# Saint John the Evangelist Church

470 Broad Avenue, Leonia, New Jersey 201-947-4545 www.stjohnleonia.org

Rev. Bryan F.J. Adamcik SFO, KCHS, Pastor Fr. Richard Kwiatkowski, Pastor Emeritus

Weekend Assistants
Fr. Christopher Ciccarino Fr. Innocent, CFR

Deacon Brian Burke, Deacon

Sr Jeanne Gilligan FSP Sr Kathryn King FSP Sr Elaine Maguire FSP Sr. Joanne Picciurro, FSP In Residence-Convent

Mirela Tarabokija, Dir. of Religious Education

**Dennis DeSantis,** Director of Music **Nicole Parente,** Cantor

**Deacon Brian Burke** Elaine McKee Parish Trustees

Julie Diemer Parish Secretary

#### Louis Milea

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 8 meet 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

AUGUST 27, 2023 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, 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. Jude and St. Anthony: Wednesday Holy Hour: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. St. Peregrine: First Friday of the month Infant of Prague: 25th of the month

Rosary: Recited Mon - Sat after 9:00 a.m. Mass

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

## 2 - St John the Evangelist, Leonia NJ

Mass

## **Upcoming Parish Events**

8/26	Sat	Confessions 4pm
8/26	Sat	NA 7pm Lower Hall
8/28	Mon	Miraculous Medal Novena following 9am Mass
8/29	Tue	Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Church
8/30	Wed	St. Jude & St. Anthony Novena following 9am N
8/30	Wed	Viewing of <i>The Chosen</i> 10am Lower Hall
8/30	Wed	Holy Hour with Rosary 7pm
9/1	Fri	Confessions 6:30 pm, First Friday Mass 7pm
9/1	Fri	AA 8pm Lower Hall
9/2	Sat	Confessions 4pm
9/2	Sat	NA 7pm Lower Hall

## 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, Jerry Cornacchi, Harold DelMonte, Mary Ellen Diakakis, Carla Errico, Nellie Fazio, Virginia Fisher, Joseph Garcia, Richard Hrbeck, Estrella Juele, Andrea Korner, Scott Lyddon, Sr. Elaine Maguire, Audrey Maguire, Jean Marrano, Raven Moncada, Mary Moran, George Mulligan, Mary Netherby, Rita Neugebauer, Alice Palmieri, Mark Patricola, Gloria Petti, Betty Pisarek, Sal Poppo, Den Reeves, Mark Roger, Chris Ruskay, Netti Russo, Fabio Santos, Newman Santos, Angelo Shingelo, Maureen Spadora, MaryAnn Torre, Maria Uhm, Loidya Valenzuela, Adam Villavecchia, Stefan Wiklinkski and Mary Xavier.

## 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

#### SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US

It is through the generosity of our advertisers that we are able to place this bulletin into your hands without cost to the Parish. Why not get into the habit of looking through the ads and give these neighbors/merchants a chance to serve your needs. Tell them you found them in the St. John's bulletin.

## SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Altar Bread & Wine is in memory of Dolores Pontone requested by Sylvia Donohue

The Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of Joe Corbo
Requested by
Jerry & Evelyn 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.



#### **ARE YOU NEW TO THE AREA?**

If you are, why not join our ever-growing Parish family. Stop by the Rectory any weekday and register to become a member of the St. John's Family. Census forms are also available n the Church vestibule and on our website at: <a href="https://stjohnleonia.org">https://stjohnleonia.org</a>

## **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sun: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/Rom 11:33-36/

Mt 16:13-20

Mon: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/

Mt 23:13-22

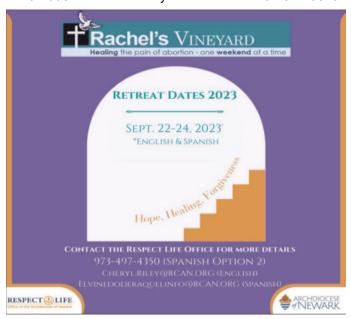
Tue: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mk 6:17-29

Wed: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32 Thu: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 24:42-51 Fri: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13

Sat: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30

## 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.



#### **BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

The Bereavement Ministry at St. John's tends to the needs of parishioners who have lost loved ones. We offer to help plan the funeral mass, attend wake services and attend the Funeral Mass. Additional church services during the year include the All Souls' Mass for parishioners lost within the last year, a Christmas Program for those who have lost loved ones since the preceding Christmas and various Bereavement Support Programs led by Archdiocesan trained Facilitators during the year. If you would like to serve in this ministry or learn more about it, please call Fr. Bryan at the Rectory Office.



## August 27, 2023 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isn't it a bit weird that Catholics call the Pope "papa," father? This Sunday provides us with essential Scriptural background on the papacy, the petrine office. Jesus gives Peter the "keys to the kingdom of heaven," after witnessing to the special grace Peter has to know Jesus' true identity. Many have pointed out that the "keys" refer back to the figure of Eliakim, King David's prime minister. True enough. But notice this is not mere authority or power. It's a family relationship. The Lord says to Eliakim, "He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem" (Isaiah 22:21). David's prime minister was a spiritual *father* to the family of Israel. Peter, and his successors, will be spiritual fathers in the family of the Church.

This means we have a serious obligation to not only recognize the Pope's authority, but also to love him with the affection of children for their papa. We should never speak about him with disrespect or rancor. We should listen to him with trusting hearts, and ignore the slander thrown at him in various media. When we show the world we are loving and obedient to our Holy Papa, perhaps they'll see more clearly that the Church is indeed God's beloved family. ~ Father John Muir ©LPi

## **IMPORTANT FRUITS**

**<u>KIWI:</u>** Tiny but mighty. This is a good source of potassium, magnesium, vitamin E & fiber. Its vitamin C content is twice that of an orange.

**APPLE**: An apple a day keeps the doctor away? Although an apple has a low vitamin C content, it has antioxidants and flavonoids which enhances the activity of vitamin C thereby helping to lower the risks of colon cancer, heart attack and stroke.

**STRAWBERRY:** Protective Fruit. Strawberries have the highest total antioxidant power among major fruits & protect the body from cancer-causing, blood vessel-clogging free radicals.

**ORANGE**: Sweetest medicine. Taking 2-4 oranges a day may help keep colds away, lower cholesterol, prevent and dissolve kidney stones as well as lessens the risk of colon cancer.

**WATERMELON**: Coolest thirst quencher. Composed of 92% water, it is also packed with a giant dose of glutathione, which helps boost our immune system. They are also a key source of lycopene \* the cancer fighting oxidant. Other nutrients found in watermelon are vitamin C and Potassium.

**GUAVA & PAPAYA:** Top awards for vitamin C. They are the clear winners for their high vitamin C content. Guava is also rich in fiber, which helps prevent constipation. Papaya is rich in carotene; this is good for your eyes.

## **WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**St. John's Tithe August 19-20, 2023**Budget: \$ 7,000.00

Sunday Collection: \$ 6,810.79

# Why do white petals fall from the ceiling of St. Mary Major every year?

A beautiful legend surrounds the founding of one of the most important churches in the world.

St. Mary Major, or, in Italian, Santa Maria Maggiore, is one of the four major, or papal, basilicas. These are all found in Rome and include St. Peter's, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

St. Mary Major is sometimes called St. Mary of the Snows or Our Lady of the Snows. Its alternate titles trace their origin to the incredible legend of its founding in the 4th century, which tells of the Roman patrician John and his wife who were without heirs. They prayed to Our Lady to show them how they might use their riches for her honor. Our Lady then designated the place of the Basilica through a snowfall on the crest of the Esquiline Hill—a miraculous occurrence, since it was summer! Both John and Pope Liberius received visions informing them of the event and, upon finding the snowfall, the Holy Father marked out the place of the future church. Hence another of its titles: the Liberian Basilica.

The current structure was dedicated by Sixtus III on the 5th of August, 434. Built during the time directly after the Council of Ephesus, which confirmed Our Lady's title as Theotokos, the God-bearer, the Basilica stands as a monument to the Church's ancient and undying devotion to the Mother of God. Every year on the feast of its dedication, a "snowfall" of white petals is released from the ceiling of the Basilica during Mass to commemorate its founding. In addition to its magnificent 5th century mosaics, the Basilica also houses a far greater treasure. A relic of Our Lord's crib is kept under the high altar: several slats of wood in which He rested the night of His Nativity. This crypt is also the final resting place of the great St. Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin and spent his last days in Bethlehem.

St. Mary Major also contains the miraculous Marian icon Salus Populi Romani which, according to legend, was painted from life by St. Luke, using wood from the table of the Holy Family. Its title translates to "Health (or Salvation) of the Roman People," and it has been venerated by popes and pilgrims for centuries.

The striking beauty of Marian imagery serves as a powerful reminder to seek her motherly intercession. Whether it depicts a certain devotion or simply the overwhelming beauty of Mary's serene countenance, Marian art is a powerful tool for prayer and meditation. This beautiful antique white rendition of Michelangelo's Pieta shows Our Blessed Mother tenderly cradling her Son, Our Lord, after His death on the cross.

### 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

## **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

Have you registered your children yet? Please do so as quickly as possible so that we can plan accordingly for the 2023-24 school year. The Faith Formation Registration Form can be downloaded from our website & payments can be made by credit card online or by check. Forms with checks can be dropped off in an envelope (attn.: Religious Ed.) at the Rectory or in the collection at Mass. If payment is made online forms may be emailed to: <a href="religiouseducation@stjohnleonia.org">religiouseducation@stjohnleonia.org</a>. If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to Mirela Tarabokija, Director of Religious Education, at the above email.

### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT**

"It is not, therefore, the obtaining or multiplying of things exteriorly that avails you, but rather the despising of them and cutting them up by the root, out of your heart. This I would not have you to understand only with regard to money and riches, but also with regard to the ambition of honor, and the desire of empty praise; all of which pass away with the world" Thomas A. Kempis, THE IMITATION OF CHRIST Book 3, Chapter 27

It is good to be a Christian and know it, but it is better to be a Christian and show it.

## CONVALIDATION

Were you married civilly by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? See Fr. Bryan for more details and to see if your marriage can be regularized with the Church.

## **Godparent [Sponsor] Requirements**

Canon [Church] law states a godparent [sponsor] must: Be a Baptized and confirmed Roman Catholic who attends weekly Mass and receives Eucharist

Be at least 16 years of age

Not be one of the parents

Lead a moral life in keeping with Church teaching, and be a good Catholic role model

If married, be married according to Church law
Be a registered member of their own current parish
from which they must obtain an eligibility certificate; we can only give eligibility certificates to
those registered in our parish!

Since only one Roman Catholic godparent is required, a baptized member of another Christian church [but not a Roman Catholic] may serve as a Christian Witness. Since godparents renew their baptismal promises during the Rite of Baptism, a non-baptized person cannot serve in this role.

#### KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

- 1. The Feast of Christ the King
- 2. The First Sunday of Advent
- 3. Green
- 4. Easter
- 5. Rose

## - 5 - August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

#### **BUSY**

Satan called a worldwide convention of demons. In his opening address he said, "We can't keep Christians from going to church." "We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth." "We can't even keep them from forming an intimate relationship with their Savior." "Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken." "So let them go to their churches; let them have their covered dish dinners, BUT steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ."

"This is what I want you to do," said the devil: "Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!" "How shall we do this?" his demons shouted. "Keep them busy in the nonessentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds," he answered. "Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow." "Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days each week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty lifestyles." "Keep them from spending time with their children." "As their families fragment, soon, their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work!" "Over-stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still, small voice." "Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive." To keep the TV, VCR, CDs and their PCs going constantly in their home and see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays nonbiblical music constantly." "This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ." "Fill the coffee tables with magazines and newspapers." "Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day." "Invade their driving moments with billboards." "Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, mail order catalogs, sweepstakes, and every kind of newsletter and promotion offering free products, services and false hopes." "Keep skinny, beautiful models on the magazines and TV so their husbands will believe that outward beauty is what's important, and they'll become dissatisfied with their wives." "Keep the wives too tired to love their husbands at night." "Give them headaches too!" "If they don't give their husbands the love they need, they will begin to look elsewhere." "That will fragment their families quickly!" "Give them Santa Claus to distract them from teaching their children the real meaning of Christmas." "Give them an Easter bunny so they won't talk about His resurrection and power over sin and death." "Even in their recreation, let them be excessive." "Have them return from their vacations exhausted."

"Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation. Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, plays, concerts, and movies instead." "Keep them busy, busy!" "And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences." "Crowd their lives with so many good causes they have no time to seek power from Jesus." "Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause." "It will work!" It was quite a plan!

The demons went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busier and more rushed, going here and there. Having little time for their God or their families. Having no time to tell others about the power of Jesus to change lives. I guess the question is, has the devil been successful in his schemes? You be the judge!!!!!

Does "BUSY" mean: B-eing U-nder S-atan's Y-oke?

#### What is the Saint Monica Club?

If you're suffering the pain of a child leaving the Faith, you might feel very alone. But you're not.

A mother sits beside an open window, the morning sun streaming in as it always does and falling warmly on the gentle wrinkles of her folded hands. She closes her eyes and prays for her son. She misses him. He has long since grown up and moved away, but he had always been her little boy, hiding behind the doorposts and filling the hallways with his mischievous laughter.

She is a devout Christian and has done her best to raise her son in the Faith. But he left home to study in a big city, fell under bad influences, and is now leading a life of egregious sin. She thinks about him all the time and prays for him just as often, but it doesn't look like he is coming back to the Faith any time soon.

To many mothers, this story sounds all too familiar.

Well, that mother was St. Monica...her son was St. Augustine...and their story took place 1,600 years ago. If you're a mother praying for a prodigal child, you aren't the first, and you're certainly not alone.

St. Monica has become synonymous with persistent, unfailing prayer for fallen-away family members. Her "club"—as Maggie Green calls it in her book Saint Monica Club—includes all devoted mothers who have ever experienced the pain of seeing a child leave the Faith and who have prayed without ceasing for their return.

In this book, Maggie Green (herself a member of "the club") discusses how to stay constant in prayer, how to talk to fall-en-away children and relatives, and how to hold fast to the virtue of hope when things look really bleak.

Yes, St. Augustine did return to the Faith. It took a while, but it happened. Not only did he convert; he became one of the greatest Fathers of the Church and one of her most prolific and influential teachers.

Don't give up hope. Your tears and prayers are all known to God, and St. Monica is always interceding for the mothers in her club. Draw renewed strength from the wisdom and experience of a fellow club-member and keep fighting the good fight for your child.

~https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/what-is-thesaint-monica-club/

### FIRST FRIDAY MASS Is this Friday



The First Friday of the month is a devotion that many Catholics around the world follow. First Friday devotions among Catholics are related to devotion to the Sacred Heart of Christ. First Friday practices date to the end of the 17th century, when Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary and spoke to her of His Sacred Heart. Please join us this Friday, September 1st at 7pm in the Church for Mass and devotional prayer.

## KIDZ KORNER

- 1. What is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year? 2. What is the first Sunday of the Church's liturgical year?
- 3. What color is worn by the priest during ordinary time?
- 4. Which liturgical season is the longest?
- 5. Which of the liturgical colors is worn on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent?

Answers on page four.







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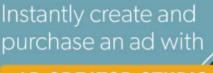
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