



MARCH 21, 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

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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

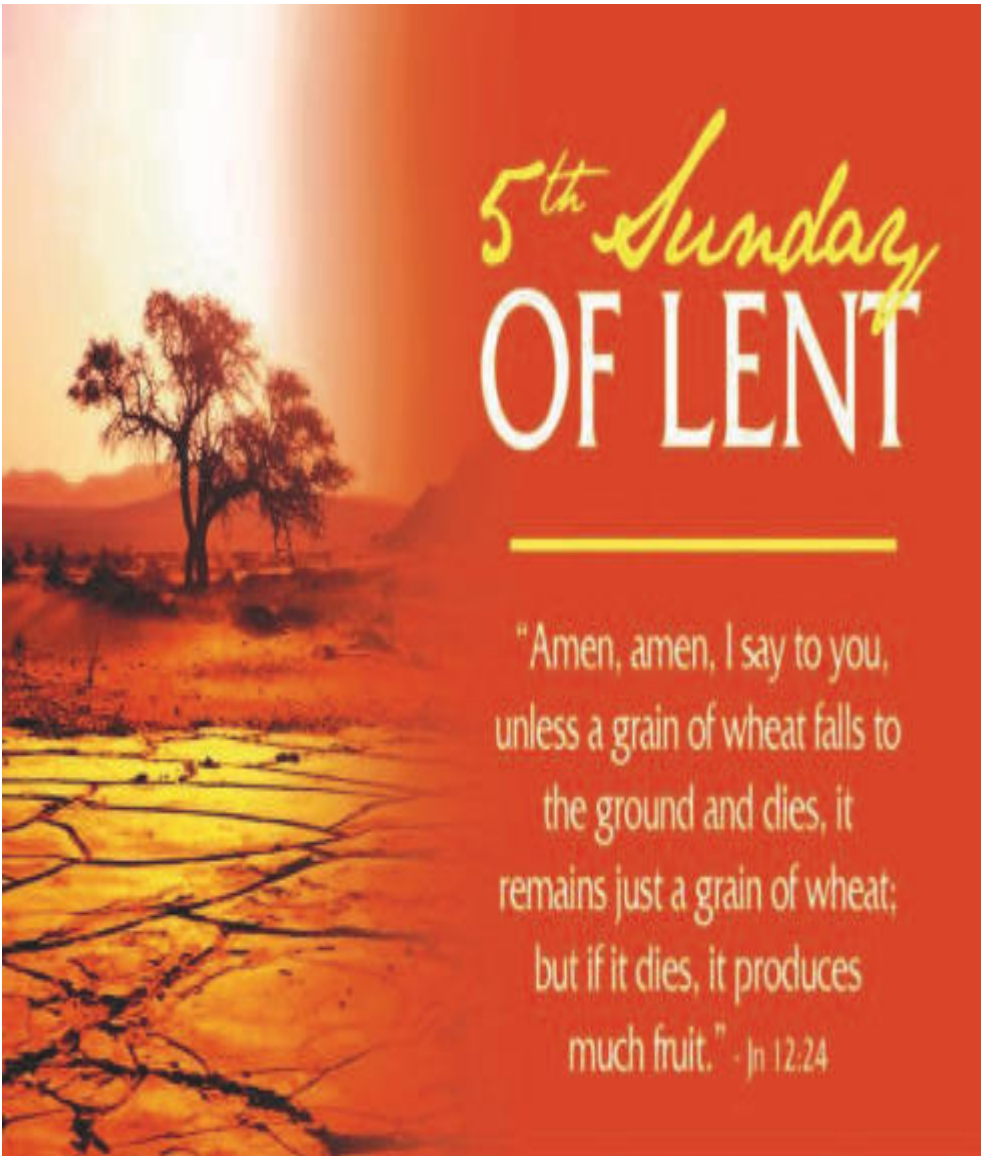
Saturday 3:30 pm or by appointment.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am

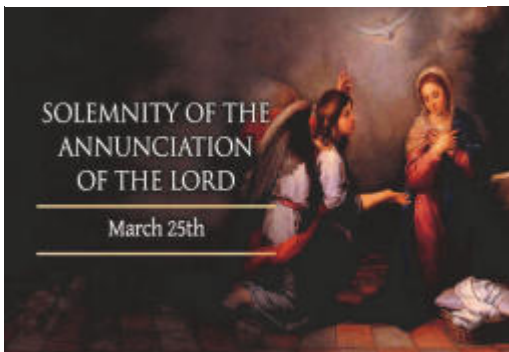
Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:00 am



5th Sunday OF LENT

"Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls to
the ground and dies, it
remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces
much fruit." - Jn 12:24



The Solemnity of the Annunciation celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of His only son. We are continually reminded of the importance of this feast to our salvation in various devotional prayers. Two examples that highlight the importance of this feast are the joyous mysteries of the Rosary and the Angelus.

The feast of the Annunciation began to be celebrated on this day during the fourth and fifth centuries, soon after the date for celebrating Christmas was universalized throughout the Church. This feast celebrates the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity and the salvation of all.

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, March 22nd

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

Tuesday, March 23rd

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, March 24th

8:00 am + Dorothy Smock

Thursday, March 25th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Saturday, March 27th, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

4:00 pm + Bill Smith

Sunday, March 28th, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

8:30 am + Adam Schlesinger

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC



"It Takes a Village"

Thank you to everyone who stayed after 8:00am Mass this past Wednesday to help. (Mike & Lyn Corrigan, Marilyn Hight, Tom & Nancy Horsley, Jerry Ishmael, Jim & Linda Kilgarriff, Mike Kroeger, Don Schlesinger, Debbie Askins) With many hands, all the statues were covered in time for Passion Week which begins this Sunday. With so many hands the job went quickly and smoothly and was completed in short order.



CCD K-8 Classes—Classes meet today Sunday, March 21st following the 8:30 am Mass.

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

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

Final Week for Lenten Fish Fry

Reminder! This Friday is St. John's last Lenten Fish Fry for this year. Please be sure to join us. This is a Drive Thru only event. We will be serving from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Meal includes fish or shrimp, two sides and dessert. Cost is \$9.





Holy Thursday
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00pm St. John's, Clinton

Good Friday
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Veneration and Communion:
3:00pm St. John's, Clinton
6:00pm Sacred Heart, Farmer City

Stations of the Cross & Veneration
5:30pm St. John's, Clinton
(NO FISH FRY ON GOOD FRIDAY)

Easter Vigil
7:15pm Sacred Heart, Farmer City

Easter Sunday
8:30am St. John the Baptist, Clinton
10:30am Sacred Heart, Farmer City

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



Saturday, March 13th 4:00pm
and
Sunday, March 14th 8:30am

Sunday Envelopes.....	\$1,541.00
Loose	\$204.00
Total Collection.....	\$1,745.00

Snow Removal Collection \$1,192.00



Be Reconciled

Individual Confessions
Father Paul Langevin will be present to assist Father Jim with Confessions

Thursday
March 25
St. John's Clinton
7:00 p.m.

As Holy Week begins to draw near, the Gospels begin to prepare us for the unfolding drama of Holy Week. Today's Gospel begins as some of the Greeks who were in Jerusalem for Passover went to Philip and told him that they would like to see Jesus. The Greeks had recently arrived. How had they heard about Jesus? Had word of Jesus and his teaching and miracles spread to Greece? Or had these Greeks simply heard stories about Jesus since they arrived in Jerusalem?

Philip and Andrew told Jesus that these Greeks wished to see him and also hear him speak. However, Jesus did not focus on the Greeks' desire to meet him. He doesn't respond to what Philip and Andrew just told him. Rather, Jesus began to prepare his disciples for the events that would unfold in the next few days. Jesus tells them that the hour has come. He also tells them that he would be glorified. Jesus then uses the image of a grain of wheat that has to fall into the ground and ultimately die. Only after dying, would the wheat be able to produce fruit!

we want to see
jesus
John 12:21

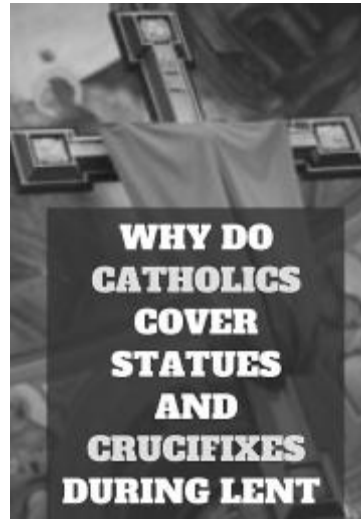
Jesus then tells his disciples that he is deeply troubled. Jesus realized that pain, sorrow and death were in his future. Can you imagine the emotion, pain and fear that Jesus must have been experiencing? True, Jesus was God. However, he also was fully human. Yes, he was committed to this path.

Did he also experience fear, sorrow and loss? And how would Mary, his mother, deal with his impending death? He was all she had.

Jesus had committed himself to this journey and to his people. Jesus is choosing to do this to glorify God's name. Then Jesus hears a voice speaking to him from heaven, affirming him in his decision to glorify God's name. What a comfort it must have been when Jesus heard God's voice from heaven reassuring him. What a wonderful gift to receive. This experience must have strengthened Jesus for the path that he would walk!

In our lives, we also have moments like Jesus, when we know we need to take a path that will be difficult and painful. Are we willing to surrender ourselves into God's hands? Do we trust God to be with us, to grace? Do we believe that God also will strengthen and console us? Do we trust that we will not be alone on this journey?

Jesus was human! He experienced many of the unpleasant realities of life that we all have to deal with. Yet, he completely trusted his Father, his God, to support and help him on every step of his journey. Today may we ask Jesus to give us a share of Jesus' trust and faith in God! And may we say yes to what life is asking of us at this time in our lives! Truly God is and will be with us!



The period following the Fifth Sunday of Lent was formally called Passiontide.

There is long tradition in the Catholic Church to cover all crucifixes, statues, and pictures in purple cloth from two Sundays before Easter until Holy Saturday. Under the old liturgical calendar prior to the Vatican II reforms in 1964, The Fifth Sunday of Lent, one week before Palms Sunday, was called Passion Sunday. The veiling referred to the closing

words of the Sunday gospel, "They picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple" (John 8:59). The Lenten veil also expressed the sorrow of the Church at this time. As a matter of fact, the Roman Missal still says, in a note about the Saturday of the fifth Sunday of Lent, that this tradition may be observed, continuing the veiling until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. The statues of the saints are covered too since, if the Master himself is covered, so should be his servants. Also, the unveiling of the cross prior to the veneration on Good Friday is still an optional part of the liturgy. In some places images and statues are actually removed from the church and not simply veiled. Neither the Stations of the Cross nor stained glass windows are ever veiled.

Some scholars say the custom was a remnant of the ancient practice of ritually expelling public penitents from the church at the beginning of Lent. After the custom of public penance fell into disuse and the entire congregation was symbolically incorporated into the order of penitents through the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, it was no longer possible to expel them from the church and so instead the altar, or "Holy of Holies", was shielded from view until they were reconciled with God at Easter. Later on in the Middle Ages the images of crosses and saints were also covered from the start of Lent. The custom of limiting this veiling to the last two weeks of Lent, appears in the Ceremonial of Bishops in the seventeenth century.

Regardless of the original meaning of the veiling of the crucifix and statues, it has much to commend it as a way of helping us prepare for Our Lord's Passover in the last two weeks of Lent.



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