

*JMJ*

Dear Parishioners,

**What is persistent vegetative state [PVS]?**

PVS is a form of "Eyes open unconsciousness" which manifests as an apparent lack of awareness while awake. It results from trauma, disease, or injury causing oxygen deprivation to the brain. This was the condition of Karen Anne Quinlan, Nancy Cruzan, and Terri Schiavo. Sleep-wake cycles exist with a putative lack of awareness of self or others while awake. These patients also lack comprehension or expression of language, and they exhibit no reproducible voluntary responses to external stimuli. Scientists admit there is much that remains unknown about PVS.

The word 'vegetative' does not mean that the person has become less than human, but rather has lost, at least temporarily, the sort of awareness that characterizes normal adult human life. The prognosis for recovery is determined by the cause of the injury, co-morbid conditions, and length of time one has been vegetative. When the duration is greater than 1 month, one is said to be "persistent." Duration greater than 3 months when the cause is non-traumatic, such as lack of oxygen to the brain after the heart has stopped, is said to be "permanent." Duration greater than 12 months, when the cause is traumatic brain injury, is also said to be "permanent."

**Can patients in a persistent vegetative state regain consciousness?**

Yes, in some cases. Chances for recovery are better early in the condition and diminish over time. Medical literature documents rare cases of at least partial recovery after many years, and medical science remains generally unable to predict with certainty which PVS patients will recover. Some medical authorities, such as the British Medical Association, deny the possibility for recovery from the PVS and attribute the appearance of recovery to an original misdiagnosis.

**Are PVS patients in a persistent vegetative state completely unresponsive to their environment?**

The answer to this question is controversial, and the situation is complex. It has been widely assumed that PVS patients cannot consciously respond to their environment, but recent studies using brains scanning techniques indicate that some PVS patients exhibit the same cerebral responses to verbal commands as healthy adults. This phenomenon suggests that some PVS patients may in fact have conscious awareness, despite an inability to act upon it or manifest it outwardly.

**What obligations do caregivers have towards PVS patients?**

Like all human beings, PVS patients are entitled to basic health care, including nutrition, hydration, cleanliness, and warmth, and to ordinary treatments preventing complications due to hospitalization. In other words, there should be a presumption in favor of providing nutrition and hydration to all patients, including those in a PVS who need medically assisted nutrition and hydration. In addition, the patient should be monitored for eventual signs of recovery, and should receive appropriate rehabilitative care.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

***Liturgical Ministers for November 9th/10th, 2019.***

<b>Mass</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Altar Servers</b>
4:00pm	L. AVELLA	T. WEBB, H. ECKES	N. AND A. WEBB
8:30am	J. SMITH	S. RIORDAN, N. SMITH	T. LAMOREAUX, D. GERARDO
11:30am	H. MARINARO	N. SMITH, J. SNELLINGER	J. ENNIS, M. FEDRIZZI, K. EPPS

*The 2nd collection next weekend is for the Archdiocese Military Services. Please give it your prayerful consideration.*

In Observation of Veteran's Day, the parish office will be closed on Monday, November 11th.



St. Mary's will continue the tradition of providing those in need within our community with food baskets for Christmas. It has expanded to include additional foods considering children are off from school and normally that is where they get a daily meal. You will find bins in the narthex where you can place non perishable items. Children in the religious Ed program are encouraged to bring items to their classrooms. Thank you in advance.

Save The Date! The 3rd Annual concert for the warming station will be held at the First Presbyterian Church located at 60 Sussex Street, on Friday, November 8th at 7pm. It will be hosted by the Four Season Chorale. Free will offering. Contact Kathy Brink for more information 570-430-1755.

CDA- Court Madonna #114 will have their monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 12th. The social will be at 6:30pm and the meeting will at 7pm.

The Knights of Columbus will be installing the new officers on Thursday, November 14th in the Church at 7pm.

Save the Date! Court Madonna #114 will be hosting the St. Nicholas Faire will be held on Sunday, December 1st from 9:30am until 2pm.

**VENDORS NEEDED!**

We are looking for local crafters and independent consultants. For information and applications contact Eileen Carmody at eileencarmody@rocketmail.com

Little Lambs will have a Burger Bash at Burger King on Monday, November 18th from 5pm until 8pm. Must mention Little Lambs for them to get credit.

**Saturday, November 30th Family Advent Wreath Making** Most Sacred Heart Hall 12:30 (doors open at noon) to 3:00 \$12 per wreath made Pay at the door Enjoy soup and grilled cheese prepared by the Knights of Columbus Kindly RSVP to [danilegyoung-living@gmail.com](mailto:danilegyoung-living@gmail.com) by November 23rd or call the parish office.

**Announced Masses**

- Monday, November 4 (Charles Borromeo, bishop)**  
9:00am Fran Doss, by Dick and Barbara Drew  
Stephen Christian, by John and Mary Jane Millspaugh
- Tuesday, November 5**  
9:00am Sandra Guercio, by Deacon Rich and Joanne Marino
- Wednesday, November 6**  
9:00am Donald F Hagen, by the Hagen family
- Thursday, November 7**  
9:00am William Nachand  
Ralph Zelno, by Carol Wittine
- Saturday, November 9**  
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, November 10 (Stewardship Sunday)**  
8:30am Sean Riordan, by mom and dad  
11:30am Dick Harford, by Enid Decker and family

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Andrea Fedoruk, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Joe Formisano, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Antonino Mazzara, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Cinerar, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Carmella Balsamello, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, Allan Garcia, Christine Habertzettl, and Eric Hildebrandt.

Our Increase Offering Campaign has begun. See the following guide to see how much of a difference even the smallest percentage makes.

Current Off.	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
\$5	\$6	\$7	\$8	\$9	\$10
\$10	\$12	\$14	\$16	\$18	\$20
\$25	\$30	\$35	\$40	\$45	\$50
\$50	\$60	\$70	\$80	\$90	\$100
\$100	\$120	\$140	\$160	\$180	\$200

The collection for October 26/27 was \$5,338. Thank you for your continued generosity.