

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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SERVICE

PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend Alphonsus Kariuki, *Pastor*

Reverend Joseph L. Desmond, *Weekend Assistant*

Deacon Glenn Robitaille

Deacon Michael P. Gleason, *Retired*

Edwin Lopez, *Director of Sacred Music*

Patricia Hummel, *Coordinator of Religious Education*

Mary Lou Chingery, *Coordinator of Social Ministry*

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil.....5:00 pm

Sunday8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:00
noon (Spanish)

Monday - Friday8:00 am (*Chapel*)

Holydays8:00 am, 12:00 noon &
7:00 pm (*Church*)

PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm;
closed on Friday. Evenings by
appointment only.

Telephone: 732-968-2621

E-Mail: stjev@verizon.net

Web: www.stjohnsdunellen.org

Office of Religious Education:

732-968-2621 ext: 13
stjohnpcl@gmail.com

For Pastoral Emergencies,
please call: 732-685-1098

PARISH REGISTRATION

All families and individuals within the
canonical bound areas of St. John the
Evangelist are invited to register by
contacting the Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on
Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM in the Chapel. You are invited to visit as your
schedule permits. If you wish to be a regularly scheduled adorer, please contact the Parish
Office.

Sacrament of Baptism: The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the First and Third
Sunday of the month at 1:30 pm. Baptisms will not be performed during Lent. An
instructional Infant Baptism Class is required for parents having their child baptized and is
recommended for godparents. For more information and to register for Pre-baptism class,
please call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Common Policy among the Dioceses in New Jersey recommends
preparing for your wedding at least one year in advance. Please contact the Parish Office
for more information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday
from 4:00-4:45 pm in the Reconciliation Room of the Church or by appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick: Please contact the Parish Office if you are homebound and would
like to receive Holy Communion. In the event of an emergency, please call 732-685-1098,
day or night.

Sponsor Eligibility: Godparents/Sponsor eligibility certificates are available for registered
parishioners by calling the Parish Office. Godparents/Sponsors must be practicing
Catholics who have received the Sacraments of Initiation and, if married, are in a marriage
recognized by the Church.

WHOLE COMMUNITY CATECHESIS

Whole Community Catechesis is available for the children of registered families of the Parish. **Grades 1-7 (families only):** Monday or
Tuesday from 6:00 - 8:00 pm once monthly. **Grade 8/Confirmation (children only):** Two Sundays a month from 11:30 am-12:30 pm.
To register, or for more information please call the Office of Religious Education.

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, March 22

8:00 am George Weiss by the Weiss family

Tuesday, March 23

8:00 am Susan Fosbre by Ann Hill

Wednesday, March 24

8:00 am Lorraine Posluszny by the Mastrian
& Paltjon families

Thursday, March 25

8:00 am Patrick Sheenan by Cathleen Canevari

Friday, March 26

8:00 am Nora Pauline Devarso
by Cathleen Canevari

Saturday, March 27

5:00 pm Blaise DiGiampaolo
by the Chapleski family

Sunday, March 28

8:30 am Parishioners of St. John's and
Lorraine Posluszny by the Mastrian
& Paltjon families

10:30 am John & Julia DiQuollo by John, Carl,
Carmen & Nina

Noon Ofelia Valencia & Alvaro Olaya by
Isabella Aguilar & Carolina Olaya

Sacrificial Offerings 2021

Sunday, March 14

Regular Collection: \$3,063.50

Online Giving: \$ 782.77

Bills Paid This Week: \$7,866.29

Dear Parishioners,

The Holy Week invites us to prepare for our greatest Christian Festivity in the liturgical year. It is not Christmas or Palm Sunday or Pentecost but EASTER. Easter is the feast that gives meaning to all the others.

I hope to see many of you in Church on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and during the Easter Masses. For those who cannot come, please join us by livestream at our parish website www.stjohnsdunellen.org

Happy Easter to all of you,
Fr. Alphonsus Kariuki

PALM SUNDAY VIGIL
SATURDAY MARCH 27, 2021
5:00PM

PALM SUNDAY
SUNDAY MARCH 28, 2021
Masses 8:30AM, 10:30AM, 12:00PM
(SPANISH)

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
THURSDAY APRIL 1, 2021
7:00PM
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION
FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021
3:00PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
7:00PM

VIGIL OF EASTER
SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021
8:00PM

EASTER
SUNDAY, April 4, 2021
Masses 8:30AM, 10:30AM, 12PM (Spanish)

Padrinos de Bautismo Y Confirmacion:

La ley eclesiástica manda que los padrinos para el bautismo y confirmación, deben ser católicos confirmados y activos en la parroquia, o sea que asistan a la misa dominical, ayuden al mantenimiento de la Iglesia, este casado/y por la Iglesia; si es soltero/a no debe estar en unión libre. Debe vivir una vida de acuerdo con las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Solo Podemos entregar cartas a parroquianos que viven de acuerdo con estas normas.

Bautismos:

Los Bautismos en español son celebrados en el segundo domingo del mes a la 1:15 PM. No se celebran bautismos durante la Cuaresma. Para hacer arreglos para los bautismos en español, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Si la secretaria no puede contestar en ese momento, le puede dejar un mensaje con su número de teléfono para llamarle luego.

Formacion Religiosa—Catecismo:

Si usted es nuevo en la parroquia y quiere inscribir a su niño/a en las clases de catecismo, por favor comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.

RICA:

Adultos que deseen convertirse a la religión católica o que necesiten recibir Primera Comunión y o Confirmación, deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina de la parroquia para el Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de adultos

Matrimonios:

Los arreglos para la fecha de casamiento se deben hacer un año por anticipado, antes de hacer los arreglos sociales. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.

Ministerio de Visitar a Los Enfermos:

Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Si es una emergencia (en peligro de muerte) después de horas de oficina, llamar al número 732-685-1098

Confesiones en Espanol:

El padre está dispuesto después de la misa dominical. Por favor, comuníquese con él.



Blessing of Food

The Blessing of Food will take place at **12 noon** on **Saturday, 4/3** in the **Church**. Everyone is welcome to join us for this traditional blessing.

Online Giving

Have you tried our new Parish online giving system? There are three ways to give through Tithe.ly:

*Through our website

*through our Facebook page

*using the Tithe.ly mobile giving App

When giving Tithe.ly you can donate by credit/debit card or bank transfer. You can also select "reoccurring gift" to automate your regular weekly offering so that it is donated automatically on a schedule that you choose. As with any automated service there is a small transaction fee for the church. You have the option to select "cover the fee" to make this transaction fee a part of your tax deductible gift. If you need assistance setting up a gift or learning how to use Tithe.ly email stjohnpcl@gmail.com

Give the Gift of Faith

Churches are dependent upon the generosity of others to fulfill their mission of spreading the Good News as mandated by Christ on the day of his Ascension. To perpetuate our church's mission in our area, please consider putting St. John the Evangelist Church in your will.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 • F: 732.562.1427 • E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

March 21, 2021

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

It has been a challenging year, but one that we have not been left alone to face. The pandemic has caused much uncertainty and we have all been impacted. I know I join you in praying for brighter days ahead for us all, even as we particularly remember all those who are sick, have lost loved ones or have felt the economic impact of the pandemic.

I have often heard from you throughout this year about how grateful you are for your priests who have striven to serve you throughout this pandemic in creative ways. I am so grateful for them, and all who have collaborated with them to continue to shepherd our beautiful flock in our four counties. In addition to your pastors and parochial vicars, our diocese has 31 retired diocesan priests and more approaching retirement this summer. At the retirement age for the majority of our diocesan priests at 75, their administrative responsibilities end, but their pastoral and sacramental ministry continues. Although retired, as long as they are physically able, I have seen this group so generously continue to help in so many ways. We are fortunate to have been the beneficiaries of their sacred ministry: countless Holy Masses, baptisms, weddings and confessions. They have brought us the healing hand of Christ at the hour of death and they have mourned and prayed with us when we buried our dead. Where would our diocese be without their sacrificial gift of their lives and their spiritual and pastoral leadership? Indeed, their ongoing generosity, even during the pandemic, is nothing but inspirational. The retired priests, who for health reasons cannot minister in the parishes, also are asked to continue to support our local Church through their prayers, sacrifices and example.

We are now asked to share our blessings bestowed upon us so that our retired priests can enjoy their retirement even while continuing as able to celebrate public Mass and assist in your spiritual care. Next weekend, March 27 and 28 we celebrate Palm Sunday, and the faithful of our diocese will have the opportunity to acknowledge these priests by responding to the *Annual Collection for our Retired Diocesan Priests*. All funds raised through this collection will be used exclusively to support our retired priests.

Your generous response to next week's special collection is a practical way to convey your personal appreciation to our retired priests for their many years of service. Thank you for your continued generosity and grateful heart. Know of my love, prayers and gratitude for you, and asking you to continue to pray for vocations from our local Church to the holy priesthood for service in our diocese!

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen



Easter Memorials

You are invited to make a memorial donation for the Easter season. Your donation will help provide flowers and decorations for the church. To participate you may pick up a form at the exits of the Church or simply write down your name, phone number, and the name of the person or persons you wish to memorialize and send it along with your payment to the Parish Center by **noon on Monday, 3/29.**



Knights of Columbus Take-Out Only

Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner

Join us on **Friday, March 26th, 5:30 pm-7:00 pm.** Choice of: Fried Fish and Chips Dinner, Fried Shrimp Dinner or Seafood Combo Dinner. Dinners include seafood entre, French fries, coleslaw. All dinners \$12.00 each, credit cards accepted. Due to indoor restrictions this is a take-out only event. Pre-ordering dinners is strongly recommended. Call 732-968-2544 after 3pm on 3/26 or email your order to koc2544_dunellen@yahoo.com. Be sure to include a preferred pickup time.

Scrip Orders

Scrip orders can be picked up on **3/21.**

The next orders are due on **4/4.**

We are happy to report to you a list of the projects the Parish Maintenance person Mr. Ron Fojtlin has done for our Parish since last Summer.

1. Repaired rectory porch.
2. Arranged for roofer to replace rectory roof
3. Landscaped around buildings to divert water from foundations.
4. Removed furniture and debris from rectory attic, church basement, garage and parish center supply rooms.
5. Secured company to replace church boiler.
6. Cleaned church carpeting.
7. Installed necessary items to comply with pandemic requirements (roped off pews, installed hand sanitizers, etc)
8. Repaired and reattached sink in church bathroom.
9. Re-keyed all entrance doors in parish center.
10. Secured company to replace front step railing at parish center and repaired mortar joints in steps.
11. Secured new lawn mowers and repaired snow blower.
12. Patched pot holes in driveway.
13. Performed general upkeep: painting, cleaning, polishing, lawn maintenance and repairs.



Collection Envelopes

Collection envelopes will no longer be mailed to the homes, but will be made available for pick-up in the church. As you exit, please stop by the tables to the left, by the holy water dispenser, to retrieve yours. For anyone who is unable to pick them up, please contact the office.



Prayers for Our Service Members

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

U.S. Navy Reserve Lt. Michael Bartilotti
 U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney
 U.S. Army Pvt. Raymond C. Pizzigoni
 U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella
 U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Paul Frabizzio
 U.S. Marine Mer. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak
 U.S. Army Pfc. Sean Parente
 U.S. Marine LCpl. Dante Parente
 U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Casey Wenzel
 U.S. Army Spec. 4 Timothy Francisco
 U.S. Marine LCpl. Stephen Wright
 U.S. Marine Pvt. José Citron
 U.S. Navy IT2 Kenneth Millman III
 U.S. Navy HM3 Rosemary Plunkett

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal

***Transformed by Christ Body and
 Blood – Sent on Mission to Light a
 Fire in the Heart of the Church***

By now you have received a letter from Bishop Checchio inviting your participation in the 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The diocesan ministries supported by the Appeal directly impact many of the parishioners here in Saint John's. Your gift provides formation opportunities for our catechists, youth and young adults. In the coming days, you will be receiving a letter from our pastor, Fr. Alphonsus Kariuki, encouraging your participation. If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully consider doing so today by either returning your pledge card in the mail or going to the secure website: <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>.



March 21, 2021 - 5th Sunday of Lent

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - JEREMIAH 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything; we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

Marriage Encounter

Now that Spring is around the corner, why not shake off those winter blues and pump some new life into your marriage?

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. Join us from the comfort of your home via Zoom for eight evening sessions, **7 – 9:30PM**, presented on **Sunday & Wednesday evenings from April 11 – May 4**. Phone Tom & Ruth DeFalco **1-732-904-9636** for application and information. Visit us at:

www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for more information.

Virtual Retreat for Adult Children of Divorce

Life-Giving Wounds Retreat for adult children of divorce or separation. Come for a better understanding of the wounds caused by your family's breakdown and how to heal from them. Hosted by the Diocese of Metuchen, **April 17 & 24, 9 am-12:30 pm**. Virtual, with an in-person Mass on May 1. To register please visit: www.diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce. For more information contact: Cristina D'Averso-Collins, cdaverso@diometuchen.org.

Whole Community Catechesis



Gospel Weekly Discussion Questions: Jesus Is Like A Grain of Wheat John 12:20-33

Life Question: What is one way you have lifted someone up?

Gospel Question: How is Jesus like a grain of wheat?

EXPLORING THE GOSPEL BY AGE *Exploring the Sunday Readings* (Adults)

When has death exerted authority over you?
What do you do to remain attentive to the voice of life?

Visions (Grades 7–9)

Life Question: What is your best experience of Mass?

Gospel Question: How is the life cycle of a grain of wheat like Jesus' life?

Venture (Grades 4–6)

Life Question: Can you grow a plant with seeds?

Gospel Question: How is Jesus' life like the life of a grain of wheat?

Good News (Grades 2–3)

Life Question: What happens to seeds when you plant them?

Gospel Question: How is Jesus' Death like planting a seed?

Promise (Grades K–1)

Life Question: How does a seed grow?

Gospel Question: What are some ways you can grow in love?



Living Stations of the Cross

Please join us for Living Stations of the Cross presented by our seventh grade students, **Monday 3/22** and **Tuesday 3/23** at **6:00PM** in the **Parish Center Parking Lot**. Parking will be on the street. Please wear a mask.

Gertrude Hawk Pick Up

Thank you to all who supported the Gertrude Hawk Easter Candy Sale. It was a great success! Candy will be available for pick up in the **Auditorium after all Masses on Saturday 3/27** and **Sunday 3/28** and on **Tuesday 3/30** and **Wednesday 3/31** between the hours of **2pm - 4pm** and **6pm - 8pm**. If you are unable to come by during these times please call or email the Office of Catechesis.

The Chosen Watch Party!

Every Friday during Lent at **8PM**; each episode is roughly 30 to 40 minutes long. Please register with Patricia Hummel stjohnpcl@gmail.com for the online link.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-AJdKty74M>

Read the Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz podcast

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/podcast/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>. He is using the Great Adventure Timeline as he guides listeners through the Bible in a year. It is not too late to join in.

Make it the Best Lent Ever!

One of the Books we gave as a Parish Christmas Gift was *"I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Habit"* by Matthew Kelly. Sign up for Dynamic Catholic's Best Lent Ever and join in as they use this book to draw closer to God.
<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent/best-lent-ever.html>.

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