



The Parish Community of
St. John the Evangelist

January 29-30, 2022

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASSES

Monday-Friday
7:30 a.m.
(Lower Level Chapel)

MIRACULOUS
MEDAL NOVENA

Mondays immediately
after the 7:30 a.m. Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays
3:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.

HOLY DAYS

As indicated in bulletin

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.



4th Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away. - Lk 4:28, 30

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

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FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

In many ways, revealing himself as the promised Messiah, Jesus now faces the ire, misunderstanding, and confusion of those among whom he has grown up. Impressed by the reading the prophecy from Isaiah, now they begin to murmur. They question how one of their own, one they know so well and whose earthly origins are known, can speak these words. Jesus brings up the rejection of Elijah and Elisha as well, to indicate that hearing the word of God and acting on it can have consequences for those unable or unwilling to understand and accept the message. It is a message of hope, healing, promise, and fulfillment. On the surface, there is certainly nothing wrong with that, but it has led those who hear it to rise up in fury. Seeing something radically new has taken them to a place of fear when the very person who offers to relieve their fears is in their midst. God's love and dedication to us runs deep. It is what brings about the eventual appearance of Jesus, the Messiah. God so desires to have us understand and experience this love that he sends us one like us, one who can move among his own people, as one of their own. This familiarity has been part of the divine plan from the dawn of time. It is not difficult to understand how those involved in today's story feel their lives have been turned upside down. It is not an easy thing to understand. It takes a willingness to change



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

[He said to them], "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" - Lk 4:21-22

that many people, even people of great faith, find difficult and challenging. Today's first reading speaks of how well God knows us. He has known us before we were formed in our mother's womb. The Gospel has those who should know him best seemingly rejecting him – something God would never do to us. These readings during this period of Ordinary Time help us to see ourselves in relationship to God and to one another, and how vitally that relationship fuels our lives of faith. Our deep relationship with God through his saving word brings us closer to the reality of God in every moment of our lives.

Father Elston

LECTIO DIVINA

Today's second reading is often heard at weddings. Read it slowly and carefully, and perhaps substitute the words "love is" with "I am" (e.g. I am patient, I am kind, I am not inflated, I am not rude.) Reflect on how we can live these words even more fully when they are directly related to how we live out God's love each day.

We Remember Father Leo McKernan

1953 ~ 2022

IN MEMORIAM

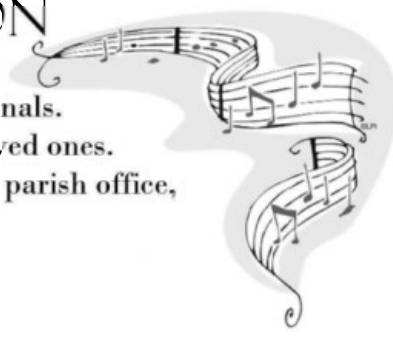
Our parish community prays for the repose of the soul of Father Leo McKernan, who was in residence here at Saint John the Evangelist several years ago.

Father Leo passed away on Sunday, January 23.

We pray that his family will be consoled with God's comfort and peace. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him!

HYMNAL MEMORIALIZATION

In late November, our parish began using *Gather*, 4th edition, published by GIA Publications. We look forward to introducing new music from these hymnals. You are welcome to sponsor one or more hymnals in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please use this form and submit with payment, in the collection basket, at the parish office, or by mail. **Cost per hymnal is \$25.00.**



Please select one: In Memory of In Honor of

Names of those _____
you wish to remember/honor: _____

Given by: _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____ Cash Check

SAVE THE DATE!

Night at the Races



Sponsored by the Holy Name Society
 and Altar and Rosary Society

Saturday, February 26
in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center
Doors open at 6 p.m. ~ Races begin at 7 p.m.

\$10.00 per person – includes admission and dinner

A mailing will be sent to our parishioners with information on this event.
 If you have not received this mailing,
 or if you are a visitor to our parish and would like to sponsor a horse for \$10.00,
 please use the form below:

Name: _____ *Phone Number:* _____

Name for your horse: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Cash Check

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor

Rev. Joseph Elston

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Jackson Pinheiro, OSJ

Pastor Emeritus

Msgr. John J. Bendik

Deacon

Deacon David Marx

Director of Religious Formation

JoAnne McHale

joannemchale@stjohnspittston.com

Director of Music Ministry

Dr. Charles Stevens

*Pastoral Associate, Organist,
Youth & Young Adult Ministry*

Michael Sowa

msowa@stjohnspittston.com

Office Staff

Cathy Rusnok

Theresa Schubel

Sacristans

Michael Brown

Jack Riley

Grounds & Maintenance

Bob Ayre

Rick Rinish

Jason Roche

Don Werkheiser

Rectory & Household Staff

Jane Roche

Midge Butsavage



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Jan. 31 7:30 a.m.	Memorial of St. John Bosco, Priest Regina Poplawski <i>by Parish Community</i>
Tuesday, Feb. 1 7:30 a.m.	Weekday Ann O'Connell Noone <i>by Parish Community</i>
Wednesday, Feb. 2 7:30 a.m.	Feast of the Presentation of the LORD Victor Zane, Jr. <i>by Mother, Antoinette</i>
Thursday, Feb. 3 7:30 a.m.	Weekday Terrance Moha <i>by Ernest Renfer</i>
Friday, Feb. 4 7:30 a.m.	Weekday Bette Kennedy <i>by The Gordon Family</i>
Saturday, Feb. 5 4:30 p.m.	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil) Helen Poder Kleiza <i>by Breakfast Club</i>
Sunday, Feb. 6 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Catherine Kuklewicz Margie Lapusnak and Family <i>by Noreen Phillips Fr. Dominik Kalata and Family</i>

**MEMORIAL HONOR CANDLES
MONTH OF JANUARY**

In memory of Mary O'Malley Reedy
By Family

In memory of Anna Koenig
*By daughters, Elizabeth, Louise, and
Grandchildren*

**ETERNAL REST GRANT
UNTO THEM, O LORD**

*Vincent Judge
Father Leo McKernan*

STEWARDSHIP: YOUR GIFT OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

Weekend of January 22-23

\$ 5,261.00

Offertory:	\$ 4,415.00
Children:	\$ 10.00
Loose	\$ 111.00
Dues:	\$ 725.00

Total Envelopes Used: 248

**INDIVIDUAL FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

If you would like a financial statement, please call the Parish Office at 570-654-0053. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the parish and its many ministries. You can "catch up" on your 2021 offerings until the weekend of January 29-30.

We are happy to report that our Take-Out Pasta Dinner held on January 19 yielded a profit of \$2,165.00 for our parish!

Thank you to all who supported!



CARE AND CONCERN MINISTRIES

Important Updates for Our Ministries

FOOD PANTRY

Free food is given, **by appointment**, to qualifying households in the Pittston Area and Wyoming Area School Districts. Households may receive food once per month from September through May. **Pre-qualification** is done by phone at **570-654-9923**. Proof of address (recent utility bill) is required at your first appointment **each year**. Food Pantry appointments are made for the **First and Second Wednesdays** of each month. This ministry is closed from June through August.

KIDS CLOSET

The Kids Closet offers new and gently used clothing for free to children (sizes newborn through 16) to families in the Pittston Area and Wyoming Area School Districts. **Photo ID** is required to participate in this ministry. Families are able to visit the Kids Closet every **six weeks**. This ministry is open the

First and Second Wednesdays of each month from **9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** with **no evening hours**.

TOY AND BOOK CORNER

The “Corner” offers new and gently used toys and books for free to children and families in the Pittston Area and Wyoming Area School Districts. **Photo ID** is required to participate in this ministry. Families are able to visit the Toy and Book Corner every **six weeks**.

This ministry is open the

First and Second Wednesdays of each month from **9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** with **no evening hours**.

PEDIATRIC HEALTH CLINIC

The Pediatric Clinic offers basic health care for children ages newborn through 11. Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Call **570-855-6035** for more information.

Information about the Free Health Clinic is forthcoming.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We are most grateful for the following donations made to the many ministries of the Church and deeply appreciate the thoughtfulness.

HEALTH CLINIC

(In memory of **George Krizenoskas**) by Al and Peggy Exter, by Al and Lucille Karlus, by Mary McFarland, by Alex Lousos, by Rosalie Bigus, by Richard and JoAnn Emanski, by Clement and Mary Ann Szezecinski, by Karen Nocera, by Ann Irvin, by Dennis and Janet Palladino, by William and Janice Lapasky, by Barbara Flora, by Brooks Estates Residents Association, by The Cemetery Association of Wyoming, by Anthony and Cristina DeVito; (In memory of **Guy Fasciana**) by Ann Irvin; (In memory of **Ann C. Noone**) by Barbara and Salvatore Sciandra.

CARE AND CONCERN MINISTRIES

(In memory of **Jean Conlon**) by Frank Noone, by Sharon and Anthony DiCarli, by Genevieve and Frank Falzone, by Paul Savakinas, by Ellen and Sister Susan Brown, by Bernie and Laura Lazevnick, by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Butler, by Frank and Wanda Slush, Burke Family, by Bill and Ellen Boyle, by Catherine Manley, by Frank and Mary Carden, by Insurance Auto Auctions, by Dan and Bill Noone Families; (In memory of **Vincent Judge**) by Mary Jo DiLeo and Family.

KIDS CLOSET

(In memory of **Robert Stapinski**) by Mike and Mary Lou Fereck; (In memory of **Mary Lou Winn**) by Mike and Mary Lou Fereck.

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

(In memory of **Ann C. Noone**) by Jane Roche; (In memory of **Ellen Savakinas**) by Jane Roche.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

February 6, 2022

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading	Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Gospel	Luke 5:1-11



Sat., Feb. 5 – 4:30 p.m.	Sun., Feb. 6 – 9:00 a.m.
<i>Lector</i> TBD	<i>Lector</i> M. Burdett
<i>Server</i> J. Riley	<i>Server</i> K. Schell
<i>EM</i> M. Diction	<i>EM</i> C. & J. Schell
<i>Cantor</i> C. Howe	<i>Cantor</i> E. Johnson

Sun., Feb. 6 – 11:30 a.m.

<i>Lector</i>	R.M. Marselles
<i>Server</i>	L. Russin
<i>EM</i>	S. Vitek
<i>Cantor</i>	C. Boos

WHAT IS A SYNOD?

Like many of the words that we use in our Catholic tradition, *Synod* is an ancient Greek word that means assembling to determine the path forward. A *Synod* is a *Process* that gathers Christ's disciples so that their voices can be heard. It is the Church's belief that each and everyone's voice is that of Christ. And when two or three of Christ's Faithful are gathered, he is present and alive in their midst.

The history of the Church also shows us that the model of Synodality was a critical tool at times of crisis and challenge. A particular 'synod' was called to address various crises in the life of the Church and history tells us that, in those moments, the presence of the Holy Spirit was alive in their midst, leading the Church forward. The model of a Synod allows the presence of Christ to be given voice at this moment in our history.



WHAT IS THE 2021-2023 SYNOD ABOUT?

On March 7, 2020, Pope Francis announced that a Synod of Bishops would convene at the Vatican in October 2023, the theme of which will be *For a synodal Church: communion, participation, and mission*. As a vital first step in the Synod process, the Holy Father has invited each diocese around the world to listen to the voices of its people including those who are marginalized or may have fallen away from the Church.

By virtue of our Baptism, all of us are called to be active participants in the life of the Church through discernment, participation, and co-responsibility. Through a process of careful listening, our participation in the Synod process will enable us to better understand how the Christian community participates in the life of our Church in the Diocese of Scranton today and how that shared participation among our members might grow in the future.

WHY IS THIS SYNOD TAKING PLACE?

Far from being a temporary or one-time experience in calling the Church to participate in the Synod process, Pope Francis is reminding us that the very mission of the Church requires the entire People of God to be on a journey together, with each member playing his or her crucial role, united with each other. The Holy Father's hope is that the experience of this unique world-wide opportunity will bring about a new springtime for listening, discernment, dialogue, and decision-making in our Church, so that the whole People of God can better journey together with one another and the entire human family, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

WHAT IS MY ROLE IN THIS SYNOD?

By calling for the 2021-2023 Synod on Synodality, Pope Francis is inviting the Church to *gather* and to *listen* to each and every Catholic to find the Church's path forward at this time in our history. This is a moment for the voice of God's people to be heard to give voice to the direction of the Church. Pope Francis is providing the opportunity for this ancient and tested model to find relevance in light of today's challenges and opportunities.

The Holy Father seeks to hear every voice. Prayerfully consider participating either in your parish's in-person consultation session or through the online survey or phone line listed above.

These were taken from the Diocese of Scranton Synod resource webpage: <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/synod-on-synodality/>

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED HERE AT SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST?

Our parish is taking seriously Pope Francis's call for as many people as possible to participate in this synodal process. That means that your voice is very important, regardless of your membership in the Catholic Church. All are welcome to join at our various listening sessions/town hall meetings on this important issue. No topic is off limits during these meetings, **and this is your chance to have your voice heard**. These meetings will give everyone the opportunity to speak on whatever is moving them at this time. Some general questions to frame our discussion are:

- What do you most love about the Church?
- What breaks your heart about the Church?
- What questions do you have about the Church?
- What has been your experience of the Church?
- How can the Church live up to its calling?

To begin this process in prayer, we hope you will join us at a very special Evening Prayer and Adoration for the Synod on **Thursday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m.** at **St. Joseph Mareello Parish**. This beautiful evening will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, and special music and prayer to allow us to focus our hearts and minds on this synodal task that is asked of us and our Church. Immediately following this service, we will host a listening session, led by Father Elston, where we will explore the themes of the synod and share some of our thoughts of this important process. All are most welcome to attend and join us on this journey of faith.

Altar and Rosary Society

Bus Trip to Sight and Sound Theater



The Altar and Rosary Society of Saint John the Evangelist is sponsoring a bus trip to see the amazing production of **"David"**

*Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA
Thursday, May 19, 2022*

Reservations are being accepted now.
Please call Jean at 570-654-9710 for more information.

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