Parish Mission Statement:
St. John the Evangelist Parish is a welcoming and responsive faith community, nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharistic Table. We are open and trusting in the love of Jesus Christ to advance the power of the Holy Spirit, within the parish and beyond, by living the Gospel.

Schedule of Masses

**Sunday Mass:**
- Saturday Vigil: 5 PM (Trad. Mass)
- Sunday: 8 AM (Trad. Mass); 11 AM (Family Mass); 5 PM (Teen/Contemporary Mass)

**Daily Mass:**
- 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM (Mon-Fri)
- 8:30 AM (Saturday)
- Holy Days: 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM; 7:00 PM

Parish Information
5751 Locust Avenue
Carmichael CA 95608-1320
Parish Office: (916) 483-8454
Web: www.sjecarmichael.org
Email: office@sjecarmichael.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Friday 9 am to 4 pm
Contact Us by Phone or Email

Parish Clergy and Staff
- Pastor: Fr. Bernardin Mugabo
- Pastor Emeritus: Fr. Thomas Bland
- Mercy Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Alban Uba
- Deacon: Keith Johnson
- Deacon: Jack Wilson
- Deacon Emeritus: Larry Niekamp
- SJE Business Manager: Linda Gospodnetich
- Religious Education Coordinator: Sr. Hannah Mary O'Donoghue
- Director of Music & Liturgy: Cara O'Shea
- Youth Minister: Cara O'Shea
- SJE Pastoral Council Chairperson: Tom Ennis
- SJE Finance Council Chairperson: Mary Ellen Meier

SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED THROUGH FACEBOOK @ 11 AM

St. John the Evangelist Church
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 5, 2020

Registration/Change of Address:
Allow at least 3 months to receive envelopes or for any changes.

☐ I want to register in the parish. ☐ I have changed my address; my envelope # is ___________

Name: _________________________________________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________ City: ______________________ ZIP ________
Phone: _______________________________ E-mail: ________________________________________________

St. Vincent de Paul (916) 483-2161 Religious Education (916) 483-4628

St. John the Evangelist School
WWW.STJOHNEV.COM
5701 Locust Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
Phone: (916) 481-8845
Fax: (916) 481-1319
Email: office@stjohnev.com
Principal: Christie Horton
Dear Parishioners. Here is more information on the Mysterious Staircase that I talked about in my last weekend’s Homily; from America Needs Fatima web-site:

The Sisters of Loretto and their chapel

After three grueling months of travel by river and rail from Kentucky, four religious of the congregation of the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of Cross reached Santa Fe in 1853. There, at the request of the bishop of Santa Fe, John Baptiste Lamy, they opened a school for girls. This seed, sprouting and flourishing, exerted a great influence on the life and history of the city.

By 1873, to better accommodate their community, the sisters undertook construction of a new chapel, dedicated to Our Lady of Light. With its lancet arches and stained glass windows, it was to be reminiscent of the luminous Gothic splendor that arose in medieval Europe under the inspiration of the same Catholic Faith that the nuns were fostering in New Mexico. But as construction neared completion, the sisters faced a problem.

Relative to its length of 75 ft. and breath of 25 ft., the chapel was high at 85 ft, so a staircase to the choir-loft could not be built according to the customary patterns. One of the architects directing the project had died, and the original plans could not be found. Various carpenters and other building specialists consulted for a solution did not know what to propose. There was even talk of pulling down the choir loft. But nuns are known for their dauntless faith and trusting recourse to Heaven when natural means fail. They decided to make a Novena to Saint Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth.

A carpenter knocks

No sooner was the novena completed than a man knocked at the convent door. He had heard of their predicament, he explained, and, being a carpenter, came to offer his help.

The sisters immediately accepted his offer.

With the few primitive tools, a saw, a hammer and a T-square, which he brought with him on his donkey, he set to work. Some sisters also remembered some tubs of water to soak the wood to make it pliable. Laboring quietly and diligently, the unknown carpenter soon completed a beautiful spiral staircase. Made entirely of wood held together with wooden pegs, having neither nails nor screws, it ascends to the choir loft in two complete 360-degree turns with no central axis for support.

When he had finished the essential part of the staircase—everything except a handrail—the carpenter departed before the sisters could pay him, and never returned. The Mother Superior tried to locate him in the area, but looked and inquired in vain. No one knew him at all. She visited the local lumber yard to pay for the wood but they knew nothing of such an order. The grateful sisters, though disappointed that the carpenter had slipped away, were not surprised; had they not prayed to Saint Joseph?

Puzzled Experts

But architects, carpenters, and the like were certainly mystified. They came in increasing numbers to examine the technique that allowed such a tall staircase, with two complete turns, to stand with no central axis! They marveled further on hearing that the stairs were being regularly used by the sisters and pupils. According to the professionals, the spiral should have collapsed the minute the first person tried to climb it! And so the stairway continued to be used for a century.

The experts also admired the geometric perfection of its design, obtained solely with manual skill and rudimentary tools. They were no less perplexed at the wood used, unknown to them and the area. One aspect of the staircase may have added to the musings of the specialists or may have been overlooked, but the sisters noticed and understood it completely. The staircase has 33 steps, significantly corresponding to the “perfect age” at which Our Lord expired on the cross for our redemption.

Silent Witness to this Day

In 1968, due in part to the crisis occasioned by progressivism, then already taking a serious toll on the Church’s religious communities, the Sisters of Loretto reduced their activities in Santa Fe. The School of Our Lady of Light closed its doors. Its building, sold three years later, was remodeled and opened as a hotel.

The chapel remains intact, but now a museum. Visitors, who must purchase tickets to enter the chapel, can listen to a recorded history as they contemplate its interior. While curiosity and analysis lead many to admiration and piety, skeptics are left in silent perplexity.

In 1984 Professor Mary J. Straw published a comprehensive study on the chapel entitled, Loretto, the Sisters, and their Santa Fe Chapel. And tourist guides still point to the chapel as the site of a miraculous staircase.

Whatever the present status of the chapel, the staircase stands in silent and admirable witness to the faith and efforts of those pioneering sisters who dedicated their lives to raising hearts and minds to God.
Deacon Keith’s Homily (July 5, 2020)

14th Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle A

A few weeks ago, my wife and I went on a hike to the Loch Leven Lakes Trail. It is located just up I-80 at the Big Bend turn off. The hike is a 3 ½ miles walk with a 1,300 foot elevation climb to the first lake. The night before the hike, I read today’s readings knowing that the hike would be a great prayer opportunity to gain spiritual insight. Upon reaching our destination, the first lake, my wife and I sat on a large rock allowing all our senses to take in this petite yet serene lake. It brought back memories of much joy in all its simplicity. Within minutes of sitting, I thought, “We certainly make things complicated for ourselves.” That thought directly related to the Gospel as Jesus told the disciples, “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest.” It seems that the current labor and burden that we place on ourselves is our obsession to judge others. We choose being judgmental over sharing the yoke of Christ which is meek and humble of heart.

The very act of judging puts such a burden mentally, physically and spiritually upon each of us. It causes divisiveness that hinders the necessary healing of communities, countries, and even Christ’s Church. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus’ warning not to judge is as much a call to eliminate a temporal burden as it is to eliminate a spiritual death.

It is very clear that what is suggested by these readings is excessively counter cultural in who we are called to be. The readings call each of us to a non-contentious disposition. Being judgmental is contrary to that disposition. The first reading tells us that peace will come to Jerusalem not through battles with a bigger and better army but through the meekness of the one riding a year old ass. The Gospel tells us that when we are not attached to Jesus, we will labor and burden. But when we are attached to Jesus by His yoke, we take the path that Jesus takes. We become “one” working to the same end. To obtain this rest and peace we are called to walk day-to-day, hour-by-hour with Jesus in a posture that is meek and humble of heart. As ones who are meek and humble with Jesus, we are on a journey of vulnerability that leads to trust that leads to love. Do we believe that when we are imitating Christ in his meekness and humility that greater peace will come all around us? In most instances in the world – especially politicians who feast on blame and judgement and set a new standard in how we are to communicate – we see the pride and contempt of the wise and the learned and not the meekness and humbleness of the little ones. Where is that getting us? Can we change?

In the Letter to the Romans, Paul speaks of the “sins of the flesh”. When hearing that phrase we tend to jump to the conclusion that Paul must be talking about sexual sin, and he is. But it isn’t limited to that. The sins of the flesh also includes protecting the ego that is self-reliant and does not delight to yield to any authority nor delivers any mercy. It craves the sensation of self-generated power and keeping rules for its own glory. We judge to preserve this self-appointed fantasy. Within this attitude, the sense of a unifying Spirit is flatly ignored. Compassion toward the struggles in the life of another is strictly seen as choice that that person made. Today, with the riots and the social unrest, when we commit sins of the flesh, we draw quickly to judge and convict the perpetrators. While being in the unifying Spirit, one would want to know what depravity that person experienced in their life that would cause such anger and how as Christians can we help.

Throughout Jesus’ life, we are provided the clearest vision of the name or the character of God – the very name or character we are called to imitate. We know that Jesus told us to be “holy like My heavenly Father is holy”. Holy means to be set apart. We are called to be set apart from the follies and sin of the world. The Psalmist tells us what it is to be holy like our heavenly Father. We must be gracious and merciful, slow to anger and great in kindness and good to all and compassionate. Besides meek and humble, we are called to emulate all of these.

Brothers and sisters, our readings today are clear in what we are called to be and how we are to live our lives. Not once did it say that we are to judge. It doesn’t say it because it is unhealthy physically and spiritually. When we judge we are holding on to the things of man and ignoring the Spirit of God. The Spirit unifies by breaking down bearers.

The question is do you truly believe that the simplicity and serenity of being graceful, merciful, slow to anger, great in kindness, good to all, compassionate, meek and humble will bring peace and banish the warriors bow?
Liturgy (Intercessory Prayers) for July 5, 2020

God of peace, who defeats the oppressor with love and redeems the victim with justice, we bring our prayers before you today:

For the Church: that God will help us take up the yoke of Christ and follow him in speaking the truth lovingly, offering forgiveness to those who wrong us and praying for our enemies

Lord, hear our prayer

For legislators and municipal council members: that God will give them wisdom in addressing current challenges, courage to work for the greater good, and openness to new approaches for the good of those whom they serve

Lord, hear our prayer

For a fuller life in the Spirit: that God will free us from self-absorption and selfishness so that we may allow the Spirit to lead us into a more authentic and virtuous life

Lord, hear our prayer

For all who are weary in body, mind or spirit: that the Spirit will restore strength to the physically exhausted, hope to those who are emotionally worn out, and energy to all who are exhausted through loving service of others

Lord, hear our prayer

For an end to injustice and discrimination: that God will change the hearts and minds of those entrapped in judging people by externals, and help everyone to recognize the God-given dignity of each person

Lord, hear our prayer

For all who need healing, particularly those with Covid-19: that God’s healing Spirit will ease their suffering, restore them to health, and guide all who are caring for them

Lord, hear our prayer

For all who have died, for our loved ones who have died, that God will welcome them into the fullness of His vision that we begin to know through the Eucharist.

Lord, hear our prayer

For these intentions, the intentions shared by the community throughout the week that we bring to the Altar, and all those intentions written in the silence of our hearts.

Lord, hear our prayer

Confident in the peace, justice, and wisdom of your almighty kingdom, we dedicate these prayers to your care. In Jesus’ name we pray. AMEN.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
Sunday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9]

Mass Intentions

Masses for the Week of July 6-11, 2020

Monday: St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
6:30 am Jack Bland +
8:30 am Barbara Young (I)
Tuesday:
6:30 am Vita Orsi +
8:30 am Alain Ugirasheb +
Wednesday:
6:30 am Hoffman Family & Grandchildren (I)
8:30 am Dr. Jon Finkler & Family (I)
Thursday: St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest & Companions, Martyrs
6:30 am Jay & Linda Barry (I)
8:30 am Peggy Kuharski & Emma Hawley +
Friday:
6:30 am Hoffman Family & Grandchildren (I)
8:30 am Jean Clark +
Saturday: St. Benedict, Abbot
8:30 am Msgr. Frank Pellegrino +
July 4/5, 2020

RELIGIOUS-EDUCATION/CCD/CFF
Phone: 916-483-4628
Email: Religious.ed@sjecarmichael.org

14th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Communion Antiphon today: “Come to me, all who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you, says the Lord” (Matt. 11:28)

A Prayer for Racial Healing in Our Land:
“Wake me up Lord, so that the evil of racism finds no home within me. Keep watch over my heart, Lord, & remove from me any barriers to your grace, that may oppress and offend my sisters and brothers. Fill my spirit, Lord, so that I may give services of justice and peace. Clear my mind, Lord, and use it for your glory. Finally, remind us, Lord, that you said, “Blessed are the peace-makers for they shall be called the children of God” Amen.”

(By the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: USCCB)

Pope Francis’ July intention: “We pray that today’s families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance”

Mass from SJE each Sunday at 11:00 am on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sjecarmichael.org

Opportunities to grow in the spiritual life:
Websites:
Parish: www.sjecarmichael.org
Diocese: www.scd.org
U.S. Bishops: www.usccb.org
General Catholic: www.americancatholic.org www.catholic.org www.saintoftheday.org

Contact www.christthekingretreatcenter.org or call 916-725-4720 for daily reflections. (Give them your email address)

Daily three minute retreat: www.LoyolaPress.org

We recommend that you also listen to Catholic/Relevant Radio on 1620AM and send inquiries to: askfather@relevantradio.com Also check out EWTN T.V.

CALENDAR:
We will soon be in touch with you regarding plans for the reception of sacraments: First Reconciliation, First Holy-Communion & Confirmation. We will also hope to have some plans for the return to classes for all…

Personal Note: As of June 30, 2020 – I will be retiring as Director/Coordinator of Religious Education. Pastors & Bishops retire at 75. I was 76 on my last birthday! (Some of you will say “no way!” I’m sure!) But it is the truth! Who will take my place? Talk with Fr. Bernardin about that. I will be around to help with the sacramental liturgies & I plan to return to SJE Parish & volunteer. Thank you for the many blessings that have been part of my ministry at SJE.

God bless & guide your/our week.
Dear SJE Parishioners:
St. John the Evangelist Catholic School is EXCITED to get back to on-campus learning when our school year begins again in August!
If you would like to help us as we make some changes to our campus to better accommodate our students' health needs, we could use donations to help purchase Sanitation Supplies.
Any level of support would be greatly appreciated; please contact Principal Christie Horton at (916) 481-8845 or email chorton@stjohnnev.com. Thank you!!

St. Vincent de Paul

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society thanks you for your continued support, which allows us to help the poor and needy in our neighborhood.

Happy 4th of July! Although this will be a different holiday from past 4th of Julys, we hope that it will be different in a good way. Hot dogs! Potato salad! Watermelon! Personal fireworks! Masks and social distance! Make it the best 4th ever!

SVdeP’s food closet is open on Wednesdays from 8 am to 10 am if you find yourself in need of food. Everyone is welcome! Also if you can, SVdeP could use some egg cartons, top ramen and dried beans (i.e. pinto), peanut butter & jelly and tuna.

The Giving Wing is accessible again and items can be left there.

YOU make a difference! God bless you! Stay safe!

SJE Prayer List

Please Pray for our sick and their caregivers: Andrea Armstrong, Bob Bodem, Nancy Born, Robert Burns, Geoff Carter, Alicia Cortez, Russ Davis, John DePiazza, Melissa Duran, Kate Ellis, Karen Emmons, Debbie Erichs, Teri Erickson, Velia Escalante, Juanita Estrellas, Martin Fiorino, Anthony Gabriele, Lillian Geoffrey, Ella Gomes, Jimi Grant, Steve Guerrero, Donna Harris, Tom Harvey, George Heffner, Sr. Marion Hicks, Dick Hill, Mary Jeffries, Eduardo Jimenez, Yelena Kanavalchuk, Michelle Keyawa, Sayed Kian, Pat Lobrovich, Kim Louder, Karen Lydon, Angelica & Cheryl Martin of Tennessee (COVID-19 positive), Jennifer Martin, Arielle McLeskey, Pat Minnard, Manuel Molina, Michael Niekamp, Tony Nolasco, Gilles Ouellet, Lynn Parry, Mike Peterson, Alex Quiroz, Max Rankin, Jeff Reynolds, Ruth Salazar, Rena Scherman, Robert Scholtes, Christopher Scott, Paul Scurti, Lili Simic, Joan Smith, Hank Thompson, Kim Van Blaricom, Bob Walker, Katie Walker, Theresa West (Cheryl Martin’s daughter) and all those with COVID-19.

SVdP Hawaii Raffle - July 25th.

Sheraton Maui Resort for 6 days and 5 nights, Airfare, Car Rental and a $500 gift card. Tickets are $10.00 each or a book of 10 for $100.00.

To purchase tickets, please mail your check payable to St. Vincent de Paul to 4216 Tyrone Way, Carmichael 95608 & your tickets will be mailed to you! Aloha.
**Parish Notes—Eucharistic Ministry**

**HELP URGENTLY NEEDED!!**

Our Eucharist Ministry is shrinking in size due to various reasons. We are a small group of volunteers who need your help to serve at our weekend Masses.

I will happily train you to become a part of this vital ministry. It is easy and quick. Requirements are that you are Catholic, 18 years or older, in good standing with the Church, and willing to serve.

Padre Pio said, "You don’t have to be perfect. You just have to be willing”. (paraphrase)

Please contact Bernadette Hicks
bhicks05pa@gmail.com; 916-296-9047

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**CFS - Rice Bowls**

Remember the Catholic Relief Service *Rice Bowls* we took home during Lent? It is time to collect them now that we can have public Mass. Please bring your *Rice Bowls* to Mass this weekend and deposit them in the box at the registration table in the Narthex.

Thanks in advance for supporting the work of the Catholic Relief Services. Deacon Jack Wilson

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**Parish Notes**

**Sr. Hannah Mary’s Retirement as of 6/30/2020**

We have been very blessed in having Sr. Hannah Mary, Director of Religious Education, with us at SJE for over 20 years. May she have a long, healthy and happy retirement filled with God’s abundant blessings!!

PLEASE NOTE: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will have her retirement reception at a later date...

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**Parish Notes—Adoration**

**ADORATION HELP NEEDED!!**

Because of health issues or other commitments, some of our long-time faithful members of our Parish who have been keeping an hour of Adoration for years are unable to do it any longer. Therefore, there are a number of hours that have just one person committed (we need two).

If, for some reason, you are unable to keep your hour, you can call your partner to make sure the hour is covered. There is a list of Parishioners who are willing to substitute when needed.

If you visit the Chapel during Adoration and you are not on the schedule, please check the schedule in the back of the Chapel to see if one or more times works for you.

For those who aren’t in the habit of visiting the Chapel, do you feel Jesus encouraging YOU to come and spend an hour in His presence on Wednesday or Friday each week? Please consider it—pray about it—try it for three months. You will be happy you did!

The schedule will be in the back of the Chapel for you to see if one or more times works for you.

**Parish Notes—Important SJE Parish Reminders**

**Holy Communion Procedure (COVID-19):**

Holy Communion is distributed with Congregants REMAINING in their Seats. For those wishing to receive in their hand, please STAND in place and we will come to you. After those have received and are seated, those wishing to receive in the mouth will be asked to STAND and Father will come to you.

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**Offertory Procedure (COVID-19):**

Per the 5/20/2020 Diocesan Guidelines, “a box must be placed at a convenient and secure location (new wood “Offertory” Boxes are on both sides of our main Nave entrance) where Parishioners are to place their Offertory as they come in for or leave Mass”. Mail-In to the SJE Office or Online Giving is also welcome.