



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH

February 21, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Station I
Jesus Is Condemned To Death

VERY REV. ROBERT KOLAKOWSKI, JCD
PASTOR
StJohnLamb.Office@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE /OFICINA PARROQUIAL
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Office: 609-397-3350, Ext. 2 Fax: 609-397-8713
Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:30AM—3:00PM
Fridays & Holidays—Closed

FOR EMERGENCY/ENCASO SE EMERGENCIA
609-460-4762

WEBSITE: PARISHOFSAINTEJOHN.ORG

Station II
Jesus Is Made To Carry His Cross

MASS SCHEDULE/HORARIO DE MISA

ST JOHN

WEEKDAYS	
MONDAY through FRIDAY	8:30 a.m.
WEEKENDS	
SATURDAY EVENING	5:00 p.m.
SUNDAY	8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

ST AGNES

SUNDAY	
MISA EN ESPANOL	11:00 a.m.

HOLY DAYS

HOLY DAYS	7:00am & 7:00pm.
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CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY	3:30-4:30 p.m.
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February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent



*February 21, 2021
Altar Flowers
In Memory of
Gurdat Sobers Bhagroo
Req. by Pam & Anita Bhagroo*



*February 21, 2021
Sanctuary Light
In Memory of
Gurdat Sobers Bhagroo
Req. by
Pam & Anita Bhagroo*

February 13th & 14th Offertory:

Collection:	\$ 7,337
Online Giving:	\$ 5,352
Less Average Expenses:	<u>(\$12,500)</u>
Balance:	\$ 189

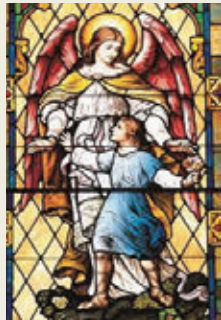
Thank you for your generosity!



*Commemorative Candle for
St. John Paul II
In Memory of
Gurdat Sobers Bhagroo
Req. by
Pam & Anita Bhagroo*

Guardian Angel

“Have a familiar relationship with the angels, whose constant care is directed towards your salvation and holiness. God willing, you will spend an eternity of joy with the angels; learn to get to know them now!” Pope Pius XII, October 3, 1958.



During this Lent, strengthen your relationship with your Guardian Angel by joining our Consecration to the Guardian Angel self study program. The application is available on our website parishofsaintjohn.org “Faith - Guardian Angels”.

Let us remember all those who have asked for our prayers especially the sick and suffering of our parish.

Juan P. Lopez, Nancy Gutierrez, Edwina Gill, Rose Korney, Grace Emma, Michael Hughes, Beverly Fresco, Gregory Maloney, Diane Worthington, Alfonso Smullen, Mary Holcombe, Elaine Joiner, Efigenia Avalos, Gary Davila, Walter Rzeszutek, Ruth Yolanda, Nelly Lozano, Yuri Gil, James Malagrino, Tom Carty, Michele Studley, Joseph M. Waters, Lawrence Miele, Jim Oehlers, Jonathan Perez, Richard Molnar, Bob Furlow, Blaine Fresco, Luke Touhill, Simon Santiago, Gary Becker, Kay Cuccinotta, Chris Taylor, Pamela Bhagroo, Derek Bruehl, Marianne Cooper, William Taulane, Vincent McGinnis, Robert Abitz, Daniel LaBella, Lilli LaBella, Mark LaBella, Dana Bozzi, Nolan Curran

“Jesus, look upon me with eyes of mercy, may your healing hand rest upon me.”



Please join us at St. John’s every Monday morning at 8:00am for the Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.



Knights of Columbus
Louis Failla: Grand Knight
609-397-4550

Zoom Meeting:
March 4th at 8:00PM

The Rosary Altar Society ***Upcoming Events:***

- ◆ Praying the Rosary: March 6th at 4:30PM

If you are interested in joining, please contact Vicki Casey—President 609-397-9265

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION PRAYERS

Please join us every First Friday following the 8:30AM Mass for meditation prayers in devotion to our Blessed Mother and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent

Mass Schedule Week of February 21, 2021

Saturday, February 20, 2021

5:00PM Marie Giannelli
Req. by Andrew & Lisa

Sunday, February 21, 2021

8:00AM Dan DiSalvi
Req. by Bonny Kelly
9:30AM Carl Amoroso
Req. by Lisa Brady
11:00AM Gurdat Sobers Bhagroo
Req. by Pam & Anita Bhagroo

St. Agnes

11:00AM For the People

Monday, February 22, 2021

8:30AM John & Hilda Esposito
Req. by John & Clelia Esposito

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

8:30AM Rose Korney / Special Blessings
Req. by Bert & Michale Johnson

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

8:30AM Marcelina A. DaCruz
Req. by Grace Anjos

Thursday, February 25, 2021

8:30AM Catsy Masterson
Req. by Nettie Eubank

Friday, February 26, 2021

8:30AM Dan DiSalvi
Req. by Lisa Brady

Saturday, February 27, 2021

5:00PM Jack Kelly
Req. by Ron & Rosemary
Wootters

Sunday, February 28, 2021

8:00AM Joyce Cifelli Eichlin
Req. by Her Daughters
9:30AM Marcelina A. DaCruz
Req. by Pat Molnar & Melanie
Hufnagel
11:00AM Margaret Reynolds
Req. by Beth & Jack Calahan

St. Agnes

11:00AM For the People

2021 Lenten Schedule

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday ~ 7:00pm

Lenten Reconciliation

Thursday, March 11th ~ 6:00pm
Followed by Evening Prayer ~ 7:00pm

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday ~ April 1st

Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ 7:00pm
Visit to Repository 8:00pm - 11:45pm
Night Prayer ~ 11:45pm

Good Friday ~ April 2nd

Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion ~ 3:00pm
Stations of the Cross ~ 7:00pm

Holy Saturday ~ April 3rd

Blessing of the Food ~ 10:30am
Easter Vigil ~ 8:00pm

Easter Sunday ~ April 4th

St. John the Evangelist Church

8:00am, 9:30am and 11:00am

St. Agnes Church

11:00am ~ Mass in Spanish

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 11th

Confessions ~ 2:00pm
Adoration & Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ 3:00pm



DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- ◇ Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- ◇ Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- ◇ Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- ◇ Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- ◇ Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- ◇ Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- ◇ Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- ◇ Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- ◇ Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- ◇ Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- ◇ Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Weekly Reflection

February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

You may remember the most challenging part of an essay exam from your school days. It began with the words "Compare and Contrast." You had better know your material to answer smartly.

The Holy Spirit, who is the real Author of Sacred Scripture, has no such problem. He compares and contrasts with a masterful touch as expressed by the human writers. This first weekend of Lent we read the enchanting recap of the flood story in Genesis, wherein the newly dry land becomes the setting for a new covenant God makes with mankind. Combined with His pledge of never sending a flood comes His choice of the rainbow as a perpetual reminder of the Covenant. Retaining the watery theme is today's excerpt of Peter's First Letter, telling us that the waters of baptism have the innate power under the Final Covenant to save us all from destruction.

Then comes today's Gospel. In his trademark almost texting style Mark tells us how Jesus was tested in the harshness of a water-less desert. We have to depend on the other more detailed gospel versions of the story to learn the exact nature of the devil's tactics. But what Mark does add is the comfort Jesus derived afterward from ministering angels. It is relatively easy to compare and contrast flood waters and an arid desert as different backgrounds for the birth of covenants. But what might be more difficult for you and me right here at the beginning of Lent 2021 is the comparison and contrast we can make of keeping our baptismal covenant promises since Lent 2020 until now. Back then the arrival of a certain pandemic came upon the scene. We have presumably since learned a lot about ourselves and how we have handled all the shut-downs and restrictions. Through it all, have we been true Christians with all around us? I believe that with our answer to that one, we could "have our hands full."

There is lots of room in the process to list those nasty little sins we have committed against others, like impatience, rash judgment and mean words. This not to omit the bad choices we may have made in seeking comfort from our pain with unchaste thoughts and actions along with over indulgence in food and drink. Above all, and more important, is our Lenten resolve this year and what changes we will implement going forward. God's covenant of loving mercy and salvation still stands as strong as it ever was. Our spiritual posture is the only variable. This kind of comparison and contrast is a demanding but pertinent Lenten exercise, hopefully targeted at something called "conversion."

In the "Alice in Wonderland" story, at one point Alice says to the Cheshire Cat, "Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?" "That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat. "I don't much care where," said Alice. "Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat. As with Alice, so with us and the Church. Without objectives, we will have nowhere to go, and we'll just keep wandering aimlessly. We need to remember that Jesus once declared for all to hear: "I am the Way." God love you and give you His peace.

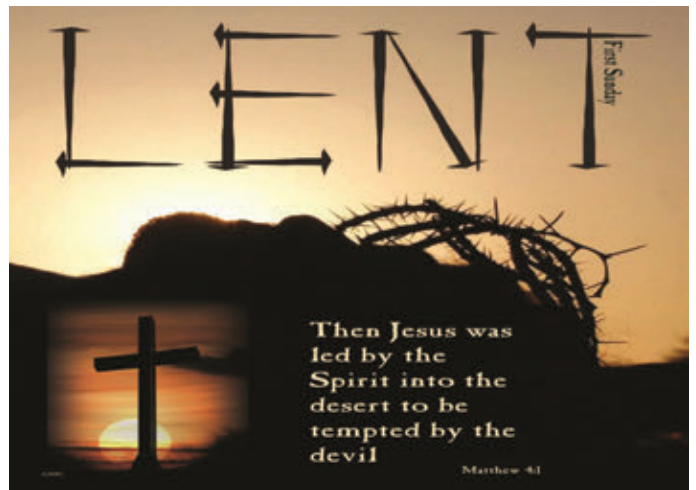
Saint of the Week

David, Bishop of Cambria

David was born around the year 520 in Wales. He was educated in a monastery where he was an exceptional student. His fellow students told of seeing a "dove with a golden beak playing at his lips and teaching him to sing the praise of God." After ordination as a priest, David retired to an island to study under the Welsh saint Paulinus for several years. Later he founded several monasteries and became a bishop. He was a holy man who led many people to know Christ.

David's message today: While little is known for certain about St. David's life, we can assume that he lived a life devoted wholly to God and, when he was selected as bishop, accepted this as God's will. It isn't always easy to accept God's will in our lives, but with prayer we can accomplish anything.

Set aside some part of your day for prayer and reflection if you do not do this regularly. Ask God for help in speaking with conviction about your faith.



2020 TAX STATEMENTS

If you would like a contribution statement for 2020, please fill out the form below (Please PRINT) and return it to St. John's Parish Office or place it in the offering basket.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Envelope Number: _____

February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent

First Sunday of Lent

Theme: Reform your lives!

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear this very short Gospel reading, what words or phrases strike you? What image or story does the reading prompt you to recall?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: What will you do this Lent to become more like Jesus

Question for Youth: Lent gives us a chance to do things differently – to "go to the desert." How can you make Lent a time for growing in faith?

Question for Adults: What is the one area of your life which you most want to "reform" as you get ready to embrace the Gospel, what is it?

MERCY CORNER

God's mercy must flood your life, beginning with your thoughts, and the interior attitudes that give rise to the exterior ones. To be able to say with St. Paul "We have the mind of Christ" (1 Cor 2:16), means being merciful in one's own thoughts, intentions and actions, in one's words and in one's deeds. In the words of the Gospel, it means being converted to Christ, like children.

If loving every one of your neighbors was easy, it wouldn't be a commandment.

Lent



FEBRUARY / MARCH, 2021

Lent



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
21 <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	22 8:00AM Perpetual Novena <i>Feast of The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle</i>	23	24	25	26 7:00PM Stations of the Cross ✚	27
28 <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	1 8:00AM Perpetual Novena	2	3 2:00PM Zoom Book Club	4 8:00PM Zoom Knights of Columbus Meeting	5 9:00am First Friday Devotion Prayers ✚ 7:00PM Stations of the Cross	6 4:30PM Praying the Rosary
7 <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	8 8:00AM Perpetual Novena	9	10	11 6:00PM Parish Reconciliation 7:00PM Evening Prayer	12 7:00PM Stations of the Cross ✚	13
14 <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> Daylight Savings Time	15 8:00AM Perpetual Novena	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 7:00PM Stations of the Cross ✚ <i>Feast of St. Joseph</i>	20 First Day of Spring

February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent

CONFESSIONS

St. John's ~ Saturday: 3:30- 4:30 P.M. or call the Parish Office for an appointment.

BAPTISMS

Celebrated the first Sunday of the month beginning with the 11:00 Mass, please call the Parish Office for additional information: 609-397-3350.

All paperwork must be completed prior to scheduling a baptism.

MARRIAGES

The bride or groom must be an **active-registered member** of St. John the Evangelist Parish with weekly Mass attendance and involvement in the life of the Parish for one year before the marriage preparation process. Please call the Parish Office for more information. According to the Common Policy of the five Latin-rite (Roman Catholic) dioceses of New Jersey, there must be twelve months of marriage preparation for each couple who desires to be married in the Church. **Please do not make any wedding arrangements** (including reception hall) **until** you have met with the pastor and he has approved the wedding date with you.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

When necessary, contact the Parish Office 609-397-3350 ext. 2.

HOSPITALIZED FAMILY

If you have a hospitalized family member, let the parish know so that we can visit and take the Eucharist. Please call the parish office.

DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Please see website for more information:

Diometuchen.org

Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-4, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6; Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

INFORMACION EN ESPAÑOL

OFICINA PARROQUIAL

609-397-3350 ext. 2

NUMERO DE FAX DE OFICINA

609-397-8713

EN CASO DE EMERGENCIA

609-460-4762

HORAS DE OFICINA

Lunes a Jueves ~ 9:30 AM – 3:00 P.M.

HORARIO DE MISA

Misa en Español ~ Domingos—11:00 A.M.

St. Agnes en Stockton

EDUCACION

Educación Religiosa para Niños: Por favor llamar a la oficina de Estudios Religiosos (en Inglés). Se requiere que los niños asistan regularmente a estas clases para poder recibir sus sacramentos. Se requiere también que todas las familias participen regularmente en la Misa. Por favor llamar a la directora de Estudios Religiosos para más información, al 609-397-3350 ext.3

Educación Religiosa para Adultos: Por favor comuníquese con el Padre si le faltan algunos de los sacramentos.

CONFESIONES

St John's ~ Sábados: 3:30 – 4:30 P.M.

BAUTISMOS

Español: Durante la Misa en español o cuando sea necesario. (Los padres deben estar registrados en la Parroquia y se requiere que asistan a una clase de preparación antes del bautismo. Por favor llame a la oficina parroquial para hacer los arreglos necesarios.)

MATRIMONIOS

Contactar la oficina parroquial 1 año antes de la boda. El novio o la novia debe estar registrado (a) como miembro de la Parroquia por lo menos por 1 año antes que el día de la boda sea confirmado. Se requiere que los novios participen en Pre-Cana o Encuentro de Comprometidos. Para más información, por favor llamar la oficina parroquial.

SACRAMENTO DE UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS

Cuando sea necesario, contacte la oficina parroquial.

FAMILIARES HOSPITALIZADOS

Si tiene algún familiar hospitalizado, hágalo saber a la parroquia para que lo podamos visitar y llevarle la Eucaristía. Pueden llamar al Padre al 609-397-3350, ext. 2 o 609-460-4762.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: Gn 9:8-15; Sal 24:4bc-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mc 1:12-15

Lunes: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Sal 22:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 16:13-19

Martes: Is 55:10-11; Sal 33:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

Miércoles: Jn 3:1-10; Sal 50:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lc 11:29-32

Jueves: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Sal 137:1-2a, 2bc-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Viernes: Ez 18:21-28; Sal 129:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 7-8; Mt 5:20-26

Sábado: Dt 26:16-19; Sal 118:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Domingo: Gn 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Sal 115:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Rm 8:31b-34; Mc 9:2-10

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