

A crucifix of Jesus Christ is mounted on a stone wall. The sign above the cross reads "I.N.R.I.". The scene is lit with a dramatic, low-key light, creating strong shadows and highlights. The overall color palette is dark with a purple/blue tint.

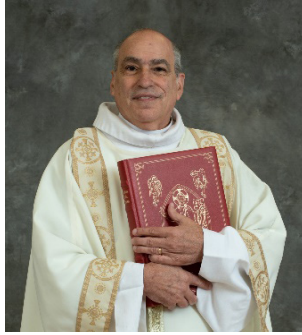
MARCH 20, 2022  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

CHARITY  
MERCY  
PENANCE

Lent

PRAYER  
FASTING  
ALMSGIVING

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

**From the Deacon's Desk***Dear friends in Christ,*

A young girl brought her boyfriend home to meet her parents. For some reason, the parents did not like him right away and could not find very many good qualities about him. When the parents had the opportunity to talk to their daughter later by herself, the girl's mother said: "Dear, he doesn't seem like a very nice person." The daughter answered, "Mom, if he wasn't a nice person, why would he be doing hundreds and hundreds of hours of community service?"

It is stretching things a bit to say "community service" fits into the theme of this **Sunday's** liturgy, but the readings remind us not to be like the fig tree in **Jesus'** parable today. We are to produce good works. **God** didn't create us just to take up space in this world. **God** wants more from us than that. **God** wants us to trust Him, to love Him, and to do good for others.

This season of **Lent** keeps reminding us of our need to grow in holiness and goodness. Some people do nothing special during **Lent**. They think they're good enough. Others start off with a great deal of enthusiasm praying more, making sacrifices, or doing good work. But as the weeks drag on, they ease up with their good resolutions. We still have **four** more weeks of **Lent**. May our readings today encourage us to do what we can, so we come to **Easter** with our minds and hearts renewed.

**May good Saint Joseph, and our patron Saint John the Baptist, pray for us!**

**Have a blessed week,  
Deacon Frank**

**P.S.** – Many thanks to the **Altar Guild members, Vince Militello** and his "**cooking crew**" for the very good and hard work they put into our annual **Saint Joseph Table breakfast** after **Mass** this morning. Hope you will join us! **Bon appetito!**

The **Mass** is available on **St. John's Facebook** page or **YouTube** channel, **Saint John the Baptist, Cbus**. Go to our **website: [www.sjbitaliana.com](http://www.sjbitaliana.com)** under **Livestream Mass**.

If you would also like to join me for daily **Mass** at **St. Brigid of Kildare** please go to **St. Brigid YouTube** channel and to **St. Brigid parish Facebook** page.

**Mass celebrant for March 27, 2022,  
is Fr. Cotton assisted by Deacon Frank.  
Stations of the Cross at 10:45 a.m.**

**Confessions heard before Mass  
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Sunday, March 20, 2022, 9:30 a.m.	
<b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Kurt Heinger, Gretchen Heinger
<b>Euch. Min 1 &amp; 2.:</b>	Andrea Myers, Al Iosue
Sunday, March 27, 2022, 9:30 a.m.	
<b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Valerie Milano, Davide Cugini
<b>Euch. Min 1 &amp; 2.:</b>	Ed Pagnanelli, Antonio D'Alberto

**MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

<b>Sun. 3/20</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Joe Pishitelli</b> by Ken & Maria Lucchin
<b>Sun. 3/20</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Robert W. Contino, Sr.</b> by Ken & Maria Lucchin
<b>Sun. 3/20</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Jerry Galilei</b> by Betty Jo LaPenna
<b>Sun. 3/27</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Peter Tamburro</b> by Felix and Bianca Milano
<b>Sun. 3/27</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Teresa Murphy</b> by Christine Szczesny
<b>Sun. 3/27</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Jim Behal</b> by Pat Rossetti

**PARISH INFORMATION**

*The Italian Catholic Community at St. John the Baptist  
Corner of E. Lincoln and Hamlet Streets  
Church Mailing Address: 168 E. Lincoln Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 294-5319 • Fax: (614) 294-4303*

*Livestream our 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on our  
St. John the Baptist Facebook page by visiting  
our website [www.sjbitaliana.com](http://www.sjbitaliana.com).*

*Office Hours are from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,  
Monday through Friday.  
Website: [info@sjbitaliana.org](mailto:info@sjbitaliana.org)*

*Deacon Frank Iannarino – Administrator/Rector  
Msgr. John Cody – Retired/Holy Service on weekends  
Father Charles Klinger – Retired/Holy Service on weekends  
Father Charles Cotton – Retired/Holy Service on weekends  
Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community  
Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant  
Ms. Victoria Gammell – Secretary and Bulletin Editor  
Mrs. Gina Bishop – Director of Liturgy  
Mr. John Huffman – Organist and Musical consultant*

*Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – 9:30 a.m. each Sunday  
Sacrament of Penance – 9:00 a.m. (before Sunday Mass or  
by appointment)  
Sacrament of Baptism and Baptism preparation (by  
appointment)  
Sacrament of Matrimony (you must be registered at **Saint  
John** at least 6 months prior to scheduling your wedding by  
Deacon or Priest)  
Sacrament of Confirmation and Rites of Christian  
Initiation for Adults (please make an appointment with Parish  
Administrator)*

*Saint John Italian Festival (please visit our website for more  
information)  
Sala Hall and Marrapese Hall (scheduled with approval of  
Parish Administrator)  
**Bulletin Deadline:** Announcements must be submitted in  
writing by **Tuesday at noon.***

**Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:**

**Marian Lights:** **Carlo & Monica Ventresca**  
by Carol Ventresca  
**Blessed Sacrament:** **Jerry Galilei**  
by Betty Jo LaPenna

**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. For Vienna D'Alberto, who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village, and Mary Spellacy who is residing at Friendship Village in Dublin. Also, keep in your prayers, Laura Williams, James Graf, Linda McCreary, Guy Williams, John Contino, and Msgr. John Cody.

If SJB parishioners want to send a card or note of prayerful support for Msgr. Cody, he is at Mohun Health Care Center, Room 413, 2340 Airport Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43219. If you would like to text him, his phone number is 614-398-7119. He will be in recovery/therapy for the next 6-8 weeks.

**Requiescant in pace!** In the charity of your prayers, please remember the family and friends of:



- **Joann Paesano**, long time devoted member of **St. John the Baptist**, and **Geno Persichetti**, who died and was buried this past week. **May they rest in peace with the Risen Lord!**

**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 **Kevin Koesters** at **937-902-7446** or via email at **k.koesters32@gmail.com**. Leaders for **March and April** are:

- March 20, 2022 **Gary Bosco**
- March 27, 2022 **Kevin Koesters**
- April 3, 2022 **Gary Bosco**

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

3/20 Sun.	<b>KCC Religious Education – Library &amp; Classroom</b> 11:00 a.m. <b>KCC Sunday Mass – Fr. Kim</b> 12:00 No Meeting in Sala Hall after Mass <b>SJB St. Joseph’s Pancake Breakfast</b> After 9:30 a.m. Mass – Sala and Marrapese
3/21 Mon.	<b>Rotary Club Luncheon</b> 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
3/25 Fri.	<b>KCC Mass – Fr. Kim</b> 7:00 p.m. SJB Church
3/26 Sat.	<b>Italian Language Class – Italian Cultural Room</b> 10:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon <b>KCC Legio Mariae Comitium Meeting</b> 11:00 a.m. – Rectory – Mass
	<b>Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.</b>

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN**

March 13, 2022

Number of Envelopes used Sunday 44

Reg. Env:	\$ 1,970.00
Loose:	\$ 227.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,197.00</b>
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment:	\$ (131.82)
	\$ 2,065.18
Votives:	\$ 47.00
Catholic Relief Services:	\$ 25.00
Black & Indian Missions:	\$ 10.00
Diocesan Charities (Ukraine):	\$ 1,540.00
St. Anthony Bread:	\$ 30.00
50/50 Drawing:	\$ 30.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,682.00</b>

**?? ?? HOW IS ST. JOHN DOING? ?? ??**

**Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (07/01/21 – 06/30/22)**

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 2,197.00	(\$ 688.00)	-24%
FYTD:	\$106,745.00	\$96,375.89	(\$10,369.11)	-10%

**50/50 Drawing:** Congratulations to **Mr. & Mrs. Roger Myers**, winners of the **50/50 Drawing** for **February 2022**. Thank you for your support!

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, March 21, 2022**

Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, March 28, 2022**

Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard



**SACRED HEART  
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

There will be **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** at **Sacred Heart Church** on **April 2, 2022**, from **9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.** There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for those who are interested in **half-hour** or **one-hour** slots.

**PAVERS:** The front **Pavilion** of **St. John’s Church** is covered with **Pavers**. These **Pavers** are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information, please call the office of **St. John** at **614-294-5319**.



**ST. JOSEPH’S DAY CELEBRATION  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**The Altar Guild:** **St. Joseph Day Pancake Celebration** is today, after **Mass**. The price **\$12.00/person** (cash or check – checks made payable to **St. John Altar Guild**). Children six and under are **free**.

The breakfast menu consists of **pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, juice, and coffee**. Thank you to **Vince Militello** and his team for volunteering to prepare breakfast for this celebration!

**FUTURE**

**ITALIAN FESTIVAL MEETINGS FOR 2022**

Date	Executive Board	General
March 28	6:30 p.m.	
April 25	6:30 p.m.	
May 2		6:00 p.m.
May 23	6:30 p.m.	
June 27	6:30 p.m.	
July 11		6:00 p.m.
July 25	6:30 p.m.	
August 1		6:00 p.m.
August 22	6:30 p.m.	
September 12	6:30 p.m.	
September 26	5:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.

**AROUND US**

**The Holy Father’s Intentions for the Month of March 2022:** May Christians continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

**Music at St. Mary GV 2021/2022:** Music Series presents live concert at **St. Mary Catholic Church, German Village, John Angotti, Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24** at **4:00 p.m.** Purchase **\$20.00** tickets at **SouthColsCatholic.org/music-at-st-marys-concert-series**. For more information, call **614-445-9668**.

**Prayers for Ukraine:** With the outbreak of war in **Ukraine**, the **Diocese of Columbus** urges all to join together today and every day in deep prayer for an immediate end to hostilities and a return to diplomatic dialogue that assures a real and lasting peace for all people in **Ukraine, Europe**, and the world. Pope Francis said “**I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.**” In calling for fervent prayer around the world, **Pope Francis** also noted that, “**Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests**” and appealed for those “**with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war, who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies.**”

**Acts XXIX: The Rescue Project Live:** This is another exciting opportunity for our **Diocese** to engage in prayer, to encounter **Christ in the Eucharist** and the **Gospel**, and to renew our call to conversion in our **Real Presence, Real Future** initiative.

**Fr. John Riccardo**, from **Acts XXIX**, is coming to **Columbus** on **Corpus Christi** weekend, **June 18 & 19**, to launch **The Rescue Project Live** – a weekend experience to awaken the faith of parishioners – with the goal of mobilizing them for mission, to go out from our parishes and ignite the faith in the hearts of many others.

**The Rescue Project Live** will work with our **Catholics** to ignite or re-ignite a strong faith in our **Lord** and our **Church**, which will help all of us in the local church be renewed in our relationships with **Christ** and experience the **Holy Spirit** in our lives. **The Rescue Project Live** will help the good people in our communities with the many possible changes we will all be undergoing in the next few years in our **Diocese**. More information will be provided soon.

**Forty Days:** The duration of **Lent** is one of the most symbolically significant periods of time in the Bible. It’s not just the **40 days** of temptation that **Jesus** faced in the desert, or the years that the **Israelites** wandered in the desert, and the days that the waters of the **Genesis** flood covered the earth. **The Old Testament** is punctuated with numerous other 40-day periods including: • **Moses** was on the mountain with **God** for 40 days and nights • the scouts explored the **Promised Land** for 40 days • **Goliath** challenged the **Israelites** to a fight each day for 40 days • the meal delivered by an angel sustained **Elijah** for 40 days in the desert • **Ezekiel** bears the punishment of **Israel** for 40 days • **God** postpones the destruction of **Nineveh** by 40 days giving the city time to repent. The number 40 itself also represents the periodic “rests” granted to the land of **Israel** in the book of Judges. It is also the duration of the reigns of **Saul** and **David**, and the number of years **Israel** was supposed to be in exile according to **Ezekiel**. **Forty** is also the number of lashes allowed in a punishment (**Deuteronomy 25:3**) and the length of the main hall of the first and second temples in the **Old Testament**. **Forty** is a number of punishment and repentance, testing and resting, and, above all else, absolute dependence on **God**. Whenever **God** wants to do something significant, **He** does it in **40 days** (or years). As this Bible encyclopedia notes, “**Forty is associated with almost each new development in the history of God’s mighty acts, especially of salvation.**”

**Church Regulations Regarding Fasting and Abstinence during Lent:** 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. The law of fasting on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** applies to all **Catholics** from age 18 through age 59.

**It is Fish Fry Time:** One of the great parts of **Lent** is the return of that wonderful **Catholic** institution, the **Friday Fish Fry**. Please go to [columbuscatholic.org](http://columbuscatholic.org) for a complete schedule of the **Fish Fries** offered throughout the **Columbus** area during **Lent**.



## NEIGHBORING PARISHES EASTER TRIDUUM MASS SCHEDULE

### April 14th, Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Sacred Heart Church	6:00 p.m.
St. John the Baptist	No Service
Korean Catholic Community	8:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Cathedral	7:30 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi	7:00 p.m.

### April 15th, Good Friday – Passion of the Lord

Sacred Heart Church	3:00 p.m.
Korean Catholic Community	8:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Cathedral	12:00 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi	12:00 p.m. Stations 7:00 p.m. Service

### April 16th – Holy Saturday

Sacred Heart Church	Easter Vigil	8:00 p.m.
St. John the Baptist	No Service	
Korean Catholic Community	Easter Vigil	8:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Cathedral	Easter Vigil	8:00 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi	Easter Vigil	8:30 p.m.

### April 17th, Easter Sunday – Resurrection of the Lord

Sacred Heart Church	11:00 a.m. Mass
St. John the Baptist	9:30 a.m. Mass
Korean Catholic Community	12:00 p.m. Mass
St. Joseph Cathedral	8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi	9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.



### Prayer:

*O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by Your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen*

## Sunday, Mar 20, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT; FIRST SCRUTINY OF THE ELECT

### Something to smile about

The International Day of Happiness celebrated today isn't about wearing a smiley face. This U.N.-sponsored observance has concrete aims: to end poverty, reduce inequality, and protect the planet. Certainly that would bring happiness, but how do we attain such lofty goals? Consider 19-year-old Catherine Spaulding (1793-1853), who led six women in the forming of the Sisters of Nazareth in Kentucky. Ready or not, Catherine ran a school, orphanage, and nursed the sick during epidemics. Neither age nor inexperience deterred her sisters from answering the needs of their society. Answer this generation's call and discover a reason to smile.

TODAY'S READINGS: Year C: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9 (30). *"God called out to him from the bush, 'Moses! Moses!' He answered, 'Here I am.'"*

## Monday, Mar 21, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY

### Commit to a better world

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on this, the anniversary of police in South Africa killing 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid in 1960. All these decades later, the violence of racial discrimination continues. The catechism instructs Catholics that racism "must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design." This year's theme is "Youth standing up against racism" with a focus on how the pandemic has especially hindered the education and employment prospects of young people from minority backgrounds. No matter your age, make a commitment this Lent to help put a stop to racism once and for all.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Luke 4:24-30 (237). *"When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury."*

## Tuesday, Mar 22, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY

### Let living waters flow

It's World Water Day. This U.N. observance shines a light not only on the critical importance of a clean and adequate water supply—so essential, it's a basic human right—but also how it's endangered. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis identifies no less than five serious threats to our planet's water supply, some impacting our world right now, particularly among the poor. The 2005 murder of Sister Dorothy Stang, SNDdeN, an environmental martyr for her fierce protection of the Amazon and its people, highlights that the global "water wars" have already begun. Visit the website of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns for ways you can help.

TODAY'S READINGS: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35 (238). *"Deliver us by your wonders, and bring glory to your name, O Lord."*

## Wednesday, Mar 23, 2022

MEMORIAL OF TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, BISHOP

### Time is of the essence

Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo was a defender of the voiceless. A Spanish missionary to Peru who became archbishop of Lima, he defended the rights of the indigenous people who suffered terribly during Spanish colonization. His favorite saying was, "Time is not our own and we must give a strict account of it." Many times, it can

be easy to overlook those who are voiceless, to pass them on the street without a second thought. But as Saint Turibius taught, our time on Earth is limited, and we should spend it on the things that matter and can make a difference. Today, notice those around you who may not have a voice and reflect on how you can help them to be heard. Take a step toward doing so.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19 (239). *"Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven."*

## Thursday, Mar 24, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY

### Live your truth

Truth-telling is a central tenet of Judeo-Christian ethics. Today is World Day for Truth Concerning Human Rights, a focus that is essential because the loss of human rights is often built on lies stripping a group of people of their God-given dignity. Like so many Christian virtues, truth and honesty in the social sphere begin in small ways, with individuals living lives of personal integrity and then expecting the same of their leaders. As Saint Augustine says, "The greatest kindness one can render to any person is leading him to truth."

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23 (240). *"Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."*

## Friday, Mar 25, 2022

SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD; NO ABSTINENCE REQUIRED

### Pregnant with possibilities

Mary's pregnancy seems to get the fast track: Annunciation, Visitation, and then boom, it's Christmas. But the Solemnity of the Annunciation is exactly nine months before Christmas, honoring the natural process of pregnancy. There are not many visibly pregnant Marys in Catholic iconography, but a few stand out. In the Americas, there's Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, with Mary wearing a black sash customary for pregnant indigenous women. In Europe, you'll find Madonna del Parto, often depicted with a book on her belly, an illusion to the Word of God embodied in her womb. These images have been open to many interpretations from the truth of the Incarnation to the important role of women in salvation history. What do the images of Mother Mary inspire in you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38 (545). *"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son."*

## Saturday, Mar 26, 2022

LENTEN WEEKDAY

### The heart of mercy

We hear a lot about sacrifice during Lent. Not so much about mercy. Yet as the Lord reminds us in today's responsorial psalm (51), "It is mercy I desire, and not sacrifice." In a sense, mercy requires its own "giving up" activity. Giving up on getting our way, on keeping score, on getting even. Saint Thomas Aquinas defined mercy as the "compassion in our hearts." Let mercy, the love beating within, be your Lenten offering.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14 (242). *"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."*

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time*



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