

Sunday, February 14, 2021 – The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Goal: As a community may we seek to be of one heart and one mind, to know, love and serve our Lord by Letting His love and light shine through each of us.

From the Cluttered Desk and Mind of Deacon Bob

Blessings to everyone here at St. John the Evangelist Church in Centerville-Saugerties. And welcome to the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

This will be the last Sunday in Ordinary time until May 24, the week before Memorial Day. On this next Wednesday, we will have the blessing with Ashes and the start of Lent. From our youth, we remember Lent as a time to give things up. I gave up chocolate, I gave up TV. I tried giving up fighting with my brothers, but that didn't work very well.

The readings today don't really talk about giving things up. That's because they're not about Lent; we are still in Ordinary time, and the Church carries on in the normal course of events. The first reading and the Gospel talk about leprosy, which was really any skin disease. The Israelites realized that a skin disease could be easily transmitted in a large, close-knit group like the Israelites on their journey. So an infected person had to be quarantined. If the infection cleared up, they were welcome back into the camp after being examined by the priest and declared clean.

In the Gospel, we are again following Jesus right after last week's Gospel. In the entire Old Testament, there are only two people healed of leprosy, Miriam, Moses' sister, and Naaman, a Gentile general. But Jesus, right at the beginning of His public ministry, heals the first of the many lepers He will encounter throughout His ministry. Why does He heal the leper? Because He is "moved with pity". Jesus wants to give him back his life. And even though the leper disobeys Jesus and tells everyone about what Jesus did, Jesus does not get angry. He has pity, and knows how happy the man is to have his life back again.

Both of these readings are examples of doing for others. In the first reading, the sick person must give up his present life for the sake and health of others he loves and those he may not know. In the Gospel, Jesus gives the man back his life, without gaining anything for Himself. And Paul, in the Letter to the Corinthians, tells his listeners to avoid giving offense, not by giving in to everything that society wants, but by trying to bring glory to God. Don't be obnoxious or argumentative just to be that way, but be willing to stand up for God and your belief in Him. And try to do it in a pleasing way, giving love and comfort to one another.

We can all give something to one another. It may be a friendly word, a smile, help with a task, or many other actions, words, thoughts, or prayers. Rather than giving something up this Lent, consider doing something more. Add something you will do for another person every day.

Thank you and God bless you.

RESERVED MASSES:

Sat 2/13	5:30 p.m.	Paul O'Brien <i>Req. by Todd O'Brien</i>
Sat 2/20	5:30 p.m.	Walter Hackett <i>Req. by JoAnn & Russ Treulter</i>
Sat 2/27	5:30 p.m.	Alvin Rumble <i>Req. by Todd O'Brien</i>

COMMUNION SERVICES:

St. John's has a Communion Service every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 8:30 AM. All are welcome. Morning Prayer is prayed immediately before the service at 8:15 AM. Please come.

ATTENDANCE

Last week, we had 50 people at 5:30 Mass.

Please call 845-217-3333 to reach Alison at the Parish Office or for Religious Education. To reach Fr. Chris in an EMERGENCY, please call 845-246-4913.

WeShare Donations

If you would like to make a one-time donation set up automatic weekly donations, please consider setting up an account through WeShare. You may find further information here:
<https://sjechurch.weshareonline.org>

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Mon – President’s Day
Wed – Ash Wednesday

*The Parish Office will be closed on
Monday, Feb. 15th in observation of President’s Day.*

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection this weekend to support Peter’s Pence for the Works of the Holy Father.

LENTEN BOOKS

Thanks to the generosity of a parishioner, we will have the little black books for Lent again this year. They will be available at the door of the church on the way out. They are an excellent meditation guide to help focus your thoughts and prayers during Lent. Please take one and use it.

MAGNIFICAT FOR KIDS

Thanks to a generous donor, we have some daily prayer books for kids 6-12 from Magnificat. They have the daily readings and a reflection geared to younger readers. Please take one if you know of someone who might use it.

LECTORS

The lector for this week will be Vanessa Loviza. Next week it will be Mike Zollo.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Assisting Fr. Chris this week will be Joanne Treutler and Maureen Webster. Next week will be Deacon Bob.

CONTACTING MISSING PARISHIONERS

I’m sure you are aware that many people have not returned to church after the shutdown because of COVID. I would like to try and reach out to those who are not here, and see if they need assistance, encouragement, or support. Please try to remember who used to sit next to you, on either side, in front or in back of you, and give me their names. With the help of other parishioners, I would like to contact them, by phone or by mail, and let them know they are missed, they are cared about, and see if there is anything we as a parish can do for them. Thank you for your help with this.

CLYNK

We are still doing Clynk with Hannaford. We are collecting deposit bottles in the shed out back, and then putting them in the specially marked bags so that St. John’s gets credit for the deposit value. You can also take a bag home with you and fill your own bag at home with all your deposit containers and bring it to Hannaford’s yourself.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Believe it or not, this Wednesday, February 17, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season. We will have the imposition of Ashes on Wednesday morning after the 8:30 Communion service, and at the 6:30pm Mass here at St. John’s. Masses will also be offered at 8am at St. Mary’s and 10:30am at St. Joseph.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will have the Stations of the Cross every Friday here at St. John’s during Lent. Please add this devotion to your Lenten practice. Recall and relive what Jesus did for you because of His great love for you.

COMMUNION CALLS

If you or someone you know would like to receive Communion at home, either because of illness or infirmity, or because they don’t feel safe in church, please call me, Deacon Bob, and I will arrange for someone to come and bring communion to them or to you. Call me at 845-706-1035. If you are considering becoming an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, please contact me. There is some instruction that is needed which I will be glad to provide. It is a most rewarding experience.

FOOD PANTRY

We expect to have an announcement shortly about restarting the Food Pantry. If you are interested in being involved, contact Gabby Baker at g.baker1@ppcsd.org, or give her a call.

THE SAUGERTIES TAKEOUT PROJECT

The Saugerties Area Chamber of Commerce has started a new program to try and support the restaurants, bakeries and food stores in Saugerties, and, at the same time, helping to feed our hungry neighbors. You buy a gift card, and then send it to the Chamber of Commerce. They will distribute the gift cards to the Saugerties Area Council of Churches or the Saugerties Central Schools to ensure they are given to families or individuals who can benefit from the food or meals. Look for posters in the stores in town, and help our neighbors if you can.



YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Vincent Saturn, Gene Woodruff, Jane Fiore, Peter Kandora, John Lynch, Nancy Dwyer, Claire Miller, “Smokey” Woods, Zac Swart, Ann Deacon, Debbie Lieberman, MaryLou Dengler, Anne Monfrini, Joan O’Leary, Dan Kelly, Richard Teitter, Ann Nelson, Vinnie & Hilda McDermott, Loretta Beisel, Joanne Sussman, Brittney Ruskie, Thomas Houlihan Sr., Frankie Cullen, Walter Johnson, Charles Bowls, Joe Font, Debbie Volkle, Mike Leung, Pam Murphy, Debra Trees, Fred Belfance, John Bechtold, Paul Donlon, Olivia Trees, Joe Nista, Frances Riccio, Carol Loesch, Bruce Meservey

To place or remove name from sick list, please call 217-3333