

Sunday, February 28, 2021 – The Second Sunday of Lent

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 Second Sunday of Lent.

First, I want to thank Todd for his letter last week about the music ministry. His playing for us, as well as Catherine's contribution as cantor, have added immeasurably to our services. It's a fine line he has to walk in choosing music for us to sing and maintaining safe protocols.

It's been two weeks since I've written, and a lot has happened in that time. We have gone from Ordinary Time to the Lenten season. We had Ashes on Ash Wednesday. I distributed them after the 8:30 AM communion service, where we had about 15 people, and Fr. Chris distributed them at the 6:30 Mass, where we had about 100 people. I also went to a number of people's homes to give them Ashes during the day. I am so glad that so many people came to receive this visible sign of their faith.

I also had the opportunity to go to a number of homes the Monday before Ash Wednesday to assist in the sacrament of The Anointing of the Sick. This sacrament is available whenever anyone has a serious need, such as before an operation, if someone is homebound because of illness or disability, or has a terminal illness. Please, consider anyone you may know who might benefit from this sacrament, and let me know.

In the readings this week, it may seem odd that the Gospel from Mark, toward the end of his Gospel, is when Jesus is on the way to His passion and death, here at the beginning of Lent. But the Church wants to remind us of the end result of this period of penitence and waiting. And also to remind us of who Jesus is, to remind us that it is God who is offering His Son up for our salvation. We heard last week about His temptation at the very beginning of His public ministry, and His victory over the devil. Now we are reminded that He is going to His great sacrifice for us, and that He will again triumph over the devil, who will tempt Him to avoid the suffering and follow His own human will instead of His Father's will.

We, of course, are tempted every day to follow our own will and not God's will for us. And just like Jesus, we have to make a choice every day whether to follow our will or God's will, in choices big and small. If we, like Jesus, make the time every day to turn to God in prayer and ask for His help and His strength to seek to know and to follow His will, then we, like Jesus, will hear the words, "This is my beloved son or daughter."

Thank you and God bless you.

RESERVED MASSES:

Sat 2/27	5:30 p.m.	Alvin Rumble <i>Req. by Todd O'Brien</i>
Sat 3/6	5:30 p.m.	Charles Rothe and sons Emil & Charlie, and grandson Erich <i>Req. by Lillie</i>
Sat 3/13	5:30 p.m.	Anniversary remembrance of Agnes & Joseph Straub <i>Req. by Judy Snyder</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.

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.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament is one of the seven sacraments. As St. James says in his Letter, "If someone is sick, let him call the priest to pray over him and to anoint him with oil." If you or anyone you know would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, please let Deacon Bob know, and he will try to arrange a priest to come and anoint them and pray over them.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

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

ATTENDANCE

Last week, we had 46 people at 5:30 Mass.

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.

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.



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.

JACK ROSE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

For the next several months we will be collecting loose change at St. Joseph's, St. Mary's and St. John's. This spring we will be accepting applications from graduating seniors from these parishes who will be continuing their education. If you are interested in mailing in a donation, please send it to: St. John's Jack Rose Scholarship, 36 Cedar Street, Saugerties, NY 12477. Thank you!

THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Pope Francis has decreed 2021 the Year of St. Joseph and declared that a Plenary Indulgence may be granted daily to the faithful, through prayer and works which have been established to strengthen the faithful with the help of St. Joseph, in order that they may receive comfort and relief from tribulations. Posters have been positioned at each church entrance, as well as prayer cards which contain an Act of Consecration to St. Joseph. Those who make the Consecration to St. Joseph may also gain a Plenary Indulgence.

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.



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, Mark Moore

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