

# St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church



February 5, 2023

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH  
photo by SJE Parishioner DEAN TORMEY

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

St. John the Evangelist Parish is a welcoming and responsive faith community, nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharistic Table. We are open and trusting in the love of Jesus Christ to advance the power of the Holy Spirit, within the Parish and beyond, by living the Gospel.

#### PARISH INFORMATION

### ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

5751 Locust Avenue  
Carmichael CA 95608-1320  
Parish Office: (916) 483-8454  
Web: [www.sjecarmichael.org](http://www.sjecarmichael.org)  
Email: [office@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:office@sjecarmichael.org)

--PARISH OFFICE HOURS - 9:30 AM - 4 PM--

**CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION**  
SATURDAYS from 3:45 PM to 4:45 PM



#### SCHEDULE OF MASSES

##### SUNDAY MASS:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5 PM  
SUNDAY: 8 AM, 10 AM & 5 PM

##### DAILY MASS:

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM (MON-FRI)  
8:30 AM (SATURDAY)

##### HOLY DAYS:

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM; 7:00 PM

##### HEALING MASS:

1:30 PM - 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

#### PARISH CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor  
Parochial Vicar  
Pastor Emeritus  
Mercy San Juan Hospital Chaplain  
Deacon  
Deacon  
SJE Business Manager  
SJE Parish Secretary  
Religious Education Coordinator  
Director of Music & Liturgy  
SJE Pastoral Council Chairperson  
SJE Finance Council Chairperson

Fr. Bernardin Mugabo  
Fr. Bit-Shing Abraham Chiu  
Fr. Thomas Bland  
Fr. Alban Uba  
Keith Johnson  
Jack Wilson  
Linda Gospodnetich  
Bernadette Hicks  
Joanne Giffard  
William Becker  
Tom Ennis  
Mary Ellen Meier

#### ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

[www.stjohnnev.com](http://www.stjohnnev.com)

5701 Locust Avenue  
Carmichael, CA 95608  
Phone: (916) 481-8845  
Fax: (916) 481-1319  
Email: [office@stjohnnev.com](mailto:office@stjohnnev.com)  
Principal: Christie Horton



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** (916) 483-2161

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** (916) 531-5565

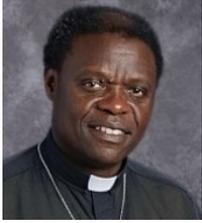
Registration/Change of Address: Allow at least 3 months to receive envelopes or for any changes.

I want to register in the parish.  I have changed my address; my envelope # is \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



### **2023 WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST:**

Dear Parishioners, when I was in the mountains, in the place called **ALTURAS** near the Oregon and Nevada state borders, there were parishioners who used to go to San Francisco to the “**Walk for Life**”. As you know, this walk is in protest against the Roe Versus Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in this country and has taken millions of lives every year. It was very hard to find a replacement priest in the Alturas area for the Saturday Mass, but when I was lucky to find one, I used to head to San Francisco with those parishioners. Small parish, few people. We would only take one car; rarely two cars, and spend a night in Sacramento in their Parish hall and take the bus for San Francisco in the morning and return back to Sacramento in the evening. Immediately, we would start the 5 to 6 hours’ ride to Alturas during the night. We would arrive in Alturas around 1:00 to 2:00 am, usually on a very cold night with snow on the ground or falling. It was a great sacrifice but it was worth it in comparison to the horrible crimes of abortion done to innocent children.

When I came down here to the Sacramento area, I decided to go there every year, but when COVID came, the first time it was stopped for fear of transmission of the virus or getting it from so many people stuck together. This year I was not going to miss it, but there was no bus leaving our Parish to San Francisco. This is very sad. We all need to get involved so that these horrible crimes against innocent children may completely be eradicated in the minds of those baby killers. Are we afraid of getting COVID? It is already here. I got it here without travelling away and it almost took my life, and so did many of you. This should not be the reason. We need to accept death for the right cause. ***“The one who wants to save his life will lose it, but the one who loses his/her life for the sake of the Gospel will find it.”***

The Friday before the **West Coast Walk for Life** (January 20, 2023), Bishop Jaime SOTO celebrated Mass at the **Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament** for the unborn. I thought it was going to be overcrowded with many priests, but only four priests showed up: **Father Joseph TERNULLO**, **Father Michael VAUGHAN**, Pastor of Good Shepherd Church in Elk Grove, **Father Abraham CHIU** and myself. I was shocked at so few a number of priests, but we all had a chance to be at the Altar with the Bishop and wearing the same chasubles in the purple color for penance over those crimes. The people, too, were very few. I didn’t count but maybe 1/5 of the whole Church’s capacity was there. I was very happy to see three Parishioners from Saint John’s with **Deacon Jack WILSON** present and **Eleanor MALARKEY** present with another lady. I hate driving in downtown Sacramento, maybe some of you do, too. But if you were not busy, you could “hitchhike” with somebody else. The Bishop had a very good Homily and singing; he thanked God for the overturn of Roe Versus Wade, reminding us that we still have more to do to really end abortion, especially here in California. Next year, I will try to advertise more about this Mass; maybe many of you will show up there. Please, dear Parishioners, let us do what we can so that the truth of the Gospel may reach every soul, especially those most in need to be saved.



Thank God, the Church of **Saint Claire** in Roseville had a bus. **Dave MOTT** and I took that advantage rather than driving all the way long to San Francisco without having to park the car. Dave has been there almost every year since the **Walk for Life West Coast** started; God bless him for that courage. He missed only that one year when COVID restrictions forbid the people to gather together. Last year, he went there, even though there were less people, And so was **Christine GUZMAN** and her brother, **Father Paul SCHMIDT**, who lives in Riverside, Southern California. They have been there almost every year. I appreciate them so much for standing for the unborn babies.

The Mass at Saint Clare was at 8:30 am, presided by **Father George SNYDER** with his Parochial Vicar, a young priest from India. We wanted to attend Mass there. After signing in for the bus, we went into the Church. Guess what, there was a lady called **Eleanor MALARKEY**, one of the two ladies who were at the Bishop’s Mass for life, was there and ready to “walk for life” in San Francisco. She comes to Mass here on weekdays at the 8:30 am Mass. Father George prayed for the unborn and all those going to the Walk for Life, and even blessed everybody inside. His Parochial Vicar went with us to San Francisco, where he “walked for life”, the first time in his life. He just came from India.



We arrived in San Francisco with so many buses coming from everywhere, to the Civic Center. My brother Thomas called me; he was there with his wife and brother-in-law. They drove their car, but I could not see them because of the many people there. I was happy to see **Christine GUZMAN** with her brother priest, **Father Paul SCHMIDT**, who came from Riverside, Southern California near San Bernardino. He took an airplane in order to participate in the Walk for Life. Christine showed me **Bishop Jaime SOTO**, who has been there all the times I went there. **Bishop Myron COTTA**, of the Diocese of Stockton, was there, too.

***(To be Continued)***



### **WHAT IS OUR BREAD?: (5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME)**

Isaiah opens, "Share your bread with the hungry". What is our bread?

While meeting with many parents and godparents in the preparation of their child's Baptism, I ask the question, "What is the purpose of the Sacrament of Baptism?" The more than typical response is, "washing away of original sin". Now washing away of original sin is a necessary part of the rite of Baptism as it conveys a substantial grace of what Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross does for us. To deny the need for healing from original sin, would be like saying, "We don't live in a fallen world". But this typical response seems to more communicate that Baptism is the reversing some "bad magical spell that was cast on this innocent child." What is the goal of Baptism?

Recently, I viewed a video on the Liturgy of the Hours led by James Cardinal Stafford. In that video he said that, "In Baptism we inherently become part of the Trinitarian dialogue". In frustration, Cardinal Stafford continued to say, "We as Church knew this in the first millennia but lost an understanding of it in the second millennia". A one-dimensional view of this primary Sacrament, limited to a particular task in the Sacrament of washing away sins, seems to have overshadowed the goal of Baptism which is a multi-faceted mystical absorption of the baptized into Christ Himself. This absorption into Christ, is the absorption into the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. If we only focus on washing away our sins at Baptism and not on the fullness of the gift, we will lose our understanding of not just Baptism but of Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist. And we will lose sight of our mission as bread to the world. What does the Cardinal mean by the Trinitarian dialogue?

Since Baptism is the foundation for the sacramental life, let us re-look at how we best understand the mystery of Trinitarian dialogue - which, through Christ, we are part of. There are Three Persons in One God – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. In the Trinitarian dialogue, God the Father, in glorifying the Son, fully empties Himself of love for the Son. The Son, in glorifying the Father, receives without limits the fullness of the Father's love. And, in return, to glorify the Father, the Son empties Himself of love directed to the Father. The Holy Spirit is this shared love between the Father and the Son, which is creative and binding. This dialogue is eternal and is unchanging. This relationship is what we are made in the image and likeness of and, in its participation, we find true happiness. The Second Person of the Trinity – Christ – in a returned act of love to the Father, became man so to bring us back to our true happiness in this Trinitarian dialogue.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples that they are the salt of the earth, and the light of the world. Or, they are the joy and love to the world. This is what Christ is for us because He demonstrated fully the love of the Father. As Jesus' disciples, we are salt and light for one another. In the Gospel story, Christ reveals a small view of the Trinitarian dialogue. He shows us how to receive the love of the Father through Christ as our salt and light, and then - in a returned act of love to the Father - we become salt and light for others. As Jesus says, "Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Heavenly Father." We glorify the Father as we return the love to the Father through Christ. And with the Son, we are bound in unity through the Holy Spirit. It is in the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist where the one Church together most excellently enters the Trinitarian divine love.

During the Mass, we participate in the Trinitarian dialogue. The Father directs the fullness of His love towards His Son and the Body of His Son – we the Church. We in Christ come to know this shared love from the Father in hearing the proclaimed Word which conveyed the Father's desire to share Himself with us throughout salvation history. After the love of the Word enters our hearts, we empty ourselves of love directed to the Father. The Father is glorified as we the Church unite our imperfect sacrifices as salt and light of the world to Jesus' perfect Sacrifice on the Cross in the perfect praise and glory to the Father – in the Eucharist. We are united in the Eucharist with Christ to offer the perfect love and praise to the Father. This unity is how St Augustine could say, "If you, therefore, are Christ's Body and Member, it is your own mystery that is placed on the Lord's table! It is your own mystery that you are receiving! You are saying Amen to what you are: your response is a personal signature, affirming your faith."

Brothers and sisters, to be baptized is to come to know the love of the Father as the Son knows the love of the Father. To be baptized and to share in that perfect praise of the Father through the Eucharist is to be the bread that goes forth from this meal. As bread, we are to bring joy and love of God the Father to those who hunger for food, hunger for hope, hunger for comfort or hunger just to hear that they are loved. In what special way can we glorify our Heavenly Father in a sacrificial act of love?

**We come as seekers of the Light amid great challenges and difficulties. Let us bring these concerns to the God Who hears our prayers.**

For the Church: that we may be a light to our world and that our words and deeds may be instruments of healing and transformation for our society. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For world leaders: that they continue to search for ways to heal ancient wounds and find ways of promoting peace and justice for all. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For this Parish: that, by placing communion at the center of our life, we may increasingly become a community of faith, fraternity and welcome toward those most in need. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For greater care for our common home: that we may grow in our respect for the earth as God's gift to us and work to preserve it for future generations. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For courage: that we may be salt and awaken our society from complacency as we bring the insights and challenges of the Gospel into our neighborhoods, workplaces, and public discourse. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For a healing of the wounds of selfishness and violence: that God will bring wholeness to our hearts and spirits as we attend to the pain and suffering of others. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For all our deceased Parishioners, relatives and friends: that our merciful God may give them eternal rest. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For these intentions, the intentions shared by this community during the week that we bring to the Altar, and for the intentions of all those whom we promised to pray. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

**God of Light, Knower of all our needs, shine through the darkness in our Church and world. Graciously answer the prayers we have named aloud, and illuminate those that remain unnamed, hidden still in the darkness, waiting to be revealed. Watch over us as Your salt and light, as builders of Your Kingdom. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Light of the World. Amen.**

### SJE WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekend of:	Actual (Week):	Budget (Week):	Surplus/ (Deficit):
January 29, 2023	\$9,301	\$10,365	(\$1,064)

*Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to St. John's Church!!*

### UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTION

**February 18/19, 2023 - ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL  
COMMITMENT WEEKEND**

### PARISHIONER UPDATE INFORMATION

**We ♥ love**  
having you as part of our flock



Keep in touch  
with us via  
email & text

- Choose to get updates from groups you're interested in
- Unsubscribe anytime, no spam we promise

PLEASE VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE:  
[www.sjecarmichael.org](http://www.sjecarmichael.org)

OR USE OUR EMAIL:  
[office@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:office@sjecarmichael.org)

To update your  
address, phone  
number and  
email address.

### WEEKLY ADORATION



Fr. Bernardin invites you to spend an hour/  
some private time with Jesus on Wednesdays  
& Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm.

Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary are  
prayed aloud beginning at 4:10pm.

Benediction at 5:00 pm. God bless.

### CHAPEL KEYPAD INSTALLED!!

**SJE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL** is accessible Monday through  
Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

Please call SJE Office (916) 483-8454 for code or admittance.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Please Note: BAPTISMS ARE SCHEDULED  
MONTHLY.**

For more information and instructions, please visit our  
website, [www.sjecarmichael.org](http://www.sjecarmichael.org) to download and  
complete our **Baptismal Registration Form** or  
contact **DEACON JACK** or **DEACON KEITH** through  
our "[baptisms@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:baptisms@sjecarmichael.org)" email address  
for Baptism and Baptism Class Schedules.



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL - FEB. 18/19

Together we bring CHRIST to others through the ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL



25% comes back to our Parish for our own outreach to those in need.

On the weekend of **February 18/19**, we will have the opportunity to come alongside those who are suffering through the **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**. Through the **2023 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** the whole Catholic Community leans in to help our Catholic charities...and our own Parish...to sustain programs and ministries that help lift our neighbors and friends out of the hardships of poverty. The **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** is dedicated solely to the social mission of the Church here in Northern California. Last year, as our communities pulled together to overcome the paralyzing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, **362,000** people were helped through **APPEAL**-funded charitable works. Please be as generous as you can. Every gift makes a profound difference in someone's life.

We will be featuring weekly, a Charity that the ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL supports:



**BISHOP GALLEGOS MATERNITY HOME**

SERVING: Homeless, pregnant women

"The ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL literally saves lives. It takes special people to carry the trauma these women have suffered: to give them a path to feeling human again. APPEAL donors give us resources so we can do this work."

**SISTERS IN FAITH MEETING**

**Please join us this Wednesday, February 8th at 6:30 pm in St. James Hall. for our monthly SISTERS IN FAITH meeting**

We will have an introduction to and discussion on **Jesus' chosen Apostles** video series "**The Chosen**".

We welcome all the women in our Parish.

Contact **PAM JOHNSON** at **(916) 716-6228** for any questions and please feel free to bring a friend.

VOTE FOR NEW PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS



**VOTE THIS WEEKEND FOR THE NEW SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

If you have not done it yet, please take a few minutes to read the profiles of the PASTORAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES posted in the Narthex and then stop by the table to vote for one or more of the CANDIDATES who will represent you in important



discussions planning the future of our Parish. Thank you for your participation in our Parish and your VOTE!!

SJE SCHOOL NEWS

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL**

Catholic Schools' Week - **Thank you for coming to our OPEN HOUSE!!**



Excellent academics, art, music, athletics and much more are offered in a Catholic atmosphere.

Please email our Principal, **MRS. CHRISTIE HORTON** at [chorton@stjohnev.com](mailto:chorton@stjohnev.com) or call our SJE School office at **(916) 481-8845**

SJE CHOIR REHEARSAL

**PLEASE JOIN US**

Our next **Choir Rehearsal** is on **Wednesday, February 8, at 7pm**

For Choir updates and more information please email



**Bill Becker, SJE Choir Director** at [music@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:music@sjecarmichael.org)

**SJE PRAYER LIST**

**Please Pray for our sick and their caregivers:** Andrea Armstrong, Hazel Balthrop, Richard Michael Blalock, Bob Bodem, Nancy Born, Robert Burns, Chuck Carly, John Carroll, Geoff Carter, Joseph Carter, Melanie Casperson, Ollie Claussen, Alicia Cortez, Sue, Heather & Eric Crawford, Corrine Davidson, Bill & Judy Davis, Russ Davis, Melissa Duran, Brenda Elazier, Kate Ellis, Karen Emmons, Madeline Endres, Debbie Erichs, Teri Erickson, Velia Escalante, James Espinoza, Juanita Estrellas, Ernie Frehe, Anthony Gabriele, Margaret Gallagher, Bob Gibbs, Ella Gomes, Jimi Grant, Alice Guerrero, Steve Guerrero, Donna Harris, Tom Harvey, Margaret Hollatz, Gabe Howser, Jacqueline Huesing, Mary Jeffries, Eduardo Jimenez, Yelena Kanavalchuk, Tom Karras, Hossain Kian, Larry Kraus, Dalice Lee, Ray Lloyd, Angelica & Cheryl Martin, Jennifer Martin, Arielle McLeskey, Pat Minnard, Manuel Molina, Carla Moore, Marie Murillo, Tony Nolasco, Baby Dylan Ochoa, Gilles Ouellet, Mary Pai, Lynn Parry, Julie Paul, Martha Perez, Mike Peterson, Alex Quiroz, Noreen Rademacher, Jeff Reynolds, Sarah Rizzardo, Ray Rodgers, Aida Saca, Ruth Salazar, Monique Sandoval, Kim Schultz, Christopher Scott, Paul Scurti, Aurora Simental, Lili Simic, Carol Smith, Joan Smith, Dolores Stafford, Hank Thompson, Inge Toner, Bob Walker, Katie Walker, Kay Webb, Theresa West, Jacqueline Whittle, Amanda Young.

February 5, 2023

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD/CFE**

**Grades: Kindergarten through Junior High**  
**Phone: 916-531-5565 Email: [ccd@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:ccd@sjecarmichael.org)**

The fifth of February was amazing! Our CCD teachers and their students were back again in their assigned classrooms. We enjoyed not only candy, but also our religious instruction. Second and third graders are rapidly approaching their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. On Sunday, they focused their lesson on kindness toward members of their own families.

**St. Scholastica**, our Saint of the Week, whose feast day will be on Friday, February 10, was actually the twin sister of St. Benedict. These siblings should especially teach us the value of holy friendship between brothers and sisters. In 480, Scholastica and Benedict were born into the wealthy family of Anicius and Claudia Eupropius in the town of Nursia, Italy, during a chaotic time after the fall of the Western Roman Emperor. It has been recorded that Benedict dedicated himself to the Lord at a very early age, and saw serious corruption during this period. Thus, he left home to live a hermit's life of penance and prayer in a cave in the mountains of Subiaco. Due to his noticeable sanctity, a large number of disciples began to follow him.

In her youth, Scholastica also consecrated herself to God, living modestly, taking no interest in the things of this world. Soon Benedict founded a humble monastery at Monte Cassino, where his followers could seriously center their lives on God. His aspirants made vows permanently committing themselves to the Lord and their community. They structured their lives under the direction of Benedict, their abbot. It was Benedict's vocation that actually called out to Scholastica. She marveled at his dedicated life of prayer and work. Later, she received permission from a local bishop to enter a home of virgins, who chose to adopt Benedict's monastic rule, and her brother assisted them. Scholastica became the first Benedictine nun, and, as abbess, she presided over a monastery of nuns only a few miles away from Benedict's monastery near Monte Cassino. In keeping with their strict rules of life, Benedict and Scholastica were permitted to get together with some of Benedict's brethren only once a year. Routinely, they met at a nearby farmhouse engaging in spiritual discussions based on the holiest of topics. These meetings fanned into flames of their shared love for God. Both Scholastica and Benedict were deeply united in a spiritual friendship centered on God.

In 543, when the twins were about sixty-three years old, Scholastica and Benedict spent the day together for their final yearly meeting. Scholastica sensed that her death was close at hand, so she begged Benedict and his brethren to stay with her until the next day. Because Benedict did not want to break the rules of his monastery, he refused her urgent request. His sister again entreated him to remain with her so that they might discourse on the joys of Heaven, but still Benedict would not agree on tarrying through the night. Then Scholastica joined her hands together and prayed to the Almighty God. Suddenly as she lifted her head from the table, a tempest of lightning, thundering, and an abundance of rain so powerful arose that neither he nor any of his brethren would be able to leave during this horrific weather. Responding to this severe change in the weather, Benedict said to Scholastica, "God, forgive you. What have you done?" Scholastica replied, "I desired you to stay, and you would not hear me. I have desired our good Lord, and He hath vouchsafed to grant my petition." And so, throughout the night, they engaged in spiritual and heavenly talk, which mutually comforted one another. Scholastica's love for Benedict and her desire to continue with the praises of God during this evening, met with God's approval, and God provided the way for them to share this special time with one another.

They parted the next day, and three days later, Benedict had a vision of his sister's soul being taken to Heaven in the form of a dove, which was ascending to Heaven. This transpired on the day that Scholastica died. Benedict then retrieved Scholastica's body and buried it in a tomb that he had prepared for his own burial. Four years later, Benedict died, and he was buried in the same grave as his sister. These two siblings were united by grace, and they shared the same mission in this life. They were always one in God while they lived on earth, and their bodies were together after their death. The value of their holy friendship mutually built each other up and gave glory to God. We are made not only for communion with God, but for communion with one another. These saintly siblings gave witness to this fact.

St. Scholastica is the Patron Saint of LeMans, France, and the Patron Saint of religious sisters. Likewise, she is the Patron Saint of convulsive children, and the Patron Saint of those seeking protection against violent storms.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of**  
**February 6-11, 2023**

- Monday:** *St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs*  
**6:30 am** Patrick Bagley (I)  
**8:30 am** Dorothy Bertie †
- Tuesday:**  
**6:30 am** Living and Deceased Members of the Lubecki Family  
**8:30 am** Deacon Jack (I) and Jennie (I) Wilson
- Wednesday:** *St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin*  
**6:30 am** Virginia Bispo †  
**8:30 am** Carolyn Fonteyn †
- Thursday:**  
**6:30 am** John Lubecki †  
**8:30 am** Dr. Jon Finkler (I)
- Friday:** *St. Scholastica, Virgin*  
**6:30 am** Mike †, Lu † and Art † Tormey  
**8:30 am** Jennifer Lehner †
- Saturday:** *OUR LADY OF LOURDES*  
**8:30 am** Ferrel Family Intentions

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday:** Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday:** Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc, 30; Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday:** Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30
- Friday:** Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday:** Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10
- Sunday:** Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]

## MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND RECIPIENTS



If you or anyone you know of is homebound and in need of receiving the Holy Eucharist, please contact **GAIL GUDAHL**, SJE Lead Homebound Minister at [homeboundministry@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:homeboundministry@sjecarmichael.org) or our **SJE PARISH OFFICE** at (916) 483-8454.

## HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK PROCEDURE

For those who bring the Holy Eucharist to our homebound brothers and sisters after Mass, **please place your Pyx with Host on the Altar prior to the beginning of Mass.**

If you are unable to place the Pyx on the Altar before Mass, please do not approach the Altar once Mass begins. After Mass, you can approach either the Priest or Deacon to obtain our precious Lord, Who will journey with you to be received by our homebound brothers and sisters as soon as possible.

## SJE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CON'T)

**OUR PRAYER:** ST. SCHOLASTICA, YOU AND YOUR BROTHER SHARED NOT ONLY THE SAME FAMILY, BUT YOU WERE ALSO DEEPLY UNITED IN A SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP CENTERED ON GOD. PLEASE PRAY FOR US, THAT WE MAY DISCOVER FRIENDS WHO ASSIST US ON OUR JOURNEYS THROUGH THIS WORLD, AND MAY WE ALSO BE SPIRITUAL FRIENDS TO OUR SIBLINGS. AMEN

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Joanne Giffard, SJE Religious Education Coordinator

[ccd@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:ccd@sjecarmichael.org)

[jkoeckgiffard@aol.com](mailto:jkoeckgiffard@aol.com)

Why did Jesus issue a “stern warning” to the healed leper? (Mark 1:40-45)



Jesus was “moved with mercy” when he saw the leper who approached him. Nevertheless, after healing him Jesus spoke sternly to him about showing himself to a priest, as he said: “See that you say nothing to any one; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to the people.”

The Greek participle “having sternly warned” (embrimēsamenos) is meant “expressing indignation” or “being agitated.” Actually, Jesus was not angered by the leper but by the social and religious conditions of the day because the lepers were considered untouchable. Jesus, with no doubt, went against this rule and he stretched his hand and touched the leper.

Not only afflicted the body; leprosy also thwarted the deepest longings of this man, who was expelled from his people (see Lev 13-14). Jesus’ personal touch granted this leper reentry into Israel and stopped all emotional abandonment that already deeply hurt him. However, why did Jesus command the leper to keep silent? It is because a public image as a miracle worker might have led to a false understanding of who he was. Jesus was a religious Messiah, not political. Thus, miracles are meant to show that the merciful presence of God is found in Jesus as he sweeps away the evils of sickness, demon possession, and taboo. The miracles are a means to an end, not an end in themselves.

To understand Jesus only as a miracle worker is to misunderstand him, though many people nowadays, even including some Christians do the same to Jesus. On the contrary, the evangelist remains aware that the ultimate goal of Jesus’ life is found in his death and resurrection.

**SPIRITUAL REFLECTION:** We need to trust in the mercy of a forgiving God who assures us that our sins are forgiven. Then, we are forgiven and made clean from the spiritual leprosy of sin when we repent of our sins. No matter how many sins we have committed or how badly we have behaved, we know that the merciful God will still forgive us. The only condition required of us is that we ask for forgiveness with a repentant heart.

—Fr. Abraham Chiu

**NO FEBRUARY SJE HEALING MASS**

since Father ALBAN UBA is still in Nigeria.



St. John’s Monthly HEALING MASS will return on **March 19, 2023.**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**



*Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference thanks you for your continued support, which allows us to help the poor and needy in our neighborhood.*

**ANNIE and JASPER** resting up after a hard day’s work helping Mom clean up the yard after the storm.



*(Mom is Out-of-Town this week, so we used the same CUTE Photo)*

The FOOD LOCKER could use a few essentials: spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, dry pinto beans, top ramen, and jelly, jelly and JELLY.

THANK YOU for your support throughout the year, we couldn’t do this without YOU.

YOU make a difference! God bless you! Stay safe!

**ST. JOHN’S GIFT SHOP NEWS**



The SJE CHURCH GIFT SHOP is **OPEN!!**

- LENTEN Supplies are arriving •
- Proceeds benefit St. John’s School

**JOKE OF THE WEEK**

Bob and his wife, Carol, faithfully attended their Parish’s annual carnival every year where a local pilot would offer helicopter rides for a \$50 donation to the Parish’s building fund. And every year Bob would say, “Carol, I’d really like to ride in that helicopter.” Carol always replied, “I know, Bob, but that helicopter ride is fifty dollars, and fifty dollars is still fifty dollars.”

After several years of this, Bob said, “Carol, I’m 85 years old. If I don’t ride that helicopter now, I might never get another chance.” But Carol simply replied, “Bob, fifty dollars is still fifty dollars.”

The pilot, a practical joker, overheard the discussion and said, “Folks, I’ll make you a deal. I’ll take the both of you for a ride. If you don’t say a word for the whole ride, it won’t cost you a penny. But if you say one word, it’s fifty dollars.”

So up they went. The pilot made all kinds of fancy maneuvers, but not a word was heard from the back seat. He did daredevil tricks, but there wasn’t one peep. As he landed, the pilot looked in the mirror and said, “Boy, I did everything I could to get you to say something, but you didn’t. I’m impressed!” Bob replied, “Well, to tell you the truth, I almost yelled when Carol fell out, but you know, **fifty dollars is still fifty dollars!**”

**OUR FASCINATING FAITH**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES (FEBRUARY 11)**

On February 11, 1858, fourteen-year-old **BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS**, the oldest of nine children in a poor family from Lourdes, France, saw Our Lady in the first of eighteen apparitions. At the grotto of Massabielle, Bernadette saw “a small lady in white” who invited her to return each



day. During the visions, the Lady communicated a message of penance, instructed Bernadette to dig so that a spring of water began to flow, requested that a chapel be built there at the grotto, and eventually identified herself by saying, “I am the Immaculate Conception”.

Throughout these apparitions, Our Lady addressed Bernadette in a formal way, treating the humble girl with dignity. In 1862, the authenticity of the apparitions was confirmed by Church authorities. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was recognized worldwide in 1907. Lourdes became a place of pilgrimage for thousands of the faithful; their faith and the faith of many others was revitalized through the story of a simple young girl from rural France. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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