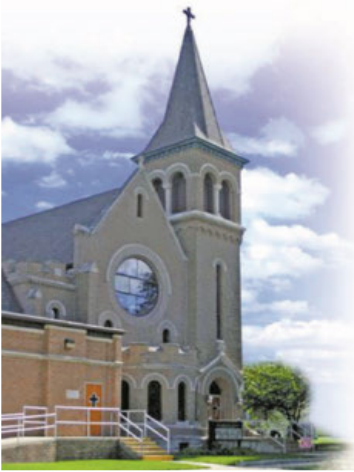


JANUARY 23, 2022

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
E-Mail..... stjohnsclinton@yahoo.com
Bulletin stjohnsbulletin@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.



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free.
- Lk 4:18*

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

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MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 25th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Wednesday, January 26th

8:00 am + Denny Madix

Thursday, January 27th

8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC

Friday, January 28th, Last Friday of the Month

8:00 am For the People of St. John the Baptist and Sacred Heart Parishes and Their Benefactors
(Adoration following Mass)

Saturday, January 29th, 4th Sunday in Ord. Time

4:00 pm + Joel Hendricks

Sunday, January 30th, 4th Sunday in Ord. Time

8:30 am + Bob Cunningham

10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC



Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes
Sue Thompson

Prayers for the Sick

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

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



Saturday, January 15th 4:00pm and Sunday, January 16th 8:30am

Sunday Envelopes\$1,296.00
Loose\$608.00
Total Collection\$1,904.00

Outreach Donations \$215.00

January

CCD K-8 Classes - CCD classes meet today, January 23rd in the Parish Hall following the 8:30am Mass.

Confirmation Class - Class meets this Wednesday, January 26th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall.



Mark You Calendars!

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 is \$9 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 are now available in back of Church. Please sign up to help in any way you can and 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)**

St. John's recently received the following thank you from the Christmas Food Baskets Committee:

Dear St. John Catholic Church Congregation,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of canned fruit to the 2021 Christmas Food Basket distribution! Our community members, from "Littles" to seniors, were blessed to have this needed food to get through the Christmas Season. May God bless and keep you.

Sincerely, Christmas Food Basket Committee

2021 Contributions Statements

It's that time of year again. Please be aware that statements of your annual contributions **are not** automatically sent out. If you need a verification of your yearly donations for income tax purposes, please contact the Parish Office and we will be happy to prepare one for you.

In Memoriam

St. John's Parish offers our deep condolences to the family of **Clint Martens** who passed away this past week. Clint and Judy and their family have been very active members of St. Patrick's parish in Wapella for many years. Clint was always available to help wherever he was needed. He also did the altar flower decorations for many, many years. Please keep Judy and his family in your prayers during this difficult time. We know he leaves a big hole in their hearts.

St. John's Parish also offers deep condolences to Cale and Diane Wayne from Sacred Heart Parish who lost their daughter, **Martha Cooper**, this past week. Our sincere sympathy goes out to them as they go through this terrible loss.

May they rest in God's loving peace.

CCD First Reconciliation

Second grade students from St. John's parish celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation last weekend. Please pray for the following students as they continue their preparation to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion: **Antonio Vazquez, Emmelissa Vazquez, Joana Naxi, Alan Mendoza and Alan Alejandro.**



Left: Father James with four of our 1st Reconciliation students. (L to R) Antonio Vazquez, Alan Mendoza, Fr. James, Alan Alejandro, Emmelissa Vazquez. Joana Naxi was unable to attend due to illness.

Each student and their parent lighted a candle during the Examination of Conscience. Right: Emmelissa Vazquez. Below: Antonio Vazquez.



Each student also placed a lamb on the Jesus banner "What was lost is now found."

Below: Alan Mendoza and his Mom placing his lamb.



Above: Alan Alejandro and his Dad placing his lamb.

Don't Forget to Recycle Those Ink Cartridges

Now is a great time to gather all of those printer ink cartridges that have accumulated throughout the year and bring them to church to be recycled. St. John's receives money for all ink cartridges we recycle. A collection box is in the back of the church near the entrance to the parish hall. This is one more small way you can help our parish.

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 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>

Sharing the Mission of Christ

Today's readings show us two scenes in which the scriptures are being read publicly. The first is when Ezra the priest reads the Torah to the people. The proclamation of the law became an occasion of great sorrow as the people reflected on their failure to keep the covenant, which was seen as leading to their long exile in Babylon.

The second scene takes place in the synagogue in Nazareth, when Jesus comes home to inaugurate his ministry by reading from the scroll of Isaiah. The famous passage Jesus reads goes to the very heart of the covenant: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor."

We are the third audience for this powerful challenge coming to us today from the Word of God. Jesus himself is now speaking to us in our assembly: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon you. You have been anointed to bring good news to the poor...to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

Why is this reading about us? In today's second reading, St. Paul reminds us that we are the body of Jesus now present in the world. His ministry of preaching, healing, mercy and liberation is now taking place through us.

The people of Nazareth were at first moved by Jesus' eloquence, but their reaction turned quickly to skepticism and then to rejection when Jesus said that the words of Isaiah were being fulfilled in that very moment. His family and neighbors were stunned. Just who is this man, a simple carpenter, one of us, and yet he claims that God is fulfilling one of the great messianic promises through him?

Is their skepticism our own? We, too, are ordinary people sinful and weak. Can God empower us to bring the good news to the poor, freedom to captives, sight to the blind? Are we not just simple carpenters, working people, teachers, nurses, business men and women, farmers and child-care givers, parents and grandparents?

Yet we are asked to believe that this word is fulfilled in our hearing. The kingdom of God is at hand, the hand of God but also our hands, our feet, our voices and our faces turned to the world with compassion.

We are about to approach the Table of the Lord to receive Jesus in Communion. By receiving him we commit ourselves to be Jesus, anointed by his Holy Spirit to carry out his mission.

In this New Year 2022, we will see and hear Jesus again and again in the Sunday Gospels. If we dare to imitate him, his word will come true in our hearing. God will provide everything we need to carry out our vocations as disciples of Jesus.

Like the ancient people of God who wept at the reading of the law, we, too, are called to repent for our failures. But this is also meant to be a time of rejoicing. The joy of the Gospel is always ours in Jesus. If we live as missionaries of mercy, we will know God's mercy in our own lives. If we liberate one another with forgiveness, we ourselves will be set free. If we lift the burdens of the oppressed, we will know God's favor in our own difficulties.

God is always blessing us. Let us make 2022 a Year of Favor from the Lord.

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