

My brothers and sisters,

I hope that all of you are having a fruitful and good Lent. I would like to thank all of those who have volunteered in helping prepare the simple suppers on Wednesday evenings following Mass. The proceeds of these simple suppers go to help support local Catholic charities within the Diocese of Columbus including local soup kitchens and food pantries as remote as the St. Francis Center in Vinton county. Many thanks for your charity in almsgiving this Lenten Season. If you are not able to join us for a simple supper and would like to still help support these wonderful centers that help the poor, simply place an envelope in the basket marked “parish charity” and we will make sure it goes to these worthwhile and charitable organizations that help bring God’s mercy to our community.

Lenten News....

Wednesday evenings, **Mass at St. John the Baptist at 6:00 p.m. followed by a simple supper to support local Catholic charities within the Diocese of Columbus.**

Friday beginning at Noon, Deacon Felix will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction at St. John the Baptist.

Confessions will be available before **Weekend Masses** and before the **Wednesday Evening Mass** and by appointment.

Please stay tuned for further information regarding Lent and the schedule for **Holy Week and Easter.**

Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence:

Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years and older on **Ash Wednesday** and on **all Fridays of Lent.** This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.

Fasting: Limit oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday.** On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. Eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

Have a great week!

Fr. Tony Lonzo

Associate Administrator of Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sat., 2/27	4:00 p.m. SH	Charles Agriesti by Michelisea & Dave Ross
Sun., 2/28	9:30 a.m.	Maria Camperchioli by Tony Caradonna & Luisa Stefanelli
Mon., 2/29	6:30 a.m. SH	Leona DeCesare by Caterina Sestito
Tues., 3/1	6:30 a.m. SH	Toby Derrick by Anita Koebel
Wed., 3/2	6:00 p.m.	Deceased Members of Saint John the Baptist
Thurs., 3/3	6:30 a.m. SH	Elsie DelGreco
Fri., 3/4	6:30 a.m. SH	Mary Rossetti by Mary & Joe Gerardi
Sat., 3/5	4:00 p.m. SH	Pauline Weinsteger by Richard A. Wilson
Sun., 3/6	9:30 a.m.	Cesidia Cugini by Cesidio Cugini & Family

Blessed Sacrament and Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian: Joyce Tisone by Carl Tisone

Blessed Sacrament: Tony Solazzo by PG & Dick Bisciotti

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sun., 2/28/2016	RCIA – 10:00-10:30 a.m. Breaking Open the Word (Library) RCIA Session – 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Library) Confirmation 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Preparation Class (Classroom 1) LaDonne Meeting after Mass (Marrapese Hall) San Giovanni Dance Group 4:30 p.m. (Marrapese Hall)
Mon., 2/29/2016	Italian Village Men’s Faith Sharing Group 6:00 p.m. (Marrapese Hall) SJB Women’s Faith Group 6:00 p.m. (Classroom)
Wed., 3/2/16	Lenten Mass – 6:00 p.m. Simple Supper after Mass (Sala Hall)
Fri., 3/4/16	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament –Noon followed by Stations & Benediction

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick or suffering, especially those who are in Hospitals, Nursing Facilities or Homebound suffering.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

THE BARRINGTON OF CARMEL – CARMEL INDIANA: Yola Rossi

Country View – Sunbury – Viola Del Greco

MOTHER ANGELINE McCrory: Marie Tarantelli

HOME: JUDY PISHITELLI

*** If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input.*

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
March 6 9:30 a.m.	John Snoad, Landa Brunetto	Ed Pagnanelli, Karen Quick, Andrea Myers, Margaret Panico-Harn

2016 LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS READINGS

February 28 – Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

February 29 – Lenten Weekday

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30

March 1 – Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

March 2 – Lenten Weekday

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

March 3 – St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

March 4 – St. Casimir

Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

March 5 – Lenten Weekday

Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

March 6 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

* Pray for our Priests and seminarians

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: Currently, we have Rosary leaders scheduled through **March**. We begin the Rosary around 9:00-9:05 a.m., and it takes about 15-20 minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact the Men's Faith Sharing group.

The Leaders for March are:

- **March 6 – Adolfo Gastaldo**
- **March 13 – Marge Contino**
- **March 20 – Bob Contino**
- **March 27 – Leslie Pasian**

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

February 21, 2016

Number of Envelopes Used – 49

In Envelopes: \$2,461.00 Loose Money: \$196.50

Regular Collection:	\$ 2,657.50
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	(\$ 159.45)
	\$ 2,498.05
Votive Lights	\$ 26.00
<i>Catholic Times</i>	\$ 119.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 10.00
St. Anthony Bread	\$ 20.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 12.00
50/50	\$ 10.00
	\$ 197.00

\$\$\$? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? \$\$\$?

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/15-6/30/16)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Wk:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 2,657.50	(\$ 227.50)	-8%
FYTD:	\$98,090.00	\$95,353.70	(\$2,736.30)	-3%

SJB Collection Counters

for Monday, February 29, 2016

Mary Spellacy, Genevive Knouff, Paul Cosentino

Simple Supper 1: Thanks to the Confirmation Class Parents; John Contino, Keely Weaver, Marge Contino, Amy Kauchek for providing the soup, bread, and salad, and to all who helped serve and clean up. **\$250.00** was raised for this week's charity.

The Confirmation class is also sponsoring a **Retreat to Our Lady of Consolation Shrine in Carey, Ohio, on Saturday, March 5th**. If you are interested in going, please contact **John Contino** at 614-214-8473.

The Charles Agriesti Memorial St. Joseph's Table Dinner: **Friday, March 18**, we will begin with **Mass at 5:30 p.m.**, followed by dinner served by the **Berwick**. Dessert will be supplied by **LeDonne** and musical entertainment will be provided by **Chuck Gillespie**. Tickets for this event are **\$35.00 per person**. For tickets, see **Carol Ristucci** or **Margaret Panico-Harn** or call the church office at 614-294-5319.

Do You Want to Dance Tarantella? The San Giovanni Dancers, an Italian folk dance group based at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, welcomes new members. It is fun, and aerobic exercise. This time of the year is the best time to join because the group will also restart its regular practices on Sunday afternoons at the Marrapese Hall. For more information, please call 614-481-3155.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE FATHER CASTO MARRAPESE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – DEADLINE FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2016

St. John the Baptist Italian Catholic Church announces the **2016 Father Casto Marrapese Scholarship Program**. If you are a high school senior student of Italian descent, attending a central Ohio high school, and accepted to an accredited two or four-year College or university in the U.S. for the 2016-2017 academic years, you are encouraged to apply for this scholarship opportunity. Application information has been posted on Saint John's web site www.info@sjbitaliana.com and has also been sent to Central Ohio high school guidance counseling offices. All application materials (application form, activity listing, personal recommendation letter, school recommendation and transcript, and personal essay) must be received at St. John's no later than **2:00 p.m., Friday, April 1, 2016**. For information, call **St. John the Baptist Catholic Italian Church** at 614-294-5319.

THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE Requests assistance for Holy Family's Soup Kitchen: Each month, we will have a focus; our goal is to help **Holy Family** monthly have a different focus on what is needed.

March: Toothpaste and toothbrushes, winter hats and gloves

April: Soap and deodorant.

There will be boxes in **Sala Hall** to place your contributions.

AROUND US

Sons of Italy News: The **Sons of Italy Columbus Lodge** will be celebrating **St. Joseph's Feast** at 7:00 p.m. on **Saturday, March 19, 2016** at **LaScala Restaurant**. **\$35.00 per person** and we ask all those attending to bring a paper bag of groceries (nonperishable items) to help stock the **St. Francis Center Food Bank**. Also, we ask that you bring a dessert for **St. Joseph's Table** to share. This year our celebration will also feature **The Ray Massa Band**, so for a wonderful meal, homemade desserts and joyful camaraderie, entertainment and a great cause, call **Sos Codispoti** to reserve your prepaid tickets at 614-582-7366 or email SOSCOD@CS.COM. We will be conducting a raffle FOR SEVERAL PRIZES as well as conducting a SPECIAL drawing for a trip for two to ITALY. AGAIN, Call 614-582-7366.

Lenten Prayer

God of all creation, we welcome You into our lives in a new way this Lent. We are ready to serve Your people, especially our brothers and sisters who are most in need. We are ready to live out Your call to mercy. Through our prayers, fasting and Lenten gifts, we may learn to walk as one global human family. May we learn to listen to each other, and in so doing hear the merciful words of Christ.

Amen

"You, you give your heart to me, without reserve; this is the one thing needful. Do not allow your attention or your affections to be drawn away from my words, from my Sacred Heart. I am the Good Shepherd who will never leave you. In love, I will offer my life for you on Calvary; in love, will you offer your life for me and not count the cost? This is the proof of friendship, of love: to give all. I am the door; if you enter by me, you will be saved. You say that I am the Lord, the Messiah. Now give this belief flesh in your life. Follow me to Jerusalem."

~ Christopher O. Blum, Editor, Meditations for Lent, x.