

# 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



MARCH 2, 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 – Prayer Over the Offerings

The Prayer over the Offerings is a pivotal moment in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, occurring after the *Orate, Fratres* and just before the Eucharistic Prayer. This prayer, often brief yet theologically profound, serves as a summation of the Church's offering and an invocation for God's sanctification of the gifts. Through this prayer, the priest petitions God to accept the offerings placed upon the altar, asking that they be transformed into a fitting sacrifice for the sanctification of the Church.

At this moment, the priest prays over the gifts of bread and wine, which are soon to be consecrated. The text of the prayer varies depending on the liturgical season, feast, or solemnity being celebrated, reflecting the theological and scriptural themes of the day.

A general structure of the prayer is as follows: "Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen." This prayer, though brief, encapsulates the Church's fundamental understanding of the Eucharist as both an offering to God and an instrument of sanctification for His people.

The Prayer over the Offerings reaffirms the sacrificial nature of the Eucharist. The Church offers the gifts of bread and wine, recognizing that they will be transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. This act is deeply rooted in Old Testament sacrifices, where offerings were presented to God for purification and atonement (cf. Leviticus 2:1-3). The prayer acknowledges that these offerings are made not through human merit alone but through God's grace, aligning with Hebrews 9:14, which describes Christ's self-offering as the perfect sacrifice that purifies our consciences.

The priest calls upon God to sanctify the offerings through His divine power. This reflects the Church's understanding that the Mass is not merely a human action but a divine mystery. This aligns with Romans 12:1, where St. Paul urges the faithful to offer themselves as "a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God." The transformation of these gifts signifies the ongoing conversion of the faithful, who are called to be conformed to Christ through their participation in the Eucharistic mystery.

The Prayer over the Offerings is not solely the priest's action; rather, it is the prayer of the entire Church, reflecting the shared priesthood of all believers. The faithful, by virtue of their baptism, join in offering their lives, struggles, and thanksgiving along with the bread and wine. This moment in the liturgy calls the faithful to actively unite their prayers and intentions with the priest's prayer, fostering deeper spiritual participation.

The origins of the Prayer over the Offerings can be traced to Jewish temple rituals, where prayers of blessing

and thanksgiving accompanied sacrificial offerings. The Didache (1st-century Christian text) describes early Eucharistic prayers that include invocations for God's sanctification of the gifts. In the Apostolic Tradition (3rd century), prayers of offering are found as part of the early Eucharistic celebration, foreshadowing the formalization of the Prayer over the Offerings in later liturgical traditions. By the Middle Ages, the Roman Missal contained standardized prayers over the offerings, reflecting theological developments regarding the Eucharist as a true propitiatory sacrifice. In the Tridentine Mass (16th century), this prayer was known as the *Secreta*, recited silently by the priest.

The Second Vatican Council sought to enhance the audibility and clarity of liturgical prayers, making the Prayer over the Offerings a spoken, communal prayer. The revised Roman Missal (1970) expanded the variety of these prayers, ensuring a richer connection to liturgical seasons and feast days. The *Novus Ordo Missae* restored the original purpose of this prayer: a public petition that invites greater participation of the faithful.

This prayer invites the faithful to offer themselves to God, mirroring the words of Psalm 51:17: "My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit." It reminds worshippers that the Eucharist is not only God's gift to humanity but also humanity's gift to God. The prayer acknowledges that the Eucharist leads the faithful to sanctification and eternal life, reinforcing Christ's words in John 6:54: "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life." The faithful are reminded that participation in the Eucharist requires a spirit of sacrifice, humility, and openness to divine grace.

The Prayer over the Offerings is a vital part of the Eucharistic liturgy, linking the preparation of the gifts with the Eucharistic Prayer. It encapsulates the Church's theology of sacrifice, the transformative power of grace, and the participatory role of the faithful. Through its historical development, it has evolved from a silent petition of the priest to a communal prayer, reinforcing the active involvement of the entire Church in the Eucharistic celebration.

By deepening our awareness and reverence for this prayer, we can more fully appreciate our role in offering our lives to God, uniting our sacrifices with Christ's perfect offering. This moment in the Mass is not just about preparing physical gifts; it is about preparing our hearts and souls for communion with the Divine.

Next week, we turn our attention to the beginning of the Eucharistic Prayer which occurs with the Preface Dialogue.

Lent begins this Wednesday, March 5th. I hope it is a spiritually refreshing and fulfilling season for each one of you.

- Fr. Golna



- Sat 4:00 pm Mark Kowcheck +
- Sun 8:00 am People of the Parish
- Sun 10:30 am Mark Kowcheck +
- Mon 8:30 am George Bayless +
- Tue 8:30 am William and Lola Bell +
- Wed 12:00 pm Helen Elswick +
- Wed 6:00 pm People of the Parish
- Thur 8:30 am Virginia Diserio +
- Fri 5:30 pm Jerry Cassandra +
- Sat 4:00 pm Mario Ficca +
- Sun 8:00 am Robert Stuckey +
- Sun 10:30 am People of the Parish

*Readings*

**Saturday:** Sirach 17:1-15, Psalm 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18, Matthew 11:25, Mark 10:13-16

**Sunday:** Sirach 27:4-7, Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16, 1 Corinthians 15:54-58, Philippians 2:15d, 16a, Luke 6:39-45

**Monday:** Sirach 17:20-24, Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7, 2 Corinthians 8:9, Mark 10:17-27

**Tuesday:** Sirach 35:1-12, Psalm 50:5-6, 7-8, 14, 23, Matthew 11:25, Mark 10:28-31

**Wednesday:** Joel 2:12-18, Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17, 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2, Psalm 95:8, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6, Matthew 4:17, Luke 9:22-25

**Friday:** Isaiah 58:1-9a, Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19, Amos 5:14, Matthew 9:14-15

**Saturday:** Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, Ezekiel 33:11, Luke 5:27-32

**Next Sunday:** Deuteronomy 26:4-10, Psalm 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, Romans 10:8-13, Matthew 4:4b, Luke 4:1-13



**March 8, 4:00 PM**  
**Gre:** Pam and Jeanette  
**Ser:** Avery and Liam  
**Lec:** Wendi Mitchell

**March 9, 8:00 AM**  
**Gre:** Anna and JeJe  
**Ser:** Theresa Kowcheck  
**Lec:** Maryanne Capp

**March 9, 10:30 AM**  
**Gre:** Susie Mullenbach  
**Ser:** Will and Stothard  
**Lec:** Gavin Scott

**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 951.

On **Fridays of Lent**, we will have the **Stations of the Cross at 5 p.m.** before Mass which is at 5:30 p.m. on Fridays.

This upcoming week is **First Friday** so we will have our normal First Friday devotions following Mass on March 7th which include a **Holy Hour** following Mass while confessions are heard.

On Friday's during Lent we will be offering **Meager Meals** in the parish hall. If you would be willing to help please call the parish office.

<b>February 9, 2025 Collection</b>		
	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Weekly Envelopes	137	\$2978.00
Candles		\$27.00
Charity		\$100.00
Building and Maintenance		\$50.00
Disaster Relief		\$606.00
Registered Parishioners/Budget	249	\$2900

Lenten News



With the beginning of Lent, it is important to keep in mind our obligations during this privileged season.

All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means that you are permitted to have one full meal and two snacks which, if combined, are smaller than a full meal.

All Catholics 14 years and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent.

On Fridays of Lent, we will have the Stations of the Cross at 5:00 p.m. which will be followed by Mass at 5:30 p.m. Confessions are heard from 6—6:30 p.m. every Friday (6-7 p.m. on First Fridays).

Meager Meals will follow Mass at 6 p.m. Volunteers are needed to provide the meal!



Sat:

Sun: Bill Cipriani

Mon: Tara Ferguson and Barb Bolden

Tues: Ann Reis

Wed: Susan Canistraro

Thur: Maryanne Capp

Fri:

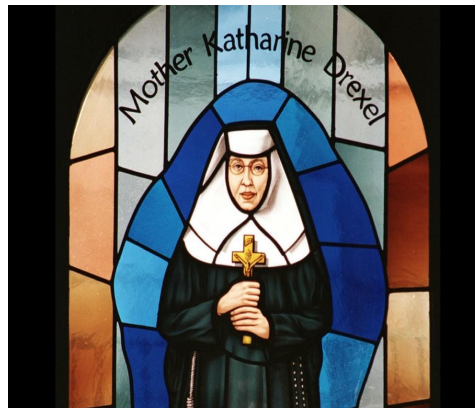
Sat: Patty Elcesser, Marie Kostur, and Krista Cox

Sun: James Casinelli and Raymond Shaffer



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is burning in memory of **Kristian White**  
From February 28, 2025 to March 13, 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 CHIODO, DONNA SULLIVAN, SANDY, ELEANOR ROCKEY, COLLEEN RUSHING, JIM AND SHARON PAVLIC, JOSIE NEWTON, DEBBIE, RICK MERCER, PATTY WATERS, MADELINE BROZTEK, JAMES BAKER .

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







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.



**YOUR CHILD CAN RECEIVE A  
CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
AT LITTLE TO NO COST!**



Visit our website at [weirtonstpauls.org](http://weirtonstpauls.org) or call 304-748-5225

WV Residents:  
Scan the QR code  
for more info.



ADORATION SCHEDULE

9 A.M.	[Green Block]
10 A.M.	
11 A.M.	
12 P.M.	
1 P.M.	[Green Block]
2 P.M.	
3 P.M.	[Yellow Block]
4 P.M.	[Green Block]

We are looking to fill the 2 and 3 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.

We are currently looking for **LECTORS** at all Masses and also for **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION** for our sick and homebound parishioners. If you would be interested in helping please call the office.



**LENTEN FISH FRY**  
 March 7, 14, 21, 28  
 April 4, 11, 16 (Wed)  
 11:00 am to 6:00 pm  
 St. Paul School Cafeteria

**Fish Fry Order Line:**  
**(304) 797-1182**

Take Out and  
 Eat-In Available




**Annual Lenten Fish Fry**  
 March 5, 12, 19, 26 & April 2, 9  
 11:00a.m-6:00p.m

**Take Out Only!!  
 No Dine-In**

**Sacred Heart of Mary Church Cafeteria**  
 Baked or Fried Fish & Shrimp  
 Haluski, Mac & Cheese, French Fries, Pierogi  
 Homemade Bread & Desserts  
 200 Preston Ave., Weirton

Call in orders @ 304-723-1648, walk in to place orders, or download our app. Search Sacred Heart of Mary Church in app store.

Made with PosterMyWall.com

# *Mullenbach Funeral Home*

*Celebrating Life...*

**Joseph M. Mullenbach**  
Licensee in Charge

*Kayla A. Schoonmaker*  
Funeral Director

*Cody R. Rice*  
Funeral Director

**P.O. Box 272**  
**669 Main Street**  
**Follansbee, WV 26037**

**(304)527-4040**  
**Fax (304) 527-3793**  
**mullenbachfh@comcast.net**  
**www.mullenbachfh.com**



*Reasner Funeral Home*  
*Robert Morris L.I.C.*  
Owner and Director  
*ReasnerOfWellsburg.com*  
304-737-3251



We're more than a Convenience store

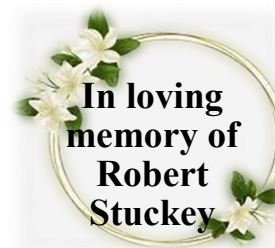
**Mark's** Deli & Catering  
304-737-0065

**CARRY OUT**

- Deli
- Broaster Chicken
- Catering
- Delivery
- Lent Specials

**BROASTER CHICKEN**

markscarryout.com



**We need your help!**

**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**