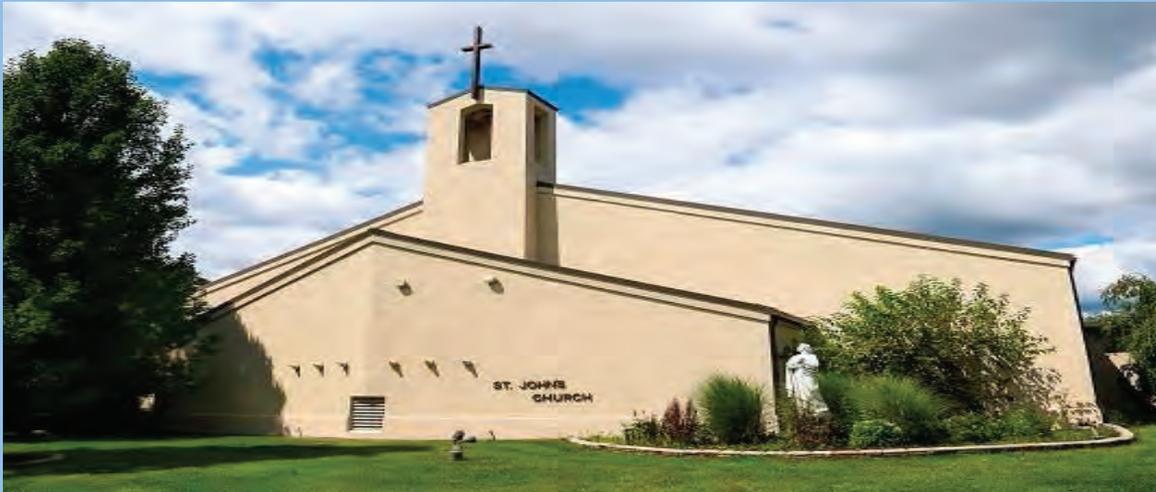


February 21, 2021/ First Sunday of Lent

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 (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

Deacon Max Francois

Permanent Deacon

Coordinator of Community & Service

Phone - 570-688-7280

E-mail - stjohnnch@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

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15



SATURDAY, February 20 - Vigil

4:00 pm (Live Stream Mass with Musicians)

People of the Parish

6:30 pm (Live Stream Mass)

For the Deceased Souls of Purgatory

by Fanilva Aubin

SUNDAY, February 21

8:30 am People of the Parish

11:00 am Pasquale DiGregorio

by Connie & Bob DiGregorio

MONDAY, February 22 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

9:00 am For the protection of all children from abortion
by AOH

TUESDAY, February 23 Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

12:00 pm Jose Conrado Gallego by German Castro

WEDNESDAY, February 24 Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

9:00 am Therese M Buchanan by Monica & Mark Miller

THURSDAY, February 25 Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25;

Mt 7:7-12

12:00 pm Consuelo Castro by German Castro

FRIDAY, February 26 Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

9:00 am People of the Parish

SATURDAY, February 27 - Vigil

4:00 pm (Live Stream Mass with Musicians)

Frank Russotto by Laura Russotto

6:30 pm (Live Stream Mass)

Steve Golas by Marta Devia

SUNDAY, February 28

8:30 am People of the Parish

11:00 am Rose Antoine by Gina

SANCTUARY CANDLE

For God's Blessing on the People of the World

By Church of the St John

February 20, 2021 — February 26, 2021

TABERNACLE CANDLE

People of the Parish

By Church of St John

February 20, 2021 — February 26, 2021

Stewardship

"A DISCIPLE'S RESPONSE
WITH TREASURE"

Joseph Clampet - Finance Council

Month of January

Monthly Offering \$39,860.00

At this time, there are 680 families receiving envelopes. We are asking that all of our parishioners will utilize either the envelopes they are receiving or start using the electronic giving option.

For more information on electronic giving or if you would like to receive envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

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, Albert & Maria Alfaro, Mary Allen, Antoinette Baguley, Dr. Vincent Bellafiore, Angelo Benedetto, John Bonito, Michele Cross, Kasey Dirato, Lenny Di Santo, Domenic Fasano, Rick Fisher, Maddie Foley, Michael, Gregory, Ermes Gutierrez, Betty Haines, Lily James, Robin, Andy Kman, Ashlyn Leide, Vanessa Mahon, Francine Mann, Eion McNally, Luis Enrique Medina, Jeronimo Mestizo, Hugo Munillo, Samanta Murillo, Mike Murphy, Liantonio Murray, Fred Onken, Joseph Perin, Joel Rivera, Erica Rizo, Madison Roberts, Kirsten Rutledge, Walter Sadowski, Mark Sawitzky, Jason Schafer, Javier Suarez, Sebastian Torres, Walker Family, Marge Wilton

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



FATHER'S DESK



“Needy” Week 1: Learning to Love Yourself First

Dear brothers and sisters,

In this time of COVID-19 and great stress and burden for so many people, it may be revealed more clearly than ever that we need God, and that we need others. We can't live life on our own! Because of our fallen nature, all of us will be tempted at times to selfishness, and as we kick off our Lenten series, we want to look at a subtle way that our neediness can express itself in our lives, by our lack of self-care. To kick off this series, we recognize a simple truth, that there is a God, and it's not us. We are the created, and God is the Creator. Logically then, as created beings we have basic needs – needs like food, water, and rest. Spiritual maturity requires that we face our needs and meet them in a healthy way. If we deny our physical needs, then we will suffer and become chronically unhealthy; and the same is true for our spiritual needs. As followers of Jesus Christ, we want to grow to learn, more and more, how to meet the needs of our soul, in a healthy way.

In the Gospel of Mark, as Jesus approached his Passion, he has one positive encounter with a scribe of the Jewish Law; we hear: **One of the scribes, when he came forward and heard them disputing and saw how well [Jesus] had answered them, asked him, “Which is the first of all the commandments?” Jesus replied, “The first is this: ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.’** (Mark 12:28-31). Jesus masterfully sums up all the commandments of the Jewish Law in a simple and profound way, and the two-fold commandment to **Love God**, and **Love People**, given by Jesus, is the mission of the church. Notice that Jesus says, **“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”** It's necessary to love ourselves first, to truly love others! It's like when you get on an airplane, and the flight attendant gives the instructions for putting on a mask in case of an emergency. The flight attendant always instructs passengers to first put on their own masks, before helping the people in the seat next to them, even their own children. If we are honest, many of us don't tend to think of our needs first – we either have a “tough guy” attitude that somehow tending to our own needs is weak, or we have a “nurturing” attitude that our role as a provider or nurturer always means that we have to chronically sacrifice ourselves and our own health, in order to serve and help our loved ones. Both attitudes are based in a false humility that is rooted in pride. The truth is that if we learn how to meet our own needs well, we will be better able to love God and to love others.

The bottom line of our Lenten series is this: there is a God, and it's not us. We are the created – and therefore we have needs. May we learn to take the responsibility to take care of ourselves – and that this is, in fact, a spiritually mature thing to do. Questions for Small Groups:

1. On a scale of 1-5, how good are you at self-care? Why do you answer as you do?
2. Do you agree or disagree that your ability to love others will fall to your ability to love and care for yourself? Does it feel selfish to meet your needs first?
3. How could you be better taking care of yourself? What legitimate need do you tend to neglect?
4. Is there a legitimate need you are tempted to meet in an illegitimate or immoral way?
5. If you observed someone you loved, taking care of themselves in the way you care for yourself, would you be concerned? Why or why not?

With blessings,
Fr. Reichlen

Holy Week 2021

Palm Sunday: Saturday March 27:

4:00 pm (Live Stream Only)
Spanish Mass at 6:30 pm.

Sunday March 28:

Masses - 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon.

Please make reservations (required) at www.churchofstjohn.com or contact the Parish Office.

Holy Communion with Palm Distribution in the Church Parking Lot :

March 27th - 5:00 pm

March 28th - 11:00 am and 1:00 pm.

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper:

April 1 - 7:00 pm.

Good Friday April 2:

Sacrament of Confession - 9:00 to 11:00 am.
Outdoor Stations of the Cross - 3:00 pm.
Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 5:00 pm.

Holy Saturday April 3:

Sacrament of Confession - 9:00 to 11:00 am.
Blessing of the Easter Baskets - 12:00 noon.
Solemn Vigil of Easter Night - 8:00 pm (Live Stream Only.)
(No Saturday 4:00 pm or 6:30 pm Mass)

Happy Easter!
All are welcome!

Easter Sunday April 4:

Masses at 8:00 am, 10:00 am, and 12:00 noon.

Please make reservations (required) at www.churchofstjohn.com or contact the Parish Office.

Easter Sunday:

Holy Communion in the Parking Lot -
April 4th - 11:00 am and 1:00 pm.

Bible Study - the Gospel of Mark With Father Reichlen

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

February 24
March 3, 10, 24
April 7, 14, 21
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.

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.

Beginning February 25th.

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)

Lenten Opportunities

Mondays of Lent - February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 6:00 to 7:00pm – Sacrament of Confession: "The Light is On for You." Eucharist Adoration and Confession in the church.

Tuesday of Lent - March 16 at 7:00 pm.

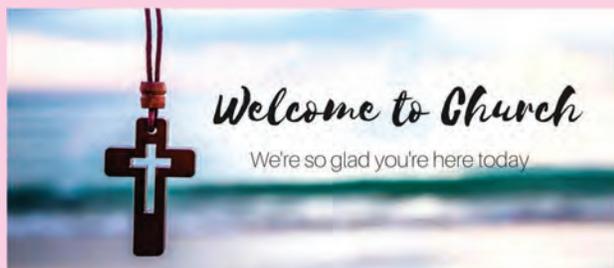
Live Streamed Rosary led by Fr. Reichlen. Rosary is both Live Streamed and in-person

Thursday - March 18 at 5:30 pm – Word of Life Online Prayer Group. All are welcome! Call Carole Lippold at 718-863-1105 to sign up for Zoom meetings.

Fridays of Lent - February 26, March 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 7:00 pm – Stations of the Cross & Adoration/ Benediction both Live Streamed and in-person.

Saturday March 6 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm–Focolare Lenten Retreat sponsored by St. John's Focolare Prayer Group via Zoom. All are welcome! Call the Parish Office to register.

Sunday March 21 at 3:00 pm – **Healing Mass**, both Live Streamed and in-person.



This Week at St. John's

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer
6:00 - 7:00 pm - The Light Is On: Confession

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer
7:00 pm - Rosary

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Private Prayer
6:00 pm - St. John's Small Groups
7:00 pm - Adoration & Benediction
7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross
7:30 pm - AA Meeting (In Person & Zoom)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:00 - 11:00 am - Confessions
5:00 pm - Parking Lot Communion Distribution

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28 - 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

10:00 am - Faith Formation
11:45 pm - Parking Lot Communion Distribution

St John's Organizations

ACTIVE -

Alcoholics Anonymous - Open meeting every Friday night at 7:30 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)

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 Violett at francois_3@msn.com (Zoom)

SUSPENDED - UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Adult Church Choir - 11:00 am Mass. For information please contact the church office.

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) exit immediately after Holy Communion so that the church can be sanitized.

Communion Distribution will be in the Parking Lot on Saturdays at 5:00 pm, and Sundays at 12:15 pm. 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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