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.—11:45 a.m.

JANUARY 7, 2024 A.D.



WELCOME

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

COME WORSHIP WITH US Mass Schedule

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

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Upcoming Parish Events

1/6	Sat	NA 7pm Lower Hall
1/8	Mon	Finance Council Meeting 7pm LH
1/8	Mon	Miraculous Medal Novena following 9am Mass
1/9	Tue	K of C Business Meeting 7:30pm LH
1/9	Tue	Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Church
1/10	Wed	St. Jude & St. Anthony Novena following 9am Mass
1/10	Wed	Book Group 10am LH
1/10	Wed	Holy Hour with Rosary 7pm
1/12	Fri	AA 8pm Lower Hall
1/13	Sat	Confessions 4pm
1/13	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: Baby Aine, Baby Edie, Baby Nicholas, Alex, Gina, Arthur Acosta, Vahide Atlas, Sue Baniel, Lesley Battaglia, Chieko & Pauline Bernard, Harold & Mary DelMonte, Mary Ellen Diakakis, Carla Errico, Kathleen Falotico, Nellie Fazio, Angelo Furfari, Virginia Fisher, Celeste Galdieri, Joseph Garcia, Patty Gowers, Andrea Korner, Scott Lyddon, Frank Lynam, Audrey Maguire, Jean Marrano, Kay Mazza, Joyce Mizzi, Mary Moran, George Mulligan, Mary Netherby, Rita Neugebauer, Mark Patricola, Gloria Petti, Dan Reeves, Chris Ruskay, Netti Russo, Fabio Santos, Newman Santos, Angelo Shingelo, Maureen Spadora, Kathy Sullivan, Jane Tappen, Adam Villavecchia, Daniel Webb, Susan Wong, & Special Intention.

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

GOING ON VACATION?

Visit www.masstimes.org for the locations of Catholic Churches and a Mass schedule, throughout the USA.

MASS INTENTION	REQUESTED BY		
SATURDAY, JAN. 6, ST. ANDREW BESETTE, RELIGIOUS			
9:00 AM LISA CIRILLO			
SR. MAUREEN COLLEARY AND SR. KATHRYN KING			
5:00 PM BOROWSKI FAMILY	PETTI FAMILY		
SUNDAY, JAN. 7, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD			
7:30 AM JAMES CRAWLEY	BETTY & CHRIS DUNLEAVY		
9:30 AM TERESA & FRED IORIO	JOE & CAROL RILEY		
11:30 AM CHARLES SIMPKINS			
6:00 PM RONALD D'ALESSIO	ELAINE LUPETIN		
MONDAY, JAN. 8, THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD			
9:00 AM MARIA GUBERNARD	Mary Rausch		
TUESDAY, JAN. 9, ST. ADRIAN OF CANTERBURY			
9:00 AM LISA CIRILLO	LYNDA DWYER		
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10, SERVANT OF GOD VCO NECCHI,			
9:00 AM GERALDINE MINGIONE			
THURSDAY, JAN. 11, BLESSED WILLIAM CARTER			
9:00 AM JOSELITO DAMON			
FRIDAY, JAN 12, ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS			
9:00 AM JUDITH KAUFMAN			
SATURDAY, JAN 13, ST, HILARY, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH			
9:00 AM THE PINTO FAMILY			
5:00 PM GOODIE SCHMITZ			
SUNDAY, JAN 14, THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
7:30 AM FRANK ADAMCIK			
9:30 AM LISA CIRILLO			
11:30 AM FEDERICO SANTANGELLOR			
	MICHAEL & TRISHA TARRICONE		
6:00 PM LYNNE BOWER MACDOWELL	ALFONSO & GALLUCI FAMILIES		

SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Altar Bread & Wine is in memory of Irene & Paul Kempf requested by John & Marie Brainard

The Sanctuary Lamp is for Patrizio & Antoinette DeMichele requested by Pat & Jean DeMichele

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.

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED



Please keep in your prayers the following:

Elida Patch Jane Flowers

Almighty Father, source of forgiveness and salvation, grant that our relatives and friends who have passed from this life may, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all the saints, come to share your Eternal happiness through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ACCOUNTABILITY WITH HEARTFELT THANKS



Catholic Charities received \$1,653 as a result of your generosity to our Donation Bin(s) at your Church from June 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023. These funds combined with monies from other parishes in a similar program throughout the Archdiocese enabled Catholic Charities to show the compassion of Christ through 94,019 mental health services provided to 3,665 people (FY2022/2023). Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society. May your continued generosity brighten every day of the New Year. Thank you.

WORRY

Is there a magic cutoff period when offspring become accountable for their own actions? Is there a wonderful moment when parents can become detached spectators in the lives of their children and shrug, "It's their life," and feel nothing?

When I was in my twenties, I stood in a hospital corridor waiting for doctors to put a few stitches in my daughter's head. I asked, "When do you stop worrying?" The nurse said, "When they get out of the accident stage." My dad just smiled faintly and said nothing.

When I was in my thirties, I sat on a little chair in a classroom and heard how one of my children talked incessantly, disrupted the class, and was headed for a career making license plates. As if to read my mind, a teacher said, "Don't worry, they all go through this stage and then you can sit back, relax and enjoy them." My dad just smiled faintly and said nothing.

When I was in my forties, I spent a lifetime waiting for the phone to ring, the cars to come home, the front door to open. A friend said, "They're trying to find themselves. Don't worry, in a few years, you can stop worrying. They'll be adults." My dad just smiled faintly and said nothing. By the time I was 50, I was sick and tired of being vulnerable. I was still worrying over my children, but there was a new wrinkle. There was nothing I could do about it. My dad just smiled faintly and said nothing. I continued to anguish over their failures, be tormented by their frustrations and absorbed in their disappointments.

My friends said that when my kids got married I could stop worrying and lead my own life. I wanted to believe that, but I was haunted by my dad's warm smile and his occasional, "You look pale. Are you all right? Call me the minute you get home. Are you depressed about something?" Can it be that parents are sentenced to a lifetime of worry? Is concern for one another handed down like a torch to blaze the trail of human frailties and the fears of the unknown? Is concern a curse or is it a virtue that elevates us to the highest form of life? One of my children became quite irritable recently, saying to me, "Where were you? I've been calling for 3 days, and no one answered I was worried." I smiled a warm smile. The torch has been passed.

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." "The other Sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ Himself, our Pasch."

CCC paragraph 1324

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Mon: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-

Tue: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28 Wed: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/ Mk 1:29-39

Thu: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45 Fri: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12 Sat: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/

Mk 2:13-17

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace." There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which. After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey. But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe. The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS **©LPi**

"The Lord has comforted his people. This Child whom you see before you has laid the foundations of the world."

Saint Amphilochius of Iconium

- 4 A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

WEDDING FEAST & EPIPHANY

Question: How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

Answer: The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Happy New Year and welcome to 2024!!

--Please note that there are no Faith Formation Classes next Sunday, January 14th. We will resume the following week (Sunday, January 21st).

--Remember that all of our children need to sign in on the "Mass Sign-in Sheets at the Broad Avenue entrance EVERY week even when we do not have classes.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman Step Into the Light

How strange it is to think that if not for Herod's directions, the magi would not have known where to find Jesus. They were not Jews, they knew nothing of the old prophecies. It was Herod who convened the scholars. It was Herod who pointed the way — for ulterior motives, certainly, but nonetheless, this is the part he played. It was Herod who made the Epiphany possible.

"Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance," writes the prophet (Isaiah 60:3). A king may keep to the shadows, suspicious of the light — he may foolishly imagine he can snatch it from the sky to keep as his own possession, and, upon finding the light cannot be governed, grow to loathe it, and even seek to extinguish it once and for all.

But all his grand designs will come to nothing because there is no king so powerful that he can see in the dark. And even a man like Herod — a man so jealous that he sought to kill God — cannot prevent the breaking of day. The Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is a celebration of truth reaching places it was not expected to reach, of brightness illuminating corners of the world long ago consigned to shadow. It is a reminder that the battle has already been won, the night is over. All that remains is for us to decide: will we step into the light?

"See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory." — Isaiah 60:2 ©LPi

ShopRite Cards

When you purchase a \$25, \$50, or \$100 ShopRite card at the church you receive the full value of the card you purchased. ShopRite donates back to St. John's 5% of what we sell. Thank you to all who faithfully participate in this fundraiser.



1.Matthew

2. Jesus, Mary and Joseph

3.Bethlehem

4.Nazareth

5.The River Jordan

- 5 - January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus.



ST. TARCISIUS

(263-275) was a 12-year-old boy who lived in 3rd-century Rome. Although what is known of him is legend taken from a poem written by Pope Damasus (366-384), he is still considered an important Catholic martyr, remembered for protecting the Eucharist from desecration with his life.

According to legend, Tarcisius served as an acolyte. One of his duties was to aid in visiting the Christians imprisoned for their beliefs in Rome, bringing them the Eucharist.

One day, as Tarcisius was on his way to the prison, carrying the consecrated Host from a secret underground Mass to those in need, he was confronted by a group of boys who demanded to know what he was carrying. Realizing the sacredness of his mission, Tarcisius refused to reveal the contents of his pouch, even in the face of the boy's threats of violence. Subsequently, the boys beat him and stoned him to death, martyring him as he protected the Body of Christ.

St. Tarcisius' sacrifice serves as a powerful reminder of the immense value of the Eucharist and how important it is to serve those who desire to receive Christ. His story also speaks to the incredible value of the church's youth and God's special mission in each of their lives. He is the patron saint of altar servers and first communicants. In 2010, at the end of a general audience dedicated to altar servers, Pope Benedict XVI blessed a 16-foot statue of Saint Tarcisius in St. Peter Square. The event was attended by some 50,000 altar servers from around the world. St. Tarcisius, pray for us! © LPi

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.



ARE YOU NEW TO THE AREA?

If you are, why not join our ever-growing Parish family? Stop by the Rectory Office at 235 Harrison Street any weekday and register to become a member of the St. John's Family. Census/registration forms are also located in the Church vestibule.

THANK YOU CHOIR MEMBERS

Thank you to all the choir members who made our Christmas Masses especially joyful. A particular note of thanks to Dennis DeSantis, our Director of Music for all the hours he spent at St. John's on Christmas Eve & Christmas making sure all the sound systems were working properly. Special thanks to Dennis and Nicole Parente (our Cantor and Director of Song) for all their work with the choir during the weeks leading up to the Christmas Pagaent and Masses and getting the choir prepared. Thanks to all the Sade Bonilla, Alison Choi, Brigitte choir members: Chung, Aaron Lintag, Apet Lintag, Naya Lerum, Angel Martinez, Arcel Martinez, Madeleine Mazur, Sofia Mazur, Anna Meltzer, Josephine Meltzer, Gizelle O'Connor, Alexandra O'Donnell, Jackson O'Donnell, Ana Paez, Luis Paez, Ruth Paez, Sarah Paez, Gerard Reyes, Victoria Sanchez, John Tambascia, Liv Tambascia, Emma Tambascia, John Tambascia & Sue Tramontana.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

I want to thank those who cleaned the Church and prepared it for the Christmas Season: Arlene Bernard, Carol Riley, Helen Suarez.

Thanks go to those who made the Church ready for the Christmas Mass and Pageant - decorating, putting up the wreaths, trees, arranging the poinsettias, putting up the wreaths, and garlands, bows and trees: Alicia Arana, Deacon Brian & Bridget Burke, Guia & Juris Casimiro, Vicky Cooke, Jean DeMichele, Julie Diemer, Sylvia Donohue, Gudrun Grywatsch, Jobee, Diane Koch, Reinhard Laban, Elizabeth & Bill Kuhl, Rita Lorenzo, Elaine Lupetin, Mary Rausch, Annette Tull & Ed Ventura

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Thank you to all those who gave so generously at Christmas. The exact total is not in, but the Christmas collection was in excess of \$22,000.

DISAPPOINTMENTS

Disappointments are like road bumps, they slow you down a bit but you enjoy the smooth road afterwards. Don't stay on the bumps too long. Move on!!! When you feel down because you didn't get what you wanted, just sit tight and be happy, because God is thinking of something better to give you.

HOLD YOUR TONGUE, BUT NOT YOUR PRAYERS

KIDZ KORNER

- 1. In which of the Gospels do the Magi appear?
- 2. Name the members of the Holy Family.
- 3. In what town was Jesus born?
- 4. In what town did Jesus spend most of his Life?
- 5. In what river did John the Baptist baptize Jesus?

 Answers on page 4.







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