

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Est. 1863

Phone (617) 773-1021 Fax (617) 773-5608

21 Gay Street • Quincy, Massachusetts • 02169-6602

Email: stjohns@stjohnsquincy.org
Website: www.stjohnsquincy.org



*M*ission Statement of St. John's Parish

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the community of St. John's Parish works to spread the Gospel message through a ministry of compassion, education and stewardship. Our life as believers is centered in the Eucharist, which encourages and fosters a deep sense of identity in Christ Jesus and the mission the Lord Jesus calls us to embrace.

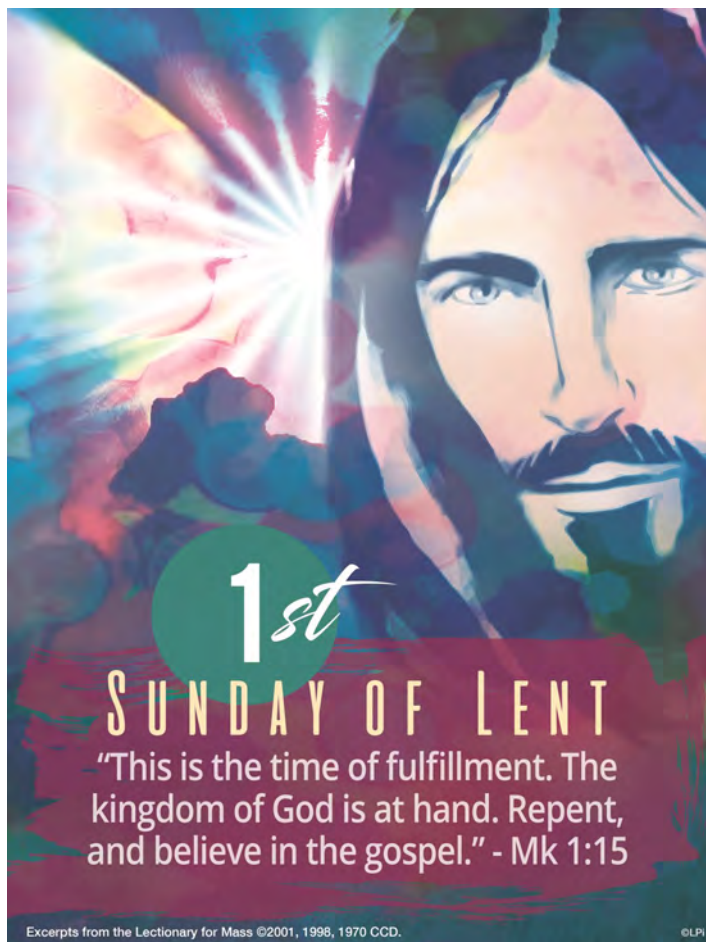
WELCOME! We welcome all who have come to worship in our parish community. If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself to any of the priests or deacons. We encourage you to register in the parish by calling the rectory. Your presence at St. John's Parish is greatly appreciated and welcomed.

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00PM (Vigil Mass)
Sunday 8:30AM, 11:00AM & 5:00PM
Weekdays 8:00AM Mon.-Sat.
Holy Days & Holidays: As announced

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Robert J. Cullen, Administrator
Rev. W. Chris Palladino, J.C.L., in Residence
Dn. Paul A. Lewis
Dn. William R. Proulx
Joe Stevens, Pastoral Associate
Joanne Curry, Religious Education Director,
K-9 Religious Education Office 617-877-5014
Email: restjohnquincy@gmail.com
Donna Niosi, Administrative Assistant/Religious
Education Secretary
Paul Kelly, Music Director
St. John's Food Pantry 617-472-4908



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Lower Chapel, Wednesdays, 8:30-9:00am;
Saturdays, 2:30-3:30pm or call the rectory to make
an appointment with a priest.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Before you enter the hospital for any major surgery or
in case of an emergency, we encourage you to receive
the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. For this
Sacrament, please contact the Rectory.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN THE LOWER CHURCH CHAPEL

Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm
1st Saturdays: 8:30am-9:45am

MASST INTENTIONS

The Spirituality of Stewardship
Receiving God's Gifts gratefully;
Nurturing God's Gifts responsibly;
Sharing God's Gifts in love and justice;
Returning God's Gifts generously

Saturday, February 17

8:00 a.m.
4:00 p.m. Memorial Theresa Ann Smith
and Lorenzo DiNardo

Sunday, February 18

8:30 a.m. 1st Anniversary Bridget Costello
11:00 a.m. Memorial Mary C. Burke
5:00 p.m. Mass for the People

Monday, February 19

8:00 a.m. 3rd Anniversary Anne O'Connell

Tuesday, February 20

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 21

8:00 a.m.

Thursday, February 22

8:00 a.m. Birthday Memorial Marcelisa Pe

Friday, February 23

8:00 a.m. 8th Anniversary Donna Saluti

Saturday, February 24

8:00 a.m. Memorial Mary Tieso
4:00 p.m. Memorial William & Joan Connell

Sunday, February 25

8:30 a.m. 19th Anniversary Joao Rocha
11:00 a.m. 30th Anniversary Mary Coughlan
5:00 p.m. Mass For The People

Parish Weekly Goal: \$9,000.00

Weekend of February 10/11

Church Collections \$6,940.83
On-Line Giving 1,138.50
Total Sacrificial Offering by Parishioners \$8,079.33

Weekly Goal overage/shortage **(920.67)**

This weekend February 17/18 there is one collection. Next weekend February 24/25 there will also be one collection.

Thank you for your generosity

Ash Wednesday Collection

At Catholic Charities, we work to serve the marginalized and vulnerable in our community; to provide a hand up when our clients are doing their best for their families. Your participation in this past Ash Wednesday's collection will help us continue to provide those services to our brothers and sisters in need throughout eastern Massachusetts. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for your prayers and generosity. We look forward to sharing the success of our collection with you in the coming months. To learn more about our work, please visit www.ccab.org.

February 18 ~ First Sunday of Lent

In today's first reading we are given a beautiful reminder that every time we see a rainbow in the sky, God is reminding us of his covenant, his promise, to be with us. As we make our Lenten journey this year, we will encounter temptations to maintain the status quo, to ignore the call to a change of heart, to keep Jesus at a distance lest he ask something difficult of us. To overcome the temptations you will face, place a rainbow in a prominent place to remind that you can overcome any temptation, because God is with you.

Infant Baptisms: The Baptisms are celebrated on the third Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Baptismal preparation is required. Please call the rectory for registration and further information at 617-773-1021.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance. Please contact the Rectory to set up an appointment (617-773-1021) A Marriage Preparation Program is required.

Donations:



For the week of February 18 the Bread and Wine have been donated in memory of Antonio, Francesca & Nicholas Panarelli. If you would like to make a memorial donation for the altar bread and/or the altar wine in memory of a loved one or for a special intention, please call the rectory at 617-773-1021. The donation for the altar bread or the altar wine is \$30 each for one week (\$60 for both).



Your Prayers are Requested for:

William J. "Willie" LeBlanc, Francis C. Murray, Albert Battista, and all our parishioners who have died recently, and for all our deceased relatives and friends. Also, please remember in prayer all those who are ill and the intentions of our parishioners.

Reminder: Monday, February 19 is Presidents Day the parish office will be closed.

Lenten 2018 Guidelines

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence.

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.



Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.



Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

2018 Catholic Appeal

Hopefully, you received an email this week with a link to the 2018 Catholic Appeal video. If you have not seen this inspiring, brief video, a link is available on the parish website or at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you in advance for your support.

Eucharistic Adoration & Stations of the Cross

Every Friday we have Eucharistic Adoration starting right after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the lower Chapel. For the Season of Lent we will be adding the **Stations of the Cross** right after at **3:30 p.m.** in the Upper Church.

Lenten Bible Study Starts This Thursday

The Passion and Resurrection Narratives

Thursday, Feb. 22: 10:30-12noon in the Lower Church

This five-week course will strengthen our Lenten journey as we look at the Passion and Resurrection narratives in each of the four Gospels. By studying the sufferings of Jesus and the actions of the apostles we will gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Resurrection. The course, taught by Barbara Sullivan, MTS, will be held Feb.22, March 1, 8, 15 & 22. Suggested offering is \$5/session. No registration required - just bring your Bible! For more info contact Joe Stevens at 617-773-1021.

Franciscan Vocation Day

The Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate Conception Province invite young men interested in religious life to attend a

Franciscan Vocation Day on

Saturday, March 3rd

St. Leonard of Port Maurice Church in Boston's North End.

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Events include a prayer service, a talk on discernment, Q & A Session, an opportunity to speak with Friars and Postulants, and ending with the 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass.

Coffee and snacks will be provided.

Please RSVP by emailing Fr. Bruce, OFM at bruceofm@gmail.com.

**Or call St. Leonard's Parish Office: 617-523-2110
Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. if you would like to attend.**

St. John and St. Joseph Religious Education

Classes:

Winter Session Begins:

No Classes Sunday, Feb.18th or Monday, Feb 19th due to School Vacation Week.

Sunday, February 25 10:00-10:50 a.m. Classes Grades 2-5

Sunday, February 25 2:00 p.m. **Confirmation** @ St. Joe's
Students are asked to arrive at St. Joe's rectory no later than 1:30 p.m.



Saint John's Food Pantry

The St. John's Food Pantry is open every Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the building located next to the back door of the rectory. If you have any questions or need assistance please call 617-472-4908.

For those who are so generous to the important work of St. John's Food Pantry please send donations directly to the rectory or use the blue envelopes marked SJFP and drop them into the regular parish collection. Our pantry is sustained through the generous donations of our parishioners.

Thanks for all your support!

Receipt for Tax Purposes

If you need a receipt for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory. Thank you!

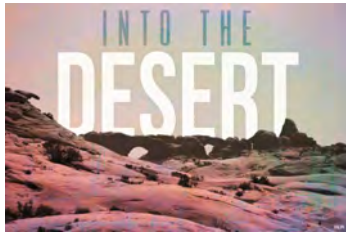
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ **ZIP CODE** _____

TELEPHONE: _____

**February 18, 2018
First Sunday of Lent**



Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert?

Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle"-- the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly.

As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfill our Lenten resolutions with a purpose --writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others.

The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness -- these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?

Calendar of St. John's Upcoming Dates and Events

Saturday, February 17
2:30-3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
Lower Chapel
5:00 p.m. Baptism Instruction

Sunday, February 18
No Religious Education Classes Vacation Week
12:30 p.m. Baptisms
Upper Church

Monday, February 19
No Religious Education Classes ~ Vacation Week

Tuesday, February 20
7:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Holy Hour
Upper Church

Wednesday, February 21
8:30-9:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
Lower Chapel
6:30-7:30 p.m. St. John's Food Pantry Open

Thursday, February 22
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study
Church Hall
4:30-6:00 p.m. RCIA Meeting
Church Hall

Friday, February 23
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
Lower Chapel
3:30 p.m. **Stations of the Cross**
Upper Church

Saturday, February 24
2:30-3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
Lower Chapel

Sunday, February 25
10:00-10:50 a.m. Religious Ed Class Grades 2-5
Church Hall
2:00 p.m. Confirmation @ St. Joseph's Quincy

Welcome to St. John's! We encourage all our parishioners who worship with us to register. Please call the Rectory, 617-773-1021, or return this form to the Rectory by the collection basket, mail, or in person.

Would you like to have the bulletin emailed to you? If you would, please give us your email: _____

Name: _____ Tel. # _____
Address: _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Check if address change

Would you like envelopes? (Please circle) YES NO