

FR. JOHN'S DIGITAL QUILL FOR SPIRITUAL MUSINGS AND PARISH NEWS

Special Collection Today

Today, at the request of Archbishop Rozanski, our parish will take up a second collection to assist the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

The news from the area affected by the earthquakes is devastating. As I write this on Tuesday afternoon, the death toll from this disaster is in excess of 52,000 persons. In addition to this tragic loss of life, at least \$100 billion dollars in damage has been caused by the earthquakes. The head of the United Nation's Development Program, who recently visited the area, used the word, "apocalyptic," to describe the damage. Unfortunately in the face of this great need, few resources are ready to respond.

Your generosity to this special collection this Lent is truly a response to the least of our brethren, we do it for Him. (cf. Mt. 25:40) Please put any gifts for this purpose in the second Offertory collection. If you would like to receive credit on your annual contribution statement, please use one of the envelopes at the doors.

In Gratitude

Thank you to the many people who made the Wedding Anniversary Mass such a special time for our couples celebrating significant anniversaries. Thank you to our office staff, Ray and Mary Anne Braun, Brian Smith and the Men's Club, and numerous volunteers who helped to prepare for the evening, staffed the event, and cleaned up. It truly was a fitting tribute to those who are celebrating God's loving presence alive in their lives through the Sacrament of Marriage.

Thank you, also, to the Men's Club for hosting the fish fry on March 3. It was a great evening for our parish to see so many people come together in community through the gift of food.

New Servers

In the coming weeks, you will see some new faces on the altar. Many of our fourth graders recently completed their server training and will begin serving at the altar. They are both excited and a bit nervous. Welcome, congratulations, and thank you for choosing to serve!

RCIA

On February 26, I was privileged to attend the Rite of Election at the Cathedral Basilica. At that ceremony, two members of our community, who are already baptized Christians, expressed their desire to enter the Catholic Church and receive Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Congratulations to Cortland Mater and Shannon Colona on making this step! They will be received into the Church and receive the Easter Sacraments on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil. Please keep them in prayer as they make final preparations for these sacraments.

Save the Date!

Save the date for the SRA Day of Service set for Saturday, April 22. Parishioners of all ages are welcome to come together for a service project at our sister parish, Most Holy Trinity. The day will then conclude at our church for 4:30pm Mass. More details and SignUp Genius to follow.

This Week at SRA

Third Week of Lent

This week of Lent will feature a bit of a different schedule because of spring break for the school.

Holy Mass

Due to the school's spring break, our only morning Mass this week, Monday - Thursday, will be at 7:00am. The 8:00am Mass will resume next week.

Prayer Groups

On Monday, Fr. John will hold a prayer group at 2:00pm in church. We will focus on the Gospel for next Sunday and discuss how it still impacts our life today.

On Tuesday at 9:30am, Pam Hager will facilitate a prayer group focusing on Scripture as well.

All are welcome to attend either or both of these meetings. They do not build on one another so you can come to a meeting or miss as your schedule dictates.

Tuesday Evening

For those looking to attend Mass or the sacraments more often, we will have confessions from 6:15-6:45pm, Mass at 7:00pm, followed by a Rosary with reflections. Rosary with reflections means that there will be a short meditation before each Hail Mary.

Eucharistic Adoration

Due to spring break for the school, we will not have Eucharistic Adoration this week either on Monday or Wednesday. The church will still be open for private prayer after the 7:00am Mass until 2:00pm.

Public Praying of the Rosary

As we continue to focus on the Rosary during this Holy Season of Lent, we will pray the Rosary publicly on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 6:30am. These prayers are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel and you can pray with us live or on demand.

Visits from Fr. John or our Pastoral Care Ministry

Sometimes it is hard to celebrate Lent, especially if you are sick or homebound. If you are in need of the sacraments, Holy Communion, or would just like someone to come by and pray with you, please contact the parish office.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed immediately following the 7:00am Mass on Friday. You can also livestream or hear the audio on demand on our YouTube channel.

Parish Rosary Program

Thank you to those who have turned in intention cards to pray the Rosary. There are now 26 people offering 74 Rosaries and 98 Decades each week to be prayed for the intention listed in the bulletin.

This week, our prayer intention will be for an increase in holiness in families this Lenten Season.

Would you like to pray with us and see that number of Rosaries increase? If so, please fill out this intention card and return it in the Offertory.

I will see you online or in church! - Fr. John
#SRAstrong

I commit to participating in the parish Rosary Program

(Name Optional)

I will pray...

_____ Decade(s)

_____ Rosary(ies)

Every:

_____ Day

_____ Week