

## 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

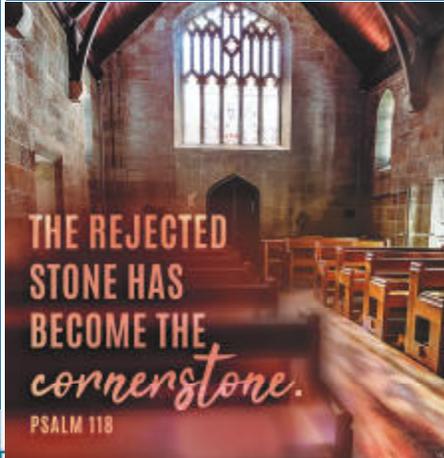
Couples should begin planning with the parish at least six months prior to the wedding date. A marriage program is an essential part of the planning process.

## 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  
April 25, 2021**

**Fourth Sunday  
Of Easter  
World Day Of  
Prayer For  
Vocations**



**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*

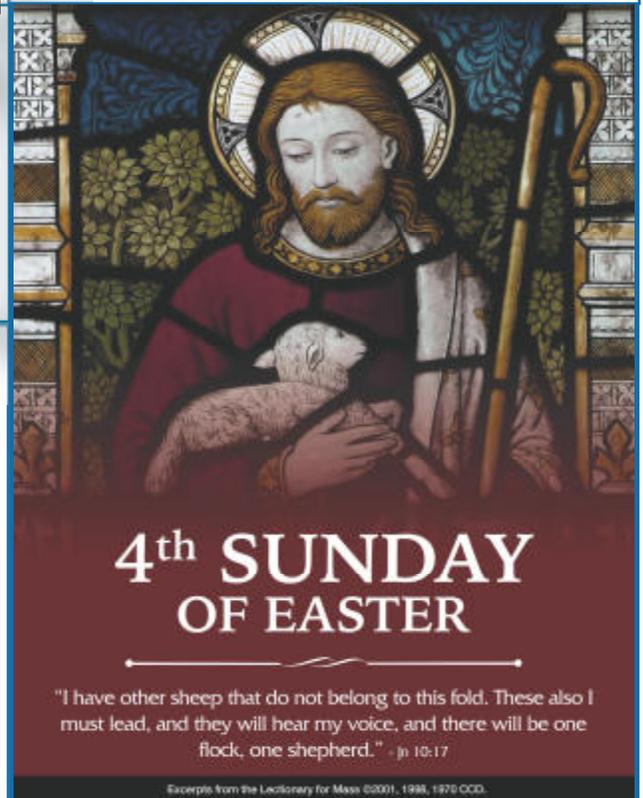
*Restroom w/changing table located near daily chapel; there is another restroom in the west foyer.*

## 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



**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**

**April 25, 2021**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**Liturgy of the Hours—Seasonal Proper**

**Saturday, April 24, Saint Fidelis Of Sigmaringen,  
 Priest And Martyr**

8:00 am All Souls  
 3:45 pm—4:15 pm Confessions In The Chapel  
 4:30 pm Deceased Members Of The O'Connor Family  
 by The Family

**Sunday, April 25, Fourth Sunday Of Easter**

8:45 am Clarence & Rita Raidy by Maureen Raidy  
 11:15 am Vicky D'Angelo by Connie Andreini

**Monday, April 26, Easter Weekday**

8:00 am Mr. & Mrs. T. Henry & Helen Murphy

**Tuesday, April 27, Easter Weekday**

8:00 am Brian O'Laughlin by Family  
 6:30 pm St. Jude Novena  
 7:00 pm John Wilson by Marie Trainor

**Wednesday, April 28, Saint Peter Chanel, Priest  
 And Martyr; Saint Louis Grignion de  
 Montfort, Priest**

8:00 am Rose Magee by Paula E. Mayo

**Thursday, April 29, Saint Catherine Of Siena, Virgin  
 And Doctor Of The Church**

8:00 am Edward Miodonski by Estate  
 8:45 am—Midnight Eucharistic Adoration

**Friday, April 30, Saint Pius V, Pope**

8:00 am People Of The Parish

**Saturday, May 1, Saint Joseph The Worker**

8:00 am All Souls  
 3:45 pm—4:15 PM Confessions In The Chapel  
 4:30 pm David W. Palmer by Family

**Sunday, May 2, Fifth Sunday Of Easter**

8:45 am Deceased Members Of The Rosary Altar  
 Society  
 11:15 am Wilma Foggia by Family

**Please pray for our ill and hospitalized:** Z, Helga, Philip Bufone, Pat Hahn, Lynette & Family, Daniel P., Tim Coughlin, Anne-Marie S., 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 April For The Deceased Members Of The Rotella, Hayes And Zafuto Families! By Mike & Valerie Zafuto & Family.**

**The Sanctuary Light Burns With Unceasing Prayer In Front Of The Blessed Sacrament For The Month Of May For Earnest Gedeon & David Palmer by Family!**

**A WILLING SACRIFICE**

My favorite scene from **CS Lewis' "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe"** is the one where Aslan is sacrificed by the White Witch. The Christological themes are ripe, worthy of much discussion. What strikes me most poignantly during the Easter season is how Aslan describes to Lucy and Susan his miraculous resurrection from the dead. "... though the White Witch knew the Deep Magic, there is a magic deeper still which she did not know ... when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack and Death itself would start working backward." A willing victim. That's Jesus in today's Gospel about the Good Shepherd. "No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down on my own." Jesus' intrinsic freedom is the shining quality here. He was not "compelled" or "obligated" or "coerced" into the path that led to Calvary: he chose it and would not permit alternatives to even be considered (cf. **Mt 16:23**). He embraced a direct path that would lead to his demise, but also to his victory.

The Church recognizes the sublime quality of interior freedom, which is certainly connected to the notion of salvation from sin which we continue to celebrate during the Easter season. When a couple gets married in the church, they are asked in public if they have come of their own free will. When religious and monastic men and women make their lifelong commitment to their communities, they make the profession of evangelical poverty, chastity, and obedience. These vows must be made in freedom lest the choice lack this shimmering quality of Jesus' self-offering which we are all invited to imitate.

**St. Bonaventure** extolls, for example, this virtue of poverty in the life **St. Francis**: "Among the supernatural gifts which Francis received from God, the Generous Giver, his love for absolute poverty constituted a special privilege which enabled him to grow rich in spiritual wealth. He saw that it was the constant companion of Jesus, but now that [poverty] was being scorned by the whole world, so he espoused it in undying love. 'Gospel poverty is the special way to salvation. It is the source of humility and the root of all perfection; its fruit is manifold, though unseen. This is the treasure hidden in the field of the Gospel to buy which we must sell all, and anything that cannot be sold should be abandoned for love of it.'" Our community describes it this way: "Gospel poverty cannot be a willing self-sacrifice without love, and love cannot be Christian without the self-sacrifice of poverty. It is an ascetical discipline that protects our life in God. The logic of poverty is found in love, and the highest expression of love is found in the Cross. Therefore, evangelical poverty makes ultimate sense only in light of the cross of Jesus." We might describe this as a "radical frugality and simplicity" in the face of modern consumerism and materialism.

The willing self-offering of love for the sake of love touched so deeply the tender hearts of Susan and Lucy when they witnessed their beloved friend's demise. To a greater intensity, the same response of gratitude and awe gripped the heart of the Blessed Mother as she stood on Calvary's Hill that day. The same admiration is given to those religious who are brave enough to willingly make a sacrifice of their lives for the sake of love, in imitation of Jesus, who has become their love's choice. It is not the exclusive choice of a few, but the royal path for all who wish to be a follower of Jesus: voluntary renunciation of self is not its obliteration, but a discovery of and transcendence of a self-recreated in the image and likeness of God Himself. It cannot be done all at once, nor is it a one-time deal: it is a daily decision, motivated by love as a response to Love's invitations.

St. Francis knew a secret: whatever he laid down willingly, the Father would honor and bless abundantly. During this Easter season, let's set our hearts to discover that secret as well!

*Br. John-Marmion Villa*

**PRAYER**

**Take, Lord, receive all my liberty, my memory, understanding, my whole will, all that I have and possess. You gave it all to me, Lord; I give it all back to You. Give me only your love and your grace; with these, I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more.**

**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 April 18, 2021:** \$3344.00 (61%)

**Monthly Collection:** \$261.00, **Utilities:** \$467.00, **Debt**

**Reduction:** \$40.00, **Holy Thursday:** \$30.00, **Good**

**Friday:** \$45.00, **Catholic Home Missions:** \$25.00,

**Children's Collection:** \$2.00, **Votive:** \$63.00, **Mail:** \$642.00.

**Online Giving: 04/12/21—04/18/21: Church Offering:** \$847.00, **Utilities:** \$25.00.

**The Second Collection This Week-April 25th, is for The Catholic Home Missions Appeal.**

**The Second Collection Next Week—May 2nd, is for Debt Reduction.**

**There is also an Envelope for May 2nd, for Mother's Day Intentions.**

**We welcome new members to our Parish Family, St. John de LaSalle,** who last week received the Sacrament of Baptism, **Adria Lillian Marinucci** and Baptism and First Holy Communion: **Grace Joelle Marra**. Congratulations to the Parents and Godparents!!!

God told us, **"Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day!"** For two millennia, we Catholics have believed that we best keep Holy the Lord's Day by Sunday Mass! Yes, for the last year, we have prudently been able to decide that the emergency health crisis can allow us to excuse ourselves from that God-given obligation. Our elderly, or people with compromising conditions that weaken them can still excuse themselves, as has always been the case. But for the majority of us—are we going to restaurants? To the kids' soccer and little league games? To the store? To the beauty parlor? To gatherings with family and friends? Well, then, it's time to get back to Mass.

We recognize Jesus at Mass and Holy Communion. We enter again the eternal, infinite mystery of His death on the cross and resurrection from the dead. Every Sunday Mass is a renewal of the Last Supper, Good Friday, and Easter. **It's time to get back to Sunday Mass!**

Wear masks, yes! Get tested, you bet! Wash hands, please! Get vaccinated as soon as you can, sure! Keep social distancing, of course! Don't go if you're sick, elderly or your health is shaky, obviously! Don't shake hands! Be grateful good folks carefully sanitize the Church after each Mass. **But, for God's sake, get back to Sunday Mass!** We need medicine! We need food for the soul! We need vaccination from sin, Satan and eternal death! We need herd immunity as sheep under Christ our Good Shepherd. All this we behold at Mass! How can we stay away?

***Easter Blessings!***

***"I am the good shepherd, says the Lord. I know my sheep, and mine know me." -Jn 10:14***

***World Day of Prayer for Vocations***

World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on Sunday, April 25, 2021 also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2) Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

**Please Mark Your Calendars For Sunday, May 2nd, 3:00 PM! Bishop Michael Fisher will be Confirming Students From St. John de LaSalle, St. Raphael and St. Vincent de Paul Parishes. Please invite your family and friends, we have a big parish even with social distancing.**

**The Following Students Will Be Confirmed !!**

**Savannah Biro**

**Olivia Brachmann**

**Gunnar Krupa**

**Samuel May**

**Josephine Swift**

**Carson Zacher**

**Please Keep Our Confirmandi In Your Prayers!**

***Catholic Charities Update:***

To date we have raised \$34,172.42 from 1454 donors. That's 90% of our \$38,178 goal. We need to raise an additional \$4,006 to achieve our goal. Thank you to all who have donated and if you haven't donated yet, any amount you can give will help. Thank You and May God Bless You!

These are challenging, uncertain times. But one thing remains a constant: **Just as we have for nearly 98 years, Catholic Charities is here and ready to help—now.** If you have an emergency need for food or toiletries, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment and more, Catholic Charities is ready to answer your call. **Our Helpline can be reached at 716-218-1419.** The Helpline is staffed weekdays from 8:45 am to 4:45 pm and you can leave a message at any time. Check out all of our services at [www.ccnny.org/services](http://www.ccnny.org/services). **Appeal 2021** is online through June 30. To make a secure online donation, visit [www.ccnny.org.donation](http://www.ccnny.org.donation). **HOPE for all seasons.**

Next week we begin the **Month of May** which traditionally we dedicate to our **Blessed Mother Mary, the Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ!** Please join us on **Sunday, May 2nd, at the 11:15 am Mass for the Crowning of Blessed Mother Mary.** Please bring your children to this special occasion.

Also, during the **Month of May** we will have **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with the Holy Rosary** every evening, Monday thru Friday, at 7:00 pm. Please join us as we pray to our **Blessed Mother Mary** for peace in our Nation and World!

***Rosary Altar News!!***

**The Rosary Altar will once again be holding a monthly lottery for the month of JULY 2021!! Tickets will be available before and after all weekend Masses, and also in the Parish Office, Monday—Friday, 8:00—4:00.**

**Tickets are \$10.00, based on the NY Lottery Evening Draw Numbers. \$2,500.00 Given Away!**

**Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.—\$50.00**

**Wednesday Hump Day—\$75.00**

**Saturday & Sunday—\$100.00**

**4th Of July—\$500.00**

**Thank You For Your Continued Support Of Our Parish!**

***Catholic Home Missions Appeal 2021***

Your support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal strengthens the Church at Home. Over 40% of dioceses United States and its territories are considered mission territories, because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Prayerfully consider supporting this collection this weekend! More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

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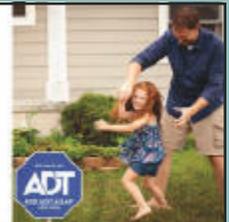
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