

SEPTEMBER 5, 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

### 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.



*And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" — Mk 7:32-34*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Year 2001 1998, 1990, 1982



*On this weekend, when we rest from our usual labors, loving Father, we pray for all who shoulder the tasks of human labor—in the marketplace, in factories and offices, in the professions, and in family living. We thank you, Lord, for the gift and opportunity of work; may our efforts always be pure of heart, for the good of others and the glory of your name.*



**Monday, September 6th**

**8:00 am No Mass**

*Tuesday, September 7th*

*8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC*

**Wednesday, September 8th**

**8:00 am + Melissa Nagy**

*Thursday, September 9th*

*8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC*

**Saturday, September 11th, 24th Sunday in Ord. Time**

**4:00 pm + Bob Cunningham**

**Sunday, September 12th, 24th Sunday in Ord. Time**

**8:30 am For the Intention of all Grandparents**

*10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC*

**Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Sale**

Next weekend, September 11th & 12th, the Knights of Columbus will be selling Tootsie Rolls for their annual drive. Francis Jackson will be in back of church after both Masses. Please stop and purchase some Tootsie Rolls and support the Knights fundraising efforts.

**Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes**

Sue Thompson

**Prayers for the Sick**

Kay Bailey, Connie Brown, Phyllis Fehr, Roy Harrold, Bev Hartsock, Mary Hirsch, Linda Kilgarriff, Patty Lecomte, Steve Lighthall, Mike Mannix, Tina Mannix, Joni Mollet, Fran Runyen, Bill Sargent, Angie Walden, Cale Wayne, Rita Williams, Brett Willits, Florence Workman, Charles M. Yeagle.

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

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Saturday, August 28th 4:00pm  
and  
Sunday, August 29th 8:30am**

Sunday Envelopes .....	\$1,400.00
Loose .....	\$127.00
<b>Total Collection .....</b>	<b>\$1,527.00</b>



**CCD K-8 Classes** - CCD classes will begin Sunday, September 19th in the Parish Hall following the 8:30am Mass. Registration will be the same day. Please be sure to register at this time so we know how many children will be attending and can order the appropriate supplies.

**Altar & Rosary** - Regular monthly meetings will resume on Wednesday, September 8th at 6:30pm in the Hall.

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL**

In May, after years of study, four men will be ordained to the transitional diaconate for the Diocese of Peoria. During their years of preparation for this vocation, they were supported by family and friends and by everyone who made a gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. When you make a gift to the Appeal, you help meet the cost of priestly formation and education, since a portion of Appeal funds are used for this purpose. Please support our seminarians by making a gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal next weekend.

Next weekend is ADA weekend. If you wish to make a pledge or pay your contribution in full, please make your check payable to the Catholic Diocese of Peoria. Reminder statements are sent monthly from December-July. Donations may also be made by signing up for automatic deduction by credit or debit card, by direct debit or online. May God continue to bless our Diocese and the services and programs provided by the ADA.



As we approach the beginning of the Season of Fall, we also approach the beginning of the Adult Education season. In order to prepare adults who request the Sacraments of the Church, there must be an appropriate period of teaching and learning. As Catholics, we believe it is important that those who desire to live a Christian life know what it is that Catholics believe. As adults we must learn not only about Jesus, but learn about the Sacraments, Church structure, and all that goes into being a believing Catholic. Anyone who is an adult baptized Catholic and has not yet been Confirmed may also take part in these classes and prepare for Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. If you or someone you know are interested in learning more about becoming a member of the Catholic Community, please phone the Parish Office during regular business hours. (217) 935-3727.

Eric Millburg volunteered to assist with setting up for the picnic, but it came at a price. He brought a disgusting red lawn chair and wanted Fr. Jim to use it at mass. It almost set Fr. Jim's pants on fire.



# PICNIC 2021



Left: Riegel family members share a picnic table, food and conversation. (Lance and Pat Reece, Melvin and Sue Riegel)

Right: Nothnagels came dressed for a warm Summer Lunch. (Paul and Marcia Nothnagel and daughter Julie) Carm and Pat Sartie joined them at their table.



Left: The Ophorst Clan came to relax and enjoy family. Lana and Case Ophorst, Vanessa with fiancé Chris Kaufman.

Right: Accepting Father Jim's challenge, our Hispanic Parish Members blessed us with their presence and very tasty food. Enrique and Estella Hernandez, and Sagrario and Hector Valencia.



Right: Sue Neuschwanger, Elaine Smith and Jackie Smith join in a happy conversation over chicken and salads.



Above: The Taylo family brought comfortable chairs to enjoy a Summer Picnic. Bonnie and Gene Taylo and grandkids.

Above left: Old and New: Birthday boys celebrating at the picnic were David Knackers (1 year old - Farmer City) and Deacon Scott Whitehouse (65+).



## *Ephphatha!* — BE OPENED!

Jesus is back at home in the town of Galilee after an absence. It is important we understand what it meant to be deaf and unable to speak clearly in Jewish culture.

Being deaf is a very isolating experience at the best of times, but it was even worse for someone living in a culture based on oral tradition. To participate fully in the religious life of a Jew you had to be able to hear: in particular to hear the sound of the shofar, the blowing of the ram's horn that is part of several important feast days, and used to sound warnings. You also had to be able to speak: in particular to recite the Shema at the prescribed times of the day, (viz, 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord ...). Some rabbinical teachings said it was enough to try to recite it accurately, others said it didn't count unless it was recited perfectly.

There were special laws that decreed that those both unable to hear and unable to speak clearly were to be treated as minors, i.e. without legal status. Think about how much haggling was part and parcel of most business transactions and you can begin to understand why. Thus, unless you were able to find a sympathetic advocate who took the time to question you in the approved manner, a person deaf and unable to speak clearly was unable to buy and retain property and unable to marry.

Even if this man had somehow been able to learn who Jesus claimed to be, having no legal status he would have been unable to request healing from Jesus. That is why people had to bring him to Jesus and he could not approach Jesus on his own. To do that for the deaf man, in the absence of any obvious axe to grind (i.e. healing on the Sabbath), would require a significant level of compassion.

Jesus takes him somewhere private. It feels like there is more to it than just needing to be away from eyes that might class these actions of Jesus (putting fingers in his ears, and spittle on his tongue) as unusual. There is a layer of intimacy and personal encounter that feels just as essential as the actions themselves. Jesus heals, but desires that the miracle be kept private so others do not come only for healing, but most importantly to hear the Word of God.



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