, hisses and fluffed-out fur. This is used for warding off intruders (like dogs.) Cats also “talk” with their tails.

With humans, it is very important that they discern the meanings of various meows. The first meow is the Chirrip, which is used for greeting after an absence or in the morning. It is accompanied by a leg or face rubbing and purring. It is very necessary for the human to know that you have missed them and that they have your scent on them & visa-versa. Another meow is one which is loud, insistent & demanding. I use it when I want to go down to the fourth floor. Of course, I don’t get the response I want, as it is inevitably NO. I say “I love you”, by cuddling, purring or gazing lovingly. Sitting very still and staring at the spot where my dish should be, usually brings a positive result. My Sisters tell me that communing with God is similar – it is called prayer. This can be verbal or non-verbal. Sometimes they express this out loud, but often it is enough to sit quietly and gaze lovingly. May you all have a Blessed Easter, Love, Kookie

PONYS POINT OF VIEW

Don’t know about you all, but I thought this past winter was brutal. I can’t remember a winter where the nights dipped down into the teens so often, with snowfall after snowfall. And the ice on top of that! Well, Spring is in the air, I promise you… the birds are singing, the snowdrops are coming up, and the days are growing longer. The hope of warmer weather is around the corner. Just wait, we all will be complaining about the heat before long! And I have to deal with the flies… they spray me with sweet-smelling stuff that I really hated in the beginning, but it really helps (Avon Skin So Soft).

May your Easter be filled with the Blessings of hope and New Life. Celebrate being alive… Love, pOnY

A Word from Jennie

Hi folks,

I hope you are all well? This winter has been long and cold, to say the least! It has been rather hard for me as I lost my best buddy, Jack the cat, on January 2nd - we were great friends and had lots of fun together. I missed him a lot until Bob arrived. What joy to have a playmate again! Oh, I nearly forgot to tell you that I had the "all clear" from the vet and my knees are now fine! To my joy, the crate (part of the healing regimen) was put away and a chair for my use was installed, as you see from the photo. What a wonderful gift! Hope spring comes soon!

Love and paws, Jennie
Coming Events
CONVENT OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST: Spring-Summer 2014
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. 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 June 7,14, July 12, 26, Aug. 9, 23, Sept. 6, 20 2-4 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 p.m. for gentle Yoga. Experience how Yoga can benefit your overall well-being. $12.00 per class ~ Classes are subject to change. Contact: Jean Marie @ 908-850-6475. Send us your email address and we will add you to the class update list.

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE - Harmony and Healing in Movement Sat. June 14, 10 am – 12 noon. In the Convent Main Chapel. Rejuvenate your spirit and open your heart with sacred circle dancing and joyous group singing honoring the world’s mystical traditions. Participation, not presentation, is the focus. No musical or dance experience of any kind required. Led by Andre Bernard, a Certified Leader of the Dances of Universal Peace. Info at 908-277-2120 or www.interweave.org

COMMEMORATION DAY Sat. June 21 at 10:30 a.m. Mark the date now for our Community’s annual celebration with Associates and friends. Solemn Eucharist, Lunch and fellowship on the cloister. Celebrant and Preacher: The Rt. Rev. William (Chip) Stokes, Bishop of NJ. RSVP-Sr. Eleanor Francis 973-543-4641x3, sref@csjb.org

ST. JOHN BAPTIST SCHOOL ALUMNAE REUNION Saturday, June 28. For all Alumnae, former students and staff of St. John Baptist School - Mark the date now for a great picnic and the chance to see old friends. Family and friends welcome. Bring a dish to share. RSVP Lynn Mullin 908-879-9382. Or fablyn@aol.com

AUGUST SEARCH PROGRAM For those seeking God’s call in their lives August 11-22 A Live-in with the Sisters to experience the Religious Life. Write or e-mail Sr. Barbara Jean 973-543-4641 ext. 1 or srbj@csjb.org

CURSILLO WEEKEND October 2-5. Sponsored by the Diocese of NJ. Others welcome. For further information contact Darlene Watson at: watson451@comcast.net or info@njepiscopalcursillo.org. Arrive 6 p.m. Thursday, leave Sunday at 4. Make a friend; Be a friend; Bring a friend to Christ!

ICON WRITING RETREAT Oct. 22-24 With Patricia Miranda at St. Marguerite’s Retreat House. Cost: $330 full board, $270 (Day only) & all meals. For more information, call Sister Pamela, CSJB 973-543-4641 ext 9 or sr-pamela@csjb.org

GRATEFULNESS: A Program with Rabbi Shefa Gold. Sunday, November 2. Shefa Gold is a Rabbi in the Reconstructionist and Renewal denominations of Judaism. She is well known for her prayer tunes and chants. Come and experience her unique approach to music and prayer. Info: sref@csjb.org or 973-543-4641 ext. 3

Celtic Journeys 2015
Ireland Cornwall & SW England
May 12-22 Sept. 8-17
with Sr. Margo 973-543-4641 ext. 4
Contact info@celticjourneys.org for details
GOOD SHEPHERD HOME  
SPONSOR A CHILD

www.goodshepherdhome.org

SPONSORSHIP
With more children entering the Good Shepherd Home we are always looking for new sponsors. If you know someone or some church or organization that would like to sponsor a child, please share our information with them. Contact our Business Manager – Maureen Woods at 973-543-4641 ext. 0 or email her at office@csjb.org – remember $30.00 a month helps provide food, shelter and medication for a month for one child. All sponsorships are tax deductible.

“100% of all donations go to the Good Shepherd Home”

We have gone Green and wish to go greener!
Please let us know if you would prefer to have the Newsletter sent to you by email.
Please respond to: office@csjb.org

Commemoration Day
Saturday, June 21, 2014 + 10:30 a.m.  Eucharist + Greetings + Luncheon
Celebrant and Preacher: The Rt. Rev. William “Chip” Stokes
R.S.V.P.  The Rev, Sister Superior 973-543-4641 ext. 3 or sref@csjb.org

Dances of Universal Peace
Sat. June 14, 10 am - 12 noon
Harmony and Healing in Movement, with Andre Bernard
In the Convent Main Chapel

CURSILLO Weekend
At the Retreat House - October 2-5
Contact: watson451@comcast.net or 973-543-4641
Sponsored by the Diocese of New Jersey
Make a friend; Be a friend; Bring a friend to Christ!