

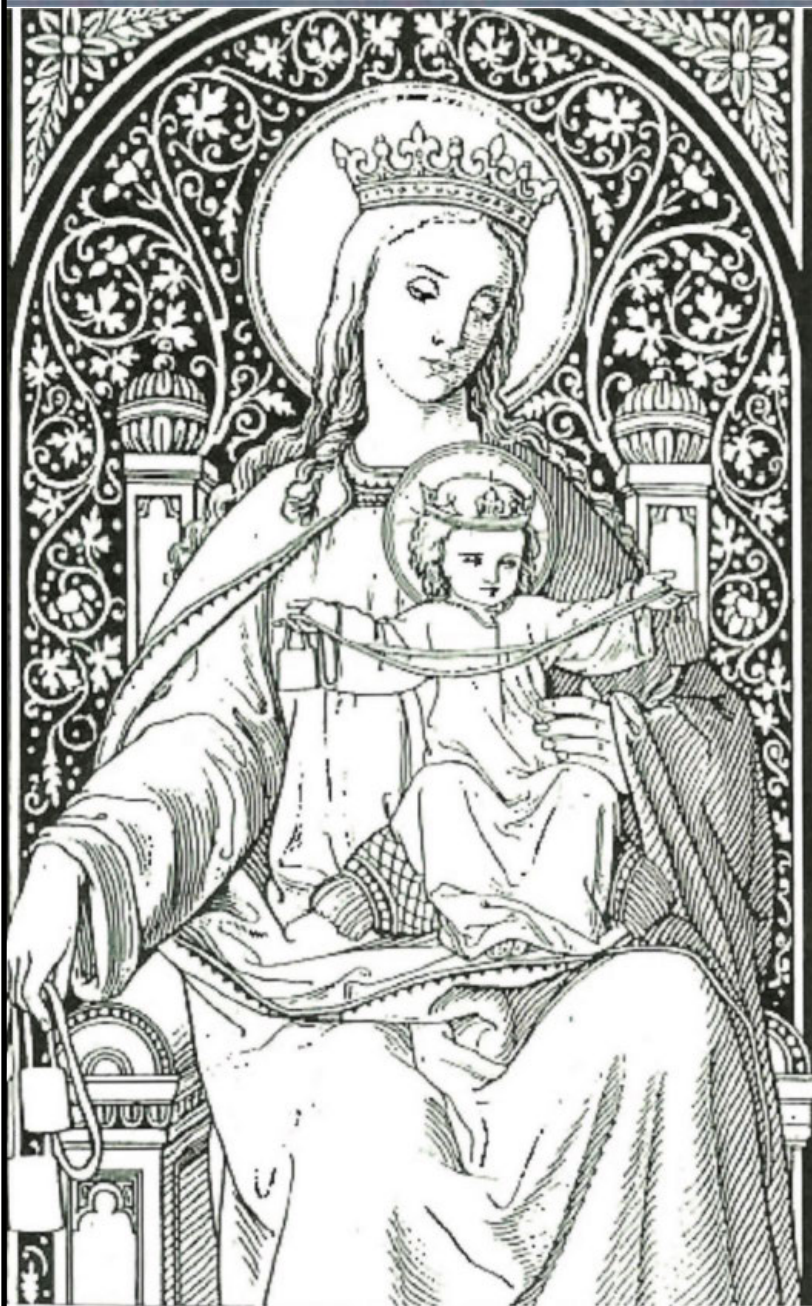
Saint John the Evangelist Church

470 Broad Avenue, Leonia, New Jersey

201-947-4545

www.stjohnleonia.org

SUNDAY, May 14, 2023 A.D.



MOTHERS

The most important person
on earth is a mother.

She cannot claim the honor
of having built Notre Dame
Cathedral. She need not.

She has built something
more magnificent than any
cathedral ... a dwelling for
an immortal soul, the tiny
perfection of her baby's body.

Mothers are closer to God the
Creator than any other creature.
God joins forces with mothers in
performing this act of creation.

What on God's good earth is
more glorious than this:

to be a mother!

Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty

**TO ALL OUR MOTHERS,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

To our Mothers who have gone before us,
eternal rest grant unto them, oh Lord!

St. John Rectory
Phone: 201-947-4545

Email: parishoffice@stjohnleonia.org

St. John Convent
201-944-4362

St. John Religious Education
201-944-4346

religiouseducation@stjohnleonia.org

Upcoming Parish Events

- 5/13 Sat Confessions 4pm
- 5/13 Sat NA 7pm Lower Hall
- 5/14 Sun NO Faith Formation Classes
- 5/14 Sun NO Children's Liturgy
- 5/14 Sun Happy Mother's Day
- 5/16 Tue Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Church
- 5/17 Wed Book Study Group 10:15am Lower Hall
- 5/17 Wed Holy Hour with Rosary 7pm
- 5/18 Thu Confirmation 7pm Church
- 5/19 Fri AA 8pm Lower Hall
- 5/20 Sat Confessions 4pm
- 5/20 Sat NA 7pm Lower Hall
- 5/21 Sun Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30am Mass
- 5/21 Sun Altar Society Meeting & May Crowning in Lower Hall following 9:30 a.m. Mass

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 that those who ASSIST and CARE for the sick will be given the STRENGTH to continue GOD'S GOOD WILL:

Rhyan, Shane, Jeanne Aimone, Vahide Atlas, Sue Baniel, Ellen Barrett, Chieko and Pauline Bernard, Wendy Caldwell, Albert Castro, Sheila Conroy, Barbara D'Amato, Harold DelMonte, Mary Ellen Diakakis, Carla Errico, Kathleen Falotico, Nellie Fazio, Virginia Fisher, Joseph Garcia, Alida Hernandez, Brendan Horan, Richard Hrbeck, Andrea Korner, Scott Lyddon, Audrey Maguire, Jean Marrano, Raven Moncada, Mary Moran, George Mulligan, Mary Netherby, Rita Neugebauer, Alice Palmieri, Mark Patricola, Gloria Petti, Betty Pisarek, Sal & Mary Poppo, Chris Ruskay, Netti Russo, Fabio Santos, Mark Savery, Angelo Shingelo, Maureen Spadora, Maria Uhm, Loidya Valenzuela, Anne Vaughan, and Adam Villavecchia.

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.

Sgt. Matt Brady, USMC
Lt. Col. Dennis Castro, USAF
Maj. Michael A. Franson, US Army
Sgt. Joseph Gonzales, USAF
Lt. Robert Luceri, MD USN
Cmdr. Alexander McMahon, USN
Cpt. Matt Meagher, US Army

MASS INTENTION

REQUESTED BY

SATURDAY, MAY 13, OUR LADY OF FATIMA

9:00 AM SOULS IN PURGATORYLUIS & ROSA DISLA

5:00 PM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

SUNDAY, MAY 14, SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:30 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

9:30 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

11:30 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

6:00 PM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

MONDAY, MAY 15, ST. ISIDORE

9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

TUESDAY, MAY 16, ST. ST. BRENDAN, ABBOT OF CLONFERT

9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, ST. PASCHAL BAYLON, PRIEST

9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

THURSDAY, MAY 18, ST. ERIC OF SWEDEN, MARTYR

9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

7:00 PM CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

FRIDAY, MAY 19, ST. DUNSTAN, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

SATURDAY, MAY 20, ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA, PRIEST

9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

5:00 PM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

SUNDAY, MAY 21, THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

7:30 AM JODI DEMICHELE JEAN & PAT DEMICHELE

9:30 AM MARY D. RAUSCH MARY RAUSCH

11:30 AM ROXANNE SR. CRUZ THE DUMLAO FAMILY

6:00 PM PAUL PALKA CHARLENE & RICH PALKA

SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Altar Bread & Wine is in memory of
Coviello Family

The Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of
Ruth Trujillo
 requested by
Sylvia Donohue

SANCTUARY OFFERINGS

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

SPIRITUAL RETREAT WITH HEALING MASS

St. Nicholas Church Saturday, May 20th

St. Nicholas RC Church in Palisades Park invites all to attend a **PARISH SPIRITUAL RETREAT WITH HEALING MASS**. It will be held at the Sanctuary of Mary and Shrine of Saint Justin Russolillo in Branchville, NJ on Saturday May 20. The parish will provide a bus—cost \$25.00. The Bus will leave St. Nicholas Parking Lot at 8:30 AM. Please call the rectory at 201-944-1154 to reserve your place.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

St. John's Tithe May 6-7, 2023

Budget: \$ 7,000.00

Sunday Collection: \$ 7,184.00

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
(1)/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21
Mon: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and
9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tue: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/
Jn 16:5-11
Wed: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13,
14/Jn 16:12-15
Thu: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20
Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
(6)/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
Fri: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23
Sat: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

6th Sunday of Easter

"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." 1 PETER 3:17

The old line says "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes, we don't get the result we anticipated or an unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!" Here's the thing – adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.

Parenting Pointer

It's spring planting time in the northern hemisphere. What is your child's favorite vegetable? Is it something you can plant in your yard or a pot? Are they old enough to help? Try it – alone or together.

~"by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net"



St John's Knights of Columbus



All men over 18 are invited to join the St. John's Parish Knights of Columbus, the world's largest men's fraternal organization. For more information or to join, please contact Vito Mazza at 201-446-4072.

Servant of God Marie-Rose Juliette

Servant of God Marie-Rose Juliette Toussaint was born Marie-Rose Gaston in 1786 in Saint Domingue which is present day



Haiti. She and her family were enslaved and moved with their enslavers, the Noels, to Baltimore during the Haitian Revolution. In her early 20's, she met Venerable Pierre Toussaint — also on his way toward sainthood right now — an affluent New York man who had been enslaved and also immigrated from Haiti. He purchased her freedom, and they were married on August 5, 1811.

Juliette and Pierre quickly established themselves as a charitable force to be reckoned with in New York City! The adopted Euphémie, the daughter of Pierre's late sister, who died of tuberculosis, and raised her as their own child. Throughout their life together, Juliette and Pierre also adopted numerous black children from the streets of New York, raised them as their own, and helped them establish their own prosperous lives. They would shelter travelers and homeless folk and they went to daily Mass and participated in many local ministries.

Although they were bringing frequent treats and baked goods to the local orphanage, helping Haitian refugees find jobs, fostering and adopting children, and donating significant amounts of their personal money to charitable organizations, the Toussaints wanted to do even more. They worked together to continue their daily jobs but also to establish careers of charity. During yellow fever outbreaks, the couple temporarily repurposed their home as an infirmary to care for the sick in their neighborhood. Together, they created an employment agency for immigrants and freed slaves, a refuge for retired priests, and they even organized a credit bureau!

Later in life, with a congregation of sisters — the Oblate Sisters of Providence — Juliette and her husband helped fund the establishment of the very first New York City Catholic School for Black Children. They also helped finance the building of a new Roman Catholic church which became The Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral in Lower Manhattan and is still in use today, as well as helped finance St. Vincent De Paul church on New York's Canal Street. Secular causes also got attention from Juliette. She is credited with gifting the New York African Society for Mutual Relief the property on which they built their meeting hall!

Juliette died of natural causes on May 14, 1851, at the age of 65 and is buried along with her husband and their child at the church they helped build, Old St. Patrick's. She is recognized as a Servant of God for her incredible virtue and holiness. ©LPi

2023 Calendar Raffle Winners

May 8th Prize of \$50 was won by:

Gudrun Grywatsch

May 10th Prize of \$75 was won by:

Scrivani Grandchildren

May 12th Prize of \$25 was won by:

Peter & Veronica Daly

Thanks to all who have participated in the raffle so far. Look in next week's bulletin for this weekend's winners. Tickets can still be purchased at the entrance to church or at the Rectory. "Ya gotta be in it to win it!"

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

—Our 2022-23 Faith Formation year has come to an end. THANK YOU to all of our families for their support of our program here at St. John's. A special THANK YOU to our Catechists who volunteer their time and talent to make it all happen. We couldn't do it without them!

—Children's Liturgy goes on! Looking forward to seeing our children every Sunday at our 9:30 a.m. Mass.

—Please keep our Confirmation Candidates and their families in your prayers this week. Bishop Saporito will be here on Thursday evening when we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

—Registration for Faith Formation 2023-2024 is now open! Our existing families will be receiving a Registration Form by email which needs to be submitted as quickly as possible. The Registration Form & tuition fees are posted on our website.

Please feel free to reach out to Mirela Tarabokija by email at: religionseducation@stjohnleonia.org if you have any questions or would like more information.

Weirdly Christian

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

For some time, I have worn a brown scapular. If you don't know much about this devotional practice, here is a very quick-and-dirty version, greatly lacking in detail: it's two little pieces of brown cloth, connected by a cord and worn around the neck beneath one's clothing. One of the cloth pieces depicts Our Lady of Mount Carmel appearing to St. Simon Stock, and the other piece — the one that is sometimes visible at the nape of my neck — depicts Our Lady's "scapular promise:" *Whosoever dies clothed in this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire.*

This reflection is not about the brown scapular, but let me just quickly say that, while I believe the scapular promise, I do not view the scapular as a get-out-of-jail-free card, and neither does the Church. I don't wear it for the purpose of avoiding eternal fire. I wear it as a reminder to myself of my Marian consecration and as an act of humility and prayer.

I have sometimes cringed at the thought of how it looks to the person standing behind me in line at the coffee shop, should they happen to glimpse my scapular and read its brazen promise. We don't go in for talk of hellfire and salvation in polite society these days. I wonder if they think I'm a crazy person. I wonder if I should try to tuck the scapular back down below my collar.

Sometimes I do. But more often than not, I take a deep breath and decide that it's okay for me to feel self-conscious and trust that, if God wants to use this moment for His glory, he will — and if He doesn't, all I've lost is the esteem of others, which isn't worth that much to begin with.

I've always heard it said that if you do Christianity right, the rest of the world should think you're just a little bit weird.

"...the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him."

— John 14:17

©LPi

**"The greatest teacher I ever had
was my mother."**

George Washington

One day, St. Louis de Montfort met a drunk man in church..... and preached one of the greatest sermons on humility.

The little church in Roussay, France, was full of eager people. They had come to hear a great preacher, one who was famous for the fiery love which imbued his inspiring yet simply-worded sermons.

At last, he entered the church: Fr. Montfort himself.

Fr. Montfort approached the pulpit, led the faithful in prayer, and began preaching. Suddenly, the church door burst open and a drunk man stumbled inside. The man was angry. He staggered up the aisle, screaming slurred insults at Fr. Montfort. The congregation froze, aghast. Everyone looked at the priest who stood silently in the pulpit, gazing at the man. What would he do?

Fr. Montfort left his place and came down the aisle to meet the drunk. And then, to the amazement of them all, he knelt in front of the man and humbly begged forgiveness. If there was anything he, Fr. Montfort, had done to offend or hurt the man, he asked most humbly for pardon.

The drunk man was as astonished as the congregation. He stared at Fr. Montfort for a moment—then turned and quietly left the church with a sorrowful expression.

Fr. Montfort rose, returned to the pulpit, and finished preaching his sermon—though he had already preached magnificently with his actions!

St. Louis de Montfort left lasting impressions on all he met, winning over even the most hardened sinners. He was successful because he always relied on the Rosary to help him. He wrote *The Secret of the Rosary* to share with us just how powerful and important this prayer is.

~from <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/one-day-st-louis-de-montfort-met-a-drunk-man-in-church/>

St John's Altar Society

Monthly Meeting & May Crowning—next Sunday

The monthly meeting of the Altar Society will be held Sunday following 9:30 a.m. in the Lower Hall. A special May Crowning ceremony will take place at the meeting.

All women over 18 are invited to join the St. John's Altar Society, a group of women who quietly serve our parish in many different ways—washing altar linens, running bake sales and other types of fundraisers to help support our parish. For more information or to join, call Kathy Stendor at 201-956-7147 or Betsy Trautsch at 201-947-8679.

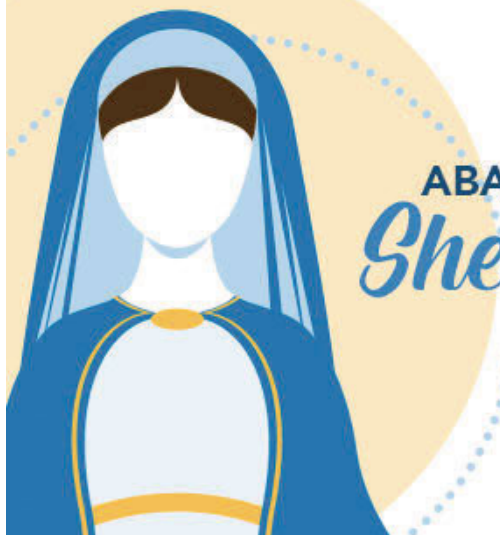
SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

"So take whatever He gives and takes with a big smile. Accept the gifts of God and be deeply grateful. If He has given you great wealth, make use of it, try to share it with others, with those who don't have anything. Always share with others." *St. Mother Teresa*

~from *St. Mother Teresa, Meditations from a Simple Path*

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. St. Elizabeth
2. St. Anne
3. Eve
4. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
5. St. Gerard



ABANDON YOURSELF TO THE VIRGIN MARY.
She will take care of you.

- PADRE PIO

©LPI



FIRST COMMUNION

On Saturday, May 6th the following children of St. John the Evangelist received their First Holy Communion—what a joyous celebration as we welcomed them for the first time to eat at the table of the Lord!

OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS

Kameron Alpas
Ethan Bardalez
Jonas Alfred Berba
Isabella Cancro
Nate Cheung
Elana Chicoy
Phillip Chicoy
Noah Cruz
Tessa Delaney
Maggie Estrada

Aleksy Lamb
Jacob Lee
Blyth Manatt
Victoria Morillo
William (Liam) O'Doherty
Alexandra O'Donnell
Dorothy Pennington
Sebastian Rivera
John Tambascia

We also extend our sincere thanks to our catechists, Marion Lobo and Rosa Disla; our religious education director, Mirela Tarabokija; and the parents, godparents, relatives, and friends who have inspired and helped our First Communicants to this important step in their initiation into the Body of Christ and his sacramental mysteries.

PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Heavenly Father,
from the beginning you have chosen to entrust
the human person to mothers in a special way.
We thank and praise you for the gift of mothers;
for their tenderness, care, and compassion,
for their intuition and encouragement,
for commitment and sacrifice.
Bless all mothers this day.
Keep, strengthen, and refresh them
in your loving care.
May they be blessed by our open-hearted
love and gratitude.
Amen.

Upcoming Events at St. John's

- On Monday, May 15th, Fr. Chris Ciccarino will discuss "The Two Sons" and "The Sower" - Parables of Jesus at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Hall. Fr. Chris is Associate Dean for Seminary and Academic Studies and Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies of Immaculate Heart Seminary at Seton Hall University. All are welcome!!

- On Monday, May 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Hall there will be a special movie presentation of "**Marian Apparitions of the 20th Century**". Come and witness for yourself rare and amazing footage. Documented in this film are reported apparitions from Fatima, Medjugorje, Kibeho, Garabandal, The Soviet Ukraine, Betania, Naju, Korea and more. Come join us and bring a friend!

PHILIPPINE MADRIGAL SINGERS CONCERT—MAY 16, 2023 AT 7PM EPIPHANY R.C. CHURCH, CLIFFSIDE PARK

Come see the **Philippine Madrigal Singers** in Concert and support the Filipino Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Newark (FAAN). The Concert **LIMANG DAANG BIYAYA** (500 Years of Blessing) will be on Tuesday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. at Epiphany R.C. Church in Cliffside Park.

The Group, headed by Mark Anthony A. Carpio, will perform Popular Religious Songs and Original Filipino Music (OPM). Tickets start at \$45 each, first come first served.

Please contact Ed Ventura by phone at 201-218-0842 or edramirventura@gmail.com for tickets.

Mother's Day Novena Cards

Please remember to return Mother's Day Novena Cards in the Basket. All intentions will be placed on the Altar during the Novena.

KIDZ KORNER

1. Who was St. John the Baptist's mom?
2. Who was the Virgin Mary's mom?
3. Who was the mother of Cain and Abel?
4. What famous American Saint was the mother of five children?
5. Who is the patron of expectant mothers?

Answers on Page 4



Frank A. Patti

Kenneth Mikatari

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