

## OUR MISSION

St. John de LaSalle is a welcoming Roman Catholic community that seeks to live the Gospel message of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We embrace our faith and support our members through: prayer, worship, evangelization, loving service and fellowship, life-long education and responsible stewardship. We are grounded in the Sacraments and we place the worship of Christ in the Eucharist at the center of our parish life. In gratitude for our many gifts, talents and blessings, we respond with compassion to the spiritual and corporal needs of all.

## BAPTISMS

Parents should call the Pastoral Care Office soon after the birth of the child to arrange to attend the baptism preparation class, held on the last Wednesday of each month. Baptisms are scheduled for the first and third weekend of the month after the 11:15 or 4:30 Mass, or they can be done during the 11:15 or 4:30 Mass.

## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Please call the PCO during regular office hours to determine if you are eligible to receive a letter of recommendation. Letters of recommendation (to act as a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation) may be issued to currently registered parishioners who attend Mass, are confirmed and married in the Church.

## MARRIAGES

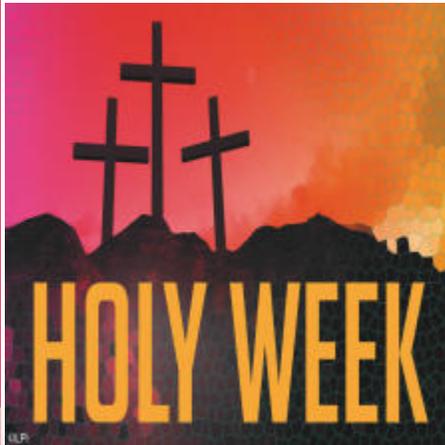
Couples should begin planning with the parish at least six months prior to the wedding date. A marriage program is an essential part of the planning process.

## MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Please contact the Pastoral Care Office to arrange for pastoral visits for hospitalized or homebound parishioners.

**Together in Faith  
Since 1907  
March 28, 2021**

**Palm Sunday Of  
The Passion Of  
The Lord**



**PASTORAL CARE OFFICE  
716-283-2238 EXT. 302/301**

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

Pastor..... Ext. 308  
Emergency Only ..... 579-4949  
Office .....Ext. 302/301  
Faith Formation ..... 283-5140  
Ext. 306  
Community Care / Food Pantry -  
Mrs. Lynn Siegfried .....622-5880

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil:**..... 4:30 p.m.  
**Sunday Mass:**..... 8:45am, 11:15am  
**Weekdays:**..... 8:00 am (Monday thru Friday)  
**Tuesday:**.....6:30 pm St. Jude Novena  
Followed By Mass at 7:00 pm. Anointing Of The Sick On The First Tuesday Of Each Month.  
**Eucharistic Adoration:**Thursday 8:45 -  
Midnight!

*Non Gluten Eucharist Available On Request*

*Restroom w/changing table located near daily chapel;  
there is another restroom in the west foyer.*

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday: ..... 3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

## PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Rev. Slawomir Siok, SAC  
Office Administrator: Mrs. Mary Newman  
Office Assistant: Mrs. Cynthia Tripoli  
Faith Formation: Mrs. Marybeth Simoneit  
Music Leaders: Mrs. Christy Murty  
Mr. Jeff Paterson  
Trustees: Miss Janet Furlong  
Mr. Michael Casale  
Parish Council: Mr. Andrew Touma



**PALM SUNDAY OF THE  
PASSION OF THE LORD**

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

Illustration from the Jerusalem for Mass, 2201, 1998, 1992 ©2002

SLP

**Parish Center: 716-283-7916 • Fax: 716-283-7973**

**Email: stjohndelasalle@juno.com • Website: www.stjohndelasalle.org**

**8477 Buffalo Avenue • Niagara Falls, New York 14304**

March 28, 2021

**Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord  
Liturgy of the Hours—Seasonal Proper**

**Saturday, March 27, Lenten Weekday**

8:00 am All Souls

3:45 pm—4:15 pm Confessions In The Chapel

4:30 pm Virginia Condino by Tim & Kathy Touchette

**Sunday, March 28, PALM SUNDAY OF THE PAS-  
SION OF THE LORD**

8:45 am Deceased Members Of Rosary Altar Society

11:15 am Stan & Phyllis Brzezinski by Family

**Monday, March 29, Monday Of Holy Week**

8:00 am Barbara Joseph

12:10 pm Mother's Day Intentions

**Tuesday, March 30, Tuesday Of Holy Week**

8:00 am Clemente Rocha III by Angel & Nancy  
Martinez

12:10 pm Mother's Day Intentions

6:30 pm St. Jude Novena

7:00 pm Mary Ann Toole by Betty Jane Jacien

**Wednesday, March 31, Wednesday Of Holy Week**

8:00 am People Of The Parish

12:10 pm Father's Day Intentions

**Thursday, April 1, Thursday Of Holy Week  
HOLY THURSDAY**

8:00 am Morning Prayer

7:00 pm Rev. Pytka Kazimierz by Anthony & Lori  
Casilio & Family

**First Friday, April 2, Friday Of The Passion Of The  
Lord—GOOD FRIDAY**

3:00 pm Stations Of The Cross

7:00 pm Liturgy Of The Passion & Veneration Of The  
Cross

**First Saturday, April 3, HOLY SATURDAY**

12:00 pm Blessing Of Easter Food

7:30 pm Roman Nowak by Rev. Slawomir Siok

**Sunday, April 4, EASTER SUNDAY OF THE  
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

8:45 am Dorothea (Peggy) Shenk by Margaret Touma

11:15 am Brian Kindzia by Greg & Dorothy Atkinson

**Please pray for our ill and hospitalized:** Z, Ann N., Helga, Maureen Cotter, Sue Dokey, Philip Buffone, Pat Hahn, Lynette & Family, Tim Coughlin, Anne-Marie S., Lora Pfohl, Chris Nelson, Ron, Michele Promowicz Newman, Gail Jakubowski, Cathy D'Angelo, Ryan Welsh, Will, Amelia Morganti, Bob & Christine Belkota, Kevin White, J. White, Little J., MCL, Doug, Matthew Smith, Dave DeLuke, Suzanne DeLuke, John C., Emilia Kobus, Brad Ludwig, Gabrielle Wittkop, Rosemary, Vikki H, Hank Buchalski, Barb Anthony, Inez, John Butler, Joanne I. Philbrick, Violet Iadicicco, Joel Rivera, Alex, Jim & Denise Clapps, Kristy, Lynn Kowalski, Ken Shebelle, Monica Pietras, Richard, Carol Buchalski, Anastasia Rafter, Carrie Wheeler, Baby Sammy, Rose Muto, Olivia P., Kim Z., Jude Holka, Kelly Metzinger, Joe Ceretto, Linda Marino, Tricia Papke, Shirley Kostoff, Chester Bradley, Kellianne Laughing, Jean DeMarco, Norma Genovese, Paul Hogan, Sharon Costanzo, Joel Rivera, Jessica McDowel, Todd Littlewood, Andrew Mrzygut

**The Sanctuary Light Burns With Unceasing Prayer In  
Front Of The Blessed Sacrament For The Month Of  
March For Charlene Toarmino By Mr. & Mrs. Anthony  
Fama!**

**A CALL AWAY FROM INDIFFERENCE**

He emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
—Philippians 2:7-8

*Elie Wiesel*, a Holocaust survivor and Nobel prize-winning peace activist, wrote that, "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference." Indifference, a lack of concern or a refusal to act in the face of injustice, is at the heart of human suffering. With this in mind, *Saint Maximilian Kolbe* (who was executed by the Nazis on August 14, 1941, after having offered his own life to save a condemned Jewish prisoner) described indifference as "the most deadly poison of our times."

In most cases, our indifference is born of comfort or complacency and a sense that "I shouldn't get involved" or "it isn't my business." Sadly, we can all-too-easily recognize how these attitudes allow injustice, abuse, and neglect to continue and increase in too many places in the world today.

However tempting it might be to pretend otherwise, there are things worth living for, suffering for, and even dying for. This is why the question of *Cuban poet José Martí* — "When others are weeping blood, what right do I have to weep tears?" — calls us to an even more essential question: "What is the value of a life that is lived without anything worth dying for?"

The inconvenience, discomfort, sadness, and pain we may feel if we open our hearts and pay attention to what is happening in and to the world around us are the only real antidote to indifference, because those feelings should call us to action. Palm Sunday and Holy Week reveal for us a God who, in Jesus, was anything but indifferent: "He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave ... he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:7a, 8).

Although Palm Sunday's ability to confront and confound our indifference can be startling and even frightening, the real grace of this celebration is in the opportunity it provides for us to renew our commitment to life in Christ. The days of Holy Week challenge us to envision a life in which — rather than simply limping along from "mistake" to "mistake" — we take responsibility for our indifference, our self-preference, and our sins to become free to grow in love and our care about what we do to others, to creation, and to our own bodies, psyches, and souls.

In the end, living the mystery of the Cross leaves no room for indifference because, as *Saint Cyril of Alexandria* observed, "Christ's example of courage in God's service will be of great profit for us, for only by putting the love of God before our earthly life and being prepared when occasion demands to fight zealously for the truth, can we attain the supreme blessing of perfect union with God" (*Commentary on John*, 12.19).

*Bro. Silas Henderson, SDS*

**PRAYER**

**A Prayer for Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow  
caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross,  
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient  
suffering

and so merit a share in his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.  
(from *The Roman Missa*)

**Every Week We Need \$5500.00 To Cover Our Weekly Expenses!**

A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who have kept our Church running during this pandemic.

**Regular Collection For March 21, 2021:** \$3279.00 (60%)

**Monthly Collection:** \$280.00, **Utilities:** \$555.00, **Easter Flowers:** \$381.00, **Community Care:** \$70.00, **Debt Reduction:** \$57.00, **Votive:** \$39.00, **Holy Thursday:** \$15.00, **Good Friday:** \$15.00, **Mail:** \$787.00, **Catholic Home Missions:** \$10.00.

**Online Giving:** 03/15/2021—03/21/2021

**Regular Collection:** \$587.00, **Utilities:** \$25.00.

**The Mobile Food Pantry Will Be In St. John de LaSalle Parking Lot on April 9th, 2021 at 1:00 PM!**

Are any of our young parishioners looking to earn extra money this summer? If so please call Edward Walek at 7616-283-4070 (home) or 716-417-3479 (cell). Edward is looking for someone to cut grass, trim hedges and edge along the sidewalk during the summer as needed. This is in the LaSalle area and lawn mower and any other tools needed will be provided.

**The 2021 Breaking Bread Missalettes'** are now available at all the masses. To defray the cost of shipping I am asking each person who wishes to receive a book to pay \$5.00. Thank You!!

***The Sanctuary Light Burns With Unceasing Prayer In Front Of The Blessed Sacrament For The Month Of April For The Deceased Members Of The Rotella, Hayes And Zafuto Families! By Mike & Valerie Zafuto & Family.******My Dear Friends In Christ,***

***This Sunday is Palm Sunday. It is one of the, most important days in the Christian calendar after Christmas and Easter. Palm Sunday is the Sunday before Easter and it marks the beginning of the Holy Week, the week of events leading up to Jesus' death.***

***The celebration of Palm Sundays originated in the Jerusalem Church around the fourth century. The early Palm Sunday ceremony consisted of prayers, hymns and sermons recited by the clergy, hymns and sermons recited by the people walked to various holy sites throughout the city. At the final site, the place where Christ ascended into heaven, clergy would read from the gospels concerning the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.***

***In the early evening they would return to the city reciting: "Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord." The children would carry palm and olive branches as the people returned through the city back to the church, where they would hold evening services.***

**Update on our Catholic Charities Appeal**—So far we have raised \$14,552 from 72 donors, or 38% of our \$38,178 goal. Won't you please consider becoming a new Catholic Charities donor? Stop by our new donor registration table in front of the church. You won't need cash or your checkbook. Just fill out a new donor registration card, and spread your donation out over four payments. Thank you and God Bless You!

**2021 APPEAL**

As we approach the mid-point of **Appeal 2021**, we would like to remind you that your support of the Appeal enables us to continue our efforts to improve the lives of those we serve. All told, your gifts helped us bring hope to 149,000 lives last year through Catholic Charities and helped the Diocese to support spiritual care and compassion through 14 Fund for the Faith programs. In the spirit of thankfulness, we share our 2021 Appeal prayer to Patron St. Ignatius Loyola: "St. Ignatius, help us to be grateful and generous. To give and not count the cost. To labor and not seek reward. To share God's love with our neighbors in need. To meet them where they are in life and let them know they are not alone. Help us to be poor in spirit—to realize our dependence upon God. And to do all things for the greater glory of God. We ask this in the name of Jesus through your intercession. T. Ignatius, pray for us!"

*Imprimatur: Most Reverend Bishop Michael Fisher*

Thank you for helping us be **HOPE for All Seasons.**

**One of the traditional Easter duties for all Catholics is the annual Confession and Holy Communion according to our Church laws.**

Holy Communion can be received twice a day, this is a law given by the late Pope St. John Paul II! The Eucharist fast, excluding water and medicines, should be observed before Communion by abstaining from any food or drink for at least an hour, unless a person is elderly or sick.

To receive Communion, the law (Canon 916) says: "A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive Communion without prior sacramental confession, unless grave reason is present...in this case, a person is to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible."

About the Sacrament of Penance, Canon 960 states: "Individual and integral Confession and Absolution constitute the only ordinary way by which the faithful person who is aware of serious sin is reconciled with God and with the Church."

About the obligation of confession once a year, Canon 989 says:

"After having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year." The obligation of confession is applicable only in the case of grave sins. Venial sins can be forgiven either by communal or private confession, by receiving Holy Communion, non-sacramental penitential rites (like the one at the beginning of Mass), almsgiving, sacrificial actions or acts of charity. But let us keep in mind that the best gift we can give our good Lord is our contrite, humble heart, repentant of all our sins. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, which we usually call Confession, is one of the best Lenten gifts we can give God. Some Catholics feel uneasy about confession for many reasons, such as:

- I do not go because I forgot the starting formula (Forgive me Father for I have sinned ...) or the Act of Contrition. Do we really think that postponing confession for another year will improve our memory?

- The Act of Contrition should be expressed in our own wording. Can you imagine if, after a fight, the wife will say to the husband "*Oh my supreme husband, I am truly sorry to have offended thee, because you are so good and worthy of all sacrifices...etc., etc.*" It sounds so silly, doesn't it? How simple it is to say in confession: "*My good Jesus, I'm sorry ... I'll do better from now on!*"

- All mortal sins must be confessed! Sometimes we feel ashamed as if our sins are so horrendous, and we're afraid that we will shock the priests! On the contrary, I'm afraid that we priests will shock you, every time our sins are reported in the mass media! Besides being sinners like everyone else, we priests had two full years of studies in Moral Theology and there is not a sin that we have not studied in detail or heard before!

Some of us have the feeling that our sins are so serious that God cannot forgive them! Nonsense! The mercy of God is infinitely superior to any of our sins! The worst temptation of the Devil is to convince us that the Spirit of Love of God cannot forgive, and so we do not ask pardon, and remain separated from God in this and (God forbid) in the other life!

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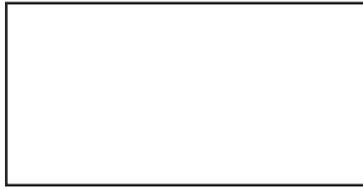
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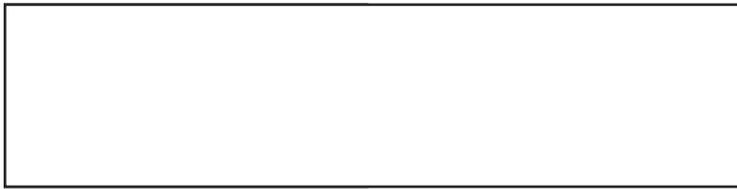
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