



REVITALIZE IN CHRIST - RAISING THE ROOF

SAINT JOHN FISHER CHURCH *March 31, 2019*



4th Sunday

O F L E N T

"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours.'" - Lk 15:31

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

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Mass Schedule

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM
WEEKDAYS (Chapel): Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM
HOLY DAYS: Vigil - 7:00 PM; 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM
HOLIDAYS: 9:00 AM
CONFESSION: Sat., 3:00 - 3:45 PM or by appointment

Business Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Saturday: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
(Office closed weekdays from 12:00-1:00pm for lunch)

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Robert B. McDermott (ext. 3)
Permanent Deacon: Rev. Mr. Daniel Bingnear
Weekend Assistant: Rev. Francis X. Devlin, O.S.A.
Business Manager: Mr. Daniel Kinnik (ext. 4)
Director of Religious Education & Music Ministry:
Mrs. Kathleen Aaronson (ext. 5)
PREP Secretary: Mrs. Patricia Donnelly (ext. 8)
Parish Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Regina Robinson
(ext. 6)
Communications Secretary: Mrs. Renee Devine (ext. 2)

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Joseph Amalfitano
Rev. John Sibel

4225 CHICHESTER AVENUE • BOOTHWYN, PA 19061

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TODAY IS SUNDAY, MARCH 31, THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. The Gospel reading is Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.



Repentance. Envy. Joy. Hope. Have you felt these human emotions? Today's Gospel offers a rich story, one in which we can all find our place. Imagine where you fit into the story of the Prodigal Son.

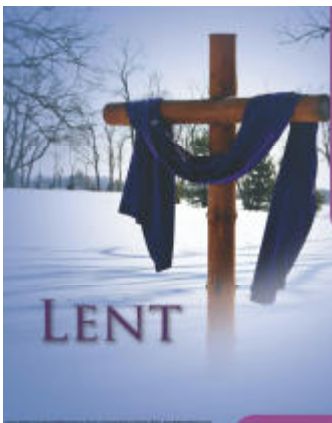
"I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." The younger son has sinned greatly, betraying his father's trust and squandering his money. Yet the parable turns on his deep repentance and humble return to his father. Is there any area of your life you have been wandering from God or you've squandered good gifts? This Lent, return to the sacrament of Confession! God, a merciful Father, waits for you there.

"While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." The father sees his son's selfishness, perhaps even suspects what he might do, but gives him the inheritance anyway. After his son's departure, the father waits with hope for his son's eventual return. Has someone you love made poor decisions or abused your trust? This Lent is a time to let go of bitterness and to live in hope. Prepare your heart to be merciful!

The self-righteous older brother did not invite the mercy of God into his heart. He dishonors his father with his pettiness. "My son, you are here with me always, everything I have is yours." Do you covet what others have? Do you feel as if you've been taken advantage of or that your work goes unseen? This Lent is a time to grow in gratitude. Take a look at the blessings in our life that you might be missing.

We are all called to repentance. Open your heart to God's personal invitation to growth!

The season of Lent is a time to seek God's healing and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



St. John Fisher Parish Penance Service
Monday, April 1 7:00 PM
In the Church

Several priests will be present to hear Confessions.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation also is available on Saturday afternoons, from 3:00 until 3:45 in the Church.

REVITALIZE IN CHRIST - RAISING THE ROOF

The Current total of the Capital Campaign is \$533,618 in gifts and pledges from 315 families! Thank you for your commitment!

SCHEDULING CHANGES DURING CONSTRUCTION

Some parish ministries and activities will be effected by the timetable and construction setup during the next several months. Two popular events that have been suspended this summer are the Flea Market in June, and Vacation Bible Camp at the end of July. Availability of space and safety concerns inhibit our ability to conduct these activities as we would prefer. These important events will return next summer, with renewed enthusiasm and participation!

ABOUT FUNERALS

Funeral Masses will continue to be celebrated by our parish during the period of construction for the church remodeling. In addition to Immaculate Conception Church in Marcus Hook, neighboring parishes have been kind to extend hospitality to assist us with funerals. Our thanks to the pastors and staff of St. Joseph in Aston, Our Lady of Charity in Brookhaven, and St. Thomas the Apostle in Glen Mills for extending this courtesy, when their churches are available. Arrangements will be made as usual through our parish staff for bereavement, as well as securing a location, organist, and cantor. Thank you for your patience and flexibility during the construction period!

ST. JOHN FISHER PREP

Parents are the first educators of their children in the ways of faith through word, example, and love. Our parish strives to support parents in this vocation, which begins with their child's baptism.



Our support extends to Catholic education, most notably Holy Family Regional Catholic School in Aston and St. John Fisher PREP. Committed staff, catechists and aides are there to help parents in the faith formation of their children.

We have seen smaller numbers of baptisms in the last six years, but a more significant drop in the number of children enrolled in PREP. Attendance in PREP is a parish concern. We wonder how seriously parents take the responsibility to teach and raise their children in the faith. We wonder if their children's activities have become a priority over Catholic education, contributing to declining enrollment in PREP. The decrease has been startling:

2013-14	213 students
2014-15	215 students
2015-16	195 students
2016-17	177 students
2017-18	142 students
2018-19	127 students

Therefore, St. John Fisher PREP has adjusted the schedule for classes 2019-20. Families will have the choice between Tuesday afternoon (4:30-6:00pm) or Tuesday evening classes (6:15-7:45pm) for Grades 1 to 5. Confirmation preparation classes for Grades 6 and 7 will be on Wednesday evenings (6:15-7:45pm).

Registration for 2019-20 begins in early April. Let us recommit ourselves in the faith formation of our next generation!

HOLY SAVIOUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DINNER SHOW

Featuring

The Legion's Tribute Singers

Three local performers honoring the music of
Frank Sinatra, Patsy Cline, Elvis and more!

Dinner provided by Lia's Catering,
Includes beer, wine and soda

Saturday, April 27

6:00 - 10:00 pm

St. John Fisher Parish Center Hall

\$30 per person

Tickets available after weekend Masses or by contacting
Joe at 610-637-7247 or Bob at 215-459-0919



The St. John Fisher Social Committee
cordially invites you to the

ANNUAL TEA SUNDAY, MAY 5 1:00PM

in the Parish Center Hall.

Join us for your choice of specialty teas, coffee,
iced tea, sandwiches, dessert,
Entertainment, and door prizes.

Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Adults - \$12 Children under 10 - \$5

ONLY 100 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD

Reserved tables for six or more people.

Tickets will be sold in Church Hall after each Mass on
March 30/31, April 6/7, April 13/14, April 28/29.

No tickets will be sold at the door on May 5!



ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Spring is coming! If your thoughts are turning to selecting vibrant flowers and yummy vegetables for your garden, we are ready to bring you a beautiful selection of plants, grown locally by Miller's Greenhouses of Wallingford. Order forms will be in the bulletin next weekend, April 6 & 7. Extras for family and friends will be on the tables at the back of the church. Completed orders, accompanied by your payment, will be collected after Masses on **April 13 & 14**. Orders also can be dropped off at the Parish Business Office through April 17. **Plant pick-up will be on Friday, April 26 from 6:00 to 8:00pm. or Saturday, April 27 from 9:00am until 1:00pm.** Proceeds support the religious education of our children. Thank you!

FINANCIAL OFFERING: STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

MARCH 24

Total	\$ 10,689
Number of Envelopes	468

CHURCH IN EUROPE	\$ 1,123
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We thank our parishioners who, recognizing God's gifts to them, make their response in the weekly collection. Your continued support is vital, necessary and deeply appreciated.

STEWARDSHIP:

SHARING THE GIFT OF TIME AND TALENT

When attending Mass on Sunday, do you ever think about how smoothly the service runs? In addition to Father, people move about the altar seamlessly — servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, all completing their tasks with reverence. All of these parishioners have been trained in what to do, and all volunteer their time out of love for Jesus and their fellow parishioners. Keeping the ministry schedule organized is volunteer Cathy Kokoska. "I had been lecturing for a while, then Father approached me to do the scheduling," Cathy says. "I don't mind organizing, but building my computer skills has been a process." Each month, Cathy sends out an email asking when people are not available, then fills in a table on the computer with assignments. The schedule is distributed by email about a week before the new month begins. "The volunteers are very responsive. But the Liturgical Ministry team is always looking for more people to help," she adds. We thank all the members of the Liturgical Ministry Team and Cathy for their service to our parish!

CAP'N CHUCKY'S CRAB CAKES ARE BACK!

Holy Saviour Knights of Columbus Council 13710 are sponsoring a sale of Cap'n Chucky's crab cakes and other specialties for Lent this year! Forms can be found on the tables in the rear of church. Orders must be pre-paid and returned by **Monday, April 8**. Place your order three ways: give it to any Holy Saviour Knight; drop it off after weekend Masses; or drop it by the Parish Business Office. Please make checks payable to Holy Saviour Knights of Columbus. Pick-up is on **Thursday, April 11** from 3:00 to 6:00pm in the Parish Center Hall. Call Joe DiMarco (302-218-5261) or Harry Stefchak (267-240-5414) for more details.



LENT 2019

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Join us on Friday evenings throughout Lent for the Stations of the Cross. We begin at 7:00pm in the Church.



ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT—APRIL 13

We are in need of individually-wrapped candy that will fit in plastic eggs, plus toys, filled baskets, and new stuffed animals that can be used for prizes. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office. Thank you!
Children from pre-school through 8th Grade are invited to come to the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 13 at 11:00am**. Please bring your own basket to collect the eggs.

EASTER FLOWERS

The special bulletin insert for Easter Flower memorials will be included with the April 28 bulletin due to printing deadlines. If you wish to make a donation to the Easter Flower fund in memory of your loved ones, please return it through the collection basket, by mail, on-line with *WeShare*, or in person to the Parish Business Office by **Wednesday, April 17**. This is a lovely way to remember a deceased loved one during the celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection. We thank you for your support in beautifying the church during the Easter Season and other liturgical celebrations.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY- APRIL 7



All are welcome to stop in the Church Hall after the Masses next Sunday morning for a little socialization, and to have a doughnut and coffee or juice. Please join us!

PADUA ACADEMY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following young women from St. John Fisher Parish on their academic success during the first term of the school year!

DISTINGUISHED HONORS: Wendy Mayo (Gr. 10)

HONORS: Mia Buonadonna (Gr. 10)

Samantha Chambers (Gr. 11)

Keira Lynch (Gr. 9)

Molly Mays (Gr. 12)

Keep up the good work! We're proud of you!

UPCOMING MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sat. Apr. 6	4:00pm Vigil	Cantor
Sun. Apr. 7	8:00am	Cantor
	9:30am	Cantor
	11:30am	Cantor

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE: Wednesdays at 7:15pm in Church

YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE: Sundays at 10:35 – 11:10am in Church

CONTEMPORARY CHOIR: Every other Tuesday evening at 7:00pm

RESURRECTION CHOIR: Sings for funeral Masses. No rehearsals.

MEN'S GATHERING: Mondays at 7:00pm in the 'Living Room' meeting space in Church

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Mondays after the 7:30am Mass until noon in the Chapel. Benediction follows at noon.

THE ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY: Daily after the 7:30am Mass

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (R.C.I.A.): Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Email items to ReneeDevine@sjf71.org by noon on Tuesday.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets on the first Thursday of the month

FINANCE COUNCIL: Meets on the second Tuesday of the month

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Meets every other Monday at 7:00pm in the Parish Center; begins February 11, 2019.

ST. JOHN'S ON THE HILL SENIORS: Second and fourth Thursdays at 12:30pm in the Church Hall

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOLY SAVIOUR COUNCIL 13710: Officers' Meeting, 1st Monday of the month at 7:00pm; General membership meeting, 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm. Meetings held at Immaculate Conception in the Hall. Contact Joe DiMarco, Grand Knight, at 302-218-5261 for information.

OPERATION PERSONAL CARE

The final service project for the PREP program this school year is "Operation Personal Care." Please help our students support local families by donating personal care items and cleaning supplies. The PREP program is collecting: shampoo, deodorant, bath and hand soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, body lotion, sunscreen, lip balm, feminine products, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dishwashing soap, Lysol wipes, and other cleaning products. Items should be dropped off at the Parish Center or Religious Education Office by **May 1**. Thank you!

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Celebrated on the First, Second and Fourth Sundays of each month at 12:45pm. Pre-Jordan baptismal instruction is held on the Third Sunday at 12:45pm. Please call or visit the Parish Office to arrange baptisms.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays, 3:00 - 3:45pm; other times by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: One party must be a registered member of Saint John Fisher Parish. Couples must make arrangements with the Pastor at least six months prior to the intended date. Weddings can be held at Saint John Fisher or at Immaculate Conception Church. Couples are required to attend the Archdiocesan Sacramental Preparation Program for Marriage (four sessions) or a Pre-Cana program.

PARISH REGISTRATION: We welcome new members to Saint John Fisher! If you are new to our parish, please call or visit the Parish Office to register.

LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY: If you need a Letter of Eligibility from Saint John Fisher Parish to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, you must be

- a registered member of the parish,
- at least 16 years of age,
- a practicing Catholic (have received the Sacraments and attend Mass regularly).
- If married, you must be in a 'valid' marriage.

The pastor is unable to sign a letter unless you meet these requirements. To request a letter, please speak with Father McDermott after any Mass or call the Parish Office at 610-485-0441, ext. 2.

PARISH ON-LINE GIVING: Visit the parish website, www.stjohnfisherchurch.com and click on the **We Share** icon to sign up for the electronic giving program.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP): The PREP program provides religious education for public school children from September through May. Please call the PREP office at 610-485-0441, ext. 5, for more information and to register.

HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Grades Pre-K through Eight: St. John Fisher parishioners support Holy Family Regional Catholic School. Children from the parish who enroll there receive the supporting parish tuition rate. Charles Hughes, Principal
Kristy Cobb, Business Manager
3265 Concord Road, Aston, PA
(610) 494-0147 www.holyfamilyaston.org

May They Rest in Peace

**KURT BRAHMS
EVELYN DiBLASIO**

"Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name."

Please Pray for Our Sick

Frank English, Jon Darczuk, Baby Maya Miles, Phyllis Barra, Dorothy Albanese, Janet Manera, Ruth Jobe, Kathleen Cunningham, John W. Breslin, Bryan Snyder, Barbara Bean, William Crowley Regina Stires, Harry and Linda Stefchak, Ralph Maysky, Carol Cippoloni, Randy Westby, Rose Liott, Betty Ann Deshullo, Ann Walley, Barbara Shahadi, Geri Waldron, Donald Arner, Gladys Kinsler, Gerald Murphy, Kathleen Kozubal, Frank Breitmayer, Mary Giambri, Marie Creedon, Theresa Mattero, Velia Brill, Peg Camero, Brian Allison, Pasquale Mignogna, Rob Busch, Judy & Jerry Frezetti, Paula Davis, Pat Oakes, Hank Granville, Colleen Hughes, John Rossi, May Graves, Amy Calcagno, Susan Curl, Marie Barker, Veronica & Joe Egan, Helen Brogley, Judy Giovan, Kevin Neary, Tom O'Leary, Nancy Finn, Barbara Rogers, Miles Owen.

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **DOLORES WILLAUER** through the generosity of her son, Robert.



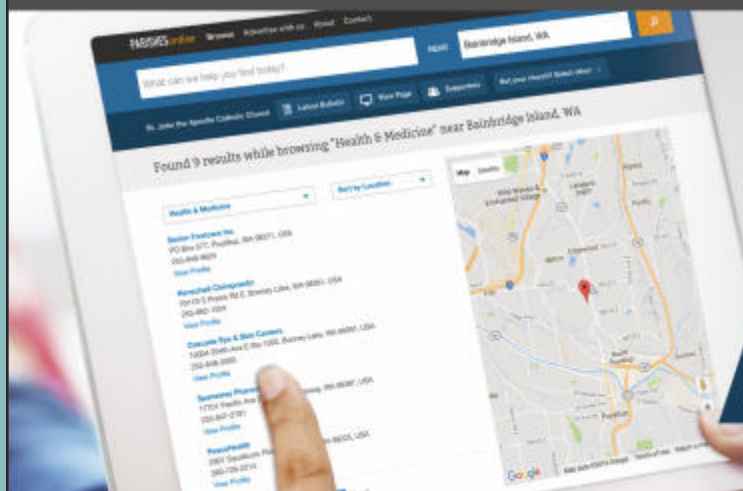
MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Mar. 30	4:00 PM	Charles Brogley, Sr.
Sunday	Mar. 31	8:00 AM	Robert J. Curl, III
		9:30 AM	Dan Kiley
		11:30 AM	People of the Parish and Visitors
Monday	Apr. 1	7:30 AM	Jeanette Davey
Tuesday	Apr. 2	7:30 AM	Rocco Gaspari
Wednesday	Apr. 3	7:30 AM	Marchlik/Waksmundski Family
Thursday	Apr. 4	7:30 AM	David MacKenzie
Friday	Apr. 5	7:30 AM	Dan Dougherty
Saturday	Apr. 6	4:00 PM	People of the Parish and Visitors
Sunday	Apr. 7	8:00 AM	Margaret Ash
		9:30 AM	Larissa MacDonald, 9th Anniv.
		11:30 AM	Bob Nugent

PRAYERS FOR THE INFIRM: To add a name to the prayer list, please contact Renee Devine at 610-485-0441, ext. 2. People remain on our prayer list for 30 days, except for those with long-term medical issues. After 30 days, if you would like to continue prayers for a person, please call the parish office to ask that their name be added to the list again.

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