



REVITALIZE IN CHRIST - RAISING THE ROOF

SAINT JOHN FISHER CHURCH

April 7, 2019



## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more." - Jn 8:11b

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

### 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

Website: [stjohnfisherchurch.com](http://stjohnfisherchurch.com) Facebook: Saint John Fisher Phone: (610) 485-0441 E-mail: [contact@sjf71.org](mailto:contact@sjf71.org)



**TODAY IS SUNDAY, APRIL 7, THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT. The Gospel reading is John 8:1-11.** The episode in today's Gospel of the woman caught in adultery is a powerful story. We have perhaps all felt as the woman has at some point in our lives, surrounded by those who would condemn us. The beauty of Christ's mercy at the end is clear and a welcome relief as we all struggle to

be good and holy people. But have we ever imagined ourselves on the edge of the circle, in the sea of dusty robes? Have we ever been hovering at the edge of the circle of judgment?

How easy it is to be righteous when someone else's reputation is at stake. When the small child is acting up in the grocery store or on the plane. When another company has a scandal break or a major error sets back their profits. Could it be easy to pick up the stone and feel its weight and heft in our hands? Because if we've got a stone in our hands, our own righteous category is clear. Our judgment is our insurance that we won't be on the receiving end of the criticism. If we can point out a wrong, surely we are firmly in the right.

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' And they went away one by one." This Lent, not only are we invited to receive God's mercy, but to show God's mercy. As the season begins to wind to a close, consider those in your life you tend to judge the most harshly. What is one concrete way you can drop your stone?

### 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 re-commit ourselves in the faith formation of our next generation!

### REVITALIZE IN CHRIST - RAISING THE ROOF

**Current total: \$541,668 from 325 Families!**

We are pleased to announce the General Contractor for our church remodeling project is Caldwell, Heckles and Egan (CH&E) of Lancaster, PA. CH&E has extensive and notable experience with local churches including St. Mary Magdalen Church (Media), St. Helena (Blue Bell), St. Joseph (Downingtown), and St. Patrick (Malvern). Five companies were approved by the Archdiocese and invited to submit bids. Interviews took place with parishioners, parish staff, architects, and the contractors before a selection was made. CH&E will be working closely with parish committee members, staff, architects, and specialty artisans. Please pray for the safety and skills of our workers and the successful completion of our church remodeling!

#### Timetable for Success

All of the general contractors indicated a six month timetable to complete this project. We have made preparations for the church building to be closed beginning on Tuesday, May 7, in anticipation of construction. The target completion date is in early November. The length of the project will create inconveniences in various aspects of parish life. We will be working together to provide full and timely services during renovation, and pray that you will bear with us.

Here are plans for the summer months:

**Sunday Masses** following the current Mass schedule will be held in Parish Center Hall beginning on **May 12**, with overflow seating in the Chapel, with a video link.

**Baptisms** will be conducted in the Chapel on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of the month, as usual.

**Funerals** will be conducted by parish personnel and held either at Immaculate Conception Church in Marcus Hook or at neighboring parishes, as their schedule permits.

**St. John on the Hill Seniors** will hold their regular meetings in the front portion of Parish Center Hall.

**Confessions** on Saturdays from 3:00-3:45pm will be held in the Parish Center Conference Room.

**Vacation Bible Camp and the Flea Market** are suspended for 2019 because of space and safety concerns.

Please keep in mind these short-term inconveniences are for the long-term benefit of our Parish!

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!



**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

Vigil Mass Saturday, 4:00pm

Sunday Mass 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30am

*The 9:30am Mass begins outside the Church.*

**MONDAY, APRIL 15 - WEDNESDAY 17**

Daily Mass in the Chapel, 7:30am

*There will be no morning Mass on Holy Thursday or Good Friday*

**HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18**

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00pm, in Church

Eucharistic Adoration will follow until 10:00pm

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

Veneration of the Cross, Passion and Holy Communion, 3:00pm in Church

Poor Person's Supper, 5:00pm, in the Parish Hall

Stations of the Cross, 7:00pm in Church

**EASTER VIGIL, APRIL 20**

Mass at 7:30pm

*The celebration will begin outside the Church, with the blessing of the fire and preparation of the Paschal Candle, followed by a procession into Church.*

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

Masses at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30am, in Church

**YOU'RE INVITED TO A 'POOR PERSON'S SUPPER'**

For some in the Philadelphia area, a bowl of soup and a piece of bread is their main meal every day. As we reach the conclusion of our Lenten observance of fasting, abstaining, and almsgiving, our parish is hosting a simple meal of soup and bread on **Good Friday, April 19, at 5:00pm** in the Parish Center Hall. You and your family are invited to join us. Please call the Parish Office (610-485-0441, ext. 2) by **April 15 to RSVP** with the number of family members who plan to attend. A donation is suggested as almsgiving for the poor. Following dinner, please join us as we move to the Church for the Scriptural Stations of the Cross, beginning at 7:00pm.

**FINANCIAL OFFERING:  
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

**MARCH 31**

Total \$ 10,203  
Number of Envelopes 491

**SECOND COLLECTION: Operation Rice Bowl**

\$ 1,846.81

**POOR BOX \$ 752**

**March Poor Box benefits the Gift of Mary Home, in Chester, operated by the Missionaries of Charity.**

*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**

The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is staffed with many dedicated volunteer catechists and aides who instruct our children in the Catholic faith. We are grateful to them for giving freely of their time and talent for our children each week. There are a few other volunteers who help the religious education program run smoothly.

Each class day, Joe Leary stops by the parish on his lunch break to set out the orange cones on the parking lot. This small task takes only five minutes or so, but Joe gift of time protects our children during drop off and pick up.

The bulletin boards in the Church Hall are brightly decorated for holy days and holidays. The children have fun trying to find themselves in the photos that volunteer Terri Kahmer puts up a couple of times a month. Her gift of time makes PREP exciting and interesting for the kids.

The Liturgy of the Word for Children during the 11:30 Mass on Sunday is a team effort by Linda Lindley and her mother Pat Kilgore. These two dedicated women share the Good News of Jesus with the children in words they can understand. Their gift of time reassures the children that our God is loving and forgiving.

We are blessed by our volunteers, and we thank them!

**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



**ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT—APRIL 13**

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.

We could use more 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.

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Adult and teen volunteers are needed to help fill the eggs on Wednesday, April 10. We will meet in the Parish Center Hall at 7:00pm.

On Saturday, we could use a few volunteers to help 'hide' the eggs. Come at 10:15 if you have some time to volunteer. Thanks in advance!

**EASTER FLOWERS**

Easter Flower memorial envelopes must be returned by **Wednesday, April 17**, to be included in the special bulletin insert. Please return your envelope through the collection basket, by mail, on-line with WeShare, or in person to the Parish Business Office. Thank you!

**THIS WEEK:** Order forms for the **Annual Plant Sale** are included in the bulletin this weekend, April 6 & 7. Extras are located 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.

**Cap'n Chucky's** order forms are due **Monday, April 8**. Place your order three ways: give it to any Holy Saviour Knight; drop it off after Mass this weekend; or drop it by the Parish Business Office on Monday. Pick-up is **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.

#### UPCOMING MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULE

<b>Sat. Apr. 13</b>	4:00pm Vigil	Cantor
<b>Sun. Apr. 14</b>	8:00am	Cantor
	9:30am	Adult Choir
	11:30am	Youth Choir

#### 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](mailto: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, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm; General membership meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

#### RETURN RICE BOWLS ON APRIL

Please return your Rice Bowl to the large box in the rear of church next weekend, **April 13/14**, or bring it to the Parish Office during the week.



Catholic Relief Services uses the contributions to support programs around the world and right here at home. Twenty-five percent of what is collected stays here, used within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to combat hunger and poverty. Thank you for your generosity!

**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](http://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](http://www.holyfamilyaston.org)

*May They Rest in Peace*

**DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS OF OUR PARISHIONERS**

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

*Please Pray for Our Sick*

Ryan Mahoney, 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, 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.

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **BOBBY SHULL** through the generosity of his Mom and Dad



**MASS INTENTIONS**

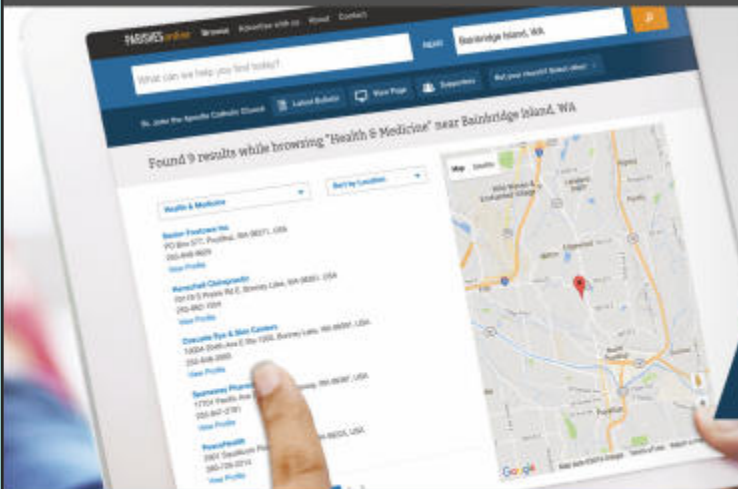
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Apr. 6</b>	4:00 PM	People of the Parish and Visitors
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Apr. 7</b>	8:00 AM	Margaret Ash
		9:30 AM	Larissa MacDonald, 9th Anniv.
		11:30 AM	Bob Nugent
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Apr. 8</b>	7:30 AM	George Ershaw
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Apr. 9</b>	7:30 AM	Charles Pyne
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Apr. 10</b>	7:30 AM	Marian McAndrews
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Apr. 11</b>	7:30 AM	Marian McAndrews
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Apr. 12</b>	7:30 AM	Marian McAndrews
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Apr. 13</b>	4:00 PM	Helen Broomall
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Apr. 14</b>	8:00 AM	People of the Parish and Visitors
		9:30 AM	William & Helen Aaronson
		11:30 AM	Anna Rose O'Donnell, 13th Anniv.

**TODAY IS HOSPITALITY SUNDAY!** Don't forget to stop by the Church Hall for a doughnut and coffee or juice and to visit with your friends and neighbors!



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