



Saint John of the Cross

Euclid, Ohio

Roman Catholic Parish

Dear Parishioners,

I hope you are doing well. January certainly has been fairly mild with the weather. I wish the tension in our country was a little more mild. As Joe Biden became our president this past week, I lifted him up in prayer in a very special way. I asked the Lord to give him the strength and the courage to serve and protect the people of the United States that is rooted in the Truths of God. Our nation's motto, *In God we Trust*, is not just a nice saying but hopefully what will guide this man. If we say we trust God, then we must follow His ways. As we know this was a very close vote and showed a very divided nation. My hope is that President Biden comes to unite the nation in the truths and trust of God. I feel we owe him the respect of the Office of President and we need to seek to hold him accountable to upholding the Constitution.

One of the areas of great concern in our nation is respect for ALL human life from natural conception until natural death. As Catholics, as Christians, as human beings we should work to ensure the dignity and respect for all human beings. This can be overwhelming with all the great threats to human life, but nevertheless we must be vigilant and consistent in our advocacy and support. In the month of January we remember the tragic day in our country when abortion became legal in 1973. As a parish we are big supporters of the 40 Days for Life Movement. The 40 Days movement does lots of extraordinary prayer, advocacy and witness. I encourage you to get involved.

Another major issue in our world, and even in our country, is human trafficking. The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General designated February 8th as an annual day of prayer, reflection and action against human trafficking. On this day, we remember and pray for survivors and victims of modern-day slavery. We pray that we may work together to remove the causes of this disgraceful scourge that is present in all our cities and neighborhoods. This day is also one of awareness and action: our prayers are strengthened three-fold when we accompany them with a willingness to become aware of the problem and become involved in erasing this evil. February 8th is also the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita. Born in the Darfur region of Sudan in 1869, St. Bakhita was kidnapped and enslaved as a child. Eventually she was sold to an Italian diplomat and taken to Italy, where she valiantly asserted her freedom with the help of the Cannossian Sisters of Venice. Through her faith, St. Bakhita realized the promise of liberty inherent in the human spirit. She lived out the rest of her life as a Cannossian sister, sharing her empowering testimony of human freedom and dignity. In 2000, Pope John Paul II canonized Josephine Bakhita, noting that in this saint, "we find a shining advocate of genuine emancipation." I encourage you to pray, research and advocate for an end to all human trafficking.

As Catholic Christians, I hope and pray we commit ourselves to advocacy of the important issues facing our world. Call on ALL our leaders to proclaim and legislate life so that every human being may have the opportunity for Life, Freedom and the pursuit of Happiness.

Make it a great week! See you in Church.

Peace,

Fr. John

FJB
BLOG





This new year is filled with hope and promise - opportunities abound to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2021, St. John of the Cross is reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2021 that reflect the promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us. We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/OH960, or text 'Enroll' to (Text-to-Give Number).

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.



BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

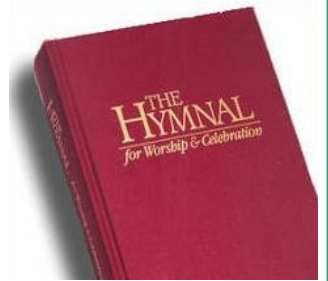
"Angels"

In this compilation of three episodes from his classic television program, "Life is Worth Living," Bishop Fulton Sheen delivers his thoughts on various elements of the Catholic Faith with his ever-present humor, animated presentation, and captivating mode of speaking. In the first segment, "Angels," Bishop Sheen explicates the nature of angels and the meaningful role they play in our world. In the second, "The Touch of Your Hand," Bishop Sheen delves into the beautiful truth that through His love, God makes us lovable, and we can effect this same transformation in our neighbor. Lastly, in "Caring," Bishop Sheen insists on the need to love our visible neighbors, and through these caring acts, love our invisible God.

WATCH ON FORMED.ORG

LOG IN: SRWSJCEUCLID.FORMED.ORG

HYMNAL NOTICE



One of the changes we made with the pandemic was the removal of the Hymnals. We have decided, that even when the pandemic is over, to no longer use the Hymnals. We will use the new screens that will display the words of the hymns at Mass. In addition, we will have Worship Aids for each Mass. This allows us much more flexibility and choice. We will be donating the hymnals to the Seminary for their use in the chapel. A number of you "dedicated/memorialized" some of the hymnals. We will have those available in the Gathering Space after Masses the next two weekends for you to claim if you would like any hymnal you sponsored. If they are not claimed we will donate those to the Seminary as well. We have a few that are also available if you just want one of your own. If you are not comfortable coming inside to the Gathering Space, please call the Office and we can put one aside for you.

Our Deepest Sympathies to the

Family of Robert Erxleben May they know the peace and comfort of God's love and find strength in the support of friends, family and our parish community.

‘One foot in heaven’

An update from the Hands United in Hope and Love Ministry

Even during a global pandemic, your hearts and holiday spirit have overflowed in support of the people of Nicaragua. Thanks to the parishioners of St. John of the Cross and St. Mary-Chardon, our Giving Tree appeal raised \$6,700, which we have already wired to Padre Tomás to administer.



Your gifts will go a long way to help our three struggling partner parishes in the Diocese of León.

In Chacraseca, Padre Adrian – the new pastor of The Sacred Heart of Jesus Church – will be better able to battle hunger and provide aid and comfort as cases of COVID-19 continue to increase in his community.

In El Viejo-Chinandega, the leaky and deteriorating roof of Padre Roger’s church barely withstood winds from two hurricanes that devastated coastal areas less than 50 miles away. Funds from our parishes will allow him to begin repairs before this spring’s rainy season.

And in León, your generosity will allow Padre Tomás’ new preschool for special needs children to remain open. In addition, four generous SJC parishioners provided tuition assistance for four orphaned students at his parish school. Padre sends his deepest gratitude and says he is confident that we already have “one foot in heaven” because of the care we provide for the poor.

We offer our sincerest thanks and blessings for all you do to ease the suffering and struggles of our friends in Christ in Nicaragua. The magnitude and impact of your continued love, prayers and financial support is far reaching and truly is changing the lives of those we touch through this beautiful global outreach.

¡Muchas gracias por el fondo de nuestros corazones!

Dale and Marie George, Hands United in Hope and Love ministry



40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

From February 17 – March 28, you are invited to join with other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray anytime between 7 am to 7 pm during the 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside **Preterm** - 12000 Shaker Blvd, Cleveland, 44120 or **Planned Parenthood** - 25350 Rockside Rd, Bedford Hts, 44146, or **Family Planning** – 462 Chardon St, Painesville, 44077.

Join us at the Kickoff Rally at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church gymnasium on Sunday, February 14 at 2 PM. For more information contact John Noall at clevelandpraysforlife@gmail.com or 216-245-9744

WEBSITES:

www.40daysforlife.com/cleveland

www.40daysforlife.com/painesville

www.40daysforlife.com/bedfordheights

Thank you - John Noall - Campaign Director - 40 Days for Life
Cleveland – Painesville – Bedford Hts



Monday, January 25

8:30 AM (JB/TS) † Tony Burrello

Tuesday, January 26

6:30 PM (JB) † St. John of the Cross Parish family

Wednesday, January 27

8:30 AM (JL) † St. John of the Cross Parish family

Thursday, January 28

6:30 (JL/TS) † Frank Kaluza

Friday, January 29

No Mass (8:30 am Morning Prayer; 9am-2pm Adoration)

Saturday, January 30

4 PM (JL/TS-P) † Jeanne Stanic

Sunday, January 31

7:45 AM (JB/TS-P) † St. John of the Cross Parish family

10:15 AM (JL/TS-P) † John Berkopec

Our Financial Stewardship

Last Week's Giving	\$2,421.50
Last Week's Maintenance Giving.....	\$ 961.00
Faith Direct*-Last Half Giving.....	\$
Faith Direct*- Last Half Maintenance .	.\$

***Online Faith Direct Collections will be posted twice a month for both Giving and Maintenance.**

Thanks for your generous support toward our mission to serve God!

Euclid Hunger Center-

You may drop off your donations at the Church.

FOOD DONATIONS

- cereal, canned fruits/vegetables, canned tuna/chicken, soup
- toiletry items (deodorant, toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, feminine hygiene items)

Parish Staff

Rev. John D. Betters, Pastor
frjohn@sjceucld.com, Ext. 103

Rev. Gerald Bednar, Priest in Residence

Rev. John Loya, Priest in Residence
jloya@dioceseofcleveland.org

Deacon Tom Shetina, Deacon
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Dr. Francesco Binda, Director of Music
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Terri Burrello, Sacristan

Karen Duke, Office Manager
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Jim Granito, Business Manager
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Tom Hagen, Maintenance Director

Gene Fiorelli, Maintenance

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8 am to 4 pm
Closed Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

SJC Prayer Hotline: 216-289-0770, Ext. 120
Call and leave a short message with your request. We can also offer prayers of thanksgiving. All information will be kept confidential.

Please Pray for the Sick of the Parish and Their Caregivers

Evelyn Adamczak	Linda Palko
John Ballard	Bill Perko
Noella Burrows	Joan Raddell
Barbara Contorno	Pat Rossoll
Constance Durrah	Mary Rot
Frank Hiti	Jerry Scarniench
John Hocevar	Judy Schmidt
Andrew Jarm	Rose Simek
Anna Jalovec	Colette Suhy
Nick Kaluza	John Tarmann
Joe Matejka	Rita Vaitkus
Ronald Maxey	Abbie Vernon
Sheila Moore-Baka	
Rudy Myeress	
Larry O'Donnell	

***Please notify us
when a name can
be taken off this
list.***