

August 29, 2021

*Saint John*  
*the Evangelist ~*  
*Our Lady of Peace*  
*Catholic Church*

On the Corner of East 55th Street and First Avenue

**Reverend Monsignor Douglas J. Mathers, JD, JCD, Pastor**

**Reverend Bernal Stainwall, Parochial Vicar**

Parish House: 348 East 55th Street—New York, New York 10022

1 212 753-8418 1 212 753-8419 Fax 1 212 826-1848

Email: [churchofstjohn@cs.com](mailto:churchofstjohn@cs.com) Website: [stjohnevannyc.com/](http://stjohnevannyc.com/)

**Sunday Masses**

8:30am  
10:30am  
12:30pm  
5:30pm  
*Saturday Vigil at 5:30pm*

**Daily Masses**  
**Monday thru Friday**

8:15am and 12:10pm

**Saturday Masses**

8:15am and 12:10pm

**Sacrament of Penance**

*Monday thru Friday*  
11:00am to 11:30am  
1:30pm to 2:00pm  
*Saturday*  
11:00am to 11:30am  
*(In the Church Sacristy)*

**Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament**

8:45am to 11:30am  
Benediction 11:30am  
*(Temporarily Suspended)*

**Baptisms**

By Appointment

**Marriages**

By Appointment

**Visitation of the Sick**

Upon request

**Parish House Office Hours**

*Monday through Friday*  
9:00am to 12 Noon  
1:00pm to 4:00pm

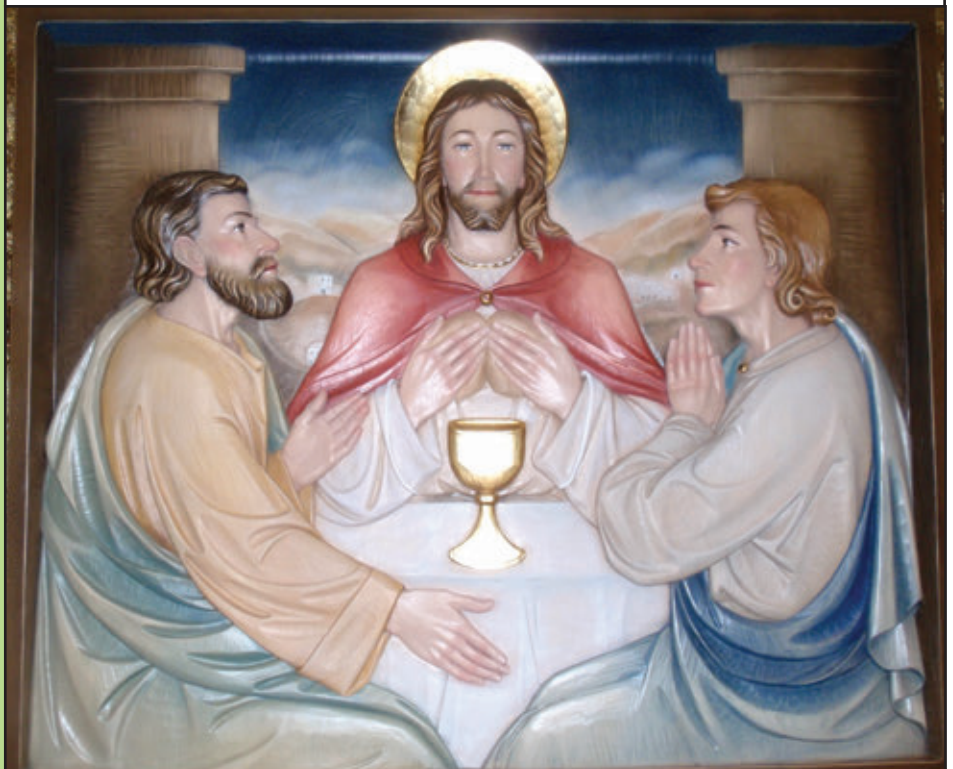
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*Kathleen Martin*

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Entrance on  
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**Jesus Our Divine Teacher and Risen Lord**

**NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS WELCOME**

# PRAYER OF GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S CREATION



God of the Universe,  
we thank You for Your many good gifts to us: For the beauty of Creation and its rich and varied fruits, for clean water and fresh air, for food and shelter, animals and plants.

Forgive us for the times we have taken the earth's resources for granted,  
and wasted what You have given us.

Transform our hearts and minds  
so that we can learn to care for and touch the earth with gentleness and love,  
respecting all the living things You created.

We pray for those who suffer as a result of our waste, greed and indifference, and we pray that, with Your help, the day will come when everyone has enough food and clean water.

Help us respect the dignity of all people and all species and, as stewards of Your creation, work to sanctify our sisters and brothers. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



## *The Sanctuary Lamp*

The Sanctuary Lamp near our  
Tabernacle burns this week

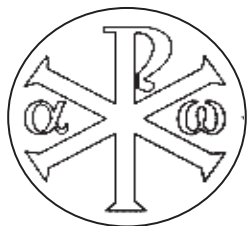
# IN THANKSGIVING

## JOIN OUR PARISH

# SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

## Last Weekend August 28/29

**(MONETARY DONATIONS ONLY)**  
**(CHECKS OR CASH)**



## POWER HOUSE OF PRAYER WEEK

*Our August Power House of Prayer Week begins Sunday, August 29th and continues through Saturday, September 5th.*

Prayer intentions are gathered the week before in special yellow boxes placed at our Church Entrances and on table inside the Church.

The intentions are put in a large white box that's placed before the Altar and remains there for the entire week.

*Through the Power House of Prayer Week, you open your heart to the needs of your brothers and sisters, and celebrate the mutual love of our Parish Family, by intense and fervent prayer for each other.*

## PEACE WITH GOD



Thoughts or words of resentment, greed, intolerance, self-depreciation, jealousy—these draw more experiences of their kind, more reasons to feel that way. They produce what we don't want—feelings of inadequacy, alienation, and lack. Likewise, thoughts of gratitude, appreciation, love and acceptance draw these kinds of experiences into our lives.

In Scripture, Saint Paul suggests that we focus our thinking on whatever is noble, pure, praiseworthy, and good. He adds that the reward for such effort is the peace with God, which surpasses all understanding. When you let this truth guide your thinking, choosing your thoughts with care and intention, you create much more satisfying experiences and build the life you deeply desire and yearn for.

—Sharon Connors

## ***For Catholics***

### ***Who've Been "Away" from the Church—Part I***



(By Parishioner request, I am happy to re-print the following article.)

If you've been away from the Church, the Good News is you can always "come home" again. For example, you can start going to Sunday Mass again and join a Parish Community that's ready to welcome you with open arms. God is inviting you to "dive into your faith" in a deeper way than you ever did before. You may already be feeling an inner pull to come to Church again—which is God calling you back to Himself. He never forces; He only invites. He leaves the decision to return to the Church up to you. Here are the Top Ten Reasons listed by Lorene Hanley Duquin of *Our Sunday Visitor* as influencing the decision of many people to return to the practice of their Catholic Faith:

#### **NUMBER 10: BECAUSE YOU WANT MEANING IN LIFE.**

In the hustle and stress of life today, you may suddenly realize that your life has lost a sense of meaning or purpose. That's when you begin to ask yourself, "What is my life all about? Why do I do what I do?" There's widespread confusion in our culture with regard to morality and truth. Only the joy of the Catholic Church offers you a beacon of light that gives meaning to your present life and leads you to eternal life.

#### **NUMBER 9: BECAUSE YOUR CHILDHOOD MEMORIES SURFACE.**

Childhood memories of feeling connected to God can surface in your later life. Then, you begin to ask yourself, "Is it possible for me to recapture that simplicity of my faith? Can I believe again that God is with me and is watching out for me?" The secularization of our society leads people away from the spiritual side of their life. The Church gives you spiritual and even mystical experiences that feed your heart, mind, body and soul. It also offers you an array of ministries that let you interface and interact with the world around you, and make it a better world in which to live.

#### **NUMBER 8: BECAUSE YOU MADE MISTAKES.**

You may be burdened by the weight of past and accumulated sins. You really want to get rid of the guilt of having hurt God and others. So, you begin to ask yourself, "Will God ever forgive me? Is there any way I can start over with a clean slate?" You can always tell God that you're sorry, but by going to Confession you have *complete assurance* of God's forgiveness. In addition, this Sacrament reconciles you with God, and with all members of the Church, the Body of Christ. In Confession, God gives you the grace to start all over again.

#### **NUMBER 7: BECAUSE YOU NEED TO FORGIVE OTHERS.**

Sometimes you can hold on to anger and resentment toward people who've deeply hurt you. Maybe it was a family member or friend. Maybe it was a Sister, or a Priest, or someone on a Parish Staff. Sadly, modern culture condones and encourages anger and revenge. But these are spiritual cancers that eat at your heart and life. The Church provides you with an opportunity to seek God's help in forgiving others, even when the other person does not ask for forgiveness or does not deserve it. The ability to forgive is a gift that opens your heart more fully to God's love, peace, and reconciliation.

#### **NUMBER 6: BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE HEALED.**

You may be carrying deep spiritual wounds. For example, you struggle with anger at God over bad things that happen—a terminal illness, a debilitating injury, a broken relationship, mental or emotional problems, an unexplainable accident, the death of a loved one or some other deep disappointment. The Church can't change these situations, but there are people in the Church who can assist in the process of spiritual healing to help you get past your wounds and pain and get on with your life.

***Part II—Number 5 through Number 1 will be in next week's Bulletin.***

# dear Padre

*Aren't we discriminating against other Christians when we invited them to pray with us at Mass but don't let them receive the Holy Eucharist?*

**In answering this question**, you have to keep the Church's intentions in mind: Are we excluding to make people feel left out, or are we excluding to uphold the dignity and sanctity of the Holy Eucharist?

Everyone is welcome to join us in the great Prayer of the Mass—there's only one part in which all can't participate. That might sound "discriminatory," but it's not. Catholics believe that the Holy Eucharist is the Real Presence of Jesus, His actual Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. As the word Communion implies, everyone who receives the Holy Eucharist must believe the same truth about it. Unfortunately, non-Catholic Christians do not share this same belief.

In its Guidelines for the Reception of Communion, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops say: "Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion.

"All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another" (GRC).

—Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR

## A Word from Pope Francis

*"The Eucharist satisfies our hunger for material things and kindles our desire to serve. It raises us from our comfortable and lazy lifestyle and reminds us that we are not only mouths to be fed, but also His Hands, to be used to help feed others."*

—Corpus Christi Homily, June 14, 2020

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

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## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021

5:30pm +Sister Sheila Gallagher, LSA (Vigil Mass for Sunday)

## THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **JOIN OUR PARISH SUMMER FOOD DRIVE FOR THE BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY**

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021

**8:30am** +Francis Steven Valdivia

**10:30am** +Fran Cantanhede

**12:30pm** +Eugenie M. Jones

**5:30pm** +John Consigli

### MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021

8:15am +Alexandra Bisk

12:10pm +Irene Paras Aquino

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021

8:15am For Our Parishioners

12:10pm +Carmen Pisani

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

### **FOR THE CARE OF CREATION**

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

8:15am +All Souls in Purgatory

12:10pm +Kathryn Lindquist

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

8:15am Intentions of Natasia Albert for a Healthy Baby

12:10pm +Doris J. Denihan

### **SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT, POPE AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2021 FIRST FRIDAY

8:15am +Francisco Valdivia

12:10pm Living & Deceased Members of the Ladies of Charity

### **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2021 FIRST SATURDAY

8:15am +Sabino Rosales, Jr.

12:10pm +Leolino & Lerma A. Maglasang & Glenda M. Arnaiz

5:30pm +Karen Jaminez (Vigil Mass for Sunday)

## Prayer Requests

**FOR OUR SICK:** SABRINA BERTUCCI, MICHELE FITZPATRICK, GEORGE FUENTES AND THOSE SUFFERING FROM COVID-19.

**FOR OUR DECEASED:** EUGENIE M. JONES, RICARDO JOVE, KEVIN MASTERSON, JOSEPH MILEA, ELIZABETH THOMAS

Please call the Parish House to have a Parishioner's name placed on this list. Check to see if someone who is ill consents to having their name published. We only publish the names of recently deceased.





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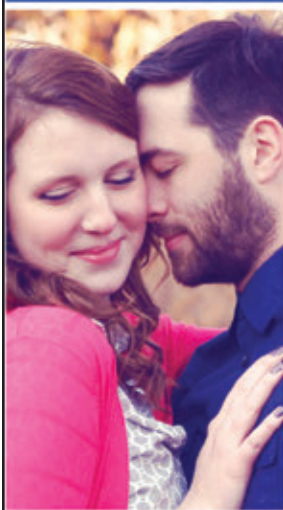
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