

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

March 29, 2020

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY**  
**IN LENT**

**“ I AM THE RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE. ”**

*- JOHN 11:25*

# WELCOME TO ALL!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family or marital situation, no matter what your past or present religious affiliation, no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, or color—you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

## CONTACT US

Phone 513-777-6433 • Fax 513-777-9741 • info@stjohnwc.org • www.stjohnwc.org



St. John the Evangelist Church, West Chester

### Parish Phone Numbers

Pavilion 513-755-4973 • Parish Center 513-755-4973 • For emergencies, please call 513-777-6433 and press 5.

### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday ..... 8:30am - 5:30pm  
 Friday ..... 8:30am - Noon

Saturday (Church Office) ..... 3:30pm - 6:00pm  
 Sunday (Church Office) ..... 7:30am - 1:00pm

### Pastoral Team

**Rev. Don West** ..... Pastor  
 Ext. 133 ..... dwest@stjohnwc.org  
**Sarah Chivers** ..... Director of Communication  
 Ext. 116 ..... schivers@stjohnwc.org  
**Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch** ... P.A. of Adult Faith Formation  
 Ext. 121 ..... ccipollamcculloch@stjohnwc.org  
**Lynn Meisberger** ..... P.A. of Music  
 Ext. 128 ..... lmeisberger@stjohnwc.org  
**Annie Mesewicz** ..... P.A. of Youth Ministry  
 Ext. 114 ..... amesewicz@stjohnwc.org  
**Mary Montour** ..... P.A. of Children's Faith Formation  
 Ext. 118 ..... mmontour@stjohnwc.org  
**Joan Seibenick** ..... Business Manager  
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**Scott Steinke** ..... P.A. of Liturgy  
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### Parish Staff

**Katie Behrle** ..... Early Childhood Coordinator  
 ..... kbehrle@stjohnwc.org  
**Karen Hake** ..... Office Manager  
 Ext. 110 ..... khake@stjohnwc.org  
**Brigid Loebig** ..... Bookkeeper  
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**Deacon Fred Merritt** ..... Senior Ministry  
 Ext. 132 ..... fmerritt@stjohnwc.org  
**Kirt Robb** ..... Facilities Manager  
 Ext. 122 ..... krobb@stjohnwc.org  
**Karen Simmons** ..... PSR Administrative Assistant  
 Ext. 111 ..... ksimmmons@stjohnwc.org  
**Deacon Jerry Barney** ..... jbarney@stjohnwc.org  
**Deacon Rick Reder** ..... rreder@stjohnwc.org  
**Darren Coe** ..... Maintenance  
**Ellen Krumme** ..... Weekend Office Assistant  
**Janet Raters** ..... Maintenance  
**Bette Vorbroker** ..... Weekend Office Administrator

### Monthly Total as of March 2, 2020

Sunday Offerings.....\$71,386.76  
 Online Donations.....\$32,522.00  
 Total.....\$103,908.76

*Collection teams will meet again as masses reconvene.*

### Total Monthly Amount:

Actual: \$103,908.76  
 Budget: \$104,000.00

### Fiscal Year-to-Date Amount:

Actual: \$917,618.22  
 Budget: \$910,000.00  
 Over/(Under): \$7,618.22

# FATHER DON'S REFLECTION

JN 11:1-45

*"Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So, Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."*

Martha told Jesus that Lazarus had been dead for four days. She warned him that there would be a stench in the tomb. But Jesus loved Lazarus and wanted to show that love for him. Martha had a very deep theology. She recognized who Jesus was and the power that he had as the Son of God, and she knew that Lazarus would rise again on the last day. But Jesus had other plans.

Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb to set him free. It was significant that he was dead for four days. It was thought that the spirit remained with the dead person for three days. So, Jesus delaying and coming on the fourth day meant that the spirit was believed to be gone from Lazarus. Rolling the stone away and calling Lazarus from the tomb had to be a powerful sight to see. How dramatic it must have been to see Lazarus come out bound by the bands of burial. He was wrapped from head-to-toe as he exited the tomb, alive again.

Every time I read this gospel, I think of the power of sin and the hold it has on each of us. I think it is like being bound hand and foot and wrapped in burial bands. There is a stench about sin that brings us down. We find ourselves in the tomb of death from the choices that we have made. What are we to do? How can we break free from the hold that sin can have on us?

It takes a great degree of humility to surrender to the one who can break me from my sinful ways. I need Jesus to call me out of the tomb and into the daylight, to wash away the stench of sin with a great dose of grace from the sacrament of reconciliation. When freed from the bonds of sin, I can feel the burial bands being removed from my life.

So, what about you? Do you have that feeling that sin is weighing you down? Does it keep you from a right relationship with God and others? Can you find the humility to admit you need help from the source of life? Jesus is always ready to call each of us from the tomb, remove the burial cloth wrapped around our soul and bring life to our lives once again. Once restored, we can continue our journey to the Father. We can feel alive again in the graces that we receive from Jesus through the sacrament of reconciliation. It is never too late to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

The story of Lazarus is a reminder to us of how much Jesus loves us. He is willing to come to us and meet our sinfulness head on. Trust in the Lord and know nothing can separate us from his love. All we have to do ask, and he comes to the very place that we are. Do not let your ego get in the way. Be humble before the Lord. Have a great week!



## PRESIDER SCHEDULE:

**April 4 / 5**

Masses and other liturgical events are cancelled through Easter Sunday. Please see our Facebook page and website homepage for links to Sunday masses to watch from home.

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### Readings for This Week: March 30-April 3

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | DN 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62;<br>Ps 23; JN 8:1-11 |
| Tuesday   | NM 21:4-9; Ps 102; JN 8:21-30                       |
| Wednesday | DN 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; DN 3;<br>JN 8:31-42          |
| Thursday  | GN 17:3-9; Ps 105; JN 8:51-59                       |
| Friday    | JER 20:10-13; Ps 18;<br>JN 10:31-42                 |

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### Next Weekend: April 4/5

First Reading: IS 50:4-7

*"The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced"*

Second Reading: PHIL 2:6-11

*"At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth."*

Gospel: MT 26:14-27:66

*"Truly, this was the Son of God!"*

**STAYING HEALTHY:**

**BODY**

**MIND**

**& SOUL**

As we continue through these difficult times, please utilize the bulletin for information, activities and spiritual resources that will deepen your faith and allow your households to come together.

# STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

# GOSPEL

## DISCUSSION

### QUESTIONS

**John 11:1-45**

1. What kind of relationship did Jesus have with Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha? Read John 11:3 & 5.
2. When Jesus tells the disciples that Lazarus has “fallen asleep,” do the disciples understand that Lazarus has died? What is their response?
3. When Martha hears that Jesus has arrived, what does she do? What does she say to Jesus? Is she blaming Jesus for the death?
  - a. What does Jesus tell Martha about himself? Why is this a significant statement about who Jesus is?
  - b. How does belief in Jesus change your perspective on life and death? What kind of hope do you have because of your belief in Jesus as the Son of God?
4. What does Mary say to Jesus? Is she blaming Jesus for the death?
  - a. How does Jesus respond to Mary’s statement? What does this tell you about the humanity and compassion of Jesus?
  - b. When you go through pain and suffering in your life, do you gain strength and comfort knowing that Jesus sympathizes with you?
5. When Lazarus was raised from the dead, how did the people respond?
  - a. Why did raising Lazarus create such a stir among the people, especially among the Jewish religious leaders?
  - b. If you were to see a man who had been dead for four days walk out of a tomb, how would you react? Would you believe it?

# CHALLENGE

Jesus knew that he was going to raise Lazarus from the dead before he was told that Lazarus was ill. In spite of knowing what was going to happen, he still allowed those he loved to experience the pain and difficulty of death in order to achieve the higher purpose of building faith and glorifying God. In times of pain and difficulty, know that God is with you in the midst of the trial and that he can use your pain and struggle to build your faith and bring glory to himself.

## ACTION

Give God your pain and difficult situations and ask him to use those things to build your faith and bring glory to himself.

### Next Steps:

It is a comfort to know that even when I feel like God is not listening, he does indeed love and care for me, and has my best interests in mind.

I understand that I can take all my problems, struggles, and frustration to Jesus, knowing that his shoulders are big enough to handle even my complaints.

I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God—and that my only real hope is in his resurrection.

## TEEN REFLECTION



Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to find a collection of reflections, prayers and thoughts from Annie, your Youth Minister, during this hectic time.

## Pope Francis's *Prayer to Mary*

O Mary,  
you always shine on our path  
as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping  
your faith firm.  
You, Salvation of the Roman People,  
know what we need,  
and we are sure you will provide  
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,  
we may return to joy and to feasting  
after this time of trial.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who has taken upon himself our sufferings  
and carried our sorrows  
to lead us, through the cross,  
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother  
of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are  
in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious  
and blessed Virgin.

## *Act Of* **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy  
Sacrament. I love you above  
all things, and I desire to  
receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into  
my heart. I embrace You as  
if You were already here and  
unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be sepa-  
rated from You.

*Amen.*



## A PRAYER IN SOLITUDE

My Lord God,

I have no idea where I am going. I do not see  
the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain  
where it will end. Nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think that I am following your  
will does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please you does  
in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire  
in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do  
anything apart from that desire. And I know that  
if I do this you will lead me by the right road  
though I may know nothing about it. Therefore  
I will trust you always though I may seem to be  
lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear,  
for you are ever with me, and you will never  
leave me to face my perils alone.

-Thomas Merton  
Thoughts in Solitude

The Church building will be open from 7:30am-  
4:30pm Monday-Thursday and 7:30am-noon  
on Fridays for individual prayer.

Spiritual resources and physical copies of the  
bulletin will be available in the Gathering Space  
during these times. These materials are  
regularly sanitized, and there will be sanitation  
stations present.

Check out these links for games and activities for kids and families!

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/family/family-faith-and-fun>

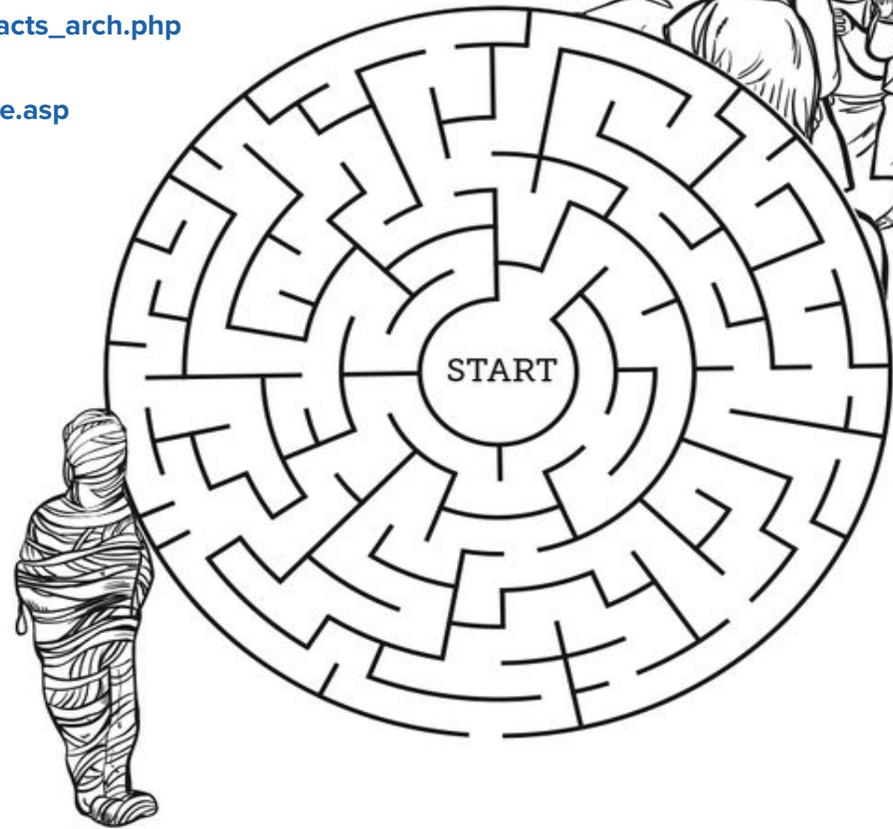
[https://www.catholic.org/saints/fun\\_facts\\_arch.php](https://www.catholic.org/saints/fun_facts_arch.php)

<https://www.ewtn.com/ewtnkids/home.asp>

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/>

<https://catholicmom.com/>

<http://www.thecatholickid.com/>



# KIDS' CORNER



LFIE

3 1

DEDA

6 4

RSIE

2

STNOE

5

1 2 3 4 5 6

"Our \_\_\_\_\_ Lazarus has fallen asleep;  
but I am going there to wake him up."  
John 11:11b (NIV)

## Stay Connected with St. John

Do you want to deepen your connection with your parish? Want to stay updated with what's happening on campus and get more involved? Be sure to connect with St. John with the following communications:

Follow us on **Facebook** at 'St. John the Evangelist, West Chester.'

Make sure that your e-mail is updated with your parish record and you opt-in to our **Weekly E-Memos!** You will receive reminders for any upcoming events, announcements and updates for parish groups and activities.

Be sure to access the weekly **Bulletin** on the St. John website to stay up-to-date with our parish. The Bulletin will contain regular communication for groups of our parish, Gospel reflections and upcoming readings, and more information on resources and outreach available at St. John.

Check out the St. John **Website** ([www.stjohnwc.org](http://www.stjohnwc.org)) for nearly anything you may need! Read about our parish staff or organizations, listen to weekend homilies, find local resources, read more about events on campus or our parish history, and much more.



# REGISTRATION NOW OPEN ONLY 35 SPOTS AVAILABLE REGISTER TODAY!



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A **SUMMER ADVENTURE WITH PURPOSE?** DO YOU WANT TO **MENTOR YOUNG STUDENTS?** ARE YOU LOOKING TO **MAKE A DIFFERENCE?** JOIN US FOR A MISSION TRIP YOU WON'T FORGET.



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SMARTPHONE CAMERA FOR MORE  
INFORMATION & TO REGISTER.

# SAVE THE DATE

2020 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 22-26 | 9-NOON

# PARISH OUTREACH, RESOURCES & ORGANIZATIONS

## Parish Ministries

### Baptism

Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 121

### Communion to the Sick/Shut-Ins

Julie Chapman ..... 513-807-8004

### Companions on the Journey

*Grief support for those who have lost a loved one; meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month in the Hospitality Room at 7 p.m.*

Ron Meyer ..... 513-376-1277

### Confirmation Preparation

Annie Mesewicz ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 114

### Funeral Preparation

Scott Steinke ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 115

### Hospital Notifications

*If you know that you are going to the hospital and would like to be remembered at Mass or have a pastoral staff member visit, please call the parish office at 777-6433. We are no longer notified by hospitals or chaplains about parishioners who are ill.*

### Liturgical Ministry

*Opportunities available as Altar Attendants, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers, Lectors and Sacristans.*

Scott Steinke ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 115

### Meal Ministry

Joan Seibenick ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 124

### Music

*Opportunities available in the Adult Choir, High School Choir, Youth Choir, or as Singers & Instrumentalists.*

Lynn Meisberger ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 128

### Prayer Network

*If you or someone you know is struggling w/ a difficulty or crisis, contact the Prayer Network. They will ask members of the Network to pray.*

..... prayernetwork@stjohnwc.org

Margaret Kellogg ..... 513-777-4253

Mary Moore ..... 513-492-9015

### RCIA Fullness of Joy / Ministry to Returning Catholics

Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 121

### Sacrament of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office ..... 513-777-6433

### Small Church Communities (Journey of Faith)

Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 121

### St. Vincent de Paul

Guy Lavergne ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 120

### Stephen Ministry

Scott Steinke ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 115

### Wedding Preparation

Fr. Don West ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 133

## Formation & Education

### Early Childhood Program (during 9:30am Mass)

Katie Behrle ..... kbehrle@stjohnwc.org

### Liturgy of the Word with Children

Scott Steinke ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 115

### PSR (grades 1-8), 1st Eucharist, 1st Reconciliation

Mary Montour ..... mmontour@stjohnwc.org

### St. Gabriel Consolidated School ... stgabeschool.org

..... 513-771-5220

*St. Gabriel Consolidated School in collaboration with our three parishes, St. Gabriel, St. John - West Chester and St. Maximilian Kolbe, in partnership with the families of our diverse student body believe Christ is the center of all that we do.*

### Shaylen Gettelfinger ..... Marketing Coordinator

513-578-3640 ..... segettelfinger@hotmail.com

### Amy Tanaka ..... Parish Representative

..... 513-702-8361

## Parish Organizations

### Boy Scouts Troop #940

Steve Bush ..... 513-206-2937

### Festival Committee

Kevin & Gina Kohls ..... 513-256-8934

### Finance Committee

John Insco ..... 513-755-7594

### Girl Scouts

Laura Smith ..... 513-378-6709

### Knights of Columbus

Patrick Leeper ..... 513-604-4449

### Knights of Columbus Membership

Bob Heglin ..... 513 509-6537

### Justice & Peace Commission

Tony Klimek ..... 513-787-0038

### Pastoral Council

Dan Woods ..... pastoralcouncil@stjohnwc.org

### Spirited Seniors

Deacon Fred Merritt ..... 513-777-6433, ext. 132

### Worship Commission

Scott Steinke ..... 513-777-6433