

JANUARY 31, 2021

Saint John *the* Baptist

CATHOLIC CHURCH

**502 NORTH MONROE
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727**

Pastor

Rev. James P. Henning, O.F.M. Conv.

Deacons

Patrick Comfort
Scott Whitehouse

Parish Office

Phone 217-935-3727
Emergency Cell 309-838-3661
E-Mail stjohnsclinton@yahoo.com
Bulletin stjohnsbulletin@yahoo.com
(Bulletin Items Due By Monday 9:00am)
Website..... clintonstjohns.org

Parish Staff

Religious EducationSue Neuschwanger
Parish Secretary..... Debbie Askins*
.....* medical leave
Bulletin Secretary Kathie Summers
Parish Trustees Francis Jackson
Becky Wisher
PPC PresidentBill Spencer

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Outreach Ministry Hours

Monday and Wednesday
9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:00 am



We will be serving from 11:00am to 1:00pm. We will once again feature Avanti's spaghetti sauce and bread along with salad, dessert and beverage. The cost is just \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. And be sure to join us for this delicious meal! Meals will be served from the rear door of the Hall off the parking lot. This will be a drive thru event.

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" — Mk 1:23-25

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

Mass Intentions



Monday, February 1st

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

Tuesday, February 2nd

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, February 3rd

8:00 am + Marilyn Watkins

Thursday, February 4th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Friday, February 5th, First Friday

12:00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Saturday, February 6th, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm + Nancy Askins

Sunday, February 7th, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am + Laretta Madix

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC



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.

Collection Counters this week are **Silvia Comfort and Donna Hall.** Thank you for serving in this way.

Live Streaming of Weekend Mass

The Parish now has the ability to livestream our weekend Masses. It can be posted to our Facebook page so anyone who wishes to participate in our Weekend Mass would have access to the celebration held at Saint John's. One important element is someone to turn on the camera and Chromebook in order to record the mass. As soon as we have a volunteer St. John's masses will be available to whomever visits the Parish Facebook Page. Please contact the Parish Office if you are able to help in this way.



CCD K-8 Classes—Classes meet today Sunday, January 31st following the 8:30 am Mass.

Parish Spaghetti Dinner—Spaghetti Dinner is TODAY! Serving 11:00am to 1:00pm. Drive thru only.

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.

Liturgical Assignments

Saturday, February 6th, 4:00 pm Mass

Lector Marilyn Hight
EMHC Mike Corrigan
Servers Greg Toohill
Usher/Greeters Tom and Nancy Horsley

Sunday, February 7th, 8:30 am Mass

Lector Silvia Comfort
EMHC Michelle Lukach
Servers Olivia and Aiden Petersen
Usher/Greeters TBA

We received the following thank you note from the Christmas Food Basket Committee:

Dear St. John Catholic Church Congregation, Thank you so much for your generous donation of canned fruit to the 2020 Christmas Food Basket distribution! Your additional \$500 cash gift to help purchase needed foodstuff is also very appreciated. Our community members, from "Littles" to Seniors, were blessed to have this needed food to get through the Christmas Season. May God bless and keep you.

*Tere Tedrick
Christmas Food Basket Committee*

Thank you to our parish for always stepping up when help is needed. You are always generous.



**Saturday, January 23rd 4:00pm
and
Sunday, January 24th 8:30am**

Sunday Envelopes..... \$1,502.00
Loose.....\$198.00
Total Collection..... \$1,700.00

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Known originally as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a relatively ancient celebration. The Church at Jerusalem observed the feast as early as the first half of the fourth century, and likely earlier. The feast celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40th day after His birth.

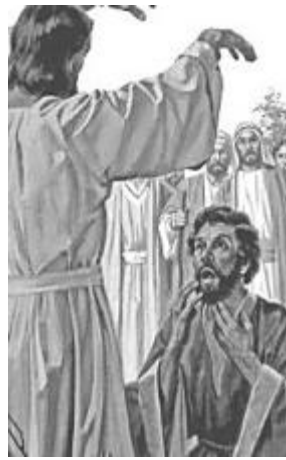
According to Jewish law, the firstborn male child belonged to God, and the parents had to "buy him back" on the 40th day after his birth, by offering a sacrifice of "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons" in the temple (thus the "presentation" of the child). On that same day, the mother would be ritually purified (thus the "purification").

Saint Mary and Saint Joseph kept this law, even though, since Saint Mary remained a virgin after the birth of Christ, she would not have had to go through ritual purification. In his gospel, Luke recounts the story.

When Christ was presented in the temple, "there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel." When Saint Mary and Saint Joseph brought Christ to the temple, Simeon embraced the Child and prayed the Cantic of Simeon:

Now thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace; because my eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: a light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel (Luke 2:29-32).

Inspired by the words of the Cantic of Simeon ("a light to the revelation of the Gentiles"), by the 11th century, the custom had developed in the West of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation. The candles were then lit, and a procession took place through the darkened church while the Cantic of Simeon was sung. Because of this, the feast also became known as Candlemas. While the procession and blessing of the candles is not often performed in the United States today, Candlemas is still an important feast in many European countries.



"Quiet! Come out of him!"

The scene is set in the synagogue and on the Sabbath. This clearly indicates that Jesus is confronting the teaching that does not further the Kingdom of God. He is determined to get rid of all that is damaging in the teaching of the religious establishment. Jesus has told us that his "Yoke is sweet and my burden light."

He has come to lighten the burden on humanity not to increase it. The "Holy One of God" is confronting anything that does not lead to the fullness of life of humankind. It is not surprising that the unclean spirit puts up resistance in the story. Just think about our reaction when we are confronted with our own shortcomings!

We are left in no doubt as to the outcome of this confrontation between Jesus and the unclean spirit. We will frequently find, as we continue our journey through the Mark's Gospel, that we are assured that "Good / God will triumph".

This must surely have been a new teaching for Mark's community and Jesus audience. Their reaction is; it "made a deep impression on them" and, "The people were so astonished". The meaning in the original Greek is much stronger. It means that they were in a state of shock or they had entered into a new way of thinking. Is God calling us to view the world and our lives in a new way? I think so! I am sure that we may find this deeply disturbing as we are called to make changes in our outlook and way of relating to God and others.

Take note of the words used by Jesus to secure the victory over the unclean spirit, "Be quiet (be still)! These are the same words that he will use when he calms the storm 4: 39. Surely this should be how we feel as we reflect on how I am being called to a more meaningful relationship with my God? Let us pause now to allow this to impact on us. Jesus' teaching had a profound impact on his audience and on Mark's community. This was because he spoke "with authority". He spoke from personal conviction. He spoke from his own life experience. As we grow in our contact and understanding of the Word, and as we allow the Word to impact on our lives so too will our lives (the way we live) come to have an ever increasing impact on the world around us. Our lives will speak with "authority". Time to recognize all this in our lives. Time to respond to all God is saying to us.

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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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