



# Saint John of the Cross

140 Richmond Rd., Euclid, Ohio 44143  
January 9, 2022

Roman Catholic Parish  
The Baptism of the Lord

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. This baptism introduces Jesus as the anointed one, the Messiah of God, the Promise fulfilled. Jesus descending into the waters of baptism is His way of saying “yes” to the will of the Father. ***“Jesus loaded the burden of all of mankind’s guilt upon his shoulders; he bore it down into the depths of the Jordan. He inaugurated his public activity by stepping into the place of sinners.”*** (Pope Benedict XVI writing as Joseph Ratzinger, *Jesus of Nazareth*, page 18) *And, after Jesus was baptized and was praying, heaven opened up and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven saying, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”*

Jesus, the promised Messiah, came to serve. The one who is mighty, is also gentle. The one chosen by God is also committed to taking care of the poor and marginalized and does not conform to the expectations of the proud and self-absorbed society. Jesus, filled with the Spirit of God, would act according to that Spirit of compassion and gentleness.

The baptism of the Lord also reminds us of our own baptism. Baptism not only purifies, it also makes us a new creature; we become adopted daughters and sons of God who become partakers in the Divine life of Christ. (ccc 1265)

The Church teaches us that baptism incorporates the individual into the life of Christ and we are to be active participants in his life and mission. Through our individual baptism, the one Spirit makes us members of the ***Body of Christ and of one another*** (ccc 1267); sharing a common dignity, (Lumen Gentium, no 32); ***it is our mission*** to become disciples in the world (1267ccc). ***We are called to bring the light*** of Christ into a dark world, in order to extend the light to others (1243 ccc).

As we enter the year 2022, will continue to face the challenges of Covid and political division. I am blessed that I will not be facing these challenges alone. I am blessed to be entering the year 2022 with all of you as the One body of Christ.

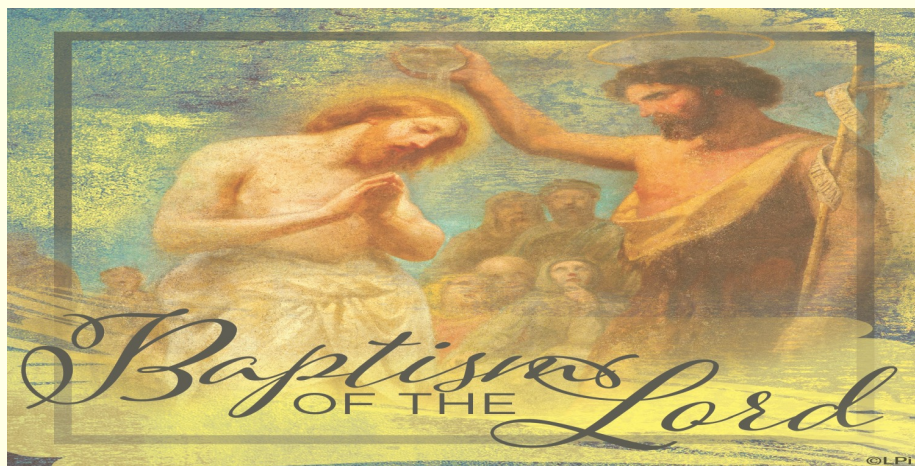
Let us not be anxious any longer about our lives: what we shall eat; what we shall drink; what we shall wear. Our heavenly Father knows all of our needs. But let us together first seek the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to our lives. ( Matt 6)

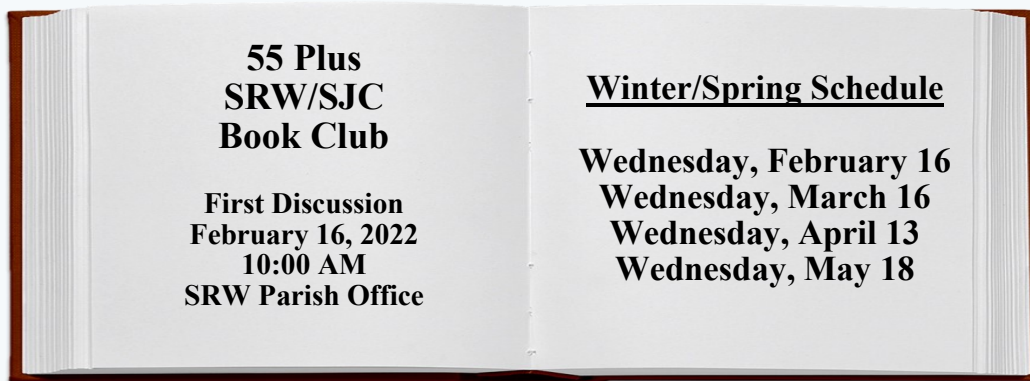
Let us pray to the Holy Spirit,

*Holy Spirit,  
Make visible to our eyes what is invisible: your call to your people,  
your summons to live our faith daily as witnesses of justice and peace.  
May the sacraments move us to engage in love-inspired action that transforms us and the world.  
Amen (USCCB)*

**Peace and Love in Christ**

Deacon Tom Shetina





**Books and Discussion Dates for This Season:**

February 16

***My Cousin the Saint: A Story of Love, Miracles, and an Italian Family Reunited***  
by Justin Catanoso

A compelling narrative written with grace and honesty, *My Cousin the Saint* is a testament to the challenge of being Catholic in twenty-first-century America. More than a biography, more than an immigrant memoir, more than a chronicle of renewed faith, it is a love letter to a family now reunited across oceans and years.

Justin Catanoso, born and raised in New Jersey, knew little of his family beyond the Garden State. That changed in 2001 when he discovered that his grandfather's cousin, Padre Gaetano Catanoso, was a Vatican-certified miracle worker. A typically lapsed American Catholic, Justin embarked on a quest to connect with his extended family in southern Italy and, ultimately, to awaken his slumbering faith.

March 16

***The Fourth Cup: Unveiling the Mystery of the Last Supper and the Cross***  
by Scott Hahn

From the bestselling author of *The Lamb's Supper* comes an illuminating work on the Catholic Eucharist and its link to the Jewish Passover meal. Bishop Robert Barron said, "Some autobiography, a great deal of theology, the solution to an old Scriptural puzzle— and tons of puns besides. This book is a feast."

April 13

***Yes to Life: In Spite of Everything***  
by Viktor Frankl

Eleven months after he was liberated from the Nazi concentration camps, Viktor E. Frankl held a series of public lectures in Vienna. The psychiatrist, who would soon become world famous, explained his central thoughts on meaning, resilience, and the importance of embracing life even in the face of great adversity.

Published here for the very first time in English, Frankl's words resonate as strongly today—as the world faces a coronavirus pandemic, social isolation, and great economic uncertainty—as they did in 1946. He offers an insightful exploration of the maxim "Live as if you were living for the second time," and he unfolds his basic conviction that every crisis contains opportunity. Despite the unspeakable horrors of the camps, Frankl learned from the strength of his fellow inmates that it is always possible to "say yes to life"—a profound and timeless lesson for us all.

May 18

***After 50: Spiritually Embracing Your Own Wisdom Years***  
by Robert Wicks

Insightful and practical guidance for praying to God, caring for others, and nurturing self during this gentle and holy time of life. What are the spiritual challenges specific to one's later years? How can an older person possess one of the greatest fruits of trust in God—a hopeful heart? In this totally unique book, best selling author Robert Wicks addresses the need to prepare spiritually, rather than financially, for retirement. Wicks encourages readers to focus on three areas of preparation: building interior lives with prayer, caring for others from a deeper place in the soul and nurturing their own soul and hopeful heart.

*Above commentaries taken from Amazon.com. All titles are available through their website.*

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO TAKE A FLYER FROM THE TABLE IN  
THE GATHERING SPACE

*Luke Brown's Reflection*

*If someone introduces themselves to you, one of the first things they will probably tell you is what they do for a living. We live in a society that has made what we do a defining characteristic of who we are. The danger in basing our identities on what we do though is that it is exhausting! Building a list of accomplishments becomes one of the primary uses of our time. The form these accomplishments take will vary, but I've found almost everyone I've worked with can fall into this way of thinking at times. Some people may feel a deep sense of dissatisfaction if they do not finish their to-do list each day, deciding if it was a good day or not by how much they got done. For others, the temptation is to base their own progress by how they compare with their coworkers. Sometimes it can even take the form of basing our sense of self worth on the accomplishments of our children.*

*Today's Gospel shows us though that Christ offers us a different model. Before Christ began to go out and do anything in his ministry, he went and was baptized. At this baptism, we hear God proclaim His identity- Jesus is a "beloved son." Christ's whole mission and identity flows from this statement. What he goes on to do in his ministry on earth is important, but not as important as the fact that he is the only beloved son of the Father. In fact, it is because Jesus lived from his divine identity that he was able to be so effective in what he did! The lesson for us in this is that we need to learn to base our identity on who God says we are- not on what we do or accomplish each day.*

*When we can do that, we will find that we have new strength to accomplish whatever God sets before us. Consider taking some time this week to reflect on your current sense of identity and to ask God to help you become more rooted not in what you do, but in who you are; a beloved child of God.*

**2021 OFFERTORY STATEMENT**

If you would like to request your 2021 Offertory statement, please complete the below statement request and either drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office. Requests can also be made by calling the parish office at 216-289-0770 x.100 or emailing [kduke@sjceucld.com](mailto:kduke@sjceucld.com).

Please Note:

- Statements will only be issued upon request and will be available at the end of January.
- Capital Campaign statements will be mailed automatically.
- Faith Direct statements are generated and mailed out from Faith Direct.

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PLEASE SEND ME A 2021 OFFERTORY STATEMENT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

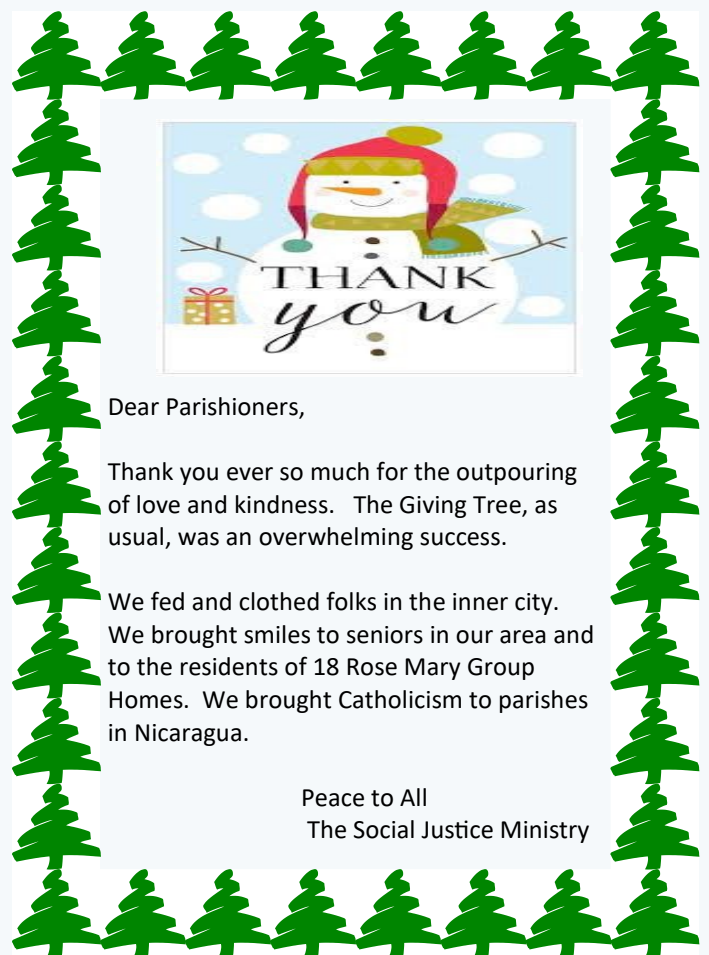
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: All names of the Sick of the Parish will be removed after one month of being noticed, unless we hear otherwise. Please call the office should you have any questions**

*Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish and their Caregivers*

Evelyn Adamczak, Theresa Apanasewicz, John Ballard, Noella Burrows, Constance Durrah, Frank Hiti, John Hocevar, Andrew Jarm, Anna Jalovec, Nick Kaluza, Ronald Maxey, Vera Baka, Linda Palko, Bill Perko, Joan Raddell, Pat Rossoll, Mary Rot, Jerry Scarniench, Judy Schmidt, Rose Simek, Abbie Vernon

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



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COUNSELING

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-ANXIETY -DEPRESSION  
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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS, COUNSELING SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO ALL PARISHIONERS. SERVICES OFFERED INCLUDE INDIVIDUAL, COUPLE, AND FAMILY COUNSELING.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT LUKE BROWN, LPCC  
E: [LUKEBROWN@SACREDHEARTCLEVELAND.COM](mailto:LUKEBROWN@SACREDHEARTCLEVELAND.COM)  
P: 440-305-6192

## **ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS MASS SCHEDULE**

### **Weekday Mass Schedule**

Mondays & Wednesdays.....8:30 am  
Tuesdays & Thursdays.....6:30 pm  
Fridays:- Morning Prayer 8:30 am with  
Eucharistic Adoration 8:45 am to 2:00 pm

### **Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturdays.....4:00 pm  
Sundays.....7:45 am & 10:15 am

### **Confessions**

Saturdays.....3:00 - 3:30 pm

## **MASS Intentions**

### **Monday, January 10**

8:30 AM (JB/TS) † For the People of the Parish

### **Tuesday, January 11**

6:30 PM (JB) † People of the Parish

### **Wednesday, January 12**

8:30 AM (JL) † People of the Parish

### **Thursday, January 13**

6:30 PM (JL/TS-P) † People of the Parish

### **Friday, January 14**

8:30 AM Morning Prayer (No Mass)

8:45 AM-2:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

### **Saturday, January 15**

4:00 PM (JL/TS) † Rita Otis

### **Sunday, January 16**

7:45 AM (JB/TS)† Josie Pernar

10:15 AM (JB/TS) † Maria Nych

### **Our Financial Stewardship**

#### **TOTAL WILL BE POSTED AT A LATER DATE**

12/19 Giving.....\$  
12/19 Maintenance.....\$  
Faith Direct\* Giving.....\$  
Faith Direct\*-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!**

## Parish Staff

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

**Rev. Gerald Bednar**, Priest in Residence

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

**Deacon Tom Shetina**, Deacon  
deacontom@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 112

**Dr. Francesco Binda**, Director of Music  
fbinda@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 104

**Terri Burrello**, Sacristan

**Karen Duke**, Office Manager  
kduke@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 100

**Tom Hagen**, Maintenance Director

**Gene Fiorelli**, Maintenance

**Parish Office Phone Number: 216-289-0770**

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.

## 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

## WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FAMILY

If you would like to be a member of our Parish, please complete this form and drop it in the collection basket or send it to the Parish office and someone from the Parish will contact you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_