

# Saint John of the Cross

Roman Catholic Parish



When Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." Mark 12:34ab

November 4, 2018

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Gospel Meditation

"You are not far from the kingdom of God." What does it mean to be close to God's kingdom? Jesus is in a dialogue with teachers of the law. They know well the Law of Moses, with its complex codes, expectations, and punishments. What will Jesus say? "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The simplicity of the Gospel message doesn't mean it's easy to follow. The simplicity of the Gospel indicates its totality. Anything that requires the passions of our heart, the choice of our soul, the reason in our mind, or the strength of our body - all of this ought to be animated by love. As you can imagine, that means pretty much everything! The love of God and love of neighbor is meant to flow into our entire lives.

Not every outcast is easy to love. We lack the knowledge or compassion to heal everyone who suffers. Personal sacrifice is not always noticed or valued. In the face of the unknown, fear can be easier than faith. Life's circumstances can seem like obstacles to God's love, not opportunities. And yet Jesus' command still stands. As you reflect this week, examine those areas where it's easy to love. Thank God for them! But take some time to consider the people and circumstances that challenge you. Ask God to show you what it means to love there. How is He inviting you to enlarge your heart, strengthen your soul, open your mind, and persevere in your strength? How is He inviting you to love?

## 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 Administrator

Dear Parishioners,

Happy November! Time is flying by when you are having fun. This past November 1, I celebrated six months here at St. John of the Cross. I look forward to officially becoming your pastor on December 9. It is a real honor and privilege to shepherd and minister to and with such an incredible group of people. I feel doubly blessed to be able to serve two parish communities.

Recently I hosted three *Coffee with Fr. John* sessions. They were great opportunities for me to listen and share with small groups of parishioners. We focused on three areas:



## **What are the strengths of SJC?** I heard (and wholeheartedly agree):

The people! Plain and simple it is the warm and welcoming spirit that the parishioners have had in the way they approach one another as a parish community. You all have been strong, resilient and able to go with the flow. You all have a great spirit of joy and pride.

Excellent worship at Mass. This is complimented with a wonderful music ministry (one of the best in the Diocese in my opinion!), great liturgical ministers, great worship space and real sense of active participation in Mass.

A strong sense of service to the parish community, to Euclid and surrounding areas, to the church of Cleveland and the national/global church. This is especially evident in the partnership and support of the church in Nicaragua.

A spirit of determination to celebrate the first 10 years of SJC and to boldly move into the next decade of parish life.

## **What are some of the challenges of SJC?**

The biggest challenge that surfaced was how to attract to younger families and children to the parish. While the parish has experienced a decline in membership since 2010, it has seemed to level off the last few years and remaining fairly stable. However, the challenge is to help “fill the pews” so the future generations will embrace and move the parish forward. (As a side note, this challenge is not unique to SJC; it is a challenge in every parish!).

There were other challenges that were mentioned that are more “temporal” in nature and can be addressed fairly simply. They were concerns people brought to me to be aware of. For example the lack of a handicap restroom in the Community Center.

## **Thoughts on the Shared Pastorate.**

There was a sense the shared pastorate with SRW is working. It certainly is requiring some adjustments but I sensed people embraced having the three priests (and our beloved Fr. Mehok) ministering to and with them.

There was excitement that, hopefully around January 1, the priests will begin living at St. John of the Cross Rectory. We will keep rooms at both parishes and chances are a priest will be at each rectory every night based on schedules, etc.

A desire to look for opportunities for both parishes to work together in areas that make sense but each being able to keep its on focus and identity.

Concerns about SJC closing were expressed. I again **STRESS** the Bishop has not indicated anything even close to that to me and I stress to people please let go of this fear! It is based on pure speculation. We are in a very good place. We have challenges, not unlike most parishes, but I believe together we can embrace them and build on our strengths!

There was a lot more but I tried to summarize the key themes that arose in all three gatherings. They provided me with great energy and excitement! I look forward to continued conversations to continue and grow vibrancy.

On another note, thank you for everyone adjusting to the new Holy Communion Stations and procedures; we still have some kinks to work out but I think we are doing pretty well. I would remind you that when receiving the Precious Blood, please just receive a sip, please do not take a “gulp.” We want to make sure there is enough for everyone.

Make it a great week! See you in Church.

Peace.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'John D. Bettera'.

## Scripture Readings for the Week

### Sunday:

Deuteronomy 6:2-6  
Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 12:28b-34

### Monday:

Philippians 2:1-4  
Psalms 131:1bcde, 2, 3  
Luke 14:12-14

### Tuesday:

Philippians 2:5-11  
Psalms 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32 [26a]  
Luke 14:15-24

### Wednesday:

Philippians 2:12-18  
Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]  
Luke 14:25-33

### Thursday:

Philippians 3:3-8a  
Psalms 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [3b]  
Luke 15:1-10

### Friday:

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12  
Psalms 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [5]  
1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17  
John 2:13-22

### Saturday:

Philippians 4:10-19  
Psalms 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9  
Luke 16:9-15

### Next Sunday:

1 Kings 17:10-16  
Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, November 5 8:00 am (JB)	Weekday <b>St. John of the Cross Parish Family</b>
Tuesday, November 6 6:30 pm (TR)	Weekday <b>Maureen Szckelyi</b>
Wednesday, November 7 8:00 am (EM)	Weekday <b>Kathy Avcin</b>
Thursday, November 8 6:30 pm (TK)	Weekday <b>Lillian Dolenc</b>
Friday, November 9 8:00 am (TR)	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica <b>St. John of the Cross Parish Family</b>
Saturday, November 10 4:00 pm (JB)	St. Leo the Great <b>Joseph &amp; Katherine Gregur</b>
Sunday, November 11 9:00 am (EM) 11:00 am (JB)	Thirty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time <b>Josie Pophal</b> <b>Newt &amp; Ginny Baker</b>



## Pray for the Sick of the Parish and their Caregivers

Beverley Argento	Doris Kowalski	Joan Raddell
Noella Burrows	Mili Lekan	Bill Richards
Chester Campana	Marie Lipold	Pat Rossoll
Skip Casamatta	Mary Jane Lowery	Martha Rymer
Jane DePalma	Bob Lucas	Jerry Scarniench
Constance Durrah	Joe Matejka	Judy Schmidt
Mary Frain	Ronald Maxey	Rose Simek
Marie George	Rudy Myeress	Carole Smigelski
Margaret Hasto	Carla Moore	Frank Somrack
John Hocevar	Larry O'Donnell	John Tarmann
Andrew Jarm	Linda Palko	Abbie Vernon
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



## Fr. Mehok's Scripture Study

The Gospel of St. Luke will be studied on Monday evenings at 7:30pm in Room 6 in the Parish Community Center.

## Scripture Study

Join **Fr. Tim Roth** and **Anney Roach** for Scripture Reflection on Tuesday's at 9:15am in Meeting Room #2. 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 to the

#### Family of Ken Makar

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

## Keep Christ in Christmas

Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of St. John of the Cross and share your faith with these beautiful yard displays!

For more information or to order online visit: [www.nativitytree.com/sjoc](http://www.nativitytree.com/sjoc) or contact Annette Koballa at 216-691-0198.



Bell Nativity \$75. Joy Nativity-3pc. \$195. Nativity Tree \$70.

## Flocknote

We love having you as part of our flock!

Let's keep in touch! Get important updates via email & text

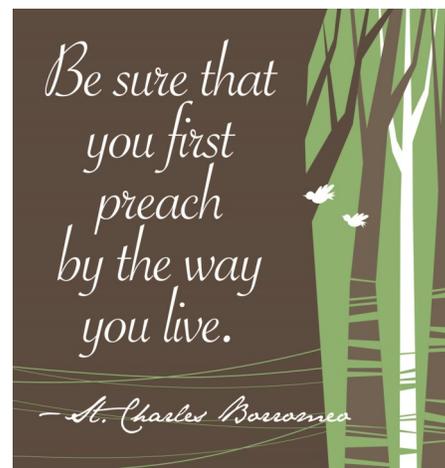
This new tool we're using lets you choose what info you'd like to receive - via email or text message - from the various ministries and groups in our parish. You can unsubscribe any time.



Go to: [www.flocknote.com/StJohnoftheCrossEuclid](http://www.flocknote.com/StJohnoftheCrossEuclid)

or

Text **SJOCEUCLID** to **84576** from your phone to subscribe





# Oktoberfest Success!

Toes were tapping and smiles all around for another successful Oktoberfest.

*Vielen Dank* (thank you very much) to all

the volunteers and the polka music from the Joey Tomsick Orchestra!



# More News & Events

## Ss. Robert and William Catholic School:

Learning does not take place only in the classroom. The SRW third grade students learned a great deal on a field trip to the Pioneer Village at Lake County Historical Society. They traveled all the way back to 1820! The students learned what life was like for a pioneer child; making candles, doing house chores, and attending a one room school house. They learned a lot, and decided it was fun for just **ONE** day. All were in agreement that **2018** is much better!



## Your Financial Stewardship

Last Week Giving.....	\$3,941.00
Maintenance Giving.....	\$569.00
Online Giving.....	\$1,027.00
Online Maintenance Giving .....	\$277.50
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$5,814.50</b>

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

## Borromeo Seminary's "Novemberfest"

Come Saturday, November 10th; 5-8:00pm for Borromeo's Annual Italian Dinner. Adults; \$10., Children 6-12; \$5. Children under 6; free. Dinner tickets will be sold at the door until 7:30pm, no reservations needed. Proceeds will benefit the activity fund for the college seminarians. For more information, please call 440-943-7600.

What a wonderful way to support our seminarians who are discerning God's calling in their lives. This year there are a record number of seminarians enrolled in the Seminary. They need our support and love.

## Pancake Breakfast

The St. John of the Cross Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast next Sunday, November 11, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., to raise money for the VA Hospital. Make plans to enjoy pancakes, sausage, bacon, and eggs for a most worthy cause. As usual, there is no charge. Donations will be accepted with the proceeds to be given to the VA Hospital.

## Parish Activities Schedule

### Monday, November 5

- 6:30 pm Art & Environment (C)
- 7:30 pm Fr. Mehok's Scripture Study (Rm. 6)

### Tuesday, November 6

- 9:15 am Scripture Reflection (MR2)
- 5:15 pm Legion of Mary (Rm. 7)

### Wednesday, November 7

- 7:00 pm Choir Practice (C)

### Thursday, November 8

- 6:30 pm Bingo #3 (G)
- 7:00 pm Evangelization & Spiritual Life Mtg (MR2)

### Friday, November 9

- 5:00 pm Girl Scout Mtg (PCB)
- 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Rm. 6)

### Saturday, November 10

- 7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Rm. 6)

### Sunday, November 11

- 9:15 am PSR (PC)
- 9am-1pm Pancake Breakfast (G)
- 11:00 am Rite of Enrollment (C)

C-Church

SHC-Sacred Heart Chapel

MR2-Meeting Room #2

PC-Parish Community Center

PCB-Parish Community Basement

G-Gym

P-Parish Office

PG-Parish Grounds

Rm. 6-8 in Parish Community Center



# SJC 10th Anniversary; Be part of the celebration!

## Opening Concert

Friday, November 30th at 7pm followed by light refreshments

## Opening Mass

Saturday, December 1st at 4pm Mass followed by a wine and appetizer reception.

Look for many exciting events and guest speakers throughout the year's celebration.



## Need to Know

### Visiting Eucharistic Ministers

Richmond Heights Hospital  
Wednesday, November 7 ..... **Kathy**

Grande Pointe  
Sunday, November 11 ..... **Legion of Mary**

### Counters

Monday, November 12 ..... **"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 Doerpers** ..... Deacon

**Dr. Francesco Binda** ..... Director of Music  
fbinda@saintjohnofthecross.org

**Terri Burrello**.....Sacristan

**Jim Granito**.....Business Manager  
jgranito@saintjohnofthecross.org

**Anita Linsky**..... Office Manager  
secretary@saintjohnofthecross.org

**Nancy Powell** .....Bookkeeper  
npowell@saintjohnofthecross.org

**Anney Roach**.....DRE  
aroach@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