

# Saint John the Evangelist Church

470 Broad Avenue, Leonia, New Jersey - 201-947-4545 [www.stjohnleonia.org](http://www.stjohnleonia.org)

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 A. D.



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the  
Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” - Mt 28:19-20

## Upcoming Parish Events

- 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  
 5/23 Tue Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Church  
 5/24 Wed Book Study Group 10:15am Lower Hall  
 5/24 Wed Holy Hour with Rosary 7pm  
 5/26 Fri AA 8pm Lower Hall  
 5/27 Sat Confessions 4pm  
 5/27 Sat NA 7pm Lower Hall  
 5/28 Sun Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30am 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: Shane, Jeanne Aimone, Vahide Atlas, Sue Baniel, Chieko and Pauline Bernard, 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, Sr. Helen Ann Nelson, SSND, Mary Netherby, Rita Neugebauer, Alice Palmieri, Mark Patricola, Gloria Petti, Betty Pisarek, Sal and Mary Poppo, Chris Ruskay, Netti Russo, Fabio Santos, Newman 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**  
**Cmdr. Alexander McMahon, USN**  
**Cpt. Matt Meagher, US Army**

## Palm Collection



During the month of May, there will be a basket in the back of church to collect old palm from Palm Sunday.

## MASS INTENTION

## REQUESTED BY

**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  
**MONDAY, MAY 22, ST. RITA OF CASCIA, RELIGIOUS**  
 9:00 AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED  
**TUESDAY, MAY 23, ST. JOHN BAPTIST ROSSI, PRIEST**  
 9:00 AM LOUISE GANGWISH ..... THE DUKE FAMILY  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, ST. VINCENT OF LERINS, PRIEST**  
 9:00 AM BETTY ROESER ..... SYLVIA DONOHUE  
**THURSDAY, MAY 25, ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE, PRIEST**  
 9:00 AM MARY MORNINGWAY SCHIETTINO ..... MARY MORNINGWAY  
**FRIDAY, MAY 26, ST. PHILIP NERI, PRIEST**  
 9:00 AM ROSE COVIELLO  
**SATURDAY, MAY 27, ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP**  
 9:00 AM ADAM SHAPIRO (BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS) ..... ELIZABETH KIM  
 5:00 PM DANIELLE LEMBO & FLORENCE TURSO  
 ..... DIONNE & LUKE KUTNER  
**SUNDAY, MAY 28, PENTECOST SUNDAY**  
 7:30 AM CONNIE MUIR ..... MARY RAUSCH  
 9:30 AM ANNETTE STENDOR ..... BRIDGET & BRIAN BURKE  
 11:30 AM CORAZON GUSMAN SAMALA ..... MARIA & FRANK STANCATO  
 6:00 PM WALTER ZYGIEL ..... SYLVIA DONOHUE

## SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Altar Bread & Wine is in memory of  
**Marie Schumacher**  
 requested by **Marie & John Brainard**

The Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of  
**Gene Lupetin**  
 requested by **Elaine & Tara Lupetin**

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp is offered in Thanksgiving  
**For Wendy Caldwell's Return to Health**  
 requested by **Evelyn & Jerry Solokas**

## 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.



## THE INFANT OF PRAGUE

Did you know that on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, we have a novena to The Infant Jesus of Prague after the 9am Mass? All are welcome!

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

**St. John's Tithe May 13-14, 2023**

Budget: \$ 7,000.00

Sunday Collection: \$ 7,080.00



## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (The Ascension of the Lord)

*"I am praying for them..." JOHN 17:9*

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation - not just our last resort. Pray for friends and family, and especially for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank, and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you. Teach others how to pray. It has been said that teaching someone how to pray is the best gift you can give someone.

### PASSING THE BUCK/THE BUCK STOPS HERE

Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer, the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted then "the buck stopped there".

## Spiritual Excerpt

### CHRIST'S CROSS

Did Jesus go on a mountaintop and yell, "I love you, I love you"? No, He got on a cross, stretched out His hands, was nailed to that cross, and said, "I thirst" (John 19:28). For what? Water? No. He thirsted for your love. Every cross we have brings us closer to the Lord because it detaches us. It's easy to have faith when times are good. It's in the cross that our faith is proven.

**Mother Angelica, Little Book of Life Lessons page 116.**

## THE USHER

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps, "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No," he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No," she said. "Good," he answered.

### CHECK OUT THE BOOK RACKS

None of us knows it all; we should all take some time out of our busy lives and learn more about our own faith, so please check out the book racks in the vestibule of church. We have plenty of interesting books, booklets, pamphlets and CDs.

## 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.

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

--Congratulations to all of our young men & women who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday! May the Holy Spirit always be their guide. "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire." --St. Catherine of Siena

--2023-24 Registration is open! Our returning families have received the Registration Form by email.

Please complete & submit them as quickly as possible to that we can plan accordingly. The Registration Form & tuition fees are posted on our website. Please feel free to reach out to Mirela Tarabokija at:

religionseducation@stjohnleonia.org with any questions.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Mon: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tue: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

Wed: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

Thu: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Fri: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

Sat: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

**In order to keep this program continuing, we are in need of additional volunteers.** Liturgy of the Word for Children is a program in which the Sunday scripture readings are proclaimed and explained on a level appropriate to children in grades K-5 at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Teaching plans are provided and the children and leaders are called to the altar when the readings are to be proclaimed in Church. The children process to the classroom designated for the Children's Liturgy. Please consider volunteering for this important Ministry. To find out more or to volunteer, please call the Rectory at 201-947-4545.

## 2023 Calendar Raffle Winners

May 16th Prize of \$25 was won by:

**Gisela O'Connell of Leonia, NJ**

May 18th Prize of \$50 was won by:

**Karen Hannon of Leonia, NJ**

May 20th Prize of \$75 was won by:

**Luis & Ruth Paez of Leonia, NJ**

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!"

## PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

Each day after 9:00 a.m. Daily Mass, we pray the Rosary. For those unable to attend, there is also Divine Mercy at 3:00 p.m. followed by the Rosary of the Day. Also, the Chaplet of the Holy Face is prayed daily at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested, download the **Zoom App** (free) to your phone, tablet or computer. Use this link any day you would like to join us in prayer:

<https://us02web-zoom.us/j/4845188113>

Use passcode: **prayer**

## Why Are There Liturgical Cycles?

**Question: Why Does the Church Have Different Liturgical Cycles?**

**Answer:** While most Catholics know that the Church Year is divided into various seasons (e.g. Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, etc.), many are unaware that the one Church Year is not like the one that follows. While the main seasons and feasts are the same from year to year, the 3-year cycle for Sundays and the 2-year cycle for weekdays means that, as a general rule, the readings in the *Lectionary* that we hear at Mass will change from year to year, helping us to have a richer encounter with Sacred Scripture. Each new cycle begins with the beginning of the liturgical year, the First Sunday of Advent.

The reasoning behind this innovation is outlined in *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, the "Dogmatic Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" of the Second Vatican Council: "The treasures of the bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word. In this way a more representative portion of the holy scriptures will be read to the people in the course of a prescribed number of years" (no. 51). This was fully achieved in 1969 when the new cycles of readings were approved by Pope Saint Paul VI.

To learn more about the Liturgy of the Word within the Mass, visit: [www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-word/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-word/index.cfm) ©LPi

## How True!

- Don't worry about what people think; they don't do it very often.
- My idea of homework is to sweep the room with a glance.
- It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.
- If you look like your passport picture, you need a vacation.
- Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.
- A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand.
- Middle age is when broadness of mind and narrowness of waist change places.
- Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.
- By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.

## We Are Family

I am looking forward to an empty nest. It isn't that I do not love my children or that I will not miss them. I am simply looking forward to catching up on life. I look forward to times when there is no one else there except for my wife. It will be a time to ourselves that I hope will be time well spent. I look forward to the days when my children will visit (with grandchildren, I hope!). There will be occasions we visit them as well (to see grandchildren, I hope!). The truth is, even though we will not be living in the same house, we will never be too far from one another. We belong to each other no matter what.

That is how it is with family. When we become disciples of Jesus Christ, we belong to him. We are family. Our greatest gift to give is our very selves to one another. Jesus gave all of himself to us. Even though he ascended to his Heavenly Father, he remains with us in love and grace, especially in the Holy Eucharist. He has shown us how to love and how to be family. Even when we cannot see him, Jesus remains with us. Hopefully, we can follow in that example and give of ourselves fully and be there for those we love whenever they need us, especially if they need us to watch the grandchildren. (It is a ways away, but I want to plant the seeds now!) —Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

## Upcoming at St. John's

- 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!



## CONFIRMATION

**Tade Adeyeri-Bonilla**  
**Aquila Bernal**  
**Evelisse Castro**  
**Chiara Centrella**  
**Marcelo Estevez**  
**Dylan Gallagher**  
**Celeste Garzon**  
**Antonia Hammid**  
**Tobias Hammid**

**Benjamin Krett**  
**Jared Manatt**  
**Josephine Meltzer**  
**Marian Monegro**  
**Patrikreed Pascual**  
**Tristan Perri**  
**Jack Sclafane**  
**Vincent Tarabola**

## God Bless Our Newly Confirmed

Special thanks to those who helped prepare and encourage these young people to become adult members of our Church: Fr. Bryan, Deacon Brian, Mirela Tarabokija, Elisa Milea, Sponsors and Parents.

## THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Down through the ages, the power of the Holy Spirit has been described in many ways. St. Thomas Aquinas formulated and categorized these gifts into what we now call the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Here is a brief description of each gift that we receive at OUR CONFIRMATION:

### WISDOM:

The ability to see things as they truly are in an open-minded manner.

### UNDERSTANDING:

A heart that accepts, cares, listens, forgives, and understands.

### KNOWLEDGE:

The ability to comprehend the truths of the universe.

### RIGHT JUDGEMENT/COUNCIL:

The ability to make good and wise decisions.

### COURAGE/FORTITUDE:

The strength to do what is right in spite of challenges.

### REVERENCE/PIETY:

A deep respect for God, for others, and for all creation.

### WONDER & AWE in GOD'S PRESENCE/FEAR OF THE LORD:

A sense of the greatness and majesty of God coupled with a deep realization of God's nearness.

## KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. On the Right hand of the Father.
2. Matthias.
3. The Mount of Olives.
4. 2 men dressed in white.
5. A cloud.

## BC Lead On Program

The Bergen Catholic LEAD ON Program is a three-week summer enrichment program designed for students entering 7th and 8th grades. It provides a stimulating classroom experience in which students will explore and enjoy a variety of topics. Program Descriptions and Registration can be found on the BC website. For more info please email: [admissions@bergencatholic.org](mailto:admissions@bergencatholic.org)

## Immaculate Heart Academy Summer Co-ed Enrichment Programs

Immaculate Heart Academy, located at 500 Van Emburgh Ave., Township of Washington, NJ 07676, is hosting its annual Summer@theheart co-ed enrichment programs beginning July 10, 2023. Two full sessions and four mini sessions will be offered from July 10 through August 3, Mondays-Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Both boys and girls entering 6th through 12th grades are welcome. Courses include Intro to Python, Intro to Algebra, Intro to Geometry, Bio Bootcamp, Oil Painting, Creative Writing, Broadcasting, and Essay Writing Bootcamp. For specific grade requirements for each course and to register, please visit [ihanj.com](http://ihanj.com).

## St John's Altar Society

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.

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

ETERNAL  
CHRIST  
FATHER

GLORY  
GIVEN  
FOLLOWERS

WORLD  
SHOWN  
PRAYING

E	A	I	T	O	I	E	U	P	E	Y
T	C	H	R	I	S	T	Y	A	R	I
A	F	L	O	H	R	E	O	I	A	T
S	O	A	F	W	O	R	L	D	P	O
I	L	N	A	E	L	N	I	S	R	N
R	L	Y	T	R	E	A	V	E	A	U
A	O	R	H	U	G	L	O	R	Y	R
H	W	U	E	F	I	T	E	W	I	A
U	E	T	R	A	V	O	N	U	N	L
C	R	I	U	G	E	F	A	L	G	E
O	S	H	O	W	N	U	G	O	Y	I

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## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LEONIA

### Mass Schedule

Saturday:.....5:00pm  
Sunday:.....7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am  
and 6:00pm

Monday-Saturday:.....9:00am

### Confession Schedule

Monday - Friday.....8:30-8:50am  
Saturday.....4:00-4:30pm  
First Friday.....6:30pm

## Can Catholics Gamble?

**Question:** The Bible says that Jesus condemned gambling, but I notice that so many parishes have them at festivals and other events. What's correct?

**Answer:** Although Jesus speaks of our relationship with material wealth and the very human struggle with greed, the gospels do not include any specific instructions related to gambling. At the same time, the Church is very sensitive to the needs of those who might struggle with an addiction to gambling, and pastoral care should always be offered to those who struggle with this reality in their life.

While it is true that many parish or school communities include gambling or games of chance in festivals and fundraisers (e.g. bingo, roulette, ring tossing, dunking booths, etc.), there is nothing inherently wrong with these sorts of events, given they are played fairly and within the limits of reason are not morally objectionable. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us: "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others" (no. 2413).

As in all things, moderation and a sense of healthy limits should be applied to gambling and games of chance. For those who find themselves living with addiction to gambling, help is available in various 12-step and addiction recovery programs. ©LPi

## A Marriage Moment

"Getting married is the boldest and most idealistic thing that most of us will ever do." (Maggie Gallagher, co-author of *The Case for Marriage*) Pause today to remember your wedding day. Are there any dreams that you had on that day that you now think were unrealistic? Think of one thing about your marriage that has turned out to be better than you expected.

by Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)

## KIDZ KORNERS

1. When Jesus was taken up into heaven, where was he seated?
2. Who replaced Judas Iscariot as the twelfth disciple?
3. On which mount did the ascension take place?
4. Who appeared beside the disciples as they were watching Jesus taken up into the sky?
5. What did Jesus do when he was taken up into heaven?

Answers on Page 4





**Frank A. Patti**

Kenneth Mikarian

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