

Saint John of the Cross

Roman Catholic Parish



April 7, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Parish Staff

Rev. John D. Betters.....Pastor
frjohn@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 103

Rev. Thomas Kowatch
frkowatch@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 121

Rev. Edward E. Mehok

Rev. Timothy J. Roth
frroth@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 122

Rev. Mr. Charles Doerpers.....Deacon

Dr. Francesco Binda.....Director of Music
fbinda@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 104

Luke Brown.....Wellness Minister
lbrown@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 106

Terri Burrello.....Sacristan

Jim Granito.....Business Manager
jgranito@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 102

Anita Linsky.....Office Manager
alinsky@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 100

Nancy Powell.....Bookkeeper
npowell@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 101

Anney Roach.....DRE
aroach@sjceucld.com.....Ext. 105

Mass Schedule-SJOC

Celebration of Eucharist

Saturday Vigil.....4:00 pm

Sunday.....9:00 am & 11:00 am

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:00 am (Chapel)

Tuesday and 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

Friday.....7:00 pm

Saturday.....8:30 am

From Our Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Happy 5th Week of Lent. Jesus' promise of eternal life is a central element of our Catholic faith. Even though Easter is still two weeks away, our Gospel today invites us to acknowledge Jesus' power over death, evidenced in the raising of Lazarus, and to anticipate Jesus' conquering of death once and for all in his death and Resurrection. We sometimes use examples from nature to help describe this mystery of our faith. Jesus himself talked about the seed that dies when planted in the ground in order to produce new life (John 12:24). Using that image and others, we find hope and confidence in Jesus, the Resurrection and the life.



In 2002/2003, Saint John Paul II promulgated a new version of the English version of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* that outlines and guides how Mass is celebrated. One of the guidelines for postures during Mass says, "A common bodily posture, to be observed by all those taking part, is a sign of the unity of the members of the Christian community gathered together for the Sacred Liturgy, for it expressed the intentions and spiritual attitude of the participants and also fosters them. Likewise, a lack of uniformity can serve as sign of disunity or promote a sense of individualism." In 2003, **Bishop Pilla** promulgated that in the Diocese of Cleveland in regards to the posture for the Communion Rite that all the people will remain standing after the Lamb of God, throughout the distribution and reception of Holy Communion and the singing of the Communion Hymn, until the end of the distribution of Holy Communion. Once the last person receives Holy Communion and the Communion Hymn ends, the people may kneel or sit for private prayer **Bishop Perez** has commented to the priests that as he has traveled the Diocese he has seen quite wide variety of adaptations of postures. He has asked that starting Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28, every parish in the Diocese of Cleveland follow the promulgation of **Bishop Pilla** in 2003. He is asking us to join together as a Diocese and show our unity as we all receive Jesus, Himself, in Holy Communion. **Therefore we here at SJC will do this starting April 28.** Since we already follow most of this the major change here at SJC will be at after the last person receives Holy Communion the Communion Hymn will end and the cantor will invite the congregation to kneel or sit for private prayer. We will not have post Communion reflection songs for a few months as we adapt to this private prayer time. **Francesco** and I will work together to find a way to incorporate them again while being reflective of this directive.

Divine Mercy Sunday is Sunday, April 28. St. John Paul II started Divine Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter, so that all might know and experience the "divine and awesome" mercy of our loving God. Our God loves each of us so much! He knows that we have sinned and welcomes us back through His grace. He desires to walk with us and even hold us up at times on our journey of life. He encourages us to seek Him. See the box insert to the right for the schedule of events for Divine Mercy Sunday that will be held at Ss. Robert & William. I strongly encourage you to plan on attending.

Have a great week! See you in Church!

Peace, **Fr. John**

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28

From the diary of a young Polish nun, Saint Faustina, a special devotion to the mercy of God is spreading throughout the world. The message is a reminder of what the Church has always taught: God is merciful and forgiving and we too must show mercy and forgiveness. A special novena of prayer begins on Good Friday and continues through the Sunday after Easter.

Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, after the 11:00 am
Mass until 2:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation
12:00 noon - 1:45pm
Closing Prayer Service and
Benediction 2:00 pm

Scripture Readings for the Week

Sunday:

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalms 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]
Philippians 3:8-14
John 8:1-11

Monday:

Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62

Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]
John 8:12-20

Tuesday:

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalms 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]
John 8:21-30

Wednesday:

Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95
Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]
John 8:31-42

Thursday:

Genesis 17:3-9
Psalms 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]
John 8:51-59

Friday:

Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalms 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]
John 10:31-42

Saturday:

Ezekiel 37:21-28
Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]
John 11:45-56

Next Sunday:

Luke 19:28-40
Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalms 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]
Philippians 2:6-11
Luke 22:14--23:56 or 23:1-49

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, April 8
8:00 am (JB)

Lenten Weekday
Jonathan Antenucci

Tuesday, April 9
6:30 pm (TR)

Lenten Weekday
Margaret Berkopec

Wednesday, April 10
8:00 am (TR)

Lenten Weekday
Robert Kravos

Thursday, April 11
6:30 pm (TK)

Lenten Weekday
Lita Pignatiello

Friday, April 12
8:00 am (TK)

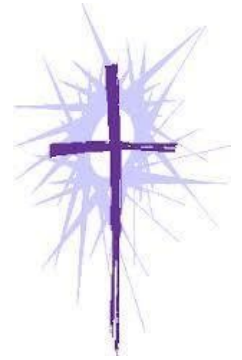
Lenten Weekday
Mary Somrack

Saturday, April 13
4:00 pm (TK)

Lenten Weekday
John Sustar

Sunday, April 14
9:00 am (JB)
11:00 am (TR)

Palm Sunday
St. John of the Cross Parish Family
Elaine Sustarsic & Children



Pray for the Sick of the Parish and their Caregivers

Beverley Argento
Noella Burrows
Matthew Dolenc
Constance Durrah
Mary Frain
Margaret Hasto
John Hocevar
Andrew Jarm
Anna Jalovec
Doris Kowalski

Lucille Kucharski
Marie Lipold
Mary Jane Lowery
Bob Lucas
Joe Matejka
Ronald Maxey
Rudy Myeress
Carla Moore
Sheila Moore-Baka
Larry O'Donnell

Linda Palko
Joan Raddell
Pat Rossoll
Martha Rymer
Jerry Scarniench
Judy Schmidt
Rose Simek
Frank Somrack
John Tarmann
Abbie Vernon

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. 120

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

Communal Penance

Monday, April 8; 6:30pm at Ss. Robert & William
Parish 367 E. 260th St

(includes Individual Confessions)

An opportunity for us to gather as Catholic communities to pray for and accept God's merciful love and receive the graces we need to make good choices. Frs. John, Thom, and Tim will be there along with a number of other priests.



"The joy of God is the joy of forgiveness."

—Pope Francis

Corporal Works of Mercy

"There's not a prisoner that doesn't seek to attain a stamp...The stamp (outside of a visit or illegal means) is the ONLY item that can connect you to the outside world. Everything you send out ... must be mailed through the mail room and postal system. There is no fax, text, email...so, we are looking at thousands of prisoners buying thousands of stamps." - Kenneth Foster, a prison writer

During the month of April, we at SJOC have a chance to perform one of the Corporal Works of Mercy, helping the imprisoned, by donating new stamps. Help us celebrate our Anniversary by putting stamps in an envelope (marked Stamps) and dropping the envelope either in the collection basket or at the parish offices. Thank you for your generosity!

"Passover for Christians"

Ss. Robert & William
Women's Fellowship invites
all women to share a
"Passover for Christians"
Saturday, April 13th, 9:15–
11:15 am, St. John of the
Cross Gym.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!

Call 216-731-1515 by
Monday, April 8th

SJC Fish Bake on Good Friday

**Community Center, April 19
(Good Friday) , 4:30—6:45pm**

\$10 pre sale tickets-return form
below by April 17. \$12 per
person (Children 10 and under:
\$6) at the door. Baked Batter-
Dipped Alaskan Pollock, Baked
Atlantic Cod, Fries, Mac-N-
Cheese, Coleslaw, Clam
Chowder, and Beverage. Take
Out available for \$12 per
person.

Pre Sale Fish Bake Tickets; \$10

Return to
Parish Office
before April 17.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Number of Tickets: x \$10 each =



Lent is almost over! We are in the final stretch now and I pray that you are remaining steadfast in your Lenten sacrifices and prayer. This week, I want to discuss failure. If you're like me, you have had some slip-ups since Ash Wednesday. You may have failed one day at whatever you gave up for Lent and now you might think that since you

already fell, you might as well give up for the remainder of Lent. When we fall it can be hard to get back up, especially if it's the same reason we have fallen numerous times before. Priests often say that people going to confession will say, "It feels like I'm saying the same thing every time we meet." However, we cannot give up. To give up is to despair, and despair means depression. Sometimes, the Catholics I see who are depressed and have given up hope have forgotten the confessional and the Paschal Mystery. The simple truth is that we will never pray enough, try enough, or learn enough to never sin again in this lifetime. This is why regular confession is so important to our spiritual lives and mental health. If we keep hope for Heaven and salvation, we will not give up when we fail. We cannot underestimate or put limits on the healing power of God as if it doesn't apply to us because we have failed so often. Consider praying for the gift of hope for the remainder of Lent. If you have failed on your Lenten sacrifice, pick yourself up and press on the same way Christ did when carrying His cross.

With prayers.....**Luke Brown**

Adult Ed Series

Join our priests for an opportunity to go deeper in their faith on Tuesday evenings at 7PM in the chapel. The topics are based off of your suggestions and interests:

4/9—The Mystery of suffering: sharing in the cross of Christ
(Fr. Tim Roth)

Posture at Mass

Bishop Perez has sent three brief articles in regards to the diocesan policy of posture at Mass. The second article can be found on page 7.

Your Financial Stewardship

Last week's collections will be posted in next weekend's bulletin.

Parish Family Life Events

Our Doors Are Open:

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family and marital situation, no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc., no matter what your own self image, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here at St. John of the Cross. To become a registered parishioner, please pick up a form at the parish office or visit our website at www.sjceclid.com

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.

Bocce Sign Ups

Bocce Sign Ups for Women's (Wednesday nights) and Mixed Couples (Friday nights) leagues forms are in the gathering area. For more information please call **Joanne Myeress** at 216-261-4190 or **Barb Grauel** at 216-486-5276.

Parish News & Events



Palm Sunday April 14

Vigil Mass 4:00 pm
Sunday Masses 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Holy Thursday April 18

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
until 10:00 pm

Good Friday April 19

Passion Service 3:00 pm
Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday April 20

Blessing of the Easter Food 1:00 pm
Easter Vigil 7:30 pm (No 4:00 pm Mass on this day)

Easter Sunday April 21

Masses 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Parish Activities Schedule

Monday, April 8

6:30 pm Communal Penance (SRW)
6:30 pm Passion Bible Study (G)

Tuesday, April 9

9:15 am Scripture Reflection (MR2)
5:15 pm Legion of Mary (MR2)
6:30 pm Bereavement Support (MR2)
6:30 pm Bingo # 4 (G)
7:00 pm Adult Ed Series (SHC)
7:00 pm Parish Council (Rm. 10)

Wednesday, April 10

7:00 pm Women of Faith (Rm. 10)
7:00 pm Prayer Shawl (MR2)
7:00 pm Choir (C)

Thursday, April 11

7:00 pm Spiritual & Evangelization Meeting (MR2)

Friday, April 12 *

8:30 am Stations (SHC)
8:00 pm AA Meeting (Rm. 10)

Saturday, April 13

7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (Rm. 10)
8-12 pm SRW Women's Fellowship (G)

Sunday, April 14

9:15 am PSR (PC)

C-Church G-Gym
P-Parish Office PG-Parish Grounds
SHC-Sacred Heart Chapel
MR2-Meeting Room #2
PC-Parish Community Center
PCL-Parish Community Center Library
Rm. 10 in Parish Community Center
SRW-Ss. Robert & William

* Day of Abstinence

** Day of Fast & Abstinence

Visiting Eucharistic Ministers

R.H. Hospital Wednesday, April 10.....Katie
Grande Pointe Sunday, April 14.....Legion of Mary

Counters

Monday, April 15 "B" Team



Postures and Gestures

In the celebration of the Mass, we raise our hearts and our minds to God. Yet, we are creatures of body as well as spirit, so our prayer is not confined to our minds and hearts. It is expressed by our bodies as well. When we pray with our whole person, it helps us to pray with greater attentiveness. During Mass, we assume different postures - standing, kneeling, sitting - and we are invited to make a variety of gestures. These postures and gestures are not merely ceremonial. They have profound meaning and when done with understanding, can enhance our participation in the Mass. From the earliest days of the Church, this posture has been understood as the stance of those who have risen with Christ and seek the things which are above. By Baptism we have been given a fuller share in the life of God and the posture of standing is an acknowledgement of this wonderful gift. Standing is a sign of respect and honor, so we stand as the celebrant, who represents Christ, enters and leaves the assembly. We stand when we address God in the various prayers of the Mass; we assume our full stature before God, not in pride, but in humble gratitude for the marvelous things God has done in creating and redeeming each one of us. We stand for the proclamation of the Gospel which recalls the words and deeds of the Lord. The bishops of the United States have chosen standing as the normative posture to be observed for the reception of Communion. In the early Church, kneeling signified penance. So thoroughly was kneeling identified with penance that the early Christians were forbidden to kneel on Sundays and during the Easter season, when the prevailing spirit of the Liturgy was one of joy and thanksgiving. In the Middle Ages, kneeling came to signify homage, and more recently this posture has come to signify adoration, especially before the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It is for this reason that the bishops of this country have chosen the posture of kneeling during the entire Eucharistic Prayer. Sitting is a posture of listening and meditation, so the assembly sits for the pre-Gospel readings and the homily and may also sit for the period of meditation following Communion. All should strive to assume a seated posture during the Mass that is attentive rather than merely at rest. Every procession in the Liturgy is a sign of the pilgrim Church, the body of those who believe in Christ, on their way to the Heavenly Jerusalem. The Mass begins with the procession of the priests and ministers to the altar. The Book of the Gospels is carried in procession to the ambo. The gifts of bread and wine are carried forward to the altar (The word "Offertory" comes from *offerre*, "to carry toward"). Members of the assembly come forward in processions to receive Holy Communion. We who believe in Christ are moving from time to time toward that moment when we will leave this world and enter into the joy of the Lord in the eternal kingdom he has prepared for us. Because it was by his death on the Cross that Christ redeemed humankind, we begin and end Mass by marking ourselves with the Sign of the Cross. The cross reminds us in a physical

way of the Paschal Mystery we celebrate: the Death and Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. We dip our hand in the holy water and make the Sign of the Cross on ourselves as a reminder of our baptism in which we share in the dying and rising of Christ. We trace the Sign of the Cross on our foreheads, lips, and hearts at the beginning of the Gospel, praying that the word of God may always be in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts. Bowing signifies reverence, respect, and gratitude. In the Creed, we bow at the words which commemorate the Incarnation. We also bow as a sign of reverence before we receive Communion. The priest and other ministers bow to the altar, a symbol of Christ, when entering or leaving the sanctuary. As a sign of respect and reverence even in our speech, we bow our heads at the name of Jesus, at the mention of the Three Persons of the Trinity, at the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and at the name of the saint whose particular feast or memorial is being observed. As a sign of adoration, we genuflect by bringing our right knee to the floor. Many people also make the Sign of the Cross as they bend their knee. Traditionally, Catholics genuflect on entering and leaving the church if the Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary. The priest also genuflects in adoration after he shows the Body and Blood of Christ to the people after the consecration and again before inviting the people to Holy Communion. The priest frequently uses this ancient prayer posture, extending his hands from his sides, slightly elevated. "Orans" means "praying." Early Christian art frequently depicts the saints and others standing in this posture, offering their prayers and surrendering themselves, with hands uplifted to the Lord. It is a gesture that echoes Christ's outstretched arms as he offered himself on the Cross. In this rarely used posture, an individual lays full-length on the floor, face to the ground. A posture of deep humility, it signifies our willingness to share in Christ's Death so as to share in his Resurrection (Romans 6). The gesture is used at the beginning of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday and during the Litany of the Saints at Ordination, when those to be ordained deacons, priests, and bishops prostrate themselves in humble prayer and submission to Christ. The Church sees in these common postures and gestures both a symbol of the unity of those who have come together to worship and also a means of fostering that unity. We are not free to change these postures to suit our own individual piety, for the Church makes it clear that our unity of posture and gesture is an expression of our participation in the one Body formed by the baptized with Christ, our Head. When we stand, kneel, bow, and sign ourselves in common action, we give witness that we are indeed the Body of Christ, united in body, mind, and voice.

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