

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

301 Sheppard Court, Waynesboro VA 22980
540.949.6145 / www.stjohnevan.com

A Roman Catholic Community since 1932

19 September 2021

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 September 2021
Numbers 11:25-29
Psalm 19:8, 10, 12-14
James 5:1-6
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



CELEBRATIONS OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST / MASS:

Occasionally due to funerals or other unforeseen and extraordinary events, even sometimes at the very last minute, the Mass schedule may have to be modified. Please contact the parish office to make certain. Weekday & weekend livestreamed Masses are recorded and available after on the parish website. Holy Days: 9:00 AM (L) & 7:00 PM Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM (L) Weekdays: Tuesday—Friday: 9:00 AM (L) Sunday: 8:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Rolo B. Castillo, VF (rbcastillo@stjohnevan.com)
Deacon: Rev. Mr. David Kohut (dstanleyk@gmail.com)
Director of Music: Amelia Fe Camacho (afcamacho@stjohnevan.com)
Coordinator of Christian Formation for Adults, Youth & Children: Michele Kresge (mkresge@stjohnevan.com)
Business Administrator: Lorraine Whitley (lwhitley@stjohnevan.com)
Secretary/Receptionist: Jennifer Dunford (jdunford@stjohnevan.com)
Office Assistant: Martie Wells (mwells@stjohnevan.com)
Coordinator of Parish Maintenance: Jose Rodriguez (jrodriguez@stjohnevan.com)
Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Council structure under review
Finance Council Chair: currently in transition

... IN THE NAME OF
Jesus the LORD. AMEN.

The Prayer Tree:

Call (540) 949-7611 or (540) 221-4162
for special prayer requests

Eucharistic Adoration:

One hour after Friday 9:00 AM Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:30—4:30 PM; or as always by appointment.
Call Fr. Rolo for an appointment at a different time.

Pastoral Care: Please contact the Parish Office if you are aware of parishioners who are in the hospital or are sick, frail, or grieving at home, or in an area rehab, convalescent, or retirement facility.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: M-F / 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
FOR SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES ONLY AFTER OFFICE HOURS CALL: (540) 324-3146



CALLING VOLUNTEERS to plan, create, & edit videos of our New Church Tour for use with visitors and parish ministries. Contact the Pastor if interested. We will train and guide you through the process.







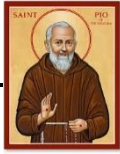

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

**We strive to Proclaim the Gospel & to Love One Another
... RIGHT HERE ... RIGHT NOW.**

PARISH INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY: In the event of inclement weather during the week, we follow the Waynesboro School System closings. If city schools are closed due to the weather, the Parish Office will also be closed. Check parish website & Flocknote updates.



"WISDOM FROM ABOVE IS FIRST PURE, THEN PEACEABLE, GENTLE, WILLING TO YIELD." Praying for wisdom will help you yield to Christ's choice of you, should He extend to you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood. If you are discerning your vocation, contact Fr. Brian Capuano (804)-359-5661 or vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

SEPT 18 SATURDAY	SEPT 19 SUNDAY	SEPT 20 MONDAY	SEPT 21 TUESDAY	SEPT 22 WEDNESDAY	SEPT 23 THURSDAY	SEPT 24 FRIDAY	SEPT 25 SATURDAY
5:00 PM † Gary Kessler 	8:30 AM † Richard Crotty 11:30 AM People of the Parish	HAITI Perkins family members living & deceased 	9:00 AM † Ruthanne Duckworth  ST. MATTHEW 6:00—9:00 PM, NARTHEX Scouts	9:00 AM † Marian Calder  AUTUMN	9:00 AM † Mary & Don Nemeyer  7:00—8:00 PM, GALLERY & NARTHEX Cub Scouts	9:00 AM † Alfonso Garcia  9:45—10:45 AM Adoration 2:45—4:00 PM Rosary of Reparation	5:00 PM People of the Parish 3:30—4:30 PM, CH Confessions

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Richard Bronski, Dante Chevalier, Linda Dean, Gerald Eggleston, Tom Evans, Calvin Handsome, Colleen Hondel, Ray Johnson, Patricia Keckler, James Langenstein, Bernie McGough, Donald Narducci, Gustavo Ortiz, Juan Pizzini, Tiffany Sobczak, Dwight Stancil, Lara Ward, Graciela Zavala;
DECEASED: Raven Garcia;
IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY: Sr. Airman Michael Brown USAF, Sgt. John Burns, LCDR Christopher Farkas USN, Sgt. David Grennan US Army, Col. Brent Harms USAF, Maj. David Hildebrand US Army, Sgt. Christopher Kennedy, Jimmy Negrete, LCDR Megan Piotrowski USN, LCDR David Piotrowski USNR, Maj. Benjamin Sprouse, and all who go unnamed.



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 20—25, 2021 (view online at www.usccb.org/bible/readings)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 • Ezra 1:1-6 • Psalm 126:1-6 • Luke 8:16-18
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 • Ephesians 4:1—7, 11-13 • Psalm 19:2-5 • Matthew 9:9-13
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 • Ezra 9:5-9 • Tobit 13:2-4, 7-8 • Luke 9:1-6
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 • Haggai 1:1—8 • Psalm 149:1-6, 9 • Luke 9:7-9
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 • Haggai 2:1—9 • Psalm 43:1-4 • Luke 9:18-22
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 • Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a • Jeremiah 31:10-13 • Luke 9:43b-45



PARISH COMMUNICATION SURVEY. Times are constantly changing and the parish staff is working to reassess how we can best communicate with the parish community in a way that is an efficient use of our time and financial resources. A link to the online survey is available on the Website, Flocknote, and Facebook; hard copies are also available in the Narthex. Please respond by Monday, September 20. Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH (RCIA), St. John's Christian Initiation for Adults is year-round and tailored to each individual's needs. Please contact Fr. Rolo if you wish to explore full and active participation in the Catholic Church. We look forward to assisting you on your faith journey! Don't wait. We will get you started on your journey whenever you (and the Holy Spirit) are ready.



BREAKING OPEN THE WORD (BOW) meets every Sunday, between 10:00—11:00 AM in the Gallery. Join fellow parishioners to meet and discover the Lord's presence in the Word and deeper meaning in the Sunday readings. Our lively discussions help us discern how scriptures impact our faith and our daily living. All are welcome to join in any Sunday!



JOIN US ON FLOCKNOTE! Text **SJECC** to **84576**. Just take a few minutes to sign up, and you're on your way to receive email or text messages from the groups and ministries that YOU choose. Your personal information remains confidential.

CURSILLISTAS, ULTREYA RESCHEDULED! The Grand Ultreya Zoom gathering has been rescheduled to Sunday, September 19 at 3:00 PM. Please join in for this 90 minute gathering. You won't regret it! Check your email for Zoom details or contact Valley Cursillo at valleycursillo@gmail.com.



CURSILLO WEEKEND! Who is the Holy Spirit calling? Cursillo is a worldwide Christian movement dedicated to helping others encounter the Spirit of God. Our goal is to provide a beautiful and powerful retreat experience that allows the babe chicks (people on the retreat) to get closer to God and build a community centered in Christ. The Men's weekend is September 23-26 and the Women's weekend is October 21-24, to be held at Saint Clare of Assisi Retreat Center, 620 Buckroe Ave, Hampton VA. You must be 18 or older to attend. The cost is \$100. For more info email ghrcursillo@gmail.com.

DONATIONS of size 1 & 2 diapers for Afghan babies are being collected in the Baby Moses Basket in the Narthex.





SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION AND OUR BUSY LIVES ARE NOW EVEN BUSIER!

Have you considered Online Giving? It's so easy and safe. Simply visit www.stjohnnevan.com and click on the Online Giving icon at either the top or the bottom of the home page. You can choose to sign up to use it often or click Quick Give for a one-time offering. Thank you for your generosity.



DIRECT DONATIONS. We are so grateful for your ongoing support for our parish. If your donation comes directly from your investment counselor, please remember to inform them of our new address at 301 Sheppard Court, Waynesboro VA 22980. Thank you.

CHILDREN & YOUTH



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION/CHRISTIAN FORMATION REGISTRATION. Please complete Christian Formation Registration form online. To find it, go to stjohnnevan.com, scroll down the page until you see a blue banner titled "New Parishioner Registration is now online. Click here." On the next screen, scroll down to the words "Christian Formation" in bold capital letters. Click it. It will take you to the form that you need to complete.



MASS TRANSIT. Normally you would keep these cards in your car's glove compartment. Not only because of COVID 19, but also in keeping with the care of our common home, we've gone digital! Access these by logging in at stjohnnevan.com, click on *We Are St. John* drop down menu, click *We are formed in Faith*, then click on *Mass Transit* to get started. The purpose is to help families ready their hearts and minds for active participation in the Eucharist. Not only is it a way for your family to engage with the weekly readings, completed cards will be collected for a monthly drawing for fun prizes. (Some of the prizes support local parishioner owned restaurants!)



VA CATHOLIC DAY AT BUSCH GARDENS AT BUSCH GARDENS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2. In addition to rides and entertainment, celebration of Sunday Vigil Mass will take place at Abbey Stone Theatre. The \$63 fee includes park admission, dinner, and Mass. Single-day admission tickets are available for \$46 per person. All You Can Eat Dinner Buffet is \$17. The event is open to all youth and families. After September 19 tickets will be charged a \$5 late fee. Contact Michele Kresge for more info.

CROP WALK. The 2021 Waynesboro area CROP walk will take place Sunday, September 26 at 2:00 PM at Ridgeview Park, Waynesboro. The walk raises funds to alleviate hunger locally and worldwide. All are welcome to join the St. John's team and participate. This year, the walk will be livestreamed on the local CROP walk Facebook page. Registration is available at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/st-john-the-evangelist-catholic-church/>

HAITI MINISTRY. We noted the feast day of St. Louis King of France on August 25. This is usually a grand celebration (Fete). According to our contacts, Fete was small and quiet with no one travelling to the island due to unrest, COVID, and earthquake. Life continues for those in St. Anthony House. They are relatively protected from the weather this hurricane season. Father has been able to procure food for all those aided by the Food Program. Please remember them in your prayers. We are so very far away, yet so connected in spirit. Bondye beni ou. God bless you.



WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGE: The Sunday Gospel has the apostles arguing about which one of them was the greatest. In response, Jesus taught them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." (Mark 9:30-37) Jesus told his followers to be like little children in order to get to heaven. Your challenge this week is to look at how important being first, being recognized, or being the "greatest" is to you. How competitive are you? Do you win at the expense of others? Do you expect others to serve you? Or are you a missionary disciple, as Pope Francis has challenged all of us to be? Instead of focusing on winning, do you go to the periphery, to the margins, and reach out to those most in need of God's love? Take some time to reflect on which is more important to you—being first or being one who serves others. Do you need to make a change?

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY. The word *catechesis* (from which *catechetical* derives) comes from Greek, meaning "to echo the teaching of." Some within a parish have a "special" designation of catechist; however, by our baptism, ALL Catholic Christians are charged with "echoing" the teachings of Jesus Christ. This year, we celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 19, 2021, with the theme: "Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed." This past year has highlighted the urgent need for physical, spiritual, and emotional healing for ourselves and our world. As we struggle to heal, complete healing is not possible without Jesus the Divine Physician. When our souls heal, we all heal, despite our suffering. The words we pray at Mass, "Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed," have power to remind us of, and to open our eyes to, the healing that Jesus offers us in the Eucharist, which is essential, eternal, and ever open to us. We humbly ask him to say the word. With that prayer we have faith that with the fantastic and improbable prospect of Jesus entering under our roof, our souls shall be healed. Jesus is the salve, the balm that heals and saves us. What in you needs God's healing?



BECOME A TUTOR! LEARN English and Reading Now, Inc. is in need of dynamic, energetic volunteers to join them as tutors. To learn more join in one of their Zoom information sessions on September 21 from 10:00—11:00 AM or 7:00—8:00 PM. Peggy Bischof has volunteered before, if you would like to ask her about this worthwhile opportunity email her at peggybischof4044@gmail.com.

The Last Shall Be First

As Jesus travels with his disciples, he hears them arguing among themselves. When he discovers that they are arguing about which of them is the greatest, Jesus reminds them that those who will be the greatest or the first, will be those who were servants to all and vulnerable like small children.

Jesus is frustrated with his apostles. He is trying to talk to them about important things and they are concerned about who of them is the greatest. They want to know who is the first in Jesus' eyes. Jesus responds to them by telling them he measures a person's greatness by how much concern they have for others—especially their concern over those who are considered unimportant.

Sounds like a family story to me. I think the words, "Me, me, me" or "Me first," must resound at some time or another in every family kitchen and backyard in America. The world could stop revolving around the sun and the stars could fall from the heavens and some youngster somewhere would be upset that they are not the center of attention.

This is what being a child is like. The littler they are the more dependent they are on others, and the more they need to make sure they are not forgotten. Sometimes it seems that the little ones need to be constantly recognized—constantly reassured they are first in your life. As parents, we are expected to patiently answer our toddler's "Me, me, me" with a reassuring smile and pat. Gradually and gently, as they grow older, we begin to teach them to put others, younger, more vulnerable than themselves, first.

In this Gospel Jesus tells us, "Whoever welcomes one child such as this in my name welcomes me." This is good to remember when traveling in a car for several hours with more than one preschooler screaming, "Me, Mine, or Me first."

FAMILY RESPONSE

Ask each family member to name one thing they like best about each of the others in the family. If your family is small name two things. You may not repeat what someone else says.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Write down what you like most about each of the people in your family. Write down what you like best about yourself. What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2008, 2020 Judith Dunlap. Published by the Pastoral Center, www.PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved. Scripture passages have been taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., and used by permission. All rights reserved.

ELECTION PREPAREDNESS - RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. The First Amendment to the US Constitution establishes six rights: the right to (1) be free from governmental establishment of religion (the "Establishment Clause"), (2) to be free from governmental interference with the practice of religion (the "Free Exercise Clause"), (3) to free speech, (4) to freedom of the press, (5) to assemble peacefully, and (6) to petition the government for redress of grievances.

On December 7, 1965, the Second Vatican Council approved *Dignitatis Humanae*, the Declaration on Religious Liberty. The document roots religious freedom in the perennial teaching of the Church on human dignity. It teaches that religious freedom is the cornerstone of a society that promotes human dignity; it is a fundamental human right, which follows on the duty of all people to seek the truth about God. Religious freedom includes two important aspects - freedom from and freedom for. "Freedom from" is probably familiar and what most of us think of as freedom. It means that we are to be free from coercion. The state is not an all-powerful institution that can force people to act against their consciences. "Freedom for" recognizes that all people have the right to practice their faith and "will come to decisions on their own judgment and in the light of truth, govern their activities with a sense of responsibility, and strive after what is true and right, willing always to join with others in cooperative effort." Religious freedom is a fundamental human right, for it follows on the duty of all people to seek the truth about God. Freedom from coercion allows the space for the pursuit of religious truth. Religious freedom requires that a society both refrain from preventing people from living out their religion and help to create the conditions for religious expression to flourish. A free society, then, is one where people actively seek religious truth and fully live out that truth publicly and privately. Our constitution and our Church's Social Teaching should work together to ensure that "freedom for" and "freedom from" continues to be implemented within our society. For example, religious schools, hospitals, and charities should be able to operate in accordance with their faith. The work of these organizations is part and parcel of their faith. They are expressions of religious mission, and religions must have the space to live out their missions. What did Pope John Paul II have to say on this topic? He wrote in his encyclical, *Redemptor Hominis*, "When individuals and communities are guaranteed the effective exercise of their rights, they are not only free to realize their potential, they also, through their talents and their hard work, contribute to the welfare and enrichment of society as a whole." "It [religious freedom] is a fundamental right which shapes the way we interact socially and personally with our neighbors whose religious views differ from our own. The ideal of intra-religious dialogue, where all men and women from different religious traditions, can speak to one another without arguing should be a sustainable goal. This is what religious freedom allows.