

FEBRUARY 28, 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 Education Sue Neuschwanger
Parish Secretary Debbie Askins
Bulletin Secretary Kathie Summers
Parish Trustees Francis Jackson
Becky Wisner
PPC President Bill 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

Confessions

Saturday 3:30 pm or by appointment.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule

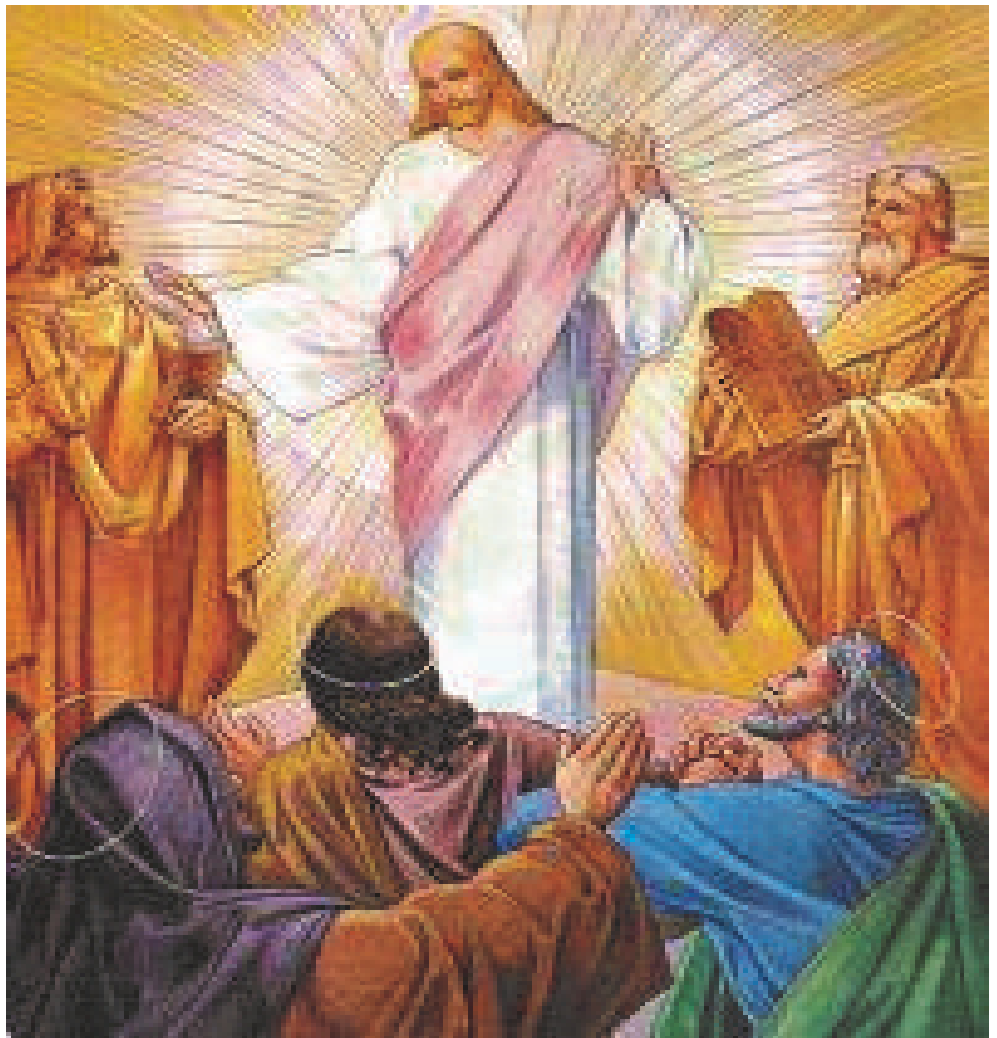
Monday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:00 am

Baptism

Parents must be registered members and attend a class prior to scheduling the Baptism. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

Marriage

Couples planning a marriage need to have a personal interview with the Pastor at least six months prior to the date of the wedding.



Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. — Mk 9:2-3

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

SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Monday, March 1st

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

Tuesday, March 2nd

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, March 3rd

8:00 am + Dave Mansfield

Thursday, March 4th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Friday, March 5th, First Friday

12:00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Saturday, March 6th, 3rd Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm + Bill Stephenson

Sunday, March 7th, 3rd Sunday of Lent

**8:30 am + Deceased Members of
the McGreal Family**

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

FEBRUARY

CCD K-8 Classes—Classes meet today Sunday, February 28th following the 8:30 am Mass.

Stations of the Cross—At 5:30pm on Fridays of Lent at St. John's Church.

Lenten Fish Frys—Drive Thru serving from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Fridays of Lent.

LENT **PRAY FAST GIVE**

**Saturday, February 20th 4:00pm
and
Sunday, February 21st 8:30am**

Sunday Envelopes.....	\$1,941.00
Loose	\$151.00
Total Collection.....	\$2,092.00

Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent

5:00 pm - St. Patrick, Wapella

5:30 pm - St. John, Clinton



Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said:

*"I will bless you abundantly
and make your descendants as countless
as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore."*

The Abrahamic covenant is a unilateral covenant that God made with Abraham. A unilateral covenant is an agreement made between two parties, in which only one of the parties has responsibility to act. In the case of the agreement between God and Abraham, God was the only one who was required to act, making it a unilateral (or unconditional) covenant. Abram was a man living in ancient Mesopotamia, a descendent of Noah through Shem. One day, God called to Abram and gave him a command that was also a promise: "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed". This promise is what we now call the Abrahamic covenant.

We know that the covenant was unilateral because, in the ancient world, a covenant would be made official by cutting open a dove or a ram or some other animal or animals, and placing them on the ground so that both parties involved in the covenant could walk between the pieces. In the case of the covenant God made with Abraham, God took on the form of a "smoking furnace and a flaming torch" and passed between the pieces alone. God caused Abraham to fall asleep while this took place, further ensuring that the full weight of responsibility in the covenant was to fall on God, rather than Abraham.

The Abrahamic covenant is an everlasting covenant, which extends into the future kingdom of Christ. Ezekiel prophesied a day when Israel would be fully restored to the Promised Land as a nation. Israel as a nation will also be restored, blessed and redeemed, as promised. Best of all, not only Israel, but all people, have access to God's kingdom through the Messiah, who was a descendant of Abraham.



Lent is just getting started and we need to talk about Holy Week? Yes. Last year due to the 'shutdown,' we were unable to observe the various celebrations as typical. This year we may still have some restrictions, but churches are now officially allowed to be open for worship services. As we look forward to this year's celebration we begin to prepare and get ready for these very important days.

We begin with asking for people to help with the proclamation of the Passion of the Lord on Palm Sunday (Saturday and Sunday). We will need a narrator and 'voice' for each Mass. Palm Sunday Masses will be at the usual times, but please note, these Masses do last a little longer.

This year St. John's will host the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday). At this Mass we typically observe the 'Mandatum' (washing of feet). We are looking for 12 volunteers to have their feet washed by the Deacons. Because of COVID 19 protocols, social distancing needs to be observed. Once again we are ahead of the curve. For the past several years, the process established is already a socially distanced atmosphere. Once again because of the protocols, adoration will not take place in the library, but an altar of repose will be set up on Mary's Altar and adoration will continue until 10:00 p.m.

Good Friday Services will be held at 3:00 pm. We will need help with the proclamation of the Lord's Passion. Again due to protocols Veneration of the Cross will be part of the service but people will not be allowed to kiss the cross or even touch the cross as in the past.

Easter Vigil will take place at Farmer City, time to be determined. Easter Sunday Mass will be at 8:30 a.m.

If you can assist in any way, please contact the Parish Office or leave a message.

Collection Counters this week are
Mike Rakers and Pat Sartie.
Thank you for serving in this way.



WELCOME BACK BECKY

It seems like forever, but Becky is finally back playing keyboard at the Saturday 4:00pm Mass. Back in October, Becky "took a little trip" that turned into four long months of recovery. Even though she is still on crutches, she is finally well enough to be back at Mass. We are so happy to have you back, Becky! We have missed you! We continue to pray for your full recovery.



**Peter said to Jesus,
"Master, it is good
that we are here."**

Peter was excited, perhaps beyond any excitement he had experienced before. In fact, to say he was excited is most certainly an understatement. It may be more appropriate to say that he was overwhelmed! Why was this the case? Because he had just been given a very small glimpse of the glory and splendor of God!

In the Transfiguration, Jesus took Peter, James and John and they went up a high mountain together. These three Apostles had no idea what was coming. Most likely while on the way they were complaining interiorly, wondering why they had to go up the mountain. But the mountain is a symbol of our upward journey to Heaven. It takes focus and drive, commitment and resolve to go there, and it's an elevated place, a place away from the ordinary occurrences of life.

So they were on this difficult climb up the mountain and suddenly they stopped in shock and awe. They saw before their eyes Jesus changed in a glorious way, His clothing being whiter than any white they had ever seen. And Moses and Elijah, the great Law-giver and the great Prophet, were there before them conversing with Jesus.

And what was going on in Peter's head? What was he experiencing? He was experiencing a small glimpse of the glory and splendor of God. Jesus, who up until this moment had kept His divinity veiled, lifted the veil ever so slightly. And with the lifting of that veil, His divinity shone through brighter than anything this world could ever contain. And Peter, James and John did not know what to think. But Peter cried out that he wanted to build three tents, one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah! For within that momentary experience, he experienced the desire to remain there forever.

So why did Jesus give these Apostles this very brief experience of His glory? Because they would need that taste of His goodness for the road ahead. They would need to forever remember what their final destiny was. They would need to hold this experience close as they endured the many crosses and sufferings ahead. And they would use this experience to remind themselves that whatever they had to endure on the journey up the mountain of life is worth it. Because on the summit is a glory so great that no hardship they would have to endure would ever prove to be too big.

God wants to give that message to us through them. He wants us to ponder this experience they had and He wants us to try to enter into it so that we too can willingly press on during the journey.

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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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