



REVITALIZE IN CHRIST - RAISING THE ROOF

SAINT JOHN FISHER CHURCH *April 14, 2019*



PALM SUNDAY

As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. - Lk 19:36, 37b

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

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



TODAY IS SUNDAY, APRIL 14, Palm Sunday, the Passion of the Lord. The Gospel Reading is Luke 22:1-49. Palm Sunday is a strange day in our liturgical calendar. We begin by waving palms, but somewhere in the middle, we call for

Jesus to be crucified. We celebrate today an equally paradoxical God, one who comes to save through suffering.

"I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!" Jesus, who so often in the Gospels tries to hide his true identity, speaks thunderously to the Pharisees who would still the rejoicing crowd. At the Last Supper, Jesus confirms the Messianic promise to his disciples, saying "I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father has conferred one on me." Yet, before the night is over, Jesus has been betrayed.

We hear the tragedy unfold in Luke's Passion narrative. Jesus is abused by the council of elders, denied by Peter, whipped by Roman soldiers, and condemned to death by Pilate. But what else do we see? Jesus heals someone who came to arrest him, forgives his torturers, promises a repentant man paradise, and - by his loving endurance - converts a centurion at the foot of the cross. Jesus is both Redeemer of the World and Suffering Servant. In taking on the mantle of Messiah, Jesus does not only receive our praise and our accolades, but he bears our burdens and sins and does so with the deepest love. He may go about our salvation in a paradoxical way, but he is dearer to our own suffering hearts for it. This week, we remember that no sorrow of our own is beyond the reach of the compassion of God.

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

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.



PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The Parish Pastoral Council acts as a major consultative body in the parish, advising the pastor to foster full participation of the entire parish in the life and mission of the Church, which reflects the mission of Christ. The St. John Fisher Parish Pastoral Council includes elected, appointed and ex-officio members. Council members serve three-year terms. This year, we are holding a parish-wide election for two council members.

The first part of this process entails nominating individuals to serve on the Pastoral Council. Please prayerfully consider your desire and ability to take on a stewardship role in our parish. Active parishioners 18 years or older may nominate themselves or be nominated by another parishioner. Nomination forms are available in the back of Church, in the Parish Office or on our website at stjohnfisherchurch.com. The nomination period is now under way and will end on **April 29**. Elections will be held after vetting the candidates and the publication of a short biography of each candidate in the parish bulletin.

REVITALIZE IN CHRIST - RAISING THE ROOF

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 churches in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, including St. Mary Magdalen Church (Media), St. Patrick (Malvern), St. Helena (Blue Bell) and St. Joseph (Downingtown). Please pray for the safety and skills of our workers and the successful completion of our church remodeling!

Timetable for Success

The general contractor has indicated this project will take six months, with an anticipated completion date in early November. We are planning to close the church building on Tuesday, May 7. We will be working together to provide full and timely services during renovation, and pray that you will bear with us.

Here is some helpful information about Weekend Masses during Construction:

Masses will be held in the Parish Center Hall, following the current Sunday Mass schedule, beginning on **May 12**. There will be overflow seating in the Chapel, with a video link. The seating capacity of the Parish Center Hall is 218. The Chapel will seat another 68 people, for a total of 286. In the Parish Center Hall, there will be one center aisle, with chairs on either side, facing the rear of the Hall. The Sanctuary area will be elevated for better visibility.



- Each person will have an individual seat.
- A handicap section for attendance and communion will be designated.
- For fire safety, there will be no seating in the foyer.
- Please move toward the center of the row when taking a seat to allow for full capacity.
- Parishioners will sit during Consecration.
- Four Eucharistic Ministers will distribute Communion.
- Use the center aisle to receive Communion, and return to your seat by the side aisles.
- A Eucharistic Minister will come to the Chapel.
- Hymnals will be on library carts; please return them.
- A new sound system will be used in the Hall for Masses.
- Emergency exits are found at the front, back and side.
- AED device is located in the parish center foyer.
- Poor boxes and holy water fonts will be in the foyer.
- Containers for food donations will be in the foyer.
- Use on-line giving if away for the summer or attending another church during construction.
- Please be patient and understanding!

HELP NEEDED ON MOVING DAYS!

Volunteers are needed on two days to help move various items and furniture from the church to other parish buildings. Moving days are **Saturday, April 27, from 9 to 11am and Sunday, May 5, from 4 to 6pm**. This is a great service opportunity for high school and college students. Many helping hands and strong backs will ensure quick work. Please check in at the Parish Center on either day if you can help. Thanks in advance!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MONDAY, APRIL 15 - WEDNESDAY 17

Daily Mass in the Chapel, 7:30am

There will be no morning Mass on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Saturday.

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

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 this month. Let us recommit ourselves in the faith formation of our next generation!

FINANCIAL OFFERING: STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Due to early printing deadlines, the weekly collection totals for April 7 and April 14 will appear in a future bulletin.

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.

BASEBALL MANIA IS BACK!

For the tenth year, St. John Fisher parish invites you to play Baseball Mania!

Tickets were mailed to parishioners recently, and additional tickets are on sale now after each Mass in the Church Hall. Tickets are \$20, and the game begins on July 22 and runs through the end of the regular professional baseball season (ten weeks). Your ticket has three teams assigned for each week. You can win if your three teams score the highest or lowest run total for the week. There is a guaranteed winner each week! You can win only if you play! Fill out and return the bottom stub of your ticket, with payment, by dropping it in the collection basket or by the Parish Business Office. We appreciate your support.



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Business Office will be closed at the following times during Holy Week and Easter, to allow the staff to celebrate with their families.

Good Friday, April 19 - Closed

Holy Saturday, April 20 - 10:00am - Noon

Easter Sunday, April 21 - Closed

Easter Monday, April 22 - Closed

RICE BOWLS

Please return your Rice Bowl to the large box in the rear of church this weekend, or bring it to the Parish Office on Monday or Tuesday.



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!

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.

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!

FOOD SUNDAY

The next Food Sunday is April 28. Please place non-perishable food, cleaning and paper products on the tables in the rear of the Church Hall. Don't forget to check for the 'use by' or 'good through' dates, to ensure that we provide fresh, nutritious staples to those in need. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

HELP WANTED

We are looking for someone who would be willing to sell grocery gift cards and 50/50 chances for 10-15 minutes before and after the 11:30 Mass on the last two Sundays of the month. If you can help, please contact Regina Robinson in the Business Office, 610-485-0441, ext. 6.

UPCOMING MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Thurs. Apr. 18	7:00pm	Adult Choir
Fri. Apr. 19	3:00pm	Adult Choir
	7:00pm Stations	Cantor
Sat. Apr. 20	7:30pm	Adult Choir
Sun. Apr. 21	8:00am	Cantor
	9:30am	Adult & Youth Choirs
	11:30am	Knights 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 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

HERESA MATTERO
REVEREND BRIAN ZIELINSKI, O. PRAEM
REVEREND EDMOND SPEITEL

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

Please Pray for Our Sick

Ralph Nather, 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, 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
JULIAN WILLIAM KING
through the generosity of
his loving Grandparents



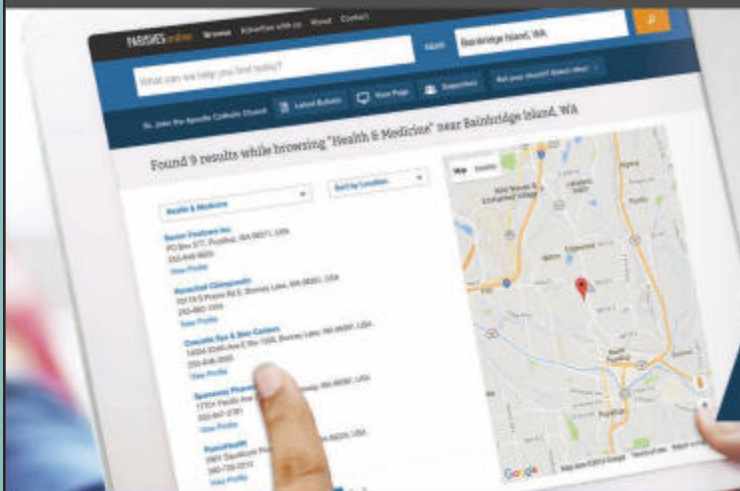
MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Apr. 13	Helen Broomall
	4:00 PM	
Sunday	Apr. 14	People of the Parish and Visitors
	8:00 AM	William & Helen Aaronson
	9:30 AM	Anna Rose O'Donnell, 13th Anniv.
	11:30 AM	
Monday	Apr. 15	Lawrence O'Connor
	7:30 AM	
Tuesday	Apr. 16	John Glynn, Jr.
	7:30 AM	
Wednesday	Apr. 17	Catherine Noel
	7:30 AM	
Thursday	Apr. 18	HOLY THURSDAY
	7:00 PM	
Friday	Apr. 19	GOOD FRIDAY
	3:00 PM	
Saturday	Apr. 20	HOLY SATURDAY
	7:30 PM	
Sunday	Apr. 21	EASTER SUNDAY
	8:00 AM	
	9:30 AM	
	11:30 AM	

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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Lisa Montello Chlebek
office 302-888-1234
cell 610-357-8844
Lisa@LevyWilson.com
Licensed in DE, PA & NJ
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