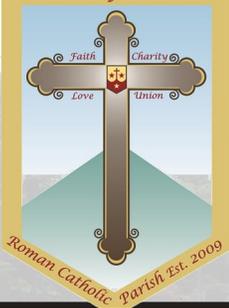


St. John of the Cross



Saint John of the Cross

Roman Catholic Parish

140 Richmond Rd. Euclid, OH 44143 216-289-0770

Dear Parishioners,

Happy First weekend of August! We have been back at Mass for two months now. I would say things are going smoothly and appreciate your patience and cooperation. These are certainly uncharted waters and nothing that the Seminary prepared us for! However, the Seminary did prepare us to listen carefully to the promptings of God working through the messiness of our lives.

In a very gentle, loving way I would like to address the issue of Mass attendance. As you know, the Bishops of Ohio have granted a dispensation from our obligation to attend Mass on Sunday (Saturday Vigil). I really appreciate the pastoral nature of this dispensation as they do not want anyone to get sick or to have anxiety and fear in attending Mass. I am not sure how long this dispensation will be in effect. My guess is that it will be this way through at least November/December. With that said, I would like to offer a few thoughts:

The "Sunday" obligation comes from the Catholic understanding of the third commandment, "Keep Holy the Sabbath." It is a command from God in which he asks us for one hour a week for worship and love with Him and our sisters and brothers in Christ. It is not that He (God) needs us there but that He knows we need to be there.

While I understand why a lot of people are hesitant to come back to Mass at this time; I want to assure you that we have many safety protocols in place. We thoroughly clean the church several times a day with our staff and have it professionally cleaned three times a week. We focus on sanitizing all surfaces. We have limited access with doors open, so you need not "touch" a door to get in. We have spaced out seating, so you are only sitting by yourself or people you feel comfortable sitting near. We have sanitizing stations at the entrances. We bring you Holy Communion, so you do not process up. We do not do the sign of peace to one another. Finally, at all indoor Masses, we require masks to be worn. (Outdoor Masses, masks are encouraged but not required).

There are people who have genuine reason not to be "out" during the pandemic. I think for anyone in a vulnerable population it makes sense and should stay home as much as possible. These are the very people the dispensation is for and why we work hard to provide good, quality LIVESTREAMING. For others, I think we need to use common sense and take the necessary precautions we should to be in church. We need to come before our good and loving God and ask His help and intercession. We need to receive His Word and receive Him in the Eucharist. As a shepherd and pastor I am very worried about people I know who are not attending Mass yet going out to restaurants, entertainment, family gatherings, etc. I realize that Mass from the comfort of your home can be a nice thing, but we need you in our community. I am not trying to use any good old fashioned "Catholic" guilt. I say this out a place of real love and genuine concern. I invite you to pray and reflect on these thoughts. For some, the decision would be good to still stay home, for others I hope you will come back to the Lord and your parish community. Ask the Lord for guidance. I know He will give it to you.

Please pray for the four men who are being ordained this Friday as Transitional Deacons, anticipating Priesthood ordination next May. The ordination is being held at SRW because of a scheduling conflict at the Seminary and Cathedral. Quite an honor!

Make it a great week! Hope to see you at the SRW Tailgate on August 8.

Peace,

Fr. John

From Our Pastor



St. John of the Cross (140 Richmond Road):

Masses:

Saturday Vigil at 4 pm.

Sunday, 7:45 am. (in the shrine weather permitting); & 10:15 am

Monday, 8:30 am

Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, 8:30 am

Thursday, 6:30 pm

Morning Prayer:

Friday, 8:30 am

Adoration:

Adoration in the Church every Friday, 9 am to 2 pm.

Masses At Ss. Robert & William:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 11:30 am

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday: 8:30 am

*All six SRW Masses will be

LIVESTREAMED

Confessions:

St. John of the Cross Saturday 3 pm; and Ss. Robert & William Saturday 2:30 pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday — 8 am to 1 pm

CONCERT OF HOPE

Ss. Robert & William

Wednesday, August 5, 2020— Public Welcome

Also LIVESTREAMED @ srweucld.cc

MASS INTENTION CHANGES

As you may be aware, mass times have changed. We are in the process of contacting anyone who has a scheduled mass intention in the upcoming months to advise of the new mass times. If you have not been called, please note the following:

Mass intentions on Mondays and Wednesdays, previously scheduled at 8 am, will now be at 8:30 am.

Mass Intentions on Sundays, previously scheduled at 9 am, will now be at 7:45 am the 10 am will now be at 10:15 am.

THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULED FRIDAY MASSES. If you have not yet been contacted to reschedule your mass intention, please feel free to call Karen in the office at 216-289-0770, x100.

Weekday Masses Are Back



God is Good All the Time
All the Time God is Good.

Starting August 3 Weekdays —
Masses are as follows:

Monday: 8:30 AM

Tuesday: 6:30 PM

Wednesday : 8:30 AM

Thursday: 6:30 PM

Friday: 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, August 3

8:30 AM (JB//TS) † St. John of the Cross Parish Family

Tuesday, August 4

6:30 PM (JB/TS) † Jane DePalma

Wednesday, August 5

8:30 AM (AM) † St. John of the Cross Parish Family

Thursday, August 6

6:30 PM (AM/TS) † St. John of the Cross Parish Family

Friday, August 7

No Mass (Morning Prayer)

Saturday, August 8

4 PM (AM/TS-P) † John & Mary Semen

Sunday, August 9

7:45 AM (JB/TS-P) † Raycher Family

10:15 AM (AM/TS-P) † Arthur Scott



As Catholic Charities continues to bring help and hope to our neighbors in need, we never lose sight of how grateful and appreciative we are of you, our faithful supporters.

Thanks to the generosity of **204 parishioners** at St. John of the Cross, you have exceeded your parish goal by raising **\$41,564** for the 2020 Annual Appeal! We're thrilled that you've reached **104% of your goal** but that does not mean the Appeal is over.

Every day, Catholic Charities sees an increase in requests for services and programs that are proven to transform lives. The need continues and we hope your support will also continue.

Together, we can make a difference.

LUKE BROWN'S REFLECTION

In this week's second reading, St. Paul tells us that nothing will separate us from the love of Christ. Although our sin may cut us off temporarily from sanctifying grace, it can always be regained through an honest and authentic reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Often, I hear people say that they are not deserving of God's love because of their sinfulness. While none of us deserve God's love, it is granted to all of us as a gift. I often meet people who believe that their sin is "different" and "worse" than the sins of their neighbor and thus feel worthless, inferior, and despairing. While there are different levels of sin and some are worse than others, we cannot get trapped in the mindset that our sins cannot be forgiven or that we are somehow special or unique in our sinfulness. If we do this, we are really doubting the amount of God's love, which we know to be infinite and without limit. This is simply pride revisited in a different form and is the opposite of humility since we are implying that our sins are so grand and severe that even God cannot forgive us. Sins of any kind are a drop in the ocean compared to God's love, mercy, and grace. If you believe you are a sinner, you are correct. However, take heart in God's love and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation whenever you feel as if you have sinned. After you do, commit to being better, pray more, forget about your sins, and move on. If you do this regularly, I will wager that your mental health will improve!



Worth the Wait! Our second grade students, Gerald and Hailie, received their First Holy Communion during a beautiful mass on Sunday, July 26. Many thanks to their teacher, Julie Matlock, and their parents for preparing them for this Sacrament!





Adoration

Our new Adoration schedule begins on Friday, August 7, with Morning Prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 8:30 am. This is scheduled every Friday with continual **Adoration from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**. Next Friday, **August 7**, is also **First Friday**. We hope you can come and stay awhile with Our Lord. Here are a few ideas listed in a January 2020 Bulletin. Recent events give new meaning to the following suggestions:

- Pray as you can, not as you cannot.
- Tell Jesus something that made you happy
Then listen.
- Speak about your loved ones.
- Talk with Him about ...
- Be aware that He is sending out graces to

Euclid Hunger Center-

We are happy to announce that dropping off items for the Euclid Hunger Center here at St. John of the Cross have resumed.

You may drop off your donations at the Church.

PRAYERS FOR

Evelyn Adamczak
John Ballard
Noella Burrows
Barbara Contorno
Constance Durrah
Mary Frain
John Hocevar
Andrew Jarm
Anna Jalovec
Nick Kaluza
Joe Matejka
Ronald Maxey
Sheila Moore-Baka
Rudy Myeress

Larry O'Donnell
Linda Palko
Joan Raddell
Pat Rossoll
Mary Rot
Jerry Scarniench
Judy Schmidt
Rose Simek
John Tarmann
Rita Vaitkus
Abbie Vernon

*Please notify us
when a name can
removed from list.*

Parish Staff

Rev. John D. Betters, Pastor
frjohn@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 103

Rev. Edward E. Mehok

Rev. Andrew Morkunas, Parochial Vicar
frandrew@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 108

Rev. Gerald Bednar, Priest in Residence

Rev. John Loya, Priest in Residence

Deacon Tom Shetina, Deacon
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Dr. Francesco Binda, Director of Music
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Anney Roach, Director of Religious Education
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Luke Brown, Wellness Minister
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Karen Duke, Office Manager
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Jim Granito, Business Manager
jgranito@sjceuclyd

Tom Hagen, Maintenance Director

Nancy Powell, Spiritual Care Minister
npowell@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 101

SJC Prayer 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.

Your Financial Stewardship

Last Week's Giving:.....	\$3,755.46
Last Week's Maintenance Giving.....	\$1,098.00
Faith Direct 2nd Half Month Giving	\$3,335.50
Faith Direct 2nd Half Month Maintenance....	\$1,068.50

***Online Faith Direct Collections will be posted twice a month for both Giving and Maintenance.**

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