



Saint John of the Cross

140 Richmond Rd., Euclid, Ohio 44143
July 4, 2021

Roman Catholic Parish
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time



MASS, PICNIC BUFFET, AND CAPTAINS GAME

Join us on Sunday, July 25, 2021, for Mass at the Captains' Stadium at

11:00 AM! An "all-you-can-eat" buffet will follow for 1.5 hours starting at 12:30 PM. The Captains' game will begin at 1:30 PM.

The tickets for the buffet and the game are as follows:

- ADULTS:.....\$ 20
- CHILDREN 4-12.....\$ 17
- CHILDREN 3 AND UNDER = FREE

To purchase your tickets and to receive more information regarding our eventful day with God and the Captains, please call Karen at our office at 216-289-0770. All tickets must be prepaid at the time of your reservation. The last day we can accept any reservations and money is Monday, July 19, at 12 noon.

All tickets will be held at Will-Call at the Captains' Stadium on the day of the game.

One more thing: to obtain parking tickets in advance, please call the Captains Box Office at 440-975-8085, directly.



As always, the Music Ministry gladly offers a free Concert of Hope the evening of the second Wednesday of each month. Come and join us for an hour (or so) of music, prayer, reflection, meditation, and thanksgiving!

Spread the word and invite your neighbors: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. We will be at the Shrine, weather permitting.

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust' with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Dear Parishioners,

Happy 4th of July! May God continue to bless our great nation. Even amidst the many struggles we have in our country, I still believe we are blessed beyond measure by living in this great country. Every time I see our flag, I get chills as I think just how blessed we are and the great responsibility we have in helping to make our world a better place.

There has been some media coverage recently on a document the U.S. Bishops have begun to write and will consider publishing for us soon. This past week *Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops* issued this statement:



“Last week, my brother bishops and I voted overwhelmingly to issue a teaching document on the beauty and power of the Eucharist... The Eucharist is the heart of the Church and the heart of our lives as Catholics. In the Holy Eucharist, Jesus Christ himself draws near to each one of us personally and gathers us together as one family of God and one Body of Christ. As bishops, our desire is to deepen our people’s awareness of this great mystery of faith, and to awaken their amazement at this divine gift, in which we have communion with the living God. That is our pastoral purpose in writing this document.”

The media is focusing particularly on one aspect of this document and that is the question, “should Catholic politicians who support grave moral evils through legislation, advocacy, etc. present themselves for reception of Holy Communion.” While this is not a new question, I am sure it is being prompted by the fact that President Biden is Catholic and by all appearances a Catholic who attends Mass regularly. In some ways this is not a new question. The church has always taught that someone in the state of mortal sin should choose not to receive Holy Communion until they have gone to Confession and resolved to end their sinful behavior. My point in bringing this up is that I caution us not to fall into the trap of believing everything the media says. I encourage you to know this:

First and foremost, this document is about the Eucharist itself and the true treasure it is for each of us and THE direct and intimate connection to God. It is the source and summit of all we do! We have a significant issue in that Mass attendance is very low and over 50% of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This is major crisis of faith that must be addressed. The bishops will not teach us anything new in this document but instead (hopefully) articulate in a new way the sacred truths of the Eucharist and how we can come to know and appreciate even more the presence of Christ in our lives and the Eucharist.

Second, we need to examine the reality of us all living lives worthy of receiving Christ in the Eucharist. We need to grow in personal responsibility for our sins and failings. As our world becomes even more connected and our decisions have impacts beyond just our own lives, we must recognize just what is our moral and ethical responsibility to God and to one another. For example, the President is the public figure and leader of the United States. We must reflect and study, with the help of theologians, scholars and spiritual leaders how directly linked he is to a grave evil and help challenge him to do more than to say “he is personally against abortion” but instead work for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death. I truly believe as the leader of our country he can and does have the moral obligation to first and foremost serve God and then the country. To serve God is to recognize that God is the author and creator of all human life, and no one has the right to take it at any stage. My hope is that perhaps the bishops will call for all to have respect and advocate for the protection of all human life in all its stages and/or in calling out abortion it will have the domino effect on calling out other grave evils against life such as Euthanasia, Racism, Death Penalty, Assisted Suicide, poverty, etc. The reality is that abortion is one of the gravest evils that a person can commit; but right up there is anyone who takes another human life, assist someone to take another human life at any age or stage in life and or to devalue human life in anyway. My hope, prayer and personal advocacy will be that this be a time of great renewal in our country and in our church that seeks to unify all humanity, its mandate to protect all human life and for those of us who are Catholic to know and love the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and choose to accept the graces and obligations that reception of Holy Communion requires us in the way we love our God and one another.

I invite everyone in the Church to pray for the bishops as they continue their dialogues and reflections. I pray that this will be a time for all of us in the Church to reflect on our own faith and readiness to receive our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

Have an awesome holiday and God Bless you and God Bless America.

Peace,

Fr. John



Please come and join us for a night of fun at Wickliffe Lanes! If you are between the ages of 18 and 35 (included) and are looking for some entertainment and laughter, this evening is for you! Never bowled before? No problem, here is your chance to learn. Are you a super professional bowler? Then you will find the right competition! Guess what? There is no cost involved for the games and shoes - Compliments of St. John of the Cross Young Adult Ministry!

We are extending our reservation deadline to Friday evening of July 9, 2021. Please RSVP by sending an email to fbinda@sjceucld.com or by calling 216-289-0770 ext. 104.



Save the date! SJOC Young Adult Ministry is organizing a movie night in the Community Center. The event is open to ALL! We are showing the movie FATIMA, directed by Marco Pontecorvo and was released in the US on August 28, 2020.

RSVP is not mandatory, but highly appreciated! To do so, please send an email to fbinda@sjceucld.com or call 216-289-0770 ext. 104. Thank you!

LUKE BROWN'S REFLECTION

This week's Gospel has always reminded me of the difficulty of changing one's identity in the eyes of another. It is easy to think we know another person and to make judgments from this past knowledge. A kid was the class clown but now is inspired to take school seriously. An adult used to have a problem with alcohol but now strives to be better. Do we give these people a chance to change themselves in our heart and mind, or do we always look at them as the person they once were? People are capable of great change and are always more complicated than we can imagine. In the Gospel today, Jesus is being looked at in a negative way because of his career, status, and background. Those who hear Him make a judgement based on what they have previously come to know about Him and dismiss Him immediately. Some even take offense that such a lowly person would have the nerve to offer them wisdom. It is important to reflect on today's Gospel and remember to always give people the benefit of the doubt. If someone is making positive changes, these are good things to celebrate and encourage. We should also change our perception of them to the best of our ability. When people try to change, it is incredibly discouraging to be looked at by others with the attitude of, "once a failure, always a failure." We must raise these people up with encouragement and acceptance. If we fail to do this, we will be like the people in Christ's native place, miss the beautiful thing happening in front of us, and fail to see Christ present before our very eyes.

Luke Brown, LPC

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WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH AMILY

If you would like to be a member of our Parish, please complete this form and drop it in the collection basket or send it to the Parish office and someone from the Parish will contact you.

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

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ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass Schedule

Mondays & Wednesdays: 8:30 am
Tuesdays & Thursdays:.....6:30 pm

Fridays:- Morning Prayer 8:30 am with Eucharistic
Adoration 8:45 am to 2:00 pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturdays: 4:00 pm
Sundays:.....7:45 am & 10:15 am

Confessions

Saturdays:.....3:00 - 3:30 pm

MASS Intentions

Monday, July 5

8:30 AM (JB/TS) † Thomas Wetzel

Tuesday, July 6

6:30 PM (JB) † Evelyn Adamczak

Wednesday, July 7

8:30 AM (JL) † Judy & Richard Bischof

Thursday, July 8

6:30 (JL/TS) † Marcey Kaluza

Friday, July 9

No Mass (8:30am Morning Prayer; 8:45am-2pm Adoration)

Saturday, July 10

4 PM (JB/TS-P) † William Walsh

Sunday, July 11

7:45 AM (JB/TS-P) † John & Helen Yakubic
10:15 AM (JB/TS-P) † Annie Kaluza

Our Financial Stewardship

Last Week's Giving.....\$3,182.50
Week's Maintenance Giving.....\$ 585.00
Faith Direct*-1st Half Giving.....\$
Faith Direct*-First Half Maintenance.....\$

***Online Faith Direct Collections will be posted twice a month for both Giving and Maintenance.**

Thanks for your generous support toward our mission to serve God!

Parish Staff-

Rev. John D. Betters, Pastor
frjohn@sjceucld.com, Ext. 103

Rev. Gerald Bednar, Priest in Residence

Rev. John Loya, Priest in Residence
jloya@dioceseofcleveland.org

Deacon Tom Shetina, Deacon
deacontom@sjceucld.com, Ext. 112

Dr. Francesco Binda, Director of Music
fbinda@sjceucld.com, Ext. 104

Terri Burrello, Sacristan

Karen Duke, Office Manager
kduke@sjceucld.com, Ext. 100

Tom Hagen, Maintenance Director

Gene Fiorelli, Maintenance

Parish Office Phone Number: 216-289-0770

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8 am to 4 pm
Closed Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

SJC Prayer Hotline: 216-289-0770, Ext. 120

Call and leave a short message with your request. We can also offer prayers of thanksgiving. All information will be kept confidential.

COVID 19 MASK UPDATE

As we emerge from the COVID 19 Pandemic, SJC no longer requires masks/facial coverings on its campus. However, we ask that you follow the guidance of your healthcare provider, local health department, and CDC to determine if it is advisable that you do still wear a mask or facial covering. SJC does not require employees and volunteers to receive the COVID 19 vaccination, nor do we track who has received it. We ask staff and volunteers to follow local health orders and the advice of their healthcare provider.

***Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish
and Their Caregivers***

Evelyn Adamczak, John Ballard, Noella Burrows, Constance Durrh, Frank Hiti, John Hocevar, Andrew Jarm, Anna Jalovec, Nick Kaluza, Ronald Maxey, Sheila Moore-Baka, Vera Baka, Katie Musarra, Linda Palko, Bill Perko, Joan Raddell, Pat Rossoll, Mary Rot, Jerry Scarniench, Judy Schmidt, Rose Simek, Colette Suhy, John Tarmann, Abbie Vernon

***Please notify us when a name can be taken off
this list.***

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