

Sunday, April 25, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

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 Fourth Sunday of Easter.

Hallelujah! He is risen. It is still the Easter season. Our minds and our activities may have turned from Easter to all the things we have to do in spring; plant the flowers for summer, weed the gardens, pick up the sticks in the lawn, etc. But it is still Easter season. We are, or should be, still thinking about and thanking God for this marvelous, miraculous, tremendous gift He gave us, the Risen Lord.

As a Deacon, as with priests and other ordained religious, I have to say morning and evening prayer, the Office. These readings, as well as the readings at daily Mass, all are still focused on the Easter events of the early church, the appearances of Jesus to His disciples, His words to them, their preaching to the Jews at Pentecost, all the activities of that first Easter season. So it is perhaps easier for me to remain focused on the Easter season and the Easter proclamations. But it does not need to be difficult for you, either.

Think about what has just happened, three short weeks ago. Jesus rose from the dead. He was killed on the cross. He died for you. He knew all of your sins, and the sins of every other person in all of time, there on the cross. He knew you, and He gave Himself, everything of Himself, there on the cross, as atonement for each of your sins, the big ones as well as the small ones. He offered Himself up to God as expiation, atonement, penance for your sins and mine, as well as every other person who ever has lived or will live. He did this willingly for each one of us.

I'm pretty sure most people have heard a statement like, "Jesus would have suffered and died even if you were the only person on earth." He loves you that much. Not loved, in the past, when He physically died on the cross, but now, loves you, when He dies symbolically at the Consecration, offering up His Body and Blood for your sanctification and purification.

I encourage you to think this week about the Eucharist. Remember last year, when we couldn't receive the Eucharist or even attend church? I was not, and hopefully you were not, satisfied with "spiritual communion" while watching Mass on TV or the internet. There is no substitute for receiving Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Real Presence of the Eucharist. He is present to us, real, in the consecrated host. This is His Body. This is His Blood. This is Jesus.

Think about that this week. Contemplate His Presence in the Eucharist. Think about how you feel as you come up to the altar to receive Him in Communion. And I would ask you to also think about the people who used to come to church, who cannot come or don't feel comfortable being here because of health issues or other issues. Ask them if they would like to receive the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ on a regular basis at home. I and others are always ready and willing to bring Communion to people at home. Just like Peter and the other Apostles, we are all called to be evangelists, and bring Jesus to the people.

God bless you.

RESERVED MASSES:

Sun 4/24 5:30p.m. Corrine Lok
Req. by Nancy DeFlon

Sat 5/1 5:30 p.m. NO INTENTION

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.

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sun – World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Wed – Saint Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; Saint Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest

Thu – Saint Catherine of Sienna, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

Fri – Saint Pius V, Pope

Sat – Saint Joseph the Worker

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. Call him at 845-706-1035.

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, Deacon Bob, 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. It was good to see so many people I have not seen for a while at the Easter Mass. It reminded me again that there are many people who could be served by home Communion ministry, first by contacting them and then by bringing them Communion.

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!

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 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. I had the joy of instructing two people a few weeks as ministers of Holy Communion at home. It is a most rewarding experience.

FOOD PANTRY ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

If you might be interested in helping with this corporal work of mercy, please let Gabby Baker know. She can be reached at g.baker1@ppcsd.org. **St Johns food pantry will be the first Saturday of May from 10am -12. If someone cannot get there. Please feel free to let Gabby know and she will try to accommodate.**

ATTENDANCE

Last week, we had 54 people at 5:30 mass.

2021 ANNUAL HOLY NAME SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

St. Mary of the Snow-St. Joseph’s Holy Name Society will be awarding three scholarships to graduating seniors of St. Mary of the Snow & St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist, Centerville. (Must be an active parishioner) Applications are available in the church as well as in the foyer of the Parish Center on Cedar Street. Applications are to be returned to Mr. Thomas A. Resso by May 31, 2021. Please mail the application to: 2038 Route 32, Saugerties, NY 12477.

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. Or leave it in the shed. Thank you for your continued support. This does help in our outreach.

EUCCHARISTIC MNISTERS

Assisting Fr. Chris this week will be Deacon Bob. Next week, will be TBD.

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office will be moving out of the school building this month and back to our former location in the parish center at 36 Cedar Street! We thank everyone for their patience and cooperation as we transition back to the office. Catherine will be available on Wednesday & Thursday between 10:30am – Noon for Mass card purchases.



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, Carol Loesch, Bruce Meservey, Mark Moore, Jill Trees
To place or remove name from sick list, please call 217-3333