

JANUARY 16, 2022

Saint John *the* Baptist

CATHOLIC CHURCH

**502 NORTH MONROE
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727**

Administrator

Fr. James Owusu-Yeboah, SMA

Deacons

**Patrick Comfort
Scott Whitehouse**

Parish Office

Phone.....217-935-3727
Emergency Cell815-414-3083
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Bulletinstjohnsbulletin@yahoo.com
(Bulletin Items Due By Monday 9:00am)
Website.....clintonstjohns.org

Parish Staff

Religious EducationSue Neuschwanger
Parish SecretaryDebbie Askins
Bulletin Secretary Kathie Summers
Parish TrusteesFrancis Jackson
Becky Wisher
PPC PresidentBill Spencer

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday
9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Outreach Ministry Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday
9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Confessions

Saturday 3:20 pm or by appointment.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule

Wednesday 8:00 am
Friday 8:00 am
Adoration Last Friday of Month
following 8:00 am Mass

Baptism

Parents must be registered members and attend a class prior to scheduling the Baptism. Contact the Parish Office for details.

Marriage

Couples planning a marriage need to contact the Pastor at least six months Prior to the date of the wedding.

Pastoral Care

Contact the Parish Office for a home visit or Anointing of the Sick.

2nd SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." - Jn 2:4

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

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, January 18th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, January 19th

8:00 am + Herb Bank

Thursday, January 20th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Friday, January 21st

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

Saturday, January 22nd, 3rd Sunday in Ord. Time

4:00 pm + Marie Riegel

Sunday, January 23rd, 3rd Sunday in Ord. Time

8:30 am + Deceased Members of the Mollet Family

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC



Michael T. Mannix
September 4, 1943 -
December 27, 2021

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Mike Mannix** who was buried from our parish last week. Mike was a very active member of St. John's parish. He was always involved with the parish fundraisers as well as serving as an usher at the Saturday evening Mass for many years. Please keep his wife Jan and his family in your prayers during this difficult time.

May he rest in God's loving peace.

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



Weekly Offering

Saturday, January 8th 4:00pm
and
Sunday, January 9th 8:30am

Sunday Envelopes	\$1,209.00
Loose	\$241.00
Total Collection	\$1,450.00

Outreach Collection \$441.00

JANUARY

CCD K-8 Classes - CCD classes meet today, January 16th in the Parish Hall following the 8:30am Mass.

Confirmation Class - Class meets this Wednesday, January 19th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Parish Council Meeting

St. John's Parish Council will be this Thursday, January 20th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. There are some important items on the Agenda. Father James requests everyone to please try to attend this meeting.



Spaghetti Dinner

Coming Soon! St. John's Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on **Sunday, February 6th**. We will be serving from 11:00am to 1:00pm. This will be a drive thru event. Menu includes spaghetti, bread, salad, and dessert. Cost will remain at \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. We will need assistance in putting together the Spaghetti Dinner Bags. Help will also be needed to pack desserts, wrap bread, and box salads. Sign up sheets will be available later in January. Be sure to join us for this delicious meal! **(Note: Meals will be served from the rear door of the Parish Hall off the parking lot)**

Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes

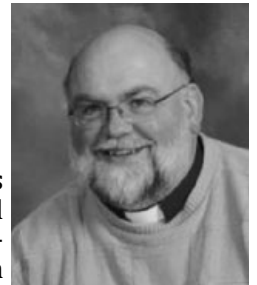
Sue Thompson

Prayers for the Sick

Kay Bailey, Mary Lou Barnett, Pamela Boatright, Connie Brown, Martha Cooper, Phyllis Fehr, Roy Harrold, Bev Hartsock, Mary Hirsch, Linda Kilgarriff, Patty Lecomte, Steve Lighthall, Clint Martens, Joni Mollet, Fran Runyen, Bill Sargent, Angie Walden, Rita Williams, Brett Willits, Florence Workman, Charles M. Yeagle.

Fr. James P. Henning, OFM, Conv.

September 25, 1952 -
December 30, 2021



St. John and Sacred Heart parishes mourn the loss of our shepherd and friend, Fr. Jim. After 15 years of ministry to our parishes, Fr. Jim's health would no longer allow him to continue. He leaves us with sad hearts but many fond memories. Over the years, he added his unique Franciscan style to our liturgies. He made our personal milestones and sacraments special with his own personal touch. We shared countless memories and a lot of laughter. Our parishes were very blessed to have had Father Jim as our pastor for so many years and we will miss him dearly. St. John and Sacred Heart parishes thank you, Father Jim, for your wonderful ministry to us. May heaven be all you imagined it would be. Rest in God's loving peace.

St. John's Christmas Giving

Many thanks to St. John's parishioners who helped give a Happy Christmas to those in need in our community. Our two projects this year were the Giving Tree and the Christmas Baskets. As always, our parish was most generous. The residents of Liberty Village and the Veterans hospital were so grateful. And we were able to provide food baskets to 175 families.



Residents of Liberty Village Nursing Home really enjoyed their gifts. They were so grateful and asked us to be sure and thank everyone at St. John's parish. Some of them said it was the best Christmas they ever had! That alone makes our efforts all worth while. Thank you again.

New Liturgical Season Ordinary Time

This is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time; the First Sunday was replaced by the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Even though we are no longer in the Christmas/Epiphany season, we find echoes of it in today's readings. The Gospel account of the miracle at the wedding at Cana brings us the third event that was once part of the Solemnity of the Epiphany: the visit of the Magi, the baptism of the Lord, and the wedding at Cana. All three were events that revealed who Jesus really was and pointed to his mission. In our current Lectionary, we hear this account only in Cycle C.

There is a natural tendency to focus on /Christian marriage, since the Cana story takes place at a wedding. That's not unreasonable, but it is important to recognize that marriage is not the primary focus of today's Gospel account. The miraculous transformation of water into wine signals the beginning of the new age that Jesus came to inaugurate. We can still link this to marriage, however, since that new age was seen in the Bible as a time when God would marry God's people, as our first reading makes clear: "As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you." Scholars suggest that John recounts this miracle at a wedding to highlight that theme.

New Wine

"Do Whatever he tells you." (John 2:5)

Everybody loves a wedding. The affection so ardently expressed by the bride and groom, the festive dresses, the handsome tuxes, the glorious flowers, the sacred music, the thrilled gathering of family and friends, the heartwarming laughter that fills the halls of the reception, the spontaneous dancing that motivates everyone to join in ... all of it creates a moment of unforgettable joy and delight.

And let us not forget the wine. Jesus certainly didn't!

John, the author of this Gospel reading, tells us that the God whom Jesus reveals first broke into human history at a wedding feast—in the midst of all the joy and dancing and laughter. John even suggests that this supreme expression of human love best reveals who God is, the kind of God that he is, as well as the kind of communion that can exist between God and a human being.

It's like the abundant overflowing of wine. But it also tells us something more. And it's through the words of Mary, Jesus' mother, that we find what that "more" is.

In the midst of all the festive happiness, it seems that there's a problem. Mary is the first to notice it and so she immediately informs Jesus that something very important is missing: the wine.

Jesus' response is strikingly abrupt, even rude: "Woman, how does your concern affect me?" This is not the type of response one would expect from a son to a mother, especially Jesus to Mary.

But, if the reply of Jesus to his mother is surprising, even more so is her reaction to it. Mary does not allow it to deter her: Instead, she tells the servants—and, by extension, you and me—"Do whatever he tells you."

By doing what she did, Mary became the first person to demonstrate that the correct response to the presence of Jesus is trust—trust in his word; trust in his self-surrender; trust in his relationship with Abba, his Father. Her trust, in fact, sets the stage for Jesus' first miracle. In doing so, the mother of Jesus is the first to show each of us what true belief in Jesus looks like. It looks like a trust that is unconditional, even in the face of apparent rejection.

Mary also helps us to understand the meaning of the action Jesus takes as a result of her direct intercession. The old wine of God's message through Moses was not enough. The stone jars filled with water for ritual washings give way to the new dispensation of grace, which flows abundantly like wine at a wedding feast.

The first covenant, focused on obedience to the Law, can only take the community so far; and then a new covenant in grace is revealed. Moses the Lawgiver steps aside for Jesus the Bridegroom. Water keeps us alive, but love gives us life. People need water; but also the "new wine", a new view of God and the gift of God's unconditional love flowing in our lives and overflowing into the lives of others.

The water into wine symbolizes Jesus' gift that transforms us. This wine gives joy to our hearts, focuses our minds, strengthens our wills and moves us beyond the stone jars of routine filled with the water of duty to feel again the joy of the wedding dance.

Mary, the compassionate mother, sees the couple's need and moves with confidence to meet it. She is our model and inspiration. Her words to us are simply, "Do whatever he tells you."

Diocesan Marriage Mass & Date Night

Join Bishop Louis Tylka on Saturday, February 12th for the Marriage Mass at 4:00pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria. A Date Night special dinner follows Mass at the Spalding Center. You do not need to attend the Mass to attend the Date Night. Live music by the Water Street Stompers from 6pm to 8pm. Any questions contact Julie Enzenberger at Jenzenberger@cdop.org or to sign up go to: <https://cdop.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/DateNight2022>

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