

SACRED HEART PARISH



Sacred Heart Church

508 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 10:00 am

*Disciples
In Mission*



St. John Church

Catholic & Main Streets
Rock Hall, MD 21661

Sunday Mass: 8:00 am

Phone: 410-778-3160

Fax: 410-810-0427

Web: www.sacredparish.org

Kent Street entrance to Sacred Heart Church

Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME · JANUARY 31, 2021

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John A. Grasing, *Pastor*

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PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome all of our parish community. At this time we have been asked to suspend having hand-out materials in the bins at the doors of the Church. If you are new member, or if you need to make a change to your current registration, please visit or contact the Church office to obtain a registration form. Please return the forms to the Parish Office. Please note that registration is required for Baptism, Marriage, and participation in PREP.

As the CDC, Kent County Health Office and the Diocese of Wilmington remind us there is a risk to entering public buildings at this time. Individuals are the primary protectors of their own health (CDOW: "Restoring Public Celebration of Mass").

To help reduce the risk of illness, please be mindful of the following:

- The Bishop's dispensation from Sunday Mass remains in effect
- If you feel ill do not enter any parish facilities
- At risk persons/those caring for at risk persons should refrain from attending liturgy
- We are limited to one-third building capacity per order of the Bishop
- Use High Street entrance (Sacred Heart) and Main Street (St. John)
- You may leave through any door, maintaining social distance
- Masks/face coverings (those over 2 years of age) must be worn while in church
- Social distancing must be maintained at all times
- Limit restroom use

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses explains to the people that a prophet will come from among them, and that they should listen to this prophet's words, for God has told him of this prophet. God also tells Moses that anyone who pretends to speak in his words, or speaks in the name of other gods shall die.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Paul tells the Corinthians how an unmarried man or woman is able to devote themselves fully to God without concern for the needs of a spouse. Paul explains that God wants to help them promote good and devote themselves more fully to God.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

As Jesus was teaching, a man with an unclean spirit came to the synagogue and asked if Jesus had come to destroy them. Jesus ordered the spirit out of the man, who shrieked violently as the spirit departed. The people were amazed at the authority he had over the spirit.



For the Week of January 31st through
February 7th

Sunday

Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

Monday

Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday

Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Wednesday

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13

First Friday

Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29

First Saturday

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily
Readings, in print and audio format, on its website,
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 30th

4:00 p.m. Our Parishioners,
Living and Deceased

Sunday, January 31st

8:00 a.m. Our Parishioners,
Living and Deceased

10:00 a.m. Father Paul Campbell

Saturday, February 6th

4:00 p.m. Ann Louise Grauso

Sunday, February 7th

8:00 a.m. Robert Joseph Dunn, Sr.

10:00 a.m. Our Parishioners,
Living and Deceased

Mass will also be offered for our parishioners,
living and deceased during the week. At this time
these are private masses. We will let you know
when public weekday masses resume.

REMEMBERING THE
SICK OF THE PARISH:
Remember in your prayers
the sick of the parish: *John
Troffo, Valerie Lindyberg,
Patricia Dana, Angela
Wilmer, Faith King, Eugenia
Brooks, Alicia Bourne, Tom
Blum, Betty Ann Strong,
Joseph William, Judy Hagerty, Millie Moseman, Father
Ted Tempel, and all those whose names appear in the
PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.*



PRIVATE PRAYER: Sacred Heart Church is open
for private prayer from 9:00 a.m. until noon
Monday through Friday. The Chapel will not be
available.

**MAY THE ANGELS LEAD THEM INTO
PARADISE:** Please remember in your prayers
Camille Olinick and our deceased parishioners, loved
ones, and benefactors. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mark 1:21-28

Reflection for Parents

Today is a good day to consider how we use our power and authority as parents, as bosses or supervisors, as coaches, as captain of the team or class president. Do we use our power and authority for the good of others? Do we use our power and authority to bring about positive change? Do we use our power and authority to guide our children or others in the ways of holiness and righteousness? Our use of power and authority has the potential to lift people up or to tear them down. The words we choose, the tone of voice we use, and the actions we take reveal to our family members, to friends, and to others that it is Jesus Christ who has authority over our lives.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

In today's Gospel, Jesus casts out an unclean—or evil—spirit.

Explain that *evil* means "harmful" or "immoral." Christians believe that the devil is the source of evil in the world and in our lives. Invite family members to name ways they see evil present at school, at work, in the neighborhood, in your city, or in the world.

Decide on one evil that you as family can address by using your power and authority to bring about a positive change for the good.

Discussion Starters

1. A teacher I know who teaches (taught) with authority is . . .
2. One way I can use my power and authority for the good is . . .
3. I can show others that Jesus Christ has authority over my life by . . .

FLOCKNOTES: Do you want to know what's going on in our parish?? Sign up for Flocknotes. It's easy. You can choose what info you would like to receive – via email or text message and you can unsubscribe at any time. There are two easy ways to connect:

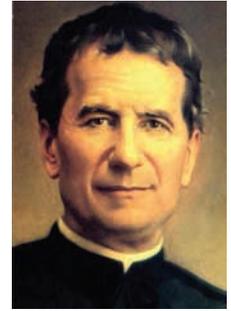
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JANUARY SAINTS

JOHN BOSCO



People need work so that they can buy food and clothes and pay for a place to live. They need God so that they will be happy. John (Giovanni) Bosco was a priest who tried to teach poor children how to work and how to love God.

John was born in 1815 in Becchi, Italy. His father died when John was only 2. But his mother gave him lots of love. She also taught him to love God and others. He worked as a shepherd in his early years, but had such a love of learning that he was sent to study at the seminary. In 1841 he was ordained a priest.

John was a priest, but he became a "father" to thousands of children. How did he do that? He started a school for poor boys, many of whom he met when he visited their parents in prison as part of his priestly work. These boys lived in the prisons, too, or on the streets. Father Bosco wanted something more for them. So he started a school where they could eat and sleep safely. He taught them about music. They also learned how to make shoes and clothes and books. When these boys grew up, they could get jobs.

John also taught the boys about God's love for them, so when they grew up the boys lived good lives. Later, John began a similar school for poor girls.

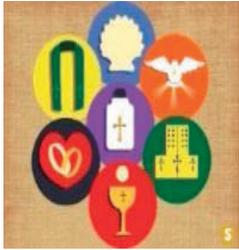
Because so many boys and girls needed love and care, John needed other adults to help him. So John started the Salesians—a group of priests that helped boys—and the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians—a group of nuns that helped girls. Even his mother, Margaret, came to help him with his work. (The Salesian name came from his devotion to St. Francis de Sales.) In 1875, he sent his first group of missionaries to the Americas.

By the time John died in 1888, at the age of 73, many women and men were caring for "his" children, and there were 250 Salesian houses. People soon called for him to be made a saint. He was canonized in 1934.



PARISH NEWS

DUE TO A WEATHER DELAY, THE OFFERTORY TOTALS FOR JANUARY 24TH WILL BE POSTED NEXT WEEKEND.



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

While baptisms are generally celebrated at a weekend liturgy at either of our churches, this is not possible due to restrictions related to COVID-19. Baptisms are now celebrated outside of Mass and may be scheduled by calling the parish office. Parents are required to attend a formation session prior to the baptism; Godparents are welcome to attend as well. Please call the parish office for more information and to schedule your child's baptism.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Please contact the parish office to make an appointment to celebrate the sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Anyone seeking to celebrate the Sacrament of matrimony in either of our churches must contact the parish office at least one year in advance of the proposed date. No date may be held until the bride and groom meet with the pastor (or his designate).

COMMUNION TO THE SICK, HOMEBOUND AND HOSPITALIZED At this time in accordance with directives from the Diocese of Wilmington, we are unable to schedule visits in health care or home settings. Only those in danger of death may be visited until further notice.

We will return to our regular practice of sending Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the sick as soon as possible.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Mary Jo Frohlich with any questions at 410-778-3160, or mfrohlich@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

CHESTERTOWN FOOD PANTRY: The Chestertown Food Pantry would like to thank Sacred Heart for their generous weekly donations. They would like to remind us to please check the expiration date on all donated foods because they cannot use anything past the date on the label.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES THRIFT CENTER: Are you planning a household remodel or facelift? Don't discard your gently-used household goods - donate them! Catholic Charities Thrift Center in Wilmington is in great need of furniture, mattresses, and working appliances. Demand for these items continues to outpace our supply. We will accept used bedding as we are licensed by the State of Delaware to sanitize bedding and offer for resale or redistribution. We do ask that the items be gently used, clean and in good working order, and we reserve the right to refuse a donation if it is in poor condition. To schedule a pick up of these items, call the Thrift Center at 302-764-2717. The Thrift Center is located at 1320 E 23rd Street, Wilmington, DE 19802.

DIALOG: In addition to the newspaper edition of The Dialog that's available in church every two weeks, the newspaper's website, www.thedialog.org, is updated every weekday with stories from the diocese and around the world, including many that don't appear in the newspaper due to space considerations. Stay on top of national and international issues of concern to Catholics, each Sunday's Scripture reading commentaries by Dialog columnists and the work of the church in the nation and world by visiting www.thedialog.org.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are being sent directly to your home, bi-monthly. If you are not receiving envelopes and wish to do so, please contact Becky Davis at 410-778-3160.

NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

The first gospel starts with “a genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham.” With this opening the evangelist prepares us for this Jesus who will be the fulfillment of major figures of the Hebrew scriptures.

Archeologists and textual experts usually date the writing of the Gospel of Matthew to around 80 CE. One piece of evidence for the dating of this gospel is that it contains nearly all of the gospel of Mark. From this we know that it was composed after 70 CE (near the time when Mark was written). In addition to having Mark as a source, the Gospel of Matthew shares a large chunk of material with Luke, material that appears neither in Mark or in John. From this we assume that there was another source for Matthew, one that he and the writer of Luke used. Matthew also had his own information about Jesus that the other evangelists did not.

The Gospel of Matthew is unique in its five-part structure: after the introduction, which contains the stories of the annunciation to Joseph (not Mary, as in Luke) of Jesus’ birth, his birth and manifestation to the magi (not shepherds, as in Luke), each part contains a long speech by Jesus followed by actions that Jesus performs. Part one is the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7); part two prepares the disciples for their missionary journeys (10); part three is filled with parables (13); part four deals with church order (18); and the fifth part concerns the end of the world (24-25). Scholars assume that the evangelist adopted this structure from the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. This is a big clue about the portrait of Jesus in this gospel.

Many of the people in the church for which the Gospel of Matthew was written were Jews. One of the main purposes of this gospel was to provide consolation to those who wrestled with the compatibility of the Jewish heritage and their faith in Jesus. For this reason we find references to patriarchs of ancient Israel from the very first verse. A genealogy filled with Jewish ancestors begins the text, and the evangelist fills the narrative with quotations from the Hebrew scriptures. All of this seeks to reassure the hearers that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the Messiah anticipated in the older faith.

The Gospel of Matthew is proclaimed throughout Year A, in the years 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008 and so on.

In art, the evangelist Matthew is portrayed with an angel by his side. The feast of Saint Matthew is September 21.

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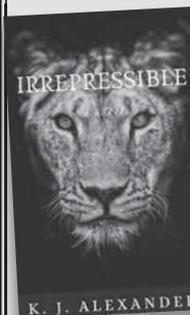


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