

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today is the last day of the Easter Octave, one long day celebrated over **8 days**. Eight is a symbol of eternity, the unending day. We hope to live eternally with the Risen Christ. Every **Sunday** is a reminder of this pinnacle aspect of our faith. Today is also the **Sunday of Divine Mercy**. We read in the Gospel the story of doubting Thomas. Thomas could not believe his fellow disciples' witness to Jesus' Resurrection. So Jesus, ever merciful and not wanting Thomas to be left out, appears to him so that he might believe. Some of us need more assurance than others of the power of the Resurrection and the blessings of the Good News. Sometimes, we need more time to follow Christ, to be converted and transformed. Jesus is ever patient with us but it is always better to come to a faith in Jesus sooner rather than later. We have many signs of God's promises in our lives and the witnesses of others. Ask the Lord to increase your faith for He is the conqueror of sin and death and will do the same for us.

I want to congratulate **Errica Trost** who was baptized and initiated into the Catholic Church at last week's Easter Vigil. **Errica** has been studying and praying since last autumn for her entry into the Church. We thank her for this witness to God's grace. We ask God to increase the grace of the new life that He has given to her and make her grow in the knowledge and love of God.

I want to thank all those who helped make our **Triduum** celebrations last week so prayerful and beautiful. I extend a special thanks to **Gina Bishop, John Huffman** and **Larry Paule** for the beautiful music. Also, I want to thank **Gina**, her three children, **Blaise Marcucci** and **Dave Ross** for decorating the Church and making our house of worship beautiful for the occasion. I want to thank the lectors, servers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and ushers for their service as well. It truly takes a great deal of people to make these intricate liturgies prayerful and beautiful.

Blessings to all of you throughout this Easter Season!
Fr. Kitsmiller
 Associate Administrator, St. John the Baptist

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sun., 4/8	9:30 a.m.	Joe Cordi by Carole & Angelo Cordi
Mon., 4/9	5:30 p.m.	Clara Zari by Angiolino Appollonio
Sun., 4/15	9:30 a.m.	Pietro Stefanelli by Luisa Stefanelli
Mon., 4/16	5:30 p.m.	Leo Guglielmi by Celeste & Larry Guglielmi

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Blessed Sacrament: Mr. & Mrs. William Lalli
 by Irene Solazzo & Family
Marian Lights: Virginia & Dominick Finissi
 by Norma Jean & Bill Finissi, Sr.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday	April 8, 2018 – 9:30 a.m.
Lectors:	Adolfo Gastaldo, Bob Contino
Eucharistic Ministers:	Margaret Panico-Harn, Andrea Myers, Marge Contino, Judy Pishitelli, Pat Rossetti
Sunday	April 15, 2018 – 9:30 a.m.
Lectors:	Nick D'Alberto, Antonio D'Alberto,
Eucharistic Ministers:	Sharon D'Alberto, Ed Pagnanelli, & Pete Tamburro, Marge Contino, & Margi Baker

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sun., 4/8	11:00 a.m.	Altar Guild Meeting (Marrapese Hall)
Mon., 4/9	6:00 p.m.	Italian Village Men's Faith Sharing Group (Marrapese Hall) SJB Women's Faith Group (Classroom)

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

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

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: 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. Leaders for **April** are:

- April 8 Carl Tisone
- April 15 Margaret Contino, OFS
- April 22 Adolfo "Gus" Gastaldo

2018 Liturgical Calendar & Mass Readings

- April 8 – Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)**
 Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31
- April 9 – The Annunciation of the Lord**
 Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
- April 10 – Easter Weekday**
 Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
- April 11 – Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr**
 Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
- April 12 – Easter Weekday**
 Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
- April 13 – Easter Weekday**
 Saint Martin I, Pope and Martyr
 Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
- April 14 – Easter Weekday**
 Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21
- April 15 – Third Sunday of Easter**
 Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

*Pray for our Priest and seminarians

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

April 1, 2018

Number of Envelopes Used – 69

In Envelopes: \$570.00 Loose Money \$953.00

Regular Collection	\$ 1,523.00
Holy Day	\$ 3,600.00
Total	\$ 5,123.00
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	-\$ (307.38)
	\$ 4,815.62
Votives	\$ 50.00
Good Friday	\$ 185.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 200.00
St. Anthony's Bread	\$ 34.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 100.00
50/50 Drawing	\$ 60.00
	\$ 629.00

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

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/17-6/30/18)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 5,123.00	\$ 2,238.00	78%
FYTD:	\$115,400.00	\$ 110,495.00	-\$ (4,904.78)	-4%

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, April 9, 2018

Nick Perschetti and Tom Elliott

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, April 16, 2018

Maruja Paule, Donna Veri & Darlene Rauch

Office Hours:



The Parish Office hours are **Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Divine Mercy Sunday at Sacred Heart

April 8th 1:30 p.m. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
 1:30 p.m. **Confessions**
 2:00 p.m. **Rosary**
 2:30 p.m. **Stations of the Cross & Benediction**
 3:00 p.m. **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**
 3:30 p.m. **Mass**

Divine Mercy Sunday: The Sunday following Easter is popularly known as Mercy of God Sunday. Between **1930 and 1938**, Christ appeared to Sister Faustina, a Sister of Mercy in Poland who initiated the Divine Mercy devotion. She was canonized on **April 30, 2000**, the Sunday after Easter, the Feast of Divine Mercy. On Good Friday, **1937**, Jesus requested that Blessed Faustina make a special Novena before the Feast of Mercy, from Good Friday through the following Saturday. Jesus also asked that a picture be painted according to the vision of Himself as the fountain of mercy. He gave her a chaplet to be recited and said that it was appropriate to pray the chaplet at **three o'clock** each afternoon (the Hour of Great Mercy). **Please consider participating in this devotion at Sacred Heart on April 8, starting at 1:30 p.m.**

CONFIRMATION AT ST. JOHN

Confirmation Ceremony will be at **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**, 720 Hamlet Street, Columbus, Ohio, **Sunday, May 13, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. Mass.** All Students and sponsors will need to be at the church no later than **8:30 a.m.** Reception for students and families will be immediately following Mass, **11:00 a.m., Marrapese Hall.** (Milano's Italian Restaurant will be catering the event). RSVP should have been turned in by **April 1, 2018.**

Class: Class resumes **Sunday, April 8th at 11:00 a.m.** Since there are only **5 classes** remaining before Confirmation, I am requesting everyone make an extra effort to make all the remaining classes.

Sponsors: Please be advised, all sponsors if not a member of **St. John** will need to submit a letter from their Catholic parish pastor. If you have already done so, Grazie! In addition, sponsors are required to write a mentor letter to each student. We would like these letters to be completed by **Sunday, April 8th** so students can bring these letters with them for that class to discuss.

Rehearsal: Rehearsal is **Mandatory** for all students and will be **Sunday, May 6, 2018 at Noon** at St. John. Second Rehearsal is **Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.** at St. John. We are asking sponsors to be at the second rehearsal. Any questions, please contact **John Contino at 614-214-8473.**

Photographs of our St. John's Parishioners will be displayed in GENOA, ITALY – On **Sunday, April 8th**, after Mass, a photographer from GENOA, ITALY will be speaking with individuals in our parish and taking portraits to be displayed in an exhibit in our sister city of Genoa. I encourage everyone, who would like to speak with him to be prepared to have your portrait taken. This event is part of The Columbus Italian Festival's relationship with **The Greater Sister Cities International.** This group participated in the **The PESTO** competition at **The Columbus 2017 Italian Festival.** The photographer is creating a gallery project of his 9-day trip to Columbus, Ohio. The exhibit will return to **The Columbus Italian Festival 2018 on DVD.** Speak with **Landa at 614-579-1150** if you need further information.

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The month of **April** is dedicated to **The Holy Spirit.** The entire month falls during the Easter season. The liturgical color is white – the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored).

Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of April 2018: You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for the following intention: That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

Bereavement Ministry: The North High Deanery invites anyone suffering from a loss of a loved one to take part in the Seasons of Hope ministry meetings. Seasons of Hope is a Catholic, Christ-centered support group that includes Scripture, prayer, reflection and sharing. It is offered for six weeks, four times per year. The ministry's spring session will meet on six consecutive Sundays, from April 8 to May 13, in the parish hall of Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Avenue. Registration will take place each week from 1:30-1:55 p.m. Questions may be directed to Mike Schmidt at michaeljaesschmidt@yahoo.com or Michael Julian at mjulian@columbus.rr.com.

"We have a Lord who is capable of crying with us and capable of walking with us in the most difficult moments of life."

~Pope Francis



Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

~ John 20:19

Prayer

*Eternal God,
 in whom mercy is endless
 and the treasury of compassion
 – inexhaustible,
 look kindly upon us
 and increase Your mercy in us,
 that in difficult moments
 we might not despair
 nor become despondent,
 but with great confidence
 submit ourselves to Your holy will,
 which is Love and Mercy itself.
 Amen.*