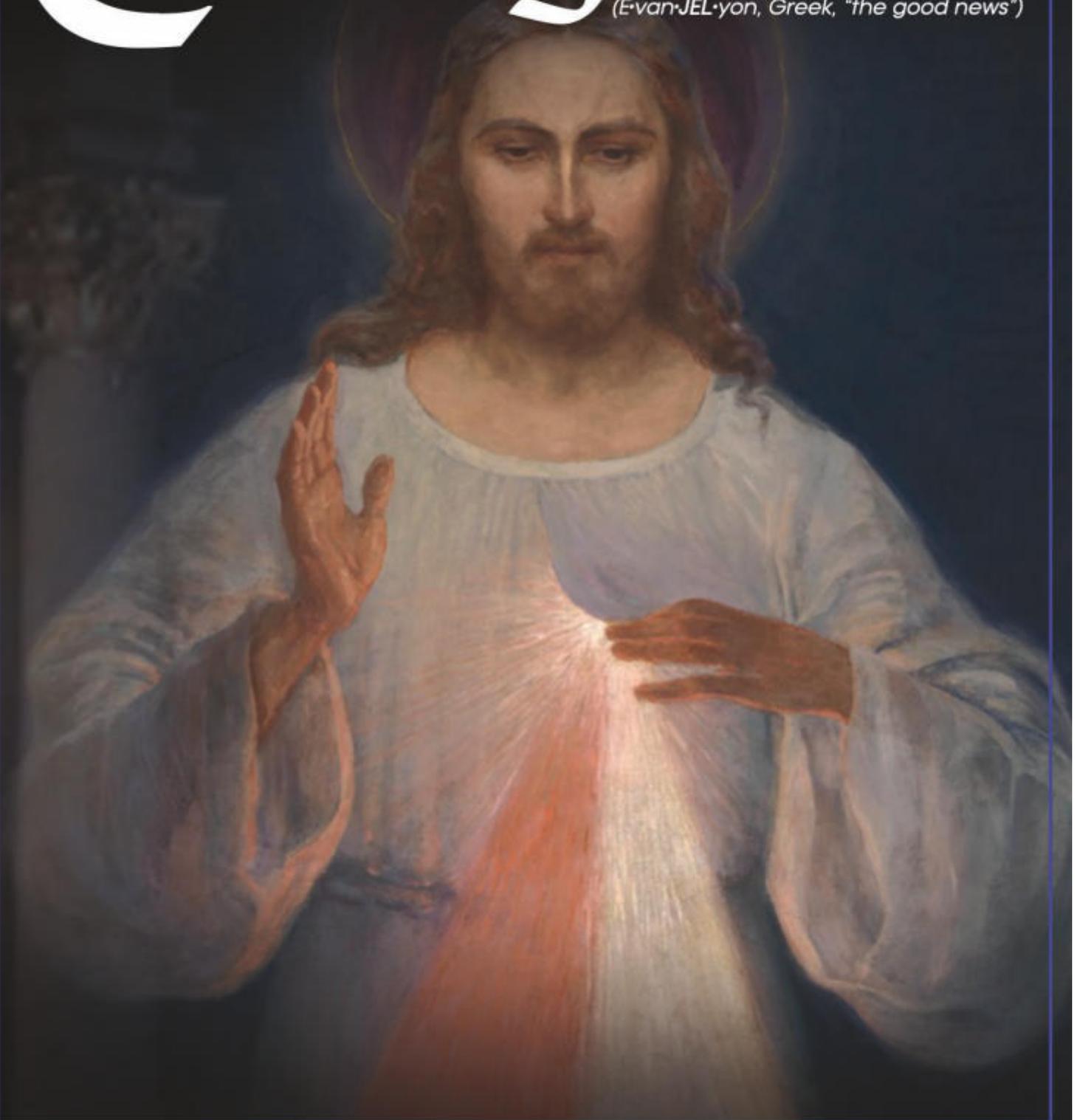


GOOD SAMARITAN | OUR LADY OF PEACE | SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST | SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

GREAT PARISH GROUPING + BEAVER VALLEY EDITION

Evangelion

(Evan-JEL-yon, Greek, "the good news")



HE is HERE! | April 11, 2021 | 2nd Sunday of Easter

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER + APRIL 11, 2021

PROCESSIONAL—“The Strife is O’er”

The strife is o’er, the battle done; now is the Victor’s triumph won; O let the song of praise be sung: Alleluia! Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

On the third morn he rose again, glorious in majesty to reign; O let us swell the joyful strain: Alleluia! (R.)

O Risen Lord, all praise to thee, who from our sin has set us free, that we may live eternally! Alleluia! (R.)

Text: 888 with alleluias; Finita iam sunt praelia; Latin, 12th cent.; tr. by Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt. Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525–1594; adapt. by William H. Monk, 1823–1889. Reprinted with permission ONE LICENSE# A-718331.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING—Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

RESPONSORIAL—Psalm 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23

Response: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad; for this is the day that the Lord has made; Alleluia, Alleluia!

Give thanks to God; the Lord is good. God’s mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say: “God’s mercy endures forever.” (R.)

The Lord’s right hand is lifted up; the hand of the Lord is mighty. I shall not die, but live to tell the marvelous works of God. (R.)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the work of the Lord; how wonderful, how wonderful in our eyes! (R.)

Text: Psalm 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23. Refrain text © 1969, 1981, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music and verses text © 1990, OCP. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission ONE LICENSE# A-718331.

SECOND READING—I John 5:1-6

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

GOSPEL—John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

RECESSIONAL—"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia! Now he reigns above as King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Text: 77 77 with alleluias; verse 1, Latin, 14th cent.; para. in Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; verses 2-3, The Compleat Psalmist, ca. 1750, alt.; verse 4, Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: Later form of melody fr. Lyra Davidica, 1708. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE# A-718331 All rights reserved.



EVOLUTIONARY

CONFESSIONS

“Speak up!” shouted the priest with whiskey on his breath to the precious second grader, Ann, in the late 1950’s. She went first because she was the smallest. Just barely getting her chin above the wood plank in a dark closet-like confessional, she shouted, “Bless me Father, I have sinned.” Then the whiskey-smelling priest exploded, “Not so loud! Sister Mildred, until your second graders are ready for Confession, I won’t be subjected to this.” And he ran out—probably to seek refuge in his addiction, served neat.

Then there was the testimony of second grader, Jack, ten years later. He went into a dark closet as well for his first Confession. But the smell on the breath of the priest was coffee and cigarettes. It was a warm feeling and he did not get shouted at, but left floating with a peaceful heart. At least that’s what I heard in Father Jack’s homily of his first Confession experience as a little boy.

Jay was a second grader in the early 1980’s. It felt like Santa Claus as we jumped up on Father’s lap so we could see outside of the Confession box. And Father was so kind and understanding. He granted me my wish of erasing my sins, and I left with the gift not made in the North Pole but in heaven: forgiveness. As Father Jay today I am so thankful for my first Confession... and I don’t remember the smell of Father’s breath. Maybe he brushed his teeth.

Think about your first Confession. Just as we have all grown up, so the experience of Reconciliation has evolved. Today I am sure our little ones are nervous, as their parents are, but in my 14 years as a priest I know I always tried my best—as have my brother priests—to be that merciful heart of Christ that brings Jesus’ smile to the little faces. I know how beautiful reconciling myself with Jesus and his church can be. I give praise that our children today can experience Confession as the gift it is meant to be, even though we cannot always guarantee fresh breath!

Our priests of our Great Grouping cherish our kids, and we try so hard to “let the children come to Jesus.” Thank you grandparents, parents and staff for letting this sacrament evolve to this generation of second graders.

Please pray for me. Pray for all priests, that despite all our faults and bad breath days, we will continue to evolve into the image of Christ to love our people with the merciful heart of Jesus. 



THE CATECHIST COLUMN

JASON GAWALDO

Director of Faith Formation

jgawaldo@greatgrouping.org

Throughout the Easter Season, the second readings will come from the First Letter of John. Scholars love to debate authorship of the whole *Johannine Corpus* (the *Gospel*, the three *Letters*, and *Revelation*), but at least the *Gospel* and the *Letters* are clearly from the same community if not the same author, likely either John the Apostle or John the Elder. *1 John* is a short, intense, and often repetitive treatise, likely written around 100 A.D., and may even have been a commentary of sorts on how to interpret the *Gospel of John*. Its main emphasis is that knowledge of God (right doctrine) and love for one another (right conduct) are inseparable.

We see this theme in the opening verse of this reading and the logical consequences drawn out from it. If we believe in Jesus, we become children of God, which happens sacramentally through Baptism. If we love the Father, we must also love his children. We cannot love God without also loving our fellow believers. We can know that we love our fellow believers, and thereby also love God, if we keep God's commandments.

Love is tied to obedience. Love is an act of the will that expresses itself by following certain rules. I love my wife. It is more than just a feeling, which can disappear during an argument. It is an act of the will, a choice, even in the midst of the argument when the feeling flees. By freely choosing to love my

wife, I also freely choose to subject myself to certain rules of marriage (fidelity, mutual support, raising kids, sharing household responsibilities, etc.). You could say that the evidence that I love my wife is that I keep the marriage commandments, and if I did not keep them, you could rightly question my love. Love makes the commandments not just rules, but acts of love, expressions of a free choice, and filled with joy despite difficulty.

The Spirit is whispering into our hearts this week, begging them to expand. If following God's commandments feels burdensome, then perhaps our hearts are too small and we love too little. If we want to love God in big and bold ways, then our love for our fellow believers should be big and bold. Our example is Jesus, who loved God and us in prayerful and sacramental ways, "by water," but also in big, bold, and bloody ways. His blood flowed from his big heart. How is the Spirit calling you to expand your heart this week? 

Our Merciful Savior has given us the following channels for the outpouring of His Divine Mercy as a gift for the whole world...

[from thedivinemercy.org]

THE IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

In 1931, our Lord appeared to St. Faustina clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was near His Heart and two large rays came from it, one red and the other pale. Jesus said to her: Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You. I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and [then] throughout the world (*Diary*, 47).

Please make sure to visit our parish Grotto Chapel to see and venerate this image and spend some time with the Lord in Adoration.

THE CHAPLET & NOVENA OF DIVINE MERCY

Jesus told Faustina: Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you (1541). Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death (687). Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything if what you ask for is compatible with My will. (1731) The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy is prayed on rosary beads and is an intercessory prayer that extends the offering of the Eucharist. It may be said at any time, but our Lord specifically told St. Faustina to recite it as a novena of prayers during the nine days before the Feast of Mercy. "By this Novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls." (796)

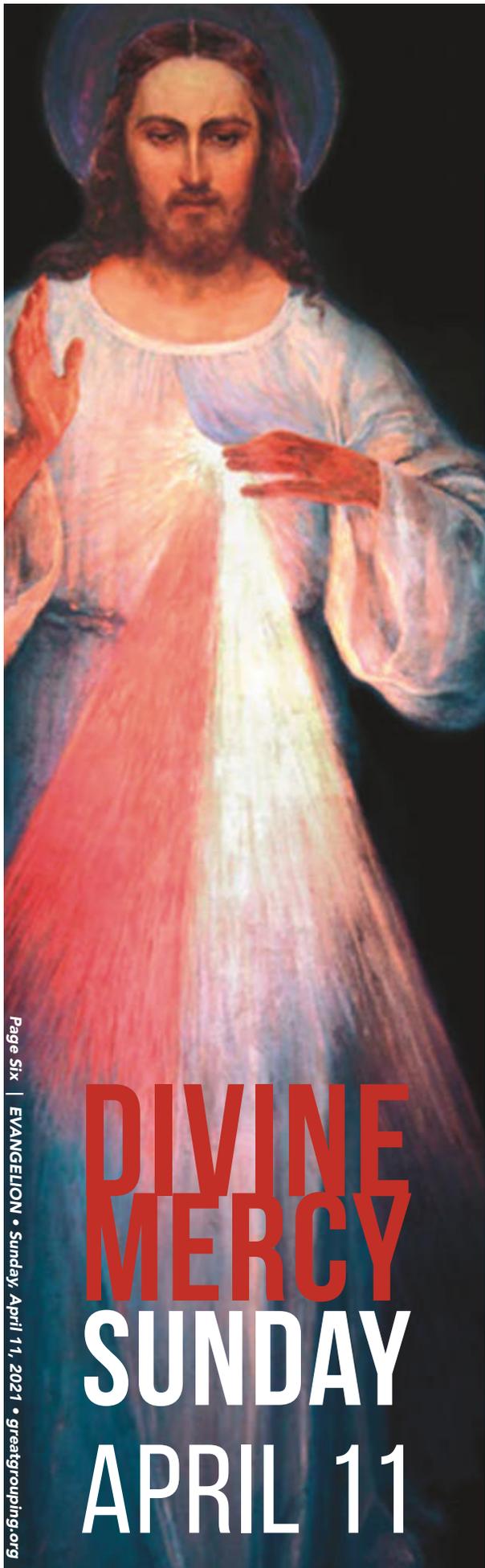
For more information on how to pray the chaplet and the intentions of the novena, visit divinemercy.org.

THE HOUR OF MERCY

Our Lord asked for a special remembrance of His Passion at the three o'clock hour, the hour that recalls His death on the cross.

At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion (1320).

**DIVINE
MERCY
SUNDAY
APRIL 11**



"LET US ALLOW OURSELVES
TO BE FILLED WITH
SAINT JOSEPH'S SILENCE!
IN A WORLD THAT IS OFTEN TOO NOISY,
THAT ENCOURAGES NEITHER RECOLLECTION
NOR LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE,
WE ARE IN SUCH DEEP NEED OF IT."
— POPE BENEDICT XVI



"If you want to be close to Christ,
I repeat to you,

**ITE AD
IOSEPH**

...Go to Joseph!"

—Venerable Pope Pius XII

the YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH • 2020 - 2021



ADORATION

Do you want to keep the strong prayer practice you developed in Lent alive? Consider adding Adoration to your weekly schedule. Spending time alone with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is the most beautiful time you can spend in prayer. Adoration is available to you every **Monday-Thursday from 8AM-8PM at Our Lady of Peace in Conway.**

SAINT ANTHONY NOVENA

Join us on Tuesdays beginning April 13 for the annual St Anthony Novena. We will pray the novena weekly on **Tuesdays at 6:30 PM at Good Samaritan.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Our Mass Intention book is open through the end of 2021. Forms can be found online at greatgrouping.org/online-forms

MARIAN PRAYER GROUP

Did you know there is a faithful group of people that gather **every Friday at 7PM at Good Samaritan** for Adoration, reciting the Rosary, and Mass. All are welcome to join in this beautiful evening devoted to our Blessed Mother Mary.

FIRST COMMUNION

Spring is the time for Sacraments for the children of the Parish. This year, First Communion will be on **Sunday, April 18 at 2:00 PM at Good Samaritan.**

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Preparation has begun for current 8th graders. Confirmation will be celebrated on **Sunday, June 27 at 1:00 PM at Good Samaritan.** To register or find out more visit greatgrouping.org/confirmation. Questions? Jason Gawaldo jgawaldo@greatgrouping.org

EXPLORING CATHOLICISM

Join Fr. Jay weekly in Exploring Catholicism! This series airs weekly on Tuesdays at 2PM and is available to view anytime on our YouTube & Facebook pages. **Tuesday, April 13** Fr. Jay will sit down with Deacon Tom Green. greatgrouping.org/exploring-catholicism

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS

The Our Lady of Peace Christian mothers general meeting will be **Tuesday, April 13 at 6:30 PM in Stephen's Hall.** The program will be "Technology Tutoring" for any member struggling to connect to the Great Grouping website or facebook page. Members are encouraged to bring along their smart phone and/or tablets to get personalized assistance. (and passwords if applicable). An email will be sent out for the ZOOM link for those preferring to attend virtually.

Good Samaritan Christian Mothers & Ladies Guild April meeting will be held in **Jericho Hall on Tuesday, April 20** following the St. Anthony Novena.

The St. John the Baptist Christian Mothers will meet for our last meeting of the season on **Monday, April 26, at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall at St. John's.** We hope that you can join us!

RESPECT LIFE

If you have a heart for life – from the unborn and their mothers, to teens and the elderly please join the Respect Life Committee as we work to build up the Culture of Life in our parish grouping and communities. Our next meeting is **Monday, April 12 at 7:00 PM at Saints John & Paul** (Zoom available.) Contact Marie Pfau, marie.pfau@zoominternet.net or Peter Elliott, pm.elliott@comcast.net for the Zoom link or if you have any questions or are interested in the ministry but unable to attend the meeting.

PARISH SHARE

We apologize for the typo made in the recent Parish Share letter that was sent to all parishioners. The amount we are asking for is \$200 from each household (more or less, depending on your individual circumstances). This amount can be paid in a one time donation or over the next 10 months. We are so grateful for all your support to our valley parishes and continue to ask for your prayers through this time of transition. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Eileen Karshin, Business Manager ekarshin@greatgrouping.org or by phone (724) 266-6565.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

MONDAY, APRIL 12 (Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8)

8:00 AM Good Samaritan • Sheila Rabovsky (Jerry & Leah Lesak)

TUESDAY, APRIL 13 (Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15)

6:30 PM Good Samaritan • Healing for Sarah Filachek (JoAnn Kosto)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14 (Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist • Elizabeth Corson (Dolores Gaudino)

THURSDAY, APRIL 15 (Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36)

8:00 AM Our Lady of Peace • Bob Gross (Sandy Buccitelli)

FRIDAY, APRIL 16 (Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist • Uncle Ed Janis (Millie Hoffman)

SATURDAY, APRIL 17 (Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21)

4:00 PM Our Lady of Peace • Bob Gross (Our Lady of Peace Apostolate Committee)

4:00 PM St. John the Baptist • 50th Wedding Anniversary of Don & Sharon Schweitzer (Family)

SUNDAY, APRIL 18 (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist (Outdoor) • For the Intention of the Celebrant

9:00 AM Good Samaritan • Lynn Berckmiller (Ronald Santarelli)

11:00 AM Good Samaritan • Arturo & Assumpta DeLuca (John & Dolores DeLuca)

2:00 PM Good Samaritan • For Our First Holy Communicants

4:00 PM Good Samaritan Spanish Mass • Nicola DiTommaso (Wife & Family)

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

BREAD & WINE

(GS) In Memory of Sister Marise Hrabosky
By Teresa Surgeon

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE

(GS) In Memory of Annette Hramika
By Nancy Salopek & Daughter, Nancy

SANCTUARY CANDLE

(GS) In Honor of Mary Hrabosky
by Teresa Surgeon

(GS) In Memory of the Deceased of Hovanec Family
By Family

OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

JoAnn Iorfido

Parishioner of Good Samaritan

Mary Miskulin

Parishioner of Good Samaritan

Dolores Mutterspaugh

Parishioner of Good Samaritan

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

For the weekend of March 28

GOOD SAMARITAN

Weekly Offering—\$4,970
Online Giving—\$1,345

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Weekly Offering—\$1,576
Online Giving—\$65

OUR LADY OF PEACE

Weekly Offertory—\$2,293
Online Giving—\$1,348

SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

Weekly Offertory—\$9,055
Online Giving—\$6,517
Parish Share—\$5,139
Parish Share Online—\$11,058

For the weekend of April 4

GOOD SAMARITAN

Weekly Offering—\$5,630
Online Giving—\$1,313
Good Friday—\$847
Easter—\$3,728

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Weekly Offering—\$1,477
Online Giving—\$65
Good Friday—\$197
Easter—\$1,290

OUR LADY OF PEACE

Weekly Offertory—\$599
Online Giving—\$1,431
Good Friday—\$257
Easter—\$6,975

SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

Weekly Offertory—\$19,567
Online Giving—\$7,052
Parish Share—\$12,256
Parish Share Online—\$3,390



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For Caregivers of older adults & Grandparents raising grandchildren

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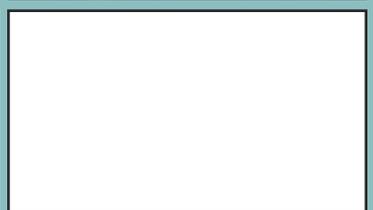

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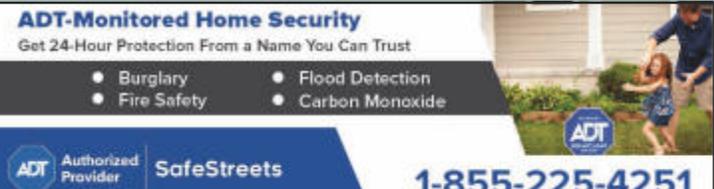
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THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, April 12

10:00 AM Move items to Good Samaritan (Q)
4:00 PM Catechesis of Good Shepherd (OLOP)
6:00 PM Catechesis of Good Shepherd (OLOP)
6:00 PM K-5 Faith Formation (OLOP)
6:00 PM Sacramental Prep (OLOP)

Tuesday, April 13

1:00 PM Catechesis of Good Shepherd (OLOP)
3:30 PM Outreach Samaritan Kitchen (GS)
5:30 PM Confessions (GS)
5:30 PM St. Vincent DePaul Meeting (GS)
6:00 PM Sacramental Prep (OLOP)
6:30 PM OLOP CCM Meeting (Stephens Hall)
6:30 PM Mass & St. Anthony Novena (GS)

Wednesday, April 14

10:00 AM Catechesis of Good Shepherd (OLOP)
6:30 PM Choir Practice (GS)

Thursday, April 15

10:00 AM Catechesis of Good Shepherd (OLOP)
7:00 PM ESL Class (GS)

Friday, April 16

10:00 AM Toddler Time with Jesus (OLOP)
7:00 PM Marian Prayer Group (GS)

Saturday, April 17

3:00 PM Confessions (OLOP)
3:00 PM Confessions (SJB)

Sunday, April 18

11:00 AM Spaghetti To Go Dinner (GS)
1:00 PM Grief Share (GS)
2:00 PM First Communion Mass (SJB)

HELP LINES

24 Hour Child Abuse Hotline
1-800-932-0313

Crisis Pregnancy Option Line
1-800-395-4357

Post-Abortion Healing/Project Rachel
(412) 456-3167

Pittsburgh Diocese Victim Assistance
1-888-808-1235

Crisis Management Services
1-888-796-8226

Father Jay Donahue, Administrator—(412) 697-5876 | seefrjay@gmail.com
Father John Batykefer, Sr. Parochial Vicar—(724) 470-6689 | frijb317@gmail.com
Father Michael Roche, Parochial Vicar—fatherroche@gmail.com
Father Joe Carr, Parish Chaplain—(412) 867-8673 | frjoecarr@me.com
Father Antoine Kairouz, Maronite Priest-in-residence
Deacon Anthony Giordano, Deacon James Olson, Deacon Tom Boucek

REGULAR MASS & CONFESSION TIMES



8:00 AM Good Samaritan
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul



7:00 AM Saints John & Paul
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
5:30 PM CONFESSION at Good Samaritan
6:30 PM Good Samaritan



8:00 AM Saint John the Baptist
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul



7:00 AM Saints John & Paul
8:00 AM Our Lady of Peace
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
6:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul



8:00 AM St. John the Baptist
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
1st Friday 7:00 PM Saints John & Paul



9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
3:00 PM CONFESSION at Our Lady of Peace
3:00 PM CONFESSION at St. John the Baptist
4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Peace
4:00 PM Vigil Mass at St. John the Baptist
4:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul
5:00 PM Vigil Mass at Saints John & Paul



7:30 AM Saints John & Paul
8:00 AM St. John the Baptist (Outdoor)
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
9:00 AM Good Samaritan
11:00 AM Saints John & Paul
11:00 AM Good Samaritan
11:00 AM Our Lady of Peace (Maronite)
4:00 PM Good Samaritan (Spanish)
7:00 PM Saints John & Paul

For Holy Day & Holiday times, please see Week Ahead

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

As Catholics, we believe that Christ becomes truly present within the Blessed Sacrament. As promised by Him, His Presence is abiding, not something that vanishes at the conclusion of Mass. During Eucharistic Adoration, we can sit silently in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces. Adoration available at Our Lady of Peace, Monday-Thursday 8AM-8PM and at Saints John & Paul, Sunday-Friday 8AM-8PM.

