



Saint John of the Cross

140 Richmond Rd., Euclid, Ohio 44143
August 22, 2021

Roman Catholic Parish
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. It is also the *Feast of the Queenship of Mary*. We do not celebrate the feast per se since it is Sunday. However, it is good to remember and honor our Blessed Mother for the role of “Queen of Heaven.” She sits in heaven right next to her Son and watches over us guides and intercedes on our behalf. She always has our backs. May we never cease honoring her all the days of our lives.

I am overwhelmed by the immense generosity of so many people in our parish. I put out a request and you all stepped up better than I can imagine. We have more than 22 *Angels* who are helping to fund our new sound system. We have raised just over \$26,000 for our sound system and will not have to take any money from our general savings to complete the system. This money, along with Heart of Shepherd Capital Campaign monies and monies left from the Fr. Bober estate (designated capital), will cover our new system and keep us in sound financial shape. We have closed our books for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2021, and submitted our annual report to the Finance Office of the Diocese. Once they review and approve, I will share it with you. You will see we finished just over \$37,000 in the black. This puts us in good shape and makes up for the losses we experienced the previous year. Considering all the economic challenges of the pandemic, SJC has come forth in a good position. What is even more amazing is that we continue to be able to do great outreach to the community and to those who are in need, helping with meals, grocery store gift cards and direct financial assistance. We are so blessed as each person in our parish is so generous in the ways they can be and give of their time, talent, and treasure.

As I mentioned the sound system was the last piece of several improvements we wanted to make to make sure that our Worship Space was accessible and that the audio visual encourage *full, active, and conscious participation* in Mass, the most important thing we do at SJC. As we finish up these projects, we now turn our focus to the Spiritual side of things. We have a few programs and ministries planned that will help reinvigorate our spiritual lives as well as call more people to join us. We are going back to the basics and will start with encouraging and nurturing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ! Watch the bulletin in the coming weeks for more information.

This week the students of Ss. Robert & William Catholic School and Guardian Angels Early Learning Center begin to return. We have just over 405 students enrolled K – 8 and just over 73 students enrolled in our Infants to Pre-K programs. Under the leadership of Martha Dodd and Molly Lorek, these ministries are going to focus on in-person learning and working to re-engage students away from their electronic devices. Computers, phones, I Pads, Chromebooks, etc. all have their place and are not going anywhere but the past year has overwhelmed the students and they need to focus on reconnecting with human beings. Of course, we will continue to help our youngest disciples grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Please keep them students and teachers in your prayers. While I had hoped we would be returning with no worries, there is still a lot of fear and anxiety, but we turn that over to Jesus Christ and we know He will protect us all.

Don't forget this Tuesday, August 24 at 7 pm in the Shrine area (Church Gathering Space if inclement weather) is the final “Chat with FJB.” It is a time for you and other parishioners to come and chat with me about anything and everything! We can talk about parish happenings, diocese happenings, universal church happenings, current events, my favorite color, whatever is on your mind! Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy an hour or so with me.

Make it a great week. See you in Church!

Peace,

Fr. John

FJB
BLOG





Shouting Out Praise from the Rooftops: An update from Nicaragua, August 2021

Padre Roger isn't *literally* "shouting out praise from the rooftops," but he probably would if he had a tall enough ladder!



"Hello, many blessings and grateful to your communities for such great support," he writes from El Viejo-Chinandega, Nicaragua.

As we told you before, the people of St. John of the Cross and St. Mary-Chardon contributed over \$6,300 through Lenten almsgiving programs to help replace the roof of Parroquia Divino Niño Jesus (The Divine Child Jesus).

We're happy to report that the project has been completed! Thanks to your generosity, Padre Roger and his parishioners no longer must endure a leaky roof that had sustained hurricane-force winds and been repaired repeatedly with a patchwork of corrugated metal sheets.

The new aluminum roof is expected to withstand the elements for many years. The long-awaited project was delayed by rain and faced the challenge of rising costs for materials, but the contractors worked for a reduced rate because they wanted to help the church.

"The situation in Nicaragua is very tough, there is no work, at least the workers can earn something to eat," Padre Roger adds.

Once again, *muchas gracias* for your support of our ministry and our friends in Christ in Nicaragua.



—Dale and Marie George, Hands United in Hope and Love ministry

Role of Catholics in Society

Question: We live in a country that upholds the separation of Church and state. What is the role of Catholics in society?

Answer:

The role of the Church in the world has taken different forms over time, but the theme is the same. Be disciples in it! As the lay faithful — that is, not vowed priest or religious — we are called to live and love in the circumstances of our daily lives. St. John Paul II wrote a document about the laity. In it he wrote, "In their situation in the world God manifests His plan and communicates to them their particular vocation of seeking the Kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God" (On the Lay Members of Christ's Faithful, 15).

God wants us in the hospitals, the board rooms, the law offices, the food pantries, and the little league games! We are to engage in the affairs of the world. But when we're there, we should live the plan of God. We need to respect those around us, engage in just business and legal practices, and love our children. We should care for the earth, use our money wisely, and get to know our neighbors. We must advocate for social policies that respect human dignity and human freedom. No matter our state in life, we are invited to build the kingdom of God!

Join us for a Men's Retreat...

From time to time, many men think about making a retreat. Maybe this October is your time to do it! **The Men of Praise Prayer Group** is honored to invite you, to spend some time together, to share our faith, and grow in Christ. The group has been conducting retreats for over 30 years and have experienced the Lord's blessing every time.

The year's theme is **Keep Your Eyes on the Prize!** See Phil 3:14

When: October 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Friday evening until Sunday Noon.

Where: Hiram House – Retreat Center in Chagrin Falls

There will be talks and discussion on the theme. A time for praise and worship, prayer, and fellowship with like-minded men. The surroundings offer a beautiful setting to get away, reflect, rest and energize. Meals will be abundant. At night, you should find accommodations more than adequate and quite pleasant.

All men, 18 and over, are invited. The cost of \$130 for the entire weekend is an excellent value. Contact Frank Mokris at 216.233.3563 for more information.

We look forward to seeing you there. It won't be the same without you!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Join us on Friday mornings at 8:30 am for Eucharistic Adoration and Morning Prayer in the Sacred Heart Chapel.



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH PRAYER

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.



Liturgical Tribute Fund

All money that is donated to this fund in memory of a loved one or friend, or a special occasion will be used to purchase items utilized in our worship and help us to do all that we can to assure that we have what we need to worship reverently and well.

Sincere thank you for your donations to our Liturgical Tribute Fund...

In Memory of

Marilyn Wagner Vincent & Patricia Gregorich

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT LUKE BROWN, LPCC
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LUKE BROWN'S REFLECTION

In my work as a counselor, people often come to meet me with the goal of being happy. Happiness is an interesting concept, especially given our fallen nature. I have not found a Scripture yet that promises permanent happiness to us on this side of Heaven. Sometimes we think that if we find the perfect job, significant other, or prayer practice that we will find lasting happiness. If you have that outlook, you will likely only discover disappointment at the end of your searching when you realize that what you thought would completely fulfill you fails to do so. To pursue this perfect happiness devoid of suffering is to worship a false god. The sooner we accept the reality that we will never find perfect happiness on this side of Heaven, the sooner we will start being more present to those around us and more vigilant in prayer instead of chasing the next thing that will inevitably leave us unfulfilled. Instead of happiness, I tend to think that our goals should be holiness, peace, and wisdom. These pursuits are what really seem to ease our suffering and provide us with the strength that carries us through difficult times. Sin and suffering are inevitable in this life and any attempt to escape them entirely results in crushed expectations, denial, and despair. This week, consider asking yourself what possessions, prestige, or person you may be pursuing under the impression that, once obtained, will grant you perfect happiness.



Luke Brown, LPCC

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, August 23

8:30 AM (JB/TS) † Colette Suhy

Tuesday, August 24

6:30 PM (JB) † Chris Golonka

Wednesday, August 25

8:30 AM (JL) † Jeanne Shea Murray

Thursday, August 26

6:30 (JL/TS) † Colette Suhy

Friday, August 27

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

Saturday, August 28

4 PM (JL/TS-P) † Jeanne Shea Murray

Sunday, August 29

7:45 AM (JB/TS-P) † John Raycher & Family

10:15 AM (JB/TS-P) † Adolph Rot

Our Financial Stewardship

**Financial Information Unavailable
Will be Posted Next Week**

Last Week's Giving.....\$
Last Week's Maintenance.....\$
Faith Direct*-Last half July Giving.....\$3,215.00
Faith Direct*-Last half July Maintenance.....\$ 681.00

***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
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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.

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, Linda Palko, Bill Perko, Joan Raddell, Pat Rossoll, Mary Rot, Jerry Scarniench, Judy Schmidt, Rose Simek, John Tarmann, Abbie Vernon

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

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS FAMILY

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.

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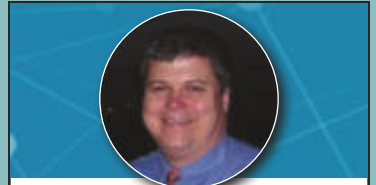
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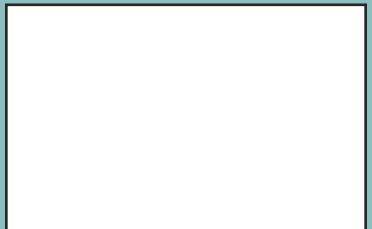
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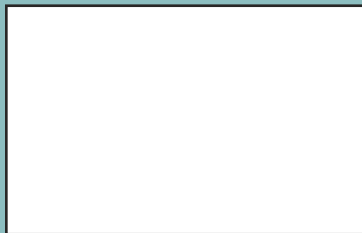
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