

Saint John of the Cross

Roman Catholic Parish



Labor Day Mass at 8:30am at the Shrine

September 2, 2018

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Second Blessings is Almost Here

Next weekend, September 8th and 9th is the Second Blessings Rummage Sale. The doors open at 8:00am with the Early Bird Specials. The admission is \$5.00 a person which is donated to the Euclid Hunger Task Force. The rummage sale continues 9:00am-6:00pm on Saturday and noon to 5:00 pm on Sunday. There are great bargains. This is the biggest year for donations. As in the past four years, a delicious bake sale with bakery from our own parishioners is included. Once again the Knights of Columbus are running a small café so stop for lunch or a snack when you are shopping. Bakers are still needed. Sign up after Mass this weekend. Volunteers are still needed to help with sales and clean up. Come meet some other parishioners. Please contact **Carla** at 216 970-0319 or cfcolo@gmail.com to volunteer. Any amount of time you give is a blessing to St. John of the Cross Parish. See you next weekend!



Our Parish Mission

We are the Catholic Community of St. John of the Cross, established in 2009. Uniting the people of God as one family, we are rooted in, and empowered by, our sacramental life and Eucharistic celebrations. Living as disciples of Jesus Christ, we recognize our God given potential and challenge one another to share our giftedness, embrace our diversity, and engage in social outreach, service and education. In doing so, we seek to extend the reign of God in Euclid and the wider community.



From Our Pope-Pope Francis



“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it” (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among the victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike. Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated. The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.

1. If one member suffers...In recent days, a report was made public which detailed the experiences of at least a thousand survivors, victims of sexual abuse, the abuse of power and of conscience at the hands of priests over a period of approximately seventy years. Even though it can be said that most of these cases belong to the past, nonetheless as time goes on we have come to know the pain of many of the victims. We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side he stands. Mary’s song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the Lord remembers the promise he made to our fathers: “he has scattered the proud in their conceit; he has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty” (Lk 1:51-53). We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.

With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives. We showed no care for the little ones; we abandoned them. I make my own the words of the then Cardinal Ratzinger when, during the Way of the Cross composed for Good Friday 2005, he identified with the cry of pain of so many victims and exclaimed: “How much filth there is in the Church, and even among those who, in the priesthood, ought to belong entirely to [Christ]! How much pride, how much self-complacency! Christ’s betrayal by his disciples, their unworthy reception of his body and blood, is certainly the greatest suffering endured by the Redeemer; it pierces his heart. We can only call to him from the depths of our hearts: *Kyrie eleison* – Lord, save us! (cf. Mt 8:25)” (Ninth Station).

2. ... all suffer together with it...The extent and the gravity of all that has happened requires coming to grips with this reality in a comprehensive and communal way. While it is important and necessary on every journey of conversion to acknowledge the truth of what has happened, in itself this is not enough. Today we are challenged as the People of God to take on the pain of our brothers and sisters wounded in their flesh and in their spirit. If, in the past, the response was one of omission, today we want solidarity, in the deepest and most challenging sense, to become our way of forging present and future history. And this in an environment where conflicts, tensions and above all the victims of every type of abuse can encounter an outstretched hand to protect them and rescue them from their pain (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 228). Such solidarity demands that we in turn condemn whatever endangers the integrity of any person. A solidarity that summons us to fight all forms of corruption, especially spiritual corruption. The latter is “a comfortable and self-satisfied form of blindness. Everything then appears acceptable: deception, slander, egotism and other subtle forms of self-centeredness, for ‘even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light’ (2 Cor 11:14)” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 165). Saint Paul’s exhortation to suffer with those who suffer is the best antidote against all our attempts to repeat the words of Cain: “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (*Gen 4:9*).

I am conscious of the effort and work being carried out in various parts of the world to come up with the necessary means to ensure the safety and protection of the integrity of children and of vulnerable adults, as well as implementing zero tolerance and ways of making all those who perpetrate or cover up these crimes accountable. We have delayed in applying these actions and sanctions that are so necessary, yet I am confident that they will help to guarantee a greater culture of care in the present and future.

Together with those efforts, every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls for a personal and communal conversion that makes us see things as the Lord does. For as Saint John Paul II liked to say: “If we have truly started out anew from the contemplation of Christ, we must learn to see him especially in the faces of those with whom he wished to be identified” (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 49). To see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence. To do so, prayer and penance will help. I invite the entire holy faithful People of God to a *penitential exercise of prayer and fasting*, following the Lord’s command.[1] This can awaken our conscience and arouse our solidarity and commitment to a culture of care that says “never again” to every form of abuse.

It is impossible to think of a conversion of our activity as a Church that does not include the active participation of all the members of God’s People. Indeed, whenever we have tried to replace, or silence, or ignore, or reduce the People of God to small elites, we end up creating communities, projects, theological approaches, spiritualities and structures without roots, without memory, without faces, without bodies and ultimately, without lives.[2] This is clearly seen in a peculiar way of understanding the Church’s authority, one common in many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred. Such is the case with clericalism, an approach that “not only nullifies the character of Christians, but also tends to diminish and undervalue the baptismal grace that the Holy Spirit has placed in the heart of our people”. [3] Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay persons, leads to an excision in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today. To say “no” to abuse is to say an emphatic “no” to all forms of clericalism.

It is always helpful to remember that “in salvation history, the Lord saved one people. We are never completely ourselves unless we belong to a people. That is why no one is saved alone, as an isolated individual. Rather, God draws us to himself, taking into account the complex fabric of interpersonal relationships present in the human community. God wanted to enter into the life and history of a people” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 6). Consequently, the only way that we have to respond to this evil that has darkened so many lives is to experience it as a task regarding all of us as the People of God. This awareness of being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within. Without the active participation of all the Church’s members, everything being done to uproot the culture of abuse in our communities will not be successful in generating the necessary dynamics for sound and realistic change. The penitential dimension of fasting and prayer will help us as God’s People to come before the Lord and our wounded brothers and sisters as sinners imploring forgiveness and the grace of shame and conversion. In this way, we will come up with actions that can generate resources attuned to the Gospel. For “whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 11).

It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable. Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion.

Likewise, penance and prayer will help us to open our eyes and our hearts to other people’s sufferings and to overcome the thirst for power and possessions that are so often the root of those evils. May fasting and prayer open our ears to the hushed pain felt by children, young people and the disabled. A fasting that can make us hunger and thirst for justice and impel us to walk in the truth, supporting all the judicial measures that may be necessary. A fasting that shakes us up and leads us to be committed in truth and charity with all men and women of good will, and with society in general, to combatting all forms of the abuse of power, sexual abuse and the abuse of conscience.

In this way, we can show clearly our calling to be “a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race” (*Lumen Gentium*, 1).

“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it”, said Saint Paul. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and as a community to this exhortation, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention and reparation. Mary chose to stand at the foot of her Son’s cross. She did so unhesitatingly, standing firmly by Jesus’ side. In this way, she reveals the way she lived her entire life. When we experience the desolation caused by these ecclesial wounds, we will do well, with Mary, “to insist more upon prayer”, seeking to grow all the more in love and fidelity to the Church (SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, *Spiritual Exercises*, 319). She, the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the sufferings of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice. To look to Mary is to discover the model of a true follower of Christ.

May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.

Scripture Readings for the Week

Sunday:

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
Psalms 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]
James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Monday:

1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Psalms 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 [97]
Luke 4:16-30

Tuesday:

1 Corinthians 2:10b-16
Psalms 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 [17]
Luke 4:31-37

Wednesday:

1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Psalms 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 [12]
Luke 4:38-44

Thursday:

1 Corinthians 3:18-23
Psalms 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [1]
Luke 5:1-11

Friday:

1 Corinthians 4:1-5
Psalms 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]
Luke 5:33-39

Saturday:

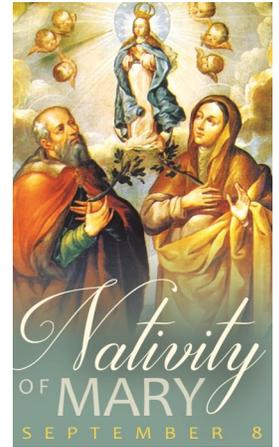
Micah 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30
Psalms 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]
Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Next Sunday:

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]
James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 3 8:30 am	St. Gregory the Great Iva Debevec
Tuesday, September 4 6:30 pm	Weekday Joseph Ross
Wednesday, September 5 8:00 am	Weekday Steve Kovelan
Thursday, September 6 6:30 pm	Weekday Patrick Wolowiecki
Friday, September 7 8:00 am	Weekday Del Mastrangelo
Saturday, September 8 4:00 pm	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Greg Lonchor
Sunday, September 9 9:00 am 11:00 am	Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time Peter & Marjorie D'Abato Santina Musarra



Pray for the Sick of the Parish and their Caregivers

Beverley Argento	Doris Kowalski	Joan Raddell
Jim Brown	Fr. Dennis Kristancic	Pat Rossoll
Noella Burrows	Mili Lekan	Martha Rymer
Chester Campana	Marie Lipold	Jerry Scarniench
Jane DePalma	Nadine Lucas	Judy Schmidt
Constance Durrah	Joe Matejka	Rose Simek
Mary Frain	Ronald Maxey	Carole Smigelski
Marie George	Rudy Myeress	Frank Somrack
Margaret Hasto	Jeff Monger	John Tarmann
John Hocevar	Larry O'Donnell	Abbie Vernon
Andrew Jarm	Linda Palko	
Betty Kovelan	Anna Pepock	

Remember our elderly and homebound in prayer as well.

Please notify the Parish Office when a name can be removed from this list.

**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PRAYER NETWORK HOTLINE
216-289-0770 ext. 27**

Call and leave a short message with your request. We can also offer prayers of thanksgiving. All information will be kept confidential.

Parish News & Events

Labor Day Mass

Come and celebrate Labor Day Mass with **Fr. John** on Monday, September 3 at 8:30 am at the Shrine.

Let us together join in consecrating our labor to the Lord.



“Each headstone marks a life,
and it marks a death.
But since death is not an end,
each headstone heralds a
beginning, too.”

The **Ministry of Consolation** will be cleaning and decorating graves at All Souls Cemetery on **Sunday, September 16 at 1 pm.**

If you have a loved one and you would like us to clean and decorate their plot, please contact the parish office with their name, section and plot number, and if they were a member of the Armed Services. If any parishioners would like to join us, please meet us in the office parking lot of All Souls at 1 pm.
(We will be going to Fosters for ice cream afterwards!)

Why Be Catholic

Are you curious about the Catholic faith but aren't sure where to even begin learning more? Are you Catholic and have a friend or relative who is interested in your Catholic faith? Then please join us for our **Why Be Catholic** night, **Tues., Sept 25 at 7 pm** in Meeting Room #1. You've got questions ... we can show you where to find the answers. We'll also explain the process of becoming Catholic and what's involved. Is God calling you to join the Catholic faith? Let's find out together.

Sunday Scripture Reflection (SSR)

Join **Fr. Tim Roth** for a Bible Study on Tuesday's at 9:00am in Meeting Room #1. Come and experience the living Word of God speak to you in the context of your daily life.

Parish Family Life Events

Membership

If you wish to become a member of our parish, complete the online form, visit the parish office or call us at 216.289.0770. We look forward to welcoming you!

Baptism

Expectant parents are to attend a Baptism Class prior to scheduling a Baptism. Contact the parish office to discuss arrangements.

Marriage

Wedding arrangements are to be made at least six months in advance. Contact **Fr. John** at the Parish Office.

Our Deepest Sympathies

Family of John Gorgon

May they know the peace and comfort of God's love and find strength in the support of friends, family and our parish community.

Save the Date: SJC Oktoberfest— October 27

The evening begins with a Polka Mass at 4 pm followed by a tradition German feast, music and dancing! If you would like to help or need more information, please call the parish office at (216) 289-0770.

More News & Events

Bocce with the Sisters

Last Thursday evening the Mercedarian Sisters joined us for 6:30pm Mass and then several games of bocce afterwards. It was an evening of healthy activity along with great fun and new friends!



Eucharistic Adoration

Experience the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament during **First Friday Adoration** on September 7. Come and refresh your spirit any time between 9 am and 4 pm. Our new location for Adoration is in the chapel.

Ss. Robert-William School



It's the most wonderful time of the year – the official start of school! **Ss. Robert and William Catholic School** opened the 2018-2019 school year with 431 students in Kindergarten through Grade 8. The Preschool has 46 students enrolled, including the Wee Warriors (3 year olds), Little Warriors (4 year old ½ Day) and Junior Warriors (4-5 year old All Day). We were thrilled to welcome 60 new families to our school community! There is no doubt that our strong reputation of providing a safe and nurturing learning environment of academic excellence is making Ss. Robert and William Catholic School the school of choice in Euclid and surrounding communities.

Your Financial Stewardship

Last Week Giving.....	\$4,677.00
Maintenance Giving.....	\$1,523.00
Online Giving.....	\$890.00
Online Maintenance Giving	\$60.50
Total	\$7,150.50

Thanks for your generous support toward our mission to serve God!

Parish Activities Schedule

Monday, September 3

8:30 am Mass at Shrine

Tuesday, September 4

9:00 am Bible Study (MR1)
5:30 pm Legion of Mary (Rm. 7)

Wednesday, September 5

Thursday, September 6

6:30 pm Bingo #2 (G)

Friday, September 7

8:00 pm AA Meeting (Rm. 6)

Saturday, September 8

7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Rm. 7)
9am-6pm Second Blessings Sale (PC)

Sunday, September 9

12-5pm Second Blessings Sale (PC)

C-Church
SHC-Sacred Heart Chapel
MR1-Meeting Room #1
PC-Parish Community Center
G-Gym
P-Parish Office
PG-Parish Grounds
Rm. 6-8 in Parish Community Center

Need to Know

Ministers Schedule — September 8-9, 2018

<i>Masses:</i>	<i>Presiders</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Lector 1</i>	<i>Lector 2</i>	<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	<i>Servers</i>
<i>Saturday 4 pm</i>	Fr. Thom Kowatch	J. Buda A. Molle	L. McVoy	M. McVoy	C. Barni, T. Brokamp, F. Buda, T. Burrello, P. McVoy, W. Nalepka, R. Raguz, S. Ruggeri	G. Brokamp K. Brokamp
<i>Sunday 9 am</i>	Fr. John Betters	M. Chinchar H. Drozin	L. Bochenek	C. Hainrihar	L. Ashcroft, M. Chinchar, T. Davisson, C. Gricar, M. Gricar, M. Somich, R. Somich, K. Sorc	A. Somich A. Somich
<i>Sunday 11 am</i>	Fr. Edward Mehok	D. Mallet R. Simek	L. Williams	J. Matlock	J. Berquist, E. Dulaney, A. Koballa, F. Koballa, K. Musarra, C. Preto, J. Solpa, T. Wetzel	C. Chapo E. Chapo

Visiting Eucharistic Ministers

Richmond Heights Hospital
 Wednesday, September 5.....**Chris H.**
 Grande Pointe
 Sunday, September 9.....**Legion of Mary**
 Waterford
 Sunday, September 9.....**Legion of Mary**

Counters

Monday, September 10..... **"A" Team**

Parish Staff & Office Hours

Rev. John D. Betters..... Administrator
 frjohn@saintjohnofthecross.org
Rev. Thomas Kowatch
 frkowatch@saintjohnofthecross.org
Rev. Edward E. Mehok
Rev. Tim Roth..... frroth@saintjohnofthecross.org
Rev. Mr. Charles DoerpersDeacon
Dr. Francesco Binda Director of Music
 fbinda@saintjohnofthecross.org
Terri Burrello Sacristan
Anita Linsky Office Manager
 secretary@saintjohnofthecross.org
Nancy PowellBookkeeper
 npowell@saintjohnofthecross.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:00 am–4:00 pm
 Saturday..... 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Mass Schedule-SJC

Celebration of Eucharist

Saturday Vigil..... 4:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday.. 8:00 am (Chapel)
 Tuesday & Thursday 6:30 pm (Chapel)
 Holy Days 8:00 am, noon, 6:30 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday..... 3:00—3:30 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule-SRW

Monday, Wednesday, Friday.... 12:00 pm
 Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 am
 Saturday..... 8:30 am