

May 23, 2021/ Pentecost Sunday

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



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, May 22 - Vigil

4:00 pm Felix Martinez Sr.
by Dorothy & Felix Martinez
6:30 pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, May 23

8:30 am People of the Parish
11:00 am Anna Marie Costa by St. John's Seniors

MONDAY, May 24 Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Jn 19:25-34

9:00 am Dominick Gonzales by John & Peggy Pinto

TUESDAY, May 25 Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31

12:00 pm James McDonald
by Susan Yankee, Eric Dillner & Family

WEDNESDAY, May 26 Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Mk 10:32-45

9:00 am Cid Malinis by The Robledo Family

THURSDAY, May 27 Sir 42:15-25; Mk 10:46-52

12:00 pm Raymond Stafford by your sister Jackie

FRIDAY, May 28 Sir 44:1, 9-13; Mk 11:11-26

9:00 pm Betty Harper by The Harper Family

SATURDAY, May 29 - Vigil

4:00 pm Ziggy Paryzki by The Paryzki Family
6:30 pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, May 30

8:30 am Milagros Robledo by The Robledo Family
11:00 am Marie Sauve by Yvonne Accomasso



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, Carol Lake, Ashlyn Leide, Msgr. Al Lopinto, Teddy Lubanski, William McGrath, Luis Enrique Medina, Ursula Mercadante, Jeronimo Mestizo, Hugo Munillo, Samanta Murillo, Michael Paternoster, Joseph Perin, Joel Rivera, Erica Rizo, Liz Rubino, Kirsten Rutledge, Judy Smith, Karolyn Spost, Maria Stasolla, Javier Suarez, Sebastian Torres, Walker Family, Krystal Walz, Mitch Wlalto

FOR THE SOULS OF OUR DEARLY DEPARTED

Marie Caponi, Sharon Ciemiecki, Kathleen Cruz, Gail Engeman, Thomas Guiffre, Julian Jimenez, Imelda Justado, John McDonald, Charles McQuillan, Marlene McQuillan, Bridget Murphy, Marie Sauve, Kathleen Serwin, Jennie Spath

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

SANCTUARY CANDLE

People of the Parish
By Church of St John
May 22, 2021 — May 28, 2021

TABERNACLE CANDLE

Joan Lizzi
By Michael Lizzi
May 22, 2021 — May 28, 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.



FATHER'S DESK



“Half Truth” Week 2: I don’t need a Church to have a relationship with God

Dear brothers and sisters,

A half-truth is a statement that has some element of truth in it, but because it is partly wrong, it expresses a whole lie. During the course of this message series, which coincides with some major feast days of the Church, we’re going to refute certain half-truths that are popular in our culture, when it comes to faith and religion. We kicked off this series last week, saying that there is only one way to God, not many – the person of Jesus Christ. Who do you say that Jesus is? All of us are challenged to believe what he says about himself: I am THE Way, THE Truth, and THE Life (John 14:6).

This weekend we celebrate the birth of the Church at Pentecost, and the coming of the Holy Spirit. I am one of seventeen cousins on my father’s side of the family, including myself and my three brothers. The majority of my cousins were raised Catholic, but today out of all of us, only I and one of my brothers is raising his daughter Catholic and practices his faith. The rest are all raising their families without any religion at all. Sadly, the reality today is that almost all churches are shrinking. A recent national poll showed that for the first time ever, less than 50 percent of American adults belonged to a church (or synagogue, mosque, etc.) I’m certain that many of you can tell very similar stories in your families too. People have given up on the Church for many reasons: hypocrisy, scandal, bad experiences, and many other personal reasons.

Now many of the unchurched or “de-churched,” if they were raised Christian or Catholic, still actually profess belief God or in Jesus. However, there is a large group who simply do not believe that they really need a church to connect with God, and again, there are many reasons for this. This is a half truth – we CAN connect with God outside of church through nature, or music, or in our private prayer. Jesus is present wherever we pray in his name!

However, the whole truth is this – the Church is God’s chosen instrument to bring Christ to the world! There are many reasons why this is true. We need the Church in order to learn about Jesus, and to receive the gifts of the Sacraments. Every year around this time, we celebrate the next generation receiving First Holy Communion and Confirmation, along with the joyful moments of baptisms and marriages. Second, we need the church to be a visible sign that God invites everyone into a relationship with him. One characteristic of our welcoming community of St. John’s is that we are multi-cultural. We have church members from dozens of countries almost every continent, except Antarctica and Australia, as far as I know!

Third, we need the Church because God has given each of us different gifts and talents, and we all need the help of others to grow in our faith! This week, read 1 Corinthians 12, where St. Paul speaks about the Body of Christ, and the spiritual gifts given to us. When you read this passage, words and phrases may stick out for you. We all have gifts and talents, given by God, that are meant to be exercised, so that the Body is built up! The Church was, is, and will always be, God’s plan for us to connect with him! May we all exercise our gifts to build up the Body. Questions for Small Groups:

1. What reasons do you have to love the Church? What good things has the Church done for you? What makes it difficult for you to love the Church?
2. Paul lists some spiritual gifts in the reading. What gifts do you believe you might have? How can use the gift to serve in the church?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26. How does Paul describe the Church? What does this tell us about our need for the Church?
4. If a friend asked you why you are involved in Church, how would you respond?
5. What does it mean to stay committed to the Church despite its faults and failures?

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.

June 2, 9, 16

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



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.

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)



Quo Vadis Days 2021

It will be held June 20-22 at Marywood University, Scranton. This camp is for young Catholic men in High School (who were in 9-12th grade during the 2020/2021 school year) to deepen their faith, learn more about all vocations, and better discern God's call in their lives. The camp will feature dynamic talks, prayer, games, sports, activities, music and more. Participants will have the opportunity to meet Bishop Bambera, priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Scranton. Online registration is now open at vocations.dioceseofscranton.org. For more information, call 570-207-1452.



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.

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This Week at St. John's

MONDAY, MAY 24

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer
6:30 pm - Music Ministry Rehearsal (In Person)

TUESDAY, MAY 25

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer
6:00 pm - BSA Troop 902 Meeting

THURSDAY, MAY 27

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer
6:30 pm - Virtual Grief Support Group (Zoom)

FRIDAY, MAY 28

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

SATURDAY, MAY 29 VIGIL

9:00 am - Confessions
10:00 am - First Holy Communion Class (In Person)
5:00 pm - Parking Lot Communion Distribution

SUNDAY, MAY 30

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

10:00 am - First Holy Communion Class (Zoom)
11:45 am - Parking Lot Communion Distribution
12:00 pm - Youth Group Prom

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

Per the instructions of Bishop Bambera, if you are vaccinated, you no longer need to wear a mask inside the Church of St. John for Mass or other activities. Please be aware that anyone who is not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 MUST still wear a face mask. The church will maintain one section where the pews are still roped off to allow for social distancing, and another section that is not socially distanced. Please be respectful of others' safety. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please do not enter the church building. Thank you for your patience!

In the next several weeks and months, the church will GRADUALLY bring back things like holy water, candles, singing, and various liturgical ministries.

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.



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