

1893

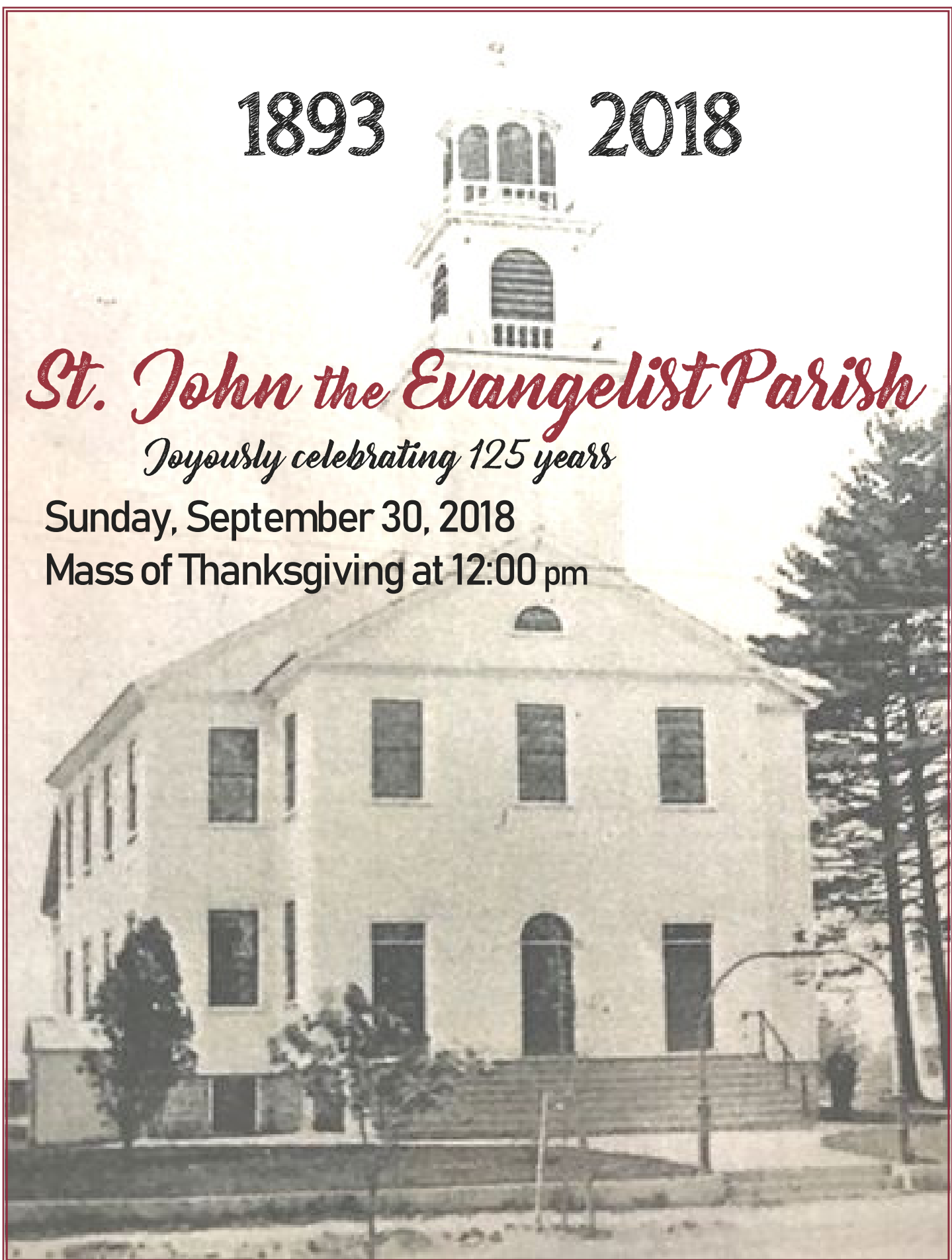
2018

St. John the Evangelist Parish

Joyously celebrating 125 years

Sunday, September 30, 2018

Mass of Thanksgiving at 12:00 pm



A Church Community Grows - 1893

North Chelmsford's mills had grown. The workers followed:

Irish, French, some Poles, Italians, others,
Most immigrants or children of immigrants,
Most Catholic, most desirous of a parish
Of their own, where priests would dwell among
Them, bringing Christ to life in Bread and Word
Here in this place they now embraced as home.

Years before, the first Catholic families
Had bought an unused Congregational church
And towed it slowly, horse-powered, on wooden rollers
Along a two-mile stretch of Middlesex Street,
Guarding it nightly against the threats of those
Who feared the newcomers and a faith flowering
In the local foundries, factories, and mills.

The church was set a short way from the village
And the growing red-brick complex where raw
Wool was scoured, dried, and beaten, carded,
Drawn, and spun to clothe or carpet the world —
Employing those impelled to endure its drudgery.
So priests from Lowell were sent each Sunday
For Mass in church, then Mass in Westford homes.

And growth continued until finally
In 1893, St. John's Mission
Became St. John the Evangelist Parish, whose
Pastor then was joined by assistant priests
Who traveled each Sunday morning to serve
The needs of fledgling Catholic communities —
St. John's missions — In Westford and Chelmsford Center.

Continued Testing, Continued Call - 2018

One hundred twenty-five years have passed since
St. John's Mission became St. John the Evangelist
Parish — one hundred fifty-eight since that
First church was set by pious workers on
A waiting Middlesex Street in industry-driven
North Chelmsford. So many changes witnessed,
So many trials undergone! Yet Christ still calls.

He is our message, he our call. His light
Must shine in us, be seen by all. Here
In Chelmsford or in Lowell, in Dunstable, Tyngsborough,
Or wherever else, God dwells with us
And reaches out to all, forgiving, guiding,
Blessing all with life. And we remain —
The flawed yet faithful people of St. John's.

St. John's Parish *North Chelmsford*

Continued Growth and Testing - 1963

North Chelmsford continued to grow — as did the rest
Of Chelmsford, Westford, Dunstable, Tyngsborough —
Fueling an ever-larger Catholic presence
In the area. St. Catherine's in Westford and
St. Mary's in Chelmsford Center had become
Their own well-established parishes now, and
Growth at all three demanded space.

A new St. John's was built; its first Mass
Held in 1963; the building
Dedicated by Cardinal Cushing a month
Later, and in following years joined by
A rectory and parish center. But then
The world was changing — values, vision, insights
Shaken by repeated upheaval.

A great council was held in Rome. A new
Sense of church emerged, with lay people
Taking on new roles, as priests and nuns
Departed and new choices bypassed old.
No teaching seemed secure. Old certainties
Were dying. Old modes of prayer were fading.
And who knew what future years might hold?

So many Catholics left. And yet a remnant
Stayed or reappeared to witness newcomers
Seeking signs of Christ's abiding presence
Here in North Chelmsford, here at St. John's,
In Bread and Word and shared communal life.
(For Christ is in his people and the grace
Transforming, sanctifying, shaping lives.)

All news of fallen shepherds fails to dim
The memory of goodness in our own
Dear shepherds, despite their imperfections, missteps,
Clouded judgment, or failure to empower.
We know our blessings: mentors, parents, friends
Who walked before us or walk along, companions
On a journey started long ago

By One who joins us on the way, hidden
Or revealed in Bread and Word and ordinary,
Grace-filled days. The road must twist and turn,
The world around us constantly unravel
Or renew, inspiring, distressing,
Or beckoning with promise false or true.
Yet Christ remains: God with us, God who loves.

A Word from our Pastor

It is an amazing milestone for any community to reach 125 years. It is a powerful witness of an enduring faith that has allowed St. John's to be a true community witnessing to their faith in Christ. Each generation has contributed in their own way, preparing for the next. As we stop to contemplate the meaning of 125 years, it should speak to us not simply of what it has been, but it should also build upon those who have come before us. It reminds us of what we need to do to continue this wondrous legacy, as we prepare for the next 125 years. I have little doubt that our current community is willing and able to do just that!

Celebration of Holy Mass

Main Celebrant: Rev Brian E Mahoney, *Pastor*

Co-Celebrants: Rev Thomas B Corcoran, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev Arnold F Colletti, *Senior Priest in Residence*

Rev Robert E Nee - *Associate Pastor of St. John the Evangelist; 1982-1990*

Rev Oliver W Verrill - *Associate Pastor of St. John the Evangelist; 1965-1968*

Introductory Rite

GATHERING SONG: Gather Us In by Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place, new light is stream-ing, now is the
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin - ing, not in some



1. dark - ness, van - ished a - way, See, in this space, our
 2. old who yearn for your face, We have been sung through-
 3. take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your
 4. heav - en, light years a - way, but here in this place, the



1. fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this
 2. out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu - man
 3. sons and your daugh-ters, call us a - new to be salt for the
 4. new light is shin - ing, now is the King-dom now is the



1. day. Gath-er us in the lost and for - sa - ken, Gath-er us
 2. race. Gath-er us in the rich and the haugh-ty, Gath-er us
 3. earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to
 4. day. Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, Gath-er us



1. in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a -
 2. in the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so
 3. eat the bread that is you; Nour-ish us well, and teach us to
 4. in and make us your own; Gath - er us in all peo - ples to -

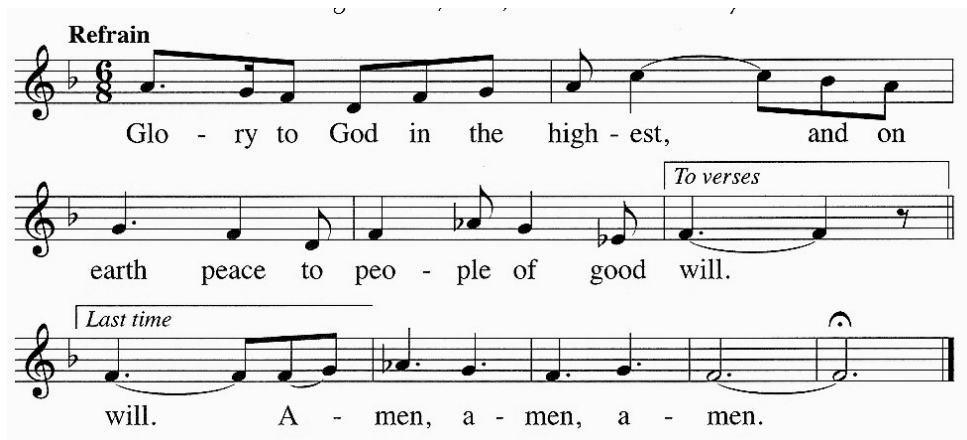


1. wa - ken, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 2. low - ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 3. fash - ion, lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 4. geth - er, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

GREETING

PENITENTIAL ACT

GLORIA from the Storrington Mass by Marty Haugen



Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on

To verses

earth peace to peo - ple of good will.

Last time

will. A - men, a - men, a - men.

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING a Reading from the Book of Numbers

The LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the LORD bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied. Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp," Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, "Moses, my lord, stop them." But Moses answered him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow his spirit on them all!"

Reader: The Word of the Lord
Assembly: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Shepherd Me O God by Marty Haugen



Shep - herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

1,2,3,5 to Vss 1,2,3,5

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

4. to Verse 4 Final

death in - to life. deah in - to life.

Fine

SECOND READING a Reading from the Book of James

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
Assembly: *Thanks be to God*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Give God the Glory by Ken Canedo



Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

Al-le - lu - ia! Give the glo - ry

1 and the hon - or to the Lord!

2 and the hon - or to the Lord!

GOSPEL READING a Reading from the Gospel of Mark

At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'"

Fr. Brian: The Gospel of the Lord

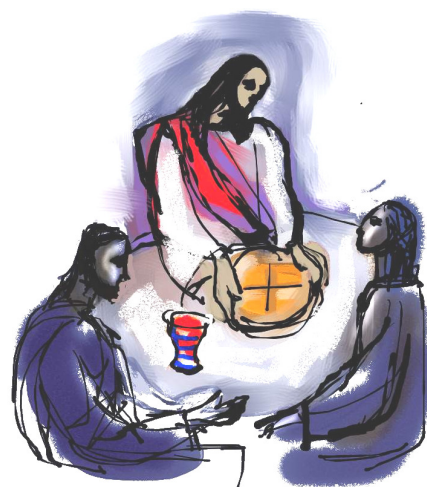
HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

As we present our gifts of bread and wine,
we also present to the Lord our gifts of time, talent and treasure,
expressed through our active ministries.



Liturgy of the Eucharist

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

Prayer of
St. Francis



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, And
there is dark-ness, on-ly light, And
giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.

Verse 3



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek So much to be con-



soled as to con-sole. To be un-der-stood as to un-der-



stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul.

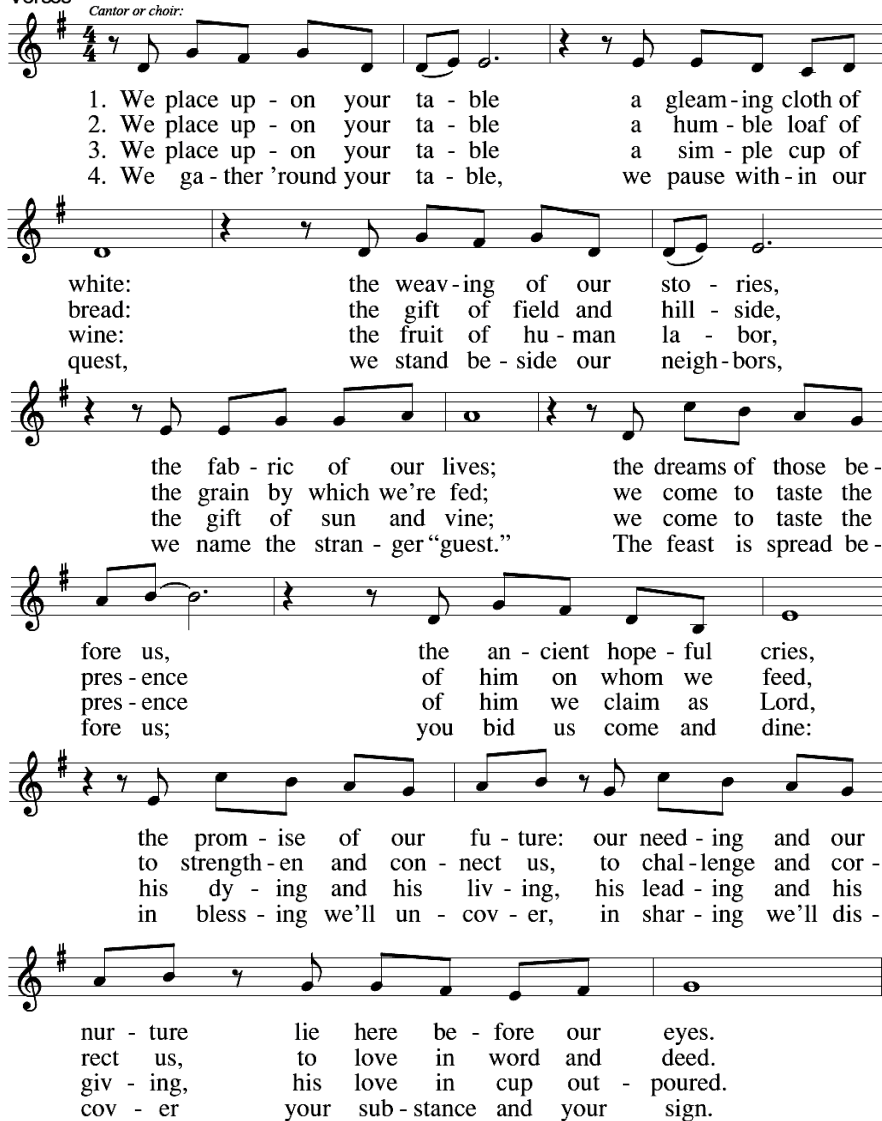
Text: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997
Tune: Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997; acc. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942
© 1967, OCP
Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

We Come to Your Feast

by Michael Joncas
Text: Michael Joncas, b.1951
Tune: Michael Joncas, b.1951
© 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

Verses

Cantor or choir:



1. We place up - on your ta - ble a gleam - ing cloth of
 2. We place up - on your ta - ble a hum - ble loaf of
 3. We place up - on your ta - ble a sim - ple cup of
 4. We ga - ther 'round your ta - ble, we pause with - in our

white: the weav - ing of our sto - ries,
 bread: the gift of field and hill - side,
 wine: the fruit of hu - man la - bor,
 quest, we stand be - side our neigh - bors,

the fab - ric of our lives; the dreams of those be -
 the grain by which we're fed; we come to taste the
 the gift of sun and vine; we come to taste the
 we name the stran - ger "guest." The feast is spread be -

fore us, the an - cient hope - ful cries,
 pres - ence of him on whom we feed,
 pres - ence of him we claim as Lord,
 fore us; you bid us come and dine:

the prom - ise of our fu - ture: our need - ing and our
 to strength - en and con - nect us, to chal - lenge and cor -
 his dy - ing and his liv - ing, his lead - ing and his
 in bless - ing we'll un - cov - er, in shar - ing we'll dis -

nur - ture lie here be - fore our eyes.
 rect us, to love in word and deed.
 giv - ing, his love in cup out - poured.
 cov - er your sub - stance and your sign.

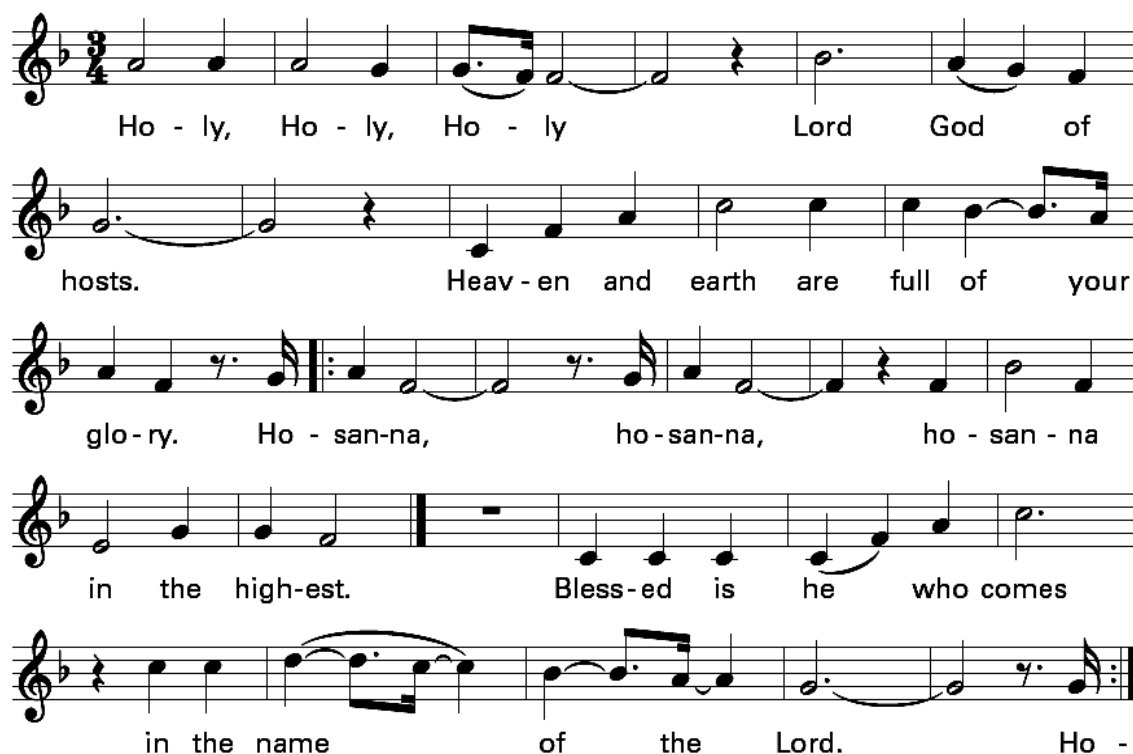
Refrain



All: We come to your feast, we come to your
 feast: the young and the old. the fright - ened, the
 bold, the great - est and the least. We come to your
 feast, we come to your feast
 with the fruit of our lands and the work of our
 hands, we come to your feast.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS from the Mass of Glory

Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
hosts. Heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san-na, ho-san-na, ho - san - na
in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho -

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Memorial Acclamation



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you
come a - gain, un - til you come a - gain.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

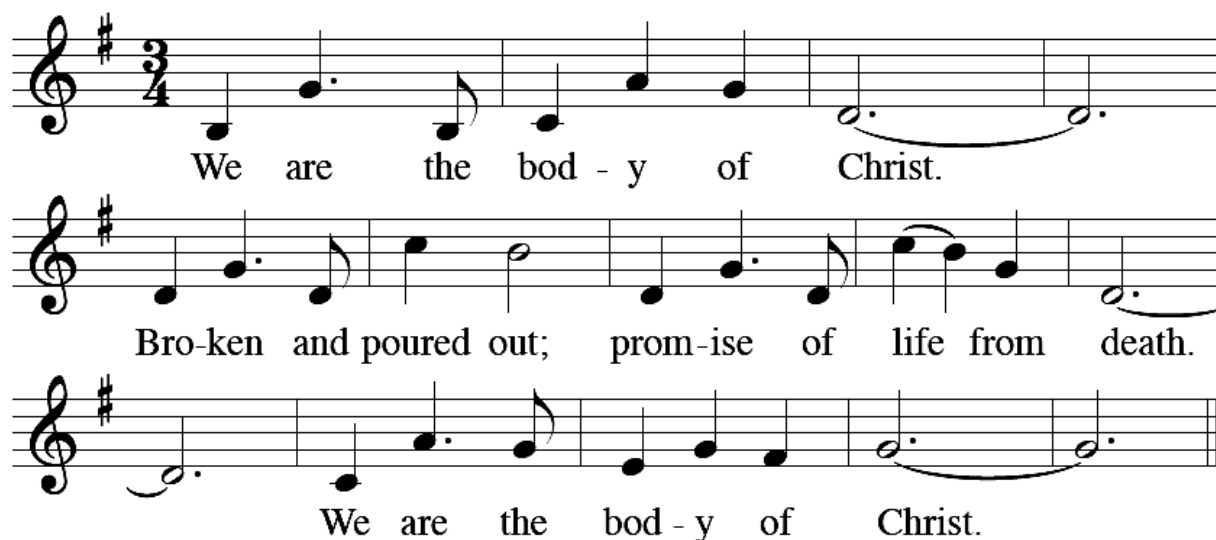
OUR FATHER,
*who art in
heaven*

THE SIGN OF PEACE

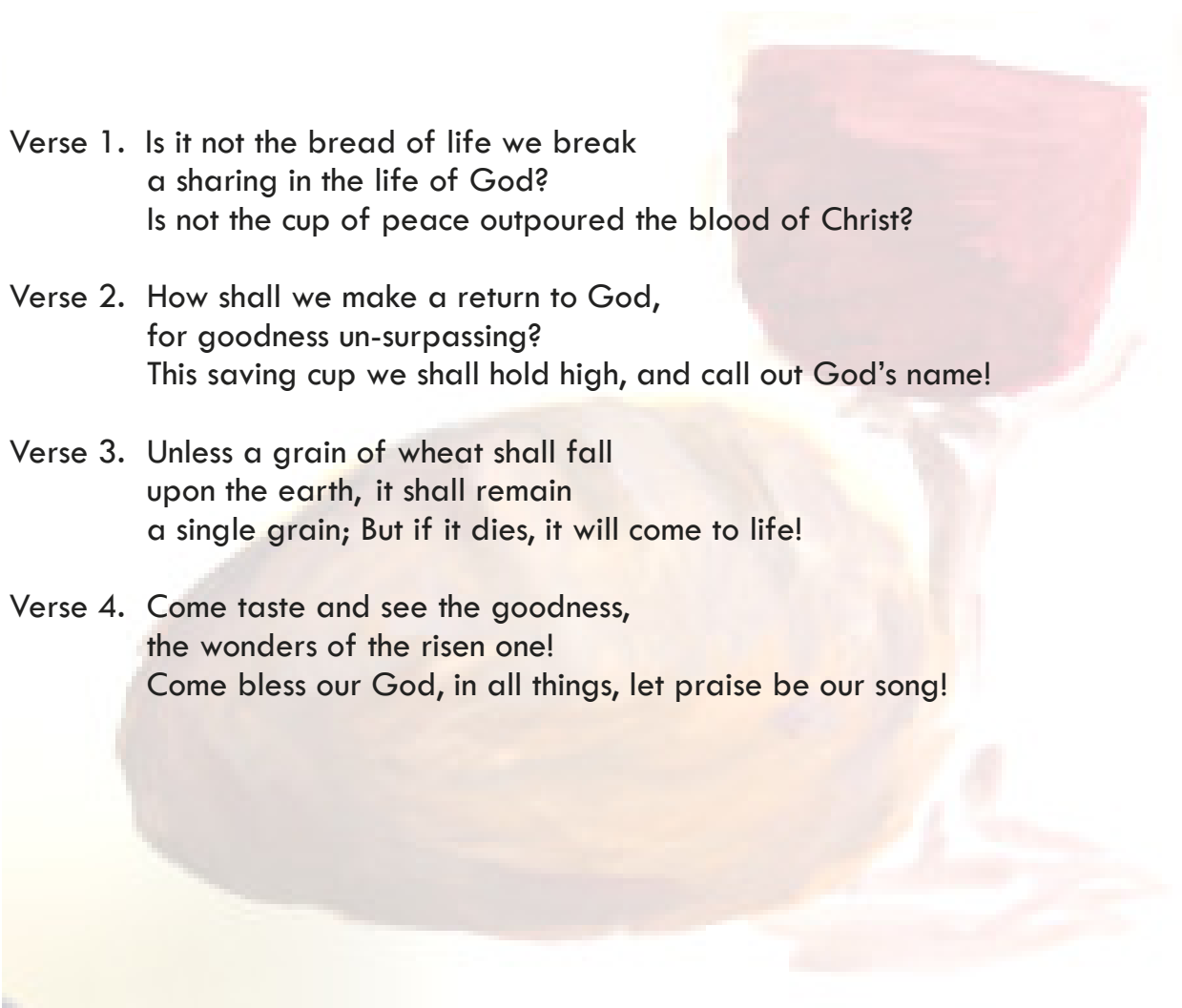


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COMMUNION SONG Table Song by David Haas



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- Verse 1. Is it not the bread of life we break
a sharing in the life of God?
Is not the cup of peace outpoured the blood of Christ?
- Verse 2. How shall we make a return to God,
for goodness un-surpassing?
This saving cup we shall hold high, and call out God's name!
- Verse 3. Unless a grain of wheat shall fall
upon the earth, it shall remain
a single grain; But if it dies, it will come to life!
- Verse 4. Come taste and see the goodness,
the wonders of the risen one!
Come bless our God, in all things, let praise be our song!

COMMUNION SONG One Bread, One Body by John Foley

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,
 one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And we, though
 man-y, through-out the earth, we are one bod-y in this
 one Lord.

Fine VERSES *Slightly faster with excitement*

1. Gen-tile or Jew, ser-vant or
 2. Man-y the gifts, man-y the
 3. Grain for the fields, scat-tered and

1. free, wo-man or man, no more.
 2. works, one in the Lord of all.
 3. grown, gath-ered to one, for all.

MEDITATION HYMN Fill Us With Your Love by Rita Lyon, Parishioner

1. Fill us with your love. Fill us with your love. Fill us with your love, Lord.
 2. Fill us with your joy. Fill us with your joy. Fill us with your joy, Lord.
 3. Fill us with your spir-it. Fill us with your spir-it. Fill us with your spir-it, Lord.

Fill us with your love. Fill us with your peace. Fill us with your peace.
 Fill us with your joy. Fill us with your grace. Fill us with your grace.
 Fill us with your spir-it. We will fol-low you. We will fol-low you.

Fill us with your peace, Lord. Fill us with your peace, Lord. Fill us with your grace, Lord.
 Fill us with your grace, Lord. Fill us with your grace, Lord. Fill us with your grace, Lord.
 We will fol-low you, Lord. We will fol-low you, Lord. We will fol-low you, Lord.

Concluding Rites

FINAL BLESSING

SENDING FORTH We Are Called by David Haas



1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
2. Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
great day when all will be one! God will reign,



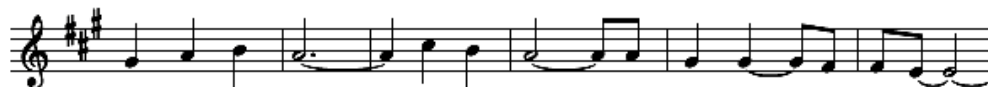
to be light for the king - dom, to
to be hope for the hope - less so all
and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God!
ha - tred and blind - ness will be no more!
sis - ters and broth - ers u - nit - ed in love!



We are called to act with jus-tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly, we are called to serve one an - oth - er;



to walk hum - bly with God!

The Shepherds who carry us...



Rev John J Shaw (1893-1900)
 Rev Richard S Burke (1900-1902)
 Rev Michael F Callahan (1902-1902)
 Rev Edmund T Schofield (1902-1916)
 Rev Charles P Heaney (1916-1922)
 Rev Francis J Kenney (1922-1924)
 Rev John J Crane (1924-1930)
 Rev Joseph A Curtin (1930-1932)
 Rev Jeremiah L Driscoll (1932-1936)
 Rev Timothy J Donovan (1936-1941)
 Rev Thomas O'Toole (1941-1945)
 Rev George D Roache (1945-1949)
 Rev Joseph P Murphy (1949-1954)
 Rev Michael J Finnegan (1954-1968)
 Rev James P Donohue (1968-1973)
 Rev William F Calter (1973-1976)
 Rev Donald A Dwyer (1976-1981)
 Rev Daniel P Bowen (1981-1990)
 Rev Richard J Craig (1990-2003)
 Rev Paul E Ritt (2003-2013)
 Rev Richard T Burton, Administrator (2013-2014)
 Rev John Mulloy, Administrator (2014-2015)
 Rev Martin Dzengeleski, Administrator (2015-2015)
 Rev Brian E Mahoney (2015-Present)

The Ministries that feed us...

Then...

Adult and Children's Choir
 CYO
 Knights of Columbus
 St John's Colonial Fife and Drum,

Altar Servers
 Holy Name Society
 Ladies Sodality
 St Vincent de Paul Society

Now...

African Community
 Baptismal Catechesis
 Cantors
 Culture of Life Group
 First Friday Adoration
 God, Pizza and Beer
 Homebound Ministers
 Lasagna Ministry
 Prayer Line
 Social Justice Committee
 Saint Vincent de Paul
 Ushers
 Wine, Women and Word

ACTS Community
 Altar Guild
 Baptismal Robes
 Charismatic Prayer Community
 Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
 Funeral Greeters
 Golf Tournament
 Hope Ministry
 Lectors
 Prayer Shawl Ministry
 Soup and Stations
 RCIA
 Vacation Bible Fun
 Youth Ministry

Adult and Children's Choirs
 Altar Servers
 Bingo
 Children's Liturgy of the Word
 Faith Formation
 Giving Tree
 Greeters
 Hospitality Committee
 Music Ministry
 Sacristans
 Sunday Coffee and Donuts
 Tuesday Morning Coffee
 Weekday Rosary Group

...and still growing

In Memory Of...

Maryellen Ackley
Beatrice Pearl Azar
Alice Bamford
John Barrett
Andrew Barrett Sr
Frank Baretto
Blakely Family
Jeannette Blanchette
Roland J Boudreau
Edward and Lillian Brule
Willis Buckingham
Maurice and Rita Chateaufneuf
Nagim and Margaret Checrallah
Chevalier Family
Salbé and Mary Chevalier
Pat and Betty Ciampa
Anna E Colbert
Paul Cole
Robert Cole
John and Eveline Conrad
Coppeta Family
William J Cumming
John Patrick Curran
Mary Patrica Curran
Patrick (Mike) Curran

Patrick and Alice (Murphy) Curran
Thomas and Kathleen Curran
Thomas Fitzpatrick
Eileen Francoeur
Gamache Family
Mary F Hogan
LaRoche Family
Edward and Mary Kelley
Peter J Kelts
Lescard Family
Walt Lisien
Adam and Rosemarie Lukas
Michael Lyons
Louie and Millie Maestranzi
John Magbondi
Andrew and Eleanor Mayotte
Marion and Tom McCoy
Charles and Margaret McGeown
Brian J Muscato (Big Guy)
Brian J Muscato (Dad)
Brian J Muscato (Puppa)
Arpad Nagy
Bishop Neylon
Fr O'Brien
George O'Brien

William and Rita O'Brien
O'Connell Family
Ed, Julia and Ed Jr Orna
Parish People
John Powell
Barbara Regan
Mrs Barbara Regan
Edward Rooney
David Smith
Deacon John St George
Grace M Steed
Martin J Steed Sr
Mary Blanche Steed
Howard and MaryEllen Strachan
Hank and Madelyn Sullivan
Sarah Sullivan
Phil Swissler
Taranto Family
Mary E Thomas
Thomas and Ellen Tobin
William and Elizabeth Tobin
Toni, Ernie, Alice and Emile
Daniel O Vela
John and Bernice Welch
Paul E Wells

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The J Team
Arthur and Sylvia Kelts
Knights of Columbus, Bishop Ruocco Council
Rosemary and Joe McGrath
Leon Narbut
Frank and Marilyn Peabody
John and Donna Salyards
John and Mary Welch

Thank you...

Our thanks to all of our Sponsors,
and those who remembered their
loved ones, for their most
generous contributions.

To all who served on the 125th Anniversary Celebration Committee
and to those who served the community during this celebration—from
greeters and ushers; from Eucharistic ministers to lectors; and those
who shared their musical talents with us in this most special liturgy—
our sincerest gratitude.

To all those who ministered to us throughout the years—past and
present, with us here or with the Lord in heaven—we remain forever
grateful for their service and guidance to their flock over
the past 125 years.

And a VERY SPECIAL thanks to all of you who shared in this
very special celebration with us. In our gratefulness,
let us pray graces and blessings
for our future family.

To the next 125 years! *... and God Bless!*

Celebrating

125
YEARS

Our Heritage

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**

1893-2018

