

JANUARY 24, 2021

Saint John *the* Baptist

CATHOLIC CHURCH

502 NORTH MONROE
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727

St. John's Catholic Church Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, Jan. 31

St. John's Parish Hall
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Featuring: Avanti's spaghetti sauce,
bread, salad, and dessert

Adults - \$8

Children - \$4

Drive Thru Only



Graphic courtesy of
Clinton Journal

0122202

Third Sunday in Ordinary



As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." — Mk 1:16-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Live Steaming of Weekend Mass

The Parish now has the ability to livestream our weekend Mass. It can be posted to Facebook so anyone who wishes to participate in our Weekend Mass would have access to the celebration held at Saint John's. Some additional technical issues still need to be addressed, but as of this printing the Mass will shortly be available to whomever visits the Parish Facebook Page.

One important element is someone to turn on the camera and Chromebook in order to record the mass. We would be happy to speak with anyone who is willing to connect our Weekend Mass with our at home audience. This is a great way to keep in touch with those who are unable to be physically present for the Weekend masses. If you are able to help in this way, please contact the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions



Monday, January 25th

8:00 am For the People of St. John the Baptist and Sacred Heart Parishes and Their Benefactors

Tuesday, January 26th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, January 27th

8:00 am + Carmella Gullone

Thursday, January 28th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Saturday, January 30th, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm ++ Don and Mary Jackson

Sunday, January 31st, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am + Joyce Rempe

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Liturgical Assignments

Saturday, January 30th, 4:00 pm Mass

Lector Sandy Stauffer

EMHC Bruce Askins

Servers Greg Toohill

Usher/Greeters Connie Harrold, Jim & Mary Lou Barnett

Sunday, January 31st, 8:30 am Mass

Lector Linda Kilgarriff

EMHC Jim Kilgarriff

Servers Davis Howell and Diana Naxi

Usher/Greeters Tim and Missi Wolfe

Collection Counters this week are
Mary Lou Barnett and Nancy Wikoff.
Thank you for serving in this way.



Saturday, January 16th 4:00pm
and
Sunday, January 17th 8:30am

Sunday Envelopes..... \$1,738.00
Loose.....\$175.00
Total Collection..... \$1,913.00

Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS



CCD K-8 Classes—Classes meet today Sunday, January 24th following the 8:30 am Mass.

Parish Spaghetti Dinner—Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for next Sunday, January 31st. Refer to front cover for Drive thru Event information.

2020 Contributions Statements

It's that time of year again. Please be aware that statements of your annual contributions **are not** automatically sent out. If you need a verification of your yearly donations for income tax purposes, please contact the Parish Office and we will be happy to prepare one for you.



Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes

Millie Frese, Sue Thompson

Prayers for the Sick

Kay Bailey, Connie Brown,

Evan Calvert, Susan Cooper, Phyllis Fehr, Cornelia Harpenau, Beverly Hartsock, Roy Harrold, Mary Hirsch, Steve Lighthall, Tina Mannix, Jon Menter, Joni Mollet, Melissa Nagy, Bill Sargent, Sharon Stephenson, Angie Walden, Cale Wayne, Rita Williams, Brett Willits, Charles M. Yeagle.

LITURGICAL FALLOUT DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

*Blessing of Throats on the memorial of St. Blaise
(February 3)*

Note that the Book of Blessings contains the following provision for this rite: 1628. If, for pastoral reasons, each individual cannot be blessed in the manner described in no. 1627, for example when great numbers are gathered for the blessing or when the memorial of Saint Blaise occurs on a Sunday, a priest or deacon may give the blessing to all assembled by extending hands, without the crossed candles, over the people while saying the prayer of blessing. A lay minister says the prayer proper to lay ministers without making the sign of the cross. **The current circumstances would certainly be considered a sufficient pastoral reason to avoid administration of the blessing to individuals in the usual manner**, should there be any concern of danger due to the ongoing pandemic.



"What does it mean to be 'fishers of men'?"

Give a man a fish, a proverb instructs, and you feed him for a day. Teach him to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime. But what if you take away his fishing nets and set him far away from his trade? What does it take to

walk away from the only sustenance-providing work you know, just to join a ministry that focuses only on feeding the souls of others?

Today's readings gloss over a critical point about Jesus' call to the fishermen to become these "fishers of men." They would have known nothing other than their trade to feed themselves and their families, and these were not times in which people socked away enough for a sabbatical from their careers. We know Peter was at least married, so he had family obligations. Andrew, James, and John had to work to feed themselves, likely every day except the Sabbath, and had to compete with each other and other fishermen in Galilee to sell their catches. Not only were these men unlikely theologians — those got chosen much earlier in the life of Jewish communities — but they were among the working poor in a region under Roman occupation and heavy taxation.

Clearly the Lord had placed His finger on the hearts of these disciples, but the context of their choice is still worth pondering, because it was still *their* choice. Jesus did not order them out of their boats and their comfort zones; He *invited* them to join Him. Nor did He promise them wealth, riches, or even a morsel to eat. These four apostles first joined with Jesus and deliberately left their sustenance trade on the promise that they would help save others, not so much themselves.

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus begin this process with Peter, Andrew, James, and John. Once John the Baptist's prophesying is fulfilled in Jesus' baptism, Jesus rebuilds that path of salvation by which the world will be converted through the Israelites. This time, however, Jesus chooses men who are willing to give up any sense of their own power and connection to this world, men who are willing to throw in completely for others for their own sakes.

They became fishers of men rather than fishermen, and in doing so built a church to provide that path of salvation by which the world could be converted. The apostles also understood that the temptations of worldly power and ambition would always threaten that connection, just as it had for the ancient Davidic kingdom.

None of these men are perfect. They only slowly begin to realize that there's a catch to this mission — that it will require them to change. James and John would jockey for power. Peter would deny Jesus three times. Thomas would scoff at Jesus' resurrection. Not until the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost would the disciples fully grasp that their mission; the preaching of God's love and mercy and repentance of sin.

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Catholic Men's Group

Join us in building Church through fund-raising activities and fun outings. Membership is open to all men of our area 18 years and older. See inside bulletin for meeting times and dates.



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