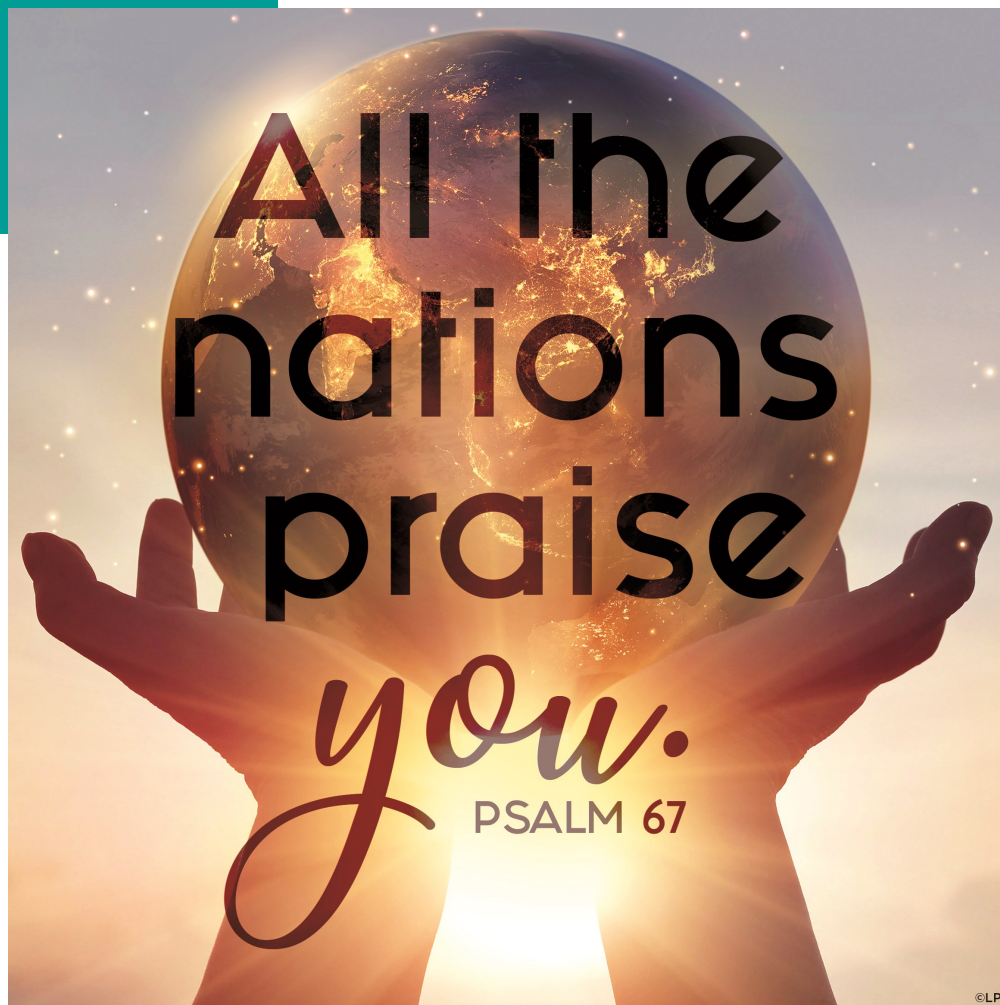




# ST. JOHN VIANNEY

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## CATHOLIC CHURCH



### Welcome

to our *church*  
a place where love resides,  
*faith* is shared  
and hope never ends.

A place  
for *friends*  
and *families*  
to gather  
and to always belong.

#### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 am

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 am  
Wednesday 6:00 pm

#### COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday 5:30 pm

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:15-4:45 pm  
Wednesday 5:15-5:30 pm  
or by appointment

#### ROSARY

Wednesday 5:30 pm

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 7 am—6 pm

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A—AUGUST 20, 2023

**PASTOR** Fr. Fredrick Chima Mbiere  
cmbiere@dio.org  
217-650-9276

**DEACON** Andy Krug  
parish@sjv.dio.org

**LOCATION** 902 St. John Drive,  
Sherman, IL  
(Office in the Activity Center)

**MAILING ADDRESS** P.O. Box 229  
Sherman, IL 62684

**PHONE** 217-523-3816

**EMAIL** parish@sjv.dio.org

**OFFICE HOURS** Monday-Friday  
8:30 am—1:30 pm

**ONLINE** <https://sjvsherman.org>

FROM THE PASTOR

# GREAT

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

MATTHEW 15:28

**20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
—YEAR A—AUGUST 20, 2023**

(Is: 56: 1, 6-7; Ps 67; ROM 11, 13-15. 29-32;  
MT 15, 21-28)

## The invitation to God's Love, Mercy and Salvation is all-inclusive

**Beloved brothers and sisters**, as we celebrate the 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the holy Mother Church calls our attention to God's invitation and mercy to the entire humanity. God's invitation and mercy is without borders. This

means, we all have equal opportunities to it through our response of faith. In fact, today's readings echo the biblical concept that from the beginning God planned to gather all peoples together into one flock.

The 1st reading, reflects a time during the period of restoration after the return from Babylon about 538 BC onwards. By this time, there were a lot of foreigners living in Israel. The question arose as to whether or not the benefits of salvation should be extended to them. Isaiah came up clearly on that to declare that the house of God is to be a house of prayer for all the peoples, without any segregation. He further stated that the foreigners who come to the Lord, who love the name of the Lord, and live faithfully, will be brought to the mountain of the Lord to live joyfully in the house of prayer. That was a tremendous statement, because, today there are so many closed shops, so many exclusive clubs in the world. But God's house is meant to be different, it is meant to be open to all His children. Does our religion today still have that great capacity to break down barriers? Our worship today should have that power to turn people into one family.

In the 2nd reading, Paul stresses on the same point as Isaiah did. It suffices to note that when Paul says, "Mercy to all," he is not saying that God will save everyone. Rather, that His mercy is available to all those who will respond accordingly to His invitation, both the Jews and Gentiles. For, "*Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved*" (Acts 2: 21). All have been invited to this mercy, salvation and love, what is our response?

Jesus praises the faith of a Canaanite woman and grants her request despite belonging to a foreign region. The woman demonstrated her faith in Christ. Of course, Christ showed her mercy by

healing her daughter. Her persistence is also worth emulating. In spite of all odds, and what looked like Jesus' refusal to answer her, she did not give up. So, like this Canaanite woman, each and every one is in need of God's mercy. All we need do, is to demonstrate our faith in Christ and, He will show us His mercy. Meanwhile, by granting the unnamed woman's request, Christ demonstrated that salvation is not meant only for the house of Israel. No one is excluded from God's love and care. It is not meant only for those who belong to our church; it includes all categories of people: the foreign immigrant who lives on our streets, the outsider who is not a member of our church, the public sinner whom the society abhors, and the criminal who languishes in the prison cells. As Christians, our attitude must be one of openness, understanding and acceptance of people of all communities, creeds, regions, languages, social standards and character traits. The reason is that Jesus died and rose for all, and He is the Lord and Saviour of all. God cares for all His children without exception. May He give us this grace. Amen.

**EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS:** Remember again to sign up at the back of church if you have made up your mind to attend.

**GOOD WISHES:** As our students and teachers go back to school this period for a new school year, we wish them a very peaceful, fruitful and all-round successful academic year. We love and pray for you all!

I am wishing you and yours God's favors and abundance, in the week ahead! I care for and love you all!

**FR. FREDDIE C. MBIERE**

*All are welcome!*

**If you would like to join the parish, or if you are not Catholic  
and would like to learn about the Catholic faith,  
or to arrange for a baptism, wedding,  
or the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the Parish Office.**

## PARISH OFFICE

### OFFICE MANAGER

Cliff Shehorn  
cshehorn@sjv.dio.org

### BOOKKEEPER

Lynda Cliburn  
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## PARISH MINISTRIES

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### YOUTH GROUP

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### ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT

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### WOMEN'S SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Barb Doud  
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### COUNCIL 14024 KC GRAND KNIGHT

John Ausmus 217-415-2109  
jpausmus56@gmail.com



## From the SJV Parish Nurse

Nancy Barrett

### BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Blood pressure screenings will be available in the Adoration Chapel after Masses August 26 and 27.

## Pilgrimage to Israel

Fr. George Nellikunnel is leading a 9-day pilgrimage to Israel April 8-16, 2024. The tour offers a pre-tour extension in Rome and/or a post-tour extension in Jordan. There will be special travel presentation at 6 pm Monday, Aug. 21, at St. Aloysius, 2125 N. 21st St. in Springfield. For more information, there are flyers on the table at the back of the church; or contact Fr. George at 217-544-4554, [GNeillikunnel@dio.org](mailto:GNeillikunnel@dio.org) or Amy King 309-370-8880, [AKking528@gmail.com](mailto:AKking528@gmail.com).

## Chicken Dinner

Resurrection Parish in Illiopolis will be hosting a CARRY-OUT fried chicken dinner and raffle from 10 am—2 pm Sunday, Sept. 10. The cost is adult dinner \$15 and child 10 years of age and under \$10. There will also be 50/50 raffle (winners need not be present to win) and a Country Store.

## Practical Tips for Tithing

If you are interested in practicing tithing, here are some practical tips to help you get started:

- Calculate your tithe based on your income or produce. This can be done by dividing your income by ten or by determining the value of a tenth of your produce.
- Make tithing a habit by setting aside your tithe regularly, whether it is weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly. Consistency is key in making tithing a regular practice in your life.
- Consider automating your tithe through SJV's online giving (see information at right) or automatic bank transfer. This can help you to stay on track with your tithing and to make it a regular part of your financial routine.
- Seek wise counsel and guidance from our pastor or church leaders on how your tithe can best support the work of the church and its ministries. They can provide you with information on how your tithes are being used and how you can best support the mission of the church.
- Remember that tithing is a matter of the heart and not just a financial transaction. Give cheerfully and sacrificially, trusting in God's provision and blessings. When we give with a willing and cheerful heart, we are honoring God and demonstrating our love for Him.

## New door

The new side door from the church to the parking lot is now available for use!

## The Word Among Us

The September issue of *The Word Among Us* is available in the back of the Church. Please take one for yourself and/or to share. *The Word Among Us* assists in reading, meditating on and understanding scripture, and provides sound, practical advice for Catholics on the living out of the Christian life.

## Summer travel pics

All summer we have encouraged parishioners to share photos of churches where they attended Mass. We will be publishing those photos in the next couple of weeks!

**ONLINE GIVING!** Are you utilizing **WeShare**, our online donation tool, to make your giving more convenient? If not, getting started is easy. Just type in <https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-1975> in your internet browser, or go to the SJV website at <https://sjvsherman.org> and scroll to "Donate Online". Either way will take you to the SJV WeShare page. Once on the site, you can establish your username and password, set up your account, add a source of funds, and set up a recurring weekly or monthly payment. For special collections, please put your donations in the collection basket. We hope you will consider utilizing this secure way to manage your giving.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP—August 12 & 13, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 2,525.00	Capital Improvement	\$ 225.00
Loose Donations	\$ 1,473.42	Building & Maintenance	\$ 15.00
Online Giving	\$ 725.00		\$
Total	\$ 4,723.42	Weekly Budget	\$ 5,471.71

**We're grateful to those who generously financially support our parish needs and those of the greater Church.**

**God bless you!**



Coffee  
Conversation  
Community

## Sunday after Mass

starting September 17—Activity Center

# THE SEARCH

FINDING THE MEANING OF LIFE

A D U L T S  
JOIN US!

BE A PART OF BUILDING THE ST. JOHN VIANNEY FAMILY

### Faith Formation

Catholic Faith Formation (CFF) for children and youth, will begin Sept 10; and for adults, Sept. 17, both after the 8:30 am Mass. Our faith grows and

becomes more fully alive the more we feed it—no matter how old we are! Please consider how you can set aside time to refresh your faith and nourish your soul!

### REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE



**FIRST READING:** The Lord instructed the prophet Isaiah to be open to “foreigners” (nations other than Israel) for God’s covenant with Israel is intended for all people. How welcoming are you to outsiders in your life?

**SECOND READING:** Paul believed that Israel’s rejection of Jesus became a vehicle for God to reveal His mercy to all people, Jew and Gentile alike. Is there someone in your life who needs your mercy and forgiveness?

**GOSPEL:** Jesus rewards the Canaanite woman for her great faith by granting the woman’s request to heal her daughter. Who would you say has helped you grow in your faith? ©LPi

## MASS INTENTIONS AND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

		MASS INTENTION	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER OF THE CUP	SERVER	SACRISTAN	GREETER
SATURDAY	AUG 19	Lori Saathoff †	Amelia Fox Amy Schutzbach	Stacie Henderson	Brad Cliburn	Audrey Fox	Cliff Shehorn	Jean McCain
SUNDAY	AUG 20	For the People (Pro Populo)	LaDonna Rowden	Bev Hoffman	Larry Hoffman	Austin Grebner Ethan Grebner	Deacon Andy	Valerie Henderson
MONDAY	AUG 21	Marie C. Downs †	ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES			If you require an assisted hearing device in the church, these are available upon request from the ushers.		
TUESDAY	AUG 22	Communion Service	LOW GLUTEN HOST					
WEDNESDAY	AUG 23	Anna Eleyidath †	OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE			If you are in need of receiving the Precious Body via a low gluten host, please let the Sacristan or Father know prior to the beginning of Mass.		
THURSDAY	AUG 24	Jim Fleck †						
FRIDAY	AUG 25	Jessie Campbell †				If you are interested in serving God by serving others such as being a Eucharistic minister, lector, greeter, altar server, singer, please contact the office or let Father or Deacon know of your interest.		
SATURDAY	AUG 26	Glenn & Delores Allison †	Amy Schutzbach	Stacie Henderson	Barbara Doud			
SUNDAY	AUG 27	For the People (Pro Populo)	Ethan Grebner Terry Willis	Gail Hahn	LaDonna Rowden	Madison Kloba	David Sweeney	Jeanne & David Kliess Family





# St. John Vianney Parish Feast Day Celebration

AUGUST 5, 2023

