

Sunday, March 7, 2021 – The Third 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 Third Sunday of Lent.

As I started this week's letter, I thought, "Here I am just counting down the weeks. Last week was the Second Sunday of Lent, this week is the Third Sunday, next week will be the Fourth Sunday, and so on. But what does this mean? Just time passing by?"

I hope not. These weeks are meant to mean something to us. Remember years ago, when I talked about the Slinky? The Church year, when drawn on a piece of paper, is a circle, and each season follows the one before, and each Holy Day follows the one before. We go from Advent to Christmas to Lent, to Easter, to Pentecost, then back to Advent, and on and on.

But imagine the Church year imprinted on a Slinky. You go around the circle of the Slinky, but you aren't where you started! You're on the next coil, higher up on the Slinky. You're closer to God, not in the same place, understanding more of God's purpose, more of the meaning of your life in God's plan for you, for your world, for the people in your world.

I've talked before about, along with giving something up for Lent, try doing something more. Can you add something to your daily or weekly routine, just for Lent? Maybe come to the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7 PM. Maybe spend one half-hour a week, or one half-hour more a week, reading the Bible. Can you say a decade of the Rosary while driving to work in the morning? Did you get one of the little black books? Are you still reading that in the morning? Can you say a prayer for the person who used to sit next to you or around you in Church before the pandemic who isn't here now? Maybe, as you put your head on the pillow at night, thank God for the day, whether it was good or bad, and think of how He was with you during the day.

I would ask you to please do something different this Lent, something that will make a difference in your life, and maybe in someone else's life as well. We are all united in Christ; think about how you can affect someone else today or this week. Let someone know you are praying for them, even a family member.

We are a community of believers, a community of followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus wants us to share our love for Him with others. His greatest love is shown in the Eucharist, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, that He gave us at the Last Supper. Ask people who aren't coming to Church if they want to receive the Eucharist, to have someone bring it to them at their home. We can do that. Then let me know, and I will work to arrange to have someone bring them Communion every week.

Thank you and God bless you.

RESERVED MASSES:

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 Joanne Treutler. Next week will be Deacon Bob.

ATTENDANCE

Last week, we had 47 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.

HOLY WEEK/EASTER

All Holy Week activities and celebrations will take place at St. Mary of the Snow. We will have a Mass at St. John's on Easter Sunday, probably at 8 AM. I am hoping we can have an outdoor procession as we have had in past on Palm Sunday, just not out to Route 212.

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 at 7pm 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.

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Mon – Saint John of God, Religious

Tue – Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

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. I have been contacted by a couple of people who would like to receive Communion. I do not have the time to do this. If anyone is willing to bring Communion regularly to two people or couples at their homes, please contact me, Deacon Bob, at 845-706-1035, and I will give you the details. 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