

JUNE 25, 2023
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WHAT I SAY TO YOU
IN THE DARKNESS,
SPEAK IN THE

LIGHT

MATTHEW 10:27

The Italian Catholic Community at
St. John the Baptist Church

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Dear Friends in Christ,

The words of **Jesus Christ** from today's Gospel: **"And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul..."** were an inspiration to so many faithful **Catholics**, who decided to give the most perfect witness of their faith and love for **Christ** and **His Church**. The **Twentieth century** and our modern time are filled with the blood of martyrs.

These heroic witnesses are worthy of **Christ's** promise: **"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father."**

José Sánchez del Río was born on **March 28, 1913**, in the Mexican state of **Michoacan de Ocampo**. **José's** immense faith was recognizable at an incredibly early age. He attended **Mass** whenever possible. The **Critero War** began in **1926** and **José** pleaded with his mother to allow him to join the army and support the **Catholics**. His mother held firm, so he performed menial tasks for the **Cristeros** forces. During one battle, **General Morfin** lost his horse and **José** offered his own to the **General**, but in the process, he was captured. In prison, **José** was tortured to force him to deny his faith. However, with the grace provided in continuous prayer, **José** never faltered. Out of frustration, the soldiers forced him to walk to the cemetery where **José** was martyred on **February 10, 1928**, just shy of his **15** birthday. He was canonized by **Pope Francis** on **October 16, 2016**. He is the patron saint of persecuted **Christians** and **Children**.

When **Jesus** said to his apostles; **"Do not be afraid,"** He wasn't saying that they should never feel afraid. He knew that at times they would be afraid. The issue was what fear might do to them. It might paralyze them or make them so timid as to be unable to fulfill their mission. What **Jesus** was doing was encouraging them so that they might be able to move beyond fear.

How were they to overcome their fear? He urged them to have complete trust in **God**, who lovingly watches over the life and death of even the smallest and least valuable of His creatures – the sparrows.

Do you trust **God** enough to become His witness in our modern, troubled world?

Let us say today this Celtic Prayer:

I rise today with **God's** strength to direct me, **God's** wisdom to guide me, **God's** eyes to look before me, **God's** ear to hear me, **God's** word to speak for me, **God's** hand to uphold me, **God's** pathway before me, **God's** shield to protect me, **God's** host to save me – from temptations, from one man or many that seek to destroy me. **Amen.**

Jesus, I trust in 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.sjbitaliana.com under **Livestream Mass**.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday	Sunday, June 25, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Tania Wade, Nick D'Alberto
Euch. Min 1 & 2:	Al Iosue, Sharon D'Alberto, Kurt Heininger,
Euch. Min 3, 4, 5:	Gretchen Heininger, Margaret Panico-Harn
Sunday	Sunday, July 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Ed Pagnanelli, Tania Wade
Euch. Min 1 & 2:	Kurt Heininger, Gretchen Heininger, Pat
Euch. Min 3, 4, 5:	Rossetti, Margaret Panico-Harn, Andrea Myers

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 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.
Monday through Friday*

For Independence Day, the Office will be closed Monday, July 3, Tuesday, July 4, and resume July 5, 2023.

Email: info@sjbitaliana.org

Father Andrew Kozminski, SAC – Administrator/Rector
Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community

Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant

Mrs. 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**.

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST


Sunday 6/25	9:30 a.m.	+ Joe Pishitelli by Phillip and Judy Pishitelli
Monday 6/26	9:00 a.m.	+ Rina Tiberi by Pat & Denise Tiberi & Family
Tuesday 6/27	9:00 a.m.	+ Manuela Gutierrez by Julianne DiNunzio
Tuesday 6/27	11:00 a.m.	+ Tony Caradonna by Luisa Stefanelli
Sunday 7/2	9:30 a.m.	+ Leo Santilli by Dr. Linda Records
Monday 7/3	No Mass	Office Closed
Tuesday 7/4	No Mass	Independence Day Office Closed

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

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:
 Marian Lights: **Joyce Tisone**
 by Carl Tisone
 Blessed Sacrament: **Antonio Polletta**
 by Chris Soteriades

A HUGE Sacred Heart and St. John's 'Thank You' to everyone who helped with the wonderful Feast of the Sacred Heart Celebration. Your time and efforts are deeply appreciated!

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, and John Contino.

 **Requiescat in pace!** In the charity of your prayers, please remember the family and friends of: **Tony Caradonna** who passed away. **May he rest in peace with the Risen Lord!** A Memorial Mass will be held at St. John the Baptist Church on Friday, July 21, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

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 937-902-7446** or via email **k.koesters32@gmail.com**. Leaders for June and July are:

- June 25 **Maureen Iosue**
- July 2 **Gary Bosco**
- July 9 **Kevin Koesters**

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN

June 18, 2023

Number of Envelopes used Sunday 37

Env:	\$ 2,140.00
Loose:	\$ 318.00
Total	\$ 2,458.00
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	\$ -(147.48)
	\$ 2,310.52
Votives	\$ 52.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 421.06
Capital Improvements	\$ 22.00
Total	\$ 495.06

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

Budgeted Offortory for Fiscal Year (7/1/22-6/30/23)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Wk.:	\$2,885.00	\$2,458.00	-(427.00)	-15%
FYTD:	\$147,135.00	\$142,707.92	-(4,427.08)	-3%

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, June 26, 2023

Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters for Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Darlene Rauch and Aggie Howard

EVENTS THIS WEEK

6/25 Sunday	SJB Mass – Bishop Earl Fernandes & Fr. Andrew Kozminski – Marrapese Scholarship Ceremony 9:30 a.m. KCC Mass – Fr. Kim – Meeting in Sala Hall 12:00-3:00 p.m.
6/26 Monday	SJB – Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski 9:00 a.m. No Rotary Club Meeting
6/27 Tuesday	SJB - Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski 9:00 a.m. SJB – Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski 11:00 a.m.
6/28 Wednesday	Finance Committee Meeting – Italian Cultural Room 1:00 p.m.
6/29 Thursday	Sacred Heart Young Professionals Meeting – Fr. Kozminski 7:00-8:30 p.m. Italian Cultural Room
6/30 Friday	KCC Mass – Fr. Kim 7:00 p.m.
	Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.
	Le Donne Group Meetings are the last Sunday of each month after Mass in Marrapese Hall. There are no meetings in June or July.

The 2023 Appeal: Dear Parishioner: I would like to thank all our parish friends and families for your generous support to **The Appeal**. Our parish has been actively engaged in raising funds to meet our goal of \$ **16,682.29**. We have seen a good response, and we still need your support. The success of **The Appeal** depends on our collective participation. As your administrator, I am asking that you prayerfully consider a gift to this year's **Appeal**. If, with your support, we exceed our parish goal, the overage will be returned to our parish to be used for our needs. Together, we can be effective in our parish and in our **Catholic** community. We are abundantly blessed by our generous and loving **God**, so let us joyfully give back by sharing what we have and bringing hope to others. I thank you and pray for all the families in our parish. **Sincerely yours in Christ, Fr. Andrew**



THE MARRAPESE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:

Congratulations to the winners of the **Father Casto Marrapese Scholarships** and the **Quaranto Family Scholarship**. The winners will receive their certificates at the **9:30 a.m. Mass, June 25** celebrated by **Bishop Earl Fernandes**. The winners of the **Marrapese Scholarships** are **Thomas James Emhuff, Giovanna Noelle Frisone, Ava Marie Fultz, Nathaniel James Kistner, Luca Michael Mampieri, Siena Rebecca Marchio, Domenic Robert Melaragno, Michael Anthony Piccininni, and Giovanni Christopher Puckett**. The winner of the **Quaranto Family Scholarship** is **Gino Mariano Solazzo**. There will be a reception after Mass in the Marrapese Hall.

Future Italian Festival Meetings for 2023

Date	Executive Board	General
July 24	6:00 p.m.	
August 14		6:00 pm
August 28	6:00 p.m.	
September 18	6:00 p.m.	
September 25	5:30 p.m.	6:30 pm



BANNS of MARRIAGE
Dr. Alessandro La Ferlita and
Chelsea Elizabeth Zoellner
July 15, 2023

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The month of **June** falls within the liturgical season of **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. **June** is also dedicated to the **Sacred Heart**. The **Church** celebrates the **Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** on the **Friday** following the second **Sunday** after **Pentecost**. In addition to the liturgical celebration, many devotional exercises are connected with the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**. Of all devotions, devotion to the **Sacred Heart** was, and remains, one of the most widespread and popular in the **Church**.

You are invited to pray for the Pope's June Intension: *For the abolition of torture, We pray that the international community may commit, in a concrete way, to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.*

Peter's Pence Collection: July 2 we will take up the **Peter's Pence Collection** to support the **Universal Church** and the work of the **Holy See**, including helping **Pope Francis** to carry out his charitable works. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.obolodisanietro.valen.html.

Diocesan Senior Citizens Day Celebration: is **Tuesday, June 27, 2023**, at **St. Catharine Church, 500 S. Gould Road, Columbus**. **Bishop Earl K. Fernandes** will celebrate **Mass** at **10:30 a.m.**, followed by a luncheon. This annual event is a fantastic opportunity of prayer, food, and fellowship with senior citizens from the **23-county Catholic Diocese of Columbus**. Registration for the celebration is **\$20.00**. To register, please send a check payable to the **Office for Social Concerns, Catholic Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215**. For online registrations, visit <https://dioceseofcolumbus.org/social-concerns-online-payments>. For more information, call 614-241-2540 or email us at socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org.

2023 Jubilee of Anniversaries: Couples celebrating their **25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th** (and every year thereafter) anniversaries in **2023**, are invited to the annual **Jubilee of Anniversaries** in honor of their marriages. **Bishop Fernandes** will celebrate **Mass** at **2:30 p.m.** on **Sunday, September 10** at **St. John Neumann Church in Sunbury**. Registration is now open at <https://columbuscatholic.org/marriage-family/marriage/jubilee>.

Local Counseling and Grief Support: "Whoever suffers from mental illness 'always' bears **God's** image and likeness in themselves, as does every human being. In addition, they 'always' have the inalienable right not only to be considered as an image of **God** and therefore as a person, but also to be treated as such." **Pope John Paul II, International Conference for Health Care Workers, on Illnesses of the Human Mind, November 30, 1996**

If you or someone you know is in need of mental health services, contact **Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services** toll-free hotline at **1-877-275-6364**. This hotline provides information and referrals for local resources throughout **Ohio**.

BETHESDA 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**, go to our website at bethesdahealing.org.

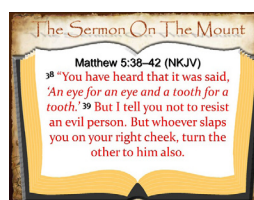
The Eucharist: More than a Symbol: Catholics have it on divine authority that **Jesus** is really, truly, and substantially present in the **Eucharist**, "**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life**" (**John 6:54**). When the priest, acting in the person of **Christ**, consecrates the bread and wine, we believe that **Jesus** becomes truly present. Scientific investigations of the hundreds of **Eucharistic** miracles support this amazing mystery. In the **Eucharist**, **Christ** fulfills **His** promise to remain with us "**to the end of time**" (**Matthew 28:20**).

Pray for Priests Daily: The average parish priest is celebrant, teacher, counselor, minister, and nancial manager. He works more than 60 hours per week, does everything from administering **Sacraments**, to bringing comfort to troubled souls, to taking out the trash, and he is paid just enough to get by. Yet, nearly nine out of ten priests report being happy in their ministry. Our support can help them stay strong in their faith and true to their calling.

Today's Gospel: The **Gospel** is from **St. Matthew 10:26-33**. What our **Lord** said to **His Apostles** applies to all **Christians** in the practice of their faith. By the very fact of living our faith openly and fully, we are apostles by example. If we are always truthful and faithful to our promises, if we are honest in all our dealings, if as employers we pay a just wage and treat those working for us not as "hands" but as whole men and women, if as employees we give an honest day's work for an honest day's pay, if we live chaste lives whether in single life or in marriage, we are true **Christians**. Above all, if we have true love of **God** and show our appreciation of all that He has done for us, and if we prove that love, by helping His other children, our neighbors, we are a light shining in the darkness, because we are helping others to see the true meaning of the **Christian** religion. In today's **Gospel** message, our **Lord** is asking each one of us to be a fearless apostle. Let us remember our **Lord's** promise "**Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven.**" – Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Morning Offering: *O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen.*

"Let us ask the Lord to grant us the awareness that we cannot truly be Christians unless we walk with the Holy Spirit, unless we let the Holy Spirit be the protagonist of our life." @Pontifex



Prayer: *Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love Your holy name, for You never deprive of Your guidance those You set firm on the foundation of Your love. 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, Jun 25, 2023**With justice for all**

Politics is noble, among the highest forms of charity, Pope Paul VI once said. Pope Francis speaks often about the intersection of politics and justice. Yet Francis points out, "Some people continue to defend trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice.... This opinion... expresses a crude and naive trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system." Politics is noble, but regrettably, not all politicians are. Work for justice, both in the system and on the street.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33 (94). *"Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!"*

Monday, Jun 26, 2023**The journey of faith has surprising twists**

French missionary to the United States Simon Bruté, who died on this day in 1839, lived through major upheaval. His father came from a wealthy, aristocratic family. His mother often told him, "You were born to live in opulence." But Bruté later wrote, "God ordered it otherwise." His father died deeply in debt and his affairs in disarray. His mother saved the boy from military service during France's Reign of Terror. Disguised as a baker's assistant, he brought the Eucharist to imprisoned priests. He was eventually ordained, moved to Baltimore to teach, and later became the first bishop of the Diocese of Vincennes, Indiana. Life rarely turns out the way you plan, but if you surrender to God's will for you, you might find your faith takes you on an adventure you never could have imagined.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 7:1-5 (371). *"The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you."*

Tuesday, Jun 27, 2023**It takes two**

When patriarch Nestorius refused to accept Mary as *Theotokos*—Greek for "God bearer"—it was Cyril of Alexandria who took him on. Nestorius insisted that Mary, as human, could only bear another human—not God—thus disputing the Incarnation. Cyril would insist upon the "hypostatic union" of human and divine in Jesus. Or, as proclaimed by the Council of Ephesus: Jesus is always and ever "one person" with "two natures." But another type of union also stirred Cyril. Use his words as your meditation today: "As two pieces of wax fused together make one, so [the one] who receives Holy Communion is ... united with Christ."

MEMORIAL OF CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 13:2, 5-18; Matthew 7:6, 12-14 (372). *"How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life."*

Wednesday, Jun 28, 2023**Room for everyone at the table**

Saint Irenaeus, living a scant 100 years after Jesus, was a staunch defender of orthodoxy and church unity: "The Church, having received this preaching and this faith, although scattered throughout the whole world, yet, as if occupying but one house, carefully preserves it." Yet he also made room for those who, through no choice of their own, lived and died without having heard the Good News: "Christ came not only for those who believed from the time of

Tiberius Caesar, nor did the Father provide only for those who are now, but for absolutely all [persons] from the beginning, who, according to their ability, feared and loved God and lived justly." Focus on loving God and living justly and there will be a place for you at the heavenly feast.

MEMORIAL OF IRENAEUS, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Matthew 7:15-20 (373). *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves. By their fruits you will know them."*

Thursday, Jun 29, 2023**Let your life be transformed**

It's hard to imagine the development of the church we know today without Saints Peter and Paul. Saint Peter was among the 12 apostles, one with a starring role in the gospels. Saint Paul's spiritual encounter with Jesus transformed him into a tireless Christian evangelizer and likely author of what eventually became half of the New Testament. Peter and Paul were contemporaries who were leaders in the church and both were martyred around the year 64 as a result. Jesus utterly transformed their lives, leading them to build up the fledgling Christian church. What can you do today to help build the church?

SOLEMNITY OF PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19 (591). *"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."*

Friday, Jun 30, 2023**Water the seeds that have been planted in you**

The early followers of Jesus found themselves in a strange new world. Sure, it was the same dusty streets and ebb and flow of life they always had known. Yet nothing was the same. The disciples had to navigate a world in which they found life in the risen Christ but also persecution and even death at the hands of those determined to punish and erase Christianity. Today the church remembers these protomartyrs as being "seeds of life," as early Christian author Tertullian noted. Their faith and witness continue to grow the church. What seeds of life have been sown in your faith journey?

MEMORIAL OF THE FIRST MARTYRS OF THE CHURCH OF ROME

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Matthew 8:1-4 (375). *"Walk in my presence and be blameless."*

Saturday, Jul 01, 2023**We leave a mixed legacy**

When we think of 1776, we think of Anglo colonists up in arms along the East Coast. But on the other side of what is now the continental United States, a very different process was taking place. Spanish Franciscans led by Junípero Serra were establishing missions along what is now the California coast, then Spanish territory. While the legacy of the missions is a mixed one, and rightfully open to scrutiny, near the end of his life Serra made an arduous trip from the California coast to Mexico City and demanded legislation protecting the indigenous people and the missions from military abuse. The result was the first step toward a bill of rights for Native Americans. It might have been Saint Teresa of Ávila who said, "God writes straight with crooked lines."

MEMORIAL OF JUNÍPERO SERRA, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 8:5-17 (376). *"Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith."*

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



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