

Sunday, August 8, 2021 – Nineteenth 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 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We are still in the midst of the Bread of Life discourse from St. John's Gospel. Jesus is teaching His large group of followers, admirers, hangers-on, and others who are intrigued by what He is saying and doing about His true mission on earth, to bring the bread of God, His Body and Blood, to mankind.

In the first reading, from First Kings, Elijah has just slain all the prophets of Baal, whom Jezebel, the queen, had brought into Israel. Jezebel then swore that, by that time tomorrow, she would kill Elijah. So he ran away. Like the Israelites in the desert, like the Apostles after the Agony in the Garden, Elijah forgot about the care that God will take of us, and he ran away in fear. But God shows His love, care, and concern for Elijah. He ran into the desert and prepared to die. But God gives him bread and water, enough so that Elijah can walk for forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the same mountain, Sinai, where God gave Moses the Ten Commandments.

The Gospel starts with "The Jews murmured about Jesus..." This is not wondering what Jesus could mean by what He said or wondering how this was to be interpreted. This is more complaining, whining and moaning. They bring up their old complaint about Jesus: He's just the carpenter's son. We know Him. He's nothing special. He's trying to make Himself important. Again. So they don't listen to what He says, they interpret His words in the light of their own preconceived ideas of who or what he is. I'm reminded of the great line from Jesus Christ Superstar, spoken by Mary Magdalen: "He's a man; He's just a man." This is how Jesus' followers see Him. They aren't willing to try and understand what He means, they won't give Him the opportunity to explain more fully what He is offering to them, what they can have if they will listen to Him, believe Him, and trust in Him. Jesus even asks the Apostles, the Twelve, if they will leave Him too.

It seems easy for us now to say that, of course, we would follow Him, we would choose to believe Jesus, because we have the benefit of hindsight, and two thousand years of Church teaching. But do you follow Him? Do you believe in Him? Do you trust Him? How many times have you or I had a situation where we felt lost, overwhelmed, beaten, and we have felt that we can't get through this? Do we remember that Jesus is here with us? Do we remember to pray to God, saying something as simple as "Jesus, I need Your help." I know that is rarely my first impulse. It's more like, "I have to work harder, do more, try again, fight my way through this", without ever thinking about God, without giving this struggle, however big or small, over to God. I'm working on that. You and I know God is with us, here and now, in every situation. Try today to remember to let God into every aspect of your life and let Him be in charge.

God bless you.

RESERVED MASSES:

Sat 8/7 5:30p.m. Anniversary remembrance of
Charlie Webster
*Req. by Marck & Maureen
Webster*

Sat 8/14 5:30 p.m. Helen Krzywonos
Req. by Thomas Liston

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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Assisting Fr. Chris this week will be JoAnn Treutler. Next week, it will be Deacon Bob.

LECTORS

The lector this week is Gaetana Sowles. Next week, it will be Bill Payne.

ATTENDANCE

Last week, we had 48 people at 5:30 mass.

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 arrange a priest to come and anoint them and pray over them. Call him at 845-706-1035.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Applications for the 2021-2022 school year are available in the church. Our program begins in First Grade. Please share this information with families who may be interested in the program.

If you are interested in volunteering in our program, please contact Alison at smssjreligious@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER 1ST – EXCITING NEWS!

Back in November 2020, St. Mary of the Snow, St. Joseph & St. John the Evangelist officially become one united parish. On September 1st, our finances will become one. I am excited to become the pastor of our merged parish and look forward to us continuing to grow together.

Also beginning September 1st, Alison will be returning to the office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10:30am to 4:30pm. Religious education will be held in person this year as well. ☺ More information will be forthcoming over the next month.

We will have one bulletin which will share news pertaining to all 3 churches, including Mass intentions and other activities. The deadline for bulletin submissions will be Tuesdays at 1pm.

Thank you for your continued support. Together we can work to help our parish grow and thrive. May God bless each of you.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tue – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Wed – Saint Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church
Thu – Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop
Fri – Saint Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr
Sat – Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

There will be a second collection this weekend to support the Pastoral Solidarity for the Church in Africa. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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

The Food Pantry is open on the First Saturday of every month between 10am – noon.

If anyone has any time to help with setup, distribution, or planning, please contact Gabby Baker at g.baker1@ppcsd.org.

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.

There are bags by the side door, as well as some in the shed, if you need a bag when the church is not open.



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, 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, Carol Loesch, Bruce Meservey, Mark Moore, Richard Evans, Joe Defino, Sr., Angela Mastracchio

To place or remove name from sick list, please call 845-217-3333