

A hand is shown at the bottom, holding a wooden crucifix. The crucifix has a bronze-colored Christ figure with a golden halo. The background is a blurred wooden surface. The text is overlaid on the image.

Your light  
must shine  
before others,

February 5, 2023  
Fifth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

that they  
may see your  
good deeds  
and glorify  
your heavenly  
Father.

Matthew 5:16

The Italian Catholic  
Community at  
St. John the  
Baptist Church

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

We are **Christ's** disciples. As such we are called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. In the ancient world, salt was one of the most important necessities of life, especially for preserving and seasoning food. So, too, the light for obvious reasons.

These are beautiful images used by **Jesus** in today's **Gospel**.

Both images are making the same point: **Jesus'** disciples have a vital role to play in the world through their good deeds. When the disciples stop witnessing through their deeds, they become as useless as salt that has lost its taste or a lamp that doesn't give light.

**Pope Saint John Paul II meditated upon the above theme, for the occasion on the 7th International Youth Day in Toronto; 2002.**

**"You are the light of the world..."**. For those who first heard **Jesus**, as for us, the symbol of light evokes the desire for truth and the thirst for the fullness of knowledge which are imprinted deep within every human being.

When the light fades or vanishes altogether, we no longer see things as they really are. In the heart of the night, we can feel frightened and insecure, and we impatiently await the coming of the light of dawn. Dear young people, it is up to you to be the watchmen of the morning (cf. **Is 21:11-12**) who announce the coming of the sun who is the **Risen Christ!**

The light which **Jesus** speaks of in the **Gospel** is the light of faith, **God's** free gift, which enlightens the heart and clarifies the mind. "It is the **God** who said, **'Let light shine out of darkness'**, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of **God** on the face of **Christ**" (**2 Cor 4:6**). That is why the words of **Jesus** explaining His identity and His mission are so important: **"I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life"** (**Jn 8:12**).

Our personal encounter with **Christ** bathes life in new light, sets us on the right path, and sends us out to be His witnesses. This new way of looking at the world and at people, which comes to us from Him, leads us more deeply into the mystery of faith, which is not just a collection of theoretical assertions to be accepted and approved by the mind, but an experience to be had, a truth to be lived, the salt and light of all reality (cf. **Veritatis Splendor, 88**).

In this secularized age, when many of our contemporaries think and act as if **God** did not exist or are attracted to irrational forms of religion, it is you, dear young people, who must show that faith is a personal decision which involves your whole life. Let the **Gospel** be the measure and guide life's decisions and plans! Then you will be missionaries in all that you do and say, and wherever you work and live you will be signs of **God's** love, credible witnesses to the loving presence of **Jesus Christ**. Never forget: **"No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a bushel"** (**Mt 5:15**)!

Just as salt gives flavor to food and light illumines the darkness, so too, holiness gives full meaning to life and makes it reflect **God's** glory. How many saints, especially young saints, can we count in the **Church's** history! In their love for God their heroic virtues shone before the world, and so they became models of life which the **Church** has held up for imitation by all. Let us remember only a few of them: **Agnes of Rome, Andrew of Phú Yên, Pedro Calungsod, Josephine Bakhita, Thérèse of Lisieux, Pier Giorgio Frassati, Marcel Callo, Francisco Castelló Aleu or again Kateri Tekakwitha, the young Iroquois called "the Lily of the Mohawks."** Through the intercession of this great host of witnesses, may **God** make you too, dear young people, the saints of the third millennium!

**Keep smiling, be happy, God loves you!**

**Fr. Andrew**

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

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

## MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

<b>Sunday</b> <b>2/5</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Rina Tiberi</b> by Leo Silvestri & Family
<b>Monday</b> <b>2/6</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Lucian Susi</b> by Diana DeSantis
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>2/7</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Phyllis N. Militello</b> by Patricia Weimer
<b>Sunday</b> <b>2/12</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Ted Burnett</b> by Mary Ann Thissen & Family
<b>Monday</b> <b>2/13</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Americo Milano</b> by Rosemary Lombardi
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>2/14</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Vienna D'Alberto</b> by Dr. Maria Regina Coccia

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 5, 2023, 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Krissy Ciacchi, Ed Pagnanelli
<b>Euch. Min 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Pat Rossetti, Antonio D'Alberto
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 5, 2023, 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Antonio D'Alberto, Nick D'Alberto
<b>Euch. Min 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Margaret Panico-Harn, Sharon D'Alberto

**Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:**

**Marian Lights:** **Joyce Tisone**

by **Carl Tisone**

**Blessed Sacrament:** **Michael Sidoti & Family**

by **Gianantonio Family**

**Ash Wednesday – February 22, 2023**

**Sacred Heart: 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Mass and Distribution of Ashes**

**LENTEN SERVICES**

**Mass at 6:00 p.m. Thursdays – Adoration ½ hour after Mass up to 7:00 p.m.**

**Mass at 6:00 p.m. Fridays – Stations of the Cross after Mass**

**St. John the Baptist: 5:00 p.m. Mass and Distribution of Ashes – Simple Supper after Mass – Marrapese Hall**

**During Lent – Simple Supper after 6:00 p.m. Mass on Tuesdays – Marrapese Hall**

**Korean Catholic Community: 7:00 p.m. – Services**



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

**Mary Lou Palma**, who passed away. A **Memorial**

**Mass** will be held on **Wednesday, February 15 at noon** at **St. John the Baptist Church**. May she rest in peace with the Risen Lord!

**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. Also, keep in your prayers, Laura Williams, Guy Williams, John Contino and Tony Caradonna.**

**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 February are:

- February 5 Albert Iosue
- February 12 Gary Bosco
- February 19 Need someone to sign up.
- February 26 Gary Bosco

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

2/5 Sunday	<b>SJB Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski</b> 9:30 a.m. – SJB Church <b>KCC Religious Education</b> – Italian Cultural Room 11:00 a.m. <b>KCC Mass – Fr. Kim</b> – SJB Church 12:00 Noon-3:00 p.m. Meeting in Sala Hall
2/6 Monday	<b>SJB – Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Rotary Club Luncheon</b> – Marrapese Hall 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
2/7 Tuesday	<b>SJB – Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski</b> 9:00 a.m. – SJB Church <b>St. John's Prayer Group</b> – 5:30 p.m. – Join Piave club for dinner afterwards <b>Piave Club Meeting</b> – Marrapese Hall 6:30-8:00 p.m.
2/9 Thursday	<b>SH Young Professionals Meeting – Fr. Kozminski</b> – Italian Cultural Room 7:00-8:30 p.m. <b>Deacon Day of Reflection</b> – Whole Campus 8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
2/10 Friday	<b>Deacon Day of Reflection</b> – Whole Campus 8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
2/11 Saturday	<b>Deacon Day of Reflection</b> – Whole Campus 8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
	<b>Altar Guild Reminder</b> – Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.
	<b>Le Donne Group</b> Meetings are the last Sunday of each month after Mass in Marrapese Hall

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S  
January 29, 2023**

Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 33

Reg. Env:	\$ 1,765.00
Loose:	\$ 1,356.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,121.00</b>
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	\$ -(187.26)
	\$ 2,933.74
Votives	\$ 40.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 4.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 44.00</b>

**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 or YouTube channel,  
Saint John the Baptist, Cbus, by visiting our website  
www.sjbitaliana.com.**

**Office Hours are from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
Email: info@sjbitaliana.org**

- Father Andrew Kozminski, SAC – Administrator/Rector
- Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community
- Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant
- Ms. Victoria Scruggs – Secretary and Bulletin Editor
- Ms. Gina Bishop – Director of Liturgy
- Mr. John Huffman – Organist and Musical consultant

**Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – 9:30 a.m. each Sunday  
9:00 a.m. Mondays & Tuesdays**

**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.**

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

**Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (07/01/22 – 06/30/23)**

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Wk.:	\$2,885.00	\$3,121.00	\$236.00	8%
FYTD:	\$89,435.00	\$83,904.94	-\$5,530.06)	-6%

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, February 6, 2023**

**Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard**

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, February 13, 2023**

**Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard**

**LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPERS** are returning to St. John's this year! The Altar Guild is organizing the Simple Suppers during Lent and they will start with Ash Wednesday. Mass will be at 5:00 p.m. and the Simple Supper will follow. There will be a meatless soup, salad, rolls, and butter offered. All the remaining weeks through Lent, the Mass and Simple Suppers will be on Tuesdays except for Tuesday during Holy Week with Mass at 6:00 p.m. and Simple Supper to follow. More details to follow!

**Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild Super Bowl pool is sold out. Copies of everyone's entry will be available for distribution after Mass each Sunday thereafter until the game is played the evening of Sunday, February 12. Good Luck and thanks to all who entered.

**Abruzzi Club Carnevale:** Dinner Dance, Friday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m. at Villa Milano. Entertainment: Ray Massa and the EuroRhythms. Cost: \$55.00 per person. Table of eight may be reserved. For tickets, please contact **Pat Rossetti** at 614-329-3900. Thank you!

**Parli Italiano? Have you ever wanted to learn to speak Italian?** Here's your opportunity! Join us on **Sunday** mornings from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the **Italian Cultural Center-Marrapese Hall** for **Italian language** classes, taught by our very own **Maria Lucchin!** The session consists of **eight** classes starting **February 26** through **May 7** (no classes on 3/19, 4/2, and 4/9). These are basic conversational **Italian** language classes for **adults, 18** years and older. Price is determined by the number of students. Limited seating is available. To sign up contact **Ida Shook** at [shook4@gmail.com](mailto:shook4@gmail.com) or 513-314-5047 or **Tania Wade** at [t.wade73@gmail.com](mailto:t.wade73@gmail.com) or 614-562-7468. Come learn the **bella lingua Italiana... Ciao!**

**Applications available for the Father Casto Marrapese Scholarship Program – deadline Monday, April 3, 2023**

**St. John the Baptist Italian Catholic Church** announces the **2023 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 **2023-2024** academic years, you are encouraged to apply for this scholarship opportunity. Application information has been posted on **Saint John's website** [www.info@sjbitaliana.com](http://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., Monday, April 3, 2023**. For information, call **St. John the Baptist Catholic Italian Church** at 614-294-5319.

**Greetings from The Church-Budget Envelope and Mailing Company:** Some of you may be aware of delays in the offering envelope mailings over the past couple of months. Supply chain issues and the inability to add employees at the rate necessary has created a slow draw on production and shipping. Recently, both of those issues have been resolved. However, the "catchup" would jeopardize long-term delivery. To get back to expected levels of timely deliveries, we are forced to suspend the production of the remaining supply of your **February** envelopes. The offering envelopes will resume and be delivered by the first **Sunday** in **March**. Quarterly supply will restart in **April**. Never in our company's history have we had to skip scheduled mailings and we are doing all we can to make sure this never happens again. We deeply apologize for this necessary course of action and the inconveniences this has caused you and your church family. **In the meantime, please put your envelope number on a regular envelope and put in the collection. If you don't know your envelope number, contact the parish office at 614-294-5319. We appreciate your understanding.** The Church-Budget Envelope and Mailing Company Management Team

😊 Smile Break 😊

**Q:** What crime fighting duo hangs out at the noodle shop?  
**A:** Batman and Ramen....

**Proverbs 15:15:** "For the despondent, every day brings trouble; for the happy heart, life is a continual feast."

**Festa di San Guiseppe/St. Joseph's Day Celebration Pancake Breakfast and St. Joseph's Table: MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for this year's **Festa di San Guiseppe Pancake Breakfast** on **Sunday, March 19, 2023**, after the **9:30 a.m. Mass**. The **Altar Guild** is sponsoring this event and will be selling tickets after **Mass** starting next **Sunday**.

### AROUND US

**The Holy Father's Intention for the Month of February 2023:** For Parishes: *We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.*

**Come and See Live-In Weekend: March 16-19:** The weekend has been set aside to allow young men (high school juniors, seniors, and college-age students) to visit the seminary for a few days. Live-in participants will experience seminary prayer life, classes, communal worship, and interaction with current seminarians, faculty, and staff. Live-in weekends include introductory presentations on discernment, student life, and the college seminary formation program. There is no charge to participate. For more information, contact the **Vocations Office, 614-221-5565** or visit [vocations@columbuscatholic.org](http://vocations@columbuscatholic.org).

**Healing Ministry:** "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." – **Lao Tzu**. If you (or someone you know) is struggling from a past abortion experience, call **614-309-0157**. For more information on **Bethesda Healing Ministry**, please go to [bethesdahealing.org](http://bethesdahealing.org).

**THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY** is this year's complementary theme of the **Columbus Men's Conference**. We dedicate this Conference to the **Immaculate Heart of Our Lady**, the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, and the **Holy Family**. Through their intercession – and our consecration to them – we can experience a love and strength like no other and walk with confidence on the path to **Sainthood. Blessed Mother, pray for us!**

**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:** (Schedule will be updated with Speaker times and details and more information as Conference draws nearer.) *All times are tentative and subject to change.*

**6:00-7:30 a.m. – Eucharistic Adoration (Mezzanine Chapel)**

**7:00-8:00 a.m. – Registration**

**7:00 a.m. – Breakfast Opens**

**7:30 a.m. – Faith Organization Tables Open**

**8:00 a.m. – Conference Begins**

**11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. – Lunch and Reconciliation**

**2:00 p.m. – Holy Mass with Bishop Earl Fernandes**

**3:00 p.m. – Conference Ends**

**Today's Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12:** Today's readings remind us that we are the light of the world. Just as **Jesus** enlightened the world with the radiance of **His** life, we too must do likewise with our lives. Look into your heart and behold how generous it is. **God's** love in you calls you to love others. The image of **God** in all of us is our most powerful motive for loving each other. Loving our neighbor gives us the opportunity to do much for **God**. Life on earth is short. The demands of our **Christian** life may not always be easy, but we know that if we live up to them, we are continuing **His** magnificent work. We are giving glory to **God** and are earning for ourselves the eternal light of heaven. ~ oblates.com



**Prayer: Keep Your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by Your protection. 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, Feb 05, 2023****Lord, hold the center together**

Author and black Catholic educator Therese Wilson Favours wrote some rousing words for today's observance, the National Day of Prayer for the African American Family: "At times when the strain of life is heaviest within our families, 'holding-on power' is needed. Perseverance is the glue squeezed out from the soul and spoken in prayer at the midnight hour. Perseverance is the spiritual machine needed to break down the mountain and push through from weakness to strength. Lord, let me hold on just a little bit longer." Pray for black families and all families vulnerable to social forces that embattle them.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16 (73). *"Your vindication shall go before you, and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard."*

**Monday, Feb 06, 2023****Be nourished by his rain**

Almost 350 years before the second atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Nagasaki, it was the site of another tragedy—the place where 26 Christian martyrs were crucified on a hill, now known as Holy Mountain. The best known of the martyrs was Brother Paul Miki, a native Japanese member of the Jesuit order. While hanging on his cross, he continued to preach, expressing thanks to God that he was dying for teaching the doctrine of Christ and urging his listeners to "ask Christ to help you to become happy." He said he hoped his blood would fall as "fruitful rain." May his gentle words and brave witness nourish your prayer today.

MEMORIAL OF PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56 (329). *"They laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak."*

**Tuesday, Feb 07, 2023****How to help a good cause**

Six individuals are in line to become the first African-American saint: Sister Thea Bowman, Julia Greeley, Mother Mary Lange, Mother Henriette Delille, Father Augustus Tolton, and Pierre Toussaint. The first three have the title "servant of God," indicating their canonization cause has been launched. The latter three have the title "venerable," meaning the pope recognizes their heroic virtue. Next would come beatification, allowing candidates to be called "blessed"; it includes the church's confirmation that they are in heaven—evidenced by at least two miracles from their intercession (unless they're martyred). Finally, comes canonization. Learn about these six and seek their intercession year-round.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:20-2:4a; Mark 7:1-13 (330). *"God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them."*

**Wednesday, Feb 08, 2023****Saintly guidance to help end modern-day slavery**

This day marks the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking—also the feast of the first and only black woman saint in modern times: the Sudanese nun Josephine Bakhita. Kidnapped into slavery as a child by Arab traffickers in the late 19th century, she was converted to Islam before eventually being left in the care of Canossian Sisters in Italy. Her freedom soon came, and she lived out her later life as a Catholic and

eventually a nun. Today, an estimated 50 million people live in modern-day slavery. Christians are among the greatest combatants of the trade, and Saint Josephine was named the patron of survivors when she was canonized in 2000. May her faith continue to inspire those working to end the scourge, and may we join their efforts.

MEMORIAL OF JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23 (331).

*"When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth."*

**Thursday, Feb 09, 2023****Seeing Adam's rib with fresh eyes**

Traditionally, today's first reading has been used as a cudgel to keep women in divinely sanctioned inferiority. In the past century, scholars have looked differently at Genesis. Eve being created last doesn't imply inferiority, they say; human creation came after the rest of creation and traditionally was seen as implying superiority (which is actually another idea now under question). Also, many say a "partner" for Adam would imply equal status. Scripture interpretation depends heavily on the culture and on who is doing the interpreting. May the Holy Spirit inspire each one of us to advance human dignity.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30 (332). *"This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."*

**Friday, Feb 10, 2023****Togetherness has its virtue**

Saint Scholastica (480-543) is the patron of Benedictine nuns and sisters. Along with her brother Saint Benedict of Nursia, she helped establish a rule for monastic living that emphasized prayer, work, and peace. Contemporary Benedictine women continue to follow this ancient set of precepts. The vision of monastic life, as expressed in the 2022 Centennial Prayer of the Benedictine Federation of Saint Scholastica is to "see Christ at the heart of all creation and at the center of our common life" and "share the peace of Christ, show the love of Christ, and make Christ known in our world." In what ways does your own life within family and community give witness to the peace and love of Christ?

MEMORIAL OF SCHOLASTICA, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37 (333). *"[Jesus] has done all things well."*

**Saturday, Feb 11, 2023****Our hands, God's hands**

Today is World Day of the Sick, an observation introduced by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to serve those suffering from illnesses. "Because Your hands, which touch the suffering flesh of Christ," said the sainted pope, "can be a sign of the merciful hands of the Father." Today and every day we pray for and care for the sick in our lives. On this day last year Pope Francis stated, "The ministry of consolation is a task for every baptized person, mindful of the word of Jesus: 'I was sick and you visited me.'"

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10 (334). *"My heart is moved with pity for the crowd."*

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



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