




WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

St. John Vianney Church

420 Inman Avenue – Colonia, New Jersey 07067
(732)574-0150 – <https://parish.sjvianney.com>
Rectory Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm



“When we
draw near
with tender
love to those
in need of care,
care, we bring
hope and God’s
smile to the
contradictions
of the world.”

- Pope Francis

Fr. John J. Barbella, Pastor
Rev. John C. Gloss & Msgr. Edward M. O’Neill, Pastor Emeriti
Very Rev. Jay Toborowsky, V.G. in Residence
Fr. Greg Zannetti, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Robert Gorman, Parochial Vicar
Deacons Joseph Ragucci, Thomas Michnewicz & Vincent Brigande
Ellen DeRosa, Director of Religious Education
Nancy Tannucilli, Principal of St. John Vianney School
Jessica Hicks, Vice Principal of St. John Vianney School
Jamie Frame, Director of Sacred Music

Mission Statement

In the spirit of St. John Vianney's zeal and concern for people, we are a community proclaiming the Gospel in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. The community of St. John Vianney strives to utilize the gifts and talents of each parishioner to create a vibrant welcoming parish. Through our liturgies, ministries, and organizations, we encounter Christ and are empowered to bring Him to the world.

Parish Staff

Parish Administrative Assistant	Stephanie Noto
School Administrative Assistant	Sandy Gambotto
School Office Assistant	Laura Gruenling
Parish/School Bookkeeper	Karen Dudas
Maintenance Supervisor	Poncho Julius

Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday	7am – 8:30am
Saturday	8am - 5pm
Sunday	8am - 10am - 12pm

Holy Days will be announced at the beginning of mass and in the bulletin.

Sacramental Schedule

Confessions: Saturdays 11am-12pm, 4:15-4:45pm

Baptism: most Sundays at 1:30pm.

Babies should be Baptized as soon as possible. Please call the Parish office to make arrangements. We will be happy to help you schedule your baby's Baptism.

Last Rites/Anointing of the Sick: anyone who is ill and or would like to receive Communion is asked to call the rectory.

Marriage: Couples should call the Parish office as soon as possible to schedule a wedding. Our priests and deacons will help you through the preparation process.

Parish Membership

All new families who live within our boundaries are welcome to the parish. They are requested to register at the rectory.

Parish Gift Shop

Please note that the Parish Gift Shop is now open! The gift shop hours of operation are before and after the 8:00am, 10:00am and 12pm Mass on Sunday's each weekend.

Mass Intentions – 6TH Sunday in Ordinary Time**SATURDAY, February 10, 2024 – St. Scholastica**

8:00 AM	In Celebration of Lorena Laverde's Birthday, r/o RoseMarie DeStefano
10:00 AM	Memorial Mass for Gladys Schmidt
5:00 PM	Horning/Kordelski Family, r/o Family

SUNDAY, February 11, 2024

8:00 AM	For the People of the Parish Living/Deceased
10:00 AM	Giovanna & Vito Fabiano, r/o daughter Maddalena
12:00 PM	Patrick Tanzola Sr., r/o Elena & Jose Alves

MONDAY, February 12, 2024

7:00 AM	Deceased Mount Priests
8:30 AM	Rocco & Palma Specchio, r/o Dennis Kilkenny

TUESDAY, February 13, 2024

7:00 AM	In Thanksgiving for Janina Malinowski & Family, r/o Teresa Malinowski
8:30 AM	Pietro Bagnato, r/o Marie Ribauto

WEDNESDAY, February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday

7:00 AM	AJ Papanero, r/o Ann Louis Bongiovi
8:30 AM	Esther H. Scapati, r/o Sandra Marino
9:30 AM	Alan Bergman, r/o SJV Faculty, Staff & Students (<i>School Mass</i>)
12:10 PM	Antonio Scala, r/o Nina Pulecio & Family
4:00 PM	Fernanda Livres, r/o Elena Bexiga
7:00 PM	Annie Panaccione, r/o Mike & Sally Baron

THURSDAY, February 15, 2024

7:00 AM	Deborah A. Vella, r/o Joe & Barbara Nisky
8:30 AM	Anne Miller, r/o Maria McConhogue

FRIDAY, February 16, 2024

7:00 AM	In Celebration of Luciana Palomino's Birthday, r/o RoseMarie DeStefano
8:30 AM	Michael DePaola, r/o Gerri DePaola & Family
3:00 PM	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
7:00 PM	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>

SATURDAY, February 17, 2024

8:00 AM	Carol Ann Turk, r/o Joan & Bob Strich
5:00 PM	Joseph Martino, r/o Gillespie Family

SUNDAY, February 18, 2024

8:00 AM	For the People of the Parish Living/Deceased
10:00 AM	Purgatorial Society
12:00 PM	Robert Leinweber, r/o Donna Sloan



The Bread & Wine have been offered in loving memory of Martin Duffy & Martin Duffy Jr., from Doreen & Michael Duffy.

Weekend Mass Schedule

February 17 TH	5:00pm	Fr. John
February 18 TH	8:00am	Fr. Bob
	10:00am	Fr. Greg
	12:00pm	Fr. Jay

The Prayer Corner

"There is a season and a time for every purpose..."

A TIME TO BAPTIZE

TO WED

TO HEAL

Declan Hegarty, Patrick McCartin, Bob Nilan, Ruth Kopec, Kelly Yeo, Maria Villacreses, Barbara Monaco, Florence Peragallo, Patricia LaBruto, Mary & Anthony Virrazzi, Claire Jazikoff, John Farawell, Cezary Olszewski, Agnes Chisvetti, Eileen O'Donnell Ammon, Michael Baron, Alicia Deborgia, Bill Houston, Carol Oberdick, Frances Alencewicz, Robert Kilsby, Stanley Koberski, Justin Chiera, Bruce Horning, Caroline Stauffer, Mariola Warzyniak, Msgr. O'Neill, Henry & Joanne Sokoloski, Robert Jardines, Kathy Leary, Margaret Anne Kerr, Douglas Castner, Maureen Horning, Trevor Horning, Bill Riley, Theresa Szablowski, Cody Brown, Dolores DiGangi, Harold Carney, Sue Zafian, Leslie Johnson, Rita Weissenburger, Alberta Clark, Therese Clark, Angelo Gallo, Heidi Egan, Carol Kolator, Rita Scarpone, Macario and Linda Yap, Michelle Gargiulo, Sonia Stefan, Maria Famiglietti, Connor Feeney, Doug Christie, Donna Sandklev, John & Maryanne Delutis, Joshua & Amelia Ford, Marie Novak, Jo Ann West, Denise Stanislawczyk, Catherine Buettel, Rose Campanelli, Kyle Brown, Collin Sciahetano, Giovanni Caccamo, Mark & Victoria, Sherry Canavale, Domenic Canavale, Michael Canavale, Rose Currie, Nina Laico, Tommy Birkner, Ronald Harvey, Artie Schapiro, Tina DeliAquila, Robert Feeney, Debi Leiter, Jane Fitzgerald, Wayne Bartlett, Julia Skrya, Mary Charniga, Brenda & Dolores Tourtellot, Mary Jantas, Kathleen Baumann, Giuliana DeAngelias, Dennis Costante, Gene Moore, Joel Leiter, Susan Sepedy, Aymee Iannaccone, Jean Nych, Gregory Kolaranda, Johanna Esposito, Nikoloz, Clare Weber, Vincent Dellaquila, Joe Vitello, Arlon Roth, Edward O'Brien, June Laub, Nick Troiano, Carl Walker, Dan Weiss, Arthur Shipiro, Christine Camping, Catherine Donahue, Marie Negri, Christiano Bianco.

FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED

Lawrence Betty, Sharon Tsongas, Barbara Divine & Frances Carlucci

A TIME OF WAR & PEACE

S. Sgt. Keith D. Lee (Air National Guard), Major Brian McCartin (Army), John Bridges (Navy), 2nd Lieutenant Phillip G. Faccone Jr. (Marines), Bryan Alexander Perez (Army), Brandon Haynes (Army), Jared Endler (National Guard), LTJG Liam Keenan (Navy), Mas. Sgt. Michael Primavera (Air Force), John O'Donnell (Marines), 1LT Ryan Feeney (National Guard)

Weekend Readings

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Mark 1:40-45

Weekday readings can be found on the parish website.

February 11, 2024

6TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

– 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? Is He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride, ego, money, and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself, "Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?"

Ash Wednesday Prayer

Dear Lord, as we enter this Solemn and Holy Season, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon us, that we might prepare ourselves for these coming 40 days of Lent. Even though we may no longer wear sackcloth and ashes, we do seek to humble ourselves so that we can understand the magnificence of your love, as you humbled yourself and gave your life on the cross that we might receive the gift of Eternal Glory with you. Amen.



Lenten Book Study with Fr. John

Fr. John will lead a book study on the following Fridays of Lent following the 3 PM Stations of the Cross: March 1st, 8th, and 15th. It is not necessary to register, nor is there any cost – but please call the rectory or see Fr. John for a copy of the book. The book is called: Real Presence: What does it mean and why does it matter? Father will consider offering this book study in the evening as well, if there is sufficient requests for that.



Hello St. John Vianney Parish community!

This is the last Saturday and Sunday in Ordinary Time! Whether we feel ready or not, the great Lenten season will begin within a few days, as this coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the Church's observance of Lent. These six weeks are set apart for the purpose of drawing closer to God by seeking Him with greater intensity. During these 40 days, we often get reduced to the question, "What am I giving up for Lent?" We all ask ourselves this basic question. However, I would like you all to go deeper and ask yourself "How will I repent and return to God with all my heart?" As we approach Ash Wednesday next week, take some time to reflect on the place in your life where you feel distant from God and what you might "give up" in order to create more space and passion for God there.

Writing about this idea of "giving up" to "create more space for God" makes me think of our Youth Group. It's a wonderful place where young people come together to pray, reflect, worship and build spiritual relationships with each other. During this Lenten season, I highly encourage each of our parishioners to come out of your comfort zones by reaching out to one young person from the parish and school community. Whether they realize it or not, their souls are thirsting for Jesus, and so they are looking for a place where he/she can learn how to create space and passion for God in their busy life. I also ask you to pray for our parish young men and women who need help to discern their future Vocation/Ministry. We sisters have a beautiful St. Lucy Filippini Vocation Statue that now resides in the school. The purpose of the Vocation Statue is to inspire families to pray for and promote vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Religious Life. If you are interested in taking this Vocation Statue into your home for a week, please contact Sr. Margaret Mary Hanlon, M.P.F. srmmmary@sjvs.net.

Lastly, I just wanted to let you know that our Middle School Youth Group is flourishing beautifully. Nevertheless, at the same time, I'm not getting enough responses from our High School young people. Help a Sister Out! Spread the Word! Information is available on the parish website, the youth group's facebook page, and in-person and by phone at the parish office. Please contact me, Sr. Luciana D'Cruze, MPF. My phone number is (732) 574-0150 and my email address is srluciana@sjvs.net.

God Bless,
Sr. Luciana D'Cruze, MPF
Youth Minister

PARISH MINISTRIES & CONTACTS

Organization	Contact	Phone/Email
Altar Rosary Society	Jane Bianco	732-382-1512
Altar Servers	Deacon Vinny	vbrigande@sjvs.net
Basketball	Tim Miller	athletics@sjvs.net
Bible Study	Deacon Joe & Rose Ragucci	732-548-3880
Cheerleading	Jennifer Grasso	732-943-2409
Communion/ Homebound	Joanne Streck	732-382-4147
Cub/Boy Scouts	Dave Anfora	dave_anfora@yahoo.com
Eucharistic Ministers	Ellen DeRosa	ederosa@sjvs.net
Fair Coordinator	Joe Noto	sjv_fair@sjvs.net
Finance Council	Jeanette Wilmanski	jwilmanski@gmail.com
HSA	Mike Kaplonski	732-735-0184
	Jaclyn Falzarano	sjvhsa@sjvs.net
	Lydia Guerrier	
Knights of Columbus	Bob Luban	732-382-6939
Lazarus Ministry	Ann Ruth	732-381-6815
Lectors	Deacon Tom Michnewicz	732-574-1651
Legion of Mary	Joan Wilson	732-548-3359
Music Ministry	Jamie Frame	908-331-0471
Parish Life Comm.	Egger Lugo	732-801-6705
Pastoral Council	Suzanne MacIntyre	732-283-0731
Pre-Canas	Deacon Tom & Janice Michnewicz	732-574-1651
Pro-Life	Carolyn Glodek	973-349-4626
R.C.I.A.	Deacon Joe Ragucci	732-548-3880
SAC	Jeanette Wilmanski	jwilmanski@gmail.com
Secular Franciscans	Rev. J. Kubiak	732-494-3399
	Anna Zielski	732-325-7779
SJV Seniors	Bob & Mary Nilan	732-574-3427
St. Isidore's Garden	Maureen Jorgensen	732-778-8471
St. Vincent de Paul	Jim Leathem	732-388-5512
Track	Amanda Miller	732-549-2356
Ushers	Ray Morgan	732-815-1037
Youth Minister	Sr. Luciana D'Cruze	srluciana@sjvs.net

Saint of the Week: St. Cyril & St. Methodius



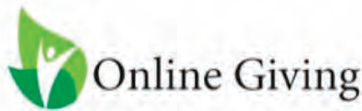
These two saints were brothers originally from Greece. St. Cyril invented an alphabet, known as the Cyrillic alphabet, and with St. Methodius they translated the liturgy and scriptures into the Slavonic language. Their new liturgy was approved by

Pope Adrian II, and sadly 50 days later St. Cyril passed away. St. Methodius continued his missionary work for another 16 years. He faced great opposition for their translation of the liturgy, which continued after their passing. In 1980 Pope John Paul II named them co-patrons of Europe. May we be inspired by their motivation to help more people to hear and understand the scriptures.

FEBRUARY 4, 2024 OFFERTORY:

Collection:	\$ 11,485.25
On-line giving:	\$ 5,746.50
	<u>\$ 17,231.75</u>

The 2023 Christmas Collection total was \$39,197. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of St. John Vianney parish!



A Secure & Convenient Way to Give to St. John Vianney Church

Donate Now!

No cash or check? No problem! Our parish offers a convenient, safe, and automatic way to contribute to our parish directly from your bank or using a credit card. Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. You will still receive offering envelopes to present during offertory at Mass to indicate "I've given online". Online Giving is very easy to use and requires no special knowledge. If you haven't already signed up, then go to our parish website at "sjvianney.com" and select Online Giving. It's easy and safe!



**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
URGENT UPDATE**

The food supply for the St. James and St. Cecelia's Food pantries has fallen to critical levels. The demand for food has continued to increase. Fortunately, your generosity has continued to increase. If you could continue to donate one extra food item per week, the supply would meet the demand. Rising food prices and demand for necessary food have caused this problem.

Needed item update: peanut butter, jelly, coffee, tea, cake mixes, tuna, SPAM, canned chicken, rice (1 or 2 lb. bags), personal hygiene products are always needed. Thank you. The SVdP Society would like to thank you for your generosity to the local food pantries. The need continues for increased food donations.

**Have You Heard?****WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A
NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL!**

The Church needs healing, and the world needs Jesus. The Holy Spirit is inviting us to return to the source and summit of our faith—the Eucharist.



eucharisticrevival.org

LENT IS COMING!

Join our faith community in a transformative Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador, and Indonesia who are working hard to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the Church gathering area starting this weekend. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. Visit www.crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Eucharistic Adoration at St. John Vianney

We are looking for people to commit to spending a scheduled hour a week in the Blessed Sacrament at Adoration. Come adore the Lord for one hour or more in Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar of St. John Vianney Church each Saturday from 8:30am – 9:30am. We must have at least two people present during each hour as the Most Blessed Sacrament may not be left alone while exposed. Please prayerfully consider giving Jesus an hour of your week in Adoration. If you are interested, please call Jo Ann Worosila at 908-420-5083 or Joanne Streck at 732-382-4147.

Eucharistic Adoration is a silent meditation in the presence of the exposed Host. One hour a week with Jesus, to recite your favorite prayers, read the bible, contemplate acts of faith, hope and charity, thanksgiving, reparation, pray a rosary or do whatever prayerful devotion that suits you before Our Lord. You can just sit and say nothing simply keeping Him company, just as you would with a dear friend.

This Week At A Glance

2/5 – 2/11

Monday	SCHOOL CLOSED – Faculty Spirituality Day SVdP – LBR 6pm
Tuesday	SJV School Mardi Gras – CAF (during the school day) RCIA – EMR 11am Cheer – GYM 4:30-7:30pm AI-Anon – 7pm Classroom CubScouts – CAF 6:30-8pm Boy Scouts – GYM 7:30-9:30pm
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday (Mass schedule on first page of bulletin) School Mass – CH 9:30am Basketball – GYM 4:30-9pm High School YG – REC 7pm
Thursday	Basketball – GYM 3-4:30pm Cheer – GYM 4:30-7:30pm Ignatian Spiritual Exercises – LBR 7-8:30pm Legion of Mary UBR 7pm Basketball – GYM 8-9pm
Friday	Basketball – GYM 5-9pm Stations – CH 3pm & 7pm
Saturday	Basketball – GYM 8am-4pm Needlepoint Group – UBR 9am-3pm
Sunday	Baptism – CH 1:30pm Bible study UBR 6:30pm

Upcoming Second Collections

February 14th	Ash Wednesday
February 18th	Catholic Spirit

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Stay With Us, Lord: Renew our Hearts and Send Us on a Mission

One of the key ministries supported by the Annual Appeal is Seminarian Formation. We are blessed to have 21 men currently studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Metuchen. It is a blessing that brings with it the responsibility of providing for their education. Quality formation is essential for our future priests who will be the sacramental presence of the Lord in the midst of our parishes, nourishing and healing with Word and sacraments the people they are called to serve. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps to defray the costs of forming the future shepherds of our Church.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2024-2025**TUITION ASSISTANCE****ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN**

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than March 31, 2024. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

The Pro-Life Corner

If you are a man or woman affected by abortion, please check this website for information that may help you:

**Unplanned Pregnancy?**

**Find
help**

at one of these centers:

Life Choices Resource Center, Metuchen, NJ
Phone: 732-516-911

First Choice Women & Resource Center,
New Brunswick, NJ
Phone: 908-561-0079

Life Choices Inc., Phillipsburg, NJ
Phone: 908-454-2066

Inspire Women's Resource Center, Warren, NJ
Phone: 908-615-9008

Bridge Women's Center, Old Bridge
Phone: 732-588-0999

Or go to optionline.org (Pregnancy help online) to search for a location near you.

Please refer to this link from the Diocese of Metuchen: <https://diometuchen.org/pregnancy-help>

SAFE HAVEN INFANT PROTECTION

An unwanted baby?

You can safely and anonymously give it away.

No shame, No blame

Call SAFE HAVEN HOTLINE:

1-877-839-2339



St. John Vianney School News

732-388-1662 <https://school.sjvianney.com/>

So many great ideas and suggestions have come in! Continue to email us at sjvhsa@sjvs.net and someone will respond to your email within 24-48 hours. Don't forget to visit our school website and follow us on Facebook!

ATTENTION

Anyone wishing for a record of their Church contributions for the year 2023 is asked to send in a stamped self-addressed envelope with their envelope number to the Rectory or drop it into the collection basket.

IGNATIAN SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

St. Ignatius Loyola developed the Spiritual Exercises to help people enhance their prayer life and deepen their relationship with God. Learn and experience this wonderful form of prayer in a special 8-week program at our parish. The Spiritual Exercises will be held on Thursday evenings in Library Room in the Church from 7-8:30pm, beginning February 15, 2024. For more information, or to sign up for the Exercises, contact Jay Jorgensen at jaymaur@aol.com.

Bus Trip

Join us for a bus trip to Wind Creek, PA on Monday, February 19th. The bus will be leaving the SJV parking lot at 10am and will return at 6:30pm. Cost is \$45 and get back \$35. For more information and to sign up please call Mary Lou at 732-710-3201.

40 cans for 40 days

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat"
- Matthew 25:35

The Knights of Columbus council 6571 will again sponsor 40 cans for 40 days to benefit our local food pantries from Ash Wednesday till Easter Sunday. This lent Give something, rather than give something up- one food item for each of the 40 days of Lent. Baskets will be in the gathering area. Thank you for your generosity.



It's "Souper" Bowl Time!

Update: we have now collected 734 cans of soup. That is 147% of our goal. Thank you!

Please team up with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to tackle hunger. Each day residents of Woodbridge Township go to bed hungry. You can help by donating cans of soup to help those in need. Your food donations will help the food pantries at St. James and St. Cecelia's Churches. Thank you for your generosity.

Update from the Religious Education Program

Respect Life Contest

Students in all grades had the opportunity to participate in the Respect Life Contest. The entries are being judged at the parish level and selected posters will be displayed in the gathering area before being sent to the Diocese for that next round of judging.

Operation Rice Bowl

During Lent the students in the religious education program will participate in Operation Rice Bowl. The rice bowls will be distributed to the children on February 12, 2024 and should be returned after Easter.

Coming Up on the Calendar

February 24/25, 2024 is one of the option weekends for Mass Replaces Class. Children who check-in for Mass that weekend will not have to come to class on Monday the 26th. Remember, each child can select one of the options on weekends. Thus, children who used the option in December or January are not eligible for this option in February. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will be available for our Monday evening classes on February 26 and March 4. The children will have the opportunity for Confession on March 11, 2024 and Stations of the Cross on March 18, 2024.

Absences

Please remember to send an email if your child will be absent from a Monday evening religious education class. The email should include the name of the child, the grade, and the reason for the absence. Thank you for your cooperation.

Contacting Me

The best way to reach me is by email at ederosa@sjvs.net. If you would like to speak with me, please send an email with your phone number. Have a blessed week!
Ellen DeRosa

Pastor's Column : February 10 - 11, 2024

Believe it or not, this Wednesday is Ash Wednesday – the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent. Masses will be offered in our Church that day at 7 and 8:30 AM and at 12:10, 4, and 7 PM. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all those Masses.

There are several ways of looking at Lent. Some people see it simply as a time of penance. We give up treats we like to show that we are sorry for our sins and want to do better in the future. This is a good way of looking at Lent.

Other people look at Lent as a time to do something extra for God. They go to Daily Mass or practice extra charity as a way of going the extra mile for God during this holy season. This is also a good way of looking at Lent.

I personally think that it's best to see Lent as a little of both. It is indeed a time of penance – but also a time for spiritual growth. This means that we make the most of Lent by both repenting of sin and doing something extra for God!

To help you do this, our parish is doing several things this Lent. We will hold a Parish Mission on the Tuesdays of Lent at 7 PM. Every Tuesday a different priest will expose the Blessed Sacrament, preach a Lenten homily, and give Benediction. Other priests will hear Confessions during the Holy Hour. The schedule of celebrants and topics can be found elsewhere in this bulletin. I encourage everyone to attend at least one – if not all – of these evenings.

We will – of course – pray the Stations of the Cross in Church every Friday of Lent at 3 and 7 PM. Praying the Stations of the Cross is a great way to remember what Jesus did for us on Good Friday – and to do something extra for Him!

There will be various handouts with daily reflections for Lent that you can pick up in the lobby of the Church. Reading and reflecting on these daily meditations is a great Lenten practice.

As in past Lents, Rice Bowls can be found in the Church lobby. They are a great way helping to practice charity this Lent. As usual, I encourage every family to take one and fill it up this Lent. A good way to do this is to put spare change in it each day – or to eat a simple meal once a week this Lent and put the money saved in the Rice Bowl for the poor.

Another good opportunity for charity is 40 cans for 40 days. The idea is to donate 40 cans of food over the course of Lent – one for each day. These will be shared with local food pantries. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring this wonderful work of mercy.

Confessions will be heard every Saturday during Lent – and extra Confessors will be assigned to help hear them. Additionally, Confessions will be heard every Tuesday evening (except Holy Week) from 7 – 9 PM, during the Lenten Mission. Please be sure to make a good Confession this Lent.

My hope is that everyone will take advantage of these opportunities to repent of our sins and do something extra for God this Lent. Indeed, let's all resolve to make this the best Lent of our lives – so that we can celebrate Jesus' resurrection this Easter with our faith renewed and reenergized!!

One final note about Lent this year. You probably noticed that Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day. This means that we will not be able to eat little chocolate hearts that day (since Ash Wednesday is a day of fast with no snacking between meals) or eat meat if you take your sweetheart to dinner that evening (since it's also a day of abstinence on which we do not eat meat). I know this will be a sacrifice for many people – but it's precisely the kind of sacrifice that shows God just how much He means to us. My suggestion is to celebrate Valentine's Day on Mardi Gras – the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras has always been a kind of party day before Lent begins. It is thus a good day to eat our chocolates and things so that we can observe Ash Wednesday as the Day of Penance it should be.

Have a great week.
Fr. John



LENTEN MISSION

Our Parish Lenten Mission will take place at 7pm on the Tuesday evenings of Lent, according to the schedule below. Every evening will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a Lenten Homily, time for quiet prayer and reflection, and Benediction. Confessions will also be heard each evening – as we will have a priest in the Confessional while the service is happening. A different priest or deacon will preach each evening – giving a variety of perspectives on ways to grow in faith this Lent. Everyone is encouraged to come to as many of these prayerful evenings as possible.

Tuesday, 2/20 at 7pm	Fr. Bob
Tuesday, 2/27 at 7pm	Fr. Greg
Tuesday, 3/5 at 7pm	Fr. Bede
Tuesday, 3/12 at 7pm	Fr. Jay
Tuesday, 3/19 at 7pm	Fr. John

2024 Lenten Obligations

1. The days of fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (February 14) and Good Friday (March 29).
2. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (Feb. 16 & 23, Mar. 1, 8, 15 & 22).
3. Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.

Note: This year, be aware that Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 (also Valentine's Day). The obligation to fast does remain in effect, so it is suggested that those who are planning a special dinner make that their one main meal of the day.

Lent 2024 at St. John Vianney

We invite you to join us for our many parish Lenten activities as a way to prepare for the great feast of the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.

Stations of the Cross – Fridays during Lent at 3:00pm and 7:00pm in the Church. (February 16 & 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29)

CRS Rice Bowl – Ash Wednesday – Easter Sunday Rice bowls are available in the gathering area of the Church.

40 Cans for 40 Days – Ash Wednesday – Easter Sunday. Baskets to collect can donations in gathering area of the Church.

Palm Sunday – March 24 – with the Reading of the Passion and blessing Palms – regular Mass schedule – Saturday at 5:00 and Sunday at 8:00am, 10:00am, and 12:00pm.

Confessions – every Saturday from 11:00am to 12:00pm and 4:15-4:45pm. Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm.

Blessing of Easter Food – Holy Saturday – March 30 at 12:00pm in the Church.

Holy Week – Special Masses/Services – no 7:00am or 8:30am morning Mass on Holy Thursday or Good Friday. No 8:00am Mass on Holy Saturday.

Holy Thursday – March 28 - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00pm – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00pm.

Good Friday – March 29 - Service of the Lord's Passion, adoration of the Cross and Communion at 3:00pm.

Holy Saturday – March 30 - Great Easter Vigil 7:00pm (NO 5:00 pm Masses this night).

Easter Sunday – March 31 – regular Mass schedule – 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00pm. Note – no 5:00 Mass on Saturday night – only Great Easter Vigil Mass at 7:00pm. Easter Egg Hunt after 10am Mass!

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mark 1:40-45

Jesus cured the leper, a man with a skin disease, with a touch of His hand.

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When the leper was healed, Jesus said, "Don't tell this to anyone." Jesus trusted the man to go quietly to the priest, but instead he ran off telling everyone he was cured. He did NOT keep it a secret (he was very excited). As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly, but stayed in lonely places. Still, people kept coming to Him from everywhere. **Jesus gave the leper new life...**

LENT begins
this week...

Give us New Life, O Lord.

Dear Jesus... I have sinned, I am sorry, let's begin again. Love, _____
your name



SHROVE TUESDAY

also known as... FAT TUESDAY = MARDI GRAS = PANCAKE DAY

It is a tradition to eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Shrove comes from the word "shrive", meaning to confess, or tell God we are sorry for our sins. Pancakes use up food items that were not permitted during Lent in the Middle Ages - milk, eggs, fat, butter and meat. Lent begins tomorrow - Let's eat pancakes today!



The ashes on my forehead say,
"I have sinned, I am sorry. Please
God, help me change, make me a
new person."

Homemade Pancakes



SIFT	MIX IN
1 1/4 cup flour	1 beaten egg
3 teaspoons baking powder	1 cup milk
2 tablespoons sugar	2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/2 teaspoon salt	

Cook on greased, hot skillet. Flip when bubbles appear and pop. Makes 8, 4" pancakes — Serving with butter, syrup, fruit or meat is optional.

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