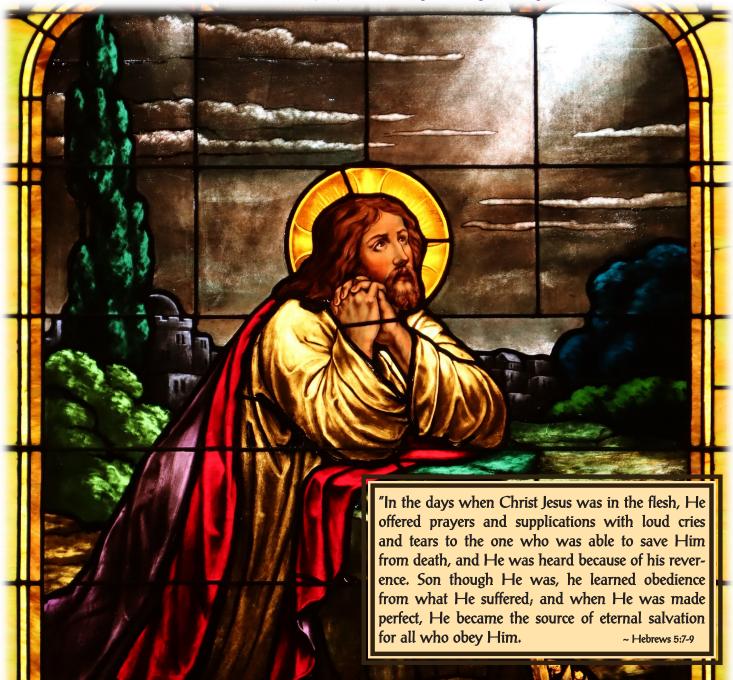


## March 17, 2024 5th Sunday of Lent

Bearing witness to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life: GO. MAKE. TEACH.

Our Core Values: a reliance on prayer, a willingness to grow, a generous spirit



#### In the Bulletin:

Staff and Schedule Lent and Holy Week Scheduling pg. 2 pg. 5 Generous Spirit pg. 8 Letter from Jen Livermont Youth Ministry Prayer List/Daily Readings pg. 9 pg. 3 pg. 7 pg. 4,6 Happening at St. John's Capital Campaign Message pg. 8 Missionary Report pg. 10

#### **Parish Staff**

PASTORAL MINISTRY Fr. Paul Shovelain, Pastor Fr. Joseph Nguyễn, Parochial Vicar Deacon Rod Palmer Deacon Gary Schneider Mary Kohlhaas, Pastoral Care Coordinator WORSHIP Lee Treml, Director of Worship Margaret Harmon, Liturgical Admin. Assistant Lori Vosejpka, Director of Contemporary Enser	651-633-8333 ext. 1214 ext. 1213 VM 1298 VM 1288 ext. 1229 651-633-8333 ext. 1212 ext. 1279 mble v247@msn.com
Abe Gross, Director of Ignite abrahamjohngro	oss@gmail.com
OFFICE OF DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION Jill Fink, Director of Discipleship Jim Martin, Director of Community Life/Safe Er Coordinator Jen Livermont, Coordinator of Discipleship for	651-633-1540 ext. 1280 nvironment ext. 1228 Families
Deacon Michael Lane, Coordinator of Sacramer Claire Brostrom, Coordinator of Evangelization Jodie Wolla, Administrative Assistant Chantell Durkes, Administrative Assistant	
<b>YOUTH MINISTRY</b> Sarah Wilder, Middle School Youth Minister	<b>651-633-1540</b> ext. 1254
SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL (PreK - 8) Ann Laird, Principal Joy Thienes, Administrative Assistant Michelle Barsness, Marketing/Enrollment	651-633-1522 ext. 1117 ext. 1118 ext. 1114
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PARISH CENTER HOURS	

Monday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

**Church Nursery:** We offer year-round nursery during both the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Sunday Masses for children ages 1-3. Children play with caring staff while you are able to fully participate in Mass.

St. John's Library Hours: Open after every weekend Mass

#### **Stay Connected:**

LIKE OR FOLLOW US on FACEBOOK

https://www.facebook.com/SJBNewBrighton/

Follow us on Instagram: @stjohnnyb\_church

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel <a href="https://bit.ly/3n9WnGQ">https://bit.ly/3n9WnGQ</a>

EMAIL: sjb@stjohnnyb.org

Visit our website: www.stjohnnb.com Archdiocese's Victim/Survivor Assistance Program 651-291-4497 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Schedule of Events
Monday, March 18, 2024 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:30 AM Mass (Theodore Labuza+) ~ Fr. Joseph 9:00 AM Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Church 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 6:30 PM Council of Catholic Women Meeting ~ St. Joseph Hall
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:30 AM Mass (Greg Hosch+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 9:00 AM Kidz Closet ~ 203 9:30 AM Alive in the Word ~ 210 2:00 PM Library Committee Meeting ~ Library 2:30 PM Middle School D-Groups ~ LL 106 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 5:30 PM Mass ~ Chapel of the Angels 6:00 PM PLC Meetings ~ St. Joseph Hall
Wednesday, March 20, 2024 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Lawrence Wasik+ and Richard Franzen+) Church ~ Fr. Paul 9:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks ~ St. Therese 9:30 AM Faithfully Fit ~ 210 9:30 AM Winter Scripture Study ~ 206/208 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals 5:30 PM Mass (Joe Modesette+ and Richard Brennan+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 6:00 PM Family Formation Catechist Training ~ 210 6:00 PM Middle School Faith Formation ~ LL 106 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting ~ 211 8:00 PM High School Youth Group Stations of the Cross ~ LL 106 8:00 PM Devoted ~ St. Joseph Hall
Thursday, March 21, 2024 6:30 AM Men's Fellowship ~ St. Joseph Hall 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Marva Beberg+) Church ~ Fr. Paul 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 7:00 PM Schola Practice ~ Church 7:00 PM OCIA Class ~ 206/208
Friday, March 22, 2024 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Witkowski & Koslowski Families +) Church ~ Fr. Paul 9:30 AM Legion of Mary ~ 211 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 5:00 PM K of C Fish Fry ~ St. Joseph Hall 5:30 PM Mass (Kathy Jansen) Church~ Fr. Joseph 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross ~ Church 7:30 PM Altar Guild ~ Church
Saturday, March 23, 2024 9:30 AM Mass (Curt & Karin O'Connor+) Chapel of the Angels ~ Fr. Paul 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 3:15 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals 4:30 PM Vigil Mass (Stephan Bucko+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 5:30 PM Hospitality ~ St. Joseph Hall
Sunday, March 24, 2024 ~ Palm Sunday 8:30 AM Mass (John & Katherine Macknowski) Church ~ Fr. Paul 8:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery 8:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms 10:30 AM Mass (Pro Populo) Church ~ Archbishop Hebda, Fr. Paul, and Fr. Joseph 10:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery 10:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms
3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

5:30 PM Mass (Philip Losinski+) ~ Fr. Joseph

6:30 PM Confirmation Preparation ~ LL 106

4:30 PM RCIC ~ 210

6:30 PM Altar Guild ~ Church

3:30 PM Communal Reconciliation ~ Church/Confessionals

#### From Coordinator of Discipleship for Families: Jen Livermont



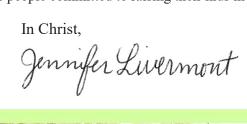
#### Egg Hunt ~ 10:00 am on Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday, March 30, at 10:00am, St. John's families will gather in the west parking lot for the blessing at the annual Egg Hunt. The Egg Hunt has been a tradition at this church for more than 20 years. It is an important and beloved tradition for many reasons. Our hunt focuses on bringing Jesus back into the celebration and on being a fun event for the whole family to enjoy and to spend time with other families in the community.

There are many secular egg hunts around town. If you have ever taken your kids to one of the many public egg hunts, they can be crazy! Kids can be ruthless and grab as many eggs as they can so they can get the coveted treats inside. Like Jesus's tomb, our eggs are empty! Kids collect the eggs and turn them in, to get a goody bag at the end of the hunt. That way, it's more about the experience of the hunt and everyone can get some treats.

We also have donuts and beverages for sale by the school's 8th graders, to raise money for their trip to Washington D.C. Families can enjoy hospitality together with other families. There are also games, a photo backdrop, religious crafts, and an Easter Bunny to take pictures with after the Egg Hunt.

Events like the Egg Hunt, Journey to the Inn and the All Saints Party are a way for parishioners to invite their neighbors, grandkids and friends to an event that is at the same time very Catholic and yet also a very easy entry point. Many people have joined our parish and school after attending this event. It showcases the vibrancy of our parish and all the young families we have here. It also shows that you can be alive in your faith, and have fun, raising your children with other people committed to raising their kids in our beautiful Catholic faith.







#### Happening at St. John's

#### **Intercessory Prayer Ministry**

We often need prayer for family, faith, health, work, relationships, and other challenges in life. St. John the Baptist's Intercessory Prayer Ministry (IPM) teams provide monthly individual prayer ministry one weekend a month after the scheduled Mass times below. All is totally confidential.

Our next <u>Intercessory Prayer Ministry</u> will be: Saturday, March 16, after the 4:30 Mass and Sunday, March 17, after the 8:30 Mass

#### Healthcare Professionals Hospitality

Join us for Healthcare Professionals Hospitality following the 8:30 am Mass this Sunday, March 17! Connect with others in the field, discuss current events in healthcare, and grab some Lenten materials. Find them just inside St. Joseph Hall.



#### Men's Fellowship

Thursday Mornings 6:30 am—8:00 am in St. Joseph Hall

Prophesy and Typology – DVD Series

Join us for this exciting 16-week study on Prophesy and Typology. Learn how the Old Testament foreshadows the New and The New testament fulfills the Old. This video series is led by Dr. Scott Hahn, Dr. Tim Gray, Dr. John Bergsma, Fr. Louis Merosne and Dr. Matthew Thomas

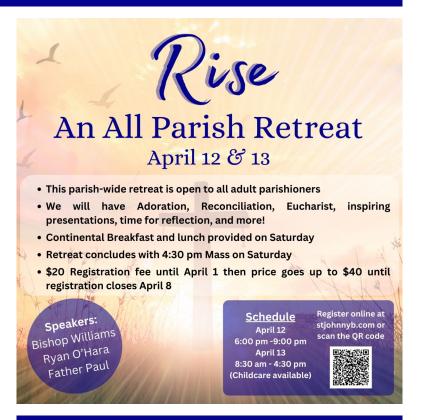
Come for the donuts, stay for the truth! Questions, call Dave at 612-616-4013

#### devoted

Wednesday, March 20 at 8:00 pm (7:30 pm social)

Ladies, join us for devoted this month on March 20. Devoted is a monthly gathering for ALL women. It's a time for you to take a breath, do something for yourself, and be filled. Come be encouraged, inspired through prayer, and dynamic speakers. Topics are relevant to you and your life and each gathering is a stand-alone event. The schedule is flexible, so you can come a little late or leave early.

Our March session will feature an opportunity for Confession, meditative music, as well as a short talk by former St. John's employee, Jessica Balzarini. Hope to see you on March 20!



#### **Young Adult Corner**

#### Join the Young Adult Community!!

If you are ages 18-35 and are interested in joining us for any events or programs, please sign the liability waiver for the year and you will be added to our email list! This is not a commitment to attend anything but will allow you to freely

attend any events whether they are on or off site! How exciting! Sarah typically sends out a communication 1-2 times per month with different things that young adults may be interested in participating in! The waiver will last from May 2023 through May 2024. See the QR code:





#### **Lent and Holy Week**

# Lent at St. John's

Friday, March 22

5:00 pm ~ Fish Fry

5:30 pm ~ Mass

7:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 23

9:30 am ~ Mass







## FISH FRY

Join us on March 22, 2024 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Meal includes:** Fish, mac and cheese, tater tots, cole slaw, bread and butter, bars/cookies, lemonade, water, and coffee.

**Prices:** \$12/adult, \$8/ages 6-12, free/under 5, \$45/family maximum. Family is children and parents. Checks, cash, credit cards accepted.

The Knights use the proceeds towards SJB School Scholarships, Sharing and Caring Hands, Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, KOC Free Throw contest, donations to Cana Dinner, Priests for Life, the Laboure Society, and several other great organizations/events.

#### Incense Schedule

We will have incense at Mass on

- † Sunday, March 24 at 10:30 am for Palm Sunday
- † Holy Thursday, March 28 at 7:00 pm for the Mass of the Lord's Supper
- † Good Friday, March 29 at 3:00 pm for the Solemn Liturgy
- † Holy Saturday, March 30 at 8:00 pm for the Great Easter Vigil Mass
- † Easter Sunday, March 31 at 9:30 am



Monday – Friday 8:00 – 8:20 am
Wednesday 5:00 – 5:20 pm
Saturday 3:15 – 4:15 pm
Sunday 5:00 – 5:20 pm
(No Confessions Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday)

Communal Reconciliation for Lent – with twelve priests

Sunday, March 24 3:30 – 5:00 pm

**Holy Week Confessions** 

Tuesday, March 26 7:00 – 8:20 am Wednesday, March 27 3:30 – 5:30 pm

#### **Area Confession Times**

Church	Location	Date/s	Times
St. Odilia	Shoreview	March 23	9:00 am
Immaculate Conception	Columbia Heights	March 21 March 23	7:00 pm 3:00 pm
St. Charles	St. Anthony	Weekdays March20 March 23	8:30 am 5:00 pm 8:30 am/3:30 pm
St. William	Fridley	March 23	4:00 pm
St. Rose of Lima	Roseville	March 23 March 24	3:00 pm 8:00 pm
St. Hedwig	Minneapolis	March 23 March 24	3:15 pm 9:30 am

#### Holy Week Liturgy Schedule

Holy Thursday, March 28

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until midnight in the Chapel of the Angels

Good Friday, March 29

12:00 pm Stations of the Cross

3:00 pm Solemn Good Friday Liturgy (Traditional) 8:00 pm Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness and Shadows The Adoration Chapel is closed during the Triduum

Holy Saturday, March 30

10:00 am Egg Hunt (Blessing in West Parking Lot)
12:00 pm Blessing of the Food (Chapel of the Angels)
8:00 pm The Great Easter Vigil – with incense
No scheduled Confessions on Holy Saturday
No 4:30 pm Mass

Easter Sunday, March 31

7:30 am Easter Sunday Mass (Organ & Cantor) 9:30 am Easter Sunday Mass (Organ & Choir) 11:30 am Easter Sunday Mass (Organ & Cantor) No 5:30 pm Mass



#### Happening at St. John's



# Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024

10:00 am Blessing - West Lot

Egg hunt:

K & under at school playground

1st & up at Vet's Park

Games, Crafts, Goodie Bags Refreshments for sale by 8th Graders for D.C. Trip

Bring your own basket or bag for the the hunt.

The Egg Hunt will be held outside so please dress for the weather! The rest will be indoors.

Children must be accompanied by adult

Questions? Email livermontj@stjohnnyb.org







#### Extreme Faith Camp

#### High School Leaders - Current 9th-12th graders

At Extreme Faith Camp, we will need high schoolers to take on roles of significant leadership on Prayer Team or Extreme Team. Students will be encouraged to apply for these leadership roles. Once accepted, they will receive a registration link and code. The cost for 9th-12th graders will be \$475 and scholarships will be available to high schoolers as well. Applications are due Monday, March 18, 2024.

**Prayer Team** is for current 9th graders or other students who have not already done it. It is a powerful experience and one that your child will not want to miss. *Applications open—Sign up with the QR code or online at stjohnnb.com/registrations/* 



**Extreme Team** is for 10th-12th graders who are ready to lead or co-lead a small group at camp. *Applications open—Sign up with the QR code or online at stjohnnb.com/registrations/* 



# March 22nd Middle School Youth Group Cancelled!

We are sorry to inform you that this month's middle school youth group is cancelled. However, we encourage you to drop your middle schooler off at the Middle School Good Friday Retreat on March 29. Details below.

#### Middle School Good Friday Retreat Friday, March 29, 2024 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm at St. John's

The retreat will begin with the 3:00 pm Good Friday Service at St. John's. Your middle schooler is welcome to sit with their family or in the reserved section. After the service, we will have a brief orientation in the youth room followed by small groups, a meatless and simple dinner, a presentation on Good Friday, a special Good Friday Procession for youth ministry, a Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet and closing small group. The retreat will end with Tenebrae at 8:00 pm. Again, middle schoolers are invited to sit with their families or in the reserved section. We will not be showing the film, Passion of Christ, as has been done in the past. High schoolers are invited to help with the retreat by leading small groups or helping to lead the procession and Rosary. High schoolers are encouraged to reach out to Sarah if they are interested in helping.



Register your Middle School camper online by scanning the QR or by going to <a href="https://stjohnnb.com/faithformation/registrations/">https://stjohnnb.com/faithformation/registrations/</a>.

We send out a weekly update on everything we have going on in St. John's Youth Ministry. Email Sarah Wilder at <a href="mailto:wilders@stjohnnyb.org">wilders@stjohnnyb.org</a> to get on the list.

# Restore to Gather Campaign Projects Q&A

Please see below a set of questions and answers on one of our campaign projects. Look for this new feature in upcoming bulletins.

## Q: Will all pews be refinished, or just those that appear to be in poor condition?

A: In order to provide a long-term solution so our pews have a consistent, durable finish, all pew surfaces, on all pews, will be refinished. An expert woodworker (third-generation), with a shop right here in St. Paul, who has extensive experience with the complexity of church pew refinishing, will be applying a 2-part catalyzed finish, with a top coat that is by far the best finish for church pews like ours. When this project is complete, they will look like new, and we expect they will last at least another 50 years if not longer.

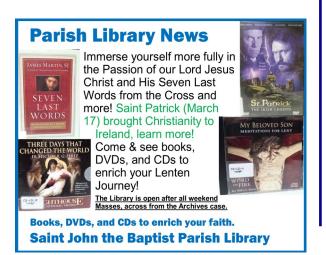
## Q: How can we be sure the re-installed pews will correspond with the current configuration?

A: All pews will be mapped and numbered so when they are reinstalled each one is installed in the exact same location it was in originally.

## Q: What will happen to the holders for the books and envelopes?

A: Because we are on a tight schedule, and need to accomplish this project with the greatest possible efficiency, the pews will be removed intact, taken apart at the refinisher's shop, refinished and reassembled, and then returned and reinstalled.

Thank you again to all those who have prayed for this effort and contributed to the Restore to Gather Campaign!



#### **Generous Spirit**

#### Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to make our Vigil Reception memorable for our new Catholics coming into the church and their families as well as our entire community celebration. This year the reception will focus on elegance with a dessert bar and a variety of beverages. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, March 30 in St. Joseph Hall for the following: 3:00 pm for set up and 10:00pm for serving and clean up.

Contact Missy Berg at 651-633-8333 ext. 1227 or bergm@stjohnnyb.org.

#### The Egg Hunt needs your help!

Please drop off new or used plastic Easter Eggs at the Welcome Desk. We would also love to have a bunny and other small farm animals at the Egg Hunt for kids to pet and take pictures with. If you have an animal you would be willing to show please email Jen Livermont at <a href="mailto:livermontj@stjohnnyb.org">livermontj@stjohnnyb.org</a>.

#### **SVDP** Food Drive

This is the last weekend of our St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Drive. Please place your donations in St. Paul Plaza.

Volunteers are needed for Monday, March 18 to load and deliver donations to Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Please meet in St. Paul Plaza after the 8:30 am Mass. Thanking you in advance.

#### Faster Decoration Memorials

If you would like to remember someone who has died or honor someone special, we invite you to make a donation in their name(s) to the Easter Plant, Wreath & Tree Fund. Please complete this form or use the envelope included in your packet and send it with \$20 (suggested amount) to the Parish Center, or drop it in the Sunday collection.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY	Y!
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ı	In Memory of /	In Honor of:
ı		

From:

Amount Enclosed: \$

ck#

Envelope #:

#### Growing Through Loss

Growing Through Loss is a grief and loss support ministry jointly sponsored by the North Suburban Grief Support Coalition, of which 18 churches and organizations in our area are members. The coalition hosts two six-week series each year at various locations that address both the educational as well as support aspects of a variety of loss and grief issues.

The spring series will be held on **Monday evenings**, **April 8- May 13 from 6:45 – 9:00 pm**, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1900 7th Street NW, New Brighton, MN 55112.

Each session offers an educational presentation by a professional from the community, followed by peer support groups facilitated by leaders who understand the grieving process. Each session is complete in itself, so you may attend any or all sessions. Registration takes place the evening before each session. There is no cost, although donations are welcome. Child care will not be provided. For more information please call 763-755-5335 or visit <a href="https://www.growingthroughloss.org">www.growingthroughloss.org</a>.

#### Questions of the Week

**First Reading:** Through the prophet Jeremiah, God promised Israel "a new covenant": the Lord's law will be written in our hearts and known by all who believe. Do you know people who seem to have a heart-felt faith?

**Second Reading:** Hebrews teaches us that Jesus struggled with his own impending suffering and death. During this Lenten season, what has been a struggle for you?

**Gospel Question:** Jesus taught that through his own suffering and death, he would drive out the "ruler of this world" (Satan) and draw everyone to himself. In what ways are you drawn to Christ?

#### Readings For The Week

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/

Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/ Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/

Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/

Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/ Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/ Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

#### St. John's Music at Mass Schedule

Saturday, March 16, 2024 Contemporary Ensemble at 4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, March 17, 2024 Ignite Group at 8:30 am, 10:30 am, and 5:30 pm Masses

Saturday, March 23, 2024 Contemporary Ensemble at 4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, March 24, 2024 Adult Choir at 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses Ignite Group at 5:30 pm Mass

#### Please Pray For...

Those who have entered eternal life:

Kathryn Whitehurst, Joseph Glaser, Donna Ferrier, Gerald Horsmann, Deanna Schotzko

#### Those who are ill:

Sadlovsky Family, Sheehan Family, Cameron Santos, Madi Rippy, Sydney Jo Rippy, Jesse McDonough, Daryl Stevens, Geraldine and Gloria Hangartner, Emily Dahl, Theresa People, Josephine Schmidt, Chris Natheos, Randy Vogland, Don Lumby, Alex Pearson, Thomas Jones, Fulton Francis Dobbs, Susan Welsh, Robert Cuddigan, Jenny Bruening, Annette Foreman, Mary Clare Farrell, Sawyer Anderson, Betsy Brown, Jim Smith, Jerry Renk, Dale Phillips, Dennis Fox, Kathleen Schopf, Steve Lauinger, Charlotte Thrun, Poppy Craft, Annette Kirwan, Emma Lutsilili, Beverly Aplikowski, Mary Gormally, Georgianna Warden, Michael Ferdelman, Cassie Cramer, Jon Clark, Donna Yenish, John Leibrich, Nella Pitzen, Philip Jarosz, Kay and Gary Mayer, Danielle Pratt, Claire Kriz, Carol Esterley-Ruff, Joe Brownrigg, Brigit Voss, Brandon Boss, The Viker Family, Robert Lauinger, Phyllis Norbeck, Jennifer Norbeck, John Wiggins, Mary Jo Beaudry, Greg Najbert, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Celé Winter, Paul Jacobs, Jeremy Mainello, Deacon Rod and Susan Amos Palmer, Dottie Searles, Sylvia Meagher, Mary Andersohn, Kris Mellstrom, Kay Hildreth, Mary Erickson, Steve Johnson, Audrey Geneva, Tim Steffl, Braxton Battaglia, Helen Heinks, JoAnn Cedarholm, Tom Goebel, Engracia Houle, Jon Latham, Marlene Nickel, Christa Jones, Larry Tenold, Sam Schullo, Carri Buckanogwa, Joe Brennan, Irene Tschida, Nancy Winiecki, Jean Schullo, Doug Lausen, Margaret Wright, Rebecca Valverde, Suzanne Loscheider, Oswald Tschida, Dave Tucci, Trudy Nimis, Joe Miskowic, George Huard, Dustin, Katie and Harper Boor, Don Grant, Marge McCann, Fr. Michael Skluzacek, Keira Friedman, Joan Geiger, Greg Windsterger, Jeannette Wyatt, Cindy Skenderovic, Mary Battmer, Marilyn Ward, John Klingler, Sarajo Groehler, Joan Cossack, Margot Favre, Larry Johnson, Shawn Oglesbee, Jaeden Nguyen, MaryAnne Marshik, Ethan Smith, Stephanie Pommier, Lorene MacLean, Sharon Bowen, Jack Isacson, Sarah Miller, Larry Gillespie, Alice Mercord, Vicki Leier, Judith Hentss, Rita Amble, Barb Marti, James Simmer Jr., Bud Handzel, Eileen Rybak, Barbie Sterans, Connie Lloyd, Jodie Wolla, Lisa Szczeck Auburn, Elaine Loscheider, Joseph Wutsch, Donald Cournover

**Prayer Line** 651-633-1618/651-247-4202 Call with your prayer requests. Requests are confidential.

# Gather to Witness in the Mission Fields

an update from Camryn Sulak, former SJB NET Missionary and current FOCUS Missionary

#### Hello my dear friends and family!

I pray this letter finds you and your family well as we journey through this season of Lent. A time to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus' love anew at the coming of Easter. A time to create space in our hearts and lives to hear how The Lord desires to speak to us and grow closer to Him. This is a beautiful time to walk with students, and I pray you've been able to experience the opportunity to create new room in your heart for The Lord.

This past month brought many opportunities to walk with students in creating this space in their hearts for The Lord this Lent. One of these ways was Ash Wednesday. We had two masses at the Newman center and the chapel was packed with both familiar and new faces! This was a great opportunity to empower our students to make our Newman center a welcoming community and have intentional conversations with those who were new. It has been inspiring to see the students step up and be on mission with us!

A special opportunity we have to serve Christ this Lent is our spring break mission trip to New York! We will be leaving in about two weeks to spend 10 days in New York City serving Christ in the poor and the underprivileged youth. I am excited to see the way The Lord works in the hearts of the students who are generously giving of their break to serve Christ in this radical way. Please pray for our trip!

The Lord is never outdone in generosity and it shows through in your constant prayers and support for making this mission possible. As I bring these students to prayer, know that I also pray for you! I would love to hear your specific prayer requests! Please text me at 817-929-8161 or email me at camryn.sulak@focus.org.

#### On Campus

Every week the missionaries on campus take time to be present on campus and meet new students. I am always amazed at who God places in our path! After being on campus for 1.5 years, there are a lot of familiar faces that I get to re-connect with, but also new faces to invite into friendship and community. This is always a highlight of the week as we try to engage students in a creative way like playing mini golf or asking a thought provoking question to open them up to more meaningful conversation. God places people in our path for a specific reason, and this is true on campus and our everyday life. Many times that we meet students they tell us they are refreshed by our conversation and bring joy to their day. God can work in peoples lives in such simple ways. This is something we're all called to live out!

#### Ash Wednesday

On Ash Wednesday, the graduate Bible study met and we planted flower seeds. We reflected on how The Lord can bring beauty and joy through us being created from dust and His breath. We planted the flower seeds to be a reminder of this as they bloom in 40 days on Easter. May the growth of the seeds reflect their relationship growing with Christ's grace!



God bless and thank you,

Camryn Sulak



Camryn.sulak@focus.org Visit my Giving Page: Focus.org/missionaries/Camryn-sulak 817.929.8161

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