

April 18, 2021/ Third Sunday of Easter

# Church of St. John

5171 Milford Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18302-9106

Phone: 570-223-9144 Website: [www.churchofstjohn.com](http://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 (Spanish Mass) - 6:30 pm  
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](mailto:stjohnfr@gmail.com)

Deacon Max Francois

*Permanent Deacon*

*Coordinator of Community & Service*

Phone - 570-688-7280

E-mail - [stjohndcn@gmail.com](mailto:stjohndcn@gmail.com)

Ms. Ana Garces

*Parish Secretary*

Phone - 570-223-9144

E-mail - [stjohnch29@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnch29@gmail.com)

Mrs. Bettianne Ozkenel

*Assistant Secretary*

E-mail - [stjohnch122@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnch122@gmail.com)

Mrs. Analia Kolakowski

*Pastoral Assoc. Director of Faith Formation*

Phone - 570-223-0888

E-mail - [stjohnre28@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnre28@gmail.com)

# Word, Worship and Prayer

## Third Sunday Of Easter

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48



## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, April 17 - Vigil

4:00 pm Ziggy Paryzki by The Paryzki Family

6:30 pm Alejandro Ortez & Rosa Canales  
by their daughter Amanda

### SUNDAY, April 18

8:30 am Anthony DiSantos by Marilyn Brizzi

11:00 am Frank Russotto by Laura Russotto

### MONDAY, April 19 Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

9:00 am Maria Gaddi Azcueta by Alday Family

### TUESDAY, April 20 Acts 7:51—8:1a; Jn 6:30-35

12:00 pm Felisa Pierce by Carrillo Family

### WEDNESDAY, April 21 Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40

9:00 am Walter Sanders by Barbara Sanders

### THURSDAY, April 22 Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

12:00 pm Mary Martinez by Dorothy & Felix Martinez

### FRIDAY, April 23 Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

9:00 pm Col. & Mrs. Gaudencio Gaddi  
by the Alday Family

### SATURDAY, April 24 - Vigil

4:00 pm People of the Parish

6:30 pm Juan Alexi Abreo by Fanny Aubin

### SUNDAY, April 25

8:30 am Fedencio Robledo by Milagros Robledo

11:00 am Cali Rivera by Fay O. Ryan

## SANCTUARY CANDLE

Frank Russotto

By Laura Russotto

April 17, 2021 — April 23, 2021

## TABERNACLE CANDLE

For All People To Experience

The Love And Comfort Of God

By Church of St John

April 17, 2021 — April 23, 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, Ermes Gutierrez, Betty Haines, Robin, Stephanie Jubak, Andy Kman, Bud Lake, Ashlyn Leide, Msgr. Al Lopinto, Teddy Lubanski, William McGrath, Luis Enrique Medina, Jeronimo Mestizo, Hugo Munillo, Samanta Murillo, Joseph Perin, Joel Rivera, Erica Rizo, Liz Rubino, Kirsten Rutledge, Marie Sauve, Maria Stasolla, Javier Suarez, Sebastian Torres, Walker Family

To add to this list, please email : [stjohnbultn@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnbultn@gmail.com)



## FATHER'S DESK



### “Anything but Ordinary” Week 3: The Power of Words and Applying God’s Word to Everyday Life

Dear brothers and sisters,

In this Easter series we’ve been saying that the Resurrection is the most extraordinary event in history, and as amazing as that is, there’s more. The power of God who raised Jesus from the dead is available to us, in our lives, in some ordinary practices. Our lives were never meant to be merely “ordinary.” Last week, we talked about the power of teamwork when it comes to our faith. The early Church was united in God’s purpose for them – to witness to the Resurrection – and because of that, they were blessed with God’s favor and attracted others.

Today we are speaking about the power of words. When I was a child I learned the saying, “Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” This saying is COMPLETELY FALSE! We all know from experience that a positive word, especially in our youth, can build us up and lead us in a positive direction, while a negative word can be a wound that we bear well into adulthood. Parents, coaches, teachers, and bosses have great power with their use of words, both positive and negative. The same is true for Church leaders and teachers of religion. We can build up or we can tear down.

This is one of the reasons why I as a pastor always encourage others to read the Bible, the Word of God. When it comes to our faith, we Catholics have a bad reputation for not reading the Bible. Perhaps the Bible was something that older generations, at times, were not encouraged to read or study. Perhaps you feel intimidated because you feel you lack enough knowledge and you don’t know where to start. My friends, the Bible is God’s Word! We believe that Jesus Christ is the Living Word, and in a sense, Jesus is present when we read and study God’s Word. Not only that, but there is a power of Jesus’ blessing and favor, when we strive to apply the Word to our everyday life.

In today’s second reading, we hear the first letter of John, who tells us: **The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him** (1 John 2:3-4). In other words, we can have an intellectual knowledge of the Bible, but not actually live it. There’s a difference between knowing about Jesus Christ, and actually obeying him in our everyday lives! There are many people who claim to be a believer in Jesus, but unfortunately that belief is not reflected at all in how they live. John goes on: **But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him** (1 John 2:5). The word “to keep” is extremely important here. When we keep something, we hold onto it and consider it precious. We do everything possible to not lose it or prevent it from being stolen. **“Keep his word”** is a very simple concept, but certainly not easy! This is where daily prayer and reflection come in, and allowing the Word to transform our thinking, our speech, and our behaviors and actions. On the other end of that transformation is God’s perfect love!

Questions for Small Groups:

1. When you were a child or teen, do you remember any moment when a parent, coach, or teacher offered you an encouraging word of advice that affected your life, or the direction of your life? What was that like?
2. Have you had a negative experience of “words:” in slander, gossip, or in angry or hateful speech?
3. Do you regularly read and study the Bible? If so, has this habit affected your life in a practical way? If not, what’s holding you back from making Bible reading part of your regular prayer life?
4. Read 1 John 2:5 out loud. What does “keep God’s word” mean for your everyday living, at this time in your life?

With blessings,

Fr. Reichlen

**Please note there will not be Confessions on April 24th.**

**Bible Study - the Gospel of Mark  
With Father Reichlen**

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

April 21  
May 5, 12, 19  
June 2, 9, 16

It will be live streamed on the Church of St John Website [www.churchofstjohn.com](http://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.



With Merciful Love  
Catholic Women's Conference  
On a tented green at  
Marywood University  
Saturday, June 19, 2021  
[cwcnepa.com](http://cwcnepa.com)

**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 on 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](mailto: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)



**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](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org)  
570-207-2213 x 1104)

Bulletin Insert: **Sunday April 18 to Sunday June 20**



**PLEASE HELP!**



This is Pro-Life Fund Raiser for  
*Baby Bottle Boomerage*

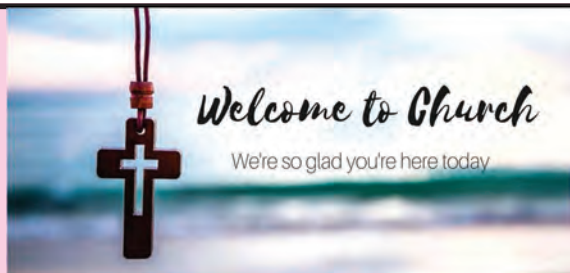


**May 9, Mother's Day to June 20, Father's Day**

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, APRIL 19**

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

**TUESDAY, APRIL 20**

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer  
7:00 pm - Knights of Columbus Rosary

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21**

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer  
6:00 pm - BSA Troop 902 Meeting  
7:00 pm Bible Study: Gospel of Mark

**THURSDAY, APRIL 22**

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

**FRIDAY, APRIL 23**

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

**SATURDAY, APRIL 24 VIGIL**

5:00 pm— Parking Lot Communion Distribution

***NO CONFESSIONS ON THE 24TH***

**SUNDAY, APRIL 25**

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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**Supervisors:**  
 Annette Atkinson x124  
 Mike Dwyer, x123  
 Mark Oney, x125

**Middle Smithfield Township DUMPSTER DAYS**

**April 28 – May 1 | All Days are 7am-1pm**

TWO Locations for your convenience:  
 MST Municipal Building, 147 Municipal Drive  
 Wooddale Garage, 792 Dancing Ridge Road

Drop & go shredding • Now accepting waste oil • Priced by vehicle  
 Contactless event. You must unload your own vehicle

**For more information:**  
[rheller@mstowship.com](mailto:rheller@mstowship.com) **570-223-8920 x142**

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MST Community Center  
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