



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2024

St. John Fisher Parish

10234 South Washtenaw Avenue Chicago, IL 60655

(773) 445-6565

www.stjohnfisherparish.net

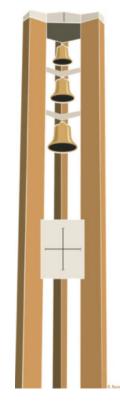
od is always present to his people. In the Old Testament, he often manifested his presence through the prophets. Such is the case in today's First reading, taken from the Book of Deuteronomy. The person who is speaking is Moses, and he is coming to the end of his time. The people will be entering the Promised Land and Moses will not enter with them. The people wanted a prophet—someone who would be an intermediary between God and them-because they feared direct interaction with God. In their tradition, if they had that immediate interaction with God, they feared that they would die. Moses tells the people that God will raise up a prophet from among their own kin. God will put his own words into the mouth of that prophet and will tell the people all that God commands them. And the people should heed the words of that yet-unnamed prophet, or else, they would have to answer to God himself.

God would continue to send the people prophets, some of whom they would listen to, others whom they ignored, and still others whom they wanted to kill. All of the true prophets proclaimed the word of God but not everyone liked what they said. Many of the prophets were reluctant ones because they knew the message they were to deliver would not be well-received and that they were putting their lives in peril. Last Sunday we heard the story of Jonah, a very reluctant prophet, who was to deliver a message of repentance to the city of Nineveh. He was sure that he would be killed by the people. Instead, they heeded his



message, and the whole city, from the king on down, repented -much to the dismay of Jonah. The Word of God can have that effect.

today's Gospel encounter Jesus as he begins his public ministry. This passage follows last week's call of the disciples Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John. Jesus and his disciples arrive in Capernaum. On the sabbath, Jesus enters the synagogue, and he begins to teach. The people were accustomed to the manner of teaching of the scribes, the official teachers who relied for their authority on teaching of others who had taught before them. Jesus, on the other hand, taught as one having authority in



his own right. The people in the synagogue marveled at this. They were truly hearing the Word of God, although they did not realize it at the time. Present at the synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit who cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Mk. 1:24 It is interesting and revealing that the only one who knew who Jesus truly was, was the one truly evil presence. Our Lord rebuked the evil spirit, and it left the man. The people were amazed at what happened but did not truly grasp the significance of it all. It had been revealed to them that Jesus was the Holy One of God, the Messiah, but that kind of went over their heads. They were more amazed/ shocked by the casting out of that evil spirit.

Whether it is a prophet or the Son of God speaking to us, we can often get distracted by things around us and fail to hear the message God is trying to convey to us. It might be the fear that the message instills in us that we need to try a little bit harder to put God's word into action. It might be self-doubt: Why is God calling on me to do this thing? I've never done anything like that before! There are many things and reasons for us to be distracted and fail to hear His message. God is always speaking and always calling out to us. Are we responding? Are we even listening?

Pro Labore Dei News

PRO LABORE DEI made 160 lunches in 35 minutes (probably less) and brought them to Robbins for distribution on January 6. Again, a huge thank you to the SJF community for spending some of their cold, snowy morning in the rectory basement. So many hands go into making this monthly mission successful. Thank you.

The next lunch making session will be on February 2. We could use:

- 10 loaves of bread
- ♦ 25 bags of chips
- 3 large jars of mayo
- and our trusty volunteers

At the same time, the community was loading our van with donations for our food pantry. Truly amazing.

Thanks, SJF, for all you do. The season of giving continues. We still collect on Saturday mornings between 9:30 and 10 am on the church parking lot. Any food item is welcome by our clients. Yes, diapers are still needed.

If more info is needed please call or text Pam O'Mara (773-612-0281) or Jerry and Pat Hayes (773-203-7881)



SUNDAY OFFERTORY

Because of an early bulletin deadline, the collection numbers for Sunday, January 21, will be in next Sunday's bulletin. Thank you for your stewardship rt of St. John Fisher!

Church in Latin America Collection Today

We collect to support the Church in Latin America on this weekend. Please be generous with our sisters and brothers in faith.

Blessing of Throats

We will offer a general Blessing of Throats appealing to the intercession of St. Blaise at the weekend Masses on February 3–4.

Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



Rectory: 10234 S. Washtenaw Avenue

Chicago, IL 60655

Phone: (773) 445-6565 Fax: (773) 445-1644

SJF Parish Website:

www.stjohnfisherparish.net

Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

School: 10200 S. Washtenaw Avenue

Chicago, IL 60655

Phone: (773) 445-4737 Fax: (773) 233-3012

SJF School Website:

www.sifschool.net

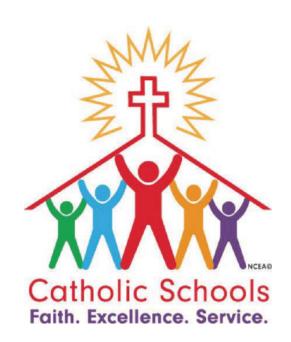
Office of Religious Education

Phone: (773) 238-1851

Weekday Morning Liturgies: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:15 a.m.

St. John Fisher Parish Mission Statement

We, the Catholic Community of St. John Fisher, formed by the gospel, nourished by the Eucharist, and united by love, are called to celebrate the kingdom of God and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action.



St. John Fisher School Open House

Sunday, January 28 9:00–10:30 a.m. www.sjfschool.net (773) 445-4737

Burning of Palms

We are collecting palms from last year's Palm Sunday to burn to prepare for Ash Wednesday.



2023 Tax Statements Are in the Mail

Year-end contribution statements to registered parishioners who use Sunday envelopes and who contributed \$1,000.00 or more during the 2023 calendar year have been mailed. Once again, we've limited statements to those who have given that amount or more in an effort to save money on printing and postage. However, if you contributed less than that amount and would like a statement, just call the rectory office and we'll be happy to send you one. Thank you for your generosity and support.



St. John Fisher Parish

75th Anniversary 1948–2023

Support
St. John Fisher
and our
75th Anniversary Raffle.

You could win \$20,000!

Drawing today (January 28) after 11:00 Mass!

Rosary for St. John Fisher at 75

Saint John Fisher Parish celebrates our 75th anniversary year from late 2023 through late 2024. The praying the Rosary was one of the activities that we launched in October 2023.

Catholic Schools Week makes this communal prayer event an especially good way to gather together. Parishioners, families, friends, and neighbors are invited to join in the next saying of the rosary.

Monday, January 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the church



75th Anniversary Raffle

Tickets: \$100 each

Credit card, check, or cash payments are accepted.

Drawing to be held Sunday, January 28, 2024, after the 11:00 a.m. mass.

Tickets can be purchased:

♦ Online...

- Go to the Saint John Fisher Parish website at: https://www.stjohnfisherparish.net
- Click on wording in the center that states "75th Anniversary RAFFLE" under "Weekly Announcements."
- Click on "ORDER NOW."
- Follow the instructions on the secure online gateway for credit card payments.
- If more than one (1) person is buying the ticket, please list the names under special instructions.
- **♦** After all the weekend masses at a table in the back of church
- **♦** At the rectory during regular hours
- **♦** After the school sports games in the gymnasium

Raffle tickets make great gifts too.
They also provide financial support to our parish.

Thank you, in advance, for your support and participation.

Strengthening Our

Joyous

Future



First Prize. \$20,000 Second Prize . . . \$1,000 Third Prize \$500



Winners will be drawn on Sunday, January 28, 2024, after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Winner need not be present.

Name		
Phone		
E-mail		
Parishioner?	☐ Yes	☐ No



Please Make your Gift to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal

Together at the Table

Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes, and schools that receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer the call "Together at the table." In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese, the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here in our parish. As we contemplate God's many gifts to us, we should also reflect on our gratitude. Your financial support for the work of our parish, our archdiocese, and the Church throughout the world is one way to express this gratitude. Please give what you can to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal.

The Annual Catholic Appeal in-church announcement is next weekend, February 4–5, 2024.

Keeping Teen Relationships Healthy and Safe

Parents, guardians, and grandparents, of junior high and high school teenagers, as well as school personnel and interested adults are encouraged to attend a presentation on Teen Dating Violence at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6. The program will be offered by the staff of A New Direction and is sponsored by the Domestic Violence Awareness Committees of Christ the King, St. John Fisher, St. Cajetan, St. Christina and St. Barnabas. It will be at Christ the King Church. 9345 S Hamilton Avenue. Ericka Swanson and Rita Ryan of A New Direction will define abuse, show patterns of abuse in relation to Teen Dating Violence, and will introduce scenarios and helpful resources. Learning about healthy relationships at this age can go a long way towards stopping the cycle of Domestic Violence, and can set youth on a better path for future relationships.

Please contact Donna Dalton at donnadalton1951@gmail.com,
Linda Villalobos at lvilla46@yahoo.com
or Nancy North at nancy.north@comcast.net
for more information
on the Teen Dating Violence presentation.







Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is a receptive method of Christian silent prayer which deepens our relationship with God, the Indwelling Presence... a prayer in which we can experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself.

If you are new to Centering Prayer or would like to deepen and reinvigorate you practice, please consider participating in this workshop. Introductory workshop presenters are specifically trained in this course. The days program explores the place of contemplative prayer in the Christian tradition, the conceptual background of Centering Prayer, psychological processes and insights into establishing Centering Prayer as a way of life. To register visit our web site at www.cajetan.org or contact Deacon Joe at jroccasalva@cajetan.org or 773-474-7814







Rest in Peace

Please remember especially in your prayers this week:

Elsie Suchena
James M. Glynn
Richard Feltz
Victims of Gun and Domestic Violence
Victims of the Ukrainian invasion
Victims of Violence in the Middle East

Book Club: Beautiful Eucharist



It is not too late to join the book discussion about *Beautiful Eucharist* that Southside Parish Renewal parishes distributed last month. Meetings are on Sunday, January 28, at noon in the Parish Center at St. Cajetan, 2445 W. 112th Street; and February 4 and 11, 11:00 a.m., at St. Barnabas.

Join at https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/4090E4EAEAA2EA6FF2-beautiful or contact Deacon Andy Neu 773-779-1166 x542 aneu@stbarnabasparish.org





Prayer Support for Our Military Personnel

We keep parishioners and all those who are serving in the military in our prayers, especially: MSG Kevin Daley; CPL Thomas Leonard, USMC; Daniel Wagner; Pvt 1st Class Michael Carroll, USMC; Lt. Col. Eric Dougherty, USMC; Lance Cpl Kevin Butler, USMC; Lt. Brad Brunaugh; Pvt. Christopher Dinaso; PFC Ryan Hensley; PFC Steven Folliard; Captain Michael McCann, US Army; Kevin Roche; Steve Ayon; Pvt. Anthony Schmidt; PFC Terrance Wilson, US Army; Lance Cpl Brennan C. McDonald, Jr., USMC; Sgt. Robert Brennan Carroll, USMC; Lt. Cmdr. Patrick F. McInerney, USN.; Captain Patrick Tierney, USMC; Kyle Sellers, USAF; LCPL Jack Fitzpatrick, USMC; CA Christopher Chirillo, USA; Timothy Kelly, USN; Ensign Peter Smagur USN; 2 Lt. Bridget Bentley, USA; Matthew C. Adas, USN; Airman William L. Murray; Andrew Mitchell Cullen, USMC; Capt. Andrew Piech, USMC; Lance Cpl. Joseph Killeen, USMC.

Lord, hold our military men and women in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.



January 2024

To the Parishioners of St. John Fisher Church

Dear Friends: On behalf of all the volunteers and recipients of Pro Labore Dei, I want to express our heartfelt thanks for the generous hearts of all the parishioners at Saint John Fisher Church. All your gifts this past year have made such an impact! Every week we struggle to have enough food to make grocery bags and lunches for the families we serve on Saturdays in Posen, Robbins, and our newest location at St. Thomas More Church in Chicago. And you always respond.

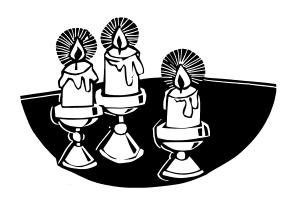
Our families frequently tell us they don't know what they would do without the food we give them. Your wonderful congregation is always on hand to help. From weekly groceries and diapers to monthly lunches, numerous clothing drives, backpack drives, special Thanksgiving bags, Easter baskets, Christmas gifts... the list goes on. All of you help serve our mission with such love and compassion, especially our good friends Pam O'Mara, Pat Hayes and all the wonderful people who assist these activities. You are truly servants of God.

We thank God for the generous donations from the members of St. John Fisher over many years and for your example of how to live out your faith. We are blessed by your service and love you all very much.

God Bless.



Ann DeAngelis, Executive Director Pro Labore Dei





CHRIST THE KING • ST. BARNABAS • ST. CAJETAN • ST. JOHN FISHER

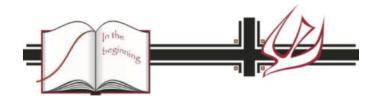
JOUTH/IDE PARI/H RENEWAL NEW/

Inclusion Committee Update

The focus of the SPR Inclusion Committee is the message set forth in the yard signs we distributed last spring: God's Love Knows No Bounds, All are Welcome Here. We work to ensure that all feel welcome to come and pray with us, that no one feels estranged from the Church, that all are welcome to draw closer to God by being part of our vibrant faith communities. God knows it's a big job (He really does) but we are dedicated to taking one step at a time. Right now we are working to ensure that our parishes are as welcoming as possible to those with disabilities and we are forming a subcommittee to study the issues and develop recommendations. We will also be holding a virtual book club meeting to discuss My Body Is Not a Prayer Request by Amy Kenny. If you are interested in helping out, please contact either Dan Roth at danieljroth9222@gmail.com or maureenlhoward@comcast.net.

We will also be looking at what we can do to help school age families who face frantic schedules that make it more difficult to find time to gather for community worship. More on that later. We look forward to working with all of you!

Visit <u>southsideparishrenewal.com</u> for Mass times, newsletter sign-ups, and more information on ways to get involved



Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13–14, 30; 16:5–13 / Ps 3:2–3, 4–5, 6–7 / Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9–10, 14b, 24–25a, 30—19:3 / Ps 86:1–2, 3–4, 5–6 / Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9–17 /

Ps 32:1–2, 5, 6, 7 / Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1–4, 10–12 /

1 Chr 29:10, 11, 11d–12, 12 / Mk 6:7–13

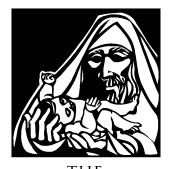
Friday: Mal 3:1–4 / Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 /

Heb 2:14–18 / Lk 2:22-40

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4–13 /

Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 / Mk 6:30–34

Next Sunday: Jb 7:1–4, 6–7 / Ps 147:1-6 / 1 Cor 9:16–19, 22–23 / Mk 1:29-39



Lectors

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Saturday, February 3

4:00 pm Dan Brennan

Sunday, February 4

8:00 am Laura Shallow 11:00 am Dan Mueller

Masses and Intentions

Monday, January 29

8:15 a.m. Herbert Weidmann -John & Lynn O'Connor People of St. John Fisher

Tuesday, January 30 No Mass

Wednesday, January 31 — St. John Bosco

8:15 a.m. Therese Joyce – John & Lynn O'Connor Kelly Ambrose, Sr. – *The Gray Family*

Thursday, February 1

No Mass

Friday, February 2 — Presentation of the Lord

8:15 a.m. Robert Luebke –

St. John Fisher Holy Name People of St. John Fisher

Saturday, February 3 — St. Blaise; St. Ansgar

4:00 p.m. For the People of St. John Fisher Parish

Sunday, February 4 — 5th Sunday in Ord. Time

8:00 a.m. Don and Dorothy Gagnon – Anna Duffy Jill and Ginny O'Malley -McCormack Family

11:00 a.m. Joe Broad – The Halloran Family Gail McGarr Reilly – Albert Ahern





If you wish to generously remember St. John Fisher Parish/School in your will, ensuring its growth and vitality for years to come, you may include the following general statement:

I give (the sum of \$\) * to St. John Fisher Parish/School, located in Chicago, Illinois.

Please contact pastor Fr. Ken Budzikowski at (773) 445-6565 or Brendan Keating, Sr. Director of Planned Giving at (312) 534-5271 or bkeating@archchicago.org for more information.

*You may also give a percentage of your estate, or a specific asset.

PARISH PRIESTS

Rev. Kenneth BudzikowskiPastor Rev. Martin Marren Associate Pastor

DEACONS

Deacon Robert Carroll Deacon Raymond Reilly (Retired) Deacon Couple Clayton and Betty Kort (Retired)

Mrs. Maura Nash Principal

Elena Chermak, D.Min. ..Dir. of Religious Education echermak@sjfschool.us

Phil and Amy SwitalskiMusic Directors philnamy1992@gmail.com (708) 687-3302

Parish E-Mail: sifparishchicgo@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours: Mon.–Fri. 9:00 am–7:00 pm Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am-12:00 noon

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: A Baptismal Preparation Program is a requirement in the Chicago Archdiocese. Contact the rectory for more information and dates and times the classes will be held.

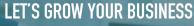
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Saturdays 3:00 to 3:45 p.m. or by appointment

Marriage: Arrangements are to be made at the Rectory at least **six months** before the wedding. A marriage preparation program is a requirement in the Archdiocese (Pre-Cana, Discovery Weekend, etc.).

Communion for Homebound Parishioners:

Members of our parish family who are ill or homebound, please call the parish office and a Minister of Care will bring communion to your home at your convenience.

New Parishioners: We welcome you! Please introduce vourself to us. We ask that you register in the rectory office. Parishioners—Please keep your contact information updated.



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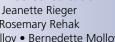
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- St. Teresa of Calcutta



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