



MARCH 7, 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 Wisher
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



Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. — Jn 2:13b-15a

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



After many weeks and several failed attempts, we can now announce we are able to offer a live stream of our weekend Mass. **(when someone is at mass to turn on the laptop!)** Simply go to our parish website (clintonstjohns.org), scroll down to the blue Facebook Icon and click on it. You will be taken directly to St. John's Facebook page. When the Mass is online (live) you will see it at the top of the page. Or you can click on one of the previous Masses that have been saved as videos. Many thanks to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to make this happen.

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, March 8th

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

Tuesday, March 9th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, March 10th

8:00 am + Merribeth Koyak

Thursday, March 11th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Saturday, March 13th, 4th Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm + Jerry Ryan

Sunday, March 14th, 4th Sunday of Lent

8:30 am + Patricia Manion

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC



We recently received notice that our dear friend and former parishioner, **Doris Schlotter** died on February 17, 2021. She was 91 years old. Doris was a member of the Parish Altar and Rosary Society and a retired teacher who taught in the Clinton School System and after retirement continued as a substitute teacher. May God bless her with heaven. *(The family has requested that memorial donations may be sent to St. John's Church)*

Collection Counters this week are **Nancy Stokowski and Nancy Wikoff**. Thank you for serving in this way.



Saturday, February 27th 4:00pm and Sunday, February 28th 8:30am

Sunday Envelopes.....\$1,548.00
Loose\$260.00
Total Collection.....\$1,808.00



CCD K-8 Classes—Classes meet today Sunday, March 7th following the 8:30 am Mass.

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

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

Many thanks to the following people who volunteered their time at our Lenten Fish Frys. Thank you for making our first two Fish Frys a great success!



Bruce & Debbie Askins

Jane Cade

Silvia Comfort

Mike & Lyn Corrigan

Mary K Dulany

Donna Hall

Connie Harrold

Dottie Hendricks

Marilyn Hight

Tom & Nancy Horsley

Jerry Ishmael

Jim & Linda Kilgarriff

Adam Kroeger

Michelle Lukach

Kevin Mandrell

Sue Neuschwanger

Paul Nothnagel

Aiden Petersen

Logan Petersen

Fatima Ramirez

Pat Sartie

Conley, Mabrey &

Paisley Schick

Nancy Stokowski

Kathie Summers

Bonnie Taylo

Hector Valencia

Special Second Collection

Due to the large amount of snowfall these past few months, our snow removal expenses have been much greater this year and we do not have the funds to pay the bills. Therefore, a second collection will be taken at Masses next weekend for the snow removal bills. Your generosity will be very appreciated. Thank you!



Sunday, March 14th

Remember to set clocks **forward** one hour!

Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes

Millie Frese, Sue Thompson



Prayers for the Sick

Kay Bailey, Connie Brown, Evan Calvert, Susan Cooper, Phyllis Fehr, Jean Fehrenbach, Cornelia Harpenau, Beverly Hartsock, Roy Harrold, Mary Hirsch, Patty Lecomte, 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.

The TEN Commandments

Do We Still Have to Keep Them?

Modern Americans tend to have an unhealthy attitude toward other eras of history and cultures. We judge other cultures by our own provincial standards, and thus fail to see our own flaws. One of our blind spots is in the realm of law. Law

and lawmakers we routinely perceive as enemies of freedom and personal fulfillment. But if we can shed our prejudices long enough to see another point of view, we might learn a more wholesome approach to law from our Hebrew ancestors in faith.

“All you need is love” was a famous song of the Sixties generation, a generation which thought it had discovered love for the first time in human history. However, the theme of the song had its roots in St. Augustine sixteen centuries earlier when he said: “Love, and then do whatever you will.” Of course, even Augustine wasn’t an original thinker in that regard, for he drew on Jesus’ insight that love was the fulfillment of the Law (see Mt 22:37-40). So, love is more important than the Law? Not exactly, because Jesus was not proclaiming a new teaching but merely quoting from the Hebrew Scriptures, specifically Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. What’s the context of those two passages? Nothing other than the giving of the Law. In other words, *there is no conflict between law and love*. The law springs from love (God’s); obedience to the law likewise springs from love (man’s). The Law actually guarantees love as the Commandments specify the precise meaning of love and do not allow for vague generalities which have the effect of diluting the power of love.

If we look on the Commandments with the mind and heart of a devout Jew, we will see in them a divine blueprint for human happiness. We need to embark on our study of God’s Law in a spirit of openness and gratitude, seeing in the Ten Commandments the keys to human liberation – keys which free us from our baser human instincts and cause us to respond to the best within the human heart. That’s what the Lord meant when He said: “For this commandment which I command you this day is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. . . . it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts: You have only to carry it out” (Dt 30:11, 14).

The *Catechism*’s treatment of the Ten Commandments begins, like *Veritatis Splendor* and our treatment here, with the parable of the rich young man who desires perfection and has kept all the commandments from his youth. The point, of course, is that observing the commandments is but the first (even if necessary) step on the road to holiness, which is achieved by loving God and neighbor totally.

Jesus’ cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is one of the most fascinating aspects of his life and personality. It is a story which grabs our attention, and makes us think that perhaps, on this one occasion, Jesus went a little too far. The story, in fact, has a much deeper dimension than whether Jesus got a little too angry. So what’s going on with Jesus and the money-changers in the Temple? Is Jesus simply ticked off that there is commerce going on in the Temple? Or is there a far deeper concern on the mind of Jesus?

The Temple’s outer court, where the buying and selling took place, was supposed to be a place of prayer and worship for the Gentiles. This story isn’t just about money; *its about salvation*. Turning the outer court of the Temple into a market place effectively impeded God’s plan of salvation for the Gentiles.

Jesus’ cleansing of the Temple foretells its doom. “Jesus’ dramatic demonstration of overturning tables foreshadows the Temple’s violent destruction in A.D. 70.” Jesus wasn’t just overturning tables in the Temple; he was overturning the whole Old Testament economy. New wine cannot be placed into old wine skins. Jesus himself will be the new, indestructible Temple. In Chapter 13 of Mark’s Gospel Jesus will foretell with remarkable accuracy the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple which occurred less than four decades after His death and resurrection.

Jesus ejected the traders from the temple not only by turning over their tables but also by proclaiming a prophecy from Jeremiah and by teaching every day. The Holy Spirit uses the prophetic word like a “two-edged sword” to judge and purify the reflections and thoughts of our hearts (see Heb 4:12). “If an unbeliever enters while all are uttering prophecy, he will be taken to task by all and called to account by all, and the secret of his heart will be laid bare” (1 Cor 14:24-25). Jesus makes the Church “holy, purifying her in the bath of water by the power of the word” (Eph 5:26). Jesus said to His apostles: “You are clean already, thanks to the word I have spoken to you” (Jn 15:3).

“Jesus’ cleansing of the moneychangers from the Temple is a reminder to Christians of the need for “authentic worship” and “conformity between liturgy and life.” - Pope Francis. The Pope warned against entering the “Lord’s House” while behaving in a way contrary to “justice, honesty, and charity toward one’s neighbor.” Worship and liturgical celebrations, he explained in a homily, are “a privileged environment for listening to the Lord’s voice, which guides us on the path of righteousness and of Christian perfection.”



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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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