



ST. JOAN OF ARC

CATHOLIC CHURCH

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 / 25 DE FEBRERO 2024

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM-4:00 PM
closed for lunch
12-1:00 PM

MASSES TIMES

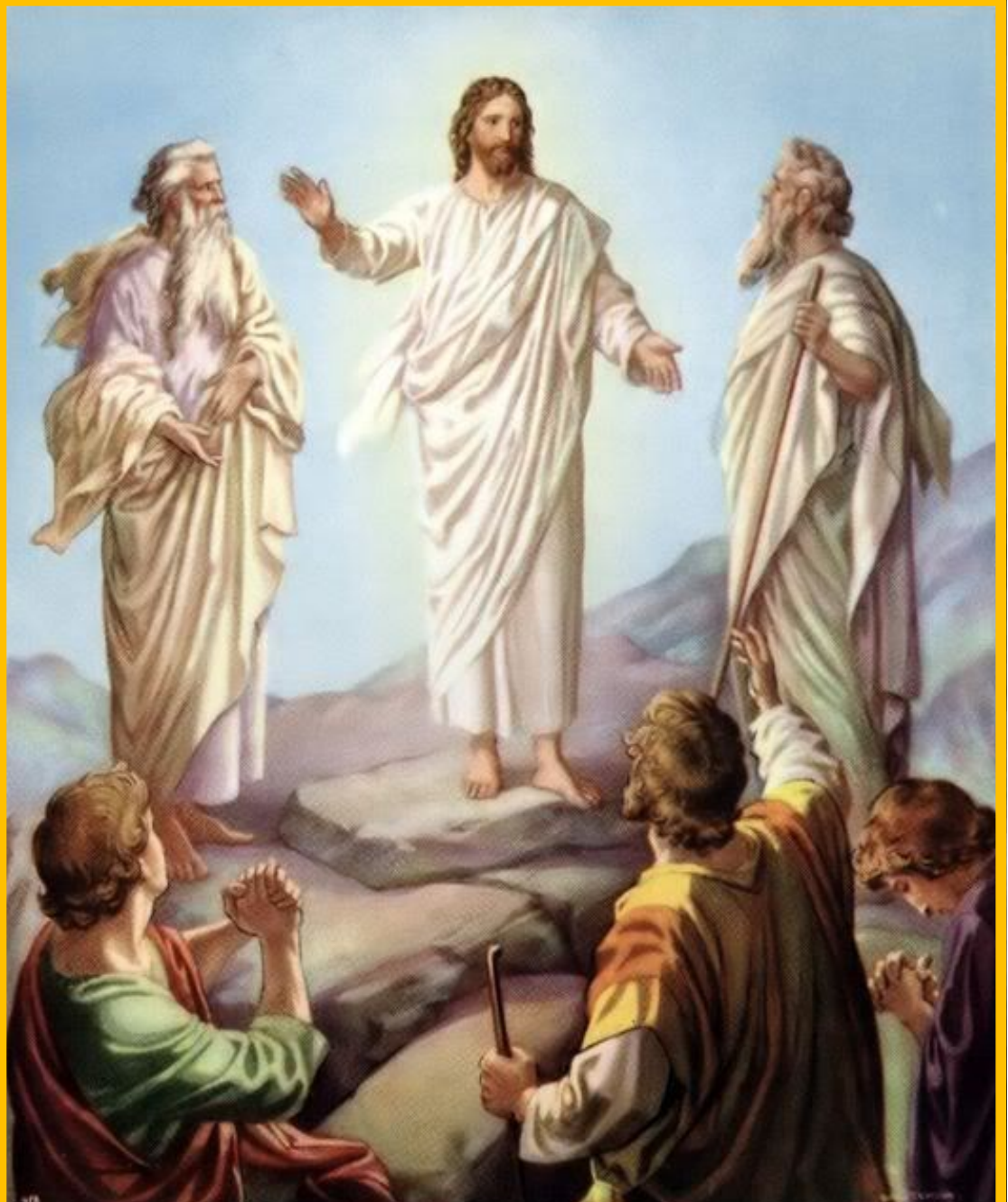
Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday Masses:
8:00 AM in English
9:30 AM in Spanish
11:00 AM in English

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM
Monday-Saturday

MISSION

The Mission of St. Joan of Arc Parish is to put Jesus first in our lives by seeking to know Him in Scripture, Encountering Him in Prayer, Celebrating His Presence among us in praise and worship and uniting with one another in loving service.



13485 Spring Hill Drive | Spring Hill, FL 34609 | (352) 688-0663 |



The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist

What – Retreat

Theme – **The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist**

When – Saturday March 2, 2024

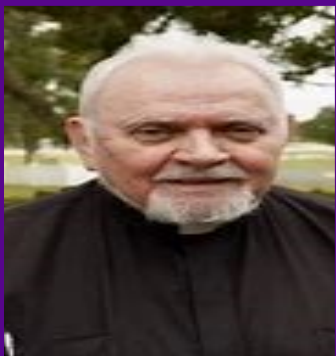
Where – St. Joan of Arc church hall

Time – 9:30 am till 3:30 pm

Speakers – Fr. Ed, Fr. Pat, Deacon Jose, and Deacon Tom

Cost- **Free**

Father Ed Reiter and the Knights of Columbus council 11317 at St. Joan of Arc, will be sponsoring a retreat on Saturday, March 2 2024 in the St. Joan of Arc church hall. The theme of the retreat will be **The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist**. Presentations will consist of “The Teachings of Jesus”, “The Teachings of the Apostles”, “The Teachings of the Early Church Fathers”, and “The Teachings of the Church today”. Videos, slide shows, and talks will be included along with question and answer sessions. All parishioners are invited and lunch will be provided at no charge. An Attendance count is needed, so to reserve a spot or spots at the retreat sign up after Masses beginning Jan. 27th through Feb. 25th or if you have any questions concerning the retreat, please call Doug Stone at 352-549-4998.



The Knights of Columbus council #11317 at St Joan of Arc is again facilitating the Craig family scholarship program for school year 2024/2025. The Knights will be presenting up to 6 scholarships this year to deserving students in Notre Dame and Bishop McLaughlin Catholic schools. Application packets will be available in the church office starting on Feb. 5th and must be returned in full to the church office no later than May 17th. Please check with your Knights for more information.

Father Pat's Reflection from the Gospel

Today's first reading from Leviticus, deals with physical leprosy. Leprosy is a skin disease known as Hansen's disease. A member of the community suffering from blotches and sores on the skin must go to the priest who will monitor each skin problem on a case by case situation. Members of the community who suffer from visible imperfection on the skin must appear before the priest Aaron or one of his priestly descendants. The priest served as a security checkpoint for the community.

The chief concern for this action is to protect the community from any disease suffered by an individual. Leprosy is very contagious and can spread very easily. This is why anyone unclean with this disease must take proper measures to warn others about their illness. Those affected with leprosy must tear their garments, bare their heads, and if they are males must muffle their beards. An infected person must announce publicly that they are unclean. They must separate themselves from the rest of the community. Many times they lived in leper colonies. There was just as much concern for those suffering from spiritual illness. Spiritual illness or spiritual leprosy was less easy to identify. This is because there were no physical marks on the body like leprosy. It was harder to protect the people from spiritual illness. Spiritual illness such as idolatry, worshipping false gods or turning your back on the teachings of God weaken the bond with God. This separation from God led to the defeat by Babylon and Assyria Empires. The reason for this is because the Jewish people did not think they needed God. As a result God was not there to help them. God would have been there if they called on Him in prayer.

In today's gospel, Jesus also dealt with Leprosy. Like today's first reading from Leviticus, the leper in today's gospel had to isolate himself from the rest of the faithful community for their protection. However, the leper in today's gospel had so much faith in Jesus that he was totally convinced that Jesus could heal him. In this passage, Jesus is moved with pity and cures the man with leprosy. Jesus then touches the leper which makes Jesus ritually impure. This law is seen in the Book of Leviticus Chapters 13-14. Jesus shows no regard for this teaching, since it was a man made law. Through Jesus' touch and words the Leper was then cured. The result is that the leper is immediately made clean and can return to the Jewish community. The leper is clean both spiritually and physically and can now practice his faith in public.

Jesus then tells the leper not to tell anyone that he is cured. The former leper is to follow the ritual law by being examined by a priest who will declare him pure. Because the cured leper is filled with joy, he could not contain himself. He immediately began to tell everyone he met that he was cured by Jesus Christ. The leper is excited because he now has new life. We can ask ourselves, why would Jesus want to keep this a secret; it is good for business and his reputation will now spread? The reason for this is because Jesus does not want to be known as just a miracle worker. Jesus is more than that; He is the Messiah, the Son of God.

This reminds me of a famous story of St. Francis of Assisi. On the road to Assisi, St. Francis met a leper. Francis threw his arm around the man and kissed him. A sudden peace came upon St. Francis because he truly loved that leper. They both smiled and Francis was set free. After a few minutes St. Francis looked around and the man disappeared. St. Francis then realized that he had met Jesus. Throughout his life, Francis served those suffering from leprosy and those who were marginalized in society.

The reading from scripture and the story of St. Francis makes us realize the isolation and physical pain people with leprosy had to endure. Both Jesus and Francis rejected the disgusting and selfish attitude of their day. They reached out to the outcast. By curing the man's leprosy, Jesus demonstrated that God's kingdom is for everyone. Through His Son Jesus, God was entering into the world to make His love prevail over evil. At the same time Jesus wanted to free the sick, the poor and the oppressed from their misery.

We can ask ourselves, who are the modern day lepers of the world today? Who are the marginalized people that society looks down on? Thirty years ago it was those who suffered from AIDS. It is also the unkept homeless person who smells bad, as well as the illegal immigrant who like us, wants a better life. It is also people of color. It is people of different religions like those who are Jewish and Muslims. It is also those who suffer the disease of substance abuse of alcohol or chemical dependence. Another example are those in prison; and the list goes on and on. Despite these we must love people who are considered lepers of society like Jesus and Francis did.

In conclusion, we bring bread and wine before the Lord at this Eucharist. By the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of the priest a transformation takes place. Bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We come before that transformed Eucharistic food and drink and say: "Lord, if you want to, you can transform me." And then Jesus says: "I want you to be transformed; eat my Flesh and drink my Blood." May the transformation Jesus works in us today enable us to transform others.



Knights of Columbus Fish Fry!!

Lenten Fish Fry during Fridays of Lent for \$12.00 per person

Drive up 4:30pm-5:00pm Dine in 5:00pm-6:30pm

Walk-in Dinner: Shrimp & French Fries

Must call for reservations no later than 5pm Wednesday.

**Dine-in: Choice of Baked Fish
Fried Fish
Fried Shrimp**

**Sides include: Mac & Cheese
Cole Slaw
Baked Potato
French Fries**

Desert included with meal.

Red Rhode Island Chowder available for \$3.00 per cup.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS



The Stations of the Cross devotion for Lent begins the first Friday after Ash Wednesday. This year it begins on February 16th and ends Good Friday, March 29. English is offered at 5:00 pm and Spanish is offered at 6:00 pm.

On Good Friday, Live Stations of the Cross will be offered at 11:00 am and will end at approximately 2:00 pm.

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 / 25 DE FEBRUARY 2024

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024
2 PM - 7 PM

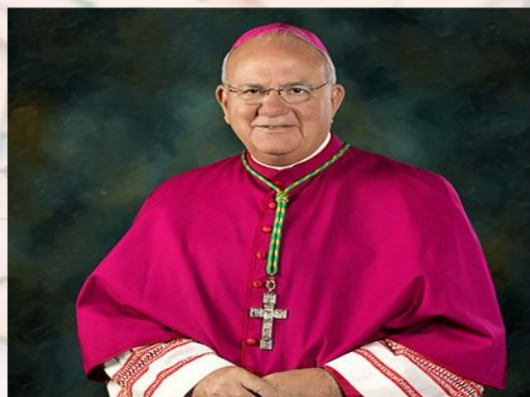
Location: Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School

NAVY & GOLD
***UN**GALA

Parents Night Out!

A SMART-CASUAL SOCIAL OUTING

HONORING
BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT N. LYNCH
2023-2024 VISIONARY LEADER AWARD



***What is an UNGALA?**

UNGALA is a fundraising event focused on fun in a casual atmosphere!

Leave your suit, tie, and heels at home!

Come enjoy this event with the Bishop community!



Thank you for your generosity!
February 12th offertory

Attendance: 772 Sunday Offertory: \$7177.00

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/
Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/
Jn 2:13-25 Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

OBSERVANCES WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent
Monday:
Tuesday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday:
Saturday:

Choir Practice Wednesdays 5:30PM
4th Degree Knights 2nd Tuesday 7:00PM
Knights of Columbus Board 2nd Thursdays 2:00PM
Knights of Columbus Meeting 2nd Thursdays 7:00PM
Prayer Group in English every Thursday 6PM
Youth Group—every Wednesday 6:30-8:00PM
St. Vincent de Paul 2nd Monday 9:30AM

Adult Ed—Thursdays 1:00PM
OCIA—Sunday 9:00AM
Rosary Making - every Wednesday 9:30 AM
Estudio de la Biblia los lunes a las 6:00PM
Legionarias de María cada miércoles 9:30AM
Adoración los martes 9:45AM
Adoration Tuesdays at 6:00PM

MONTHLY EVENTS

MASS INTENTIONS JOIN IN PRAYER-DAILY ROSARY IN THE CHURCH BEGINNING AT 8:25 AM—MON-FRI

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24

9:00 AM Beverly Finnerty's Birthday from Beverly

4:00 PM † Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Amico from Ruben and Lucretia

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25

8:00 AM Parish Community

9:30 AM † Carlina Gomez from Loving son and Family

11:00 AM † Rebecca Cipriani from Charles and Judith

MONDAY FEBRUARY 26

9:00 AM † Patrick Gamboney from the McCarthy Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:00 AM † Delores Bruce from Rita

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28

9:00 AM † Lucia Galella from Loving Daughter

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 29

9:00 AM † Delores Bruce from Rita

FRIDAY MARCH 1

9:00 AM † For the Husbands of the Widow's group from the Widow's group.

SATURDAY MARCH 2

9:00 AM † James Barfield From Loving Wife and Family

4:00 PM † Ronnie Skinner from Maureen and Kate

SUNDAY MARCH 3

8:00 AM Parish Community

9:30 AM † Haydee Fernandez from Maria and Family

11:00 AM † John Luoma from Terry and Rose

PARISH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Patrick Rebel
Asst. Priests: Rev. Edward Reiter
..... Rev. Michael Kouts
..... Rev. Dennis Kaelin

Deacons: Deacon Jose Cruz
..... Deacon Tom Casey
..... Deacon Jim Riveiro

Pastoral Consultant Mark McGovern

Business Manager Melinda Pataki
Sjoa-office@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Faith Formation Deacon Jim Riveiro
FFofficesjao@gmail.com

Director of Junior High and Youth Ministry Nancy Lovelock
Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

Director of Music Joyce Thorpe
Sjoaorganist@gmail.com

Director of Adult Education Mary Jo Waggoner

SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 10:00 am-11:00 am or by appointment.

BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

Please call the Parish Office to pre-register. (352) 688-0663.

Workshop is 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 6pm.

MATRIMONY If you are contemplating marriage at St. Joan of Arc Church, please be mindful that there is a six month, prior Notice Request, required.

PARISH INFORMATION

OFFICE EMAIL

Sjoa-office@tampabay.rr.com

NEW BULLETIN EMAIL FFofficesjao@gmail.com

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

FFofficesjao@gmail.com & Sjoa-youth@tampabay.rr.com

RCIA/RCIC

Rite Initiation into the Catholic Faith

“IN HIS FOOTSTEPS” SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH

Served in our Parish Family Hall the 4th Thursday of each month from Noon-2:00 pm & on 2nd Thursdays lunches are delivered to our homebound.

MARY & MARTHA’S GIFT SHOP

SjoaGiftShop@gmail.com

Saturday 3:30 pm-5:30 pm

Sunday 7:00 am-12:30 pm

Wednesdays 9:30 am-10:30 am

Closed during all Masses.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

(352) 556-3670

NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(352) 683-0755

www.ndcsfl.org