

February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent



# SS. ROBERT &

CATHOLIC PARISHES | DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND



# ST. JOHN OF THE

Dear Parishioners,

I hope your Lent is off to a great start. This week in the Gospel we hear, “The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.” Mark 1:12–13. Today’s Gospel from Mark presents us with a short version of the Temptation of Jesus in the desert. Matthew and Luke give many more details, such as Jesus’ threefold temptation from Satan. But Mark simply states the fact that Jesus was driven into the desert for forty days and was tempted. As Jesus was in the desert enduring these temptations, “the angels ministered to him.” The same is true with us. Our Lord does not leave us alone in the midst of our daily temptations. Rather, He always sends us His angels to minister to us and to help us defeat this vile enemy. What is your greatest temptation in life? Perhaps you struggle with a habit of sin that you fail at time and time again. Perhaps it’s a temptation of the flesh, or a struggle with anger, self-righteousness, dishonesty or something else. Whatever your temptation may be, know that you have all you need to overcome it on account of the grace given to you by your Baptism, strengthened by your Confirmation and regularly fed by your participation in the Most Holy Eucharist. Reflect, today, upon whatever your temptations may be. See the Person of Christ facing those temptations with you and in you. Know that His strength is given to you if you but trust Him with unwavering confidence.



*My tempted Lord, You allowed Yourself to endure the humiliation of being tempted by Satan himself. You did so to show me and all Your children that we can overcome our own temptations through You and by Your strength. Help me, dear Lord, to daily turn to You with my struggles so that You will be victorious in me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

I’m very happy to share with you that the Food Pantry that we have been talking about for a long time is now ready to happen. It is part of our bigger plan to convert the former school at St. John of the Cross to a Family Life Center in partnership with Catholic Charities. The Food Pantry will be operated by both SRW and SJC and be located at SJC. It will start small and hopefully grow! We will have a temporary location in Room 15 of the former SJC school while the permanent location in the school (Room 2 & 3) is renovated. The temporary location will open March 9 and the permanent location hopefully in September. The Food Pantry will serve Euclid, Willoughby Hills and Richmond Heights residents and be available to help them with food and hygiene products.

We need help! Even if you expressed interest in the past, we are starting a new list.

We need people to help staff the pantry every Saturday morning (you can take one, two, or more Saturdays a month. It is not a weekly commitment), people to help shop and solicit donations, stocking and cleaning during the week and lots of other tasks.

We will have a kick-off meeting on Monday, February 26 at 6 pm in the Gym at St. John of the Cross. Fr. Thom and Deacon Tom will join me in presenting to you the needs and more information on how you can help. We will serve pizza and salad. If you can make the meeting, RSVP to Anita at [alinsky@srweuclid.cc](mailto:alinsky@srweuclid.cc) If you want to help, but cannot make the meeting, please let Anita know and we will get in contact with you to follow up.

Finally, we are in need of donations to STOCK OUR SHELVES. If you can help provide some funds to do this to help our sisters and brothers in need, that would be great. We have bins to accept donation of non-perishables, personal hygiene products, cleaning supplies and paper products in the Vestibule of both SRW and SJC. If you would like to give money, you can log into Faith Direct as we have added a fund there for the Pantry as well as a monthly envelope. You can always donate as well by dropping a check at the parish office or collection basket and just mark Food Pantry! Thank you for your generosity.

I could not be more excited about this Food Pantry! It will be such a great ministry for our two parishes. Anyway you can be a part of it would be great.

Make it a great week! See you in Church.

Peace,

Fr. John

## **SJC MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, February 19**

8:30 AM † Fr. Edward Mehok (JB/TSP)

**Tuesday, February 20**

6:30 PM † Leo Burrello (JB)

**Wednesday, February 21**

8:30 AM † Josephine Sezun (JL)

**Thursday, February 22**

6:30 PM For the People of this Parish (JL/TS)

**Friday, February 23**

**9:00 AM Morning Prayer**

**Saturday, February 24**

4:00 PM † Constance Favazzo (JB/TS)

**Sunday, February 25**

9:30 AM † Thomas Drozin & Mary M. Turk (JL/TS)

## **LOAVES AND FISHES BABY PANTRY**

SRW and SJOC will be collecting baby items for the Loaves and Fishes Baby Pantry throughout the season of Lent. Needed items include (but are not limited to):

Diapers ( sizes newborn, 3, 4, 5),  
Baby wipes, Diaper rash cream,  
Baby wash/baby shampoo,  
Onesies/sleepers,  
Clothing (Newborn through 18 mo.),  
Blankets, Crib sheets, Baby bottles,  
Infant socks, Small toys, and Board books.



All items must be new! Please place your items in the baskets at the door of the church or bring them to the SRW or SJOC parish office. We appreciate your generosity!

## **ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS WOMEN'S GROUP THEOLOGY OF THE BODY**

On Monday, February 26, the Women's Group will explore the writings of St. John Paul II on the Theology of the Body. The Body is not divine but it is the most powerful sign of the divine mystery in all creation. God's mystery has been revealed through the Incarnation, rendering the Human Body, a study of God. Explore with us the truths of the love relationship between God and His people from different sources. The meeting will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Sacred Heart Chapel at St. John of the Cross Church.

## **SJC Liturgical Tribute Fund**

All money that is donated to this fund in memory of a loved one or friend, or a special occasion will be used to purchase items utilized in our worship and help us to do all that we can to assure that we have what we need to worship reverently and well.

In Memory of Ralph Plavac...Michael & Marilyn Freas

In Memory of Ralph Plavac.....Gery & Lori Petrof

In Memory of Ralph Plavac...Theresa Fowler



## **OUTREACH TO THOSE IN NEED**

The SRW **Bereavement Ministry** offers assistance during your time of grief following the death of a family member. Please call the SRW Parish Office at 216.731.1515.

**Catholic Counseling**— Sacred Heart Counseling can help with anger management, anxiety, marital problems, trauma, depression, self-care and more. For more info call 440-305-6192 or email lukebrown@sacredheartcleveland.com.

**Community Meal** program offers free hot meals at both SRW and SJC. At SRW meals are on the second and last Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 pm. SJC has a monthly meal every third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 pm.

**The SRW Pantry** is stocked with food to assist those in need of food.

Call the **Prayer Line** at 216-331-5075 to entrust your prayer requests to fellow parishioners.

## SRW MASS INTENTIONS #

**Monday, February 19**

11:30 AM † Paula Naploszek (TK)

**Tuesday, February 20**

8:30 AM † Larry Rowe (TK)

**Wednesday, February 21**

11:30 AM † Chuck Skripko (JB)

**Thursday, February 22**

8:30 AM † Bob Chase (JB)

**Friday, February 23**

11:30 AM For the People of this Parish (TK)

7:00 PM † Ken Haneline (JB)

**Saturday, February 24**

8:30 AM † Zenta Schmid (JB)

4:00 PM † Rose Saba (TK)

**Sunday, February 25**

8:00 AM Noah Selby, Omanski, Jablonski & Vidergar Families (TK)

11:00 AM † Paul & Patricia Anthony & Carl Bayless (JB)

6:00 PM † Robert Perusek Sr (JB)

## **RETREAT OPPORTUNITY**

The Center for Eucharistic Evangelizing is offering a Retreat on March 8 & 9, 2024 in response to the US Bishop's Eucharistic Revival. This retreat experience will focus on the Scriptural themes of the Eucharist: Covenant, Memorial, and Prophetic Witness. Come and walk with us at St. Paschal Baylon Church in Highland Heights as we deepen our experience of Eucharist through song, story, small and large group interactions, prayer, teaching and witnessing. To register or learn more information please call (440) 442-3410 or email [litescripture@gmail.com](mailto:litescripture@gmail.com).



Kuda is a small village located in the Gulak District, Madagali Local Government Area, Adamawa State, Northeast Nigeria.

A little over a year ago our Gospel in Action (GIA) committee "adopted" Kuda and, working with the Kuda community, began the construction of a much-needed health clinic.



The community of Kuda is made up of seven neighborhoods with one elementary school, one junior secondary school, and one large Catholic church. Kuda is 97% Catholic. The remaining 3% of the population is non-Catholic and pockets of Muslims (two or three families.) The population of Kuda is approximately 1500-2000 people. Kuda is surrounded by other village communities with each community having their places of worship, mostly Catholic churches. About 99.9% of the population is engaged in farming. *Watch this spot for more information about Kuda and our joint project!*



**THE LABRE MINISTRY** to the Homeless is in continual need of grooming items to give to those in need. Please consider providing any of the following in quantities you see fit - soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, razors, shaving cream, feminine hygiene products.

Donations can be brought to the Ss. Robert & William parish office during regular office hours. We thank you ahead of time for your prayers and donations.



Taste of Nations tickets are now on sale.

Go to <https://brurl.co/ssrw> to purchase your ticket. Taste of Nations is Saturday, March 2nd from 5:00 pm– 9:30 pm.

**SRW/SJC FAMILY GROUP**

COME TO FEBRUARY 18TH FOR THE 11:00 AM MASS FOLLOWED BY PIZZA PARTY LUNCH, OPEN GYM, AND GAMES. EVENTS IN THE UPPER HALL & GYM. (SHOULD START AROUND NOON). PIZZA BY ZEPPE'S OF HIGHLAND HEIGHTS! NO RSVP IS NEEDED, INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

FEB. 18TH

Future Dates: (March 10, & April 14)  
Mother's Day Breakfast cooked and served by Dad's & Kids on Saturday, May 11 at 10 am.  
For more information, call or email Fr. John at [fjb@srweuclid.cc](mailto:fjb@srweuclid.cc) or 216.731.1515 ext. 228

## LUKE BROWN REFLECTIONS

Who decided to put Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day this year?! After growing up on a beef ranch, a date night without a steak is not a date, but I digress. Valentine's Day is a holiday that I often hear about in my counseling work. People often have moderate to high expectations about how the day will go and some end up very hurt and heartbroken when things do not turn out how they imagined. Every relationship has its ups and downs and no relationship is perfect, but sometimes we can feel like our relationship is stagnant or "in a rut" for a long time. If this is the case, couples counseling should be a consideration. I often meet people who are very resistant to counseling in general and even more so to attending counseling as a couple. When I hear this, I understand why, but I also like to challenge people to understand that attending counseling does not mean that you are "crazy," weak, or lacking intelligence. As the stigma around mental health has improved over time, I still find people that will encourage others to attend counseling but will be very resistant about attending it themselves. Another consideration is that counseling sometimes requires second and third chances. Sometimes there are counselors we have a difficult time connecting with and sometimes there are counselors who are subpar. These are not reasons to give up. If counseling could improve your relationship, would you do it? This is the blunt question that needs to be asked sometimes when we find ourselves in a rut. If this reflection resonates with you, consider giving couples counseling a chance to improve your relationship.



The next meeting of our Ss. Anne & Joachim Prayer Group is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 7 PM in the Ursuline Chapel of Ss. Robert & William Catholic Parish.** This group

meets the fourth Tuesday of every other month, alternating with the Wednesday morning meetings of the Grandparents' Group. Our grandchildren, godchildren, nieces, nephews – all children – need our prayers. Join us as we lend them our spiritual support. Hope to see you on the 27<sup>th</sup> and bring a friend!! Please contact Linda at 440-510-8083 or [lindashenk@yahoo.com](mailto:lindashenk@yahoo.com) with any questions.

***NOTE: Our name has changed from the Ss. Anne & Joachim Grandparents Prayer Group to simply the Ss. Anne & Joachim Prayer Group to reflect that all are welcome – not just grandparents – to offer prayer for our children.***

Celebrity Servers @ Mama Catena Vino e' Cucina

Wednesday March. 13, 4 - 8 pm

A waiter in a tuxedo holding a tray.

Be a part of our Fundraiser Dinner and be served by Fr. John, who will be managing the dining room. The full Mama Catena menu will be available. All Tips will be given to the Brick by Brick - Help Kuda Build Fund. Reservations are Required. Call the Restaurant at (216) 261-1168 for reservations.

## WITNESS JESUS' REAL PRESENCE



You are invited to be part of renewing the Church by enkindling a living relationship with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Our parish will be participating, with all the parishes in our Diocese, a year long **EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL**. This program will highlight the real presence of our Eucharistic Lord and His transforming power in our lives. Each month we will explore the meaning of "REAL PRESENCE."

## ST. MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

"The Eucharist is connected with the Passion. If Jesus had not established the Eucharist we would have forgotten the crucifixion. It would have faded into the past and we would have forgotten that Jesus loved us. There is a saying that to be far away from the eyes is to be far away from the heart. To make sure that we do not forget, Jesus gave us the Eucharist as a memorial of his love ... When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then, when you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now."

## ALL SOULS CEMETERY – PRE-PLANNING SEMINAR

The Catholic Cemeteries Association invites you to attend a 1-hour pre-planning seminar on **Wednesday, March 13th, 2024, at 5:30p.m.** Please join us to learn more about the necessary steps to pre-planning the burial process, burial options including options for cremated remains, and the Catholic burial rite. We kindly ask that you **RSVP** to this event to All Souls Cemetery – 10366 Chardon Rd., Chardon, Oh. **216-641-7575 ext. 4** or email [bstrauchon@clecem.org](mailto:bstrauchon@clecem.org).

## WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNING BOOK DISCUSSION

Our next meeting will be February 21<sup>st</sup> when we will be discussing:

*The Guy with the Sign: And Other Thoughts on Faith in Everyday Life* by Terry Pluto. Some will know Terry as a sports writer while others will remember his columns on faith, both found in the Plain Dealer/Cleveland.com. His book is a compilation of his *Faith and You* column.

All Women's Wednesday Morning Book Discussions take place on the 3 Wednesday of the month at 10:00AM in Ss. Robert and William Parish Office Building.



A PILGRIMAGE  
WITH FR. SCOTT GOODFELLOW &  
FR. JOHN BETTERS  
SEPTEMBER 3 - 13, 2024

**JOIN US:  
INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

WHEN: APRIL 3RD, AT 6:30-8 P.M.  
WHERE: ABC HALL AT ST. MARY  
CHARDON (401 NORTH ST.,  
CHARDON, OH 44024)

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL GREECE & TURKEY



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Explore the vibrant cities of Athens and Corinth, where St. Paul wrote some of his most powerful letters that continue to inspire and guide us today. Cruise to the enchanting city of Ephesus in Turkey, where tradition holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary spent her last days on earth. Step onto the sacred grounds of Patmos, where the Apostle John wrote the book of Revelations, and walk in the very footsteps of St. Paul and his disciples as they traveled to Greece to share the Good News!

**\$5,300 Package Includes:**

- 11 days / 9 nights
- Round trip airfare
- Ground transportation with Wi-Fi
- Catholic tour guide
- 4-star hotels (rated by standard of country)
- Double occupancy
- 4 Day Cruise
- All breakfasts / most dinners
- Daily Mass
- All admission fees
- Catholic tour guide
- All gratuities

Contact Eddie Abufaraha  
at 800.687.0306 or scan  
code to learn more and  
register.



## CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 2

The Annual Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference will be held at Holiday Inn Independence 6001 Rockside Road. Come spend some time with other men of the parish as we seek to draw closer to Jesus this Lent. Car pooling is available from St. John of the Cross. For more information call Rich Volk (216)789-2793 or Joe Moore (216)905-0356, or check the website at [www.CMFNEO.com](http://www.CMFNEO.com)

## Kaleidoscope Days



at SS. Robert & William  
Catholic School



Take a peek in on a kindergarten  
classroom on Wednesdays,  
February 21, 9 AM - 10 AM OR  
March 20 from 9AM - 10 AM

Prospective kindergarten  
students and their parents are  
invited. Registration is required.

Contact the Admissions office at  
216-731-3060, ext. 220 to register.  
351 E. 260th Street, Euclid / [srwschool.cc](http://srwschool.cc)

## NOW ENROLLING



- EdChoice Scholarship Provider
- Cleveland Scholarship Provider
- Financial Assistance Available
- Religion Class Taught Daily and Mass weekly
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## Ss. Robert and William Catholic School

216-731-3060 x. 220

[srwschool.cc](http://srwschool.cc)

[Ss. Robert and William Catholic School](#)

[srw.school](#)



## Ss. Robert & William Catholic Parish New and Improved Lenten Fish Fry

February 14, 16, 23, • March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 [4:30 pm - 6:30 pm]



Choose between: • Baked batter dipped Alaskan Pollock  
• Baked Atlantic Cod • Breaded Shrimp • Lake Perch (\$18)  
**\$15** All Meals include: • Mac-n-Cheese  
• Cilantro-Lime Coleslaw • Dinner roll  
• Fries • Homemade Desserts

Add Clam chowder soup for \$2 and add Pierogies for \$3.  
Take-out, and dine-in meals are available.

367 East 260th Street, Euclid OH 44132  
Order online at: [srweuclid.cc](http://srweuclid.cc)



## SRW FISH FRY \$2.00 OFF

Dine-in meals only. Valid for up to 4 people.  
Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer  
Expires 3/30/24

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Dine-in meals only. Valid for up to 4 people.  
Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer  
Expires 3/30/24



## PARISH STAFFS



**Fr. John D. Betters**, Pastor  
fjb@srweuclid.cc, ext. 228

**Fr. Thom Kowatch**, Parochial Vicar  
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**Rev. Gerald Bednar**, Priest in Residence  
ext. 115

**Rev. John Loya**, Priest in Residence  
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**Nathan Radell**, Director of Communications  
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**Terri Burrello**, Sacristan

**Tom Hagen**, Maintenance Director

**Anney Roach**, DRE  
aroach@srweuclid.cc, ext. 248

**Alex Ulle**, Director of Music  
aulle@srweuclid.cc, ext. 241



### SRW Confessions on Saturday at 2:30 pm

#### Parish Office Hours:

Monday—Friday: 8:00 am—4:00 pm

Closed Saturday & Sunday

367 E. 260th Street Euclid, OH 44132

216.731.1515 216.731.0300 (Fax)

info@srweuclid.cc www.srweuclid.cc



### SJC Confessions on Saturday at 3:00 pm

140 Richmond Road, Euclid, OH 44143

216-289-0770 | sjceuclid.com

SJC Prayer Hotline: 216-289-0770, Ext. 120

## PARISH FINANCES

The SRW Collection: for February 11 was \$7,845.00  
Loan Balance \$456,879.00  
February Faith Direct First Half was \$12,269.80

Please consider a donation to help lower our long-term debt.  
Please call me at the Parish Office at 216.731.1515 or email me  
at fjb@srweuclid.cc. Thank you very much for your continued  
generosity. ~Fr. John

## SJC Financial Stewardship

Sunday Giving 2/11/24.....was \$3,634.00  
Maintenance 2/11/24.....was \$636.00  
February Faith Direct First Half was \$4,382.00

## PRAYERS NEEDED



Please pray for... Eileen Baur, Phil Beebe, Brody Blazetic,  
Ken Brickman, Kenn Brickman, Robert Carney,  
Caesar Campanaro, Marianne Ellul, Parker Fine, Jim  
Gerity, Tom Golden, Ann Grossman, Jeanette Hocevar,  
Victoria Hodnik, Geraldine Hoffert, Patricia Johnston, Jela  
Katavic, John Kirk, Karen Long, Donna Lavdis, Dolly  
Luskin, Alice Martincic, James Molnar, Ann Monreal, Jim  
Moriarty, Bernard Novotney Sr., Ryan Parker, Kathleen  
Pavicic, Paul Pavicic, Kathleen Pfahl, Carl Phillips, Sheila  
Reese, John Smith, Roberta Szmania, Glenn Terrell,  
Rosemarie Terrell, Laverne Varga, and Stansa Zitnik



Evelyn Adamczyk, Ernie Deme, Helen Herman, Douglas  
Hoageson, Patricia Kavulich, Nancy O'Toole, Rudy Perme,  
Mary Rot, Marion Malovasic, Judy Schmidt, Rita Vaitkus,  
Kristina Velgrine, Don Wagner, and Marcie Williams

and all those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit.  
We thank, pray, and ask for God's blessings for those in the  
military and safety forces serving our community and country.  
We offer our deepest sympathy to the family of Richard  
Wrona and all those who have lost a loved one. May they  
know the peace and comfort of God's love, and find strength  
in the support of our parish community.