

May 2, 2021/ Fifth Sunday of Easter

Church of St. John

5171 Milford Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18302-9106

Phone: 570-223-9144 Website: www.churchofstjohn.com



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Love God, Love People, Make Disciples

Masses - Open to the Public

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9:00 am

Tuesday and Thursday - 12:00 noon

Saturday - 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm (Spanish Mass)

Sunday - 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Communion Distribution - (In the Parking Lot)

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Sunday - 11:45 pm

There will be a Live Stream on Saturdays of the 4:00 pm Mass (replayed on Sunday at 8:30 am and 11:00 am) available on our Facebook Page and Church website. The Spanish Mass at 6:30 will also be Live Streamed.

Confessional Schedule -

Saturday 9:00 - 11:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration -

Closed until further notice

Office -

Monday - Friday 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

The Staff is on limited hours and will respond as soon as they possibly can.

Reverend Gregory A. Reichlen

Pastor

Phone - 570-223-9144 x 4

E-mail - stjohnfr@gmail.com

Deacon Max Francois

Permanent Deacon

Coordinator of Community & Service

Phone - 570-688-7280

E-mail - stjohndcn@gmail.com

Ms. Ana Garces

Parish Secretary

Phone - 570-223-9144

E-mail - stjohnch29@gmail.com

Mrs. Bettianne Ozkenel

Assistant Secretary

E-mail - stjohnch122@gmail.com

Mrs. Analia Kolakowski

Pastoral Assoc. Director of Faith Formation

Phone - 570-223-0888

E-mail - stjohnre28@gmail.com

Word, Worship and Prayer

Fifth Sunday Of Easter

Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, May 1 - Vigil

4:00 pm Bertha Martinez by Cirillo Family
6:30 pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, May 2

8:30 am Tommaso Todaro
by Anthony & Nancy Ribando
11:00 am Patrick King by Fay O. Ryan

MONDAY, May 3 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

9:00 am Carol Lippold by Your Family

TUESDAY, May 4 Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a

12:00 pm Marlene McQuillan
by Anthony & Ann Zannella

WEDNESDAY, May 5 Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8

9:00 am Tony Fasano (2nd Anniversary Mass)
by The Fasano Family

THURSDAY, May 6 Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11

12:00 pm Melena Robledo by The Robledo Family

FRIDAY, May 7 Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17

9:00 pm Marlene McQuillan by St. John's Columbiettes

SATURDAY, May 8 - Vigil

4:00 pm People of the Parish
6:30 pm The Souls in Purgatory by Fanny Aubin

SUNDAY, May 9

8:30 am People of the Parish
11:00 am Nancy Bellissimo by Mom & Dad

SANCTUARY CANDLE

People of the Parish
By Church of St John
May 1, 2021 — May 7, 2021

TABERNACLE CANDLE

For All People To Experience
The Love And Comfort Of God
By Church of St John
May 1, 2021 — May 7, 2021

" Candles are available for your special intentions. They may be acquired in the Parish Office. These candles are available for honoring the memory of your deceased loved ones along with praying for recovery from an illness, celebrating birthday's, anniversaries, etc. We have a card that can be given out when the candle is reserved.



For those who serve our country and community

At the close of our weekend Masses, our community will all kneel and pray three Hail Mary's for those individuals both living and deceased.



FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HOPE, HEALING & HEALTH

Emilio Accomasso, John Bonito, Michele Cross, Domenic Fasano, Ermes Gutierrez, Betty Haines, Robin, Stephanie Jubak, Andy Kman, Bud Lake, Ashlyn Leide, Msgr. Al Lopinto, Teddy Lubanski, William McGrath, Charles McQuillan, Luis Enrique Medina, Ursula Mercadante, Jeronimo Mestizo, Hugo Munillo, Samanta Murillo, Michael Paternoster, Joseph Perin, Joel Rivera, Erica Rizo, Liz Rubino, Kirsten Rutledge, Marie Sauve, Judy Smith, Jennie Spath, Carolyn Spost, Maria Stasolla, Javier Suarez, Sebastian Torres, Walker Family

To add to this list, please email : stjohnbultn@gmail.com



FATHER'S DESK



“Anything but Ordinary” Week 5: Remaining Connected to Christ!

Dear brothers and sisters,

This is the fifth and final week of our Easter Series, in which we’ve talked about the extraordinary power of the Resurrection, a power that’s available to us in some surprisingly ordinary ways. We’ve talked about the power of coming together as a team, and how this is something we don’t always think about when it comes to our faith. When we come to church with the same attitude as the early Church did, with a shared mission and vision that’s clear and simple, and a desire to make church not about “me” but about that mission, then we will grow in our own faith, and attract others. We also talked about the power of words spoken into our lives, and the practice of reading AND applying the Word of God to our daily lives. Some people think that Bible study is something that Catholics don’t do, but this is wrong – when we grow in both knowing and applying God’s Word, we gain access to God’s power! Perhaps we feel intimidated by the Bible or even ashamed that we know so little about it – but remember that faith and discipleship is a lifelong journey, and we take one step at a time! Last week, we talked about the power of service. When we step out of the pew and serve in Jesus’ name, it’s amazing what can be accomplished. Serving in the Name of Jesus is about us doing the ordinary, and God doing the extraordinary through us; and when we do so, we’re taking part in God’s great plan of restoring our broken world, no matter big or small our actions.

To bring this Easter series to an end, this weekend we’re talking about one last ordinary practice that taps us into the power of the Resurrection, and it’s the simplest of all but also the hardest. When I was a teenager and young adult, I would hear my evangelical Christian friends speak about a “personal relationship with Jesus,” and I was turned off. “Catholics don’t talk like that!” I thought. We Catholics are taught about good order when it comes to our relationship with God – it’s about dutifully receiving the Sacraments, going to Mass, obeying the commandments, but it’s not necessarily “touchy feely” stuff like some other Christians have it.

I heard it said recently that there’s a difference between being a believer in Christ, and being a follower. Think about it: even the devil believes in Christ! To be a follower of Jesus Christ means more than just “good order” in our religious duties. To be a follower of Jesus Christ means more than having received the Sacraments, or have gone to Catholic School, or anything in fact that we’ve done by our own efforts in the past or present! Yes, our good deeds matter, but not as we might think – we’re not earning God’s favor, but participating in his love. Today’s Second Reading sums it up: “Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth” (1 John 3:18). Our faith is about word and deeds! It’s not just about saying that we are a Catholic or a Christian, but also about how that’s reflected in our lives.

John goes on to tell us: “His commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him (3:23-24). “Remain in him” is the daily measuring stick. Whether we are at home by ourselves, or on the phone, or shopping, or on vacation, or at school or work, the way we measure that we remain in him, is examining our words and deeds. Are they in line with Christ’s love, or not? John tells us finally: The way we know that he remains in us, is from the Spirit he gave us (3:24). Are we Spirit-filled in our words and deeds? Our personal relationship with God is not necessarily about good feelings – it’s about something deeper, which is listening to and discerning the Holy Spirit within us. When we grow in this simple concept in every moment of the day, consciously and mindfully “remaining” in Christ, then we will access the Holy Spirit within us, and our life will move beyond the ordinary to the extraordinary. Questions for Small Groups:

1. Have you ever been approached by a Christian who asked you about having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? How did you react?
2. Have you ever thought about yourself or other family members, that they are “good Catholics” just because they received all the Sacraments and go to church?
3. What’s the difference, in your mind, between the “good order” of following religious duties, and “remaining in Christ?” Does this challenge your thinking?
4. Read 1 John 3:18 out loud. On a scale of 1 to 10, how are you doing with loving God and others in both words and deeds?
5. What’s your biggest take-away from this series?

With blessings,
Fr. Reichlen

Bible Study - the Gospel of Mark With Father Reichlen

This will be a virtual (online) Bible Study on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm.

May 5, 12, 19

June 2, 9, 16

It will be live streamed on the Church of St John Website www.churchofstjohn.com , Facebook page and YouTube .

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus, St John's Council is offering a \$500 scholarship to a student entering 9th grade in Sept 2021 at Notre Dame HS. The Awardee will be eligible for \$200 tuition assistance grants in the following 3 years of HS. Applicants must be a member of St John's Parish. The candidates must provide all required information no later than the postmarked date of May 17, 2021. Applications may be obtained in the Church of St John's Parish Office.

Virtual Grief Support Group

If you are experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one, you are not alone. Please join us as we navigate together through one of life's most painful and difficult challenges.

May 6th—June 3rd

Thursday evenings 6:30 - 7:30 pm on Zoom.

Contact Leslie 201-970-2947 /Lesliepett@yahoo.com or the Parish Office at 570-223-9144 for Zoom access codes and more information.

All are welcome. Open to everyone, everywhere.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4)



Tech Team Members Needed

We are calling forth parishioners to be part of our Tech Team. We've noticed, for example, that teenagers are really good at running our cameras and operating our PowerPoint slides and we hope there are other teens who are willing to step up! You parishioners are a significant part of our future vision as a church of "growing disciples who are growing disciples." We would be honored that you would share your time, your talents, and your presence, and we hope that a deeper connection here could deepen your faith and your ties to others. If you are interested in being a part of the Tech Team, visit our website, www.churchofstjohn.com and use the "Tech Team Info." button to fill out the form. We look forward to hearing from you!

Wedding Anniversary Mass

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th and 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2021 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 6th at the Cathedral of St Peter.

The Mass will begin at 2:30, and attendance will require advance reservation. To register use this link: <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/enrichment/wedding-anniversary-mass-june-6-2021/> .

For questions or concerns, or if there are issues registering online, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development. jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org 570-207-2213 x 1104



PLEASE HELP!



This is Pro-Life Fund Raiser for
Baby Bottle Boomerage



May 9, Mother's Day to June 20, Father's Day

Take an empty baby bottle on Mother's Day May 9, Just like a well-tossed boomerang, bring it back full of coins, currency and checks.

Bring back bottles with any amount

Drop off baby bottles in the receptacles at the back of the church after Mass by Father's Day June 20.



This Week at St. John's

MONDAY, MAY 3

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer

TUESDAY, MAY 4

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer

7:30 pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer

6:00 pm - BSA Troop 902 Meeting

7:00 pm - Bible Study: Gospel of Mark

THURSDAY, MAY 6

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer

6:30 pm - Music Ministry Rehearsal (In Person)

6:30 pm - Virtual Grief Support Group (Zoom)

FRIDAY, MAY 7

8:00 pm - AA Meeting (In Person / Zoom)

5:30 pm - Columbiette's Officers Meeting (Zoom)

6:00 pm - Women's Bible Discussion Small Groups

SATURDAY, MAY 8 VIGIL

9:00 am - Confessions

10:00 am - First Confessions

5:00 pm - Parking Lot Communion Distribution

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Mother's Day

10:00 am - Faith Formation Class

11:45 am - Parking Lot Communion Distribution

St John's Organizations

ACTIVE -

Alcoholics Anonymous - Open meeting every Friday night at 8:00 pm. For information, please call Adele 570-269-1671. (In Person and Zoom)

Focolare Word of Life Gathering - 3rd Thursday at 5:30 pm. Prayer meeting based on the Gospels. For information, please call Carole Lippold 718-863-1105. (Zoom)

Grief Support Group - You are not alone. You can count on the Church of St John for grief support, as we navigate together, after the loss of a loved one, through one of life's most painful and difficult challenges. Call the parish office or contact Leslie - Lesliepett@yahoo.com or 201-970-2947 for more information and to participate. (Zoom)

Knights of Columbus -

1st (7:30 pm) and 3rd Tuesday (7:00 pm). For more information, please contact: Julio Cruz (Grand Knight) 570-656-0842. Everyone is invited to join us on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm to pray the Rosary for pro-life intentions.

St. John's Columbiettes - 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm. Women interested in becoming members, e-mail Violette -President - francois_3@msn.com or call 570-269-6203 (Zoom)

Women's Bible Discussion Group—1st & 3rd Fridays at 6:00 pm. For Information contact Violet at francois_3@msn.com (Zoom)

SUSPENDED - UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Charismatic Group - Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Come join us and learn about the Holy Spirit and how he manifests his gift through us. He leads, guides, teaches and protects us as we sing, pray and worship him.

"Mady's Kitchen" Free Community Dinner -

The last Sunday of each month. St. John's Church Hall Call: Laura - 570-588-1707

St John's Seniors - 1st Tuesday at 1:00 pm. President - Felix Martinez. Contact Laura Zaso - Secretary - 570-588-9358

Special Needs Worship Ministry -

In honor of Deacon Thomas Dello Russo. Our mission is simple; to welcome and support people with special needs and their families to grow in faith and participate in the life of our parish community. For all those interested, call Mary Galayda at 570-588-9242.

Guidelines for Events At St John's

There is no need for a reservation to attend public Masses. However, please be aware that if our church is filled to capacity, you may have to wait in your car and follow the Mass Live Stream, until the time for Communion in the Parking Lot. Note that all the procedures, as mandated by the Bishop, still apply – (1) stay home if you or members of your household are vulnerable or sick; (2) maintain social distancing; (3) wear a mask properly; and (4) at the end of Mass, exit immediately so that the church can be sanitized.

Communion Distribution will be in the Parking Lot on Saturdays at 5:00pm and Sundays at 11:45 am. Please follow the directions of the parking lot attendants. You will be expected to exit your car and walk to a designated space in the parking lot in order to receive Communion. Procedures may be altered because of inclement weather.



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Annette Atkinson x124
Mike Dwyer, x123
Mark Oney, x125

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Tuesday May 18 | Polls open 7am-8pm

Find your MST polling location:

West District: MST Municipal Building, 147 Municipal Drive

East District: MST Community Center, 5200 Milford Road***

***NEW POLLING LOCATION for anyone who voted at the Presbyterian Church.
The Church is no longer a polling location. Please vote at the Community Center.

For more information about voting:
Monroe County Office of Elections: 570-517-3165

MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com • facebook.com/mstowship • info@MSTownship.com • 570-223-8920



FREE DOG TRAINING
Sat. May 15, 11am

Free training with certified dog trainer
David Henon of University of Pets.
Dogs must be friendly with other dogs.
Issues with aggression must be
handled in private sessions.

W. Leroy Lewis Dog Park
108 Leroy Lane
E. Stroudsburg, PA 18302



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