

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2024

St. John Fisher Parish

10234 South Washtenaw Avenue Chicago, IL 60655 (773) 445-6565 www.stjohnfisherparish.net Normally my articles center around the Sunday Readings. Hopefully you find them, at best, instructive and thought-provoking and, at worst, not a complete waste of your time. This week, however, we begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, better known as St. Valentine's Day. I'm sure this proposes a dilemma for many people. For many couples, St. Valentine's Day is a day for them to celebrate their love for each other and may involve a card with a nice hand-written note, some candy in a heart-shaped box, flowers, and a nice dinner. So, what do we do?

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting (smaller meals, and no snacking) and abstinence (no meat). It is the day when we receive the ashes, placed on our foreheads in the shape of a cross, which mark us as followers of Christ entering into a season of penance. On that day we are reminded by the prophet Joel to "Rend your hearts and not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God." The Gospel instructs us to pray, fast, and give alms to the poor. Sorry, but none of that seems conducive to a romantic St. Valentine's Day.

If you really want to get technical, the 1969 revision of the General Roman Calendar removed the commemoration of St. Valentine's Day, so this Saint's Day has not been celebrated on our official liturgical calendar for some time. In its place, on February 14<sup>th</sup>, is the feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Who are they? If you are of Eastern European descent (i.e., not Irish) they are the missionaries who brought Christianity to the Slavic peoples of Easter Europe: Bulgaria, Bohemia, Southern Poland, and Yugoslavia. You might say they are analogous to St. Patrick who did the same for the people of Ireland.

I can't tell you to not celebrate St. Valentine's Day. But we *will* have Ash Wednesday, when we will begin the penitential season of Lent, marked with those ashes in the shape of a cross. We will stress the three traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—concern for the poor. (We will *not* be distributing ashes in the shape of a heart...) We will, for the forty days of Lent, encourage you to make more time for personal prayer and make time to attend not only Sunday, but perhaps also weekday Mass. We will encourage you to find some form of fasting, whether it is giving up some favorite food or beverage, or perhaps reducing your time spent with screens. We

will encourage you to take advantage of the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) especially if you haven't been there in a long time. We will encourage you to be aware of the poor: those in financial poverty needing food, clothing, and shelter, and those in spiritual poverty: the lonely, or those mourning the loss of a loved one, or in need of encouragement, or a shoulder to cry on.

Lent is a season of love, just not one of cards with nice handwritten notes, or some candy in a heart-shaped box, or flowers, and a nice dinner. Let us feel the love and forgiveness of our merciful God and pass that on to those around us as we prepare ourselves for the joyful conclusion of this season: Easter. Happy Lent!



Fr. Ken

#### **Pro Labore Dei News**

We had an incredible crew putting together lunches in the rectory basement last Saturday morning. Over 150 lunches were brought to Robbins and they are so grateful. Thank you all.

Our next lunch making will be on Saturday, March 2, at 9:15 a.m. Our current needs are:

100 sweet treats

70 chips

and, always, our marvelous volunteers.

We continue to collect food for our pantry every Saturday morning from 9:30 to 10. Think about grabbing an extra box of cereal, jar of pasta sauce, cans of vegetables to help us bag staples to hand out to our clients. Truth be told, St. John Fisher is the example used by many parishes and schools.

Coming soon our annual Easter basket collection...

Any questions or concerns, contact Pam O'Mara (773) 612-0281 or Jerry and Pat Hayes (773) 203-7881

## Burning of Palms

We encourage you to bring your palms from last year's Palm Sunday to burn



Palm Sunday to burn in preparation for Ash Wednesday ashes.

You may drop them off at church or the Parish Office until Tuesday, February 13, when we will burn them in the Memorial Garden.



#### February 14, 2024

8:15 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

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.

## SUNDAY OFFERTORY

Sunday, February 4, 2024 \$6,989.10
Sundays, E-Giving (January) \$8,151.04
Sundays Direct Debits (January) \$2,730.00
St. Ann-Sharing (January) \$515.00

Thank you for your stewardship in support of St. John Fisher Parish!



### World Marriage Day

#### O God,

who in creating the human race willed that man and wife should be one, keep, we pray, in a bond of inseparable love those who are united in the covenant of Marriage, so that, as you make their love fruitful, they may become, by your grace, witnesses to charity itself, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

School: 10200 S. Washtenaw Avenue Chicago, IL 60655

Phone: (773) 445-4737

Fax: (773) 233-3012

SJF School Website: www.sjfschool.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.

### **Lenten Regulations**

The Lenten regulations are as follows:

- 1. Abstinence from meats is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.
- 2. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

The special paschal fast and abstinence are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

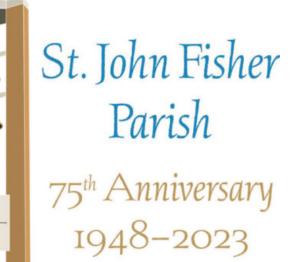
"The season of Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. The liturgy prepares the catechumens for the celebration of the paschal mystery by the several stages of Christian initiation: it also prepares the faithful, who recall their baptism and do penance in preparation for Easter." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year, #27)

By the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving and prayer the church keeps Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. All of the faithful and the catechumens should undertake serious practice of these three traditions. Failure to observe penitential days totally or a substantial number of such days must be considered serious.

"(On) weekdays of Lent, we strongly recommend participation in daily Mass and self-imposed observances of fasting. In light of grave human needs which weigh on the Christian conscience in all seasons, we urge particularly during Lent, generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing of all things needed to translate our duty to



penance into a means of implementing the right of the poor to their part of our abundance," (U.S. Bishops statement on penitential observances, 1966.).



Support St. John Fisher and our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Raffle. You could win \$20,000! Drawing date to be announced.



## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Raffle

#### Tickets: \$100 each

Credit card, check, or cash payments are accepted.

Tickets are still available. The drawing will be held at a later date,

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 "75<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### <u>Strengthening</u> Our <u>J</u>oyous <u>F</u>uture

St. John Fisher Parish 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1948–2023

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



Winners will be drawn on a date to be announced.

Winner need not be present.

Name		
Phone		
E-mail		
Parishioner?	Yes	🗋 No
Seller		
Conor		

# 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal Together at the Table

We invite you to spend some time this week reflecting on the Annual Catholic Appeal materials you should have received in your bulletin or in the mail. The Annual Catholic Appeal is not a one-time special collection: It is a pledged commitment to make a gift over time. Your pledge can be made payable in installments.

Each pledge makes a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services to answer the call of "Together at the table."

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. This year, we also encourage our parishioners to make their Annual Catholic Appeal gifts online at **annualcatholicappeal.com**.

> The Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend is this weekend, February 4–5, 2024.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

2024 Annual Catholic Appeal

# Together at the table



annualcatholicappeal.com

#### Women's CRHP

The women of St. Barnabas, Christ the King, St. John Fisher and St. Cajetan Parishes are preparing a weekend of renewal and relaxation, CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH. If you would like to join us February 24-25, 2024, for this time of fellowship, joy, and reflection, please email:

womens.crhp.stbarnabas@gmail.com.

If you have any questions about this weekend, please call Katie Durkin (773) 350.6885 or Llora Sullivan (773) 220.7517.

#### **Teen Safe Dating** Workshop

Saturday February 17, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. St. Catherine Alexandria — Kane Hall 10621 S. Kedvale Ave. Oak Lawn, IL 60453 Adults and students (7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to a "Teen Dating Violence Workshop" at Kane Hall St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish 10621 S. Kedvale Ave. Oak Lawn. The Safe Start Program will be offered by the Crisis Center for South Suburbia, and is sponsored by St. Catherine of Alexandria and Our Lady at St. Germaine Domestic Violence Awareness Ministry

On Saturday February 17th at 1:00 p.m. Keishera Smith, the Safe Start Coordinator for the Crisis Center for South Suburbia will present Safe Start--a teen dating violence prevention program that educates 7th-12th grade students on prevention techniques and healthy relationships. The workshop will include understanding what dating violence is, who the abusers are, and the red flags that exist in unhealthy relationships. She will also talk about the cycle of violence that exists in abusive relationships.

This is an ideal time to promote healthy relationships and prevent patterns of behavior that can be abusive, unhealthy and can last into adulthood. We invite adults and students (7th to 12th grade) to come and learn about this topic.

Crisis Center Hotline: 708 429-7233 Questions contact: Our Lady at St Germaine: John C. (708) 793-9545 St. Catherine of Alexandria: Lourdes D. (708) 738-2884



Christ the King's GriefShare support group is welcome to all parishioners, community members, and friends who have lost a loved one and provides a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability-and gain solid support each step of the way. Call the rectory at 773-238-4877 with questions or emailjsingler@ckchicago.org.

**GriefShare meets on Tuesdays** from 6:30 p.m.-8:15 p.m. through April 9 in the Christ the King Rectory basement 9235 S. Hamilton, Chicago, IL 60643

#### Get Behind the Vest Pancake Breakfast



#### SXU Gallery to Host Lenten Mission Series

This Lenten season, Saint Xavier University (SXU) will host a Lenten Mission Series each Wednesday evening beginning February 21 through March 27. Each mission will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. and feature a speaker who will address the church with a spiritually nourishing topic. The events will be held in McDonough Chapel, located on the SXU campus at 3700 W. 103<sup>rd</sup> Street, Chicago, IL 60655.

"In the Chicagoland area, we have so many gifted theologians who have rich insights to share. As a gift to the community, we are inviting people to join us each Wednesday evening of Lent for a time of spiritual nourishment with our excellent speakers," said Jenny DeVivo, OblSB, Ph.D., vice president for Mission and Heritage.

All are welcome; the events are free of charge. For any questions, contact the Office for Mission and Heritage at 773-341-5734 or missionandheritage@sxu.edu.

The Seven Deadly Sins Reconsidered February 21, 2024 David Neff, D.Min.

The Seven Deadly Sins have long been considered as a means of spiritual diagnosis and a confessor's inquiry into a person's life. Should the categories of what constitutes sin change today to meet the challenges of the soul and our contemporary society?

David Neff, D. Min., is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). He teaches courses in religious studies and philosophy at Saint Xavier University.

## Rest in Peace

Please remember especially in your prayers this week:

Donald Ade, *father of Brian Ade* Sharon Peterson Patrick "Bill" Fitzgerald Margaret "Margee" Mary Nash Victims of Gun and Domestic Violence Victims of the Ukrainian invasion Victims of Violence in the Middle East

#### Book Club: Beautiful Eucharist

The book discussion about *Beautiful Eucharist* concludes at Christ the King today, Sunday, February 11, at Noon, followed by Adoration.



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



CURIST THE HING • ST. BARMARAS • ST. CAJETAM • ST. JOHN FISHER

## 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.

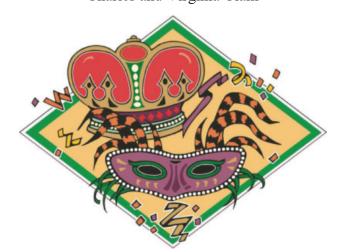




Maeve McGlinchey and Brad Jerantowski (I)

### Welcome!

We welcome two new St. John Fisher families: Robert and Suzanne Noonan Charles and Virginia Clam



#### **Be There When God Moves**

From July 17–21, 2024, thousands of passionate Catholics will gather for a transformative experience on a scale this generation has never seen.

Whether you join us for one day or all five, the grace you receive will spill out into our community when you return home—deeply in love with the Eucharist and excited about the future of the Church in America. Visit <u>EucharisticCongress.org</u> to learn more about the event and explore the full schedule for each day. The more people who register at once, the lower the cost becomes! Register online or contact our parish office for more information about registering with your fellow parishioners.

What: 10<sup>th</sup> National Eucharistic Congress When: July 17–21, 2024 Where: Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, IN

#### Mother McAuley Shadow Day

Monday, February 19

www.mothermcauley.org

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS

#### CHRIST THE KING

Fridays in Lent

3:00 p.m.

#### ST. BARNABAS

February 16	6;00 p.m.
February 23	3:00 p.m.
March 1	6:00 p.m.
March 8	3:00 p.m.
March 15	6:00 p.m.
March 22	1:45 p.m.
March 24	2:00 p.m.

### ST. CAJETAN

Fridays in Lent

1:00 p.m.

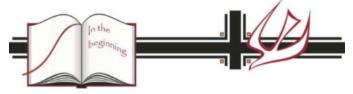
#### ST. JOHN FISHER

March 20

1:00 p.m.



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



#### **Readings for the Week**

Sunday: Lv 13:1–2,44–46 / 1 Cor 10:31–11:1 /	Ps 32:1–2, 5, 11 / Mk 1:40–45
Monday: Jas 1:1–11 / Ps 119:67,68,71,72,75,	76 / Mk 8:11–13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12–18 / Ps 94:12–13a, 14–15, 18-	-19 / Mk 8:14–21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12–18 / 2 Cor 5:20–6:2 /	Ps 51:3–6, 12-14, 17 / Mt 6:1–6, 16–18
Thursday: Dt 30:15–20 / Ps 1:1–4, 6 /	Lk 9:22–25
Friday: Is 58:1–9a/ Ps 51:3–4, 5-6ab, 18–19	/ Mt 9:14–15
Saturday: Is 58:1–9a / Ps 51:3–4, 5–6ab, 18–19	/ Mt 9:14–15
Next Sunday: Gn 9:8–15 / 1 Pt 3:18–22 /	Ps 25:4-9 / Mk 1:12-15



#### Lectors

Saturday, February 17

4:00 pm Deb Ryan

Sunday, February 18

8:00 am Tom Broderick 11:00 am Rebecca Dowling

#### **Masses and Intentions**

#### Monday, February 12 8:15 a.m. Charles Bertling – Family Nora Ahern – Family **Tuesday, February 13** No Mass Wednesday, February 14 — Ash Wednesday 8:15 a.m. People of St. John Fisher Parish 1:00 p.m. People of St. John Fisher Parish 7:00 p.m. People of St. John Fisher Parish **Thursday, February 15** No Mass Friday, February 16 8:15 a.m. Tom Redmond – Family Mary Ann Coyne – Joan Courtney Saturday, February 17 — Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order 4:00 p.m. For the People of St. John Fisher Parish **First Sunday of Lent** Sunday, February 18 — 8:00 a.m. Mary Jo O'Grady – O'Grady Family Virginia Allivato – Family

11:00 a.m. Norman Lasman – Carol Martin & Family Eleanore Dachota – Family

#### **Presiders**

Saturday, February 17 4:00 pm Fr. Ken Budzikowski Sunday, February 18 8:00 am Fr. Marty Marren 11:00 am Fr. Ken Budzikowski

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.

Pi

#### **PARISH PRIESTS**

Rev. Kenneth Budzikowski	Pastor
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 Switalski ......Music Directors philnamy1992@gmail.com (708) 687-3302

Parish E-Mail: sjfparishchicgo@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

# **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. The Archdiocese requires a marriage preparation program (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 yourself to us. We ask that you register in the rectory office. **Parishioners**—**Please keep** your contact information updated.





For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. John Fisher, Chicago, IL

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