Saint John of the Cross

Euclid, Ohio — Roman Catholic Parish

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time — February 7, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

FJB BLOG

Happy February! I hope this short month is off to a good start for you. Last week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week at the Guardian Angels Early Learning Center and Ss. Robert & William Catholic School. With the pandemic, the celebration was a bit different, but it still was a beautiful opportunity to recognize the great treasure our Catholic School system is in our church.

This past fall, Bishop Malesic asked me to *Chair* an initiative that will create a strategic plan for the Catholic Elementary Schools of our Diocese. I am very excited to be leading this significant undertaking. I believe so much in Catholic Schools, and I believe they are a great opportunity for us to instill Gospel values in the young people entrusted to our care. The Bishop has written a letter to introduce this initiative and it is included in this weekend's bulletin. Please keep the *Keeping the Faith* initiative in your prayers as we work to discern a path forward to sustain and strengthen the Catholic Elementary Schools of our Diocese.

Also, please keep the students, staff, and families of our Guardian Angels Early Learning Center and Ss. Robert & William Catholic School in your prayers. I know they miss having people participate in many of their events so they look forward to one day soon, "re-opening" the school to visitors.

Make it a great week! See you in Church.

Peace,

Fr. John

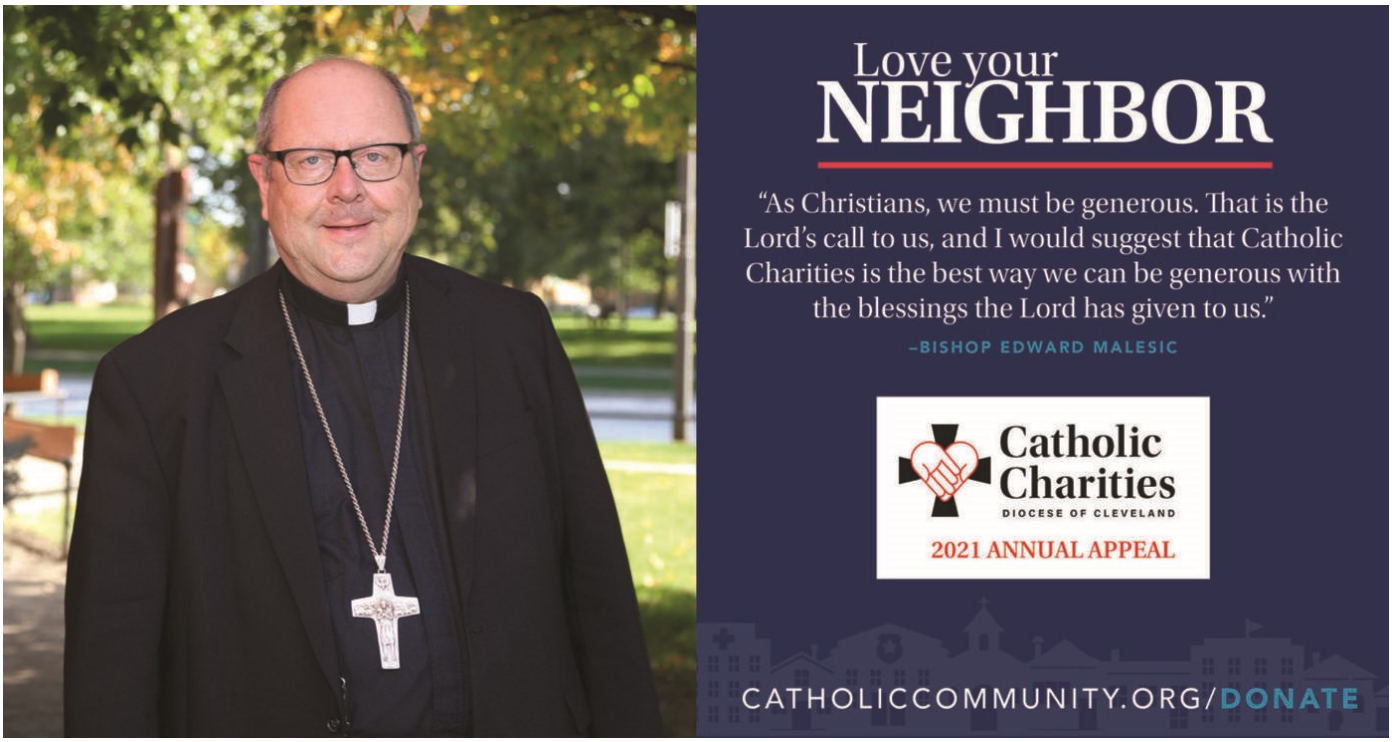
Community Meal

FREE HOT MEAL

Third Wednesday of Each Month

5:00 PM

Starting February 17th, you can pick up a delicious meal to go from the St. John of the Cross Community Center (towards the rear of the property). Call 216.289.0770 or email Karen at kduke@sjceuclid.com to reserve your free meal.



Love Your Neighbor. Many parishioners received letters in January, inviting their support of the Annual Appeal. Please pray for the good work of Catholic Charities and make a pledge today. Your donation makes a difference! Your support of the 2021 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal will help us serve those individuals who are most in need and most vulnerable. From Matthew's Gospel: Whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for me. When we feed the hungry, take care of the sick, and welcome the stranger, we are also serving Jesus himself. We appreciate your donation and will take special care to use it wisely in providing essential programs and services to people in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland. We invite you to view stories of inspiration and more information at CatholicCommunity.org/2021Appeal. Double your impact! A generous donor, who believes in the mission of Catholic Charities, will match your gift, up to $1 million. Do twice as much good when you give online at CatholicCommunity.org/Match. Thank you!

Care for a Caregiver

Caregivers Support Group

One of the most difficult roles a person can accept is that of caregiver. It is a demanding responsibility that can affect a person physically, emotionally, and mentally. The pandemic has created yet another layer by restricting visits and help from outsiders.

If you would like the opportunity to meet with other caregivers to share your stories and find ways to cope, please call us and let us know. If we get a good response we will make arrangements to bring back our Caregivers Support Group that helped so many people in the past. The number of participants will be limited so that we can create a comfortable yet safe environment in which to meet.

Call Renée Barber at 216-731-1515 Ext. 262 for more information.

CONCERT OF HOPE

St. John of the Cross
Wednesday, February 10th, 2021
7:00 p.m.

In the church or live-streamed

LUKE BROWN'S REFLECTION

Ash Wednesday is quickly approaching and with it all the blessings of the Lenten season. While Lent can seem like a daunting time because of what we will give up, it is a time of receiving and growth. This week, I would like to talk about prayer as a family. Prayer should be the center of our life and it is easy to put off. Prayer can be awkward at first, especially when praying with other people. A practice that I frequently recommend to my clients is to spend a few minutes each evening before bedtime praying as a family. A good place to start is by having each family member say a few things that they are thankful for and who or what they would like to pray for. Then end with an Our Father or another favorite prayer. This often does wonders for families as they find themselves communicating more effectively about their lives and what is on their hearts. It is interesting that the most important thing in our existence is our spiritual life and yet we often do not ask each other about it or discuss it at all with our closest loved ones. For Lent this year, consider starting the practices of praying as a family and stick with it until Easter. Acknowledge that it might be awkward at first and you might stutter or mumble through it while you learn (like I did) but stick with it! You might find that it becomes a strength for your family and a source of peace.

On Tuesday mornings, a group of parishioners have been meeting together for Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. in Classroom 8 of the Community Center. Using the Lectio Divina method of reading the gospel for the upcoming Sunday Liturgy, we strive to open our hearts and minds to Scripture as the means to hear God and then respond in conversation. Our discussions have enlivened the gospels and provided ways to share how the Word of God speaks to us in our everyday lives.

Please join us to prepare for each Sunday's Gospel. We social distance and wear masks during the entire session which usually is about 1 and 1/2 hours. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Brown at 440-668-9568.

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH PRAYER

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust' with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Mass INTENTIONS

Monday, February 8
8:30 AM (JL/TS-P) † Smolic Family

Tuesday, February 9
6:30 PM (JB) † St. John of the Cross Parish family

Wednesday, February 10
8:30 AM (JL) † Sheila Burrello

Thursday, February 11
6:30 (JL/TS) † Lou Alessi

Friday, February 12
No Mass (8:30 am Morning Prayer; 9am-2pm Adoration)

Saturday, February 13
4 PM (JL/TS-P) † Martha Schaberl

Sunday, February 14
7:45 AM (GB/TS) † Andrew & Mary Somich
10:15 AM (JB/TS-P) † Natalie Petruziello

Our Financial Stewardship

Last Week's Giving $2,004.70
Last Week's Maintenance Giving.....$ 335.00
Faith Direct*-Last Half Giving.....$
Faith Direct*- Last Half Maintenance .$

***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!

Euclid Hunger Center-

You may drop off your donations at the Church.

FOOD DONATIONS

- cereal, canned fruits/vegetables, canned tuna/chicken, soup
- toiletry items (deodorant, toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, feminine hygiene items)

Parish Staff

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

Rev. Gerald Bednar, Priest in Residence

Rev. John Loya, Priest in Residence
jloya@dioceseofcleveland.org

Deacon Tom Shetina, Deacon
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Terri Burrello, Sacristan

Karen Duke, Office Manager
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Jim Granito, Business Manager
jgranito@sjceuclid, Ext. 244

Tom Hagen, Maintenance Director

Gene Fiorelli, Maintenance

Parish Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8 am to 4 pm
Closed Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

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.

Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish and Their Caregivers

Evelyn Adamczak
John Ballard
Noella Burrows
Barbara Contorno
Constance Durrah
Vi Franko
Frank Hiti
John Hocevar
Andrew Jarm
Anna Jalovec
Nick Kaluza
Joe Matejka
Ronald Maxey
Sheila Moore-Baka
Rudy Myeress
Larry O'Donnell
Linda Palko
Bill Perko
Joan Raddell
Pat Rossoll
Mary Rot
Jerry Scarniench
Judy Schmidt
Rose Simek
Colette Suhy
John Tarmann
Rita Vaitkus
Abbie Vernon

Please notify us when a name can be taken off this list.