

# Saint John the Evangelist Parish

1300 CHARLES STREET • WELLSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26070

Email: [stjohn1300@comcast.net](mailto:stjohn1300@comcast.net) Parish Office: 304-737-0429



APRIL 20, 2025

## PASTORAL TEAM

**Pastor**.....Very Rev. Justin Golna, J.C.L., J.V.  
**Bookkeeper**.....Steph Russell  
**Parish Secretary**.....Amanda Manner  
**Dir. Of Music/ Organist**.....Zac Gordon  
**Dir. of Religious Education**.....Monica Biery  
**Parish Council**.....John Alvarez  
**Finance Council**.....Bill Garvey

## SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISM:** For Infants: Parents make arrangements with the pastor/office. For Adults: Baptism will be given on Easter Vigil after completing the RCIA program. For details, please contact Parish Office.

**MARRIAGE:** Please make arrangements with the pastor. Six months minimum notice is required for the celebration of marriage.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:** Please contact the Parish office for arrangements.

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday:** 4:00 p.m.  
**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
**Mon, Tuesday and Thursday:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday and Friday:** 5:30 p.m.

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Saturday:** 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
**Sunday:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:** 8:00 - 8:25 a.m.  
**Wednesday and Friday:** 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

## ADORATION

**Wednesday:** 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.

## MISSION STATEMENT

We the family of St. John the Evangelist Parish commit ourselves to the call of Baptism: To Listen, To Learn, To Live and To Share the Word of God through our lives.

## Pastor's Perusings — Easter Greetings!

### Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

With joy in my heart, I greet you this Easter season as we celebrate the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over death and sin. Whether you're a lifelong parishioner, someone who recently returned, or someone who hasn't set foot in a church in years—I want to speak directly to you. Not with judgment, not with pressure, but with a sincere invitation.

Easter changes everything. It's not just a symbol or a tradition—it's the turning point of human history. Jesus, crucified and buried, rose from the grave. And in doing so, He opened the way to new life for all of us. Not a life free from struggle, but a life grounded in love, in hope, in mercy.

And here's the good news: that invitation into new life is for everyone. No matter where you've been, no matter how messy your story is, no matter how long it's been since you've prayed or believed or trusted the Church—Jesus is still reaching out. His arms are still open. The tomb is still empty. And He's still saying, "Come, follow me."

At Saint John the Evangelist Parish, we're slowly growing. Not just in attendance, although we are seeing more people return, but in the deeper ways that matter: in community, in service, in faith. We've got new families stepping in, longtime parishioners stepping up, and people quietly rediscovering the power of the sacraments. These are beautiful signs of life—and I want you to know: there's a place here for you too.

I know that for many, the Church can feel distant. Maybe you've been hurt. Maybe you've drifted away. Maybe your life has changed in ways that make you feel like faith just doesn't "fit" anymore. Maybe you're carrying wounds—some from the Church itself. If that's you, I want to say this plainly: I'm sorry. And I understand. And even still, I believe you belong here.

The Church isn't perfect. We're made up of sinners trying to follow a Savior. But we're trying. We're learning to listen better, to welcome more warmly, and to care more deeply for each other. We're working on becoming not just a place where Mass is celebrated, but a community where people feel known, supported, and challenged to grow.

This Easter, I'm asking all of us—wherever we are on the journey—to take a step closer to Christ. For some, that might mean coming back to Sunday Mass regularly. For others, it might be going to confession for the first time in years. For others, it might simply be sitting in the quiet of the church and letting yourself be seen by God.

And for those who are already active—thank you. But don't settle. Go deeper. Invite others. Get involved in the life of the parish. Reach out to someone you haven't seen in a while. We can't grow as a church if we only "attend" it—we have to live it, together.

We've been blessed with some simple but meaningful opportunities to grow in faith and fellowship. One of the highlights this year has been our adult faith formation series, **Coffee and Catechesis on Tuesday mornings after Mass**—a chance to gather, ask questions, and reflect more deeply on what we believe and why it matters. If you haven't joined us yet, I encourage you to come. It's casual, welcoming, and a great way to reconnect with the heart of our faith. Alongside that, we've continued **weekly Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** The silence, the stillness, the presence of Christ in the Eucharist—it's had a profound impact on those

who have committed to spend even a short time with the Lord. Many have shared how this hour has become a source of peace, clarity, and strength. If you haven't experienced it yet, consider stopping in, even just for a few minutes.

We're also excited to be welcoming another seminarian, Joe Derico, to Saint John the Evangelist Parish this summer. These summer assignments are not only valuable for the men preparing for the priesthood—they're a blessing for us as a parish. It's an opportunity to support vocations, share parish life, and be part of shaping the future of the Church.

But most of all, we're trying to stay centered on what matters: Jesus Christ Risen from the dead. Everything we do—every ministry, every Mass, every meeting—should help people encounter Him more deeply. Because in the end, it's not programs or events that change lives. It's Christ.

I think of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. After the Resurrection, they were walking away from Jerusalem, discouraged and confused. They didn't recognize Jesus at first. But He walked with them, listened to their pain, and eventually revealed Himself in the breaking of the bread. That's what we hope to be here: a community where Christ is encountered, often in simple, quiet ways—through friendship, through Scripture, through the Eucharist.

So, if it's been a while since you've been involved—come back. If you're feeling burned out—rest here. If you're searching for something more—this is a good place to start. We're not asking for perfection, just openness.

Easter is the perfect time to begin again. The whole message of the Resurrection is that nothing is beyond God's power to renew. Not our families. Not our hearts. Not even our past mistakes. The stone was rolled away. New life broke through. That same power is still at work today.

Maybe it's time to let it in. Maybe this Easter, the invitation is simple: come home. Come to Mass next Sunday. Come to a parish event. Come light a candle and pray. Come and talk to me. Let us know how we can walk with you. No matter how long you've been away—or even if you've never really felt like you belonged—this is your parish too.

And if you're already here—look around. Who's missing? Who's waiting for an invitation? Who needs to be reminded that they're not alone? This Easter season, be that invitation. Be the one who helps someone else take a step toward Christ.

We don't grow by accident. We grow with intention, with welcome, with grace. And we are growing—slowly, yes, but steadily. Every new face is a reminder of what God is doing. Every returning heart is a resurrection story in the making.

As your pastor, I'm grateful for each of you. I'm grateful for the privilege of walking with you in this sacred time. And I'm hopeful—deeply hopeful—for what God is building here among us. So let's keep moving forward. Together. With open hearts, open doors, and our eyes fixed on the Risen Christ.

Wishing you and your families a joyful and grace-filled Easter,

Father Golna



Sat 9:00 pm Rocky /Sperlazza Families +  
 Sun 10:30 am People of the Parish  
 Mon 8:30 am Dorothy Sacrpanti +  
 Tue 8:30 am Vittoria Staffileno +  
 Wed 5:30 pm Anthony Cipriani Jr. +  
 Thur 8:30 am Dorothy Sacripanti +  
 Sat 4:00 pm Dorothy Sacripanti +  
 Sun 8:00 am Mark Kowcheck +  
 Sun 10:30 am People of the Parish

*Readings*

**Saturday:** Genesis 1:1—2:2, Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35, Genesis 22:1-18, Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11, Exodus 14:15—15:1, Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18, Isaiah 54:5-14, Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13, Isaiah 55:1-11, Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6, Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4, Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11, Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28, Psalm 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4, Romans 6:3-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, Luke 24:1-12

**Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, Colossians 3:1-4, cf. 1 Corinthians 5:7, John 20:1-9

**Monday:** Acts 2:14, 22-33, Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11, Psalm 118:24, Matthew 28:8-15

**Tuesday:** Acts 2:36-41, Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22, Psalm 118:24, John 20:11-18

**Wednesday:** Acts 3:1-10, Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9, Psalm 118:24, Luke 24:13-35

**Thursday:** Acts 3:11-26, Psalm 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9, Psalm 118:24, Luke 24:35-48

**Friday:** Acts 4:1-12, Psalm 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a, Psalm 118:24, John 21:1-14

**Saturday:** Acts 4:13-21, Psalm 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21, Psalm 118:24, Mark 16:9-15

**Next Sunday:** Acts 5:12-16, Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24, Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19, John 20:29, John 20:19-31



**April 26, 4:00 PM**  
**Gre: Pam and Jeanette**  
**Ser: Avery and Liam**  
**Lec: Jim Sperlazza**

**April 27, 8:00 AM**  
**Gre: Toot and Joanie**  
**Ser: Theresa Kowcheck**  
**Lec: Judith Aracich**

**April 27, 10:30 AM**  
**Gre: Mary Beth Harvey**  
**Ser: Will and Stothard**  
**Lec: Monica Biery**

**USHERS PLEASE COUNT**

The Altar and Rosary Society invites everyone to join them in praying the Rosary at 8 a.m. every Monday before the morning Mass.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament occurs ever Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

THE READINGS for this weekend are in the Hymnal at page 902.

For the convenience of our new and nursing moms, during Mass please feel free to use the confessional for your feeding needs.

Join us on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27th, for a special hour of prayer from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., the Hour of Mercy.

We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet together, spend time in silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions will be heard during this time.

Divine Mercy Sunday offers a powerful grace: complete forgiveness of sins and all punishment due to sin for those who go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on that day. This grace is like a renewal of baptismal grace, a fresh start in the spiritual life. Come and receive the mercy Christ longs to give.

<u>April 13, 2025 Collection</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Weekly Envelopes	179	\$3493.80
Easter Flowers (This years cost is \$1,258 and we have collected \$1022.00)		\$155
Candles		\$20
Good Friday		\$20
Holy Thursday		\$20
Mothers Day		\$20
Building and Maintenance		\$898
Elevator		\$770
Registered Parishioners/Budget	249	\$5000



**Sat:** Chase Beall

**Sun:**

**Mon:**

**Tues:** Eugene Capp and Francis Cunningham

**Wed:**

**Thur:** Daniel Diserio

**Fri:** Sam White

**Sat:**

**ADORATION SCHEDULE**

9 A.M.		We are looking to fill the 2 and 3 p.m. Adorer spot for our <b>WEEKLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION</b> on Wednesdays, if anyone is available please call the office, sign up or let Julie Elkinton know.
10 A.M.		
11 A.M.		
12 P.M.		
1 P.M.		We are currently looking for <b>LECTORS</b> at all Masses and also for <b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</b> for our sick and homebound parishioners. If you would be interested in helping please call the office.
2 P.M.	Need 1 Adorer	
3 P.M.	Need 2 Adorers	
4 P.M.		



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE**

is burning in memory of **Doris Sperlazza** (Kenneth and Ann Taylor) From April 11, 2025 to April 24, 2025.



**Prayer List**

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND THEIR INTENTIONS IN YOUR PRAYERS: DR. SCOTT BENEFIELD AND FAMILY, GARY ANTIGO, MARY FLUHARTY, BARB MASON, JOE BIBBO AND THE SUMMERS FAMILY, MARY ROSE, CHRISTINE ROSE, MATTHEW DILLARD, LLOYD VANHORN.

Please keep the parish office updated of anyone you have added to the PRAYER LIST every 30 days.



With the sympathy of

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of

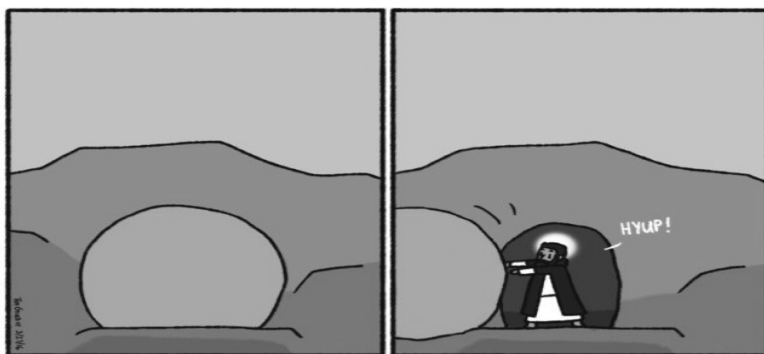
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rev. \_\_\_\_\_

**We have these beautiful mass cards available. Call or stop by the office if you would like one with any Mass you schedule.**

# April 2025

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

		<b>1</b> Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	<b>2</b> Altar and Rosary Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>3</b> Penance Service 6 p.m.	<b>4</b> Stations of the Cross 5 pm Meager Meals 6pm	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	<b>9</b> Soup & Sandwich 11 a.m.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Stations of the Cross 5 pm Meager Meals 6pm	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m. Chrism Mass 4 p.m.—Cathedral	<b>16</b> Tenebrae—7:30 p.m.	<b>17</b> Mass of the Lord's Supper—7 p.m. Altar of Repose until 11 p.m.	<b>18</b> Veneration of the Cross—3 p.m. Stations—5:30 p.m.	<b>19</b> Easter Vigil—9 p.m.
<b>20</b> Easter Sunday— 10:30 a.m.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Divine Mercy Chaplet and Confessions 3—4 p.m.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	<b>30</b> Men's Group 7 p.m.			



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

**Mondays: Rosary at 8 a.m. before morning Mass**

**Tuesdays: Coffee and Catechesis following Mass**

**Wednesdays: Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.**

## A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

By Bud Ozar

Millions of Christians around the world celebrate the Resurrection today. It all began simply on the first Easter with one person telling another.; "Mary told Peter' and "they Believed." Faith is passed one person to another; it is caught, not taught and parents are the most effective persons to pass faith to their children.

Why do Catholics go to Confessions? Disobeying God damages our friendship with him, so we need his forgiveness to heal it. That is why Jesus initiated the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also called "Confession"). *"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven"* (Matthew 16:19). This brings us back to God. In Confessions, we admit what we did, say that we are sorry, and resolve never to do it again. Penance helps us make up for it. When the priest conveys Christ's forgiveness to us, our friendship is restored.

#### Why is Mass Offered for Specific People?

The greatest prayer that we have as Christians is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. At each Mass, Christ's Sacrifice on Calvary is re-presented and renewed. In the Mass, the graces achieved on the Cross are applied to souls for their salvation. This is why we have Masses offered for particular intentions. To have a Mass offered for a loved one, living or deceased, please contact Steph. Having intentions for a Mass is a sacrifice of \$10.00 during the week and \$20.00 on the weekend. Call the church office during regular hours if you have any questions.

#### Sanctuary Candle Intentions

The red Sanctuary Lamp by the Tabernacle burns to remind us of the Eucharistic presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor to remind the faithful of the Real Presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection for our Lord. If you wish to have the Sanctuary Lamp burning in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion, or a special intention make arrangements with Steph. The cost of the candle is \$20.00. It will burn for (2) weeks. The memorial will also be published in the Bulletin.

#### Mass Etiquette

Remember to silence, turn off, and put away your cell phones, tablets, and gaming devices prior to the start of Mass. Also, please remember that the Communion line is the place to engage in final preparation to receive our Lord. The Communion line is not a place for socializing.

#### Communion Fast

Keep in mind the Communion fast—we are to fast from food and drink (water and medicine excluded) one hour before receiving Holy Communion. This includes chewing gum. Let us prepare our body and soul to worthily receive our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.



*O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favorably on your servant Pope Francis, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he Presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life.*

*May the Lord preserve him, give him life, make him blest upon the earth, and deliver him not unto the will of his enemies. 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.*



**Together We Can Beat Cancer**  
**Relay For Life of Brooke Hancock Counties**

**When: June 7, 2025**

**Where: Central Park**

**17<sup>th</sup> Street Wellsburg, WV 26070**

**Time: 6 PM till 11 PM**

**For more information contact Tammy: 304-919-9058**

**<https://www.relayforlife.org/brookehancockwv>**

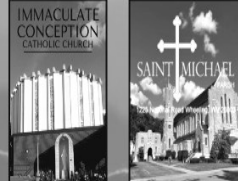
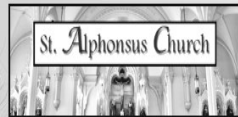
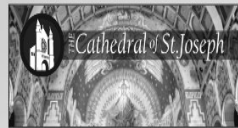
**1-800-227-2345**



Our 2025 CSA total raised so far is \$3,355 of our \$18,200 goal. We would like to thank everyone who has already donated. We would like to give a little information on all the services and projects the CSA contributes to. In 2024 two hundred and fifty faithful from our Diocese were able to attend the National Eucharistic Revival this summer, funds are provided to children who cannot afford to pay for Camp Carlo, and parish leaders have the opportunity to continue their education at the PACE Conference. Other programs consist of the Walking with Moms program, tuition assistance, faculty & staff professional development and much more. For a complete list of ministries, programs and grants supported through the CSA, please visit the website, [dwc.org/csa](http://dwc.org/csa). I invite you all to join me as you have done in the past by supporting the annual **CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL** today.

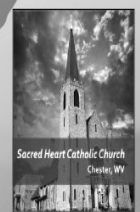
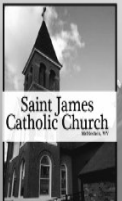
**WILL OR ESTATE PLANNING?**

Have you ever considered remembering St. John the Evangelist in your will or estate plans? A bequest through a Last Will and Testament is the simplest way of creating a lasting legacy of support for St. John the Evangelist. Bequests should be made out to: “The Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, or his successors in office,” with a specification of the purpose for which the bequest is to be used (i.e. “for the use of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Wellsburg).



**TOGETHER IN FAITH**  
**Wheeling Vicariate**

This platform will enable all parishioners and parishes within the Wheeling Vicariate to share our best practices, events, discussions, and faith-related content. It encourages engagement in online Bible studies, discussions about faith, and sharing of uplifting content. The goal is to celebrate achievements, share positive narratives, and support each other on our spiritual journeys. Let's unite together in faith!



**JOIN OUR FACEBOOK COMMUNITY**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wheelingvicariatetogetherinfaith>



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**Cancer survivors  
and all patients  
at St. Jude's  
Hospital**

**The time has come for us to make our Bulletin completely in house. We will incur some added printing costs, but every advertising dollar will now stay with the parish and we hope that you can help. If you or anyone you may know is interested in advertising with us, please have them call the office for more information.**

**We have also started to run a monthly memorial inside, if you would like to honor anyone this is a great way to do that!**

