



1st Sunday of Lent

OUR MISSION

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church is a family of believers in Christ. As sacramental people, filled with God's love, we strive to provide a welcoming community, supporting one another on our journey to salvation. We are committed to each other in a spirit of compassion and love while promoting hope, healing and evangelization in our midst.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
945 Main Road, P.O. Box 3328
Westport, Massachusetts 02790-0702

508-636-2251

EMAIL: stjb@sprintout.net

WEBSITE: stjohnthebaptistwestport.org



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM

Sunday 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00AM

Sacrament of Baptism

1st Sunday of the Month, Please contact the Rectory to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:00 P.M. or by calling the Rectory for an appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements to be made at least six months in advance.

Holy Communion at Home

Notify us of any parishioner who is unable to attend Mass. Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit weekly.

Pastor: Rev. Leonard P. Hindsley

Administrative Assistant: Paula Brown

Religious Education Director: Susan Orzeck

Music Director: Scott Simpkin

Music Accompanist: Matt Richard



P MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday March 9, 2019
4:30 PM John Marques (Wife; Joan)

Sunday March 10, 2019
8:00 AM Salome Fonseca;
 Birthday Remembrance (Family)

9:30 AM Mary & Manuel Lewis (Daughter)
 & For the People of the Parish

11:00 AM Anne Burke (Niece)

Monday March 11., 2019
8:00 AM Brother Don Lucas O.F.M.

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
8:00 AM Carlin Lynch (Louise Roberge)

Wednesday March 13, 2019
8:00 AM Irene Brooksher (Family)

Thursday March 14, 2019
8:00 AM Lil & Sera Perry;
 Birthday and Anniversary
 Remembrance (Peg Botelho & Family)

Saturday March 16, 2019
4:30 PM Jose & Honorina Vasconcellos
 (Family)

Sunday March 17, 2019
8:00 AM Peter Habib (Matt Richard)
 & For the People of the Parish

9:30 AM Joanne Branco (Husband)

11:00 AM Eleanor & Arthur McDonald
 (Daughter)



Plan to set aside some special time during Lent, to help prepare yourself spiritually for Easter.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is burning in

For the People of the Parish



March 3.....\$4,499.10

The **second collection** this weekend is to help build Catholic Education. Support your local **Catholic University.**

May God bless you for your generosity!!



Kindly take a moment to pray for the intentions, the welfare, the healing and salvation of...

**Holly Rodrigues, Vivian Desautels,
 Greg Silver, Pat Beland,
 Bruce Reynolds, Janet Mohr, Brandon Torres,
 Michael Elchuck, Deborah Silvia,
 Devyn Arruda, Brenna,
 Margaret Kelley, Marie Drago, John Massa,
 Susan Tremblay, Stacey, Katherine Buschman,
 Sr. Beverly Furtado, Kerri Martel,
 Carlos Silveira, Miguel DeSouza, Floris,
 Claire Sennett, Kevin Kelly, John,
 Kerri, Edward Polgar,
 Joseph F. Heitzler, Jennifer Lavoie, Jim O'Hearn,
 Patrick Masterson, Dennis Martel, Kathy,
 Jeff Noetzel, Muriel & Henry Navarette,
 Joe Pimentel, Anne Sennett Bahm,
 Maureen Stewart, Paul Desmarais,
 Irene Rodrigues, Randy Carvalho
 & Our Service Men and Women**

THE CANDLE at the FOOT OF MARY

is burning for

The People of the Parish



First Sunday of Lent

This first Sunday of Lent invites us to trust fully in the Lord above all people and all things. Moses invites his people to offer the Lord the first fruits of the earth, the best of the harvest, and to present themselves before God so that he may enrich and strengthen them. For Paul, in the second reading, faith is born out of a renewed heart, a heart that is firm in the love of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection offers us the life we long for. In the Gospel, Jesus experiences the temptations of the devil but overcomes them by trusting more in God than in what the devil offers: fame, influence, power, and material goods. How do we react when our families find themselves on the brink of financial or emotional insecurity? Whom or what do we rely on? Where do we turn? Community groups can offer practical recommendations to the many who ask these questions in their daily lives.

I don't sin! I don't need to confess!

Oh no? The Bible says that everyone sins 7 times a day. During Lent let's look at some of the possible sins to see if any of them apply to us. The first capital sin is PRIDE. Pride is undue self-esteem or self-love, which seeks attention and honor and sets oneself in competition with God. The sin of pride has nothing to do with being proud of our accomplishments. It has nothing to do with loving ourselves. Jesus tells us to do that. If we remember the story of Adam and Eve it is easy to see why so many saints and theologians called their sin "pride." The temptation was: "You will be gods." Adam and Eve were not content to be beloved creatures and children of God, they wanted to be God. They set themselves in competition with God. Anything we do that shuts God out of our lives is pride. Anything that we think that puts us in competition with God is pride. Anything that makes us forget that we are God's creatures, his beloved children whom he loves, is pride. When God walked in the garden and could not find Adam, he cried out: "Adam, where are

you?" Adam was hiding because he had sinned against God by pride and disobedience.

The Easter Vigil

Lent is a time for self-reflection and doing the things that will make us holy: prayer, almsgiving and fasting. Prayer brings us closer to God in a personal relationship. Almsgiving brings us closer to the poor and their plight. Fasting brings us closer to ourselves and shows us how dependent we really are on God and His gifts to us---faith, membership in the Church, the Mass and all the sacraments of life. Lent also prepares us to celebrate Easter. The high point of the Paschal Triduum is the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. When we look at what happens on that night we learn the core of our faith. The Vigil begins with the service of light (*Lucernarium*) in which a large fire is lit in the darkness. The symbolism of dark vs. light, evil vs. good, the Devil vs. God, death vs. life emphasizes that Christ, the Light of the world by his death and resurrection has conquered darkness, evil, the Devil and death. After the new fire has been blessed by the priest, he prepares the Paschal (Easter) candle which itself is a symbol of Christ's presence among us. The priest solemnly decorates the candle using these words: *Christ yesterday and today; the Beginning and the End; the Alpha; and the Omega. All time belongs to him; and all the ages. To him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen.* Then the priest places the nails into the candle saying: *By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ the Lord guard us and protect us. Amen.* Once the candle is lit from the new fire the priest proclaims: *May the light of Christ rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.* Then the priest enters the dark space of the Church carrying the Christ candle, the only light visible. Three times the priest proclaims: *Christ our light!* Raising the light on high. The people light their own candles from this light and soon the church is filled with the light not only from the Christ candle, but from our own candles. We share symbolically in his light and really in his mission of love.





SCHEDULE

<i>Grades 1-6</i> 10:30-11:30 AM	<i>March 10, 2019</i> Religious Education Center
<i>Confirmation I & II</i> 7:30 - 8:30 PM	<i>March 11, 2019</i> Religious Education Center
<i>Grades 7 & 8</i> 6:00 - 7:00 PM	<i>March 12, 2019</i> Parish Center

AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

We invite you to join in our Lenten Program,
At the Foot of the Cross

Stewardship of Time, Talent, Treasure and Prayer.

Time & Talent offers each person the opportunity to think about how their individual gifts and talents can be used to serve the parish community.

Our **Treasure (Almsgiving)** will go directly to Olancho Aid to help our friends in Honduras. Additionally, our parish will support Sacred Heart Food Pantry in Fall River, which provides food and other assistance to local needy families. A list of basic staples is posted on the bulletin board and listed in the Foot of the Cross flyer.

Prayer Petitions may be offered and written on the papers provided at the entrance of the church.



WOMEN'S GUILD

ANNUAL PENNY SALE
on SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019

Anyone wishing to donate a prize, please call
Madeleine Freitas 508-636-6563.

Deadline to drop off prizes is
Sunday, March 24th.

Scholarships

\$500 - Scholarship Application
Application Deadline: April 1, 2019

**The application is available
for pick-up at the rectory.**

Applicants must be **active, confirmed, and participating** members of St. John's Church.
Thank you and we wish our graduating seniors well.



Have you been **curious about the R.C.I.A. process?** Have you been **thinking about becoming a Catholic?** Do you need to **receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?** This is the time to inquire about the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Process** at St. John's. Please speak with Fr. Hindsley or call the rectory at 508-636-2251 if interested.



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