

St. John Neumann Parish

February 26, 2023

1st Sunday of Lent



“One does not live by bread alone.” Mt 4:4

MASS

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 pm

Sunday Mass: 7:30 am, 9:00 am** Public & Livestream*
10:30 am, 12:00 pm, 5:15 pm***

Monday—Saturday: 8:00 am Public & Livestream* Mass

* www.sjnparish.org/livestream

** **Little Church School** every week; **Children’s Liturgy of the Word** 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

*** **Youth Mass** every 3rd Sunday of the month

CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays at 6:00 pm—in the Gathering Room.

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER

Rosary — Daily at 8:30 am

— Mondays at 7:00 pm (in church)

Adoration — Thursdays 8:30 — 9:30 am

Divine Mercy Chaplet —Fridays at 8:30 am

THE SACRAMENTS— ANOINTING OF THE SICK; BAPTISM OF CHILDREN; MARRIAGE; RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Please contact the Parish Office to speak with Msgr. Matz or Deacon Kevin. Baptisms are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 1:15pm.

NEWCOMERS WELCOME!

Please contact the Parish Office to register to become a member or fill out the registration form on our website.



Follow us on [Facebook](#)

(an account on FB is not needed to visit us!)

CONNECT WITH US!

www.sjnparish.org

Parish Office

mainoffice@sjnparish.org

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www.scjnschool.org

610-525-3266

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STAFF

- ◆ **Pastor:** Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Matz
- ◆ **In Residence:** Rev. Robert J. Chapman
- ◆ **Permanent Deacon:** Deacon Kevin Harrington
- ◆ **Parish Services Director:** Ms. Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Sunday Assistance:**
Rev. Gerald D. Canavan
Rev. Robert Murray, OSA
- ◆ **Business Mgrs:** Mrs. Joy Falcone, Mr. Paul Selvaggi
- ◆ **Administrative Assistants:**
Mrs. Norma Guzmán
Mrs. Terri Giangiulio
- ◆ **Safe Environment Coordinator:** Mrs. Kathy Selvaggi
- ◆ **School Principal:** Mrs. Kelly Ciminera
- ◆ **Director of Liturgical Music:** Mr. Andrew Puntel
- ◆ **Director of Religious Education:** Ms. Katie Bucaro
- ◆ **Assoc. DRE:** Mrs. Katie Keating

COORDINATORS OF PARISH MINISTRY

www.sjnparish.org visit ‘Ministries’ to learn more; to email a ministry, click on their name in our digital bulletin:

- ◆ **Adult Group:** Jack McNamara
- ◆ **Adult Faith Formation:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Altar Guild:** Nora Saraceni
- ◆ **Bible Study:** Barbara Callaghan; Jan Stefanski
- ◆ **‘Caring for Friends’:** Cheryl Calnan
- ◆ **Children’s Liturgy of the Word:** Katie Keating
- ◆ **CYO Athletics:** Carrie Tornatela; Robert Lythgoe
- ◆ **Disabilities Partnership:** Sheila Sheaffer
- ◆ **Family Promise/Main Line (IHN):** Mary Beth Wolanin
- ◆ **Garage Sale:** Isabel Momenee
- ◆ **Good Samaritans:** Craig Callaghan
- ◆ **Healing/Communion & H.O.P.E.:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Hospitality:** Kim Duska
- ◆ **Lectors:** Jack McNamara
- ◆ **Little Church School:** Janet Baffa
- ◆ **Liturgical Environment:** Jackie Falcone; Nancy Case
- ◆ **Men’s Fellowship:** mensfellowship@sjnparish.org
- ◆ **Prayer Line:** prayerline@sjnparish.org
- ◆ **RCIA:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Respect Life:** Clare Frissora
- ◆ **Ushers:** Jack McNamara
- ◆ **Walking with Purpose:** Mary Beth Wolanin



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

5:15 pm Intentions of Deanna Sabec

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7:30 am Joseph Mariano, Sr.
9:00 am People of SJN Parish
10:30 am Thomas McAnally
12:00 pm Andrew E. Smith
5:15 pm Dick Smith

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

St. Gregory of Narek

8:00 am James Walsh

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:00 am Chuck Dowd

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

8:00 am Jim Gilhool and Ron Duska

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

8:00 am Joan Devine

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

St. Katharine Drexel

8:00 am Pat Gillespie, Sr.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

8:00 am William and Romaine Carr



Join us Friday mornings after the 8:00 am Mass to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Our Chaplet is offered for all who are suffering.

Information on Fasting & Abstinence

- ◆ All persons 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and on Good Friday.
- ◆ All persons 18 years of age and older, up to and including their 59th birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday.



First Saturday Devotion

Join us
March 4th at 7:30 AM
for the Holy Rosary
(prior to 8:00 AM Mass)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED



Carol Latham



May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



MASS CARDS

Announced and Unannounced Mass cards are available at the Parish Office.

Stop by to request your Masses.

Thank You!



OFFERINGS:

- Feb. 19th: \$ 13, 098

Consider online giving — One time or routine options available. Click on image to visit our online giving site.



Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.

RICE BOWLS ARE LOCATED IN THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE CHURCH. —TURN IN YOUR GIFTS AT THE END OF LENT, OR DONATE ONLINE AT crsricebowl.org/give



Max is getting ready for his senior year in college. While he is doing this, he is also trying to sort through a question that has been coming back to him again and

again: Am I being called to the Priesthood? When he first thought about it, he immediately pushed the idea out of his mind. That was when he was a senior in high school. But lately it's been coming back into his mind more and more.

Max confided in a close friend that he was thinking of priesthood. And the knee-jerk reaction of his friend was to say, "Why would you want to do a thing like that? Don't you feel that you'd be throwing your life away? You're an incredible student and would be able to do so many other things with your gifts and talents. And there is also the idea of giving up having a wife and family—living a life of celibacy. Don't you think that would be difficult?"

But then his friend calmed down and said, "Max, any decision you make, I will fully support you. But I certainly couldn't see myself doing anything like that. I just don't have the temperament."

Max had been considering whether he should say something to his pastor. So, one Sunday after Mass he did just that. The Pastor was of course very encouraging and even suggested that Max speak with the Vocations Director of the Archdiocese.

The following Sunday, Max was at Mass on the campus of his school. As he was listening to the readings being proclaimed, these two verses, for some reason, stood out for him: "Speak to the whole Israelite community and tell them: Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy." And this verse: "If any one

among you considers himself wise in this age, let him become a fool, so as to become wise."

The next day Max called the Vocations Director and scheduled a time to meet with him. He wanted to seriously begin discerning if God was calling him to become holy through the Priesthood.

I think we all can see that the "wisdom" of this age isn't all that it's cracked up to be. We begin to see more and more that living a life without faith would be difficult indeed. But the only way that we can really follow Christ is to learn to trust Him. And coming to that point in our life can be sometimes very difficult.

I was on the Admissions Board for St. Charles Seminary for a number of years. And I have heard many "vocation stories". I would often think to myself as I see a candidate sit there and tell his story that these young men certainly have so much more to deal with than when I was in that position some 43 years ago. Life seems much more complicated now.

Often, what you would hear would be the story of a young man coming to the realization of what St. Paul was referring to in his letter to the Corinthians, that there wasn't real happiness found in all the "things of the world". And despite all the scandals, these men, and those who are in the Seminary now, see hope for the future.

No matter what vocation we feel God is calling us to, we must cling to the values that last—the ones that have their root in what has lasting meaning and will see us through the good times and the bad. For most of us, the only way to open the door to this is to become a "fool for Christ" and see that the wisdom of this world is really foolishness in the eyes of God.



Tuesdays in Lent: Feb. 28th—Mar 28th

- ◆ **1:30 PM & 6:00 PM CONFESSIONS**
- ◆ **8:30 AM—7:00 PM EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**
Christ should always be in the company of at least one person; stop by church for a short time.
SIGN-UP AT LINKS BELOW OR AT THE BULLETIN BOARD IN CHURCH.
- ◆ **6:30 PM—7:00 PM REFLECTIONS ON THE PASSION OF CHRIST**
 - [Feb 28 — The Agony in the Garden](#)
 - [Mar 7 — The Scourging at the Pillar](#)
 - [Mar 14 — The Crowning with Thorns](#)
 - [Mar 21 — The Carrying of the Cross](#)
 - [Mar 28 — The Crucifixion](#)
- ◆ **7:00 PM BENEDICTION**
- ◆ **7:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



RECONCILIATION WEEKEND in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia MARCH 10 & 11, 2023

St. John Chrysostom

617 S. Providence Rd., Wallingford, PA

FRIDAY, MARCH 10: 1-4PM AND 6-8PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 11: 9AM TO 12 NOON

St. Katharine of Siena

104 S. Aberdeen Ave., Wayne, PA

FRIDAY, MARCH 10: 1-4PM AND 6-8PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 11: 9AM TO 12 NOON

TUESDAYS IN LENT: EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – WHY IT IS SO VALUABLE


Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is just that: The Blessed Sacrament, *the Real Presence of Jesus*, is exposed for the faithful to spend time with. The Eucharist is taken from the Tabernacle, placed in a monstrance, and set upon the Altar to behold. Seem strange? Not really. If you enjoy spending time with friends and loved ones, it's similar. To adore the Blessed Sacrament is to spend precious time with Our Lord—to be able to look upon Jesus. It's an opportunity to leave the messiness of the world and reconnect with our God who loves you.

Visiting a church or an Adoration chapel offers time to pray in the company of our Lord — to share a conversation with him. Before you dismiss this thinking, "I don't have time, my schedule is too busy; I can pray at home." Or perhaps, "I don't know what to do or how long I should stay," or even, "I'm not sure that Jesus wants to see me," we encourage you reconsider. The only way to build a deeper relationship with anyone is to spend time with them. Jesus is waiting for you and wants to spend time with you, *no matter what*.

- * **Amount of time?** Whatever is possible. Sometimes, staying longer to allow yourself to settle is helpful
- * **What to do?** Stop in, take a seat and spend time in prayer. Prayer is simply conversation with the Lord and so you have many options: formal prayer, reading Scripture or a spiritual writing, sharing what's on your mind (the good and the bad), or just sitting in peace, letting God be with you.
- * **Not feeling worthy?** Jesus didn't dwell among us, face trumped-up charges, a mock trial, persecution, and death of the worst kind —crucifixion on a cross— to save you, only to turn his back on you now. Not possible—you are worthy.
- * **Need to be refreshed?** There is nothing like personal quiet time with God. Just you and him. Leave more at peace than when you arrived.

LOVE — George Herbert (1593-1633)

Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back, guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack from my first entrance in,
drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning if I lack'd anything.



"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here";
Love said, "You shall be he."
"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? Ah my dear,
I cannot look on thee."
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
"Who made the eyes but I?"
"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them;
let my shame go where it doth deserve."
"And know you not," says Love, "who bore
the blame?"
"My dear, then I will serve."
"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste
my meat."
So I did sit and eat.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS — JOIN US ON TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 7:00 PM.



We gather together to pray the fourteen-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. Prayer guides are available for all.

The fourteen devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of Jesus' last day, beginning with his condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini-pilgrimage as we journey along with Jesus, recalling specific events from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited as we journey to each station, until all fourteen are completed.

History of the Stations: During the Turkish occupation of the Holy Land in the late Middle Ages, when pilgrims were prevented from visiting its sacred sites, the custom arose of making replicas of those holy places, where the faithful might come to pray. One of the most popular of these devotions was the "Stations of the Way of the Cross," which were imitations of the "stations," or stopping places of prayer on the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem. By the late sixteenth century the fourteen stations, as we know them today, were erected in almost all Catholic churches.

Sources: <https://www.catholic.org/prayers/station.php>; *The Way of the Cross* by St. Alphonsus Liguori

The Fourteen Stations

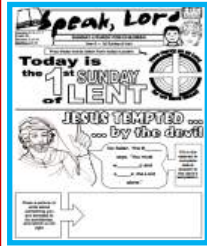


- 1 — Jesus is condemned to death
- 2 — Jesus carries his cross
- 3 — Jesus falls the first time
- 4 — Jesus meets his Mother
- 5 — Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross
- 6 — Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
- 7 — Jesus falls a second time
- 8 — Jesus speaks to the women
- 9 — Jesus falls the third time
- 10 — Jesus is stripped of his garments
- 11 — Jesus is nailed to the cross
- 12 — Jesus dies on the cross
- 13 — Jesus is taken down from the cross
- 14 — Jesus is laid in the sepulcher

Family Faith



Click on images for activity sheets!



Catholic Mass Scavenger Hunt!

GREAT FOR ADULTS!

Click on links in the online Bulletin or visit our website homepage.

What is available to you every time you enter and exit church?

Last Week: What is a deacon and what does he do?

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Father Michael McGivney: An American Blessed



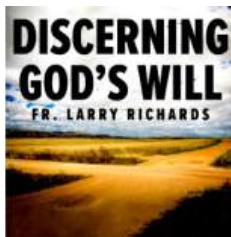
In May 2020, Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Fr. Michael McGivney, paving the way for his beatification. This documentary highlights Fr. McGivney's fraternal charity, evangelization, and empowerment of the laity.

Jesus: Model and Master of Prayer - Session 1

In this episode of his course on the Our Father, Dr. Ben Akers teaches us what we can learn from the perfect model and master of prayer: Jesus himself.



Discerning God's Will by Fr. Larry Richards



Discovering the will of God can be an intimidating challenge in the spiritual life. Join Fr. Larry Richards as he guides us in this task through practical advice and personal stories!

GET YOUR FREE SUBSCRIPTION: CONTACT THE RECTORY!

JOIN OUR ADULT FAITH PROGRAM THIS LENT!



JOIN US FOR FIVE THURSDAYS:
MARCH 2, 9, 16, 23, AND 30
AT 1:00 PM OR AT 7:00 PM
LIFE CENTER

PLEASE SIGN UP—WE MUST PREPARE MATERIALS: Contact the Rectory or email catholic@sjnparish.org

Get to know Jesus better: View his life, as recorded in the Gospels, through a whole new lens. Travel with us by video to Israel, its towns and countryside to explore Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life. Filmed on location, our faith leaders, Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, will guide us through the entirety of Jesus' life in the context of the times he lived in — who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, what he did for our salvation, and what all of this means for us today.



[Flyer/Click Here](#)



Please pray for those who are sick

Baby Damon James
Dolly Angelo
Ghada Ayoub
Gail Baselics
Mary Boldt
Deborah Bowe
Maria Breber
Mary Grace Brown
Connor Carlin
Kay Carlin
JP Castillo
Peter Cellucci

Jack Cloran
Kelsey Conway
Bill Cordivari
Ramona Diano
Daniela DiBonaventura
Joe Difelice
Gertrude Donzé
Maeve Fitzgerald
Ann Gaimster
Catherine Gallagher
Landon Gavio
Regina Hershey

Debbie Kaier
Shirley Kiefer
Brenda Logan
Carolina Longmore
Brendan McAnally
Maria Merlitti
Barbara Micucci
Joe Micucci
Rylee Monahan
Paul Morrison
James Myers
Lou Palermo

Brianna Penney
Loretta Rebecca
John Robinson
Eric Rudolph
Sally Saunders
Nell Schrek
Bill Sherwin
Theresa Sherwin
Diane Thomas
Lily Walker
Peter Walheim
Gina Weinmann

**6TH GRADERS —
JOIN OUR SPECIAL MASSES JUST FOR YOU!**

March 5th at 9:00 am

All youth who are in the sixth grade are invited to join a Mass that has you in mind!

Msgr. Matz has a message for you and the music team has special music!

[FLYER / CLICK HERE](#)



**HOSPITALITY SUNDAY—March 5th
after ALL morning Masses!**

All parishioners, families and friends are invited to the Gathering Room to catch up with old friends and make new ones!



WHY CATHOLICS DON'T EAT MEAT ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT — BY PHILIP KOSLOSKI (EXCERPTED FOR LENGTH)

https://aleteia.org/2017/03/01/heres-why-catholics-dont-eat-meat-on-fridays-during-lent/?utm_campaign=EM-EN-Newsletter-Daily-&utm_content=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendgrid&utm_term=20230222

Catholics are among the only Christians who freely don't eat meat on Fridays during Lent. So why is it that the Church instructs Catholics to abstain from meat on Fridays (as well as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday), but gives the “thumbs-up” for Catholics to eat fish?

First of all we must ask the question, “why Friday?” The USCCB gives a succinct explanation: *Catholic peoples from time immemorial have set apart Friday for special penitential observance by which they gladly suffer with Christ that they may one day be glorified with Him. This is the heart of the tradition of abstinence from meat on Friday where that tradition has been observed in the holy Catholic Church.*



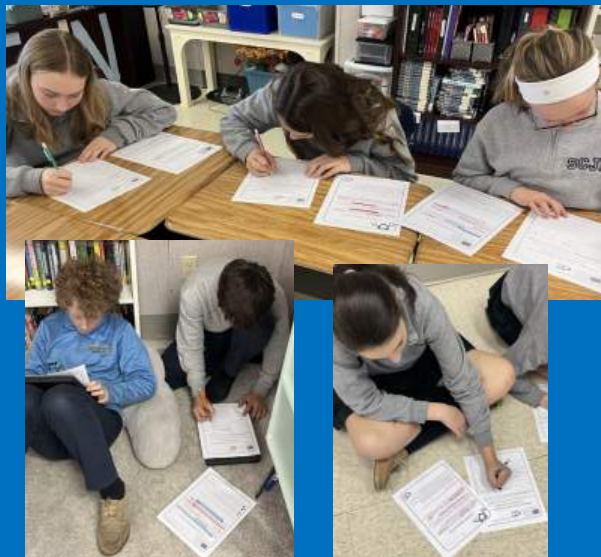
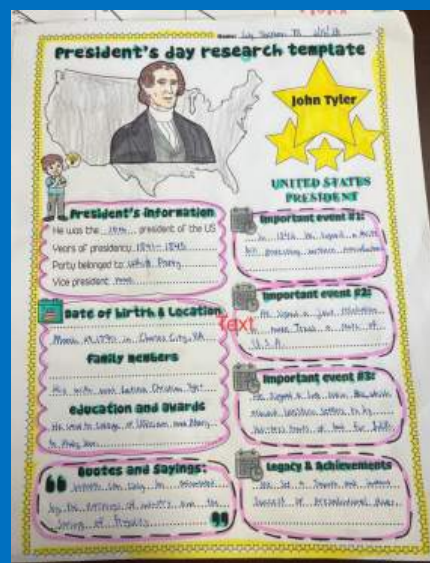
Since it is believed Jesus Christ suffered and died on the cross on a Friday, Christians from the very beginning have set aside that day to unite their sufferings to Jesus. This led the Church to recognize every Friday as a “Good Friday” where Christians can remember Christ's passion by offering up a specific type of penance. For much of the Church's history meat was singled out as a worthy sacrifice on account of its association with feasts and celebrations. In most ancient cultures meat was considered a delicacy and the “fattened calf” was not slaughtered unless there was something to celebrate. Since Fridays were thought of as a day of penance and mortification, eating meat on a Friday to “celebrate” the death of Christ didn't seem right.

But why is fish not considered “meat”? According to the USCCB, the laws of the Church classify the abstinence from “land animals.” [Birds are also considered meat. Fish, on the other hand, are not in that same classification.]

In Latin the word used to describe what kind of “meat” is not permitted on Fridays is *carnis*, and specifically relates to “animal flesh” and never included fish as part of the definition. Additionally, fish in these cultures was not considered a “celebratory” meal and was more of a penance to eat.

Our current culture is much different as meat is generally considered the cheaper option on the menu and no longer has the cultural connection to celebrations. This is why many people are confused about the regulations, especially those who love to eat fish and do not consider it a penance.

In the end, the Church's intention is to encourage the faithful to offer up a sacrifice to God that comes from the heart and unites one's suffering to that of Christ on the cross. Meat is given as the very basic penance, while the purpose of the regulation should always be kept in mind. For example, it does not necessarily give a person the license to eat a lobster dinner every Friday in Lent. The whole point is to make a sacrifice that draws a person closer to Christ, who out of love for us made the ultimate sacrifice a person can make.



SCJN Middle School (grades 6-8) are hard at work in the Language Arts classes. Recently, the 6th grade students read articles about Presidents' Day and Valentine's Day, they were

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