



# Saint John of the Cross

140 Richmond Rd., Euclid, Ohio 44143  
October 10, 2021

Roman Catholic Parish  
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners,

In the Spring of 2021, the parishioners of St. John of the Cross had the opportunity to take a survey called "The Disciple Making Index." Part of the goals in taking the survey was that the parish staff would gain insight of parishioner involvement, their faith journey, and satisfaction with the parish. The information obtained will assist with future pastoral planning and goal setting for the parish. We are grateful for those who took the time to respond to the questionnaire. Of the possible 412 parishioner families, one hundred nine (109) took the survey. (26% of parishioners). I asked Deacon Tom (who coordinated the survey) to prepare a highlight of the various findings. He has turned over the following information below. While I remained concerned that we did this survey in the midst of the "height" of COVID and many people were still not coming to Mass, participating, etc.; I do think it offers us some great affirmations and some great challenges. Over the coming months we as a parish can develop ways to respond by continuing to support strengths and think of ways to address the challenges.

#### Questions asking about the Catholic identity:

40 % stated they are growing as a disciple

28% stated that relationship with Christ is the most important relationship in life

25% stated they practice the faith, however, do not know Jesus as friend

#### Questions concerning the Sunday Experience:

89% strongly agree/agree that the community is welcoming

87% strongly agree/agree that the Mass offers opportunity for spiritual growth

75% strongly agree/agree that music deepens participation

87% strongly agree/agree that preaching offers opportunity for spiritual growth

#### When asked if they would recommend the parish to others:

59% strongly agreed

35% agreed

3% disagreed

#### Lowest percentage of strongly agreed questions:

Only 7% stated that the parish is teaching how to share personal witness story

Only 10% stated that the parish is teaching how to share the story of Jesus

Only 13% stated that the parish is helping to grow confidence in Church's teachings so that questions can be responded to

#### Other questions of possible interest:

42% responded that they are growing in their faith but would like to grow more

80% strongly agree/agree that the parish is transparent in providing financial information

76% strongly agree/agree that they would recommend the pastor to a friend

80% strongly agree/agree that they would recommend the parish staff to a friend

83% strongly agree/agree that the parish offers opportunities to serve those in need

49% strongly agree/agree that they are able to be involved in decision making in the parish

93% strongly agree/agree that information about the parish is readily available

83% never seek pastoral counseling or spiritual direction

Make it great week! See you in Church.

Peace,

Fr. John



## 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.

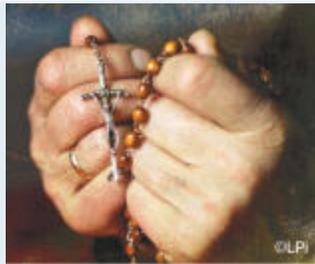
## Rosary Coast to Coast, October 10

Here's where and when the  
"Remnant Armies" will join  
forces ...

**Rosary Coast to  
Coast takes place on  
Sunday, October 10 at 3pm CST.**

Rosary rallies are encouraged to be in public places and  
pray the Rosary simultaneously across the country. Try to  
grow your group, **but even two people constitutes a  
"group."** Those who cannot gather in public are  
**encouraged to join in from wherever they are.**

Go to [rosarycoasttolcoast.com](http://rosarycoasttolcoast.com) for more information.



**Come pray the Rosary and join with others for a  
great Rosary Rally,**

**Saturday, October 16th at 1:00 PM at  
St. John of the Cross sidewalk.**

(If inclement weather, we will meet in the church).

Dear parishioners, friends, and visitors of Saint John of the Cross,

It is my great pleasure to inform you that the new sound system is effectively installed and fully functional! It was a most needed necessity and now all of us can enjoy all its advantages. Every



part that constitutes the new system is the most updated and it was carefully studied and designed for our beautiful church. Thanks to Showtime Sound Company, the company who made the project and installed the sound system, we can now utilize a remarkably modern and fully efficient equipment to enhance all of our services!

A few special thanks are need. Thanks to Fr. Betters who embraced the situation several weeks ago and wrote a letter to the parishioners explaining in detail what our church needed. Thanks to those of you who were able and willing to donate the money necessary to cover the expenses for the project and to have done it so quickly to allow the project to be completed in a timely manner. And thanks to the workers of Showtime Sound Company who spent an incredible amount of time to ensure the best functionality of the new sound system. They were here at the church for far longer than they planned, but they did it with professionalism and with enthusiasm to allow us to have the best product.

Now that we can benefit from a new sound system, let us review our duties as followers of Jesus Christ. The document *Musicam Sacram* from the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council of March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1967 says this in part of its article 5: "Liturgical worship is given a more noble form when it is celebrated in song, with the ministers of each degree fulfilling their ministry and the people participating in it. Indeed, through this form, prayer is expressed in a more attractive way, the mystery of the liturgy, with its hierarchical and community nature, is more openly shown, the unity of hearts is more profoundly achieved by the union of voices, minds are more easily raised to heavenly things by the beauty of the sacred rites, and the whole celebration more clearly prefigures that heavenly liturgy which is enacted in the holy city of Jerusalem."

So, let us rejoice together and let us pray to the Lord with all our hearts and souls! Let us enhance our services by fully participating with responses and singing. After all, Psalm 100:1-2 recites: "A psalm of thanksgiving. Shout joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful song."

God bless all of you, your families, your friends!

Francesco Binda, D.M.

Director of Music at Saint John of the Cross

## Luke Brown's Reflection

In this week's Gospel, we hear the story of the rich man and how he is unwilling to give up what he is attached to in order to follow Jesus. Maybe it is just me, but it sometimes seems easy to look down at this man in the Gospel for being unable to give up his possessions. However, I am reminded of how similar I am to him when I reflect on attachments that I need to give up to be holier or to improve my mental health. Attachments that get in the way of our holiness extend beyond just possessions and can take the form of ideas, habits, and affiliations. Accepting that I needed to stop sleeping in and start praying in the morning was very difficult. I will admit that I was very attached to that extra hour or two of sleep every day. I was also admittedly angry and annoyed when I felt God calling me to this sacrifice. However, it has brought me closer to Christ and improved my mental health in the process. It is not easy to give up things that we enjoy or care for, even when they are detrimental to our spiritual life and mental health. When it comes to ideas, possessions, or habits that we are attached to, a good way to reflect on them is to determine if they are leading us closer to Christ or away from Christ. The first step is recognizing what keeps us from growing closer to Christ, but a close second step is admitting to ourselves how much we enjoy or like what is getting in the way. I pray that we will not be like the rich man and that we will wholeheartedly sacrifice what we need to sacrifice, however difficult it may be. This week, consider praying and reflecting on the attachments that might be keeping you from growing closer to Christ like the rich man in today's Gospel.

Luke Brown, LPCC

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## What about Chacraseca?

*Sacred Heart of Jesus remains at the "heart" of our ministry*

Thanks to your prayers and financial support, we are able to help several struggling parishes in the Diocese of León-Chinandega, Nicaragua, serve the needs of their people. The new roof on The Divine Child Jesus parish in El Viejo-Chinandega is the latest example of our ministry's success.

Nevertheless, a few parishioners have asked us, "What about Chacraseca?" They are referring to Sacred Heart of Jesus parish, where our spiritual partnership began. We want to assure you that our commitment to the people of Chacraseca remains as deep as ever – truly the "heart" of our ministry.

Along with St. Mary-Chardon, you have provided about \$100,000 since 2014 to create worship spaces, school facilities and rectories; provide rosaries and Spanish-language children's Bibles; supplement tuition and teacher salaries; obtain emergency medicines, food and supplies; become prayer partners and much more.

Over the years, evolving needs have continually challenged us to concentrate on areas where we can truly make a difference. In fact, Bishop Rene Socrates Sandigo Jiron encouraged us in 2019 to focus on the poorest of the poor and introduced us to Padre Roger at The Divine Child Jesus. This year's Lenten Almsgiving allowed Padre Roger to replace the roof of his church.

In Chacraseca meanwhile, turnover in parish leadership, economic struggles, political unrest and of course the pandemic have added to the challenges of the community.

However, despite the language barrier we are in regular contact via WhatsApp with Padre Adrian at Sacred Heart of Jesus. We hope to arrange a video chat to formally introduce ourselves and see how best we can assist our sister parish in the year ahead. We will keep you apprised.

As always, *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

Our Deepest Sympathies to the Families of

**Geri Lucille Toth**  
**Joseph Suponcic**



May they know the peace and comfort of God's love and find strength in the support of friends, family and our parish community.



**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, October 11**

8:30 AM (JB) People of the Parish

**Tuesday, October 12**

6:30 PM (JB) † Lisa Kaluza by Kaluza

**Wednesday, October 13**

8:30 AM (JL) † Nancy Suhy by Husband

**Thursday, October 14**

6:30 PM (JL) People of the Parish

**Friday, October 15**

8:30 AM Morning Prayer (No Mass)  
8:45 AM-2:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

**Saturday, October 16**

4:00 PM (JB) † Frank Parsons by Wife

**Sunday, October 17**

7:45 AM (JB) † Florence Gruszka by Family  
10:15 AM (JL) † John & Margaret Walsh by Family

**Our Financial Stewardship**

Last week's Giving.....\$5,337.55  
Last week's Maintenance .....\$2,283.00  
Faith Direct\*- Giving.....\$  
Faith Direct\* -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@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 103

**Rev. Gerald Bednar**, Priest in Residence

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

**Deacon Tom Shetina**, Deacon  
deacontom@sjceuclyd.com, Ext. 112

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

**Terri Burrello**, Sacristan

**Karen Duke**, Office Manager  
kduke@sjceuclyd.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 Durrah, 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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