

Saint John the Evangelist Church

470 Broad Avenue, Leonia, New Jersey

www.stjohnleonia.org

Rev. Bryan F.J. Adamcik SFO, KCHS, Administrator
Fr. Richard Kwiatkowski, Pastor Emeritus
Fr. Arlou Buslon, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Brian Burke
Deacon

Sr Jeanne Gilligan FSP Sr Maureen Colleary FSP
Sr Elaine Maguire FSP Sr Kathryn King FSP
In Residence-Convent

Mirela Tarabokija
Dir. of Religious Education

Dennis De Santis, *Director of Music*
David Macfarlane, *Associate Music Minister*

Marilyn Badami Deacon Brian Burke
Parish Trustees

Fr. Arlou Buslon Cindi McLean
High School Youth Ministry Junior Youth Group

Cindi & Lenno McLean
CYO Basketball

Julie Diemer
Parish Secretary

Louis Milea Cecile Arcebedo
President Parish Council Chairman Finance Council

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:
Monday - Friday 8:30am -8:50am. First Friday at 6:30pm
Saturday at 4:00pm -4:30pm

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
To register for Baptismal preparation and Baptism, call the rectory.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:
Call the Religious Ed Office for requirements/class schedule.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:
Please call the rectory for an appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/LAST RITES:
Call the Rectory for sick calls at any time in emergency.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS AND VOCATIONS:
Anyone contemplating a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life should contact the Vocations Office at 973-497-4365.

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM
Sunday—Grades K through 7 meet 10:30 am-12:00 noon
Monday—Grades 1, 2, 3 & 4 meet 3:15-3:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, November 29, 2020 A.D.



WELCOME

To the Parish Family of
St John's in Leonia
Founded in 1912

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Mass Schedule

Saturday:5:00pm

Sunday:.....7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am,
and 6:00pm

Weekdays:.....9:00am Mon-Sat

SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:
First Friday: 7:00pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions
First Saturday: 9:00am, Mass of Immaculate Heart of Mary

Novenas prayed after 9:00 a.m. Mass:
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday

St John Rectory
Phone: 201-947-4545
Email: parishoffice@stjohnleonia.org

St John Fax
201-947-3891

Religious Education
201-944-4346

St. John Convent
201-944-4362

St John the Evangelist, Leonia NJ

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please **PRAY** in the name of **JESUS**, the Healer, that the **SICK** of **ST. JOHN PARISH** may be restored to health and all those who **ASSIST** and **CARE** for the sick will be given the **STRENGTH** to continue **GOD'S GOOD WILL**: Baby Cordelia, Baby Yosef, Maya, Sally Ariola, Dorothy Baniel, Michael Brady, Nita Castro, Anjelica Cola, Bruce & Arlene Connor, Valerie Czermak, Diane DeChristina, Mary Ellen Diakakis, Carla Errico, Peggy & Brendan Horan, Lori Hulle, Joanne Kennedy, Sr. Kathryn King, Ludwig Laban, Peter Lamparella, Lori Lepore, Mary McGrath, Claudia Marino, Aida Mesina, Michael O'Connor, Gloria Petti, Betty Pisarek, Rebecca Piro, Bruce Ricciardi, Richard Samperi, Neuman & Rosemary Santos, Lena Shemansky, Elaine Sommer, Dioselina Stabile, Nicholas Storms, Tom Sullivan, Michael Tarricone, Anne Vaughan and Adam Villavecchia.

THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS

On December 10, 1925 in Pontevedra, Spain, Our Lady appeared with the Child Jesus to Sr. Lucia and said: "Look, my daughter, at my heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall: Confess—Receive Holy Communion—Recite five decades of the Rosary—Keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on fifteen mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to me."

Project: Toys for Christmas



Once again this year, we are collecting toys for boys and girls of P.S. 211, 129 and 234 in the Bronx. Approximately 2,500 toys are needed for distribution this Christmas. The children attending these schools are between 4 and 15

years of age and are in regular and special education programs.

Some suggestions: basketballs, soccer balls, baseballs (for older boys), videos, books, DVD's and CD's, board games, puzzles, girls purses, gift sets of lotions and colognes. Please wrap all new items and indicate age and gender of gift. Items can be brought to the Faith Formation Office between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Any questions call 201-944-4346. Thank you for your generosity.

"Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come." - MARK 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our time, our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

O Prince of peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity and devotion, the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Be their rock, their shield, and their stronghold and let them draw their strength from You. For You are God, for ever and ever.

- Cpl. Matt Brady**
- Lt. Col. Christopher Caldwell, O.D**
- Maj. Michael A. Franson**
- Sgt. Joseph Gonzales**
- Airman Matthew Gonzales**
- Lt. Robert Lucieri, MD**
- Cmdr. Alexander McMahon**

FEAST OF FAITH

WHAT IS THE MASS

What is the Mass? There is no simple answer to that question. The Church uses many different images and terms to describe our most important prayer. The Mass is the celebration of the Eucharist, a Greek word that means "thanksgiving." It is the Lord's Supper. It is the Breaking of the Bread. It is the memorial of the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. It is the Holy Sacrifice, in which the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is perpetuated. It is the holy and divine liturgy, the sacred mysteries. It is the source and summit of our Christian lives, the new covenant, the work of the Holy Spirit, the paschal mystery. The many different words and images that we use when we speak of the Mass are not signs of confusion, but of wonder at what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1328) calls the "inexhaustible richness" of the Eucharist. The Mass, our greatest prayer and our deepest mystery, is celebrated every day, many times a day, the world over. The Eucharist is both "bread from heaven" and "daily bread." The Mass is our everyday miracle. Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

ADVENT

Advent means "coming" and is a time when many prepare for Christ's coming/return. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Many Christians use an Advent wreath or Advent calendar to mark the days leading up to Christ's Mass a.k.a. Christmas, which was a holy day from which we get the word "holiday". In the Middle Ages, people believed Christ's return was imminent, so the weeks before Christmas were set aside to prepare for the Second Coming.

GIVING TREE

Beginning this weekend gift tags will be available on the tree located in the Baptistry. You are invited to take a tag from the tree to provide a gift for someone in need. Please bring the wrapped gift (with tag showing) to church on the weekend of December 12/13. The gifts will be collected for distribution on Christmas Day.

O Christmas Tree!

The tradition of the Christmas Tree began in Germany in the 1600's. German immigrants and Hessian troops during the Revolution brought the tradition to America. In fact, legend has it that the Hessian troops were so reminded of home when a tree was candlelit in December of 1776, that they abandoned their posts to celebrate. That night George Washington and his army attacked and defeated them at the Battle of Trenton, a turning point of the American Revolution. It wasn't until the 1890's that Christmas trees and ornaments became a part of the traditional American Christmas. By then one in five American families had a Christmas tree. Twenty years later, the custom was pretty much universal in the United States.

The National Christmas Tree stands in Washington D.C. near the White House. It was lit for the first time by President Calvin Coolidge in 1923. The tradition has lasted for the past 86 years with little variation. In 1963, following the assassination of President John Kennedy, the lighting was postponed until the 30 day period of mourning ended. In 1979, only the star on the top of the National Christmas tree in Washington was lit to honor American hostages in Iran.

Another tree, called the "Nation's Christmas Tree" is located in King's Canyon National Park near Sanger, California. The tree received its official designation in 1925. It is approximately 267 feet high, 40 feet across its base and is estimated to be between 1500 and 2000 years old. In 1956 it was also declared a shrine to honor those who serve in the U.S. Military. In their honor, Park Rangers place a wreath at its base during the Christmas ceremony held there every year since 1925.

Another very famous tree around Christmas time stands in Rockefeller Center in New York City. The tradition began in 1931 when construction workers at the Center placed a tree in the dirt at the site. That year, in the midst of the Great Depression, the tree symbolized not only Christmas but also hope and the invincible human spirit. The tree was first decorated in 1933, predating the outdoor Skating Rink it overlooks today, by 3 years. Today more than 25,000 lights grace the tree, but there are no ornaments other than the star on top.

The idea of electric Christmas lights to replace candles on the Christmas tree belonged to Edward Johnson, an assistant to Thomas Edison. The first American President to bring a Christmas tree into the White House was Franklin Pierce in 1856. Christmas Trees are grown in all of the United States. An average acre holds about 2,000 trees. Nearly 80,000 Christmas Trees are planted each year.

MARK'S JESUS

Mark's Gospel is the shortest and tersest of all four. The discourses of Jesus tend to be terser as well. Mark's portrayal of Jesus has none of the poetry of the Sermon on the Mount or the Sermon on the Plain as in Matthew or Luke, nor the extensive, reflective "I Am" discourses as in John. Mark's Jesus "cuts to the chase," we would say today. This is reflected quite well in today's passage.

It is no accident that the dialogue of Jesus at this point in the Gospel according to Mark—the concluding words about the end of the world—immediately before his passion, is riddled with exclamation points and an overall sense of urgency. We would do well to re-tool our own way of living this Advent, for we live in a world urgently in need of hearing the message of Jesus proclaimed. It's time for us to "wake up!" and get out into the world to do it. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Please Join Us in Celebrating the Mass Join Us Live-Stream

St. John's is open for Daily Mass at 9:00 a.m., Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m., and Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. All are welcome! Face masks must be worn and social distancing is required. If you are not able to come or are concerned because you are at risk or ill, please join us at Facebook Group LIVE MASS AT ST. JOHN. Due to health concerns in light of the Coronavirus Pandemic, **Cardinal Tobin, Archbishop of Newark** has dispensed the faithful of the Archdiocese of Newark from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. During this time, St. John's continues to Live Stream Sunday Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am and Daily Mass at 9:00am. You can also watch the recorded video approximately 1 hour later on YouTube at St. John the Evangelist Leonia.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

HOLY HOUR at St John's

Every Wednesday at 7PM we have a Holy Hour with Recitation of the Rosary, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Prayers and Quiet Time. Stop by and make a visit to our Eucharistic Lord.

CLOTHING BINS

Through the turbulence of your many demands, would you be willing to take a few minutes to gather your unwanted clothing, shoes, small appliances, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, and books (no reference books)? Please drop them in the Catholic Charities bin located in the parking lot. Thank you.

DID YOU KNOW?

The term Xmas is not a derogatory term, nor does it imply that Christ has been "crossed out" or "X'ed out" as some individuals may try to convince you. In Greek, the language in which much of the New Testament was originally written, the word Christ begins with the letter "Chi" which in Greek is written as an "X". The Church has always used the "Chi" or "X" to represent Christ.

Support Our Local Advertisers

Our advertisers need your help during these difficult times! Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local during these hard times.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

1. Confirmation Session #3 is THIS THURSDAY, December 3rd at 7:30 pm in the Lower Hall.
2. Advent Confessions for Grades 3 through Five will be held NEXT SUNDAY, December 6th beginning at 10:15am in the Lower Hall. Please keep in mind that masks are required, and Catechists will be on hand to assist in maintaining social distancing. Sudents will be dismissed individually.

ON LINE BILL PAYMENT

1. Contact your bank - They will tell you how they can conveniently send your contribution to the church office. If you are currently paying your bills online, you can simply add your church donation, payable to St. John the Evangelist Church, to your list.
2. Choose how often you want to send your contributions: once a week, twice a month, once a month, etc.
3. List your envelope number when you are asked for an account number, if you do not know your number, please contact the church office.
4. Have your bank mail to:
St. John the Evangelist
235 Harrison Street
Leonia, NJ 07605
5. The parish staff, will credit your account for your year-end contribution report just like when you place your envelope in the collection basket.

We are extremely grateful for your generous contributions!

DO SOMETHING KIND

It's easy to get absorbed by our own world of misfortune and to forget about the people around us. Stepping outside of your daily routine to help someone else can provide amazing perspective and fill you with positivity. Strive to do one nice thing for someone else each day. Call a family member or friend in need of a kind word, compliment a stranger, go out of your way to help a co-worker complete a task, or join the thousands of caffeinated people "paying it forward" in the Starbucks line.—from *Psychology Today*, "6 Ways to Become More Positive Today" by Gregory L. Jantz Ph.D.

THANK YOU!!!

Thanks to all who donated turkeys, and other meats and provisions to our Food Pantry for the Thanksgiving holiday. You have made it possible for many families to enjoy the holiday. How wonderful is that! God Bless you for your continued generosity —*Food Pantry Committee*

PRAYER FOR ENDURANCE

Dear God

Please give me the strength to endure this situation, and to find the blessings and lessons that it contains.

Please give me the endurance to continue ahead.

Please guide my thoughts, words, and actions, so that I walk your path of peace, love, and understanding.

Amen.

MASS INTENTION

REQUESTED BY

- SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, ST. JOSEPH MARY PIGNATELLA**
5:00 PM DANIELLE LEMBO & FLORENCE TURSODIANE LEMBO
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
7:30 AM FRANK PROVENZANO JEAN DEMICHELE
9:30 AM CHARLES VASSALLO & ROCCA ACCETURA.....LUCREZIA VASSALLO
11:30 AM RICHARD NAZZARO SR..... LISA & FRANK CIRILLO
6:00 PM CATHERINE FOUST..... DOLORES & JIM CIANI
- MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE**
9:00 AM JUELE FAMILY JUELE FAMILY
TESS LUANITEZ ANNABELLE DUMLAO & FAMILY
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, ST. EDWARD CAMPION, MARTYR**
9:00 AM MARGARET DUKE..... THE DUKE FAMILY
DEC'D MEMBERS OF THE CHIARELLO & RALLIS FAMILIES
..... BILL BIZYK
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, ST. BIBIANA, MARTYR**
9:00 AM JAMES GANLEY JULIE & JIM DIEMER
MICHAEL O'CONNOR (LIVING).... ANTHONY & KATHLEEN COURTNEY
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST**
10:00AM MANUEL GUERRERO DUMLAO EDGARDO SADANG
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, ST. JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**
9:00 AM ADELIN DENNIS MARY RAUSCH
7:00 PM MARY LORENZO BRIAN & BRIDGET BURKE
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, ST. SABBAS, ABBOTT**
9:00 AM HYOSON KWON..... ELIZABETH KIM
5:00 PM JOSEPHINE E. LOUGHLIN..... ANNEMARIE LOUGHLIN & FAMILY
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
7:30 AM ROSE COVIELLO
9:30 AM JAMES TREACY JR.....STEPHANIE & PHILLIP BATTISTA
11:30 AM McMEEKIN & SALZIG FAMILIES..... DORE SALZIG
6:00 PM FLORENCE TURSO & DANIELLE LEMBO LEMBO FAMILY

Sanctuary Memorials

The Altar Bread & Wine is in memory of St. John's Parishioners

The Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of The Markowski Family

Sanctuary Offerings

The Altar Flowers, Bread and Wine, the BVM Votive Lamp, and St. Joseph Votive Lamp, the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church and in the Convent can be dedicated on a weekly basis.

THE LOVE OF GOD

No matter how long it has been, the Love of God knows no time. We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation EVERY Saturday from 4-4:30pm. Every Monday, - Saturday morning at 8:30AM, and every First Friday at 6:30pm. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

A COURAGEOUS CHOICE

Over 2000 years ago, an angel announced the pregnancy of a young unmarried girl. The courageous choice made by that young woman to give birth in difficult circumstances, supported by a man named Joseph, still stands as a model of God's way to handle unplanned pregnancy.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. King Saul.
2. King David.
3. King Solomon.
4. The Queen of Shebah
5. Israel and Judah.

First SUNDAY of *Advent*

November 29, 2020

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old.

Isaiah 63:19b; 64:2-3

Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. Photos: © iStockphoto.com, © Shutterstock.com, © iStockphoto.com, © iStockphoto.com. Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1988, 1987, 1986, 1978, CCA.

When Jesus does not speak in eloquent sentences, but barks out imperative statements such as in our Gospel reading today, one can understand the urgency. There is no place for flowery language. “Be watchful! Be alert!” One has a sense that these should be written in bold or all caps! He tells the parable of the homeowner leaving his workers at home, with no knowledge of when he would return. Without phones and texts and travel schedules it could have meant the homeowner was returning sometime in the day, or sometime in the coming month or year. So Jesus is not telling us, “You have to behave for a little bit,” but rather, “You must live your life and work like the homeowner is always here. You must always be prepared.”

WATCH!

This author was very aware of the language of “master/servant” in the Gospel today and is reading it and praying it in light of discussions on racism in recent months. Perhaps this goes with the last imperative at the end of the parable to “Watch!” This year has taught us to be alert in our actions such

as social distancing, masks, and sanitizing, as well as in our language and even our thoughts. Now how do we apply that to our spirituality, to our faith? For many, due to restrictions on numbers in church, singing, and choirs, this has meant learning to pray in a whole different way. The celebration of liturgy is the same as ever, with its focus always on the Word and the Eucharist, but for those in the pew, or still watching on livestream, the sense of active participation has taken on a very different meaning from how most of us have experienced liturgy in our lifetime. It feels like we have become spectators rather than participants. Perhaps this challenge can move us from complacency in our faith, to rediscover and relate to God in new ways, and call us to be even stronger in our personal faith. We must remain diligent. We must “watch.” We must hope. We must love. We must pray.

Today’s Readings: Is 63:16b–17, 19b, 64:2–7; Ps 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; 1 Cor 1:3–9; Mk 13:33–37

Copyright © 2020, J. S. Paluch Company, Inc., 3708 River Road, Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158 1 800 621-5197. With Ecclesiastical Approbation.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Long ago in northern Europe, the growing dark and winter weather in Advent forced people to remove the wheels from their carts and replace them with snow runners. The wheels were hung high in the rafters of the house, fitted out with lanterns, and wound tightly with evergreen boughs. The first wreaths were windows into heaven, a source of light, a comforting sign of the victory of the light of Christ over our world’s dark wildernesses, its mountainous obstacles, its valleys of need.

The Advent wreath started in the home, and only later appeared in church. Its four candles represent the four Sundays of our journey: typically three purple, one rose. Why not set a wreath in your own home as a place for Advent prayer? Don’t let a shortage of purple candles discourage you: some use a deep blue, others have white candles and weave blue and purple flowers, seashells, and pine cones into the green. When the sun sets tonight, light a single candle, sing a verse of a well-loved Advent hymn, and name a mountain to be leveled, a valley to be filled. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

SANTA CLAUS

Our **Santa Claus** is really St. Nicholas, who was a bishop in Asia Minor during the 4th Century. St. Nicholas gave many gifts anonymously in his lifetime and became known as the protector of children. The Dutch settlers brought the tradition of St. Nicholas with them to America, where they celebrated his feast day on December 6th, which is near Christmas time. The Dutch version of this Saint was called “Sinterklaas”. Santa Claus became an Americanization of that name.

KIDZ KORNER

- 1 Who was the first king of the Jewish nation?
- 2 What shepherd boy succeeded him?
- 3 Who was the wisest king of Israel?
- 4 What famous Queen came to visit this “wise” king?
- 5 What were the names of the two Jewish kingdoms in the Old Testament?

Answers on page 4