

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH

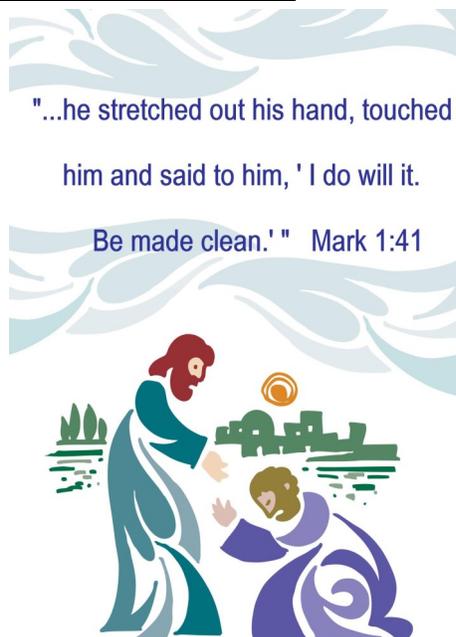


FEBRUARY 14, 2021 - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The canopy doors will be unlocked from 7:30 am until approximately noon Tuesday through Friday for private prayer.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	February 13	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Lori Pribek by Mom & Dad, †George Hoff by Marlene Hoff
Sunday	February 14	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	February 14	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Tony Daharsh by Bereavement Committee, †Juergen Pietzner by SVdP Urban Conference
Wednesday	February 17	St. John's	6:45 am	Mass for Parishioners
Wednesday	February 17	Blessed Trinity	6:30 pm	†Nancy Perronne by Sandy Jordan, †Mildred & Paul Purnell by Mary & Bill Moffatt
Thursday	February 18	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Carol Leider by Judy Heimerl, Poor Souls in Purgatory
Friday	February 19	St. John's	7:00 am	†Ted Biskup, Living & Deceased Members of the Haen & Zoran Families by Mary Lou & Jon
Friday	February 19	Blessed Trinity	1:00 pm	[Stations of the Cross]
Friday	February 19	St. John's	5:15 pm	[Stations of the Cross]
Saturday	February 20	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Victor & Helen Kampmann, †Ed Sabel & Jane Ornelas by Family
Sunday	February 21	St. John's	9:00 am	†Mary Koehn by Catholic Women's Charity Club, †Dorothy Reilly by Tom & Sharon Reilly
Sunday	February 21	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners



RECONCILIATION: Reconciliation at St. John's on Saturday, February 20 at 3:00 pm.

FEBRUARY HOSTS & WINE: In memory of the Walter Schmeling Family by K & S Schmeling

FINANCIALS: February 6/7: Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$2404.00.

MISSION SOCIETY: Please join us for quilt making on Tuesdays at 8:30 am. Everyone is welcome!



Hello Everyone,

"Come back to me with all your heart. Don't let fear keep us apart. Trees do bend, though straight and tall; so must we to others' call. Long have I waited for your coming home to me."

This particular hymn is the poetical rendition of Hosea Chapter 6:1, 3 text by Gregory R. Norbert, O.S.B. This is exactly the spirit of Lent. As you know, we are going to celebrate Ash Wednesday on the 17th of February 2021.

By and large, lots of us are going through a "hibernation mode" due to the pandemic. There are signs of "Spring," as far as COVID-19 is concerned. Many of us are receiving vaccinations against the pandemic. Infection rate is slightly lower, though we cannot yet lower our guard.

Coming back to our Lenten topic of returning to the Father, who is always with us in our struggles, fears, and brokenness and who is patiently waiting for our return. Let us use this vehicle of grace, Lent, to our advantage. Lots of us are literally afraid. Many of us are a bit shaken and mildly depressed. Lots of people, all over the world, are going through extreme negative emotions. Some are hurting themselves. Others are taking extreme steps like contemplating self-destruction.

I don't want to blame anyone because we human beings often display undesirable behavior. Lent is often a "pause" time, a time to reflect on the course of direction of our life. It is like a sculptor. Before a sculptor decides to produce a sculpture, he/she has already "built" a mental concept of the figure. Then he/she carefully chooses the block of marble or stone and chips off those parts of the marble or stone to produce the masterpiece. This is exactly what Lenten observation is all about. Chipping off unwanted elements from our lives. It is not a painless process. Sometimes, it is very painful and costly. Sometimes it can affect our social life itself (like being part of money-laundering and drinking groups, etc.). But why do we go through this cleansing process? For the greater love: love of God, self, our spouses and children, our job, social status, etc., etc. It is worth the effort. It is a wholesome process. So, let us "come back to me with all your heart."

Fr. Joe

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Fridays, February 19 thru March 26 at 1:00 PM at Blessed Trinity and 5:15 PM at St. John Evangelist.

MASS TIME SURVEY MONKEY: Blessed Trinity and St. John's Pastoral Councils have asked St. John's to change their Sunday Mass time. To aid in any changes, a Survey Monkey has been set up to get feedback. Please follow the following link: [https://](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTLTN53)

www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTLTN53 to take a very short survey. You can also leave a comment which will be shared with Father Joe and the St. John's Pastoral Council. If you have any specific questions about this survey, please contact Fr. Joe at frjoe@btsje.org or 920-452-9623 ext 206 or 920-467-4616 ext 306. The survey will be live until Sunday, February 14. To best evaluate any changes, the more people who respond the better.



SurveyMonkey

Getting Ready for Lent 2021: Pray, Fast, Give:



In just a few days the Season of Lent, the time during which Catholics throughout the world honor the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and the giving of alms, will begin. Fasting and abstinence are the practice of giving up something in order to turn away from sin and draw closer to God. The thing we give up might be good in itself, but we relinquish it in order to obtain a greater good. Here are some of the spiritual benefits of fasting:

- **It's a form of penance.** Throughout the Old Testament, people covered themselves in ashes, took off their fine clothes, and fasted in order to express their repentance from sin. Fasting serves a similar purpose today.
- **It makes room for God.** By emptying ourselves, even if just a bit, we make room for God to enter our lives more fully.
- **It strengthens the will.** Fasting is a spiritual discipline; just as physical exercise makes our body stronger, fasting strengthens our will. Practicing self-denial in small things strengthens our will to resist sin in other areas of our lives.
- **It prepares us for mission.** Fasting imitates the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert. Just as Jesus used this time to prepare for his public mission, fasting prepares us to continue his mission and brings us closer to the suffering of Jesus—and all people who suffer.

Whether it is fasting, abstaining or other acts of penance, we can use these means to help us grow closer to our Lord and prepare ourselves to celebrate Easter with renewed minds and hearts.

Adapted from: Windley-Daoust, Jennifer. "Fasting, giving, praying: 25+ ideas for what we can do for Lent". Loyola Press, 2021.

-Jeanne Bitkers, Coordinator of Religious Education 4K - Grade 6



Learn
Grow

Learning in Lent: Our 4k-Grade 6 children and their parents are "Growing in Faith" during this Lenten Seasons using interactive materials found on the "Catholic Brain" website. You are also welcome to visit the site and to sign up to access the material. For brief (37 seconds) and simple directions see: <https://vimeo.com/398329237/0f1b600715> and sign in as a "**parent.**" The parish access code is **STJ34570** Questions? Contact Jeanne Bitkers or the Parish Office.

Lenten Observance: The Catholic Church asks each member to preserve the penitential character and purpose of Lent. For this reason: a) Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday during Lent; b) Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Therefore, on those days they should eat only one full meal. Smaller quantities of food may be taken at two other meals, but no food should be consumed at other times during those two days. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.



Welcome
Our New
Members

WELCOME TO THE PARISH:

Please welcome Kevin and Cate Smith to the St. John Evangelist Parish family.

Lent
BEGINS

Saint Valentine's Day: Sunday, February 14th



Today, many people celebrate St. Valentine's day by exchanging tokens of love—cards, candy, flowers and the like, but did you know that this day began as a saint's feast day and that its original purpose was to celebrate Christian love and devotion to Christ? As years passed, various stories grew up around the devotion to St. Valentine, most notably that he helped Christian soldiers get married in spite of a law forbidding Roman soldiers from doing this. This is one of the explanations of his popularity even today. What then is the takeaway for us as Christians? Regardless of the details of St. Valentine's life, he was one of many who valued Christ's love even above their own lives.

Here's a Catholic twist to help you celebrate St. Valentine's Day.

- ♦ **Write letters and make valentines:** Set aside time for everyone (including moms and dads and other adults) to write a letter to another member of the family or to someone else. The letter can be simple, two-or three-lines, or more involved. You can provide stickers and craft materials for decorating them. The important thing is to say "I care about you" in some way. Send the letter or e-mail/text a photo of it on Valentine's Day.
- ♦ **Make a Valentine card or a list for God giving thanks and praise for all God has given you.** You can share it with family members at meal, time or at another time during the day, or simply share it with God.
- ♦ **Decorate a place in your house with a quote about love from the Scriptures or from the saints:** (Better yet, if you have older children have them find quotes and make the decorations.
- ♦ **Make it a day for hugs!** Encourage hugs all around (but only with immediate family members. Safety first!)
- ♦ **Start the day with an Act of Love Prayer:** The Act of Love is a traditional prayer that goes like this: O Lord God, I love you above all things, and I love my neighbor for your sake because you are worthy of my love. For your love, I give you thanks. Amen. If this feels too formal, make your own Act of Love. Either way, it's a reminder that love has its origins in God.

On this St. Valentine Weekend, may you and your loved ones: Stay safe and well; Be richly blessed; And know that God loves and cares for you.

Jeanne Bitkers, 4K-Grade 6 Religious Education Coordinator

LENT BEGINS

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES:



Ash Wednesday is **Wednesday, February 17.**

Mass will be at St. John's at **6:45 am** and at Blessed Trinity at **6:30 pm**. Ashes will be distributed by being sprinkled on peoples heads.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Will be offered at Blessed Trinity at 1:00 pm and St. John's at 5:15 pm each Friday during Lent beginning on Friday, February 19. At St. John's, please enter via the canopy doors.



LITTLE BLACK BOOKS: Little Black Books, both regular print and large print, Lenten Calendars, and Lenten Prayer Cards are all available on the card table in the gathering space beginning this weekend.



WHAT IS FLOCKNOTE?: Communication is the key to a healthy parish. During the pandemic, it became apparent that this is more important than ever. **To sign up, text JOINSJE to 84576.** This

weekend is Sign Up Sunday. Julia Rodemeier will be available Sunday, February 14, after Mass to help people sign up and answer any questions. If you have issues, please contact the parish office at 920-452-9623.

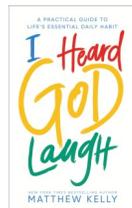
What is Flocknote? An easy way to communicate with parishioners via email or text or both. Whether it is to the whole parish or just to certain groups, Flocknote will help get the message out. All personal information is kept confidential and not shared outside the parish.

Do I have to create a new account or log in? Members don't have to log in, create an account, or download anything to get the messages.

Why use Flocknote? Unlike other communication methods, Flocknote is designed for use in by churches.

Will I get a ton of emails and texts if I join? NO. Only administrators of groups may send emails or texts and certain rules will be followed. Group parish emails and texts will be sent by the parish office or Father Joe. All texts and emails sent will be stored so that all Safeguarding procedures are followed. You should not see a great increase of texts or emails from St. John's. But, the ones that you do receive will keep you informed.

HAVE YOU HEARD GOD LAUGH?: If you have not yet signed-up for the



small-group discussions of Matthew Kelly's book *I Heard God Laugh*, we have good news for you. Each of the three weekly sessions has room for more participants. In-person sessions will begin next week at Blessed Trinity on Saturday afternoon prior to Mass and Sunday following Mass. There will also be a virtual session held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings. If you are interested in joining any of these sessions please contact Jim O'Neill at jimoneillinwi@yahoo.com or phone 920.668.8021. We're looking forward to having you join us.

PERCH FRY!: Holy Trinity Parish (11928 Marken Road, Kiel) will hold their 20th Annual Holy Trinity Parish Perch Fry on Friday, February 19. Due to the pandemic, they will have walk-in and call-in carry outs only from 11:00 am until 1:30 pm then again from 3:30 until 7:00 pm. Please call 920-773-2380 to order. Grill cheese plates will also be available. There will also be raffle tickets. Please see the poster on the bulletin board for information.



SAINT OF THE WEEK



Sunday, February 14, 2021 St. Paul Miki and Companions, martyrs (d. 1597) On February 5, 1597, Japanese Jesuit Brother Paul Miki and 25 companions (clergy, religious, and laypersons) were martyred in Nagasaki, Japan. They were suspended on crosses and killed by spears thrust through their hearts. From that time until 1865, Japan remained closed to the rest of the world. Despite this isolation, the faith survived without priests and with only the sacrament of baptism. May we follow St. Paul Miki's example by forgiving our enemies. (The Feast is celebrated on February 6.)

Monday

FEBRUARY 15

Weekday

Gn 4:1-15, 25

Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday

FEBRUARY 16

Weekday

Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10

Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday

FEBRUARY 17

Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18

2 Cor 5:20-6:2

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

FEBRUARY 18

Thursday after Ash

Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20

Lk 9:22-25

Friday

FEBRUARY 19

Friday after Ash

Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a

Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

FEBRUARY 20

Saturday after Ash

Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14

Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

FEBRUARY 21

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 9:8-15YYYY

1 Pt 3:18-22

Mk 1:12-15

Return to Mass Guidelines (Updated 12/06/2020):

We are currently in Phase II of the Catholic Comeback. Please see the guidelines below for weekend Masses. As we move through the phases, updates will be provided. Thank you for your understanding. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Joe or the Parish Office.

Prior to Mass/Entering Church:

- ◆ Only the canopy doors will be unlocked. Doors will be propped open so that the minimal number of people will need to touch them.
- ◆ There will be prayer sheets available from the ushers. **Please leave the prayer sheet in the pews. We will collect them Monday morning and dispose of them.**
- ◆ There will be hand sanitizer available at the entrance. Please use it when entering.
- ◆ Please see an usher who will help with seating. Attendance is limited to maintain social distancing (6 feet apart, unless part of the same household) in relation to church capacity so seating as many people within guidelines is important.

Offertory Collection:

- ◆ Ushers will be wearing masks and gloves while taking the collection.
- ◆ A basket will be placed in the gathering space to drop your envelope if you would prefer to not place it in the collection basket.
- ◆ Collection baskets with handles will be used. Baskets will not be passed down the pew.

Communion:

- ◆ Communion will be distributed by Father Joe only and one lay distributor in the back.
- ◆ Communion can be taken in the hand only. No precious blood will be distributed.
- ◆ Please keep a distance of 6 feet away when coming to the front for communion. This is approximately a pew between people.
- ◆ There will be hand sanitizer available for use prior to receiving communion.

Conclusion of Mass/Leaving church:

- ◆ Ushers will lead in an orderly dismissal of pews.
- ◆ There will be no congregating in the gathering space.

General Information:

- **In accordance with the orders from the State of Wisconsin, face masks are now required during Mass. There will be limited masks available at the entrance to church. If possible, please bring your own.**
- Daily Mass Schedule at St. John Evangelist is: Wednesday and Friday mornings at 7:00 am. Daily Mass Schedule at Blessed Trinity is: Thursday mornings at 9:00 am.
- It will be the responsibility of those who are capable and not prohibited by other circumstances (see next bullet point) to attend Sunday Mass. Those who deliberately fail to attend Sunday Mass commit a grave sin. Fear of getting sick, in and of itself, does not excuse someone from the obligation.
- If a person is ill, especially during this pandemic, they should remain at home. Likewise, if a person is at risk because of age, underlying medical conditions or a compromised immune system, one would be excused from the obligation. If a person is caring for a sick person, even if they are not sick, they would be excused from the obligation out of charity.
- It is up to each individual to weigh their own circumstances through an examination of their conscience and determine, by use of their conscience, whether or not they are excused from the Sunday obligation. Remember, a well-formed conscience is upright and truthful.
- No physical contact during the Sign of Peace is allowed.
- No holding hands during the Our Father.
- Parishioners are advised to wash their clothes following Mass.
- Masses will continue to be recorded and on Zach Holzer's Youtube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8XFpHGxmYHOKLhblusIopg>