



APRIL 11, 2021

# Saint John *the* Baptist CATHOLIC CHURCH

502 NORTH MONROE  
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727

## This is THE day THE LORD HAS MADE, LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD!

### 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

### 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

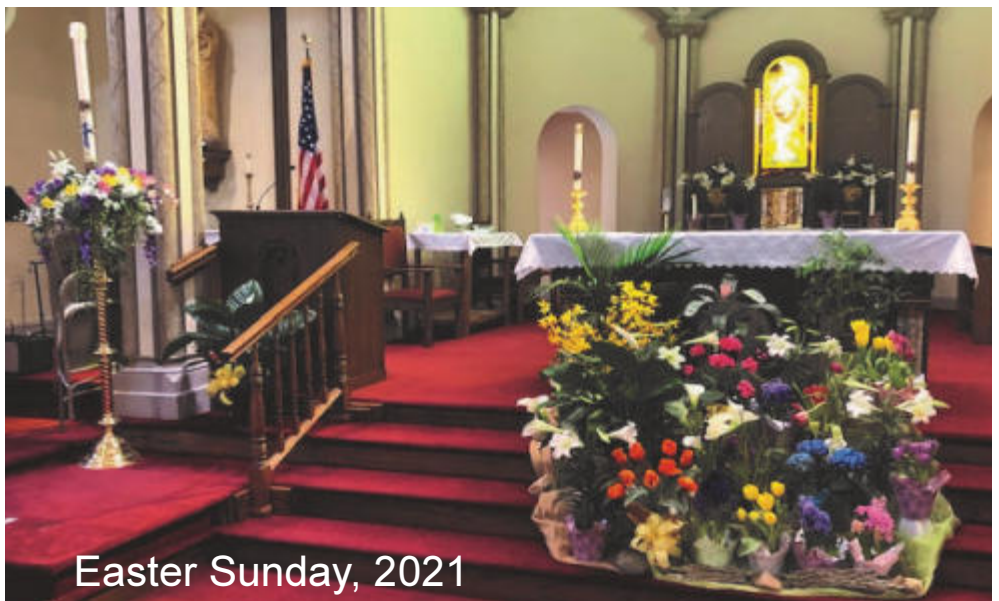
Monday 8:00 am  
Wednesday 8:00 am

### 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.



Easter Sunday, 2021



Deacon Scott Whitehouse washes the feet of Angie Sarver

Holy Week Services included the *Mandatum*, a reenactment of when Jesus washed the feet of His Disciples (pictured left). This year it took place at Saint John's. Below is the setting for Good Friday's display for the veneration of the Cross. Because of pandemic restrictions people were invited to genuflect or bow before the Cross as a symbol of reverence for the wood that held the body of Christ. This Cross was made in memory of Norma Jean Rusling Tilley.



Deacon Patrick Comfort washes the feet of Donna Hall



Good Friday, 2021

**Monday, April 12th**

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



*Tuesday, April 13th*

**8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC**

**Wednesday, April 14th**

**8:00 am +++ Bob, Rita and David Gaddy**

*Thursday, April 15th*

**8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC**

**Saturday, April 17th, 3rd Sunday of Easter**

**4:00 pm + Deceased Members of the Mollet Family**

**Sunday, April 18th, 3rd Sunday of Easter**

**8:30 am + Denny Madix**

**10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC**

**CCD News:** Classes resume today, Sunday, April 11th following the 8:30am Mass.

**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, Roy Harold, 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.

Collection Counters this week are

**Mary Lou Barnett and Pat Sartie.**

Thank you for serving in this way.



**Holy Week and Easter Collections**

Easter Sunday Envelopes	\$2,487.00
Loose	\$339.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>\$2,826.00</b>

Holy Thursday Collection	\$188.25
Good Friday/Holy Land Collection	\$437.65

**Easter Thank You!**

*Washing of feet. Proclaiming the Word of God. Singing praise to the Lord. Serving Good Friday. Decorating the Church. Planting flowers/pulling weeds. Doing laundry for the Church. Ushering visitors to the pews. Taking up the offering. Turning on the camera for live stream Mass.*

These are just some of the many activities necessary to make a beautiful Easter Celebration. So many hands are needed to welcome the Easter Season. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help. Easter is not just for a few, but for all who wish to rejoice in the glory of the Risen Lord. May the 50 days of Easter remind us of the great love shown us by the Savior who suffered so we might share in His risen life. *Alleluia!*

**St. John's Church Needs YOU!!!**

We are in need of additional Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. This is an opportunity to serve the people of God. The sharing of our skills and talents with others is an important part of being Christian. It is part of the call we receive at baptism.

There will be a training meeting at the end of April or May. Please consider serving our parish in one of these ways. Please contact Silvia Comfort to sign up.

**Altar & Rosary News**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 15th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please plan to attend as we will be discussing plans for the coming year.

**Easter Flower Memorials**

Donations were made for Easter flowers and decorations in memory or in honor of the following:



Carl Angerman, Dorothy Angerman, Karen Barnett, Ken and Hazel Barnett, Bob and Ruth Barnett, Steve and Michele Barnett, Taylor Beck, Dorita Braden, John and Reva Brelsford, Mary Burns, Dolores Burns, Dennis Burns, Lester and Thelma Burton, Brian Burton, Ermelinda Contreras, Ollie Daugherty, Carl Dulany, Enaida Graveda, Richard Green, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gullone, Kathryn Haas, Duane Haas, Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Hight, Bill E. Hight, Tom and Grace Hurley, Blanche Ishmael, Don and Mary Jackson, Alta Johnston, Nancy LoPresto, Geno LoPresto, Denny Madix, Aurelio Magana, Aurelio Magana Jr., Aciano Mendoza, Rosie Osorio, Raymond Pacetti, Nannie Pearl, Sandy Peters, Rosemary Pillars, Norma and Herb Rakers, Charles and Tim Rakers, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth P. Redington, Mr. Kenneth C. Redington, Manuel and Pilar Regueira, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schlotter, Duane Schmid, Leo and John Schutte, Bunnie Schumaker, Mrs. Joann Schwandt, Blanche Sinclair, Gordon Sinclair, Lillian and Calvin Stauffer, Bill Stephenson, Quint Stephenson, Tudy Stokowski, Stick Stokowski, Joe and Kathryn Stone, Charles and Doris Summers, Robert Wilson, Dick Wolfe.



Unlike the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke), John's gospel does not contain a Last Supper/Passover account. Instead, John precedes the passion and death of Jesus with a farewell address. As part of this address Jesus says, "My peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I." (John 14:27-28) Later in that discourse, Jesus again addresses the disciples, "you also are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. On that day you will not question me about anything." (John 16:22-23a) In the text for this Sunday, John describes how Jesus has fulfilled what he said in that farewell address.

The gospel text is composed of two almost identical appearances of the risen Lord. Both appearances take place on the first day of the week. The disciples are gathered, the doors are locked, Jesus appears in their midst, he greets them with the greeting of peace, and he shows them the wounds of the crucifixion. The repetition of these details draws attention to the ways the two appearances are different. Perhaps the most noticeable difference is the absence of Thomas in the first appearance. When he is told by the others that Jesus has appeared to them, he refuses to accept their testimony, and he refuses to accept them as credible witnesses of the truth of their testimony. Even if the others have seen the risen Jesus, he will not believe unless he can not only see but touch the wounds. Thus, the second difference is that Thomas is invited by Jesus to touch the wounds of the crucifixion. Another difference is the kind of response the disciples and Thomas have to the presence of the risen Christ. In the first account, the disciples are filled with joy. In the second appearance, Thomas responds with a statement of faith in Jesus as his Lord and his God. The last difference is in the way the appearance impacts those beyond the event itself. In the first incident, Jesus commissions the disciples to be instruments of God's forgiveness. In the second appearance, Jesus refers to those who believe, but have not had the unique experience of Thomas and the disciples—he calls them blessed.

# DOUBTING THOMAS



## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today may be the greatest day of the year because of the immeasurable amount of grace Jesus promised to pour forth on this day. In the private revelation accepted publicly by the Church, Jesus made a specific promise to Saint Faustina about Divine Mercy Sunday:

*"On that day . . . The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." Christ wanted to draw our attention to the immense importance of these two sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion.*

*So much so, that Christ's promise amounts to offering the graces of a complete pardon, or essentially a second baptism!*

Jesus reiterated these conditions and promise of a complete pardon at least two other times to her. (*Diary*, 300 & 1109) The "oceans of grace" available to us on Divine Mercy Sunday can make us anew and give us a fresh start again. We simply have to make a good Confession (such as the Saturday before) and stay in a state of grace up to receiving Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday or the vigil Mass. Jesus requested we also do works of mercy whether deed, word, or prayer.

But, the devotion was not always so. Initially, the Vatican had received erroneous and confusing translations of Sister Faustina's *Diary*, and in 1959, censured the devotion and banned her writing. The ban would last 20 years, seemingly fulfilling a prophetic writing in the *Diary* that her work would "be as though utterly undone." In 1965, Karol Wojtyla, the Archbishop of Krakow at the time, commissioned one of Poland's leading theologians, Fr. Ignacy Rozycki, to prepare a critical analysis of the *Diary*. Then, on April 15, 1978, after receiving Fr. Rozycki's analysis and a better translation of the *Diary*, the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith lifted the ban.

St. Pope John Paul, who had been thinking about Saint Faustina for a long time when he wrote *Dives in Misericordia* ("Rich in Mercy"), could say: "This constitutes even a "superabundance" of justice, for the sins of man are "compensated for" by the sacrifice of the Man-God." (*DM*, 7) Christ's superabundance of grace leaves at our disposal an ocean of divine mercy greater than any sin.

In the Divine Mercy image, red and white light is issuing from Jesus' heart, symbolizing the blood and water of the sacraments for Holy Communion and Baptism. Jesus is asking us to trust in the sacraments of the Church. The power of the Holy Spirit can make us new creations in Christ, particularly if we partake regularly in Confession and Holy Communion.

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