



Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Matthew 13:43

July 23, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

The Italian Catholic Community at
St. John the Baptist Church

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the **Gospel** for today's **Mass**, **Jesus** is speaking to us about the nature of the presence of the faith and the community of believers in the world. Sometimes we can get worried about the rise of resistance to the faith, resistance to those who believe and who practice their faith, and hostility to the role that the **Church** plays within society. The **Gospel** tells us that we don't have to be large and powerful in the world in order to fulfill our mission of carrying the faith to our local communities, our families, and our neighborhoods.

The authenticity of our lives as we live out what we believe is the most powerful presence of the **Church**, of the truth we hold and the presence of the **Lord** which we carry within us from our sacramental life. If we are faithful, we carry the saving message of **Jesus Christ** wherever we go and in whatever we do. The contrary is true as well. We can be the ones who make the faith, not credible. In the **16th** century, **St. Francis** Xavier went as a missionary to Goa off the coast of **India**, which had been settled by **Portuguese Catholics**. **St. Francis** wrote back to **St. Ignatius** that he could do nothing there because the lives of the **Christians** were so scandalous that the **Indigenous** people wouldn't take anything he said seriously. He had to move on to where there were no **Christians** and then had tremendous success.

How we live makes an enormous difference in bringing the **Church** to a sinful world. Lived well in our lives, the faith is the mustard seed, the yeast that **Jesus** talks about in the **Gospel**. It is the wheat that grows up among the weeds and that eventually offers the hope of salvation to others who have not been given the great gift which **God** has given to us.

Each day is a new opportunity to bring a deeper understanding of the meaning of life into the world around us. We should be conscious of the great gift we have been given and, in charity and care for others, try to share that gift by word and by example.

Have a blessed week!

Msgr. Frank Lane



The Parishioners of St. John would like to welcome Monsignor Lane! We are happy to have you!

The **Mass** is available on **St. John's Facebook** page or **YouTube** channel, **Saint John the Baptist, Cbus**. Go to our **website** at www.sjbitaliana.com under **Livestream Mass**.

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

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sunday 7/23	9:30 a.m.	+ Mary Lou Palma by Angie Laessle
Monday 7/24	9:00 a.m.	+ Mary Lou Palma by Her Wonderful Friends
Tuesday 7/25	9:00 a.m.	+ David Fersch by McCallum Family
Sunday 7/30	9:30 a.m.	+ Vincent Catalogna by "Friends of St. John the Baptist"
Monday 7/31	9:00 a.m.	+ Rina Tiberi by Tania Wade
Tuesday 8/1	9:00 a.m.	+ Dr. Frank P. Sobolewski by the McCallum Family

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.

Monday through Friday

Email: info@sjbitaliana.org

Msgr. Frank Lane – Administrator/Rector

Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community

Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant

Mrs. Victoria Scruggs – 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

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 six 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.*

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday	Sunday, July 23, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Davide Cugini, Krissy Ciacchi
Euch. Min 1 & 2: Euch. Min 3, 4, 5:	Margaret Panico-Harn, Ed Pagnanelli, Kurt Heining, Gretchen Heining, Ann Marie Pastore
Sunday	Sunday, July 30, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Antonio D'Alberto, Nick D'Alberto
Euch. Min 1 & 2: Euch. Min 3, 4, 5:	Al Iosue, Andrea Myers, Sharon D'Alberto, Pat Rossetti, Margaret Panico-Harn

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 k.koesters32@gmail.com. Leaders for **July and August** are:

July 23	Tania Wade
July 30	Gary Bosco
Aug. 6	Gary Bosco
Aug. 13	Kevin Koesters
Aug. 20	Maureen Iosue
Aug. 27	Gary Bosco

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Fernandes

We invite you to read a special pastoral letter from **Bishop Fernandes**. Go to catholictimescolumbus.org to find the letter: "Returning love for love." The bishop addresses this message to the faithful of the **Diocese of Columbus** at the conclusion of the month of **June** which is dedicated to the **Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**.

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.**

ST. JOHN'S TOWN HALL MEETING

St. John's Town Hall Meeting will be Tuesday, July 25th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Sala Hall. All members are welcome!

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN

July 16, 2023

Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 45

Env:	\$ 1,721.00
Loose:	\$ 238.00
Total	\$ 1,959.00
Less Diocesan 8% Assessment	\$ - (156.72)
	\$ 1,802.28
Votives	\$ 44.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 22.00
50/50 Drawing	\$ 10.00
Total	\$ 76.00

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

Budgeted Offortory for Fiscal Year (7/01/23-6/30/24)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Wk.:	\$3,000.04	\$1,959.00	-\$1,041.04	-35%
FYTD:	\$9,000.12	\$8,003.33	-\$996.79	-11%

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, July 24, 2023

Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, July 31, 2023

Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard

EVENTS THIS WEEK

7/23 Sunday	<u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u> 9:30 a.m. <u>KCC Mass – Fr. Kim – Meeting in Sala Hall</u> 12:00-3:00 p.m.
7/24 Monday	<u>SJB – Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u> 9:00 a.m. <u>Rotary Club Luncheon Meeting –</u> <u>Marrapese Hall</u> 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. <u>Italian Festival Executive Board Meeting –</u> 6:00- 8:00 p.m. Marrapese Hall
7/25 Tuesday	<u>SJB – Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u> 9:00 a.m. <u>SJB Town Hall Meeting – Sala Hall</u> 7:00 p.m.
7/27 Thursday	<u>Young Professionals Meeting – Msgr. Lane</u> 7:30 p.m. – Italian Cultural Room
7/28 Friday	<u>KCC Mass – Fr. Kim</u> 7:00 p.m.
	<u>Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the</u> <u>Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.</u>
	<u>Le Donne Group Meetings are the last Sunday of</u> <u>each month after Mass in Marrapese Hall. There</u> <u>are no meetings in June or July.</u>

Future Italian Festival Meetings for 2023

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

ITALIAN FESTIVAL NEWS

Dear Columbus Italian Festival LOVERS, we invite you to be part of the cultural tent presenters; it is open to all. IF you need demonstration ideas: **Risotto – Polenta** – or tales about **Prosecco**. Catch **Landa** at 614:579-1150 or Landa7@mac.com. **GRAZIE!**

Altar Guild Announcement: The **Altar Guild** is selling entries in the **Ohio State 2023** football season pool. All proceeds are used to support the altar needs of our beloved **St. John**. In the past, the **Guild** has purchased items such as the **altar cloths, banners, priest/deacon vestments, and the new tabernacle**. Cost of pool entry is **\$60.00 a square** which covers an entry for all **12** games of the season (**in effect \$5.00 a game**). There will be **four, \$100.00 winners per game**, for the scores at the end of each quarter. Score numbers will be drawn in **Sala Hall** after our **9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass** as soon as the pool is sold out, but no later than the **third Sunday of August**. Copies of the full score sheet will be distributed to all who sign up. This is a fun way to cheer the **Buckeyes** during the coming season, while also supporting the needs of our church. If interested in purchasing a square, see **Gary Bosco** in **Sala Hall** after any **Mass** (started July 9th). If paying by check, please make it out to **Altar Guild**. As an **FYI**, this pool usually sells out within four weeks.

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Joan Ialiano

by *Chris Soteriades*

Blessed Sacrament: Tony Caradonna

by *Roger & Andrea Myers*



CONGRATULATIONS!

Dominic Joseph Clegg and
Madison Kathleen Posk who entered
in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony
on July 22, 2023

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The month of **July** is dedicated to **The Precious Blood of Jesus**. The entire month 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.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of July 2023:

For a Eucharistic Life: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.



Sacred Heart Jubilee Year: To commemorate the **350th anniversary** of the revelations of the **Sacred Heart of Jesus at Paray-le-Monial**, a Jubilee Year has been declared, beginning on **December 27, 2023**, and continuing through **June 27, 2025**, the **Solemnity of the Sacred Heart**. The **Columbus Diocese** will be planning a pilgrimage to **France** during the **Jubilee Year**. The theme of the **Jubilee Year** is **"To return love for love."**

Our Lady of Victory Parish Festival

Please join us at Our Lady of Victory Parish Festival, Friday and Saturday, August 4 and 5, 2023 (6:00-11:00 p.m.)

Friday, August 4: Famous Fish Fry Dinner

Saturday, August 5: Festival Pasta Dinner.

Enjoy live music, delicious fair-food as well as homemade Italian and Lebanese food. Fabulous Silent Auction, Raffle, Games for Kids (Inflatables, too). Credit cards accepted. Parking available (with shuttle) at a neighboring church, Trinity United Methodist, 1581 Cambridge Boulevard. Festival at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus, OH 43221. Contact: Barbara Hegler, 614-783-0785.



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>.



EARLY FALL RETREAT! Spend time this fall enriching your relationship. Experience a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2023 the best year of your marriage by applying today! **The next weekend is September 8-10, 2023**, in the **Central Ohio area**. For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org or contact **Paul and Marilou Clouse** at 614-834-6880. **Early registration is highly recommended.**

Young Catholic Professionals: Looking for a community with a professional focus grounded in **Catholic** values? Attend a **YCP** event and join like-minded, mission-driven peers to find **God** in all things and seek excellence and joy in every area of your life. **YCP** brings together young workers and seasoned business professionals in a variety of programs to foster **Catholic** identity, encourage community, and inspire action. The **Executive Speaker Series** is a free event open to the public in which executives share their career and faith journeys with young professionals, challenging them to **"Work in Witness for Christ."** Attendees enjoy complimentary drinks and appetizers and have a chance to socialize before and after the evening's presentation. For more information, or to register for future events, please visit www.youngcatholicprofessionals.org.

Today's Gospel: The Gospel is from **St. Matthew 13:24-43**.

Today's parable is **Christ's** answer to the question so frequently asked: **"Why does God permit evil to triumph so often in this world, why are the wicked allowed to prosper?"** In the parable, the weed does not destroy the wheat. It only makes it more difficult for the wheat to grow to maturity. So it is with the **Christian**. No one can take his faith from him, but living up to it is made more difficult by evil. If some succumb to this evil influence and give up the practice of their faith, the fault is theirs. **God** can force no man to serve Him. The patience of the farmer in letting the weed grow on until harvest time, exemplifies the infinite mercy of **God** toward sinners. The weed could not change its nature, but the sinner can change his ways and **God** gives him every chance and every help to do this, up to his last moment of life. We must learn a double lesson of patience from this parable. First, to be patient with those who make our spiritual progress more difficult for us – they are actually helping us to be better **Christians**. Second, we must try to imitate the patience **God** shows in His dealings with sinners. This is not easy for human nature, but we can be certain that **God** will give us the necessary grace and strength. By acting thus, we will not only be helping a weak brother on the rugged road to heaven, we will also be making doubly sure of our own arrival there, for **God** will never be outdone in generosity.

– Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings*
by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

"Let us imagine a seed: it is tiny, barely visible, but it makes plants grow that bear fruit. The Word of God is thus: think of the Gospel, a small book, simple and within reach of all, that produces new life in those who receive it." @Pontifex

**O Lord, you are
so good, so ready
to *forgive*, so full
of unfailing *love*
for all who ask
for your help.**

– Psalm 86:5

Prayer: Show favor, O Lord, to Your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of Your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith, and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping Your commands. 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, Jul 23, 2023**God's kind of justice**

Our exercise of justice can be remarkably heartless. Too often we confuse justice with judgment, imagining justice is only served by lowering the boom on the offending party. The writer of the book of Wisdom describes God's justice as both mighty and clement: that is, powerful and merciful at the same time. Among the loveliest recommendations in the Old Testament is this: "Those who are just must be kind." Written 50 years before the time of Jesus, Wisdom demonstrates why Jesus came to heal, forgive, and rescue—not destroy, condemn, and disown. Make kindness your partner in justice.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43 (106). *"And you taught your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind."*

Monday, Jul 24, 2023**Unburden yourself**

With so many things to do, places to go, and people to see, how could the average busy person these days possibly relate to contemplative hermits? Maybe the holy example of hermits, like Sharbel Makhlūf, is exactly what our hectic times need to help us detach from all that consumes us. This 19th-century Lebanese saint was a shepherd-turned-priest who later became a monk and then a hermit. After his death, miracles were attributed to his intercession. At his beatification in 1965, Pope Paul VI said: "May he make us understand, in a world largely fascinated by wealth and comfort, the paramount value of poverty, penance and asceticism, to liberate the soul in its ascent to God."

MEMORIAL OF SHARBEL MAKHLŪF, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 14:5-18; Matthew 12:38-42 (395). *"She came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon."*

Tuesday, Jul 25, 2023**Walk this way**

Annually an estimated 350,000 pilgrims walk the Camino de Santiago—the Way of Saint James. The Camino has a series of medieval routes, but the French Way is most popular. On foot it takes 30 days, crossing foothills of the Pyrenees and many fields, towns, and villages before traversing Galicia. Each route leads to the city of Santiago de Compostela with its magnificent cathedral, believed to be the final resting place of Saint James the Greater, who brought Christianity to Spain. Pope Callixtus II declared in 1122: "The city of Compostela, through the support of Blessed James, has been made sacred for the faithful and a help for those coming to it." Visit the American Pilgrims website to be inspired.

FEAST OF JAMES, APOSTLE

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28 (605). *"The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve."*

Wednesday, Jul 26, 2023**Honor your ancestors**

Though we only know of Joachim and Anne from early Christian writings, not biblical texts, it is logical to give a place of prominence to those who, after all, were Jesus' grandparents. It is said they struggled greatly to give birth until God, seeing their holiness, granted them the supreme privilege of parenting Mary, the mother

of God. In the Orthodox Church of America, they carry a title of great respect: Holy Ancestors of God. Think of the sacrifices your own grandparents likely made in raising your parents. Let your life honor them.

MEMORIAL OF JOACHIM AND ANNE, PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9 (397). *"And he spoke to them at length in parables."*

Thursday, Jul 27, 2023**Help build a church with a conscience**

Many Catholics take for granted the existence of a robust Catholic social service network. But back in the early 20th century, that was not the case. Poverty was common and social work was emerging as a profession. The social-concerns encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (1891) and Father William J. Kerby, co-founder of what became Catholic Charities USA, were two important influences that helped develop social consciousness among U.S. Catholics. Thanks to Kerby, who died on this date in 1936, and other activists and thinkers, the American church now includes many anti-poverty efforts. What can you do to further this critical social legacy?

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Matthew 13:10-17 (398). *"Prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it."*

Friday, Jul 28, 2023**Blessed are those who hear the word**

Blessed Charlie Stanley Rother is on the path to sainthood, a surprise for many who knew him as a rather shy and grumpy lad. Stanley grew up in Oklahoma. He was skilled at farming and could fix practically anything. He also felt called to the priesthood. After ordination, another calling came, this time, to go to Guatemala. There, Stanley used his gifts as he lived and worked among the people. With them, he too faced the terror of the raging Guatemalan civil war. He was martyred on July 28, 1981. Befriend Blessed Stanley and ask him to accompany you as you listen for God's calling.

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 13:18-23 (399). *"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."*

Saturday, Jul 29, 2023**Even the savior of the world needs friends**

Martha, Mary, and Lazarus held a privileged place in Jesus' heart. As a wandering preacher who had "no place to lay his head," Jesus knew he always had a place to call home in visiting his three dear friends. Each gifted him in a special way, as the 2021 decree combining their veneration from the Congregation for Divine Worship and Sacraments points out: "Martha generously offered him hospitality, Mary listened attentively to his words, and Lazarus promptly emerged from the tomb at the command of the one who humiliated death." Cherish and nurture your dearest friendships; they are a treasure through thick and thin.

MEMORIAL OF MARTHA, MARY, AND LAZARUS, FRIENDS OF JESUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 24:3-8 (400); John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42 (607). *"Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother [Lazarus, who had died]."*

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



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