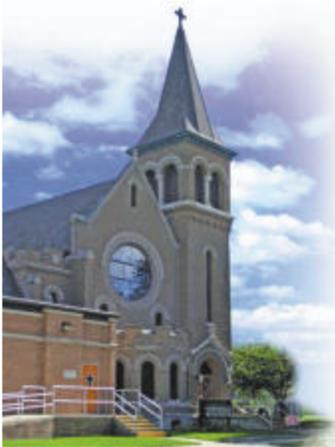


SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

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.



“If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me.”

Mk 9:35b-37a

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MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, September 20th

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

Tuesday, September 21st

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, September 22nd

8:00 am + Duane Schmid

Thursday, September 23rd

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Saturday, September 25th, 26th Sunday in Ord. Time

4:00 pm + Jerry Ryan

Sunday, September 26th, 26th Sunday in Ord. Time

8:30 am + Denny Madix

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Sale

Members of the Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations in exchange for Tootsie Rolls after each Mass again this weekend. Your donation facilitates the K of C's support of Special Olympics and other programs for those with intellectual disabilities. Thank you for your support.

Collection Counters this week are **Mary Lou Barnett and Nancy Horsley.**
Thank you for serving in this way.

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.



**Saturday, September 11th 4:00pm
and
Sunday, September 12th 8:30am**

Sunday Envelopes	\$1,500.00
Loose	\$216.00
Total Collection	\$1,716.00

September 19 CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

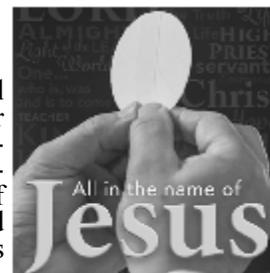
Today, on Catechetical Sunday, we acknowledge those men and women of our parish who have agreed to give of their time and talent to help form our children in the ways of faith. We thank them for answering the invitation to help with the youngest members of our community.

Leslie Guerrero, Davis Howell, Brenda Livingood, Luis Mendoza, Sarah Mills, Sue Neuschwanger, Angie Sarver and Bob Sarver.

Please pray for our teachers and students to have a safe and successful year of religious education.

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN
APPEAL**

The 2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational and pastoral ministries of the Diocese of Peoria are continued and carried forward. Many thanks to all who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal last weekend. No gift is too small, and our parish is trying to reach 100% participation. If you have not yet made a gift to the ADA, we invite you to do so today. Envelopes/Pledge Cards are still in the pews. **And remember, every dollar raised over our Parish Goal of \$31,654 will be returned to us to help with our own parish projects.**



To make a pledge or pay your contribution in full, **please make your check payable to the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.** Reminder statements will be 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.

Next Weekend is Apple & Pork!

Don't forget next weekend, September 25th & 26th, is the Clinton Annual Apple 'n Pork Festival. As one of our Parish Fundraisers, we rent vendor space in our Parish Hall. We encourage you to stop by the Hall and support these vendors as they support our fundraiser.



Also, on Saturday the Catholic Men's Group will be "renting" parking spaces as an additional fundraiser. The CMG is asking for volunteers to help, even if it's only for an hour or two. **Sign Up sheets are now available in back of church.** Thank you for your support of these fundraisers. *N.B. The Sacred Heart CLAY group will be operating the parking on Sunday.*

The Daughters of the American Revolution
Remind us to
CELEBRATE CONSTITUTION WEEK
September 17-23

COADJUTOR Bishop Tylka HOSTS “LISTENING” SESSIONS

On March 3, 2022 Bishop Jenky will turn 75. At age 75, all bishops must submit their resignation to the Pope. It is up to the Pope’s discretion as to accept the resignation or choose to address it later. In the case of Bishop Jenky, he has asked, because of failing health, to have an assistant bishop to help during his final months as Bishop of Peoria. The role of the Coadjutor is to learn. Coadjutor Bishop Tylka wants to learn **and** listen. To accomplish the latter, he has organized a series of “listening” sessions throughout the Diocese of Peoria. For us in the Bloomington Vicariate, it was held on Wednesday, September 8. No priests for deacons were permitted to attend. These listening sessions were for the average person in the pew. Only 4 people from each parish in the Vicariate were permitted to attend. Pictured below are those who represented St. John’s with Bishop Tylka.



L to R: Becky Wisher, Debbie Askins, Coadjutor Bishop Tylka, Sue Cooper, and Don Schlesinger.

Some of the feedback that has come from these meetings is that there will be changes. There are fewer priests and parishes must be prepared for a different model of church than we have been used to in the past. Bishop Tylka stressed the importance of Parishes working together in more ways than in the past.

On September 19, 1846, 175 years ago, the Mother of God appeared to two young shepherds, Melanie Calvat and Maximin Giraud, on the heights of the mountain of La Salette in France.

While most reported apparitions of Mary portray her without much emotion, at La Salette she was seen visibly crying. Why was she crying? According to the accounts of the children, one of the primary reasons behind her sorrow was because of a lapse in the local observance of Sunday as a day of rest.

As we ponder this apparition, the message of our Blessed Mother is as pertinent now as then: How many people forsake Sunday Mass but take time for the newspaper, sports or shopping? How many have not been to confession in years? How many use our Lord’s name as a common profanity?



*“If anyone wishes to be first,
he shall be the last of all
and the servant of all.”*

The story of the disciples arguing over “who is the greatest” is a wonderful lesson in humility. *But it is also one of accountability.* Page after page of the Gospels speak of Jesus’ unwavering concern for the beggars, the widows and orphans, the homeless, the jobless, the rejected and the oppressed. But the disciples just don’t seem to have a clue. We can almost seem to hear their protest: *“What has any of this to do with the kingdom of God?”*



So the Lord sits them down, embraces them, and gently reminds them that the only road to greatness is one of servitude. We live in a time when current-day “disciples” are in constant need to be reminded of this. The reading from James is pretty explicit, though: *“Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice.”*

Do you want to be truly great? Do you want your life to truly make a difference in the lives of others? Deep down this desire for greatness is placed within us by our Lord, and it will never go away. Even those who live eternally in hell will hold on to this innate desire, which for them will be the cause of eternal pain, since that desire will never be fulfilled. And sometimes it’s useful to ponder that reality as a motivation to make sure that this is not the fate we encounter.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives us one of the keys to greatness. “The greatest among you must be your servant.” Being a servant means that you put others before yourself. You elevate their needs rather than trying to get them to be attentive to your needs. And this is difficult to do.

It’s very easy in life to think of ourselves first. But the key is that we do put ourselves “first,” in a sense, when we practically put others before us. This is because the choice to put others first is not only good for them, it’s also exactly what is best for us. We were made for love. We were made to serve others. We were made for the purpose of giving of ourselves to others without counting the cost. But when we do this, we do not lose ourselves. On the contrary, it is in the act of giving of ourselves and seeing the other first that we actually discover who we are and become what we were created to be. We become love itself. And a person who loves is a person who is great...and a person who is great is a person whom God exalts.

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