

Saint John the Evangelist Parish

1300 CHARLES STREET • WELLSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26070

Email: stjohn1300@comcast.net Parish Office: 304-737-0429



DECEMBER 2024

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 – Centennial Anniversary!

This weekend we celebrate a most momentous day in the life of our parish! While our parish itself is 170 years old, the first baptism recorded in our sacramental records is from June 1854, this Saturday, December 14th, is the 100th Anniversary of the Dedication of our parish church!

Our parish church was designed by the renowned architect Edward J. Weber of Pittsburgh who, among other numerous ecclesiastical edifices, built the pleasing adaptation of Romanesque form of our Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Wheeling. The construction of the parish in 1924 cost \$52,240.00 (\$963,821.89 in 2024) and the construction of the rectory cost \$11,900.00 (\$219,553.61 in 2024). This is truly a staggering sum that our ancestors sacrificed so that generations of people would be able to receive the sacraments in a most beautiful church.

Throughout the parish church we are blessed to have beautiful stained-glass windows. In these windows, the Old Testament is represented in the four major prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. The Twelve Apostles tell us of the New Testament. The great teachers and doctors of the Church are represented in St. Ambrose and St. Augustine (located where the confessional is today), and St. Gregory the Great and St. Thomas Aquinas, Defenders of the Faith.

The altars of the church are triptych, a type rarely seen in the United States. The pictorial representations above where the high altar used to be (where the tabernacle is located now) are Saint John the Evangelist holding the book of the Gospel in his hand. The symbolic eagle is at his feet and above we see the inscription, which translated from the Latin, says: "Saint John, Patron of the Parish, pray for us". On the sides of the Evangelist we see Saint Lawrence, a deacon who was one of the first martyrs, and Saint Agnes, a virgin martyr who offered her life to Christ during the persecutions of the Roman Emperor Diocletian. On the side wings are two adoring angels.

Originally, the walls of the church were painted such that when the triptych of Saint John the Evangelist was closed one would see behind the high altar two symbols: the Tree of Death representing original sin with the inscription: "The Fruit of the Tree seduced us". The other

symbol being the sign of the Cross represented by the Tree of Paradise with the words: "The Son of God redeemed us". On the reredos where the high altar used to be located (the wooden panels where the tabernacle is) we find the following words: "Behold the Tabernacle of God with men. And He will dwell with them" (Rev. 21:3).

The side altars of our parish church are also triptych and show the representations of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph. The wings of the Blessed Virgin's altar are decorated with a rose motif and the wings of Saint Joseph's altar are decorated with a lily motif.

The Stations of the Cross are hand painted oils and are copies of the famous Feuerstein originals in Saint Boniface Church in Munich.

Our Triumphant Cross has a history of its own. It was formerly a plain cross nailed above Saint Joseph's Altar in the old church. Upon examination of it, Father Hermanns found that the Corpus of Our Lord was not plaster of Paris, but was carved wood imported from abroad. At Father Hermanns' suggestion, the architect added the symbols of the four Evangelists on the ends of the beams.

Over the sanctuary arch was a representation of God the Father stretching His hands in benediction. The symbolic dove of the Holy Spirit was below Him and from the arch is where the triumphant Cross of Christ hangs, thus depicting the Trinity.

Since the church is dedicated to Saint John the Evangelist, Father Hermanns had the clerestory walls (where the top row of windows are) frescoed in words and symbols the first chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John so that the People of God would be reminded at all times of the sublime truths of our holy religion.

I would like to thank all who had a part in helping us celebrate our beautiful parish church turning 100 during this past year! The sheer amount of work that went into this endeavor is staggering and I am grateful for the dedicated group of parishioners who worked so hard to pull this off! Your love and dedication to this parish inspires me each and every day. - Fr. Golna



Sat 4:00 pm People of the Parish
 Sun 8:00 am People of the Parish
 Sun 10:30 am Robert Newton Sr. +
 Mon 8:30 am Franck Ujcich +
 Tue 8:30 am Msgr. Joseph Peterson +
 Wed 5:30 pm Harold DeGarmo +
 Thur 8:30 am Joe Ventosa +
 Fri 5:30 pm Mr. & Mrs. Frank Traubert +
 Sat 4:00 pm People of the Parish
 Sun 8:00 am Willian & Lucille Bayless +
 Sun 10:30 am Mario, Greg, & Helen Lamone +

Readings

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11, Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19, Lk 3:4, 6, Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a, Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6., Phil 4:4-7, Is 61:1 (cited in Lk 4:18), Lk 3:10-18
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a, 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9, Ps 85:8, Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10, 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17, Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8, Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19, Mt 1:18-25
Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a, Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17, Lk 1:5-25
Friday: Is 7:10-14, Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6, Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Sg 2:8-14, Zep 3:14-18a, Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21, Lk 1:39-45
Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a, Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19., Heb 10:5-10, Lk 1:38, Lk 1:39-45



DECEMBER 21, 4:00 PM
Gre: Mark and Shari
Ser: Avery and Liam
Lec: A.J. Mitchell

DECEMBER 22, 8:00 AM
Gre: Toot and Joanie
Ser: Judith Aracich
Lec: Fred Casale

DECEMBER 22, 10:30 AM
Gre: Pam and Jeanette
Ser: Will and Stothard
Lec: Cheryl Bland

USHERS PLEASE COUNT

Our **Advent Penance Service** will be on **Tuesday, December 17th at 6:00 p.m.** Fr. John Soplinski will be our guest confessor!

THE READINGS for this weekend are in the Hymnal at **866**

The **FOOD PANTRY** will be open on Wednesdays from Noon to 3:00pm to assist Brooke County residents. A valid ID & proof of address required. If you would like to donate any non perishable items please leave them in the red bin located in the vestibule.

It is that time of year again when the **FOOD PANTRY** could use our help with their holiday assistance. Gift cards in \$10 increments are always appreciated. You can turn them into the office or send them in the collection basket.

December 1st, 2024

<u>Collection</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Weekly Envelopes	130	\$5635.80
Elevator		\$100.00
Candles		\$64.00
Retirement for the Religious		\$686.00
Christmas Flowers		\$335.00
Registered Parishioners/ Budget	249	\$2,900



Sat: Jentzen Kowcheck

Sun:

Mon: Wilma Stewart

Tues:

Wed:

Thurs: Wendi Mitchell

Fri: Thomas Kyanko

Sat:

Sun:



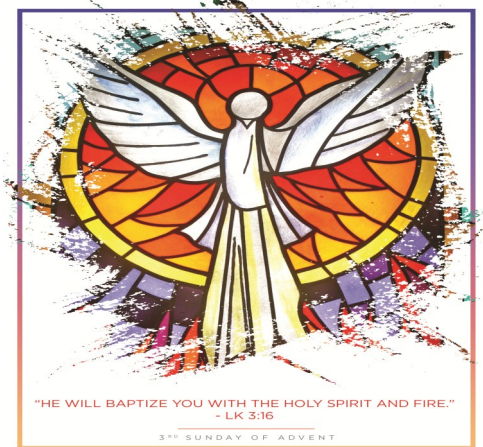
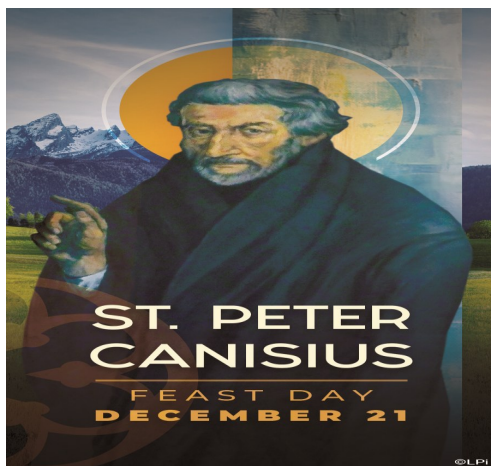
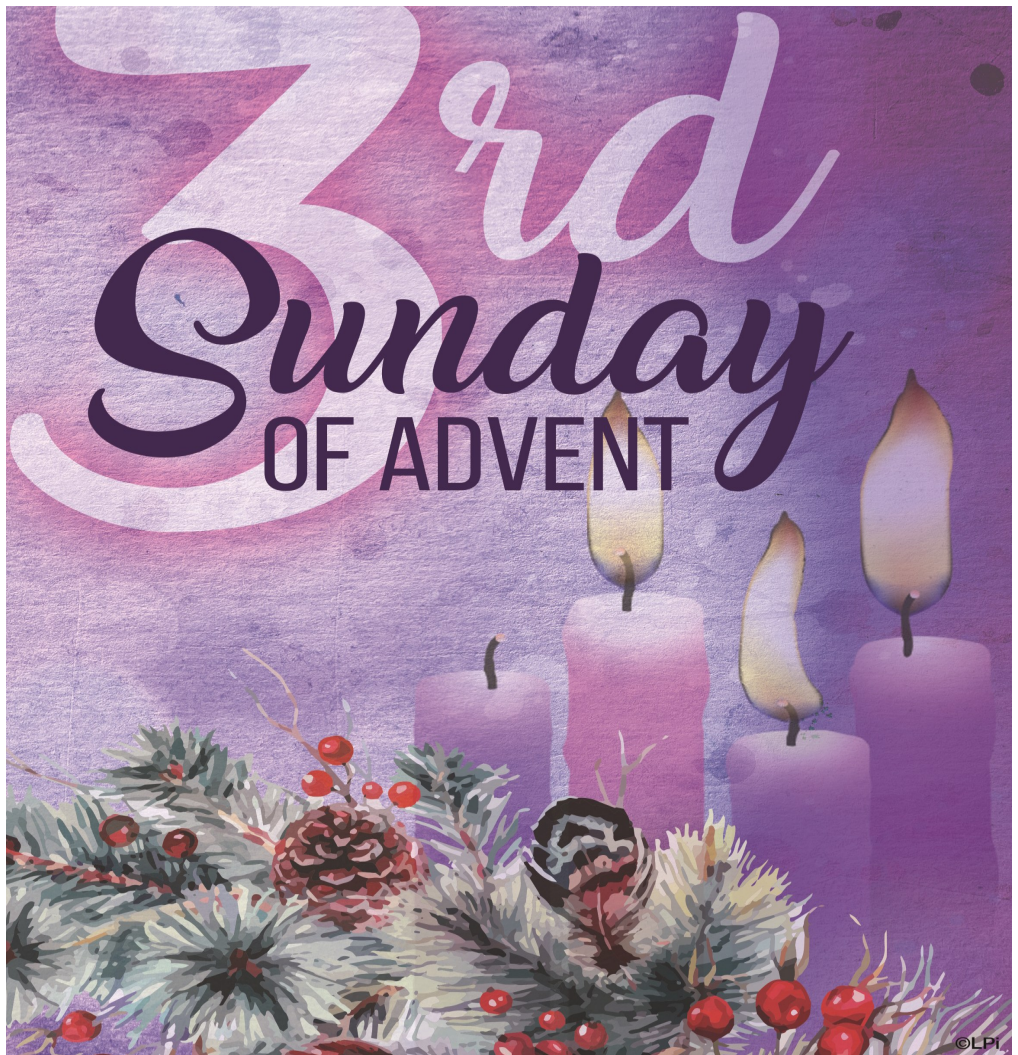
**THE SANCTUARY
CANDLE**

is burning in memory of
Martha & Eleanor Evans
(Jeff Furda)
From December 20, 2024 to
January 02, 2025.

Prayer List

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND
THEIR INTENTIONS IN YOUR PRAYERS:
DR. SCOTT BENEFIELD AND FAMILY, PAULA
HENDERSON, DOMINIC CIPRIANI, MARY
ROSE AND FAMILY, DIANE BAYLESS, HILDA
TARQUINIO, JOE BIBBO, BEVERLY
SCHWERTFEGER, CHERYL BLAND, LISA
CHIDO, DONNA SULLIVAN, SANDY, ELEA-
NOR ROCKEY, COLLEEN RUSHING, ELEANOR
SACRIPANTI, JIM AND SHARON PAVLIC,
JOSIE NEWTON, DEBBIE, RICK MERCER,
AND PATTY WATERS.

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



Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 (Christmas Eve): 4:00 PM
9:00 PM

December 25 (Christmas Day): 10:30 AM

DECEMBER 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3 9 A.M. Coffee & Catechesis	4 6:30 P.M. Altar & Rosary Meeting	5 6:30 P.M. Pastoral Council Meeting	6	7
8	9 Solemnity of Immaculate Conception 12 P.M. / 6 P.M. Mass	10 9 A.M. Coffee & Catechesis	11 11 A.M. Altar & Rosary Soup and Sandwich	12	13	14 4 P.M. 100th Year Anniversary Mass and Gathering
15	16	17 9 A.M. Coffee & Catechesis 6 p.m. Advent Penance Service	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday, December 14th: 100th Year Dedication Mass/ Holiday Gathering

Tuesday, December 17th: 6 P.M. Advent Penance Service

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE
By Bud Ozar

Today's gospel reports "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe that Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks, and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope they are a fact.

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 304-233-0880 or 888-434-6237: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Father Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. Visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for more information.



After our years of offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on 4th and Commerce Street, the cornerstone for the current parish church of Saint John the Evangelist was laid on Sunday, April 27, 1924. On December 14th, 1924, the Most Rev. John J. Swint, Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston, celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the Dedication of a Church and Altar, assisted by Rev. Leopold Hermanns, pastor of Saint John the Evangelist.

Please pray for all the souls who sacrificed so greatly to leave us such a beautiful parish church and may our worship of God continue to bless us, bless our parish, and inspire the next generations to persevere so that they can celebrate a Bicentennial Celebration of Faith!

We would like to thank the dedicated team that made all of our celebrations possible and thank you to every one who has joined us in our celebrations this year!





Our 2024 CSA total raised so far is \$8,995 of our \$15,970 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. I invite you all to join me as you have done in the past by supporting the annual *CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL* today.



It has been brought to our attention that the Sarris Candy Bars are a little hard to sell at \$3 each so we are going to make them 2 for \$5. From what we were told this was the first time that Sarris has raised their prices in several years, they also worked with us to help us get the maximum donation amount. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding with the situation.

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Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Mullenbach Funeral Home

Celebrating Life...

Joseph M. Mullenbach
 Licensee in Charge

Kayla A. Schoonmaker
 Funeral Director

Cody R. Rice
 Funeral Director

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Reasner Funeral Home

Robert Morris L.I.C.

Owner and Director

ReasnerOfWellsburg.com

304-737-3251

