

Saint John the Evangelist Parish

1300 CHARLES STREET • WELLSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26070

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



FEBRUARY 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— Offertory Matters

During the offertory, there is the possibility of incensing the gifts which is one of the most symbolic and ancient liturgical actions in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In the Old Testament, incense was a key element of Jewish worship, associated with sacrifice and intercession. In Exodus 30:7-8, God commands Aaron, the High Priest, to burn incense every morning and evening as part of temple worship. Psalm 141:2 directly links incense to prayer: "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!"

In the New Testament, the Book of Revelation describes incense as representing the prayers of the saints: Revelation 5:8: "The golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints". Revelation 8:3-4 shows an angel offering incense with the prayers of the faithful before God.

Just as incense is burned and rises to heaven, so Christ offered himself on the Cross, ascending to the Father. The smoke reminds us of Christ's total self-offering, who "loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God" (Ephesians 5:2). The Magi offered Christ gold, frankincense, and myrrh (cf. Matthew 2:11), with frankincense signifying his divine nature.

Thus, the incense is something dedicated to God, something holy, in which, by a sort of communion, we want to be associated. The glowing coal and the smoke arising from it draw the mind to the very highest thing that we can beg of God as answer to our gift-offerings—the fire of divine love.

During the Offertory, there are a number of things that can be incensed. First to be incensed are the gifts of bread and wine to emphasize the sacredness of the offerings which will, in due course, become for us the Body and Blood of Christ. Next to be incensed is the Altar and the Cross. The altar represents Christ and is honored with incense as the place where His sacrifice is re-presented for our salvation. The altar cross, which is the instrument of our salvation, is also incensed. The incensation of the altar and the cross recalls the temple offerings in the Old Testament where incense was used to purify and sanctify the place of sacrifice.

Next to be incensed is the priest and any concelebrants that may be present at the Mass. The priest and concelebrants are incensed because they stand *in persona Christi capitis* (in the person of Christ the Head) and occupy the

unique role of being both the priest who is offering the sacrifice for the sanctification and salvation of the People of God, but is at the same time the Victim being offered upon the very altar before us.

Finally, the congregation is incensed as a sign of their dignity as baptized members of Christ's Body. This reflects 1 Peter 2:9, where the Church is called a "royal priesthood", sharing in the sacrifice of Christ. The visible smoke and fragrance of the incense remind them that their prayers and lives are being offered to God along with the bread and wine.

Following the incensation at the Offertory, the priest engages in the ritual washing of his hands known as the *lavabo*. It is natural that we handle precious things only with hands that are clean. Or to put it more generally, a person approaches a festive or sacred activity only after he has cleansed himself from the grime of the work day and besides has donned festive attire. Thus we find in the liturgy, besides the vesting in liturgical garments, also a washing of hands. In Christian antiquity there is repeated evidence of the established custom of washing the hands before giving oneself to prayer. During this action, the priest silently prays a verse from Psalm 51:2: "Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

The washing of hands expresses the priest's desire for interior purification before handling the sacred mysteries of the Holy Eucharist. The priest, acting *in persona Christi capitis*, prepares himself to offer the one sacrifice of Christ. Just as Old Testament priests washed before entering the sanctuary, the Catholic priest seeks to be spiritually cleansed before handling the Body and Blood of Christ. The priest acknowledges his unworthiness and asks God for grace and purification to perform his sacred duty worthily.

While the priest performs the *Lavabo*, the faithful should use this moment for self-examination, preparing themselves for full participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice. This is an opportunity for each person to reflect on their sins and need for God's grace, ensuring they receive the Eucharist with a pure heart.

Next week, we will turn our attention to the *Orate, fratres* (Pray, brethren) as we move forward in our exploration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

- Fr. Golna



Sat 4:00 pm Rocky/ Sperlazza Families +
 Sun 8:00 am People of the Parish
 Sun 10:30 am Alfred and Virginia Staffileno
 and their Deceased Decedents +
 Mon 8:30 am William and Lola Bell +
 Tue 8:30 am John Golna
 Wed 5:30 pm John and Elizabeth Lane +
 Thur 8:30 am Brenda Zurbach +
 Fri 5:30 pm Brenda Zurbach +
 Sat 4:00 pm Harold DeGarmo +
 Sun 8:00 am Helen Lamone +
 Sun 10:30 am People of the Parish

Readings

Saturday: Genesis 3:9-24, Psalm 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13, Matthew 4:4b, Mark 8:1-10
Sunday: Jeremiah 17:5-8, Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6, 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20, Luke 6:23ab, Luke 6:17, 20-26
Monday: Genesis 4:1-15, 25, Psalm 50:1,8, 16bc-17, 20-21, John 14:6, Mark 8:11-13
Tuesday: Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10, Psalm 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b & 9c-10, John 14:23, Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday: Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22, Psalm 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19, Ephesians 1:17-18, Mark 8:22-26
Thursday: Genesis 9:1-13, Psalm 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23, John 6:63c, 68c, Mark 8:27-33
Friday: Genesis 11:1-9, Psalm 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15, John 15:15b, Mark 8:34—9:1
Saturday: 1 Peter 5:1-4, Psalm 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6, Matthew 16:18, Matthew 16:13-19
Next Sunday: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23, Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13, 1 Corinthians 15:45-49, John 13:34, Luke 6:27-38



February 22, 4:00 PM
Gre: Rob and Marcie Morris
Ser: Avery and Liam
Lec: Marcie Morris

February 23, 8:00 AM
Gre: Anna and JeJe
Ser: Judith Aracich
Lec: Maryanne Capp

February 23, 10:30 AM
Gre: Susie Mullenbach
Ser: Will and Stothard
Lec: Pam Ferguson

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 every Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

THE READINGS for this weekend are in the Hymnal at 945

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.

Pastoral Council Meeting February 27th at 3:30 P.M.

<u>February 9, 2025 Collection</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Weekly Envelopes	122	\$3298.50
Candles		\$38.00
Charity		\$10.00
Church Missions		\$419.00
Building and Maintenance		\$90.00
Registered Parishioners/Budget	249	\$2900



- Sat:
- Sun:
- Mon: Jimmy Sperlazza
- Tues: Kay Broztek, Shirley Sperlazza, John Golna, and Katie Diserio
- Wed: Nicole Michaux and Olivia Best
- Thur: Joe Casale and Dolores Malinky
- Fri:
- Sat:
- Sun: Patty Waters



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is burning in memory of **Rockey/ Sperlazza Families (Eleanor Rockey)**
From February 14, 2025 to February 27, 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, ELEANOR ROCKEY, COLLEEN RUSHING, ELEANOR SACRIPANTI, JIM AND SHARON PAVLIC, JOSIE NEWTON, DEBBIE, RICK MERCER, PATTY WATERS, AND SARAH MESSAR.

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



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh."
- Lk 6:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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ST. PETER DAMIAN

FEBRUARY 21

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SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS
— OF THE SERVITE ORDER —

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February 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4 Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Holy Land Gifts
16 Holy Land Gifts	17	18 Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Coffee & Catechesis 9 a.m.	26 Men's Group 7 p.m.	27 Pastoral Council Meeting 3:30 p.m.	28	

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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.

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.

Holy Land Gifts—Olive Wood Carvings: February 15 and 16

Pastoral Council Meeting February 27th at 3:30 P.M.

Mardi Gras Dinner & Game Night: March 4th

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE By Bud Ozar

Family life is about decisions. The leper in today's gospel knew this when he said to Jesus. "If you will, you can make me clean." Jesus knew this when he said "I do will it." Love is not an emotion. It is a decision to be with and for another person in "good times and bad", even when we don't feel like it.

Jerusalem Carvings

On February 15th and 16th the group from Holy Land Gifts will have a display of beautiful handmade olive-wood carvings from Bethlehem for sale. The Christians of the Holy Land have been suffering and continue living in hard economical situations. Their mission is to help support these families by selling their religious carvings. Your support through purchasing these items will help 200 families. Olivewood carvings are part of a tradition handed down generations. Please stop at their table and purchase a nice little gift from the little town in Bethlehem.

Thank you and God Bless.



On Shrove Tuesday, March 4th, 2025, Altar & Rosary will be hosting a Mardi Gras Dinner and Game Night.

Dinner will be at 6 p.m. in the parish hall with Bingo to begin at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and bring any games of your choice.

We will have baked steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, and dessert all for \$10. Tickets are required and will be available after the Masses on weekends or in the office starting on February 1st.

For any questions or to provide a dessert please call Susie Mullenbach 304-281-1239. We hope to see everyone for some food, friends and fellowship!



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ADORATION SCHEDULE

9 A.M.		We are looking to fill the 2 p.m. Adorer spot for our WEEKLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 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.		We are currently looking for LECTORS at all Masses and also for EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION for our sick and home-bound parishioners. If you would be interested in helping please call the office.
1 P.M.		
2 P.M.	Need 1 Adorer	
3 P.M.		
4 P.M.		



In loving memory
of Alice "Boots"
Lupinetti



In loving memory
of Ruth Lazear



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Cody R. Rice
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