Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 3:16
St. John Catholic Church
Phone: 708-758-5098
Fax: 708-758-0408
Rev. William J. McFarlane - Pastor
frbill301@gmail.com

Religious Education
Terese Frederickson
Music Director
Nathanael Stasinski
Parish Secretary
Betsy Díaz-Kudra
Maintenance
James Lewandowski

Parish Email: sjglenwood301@gmail.com
Visit us at: www.sjchurchglenwood.org
Parish Office Hours: M-F 8:30 AM-2:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Holy Days: 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM

Weekday Mass
Monday - Friday 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Service
Saturday 8:00 AM

Adoration of the Holy Eucharist
Mondays 3:00—6:00 PM

Like us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/stjohnglenwood

Confessions
Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30 PM or by appointment

First Friday
Benediction after 8:00 AM Mass

First Saturday
Sorrowful Mother Novena after
8:00 AM Eucharistic Service

Sacrament of Baptism or Marriage
Please call the Parish Office to schedule

Sick Calls
Call the Parish Office to arrange for a visit

RCIA
For information on becoming a Catholic, adult sacramental preparation or Adult Ed.,
Please call the parish office.

St. John Mission Statement
We, the people of St. John Parish,
being brothers and sisters in Christ,
accept as our mission:
to know our faith
to live by truth and love
to serve the needs of others
to teach by example
to strengthen,
inspire and improve
the Parish family.

St. John’s Women’s Club:
Ginny Williamson
        466-0873

RCIA
For information on becoming a Catholic,
adult sacramental preparation or Adult Ed.,
Please call the parish office.

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New Mass time starting NEXT
Saturday February 29th at 4:00 PM
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today’s readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together in a few days, we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to “speak to the whole Israelite community” and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God’s people must strive together for holiness. Saint Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God’s holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. In Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Together, let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

I AM THE LORD

Today’s first reading concludes in classic Levitical style: “I am the Lord.” Over and over again, the book of Leviticus punctuates its paragraphs with that simple statement: “I am the Lord.” Relentlessly repeating that phrase, the word of God reminds us that God is the Lord—and we are not. We did not construct the world; we did not create ourselves. Remembering our status as mere creatures comes as a shock to us at times, especially when we flex and pose as masters of our own tiny universes. On the other hand, knowing we are “merely” God’s beloved children can free us. When we accept that God is the source and summit of all wisdom, we approach life with a growing stillness, an openness to God’s powerful action in the world.

HOLY AND PERFECT

Our openness to God’s powerful action helps us understand Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel, when he demands that we become “perfect.” Most of us shudder at the thought of having to be perfect. The idea of achieving perfection seems impossible, frankly. But, just before despair sets in, we recall that we are merely creatures. If God wants us to be “holy” and “perfect,” as today’s readings emphasize, then God will provide all we need to chip away at our imperfections. If we nurse a hateful grudge against someone and cannot imagine being free of the resentment, God can help. If we harm our own bodies through bad habits, the holy Spirit can strengthen our resolve and transform our daily behavior. If we long for advantage over others, if we are disgusted by the thought of loving “unworthy” people, if we overwhelmingly prefer comfort and stability over the wildness of lavish generosity—Jesus Christ, King of glory, can convert our timid hearts. These transformations take time, patience, and prayer. Sitting quietly to reflect over today’s readings is an excellent kind of prayer, and an inspiring way to begin.

Today’s Readings: Lv 19:1–2, 17–18; Ps 103:1–2, 3–4, 8, 10, 12–13; 1 Cor 3:16–23; Mt 5:38–48

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If your family is in need of assistance this Easter, fill out the form at the bottom of this page, place it in an envelope marked “Attention Lynn Unyi,” and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

To make sure that your family is on our list, the form must be returned by NO LATER than March 15th. FAMILIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 15TH.

Family Information

Name____________________________________________________________
Address___________________________________________________________
Phone___________________________
Number of Adults__________ Number of Children______________
Ages of Children___________________________

Lenten Potato Pancake Dinner!!
We have added perogies this year!
Feb 28th & Apr 3rd 5:00pm until 7:00pm
St. John’s Church
301 South Cottage Grove Ave

Adults (2 pancakes and 2 perogies) $10.00
Children (1 pancake and 1 perogi) $5.00

Stay for Stations of the Cross Afterwards at 7:00pm
The Seven Penitential Psalms

The Seven Penitential Psalms of the Suffering Servant from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah are traditionally used for meditation and prayer during Lent. During times when we wish to express repentance and especially during Lent, it is customary to pray the seven penitential psalms. The penitential designation of these psalms dates from the seventh century. Prayerfully reciting these psalms will help us to recognize our sinfulness, express our sorrow and ask for God’s forgiveness. Included below are written reflections to encourage the practice of Lectio Divina or “divine reading,” a way of praying with Scripture that calls one to listen to, study, contemplate and thoughtfully assimilate God's Word.

Psalm 6  Psalm 51  Psalm 143
Psalm 32  Psalm 102
Psalm 38  Psalm 130

Psalm 32 —Remission of Sin

Sin is inevitable. Because we fall short of the glory of God, because sin abounds in the world—though grace abounds the more!—it is inevitable that we humans fall into sin. But faith tells us sin is not the final word, and the author of this psalm knows that truth well.

The Psalms have endured for millennia because they are so personal and real; sometimes, so real they’re raw. They name our experience because they come out of lived experience. The author grasps the deep truth of the old maxim, “Confession is good for the soul.” He understands the value of confession because he first tried to resist it. He hid his faults, sealed his heart and lips and would not speak his sins, but the result was agony and groaning all the day. Because he “kept silent,” his “bones wasted away.” Would that we, too, could feel the weight of our sins upon us. Would that they would drive us to our knees so we, too, could experience the grace and the unburdening, the freedom and the joy the psalmist finds at last.

Finally, he says, finally “I declared my sin to you;/ my guilt I did not hide.” And rather than shame or wagging fingers, the psalmist finds relief. Read again the opening line: “Blessed is the one whose fault is removed,/ whose sin is forgiven.” Notice that blessing is given not to the blameless or the sinless (they don’t exist!), but to the sinner who, through confession, has had his sin removed. What’s more, in the Bible, the removal of sin removes the effects of sin on us. That’s why the psalmist’s frustration, fading enthusiasm, and loss of joy vanish the moment he experiences God’s mercy.

Therefore every loyal person should pray to God, he says, because God longs to shelter us and surrounds us with shouts of joy. But sin remains inevitable. And because we are so often dumb as oxen and stubborn as mules, God admonishes us to be docile and humble, putting our trust in him so he can shower his mercy on us. http://usccb.org/

Next week Psalm 38.

Questions for Reflection:

Fewer Catholics today avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Why do you think that is? If the psalmist’s experience is typical, the floodgates of grace open once we admit and repent our sins. What would help you be more open to the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Do you think talk of sin is helpful or is it better to speak instead of God’s love and mercy? Does one make sense without the other?

Do you approach God with confidence or temerity?
This weekend, our parish will be conducting the Annual Catholic Appeal in-pew Commitment Weekend. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

The Annual Catholic Appeal theme, “Come, follow me… and heal our world,” was selected to remind us to continue to answer Jesus’ call to follow Him in thought, word and deed by providing the necessary contribution to fund ministries and services to share God’s love with many others in our parish and our archdiocese. Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools, and ministries to deliver needed services. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

HELP SAVE LIVES IN Flossmoor, IL!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers!

With God’s help, here are the proven results in 25 coordinated campaigns:

- 16,742 babies saved from abortion
- 196 abortion workers converted
- 104 abortion centers closed

Here’s how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

- **Vigil location:** Outside Planned Parenthood, 19831 S. Governors Highway, Flossmoor, IL
- **Vigil hours:** 8 am to 8 pm daily
- **Local contact:** Karen & Tom karenforlife@yahoo.com
- **Sign up with a friend or as a group.** Invite your Bible Study group, youth ministry group, Mom’s group, etc.
- **Get your church or school involved!**
- **Visit** [www.40daysforlife.com/flossmoor](http://www.40daysforlife.com/flossmoor) **to learn more and sign up for vigil hours**
Join us for a retreat as you continue to prepare yourself to be the very best version of YOU for this Easter season.

We will take a look at scripture readings as we imagine ourselves in the passages. We will be led in the morning with scripture and reflection questions. We will take a break for lunch and come back for a meditation and then end the day with a prayerful walk of the Lenten Labyrinth.

This Lenten Retreat will be directed by Sue Carter. Sue has helped with other retreats at St. John. Sue is the Women’s Director of Spirituality at St. Christina and the CRE at St. Christina. Cost for the retreat is $10 to cover lunch served that day.

To register, please complete the registration form below and return it in the collection basket. Or, call Ginny Williamson (708-466-0873) or the St. John Parish office (708-758-5098). Registration is open until March 2nd.

YES, I plan to attend!

Name: _________________________________________________

Telephone: _____________________________________________
LAMB OF GOD, YOU TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD, HAVE MERCY ON US.

Mondays from 3:00 - 6:00 PM
In the Chapel

An Examination of Conscience for Young Adults

Responsibilities to God:

Have I gone to Mass on Sunday or have I rebelled and been stubborn about going to Mass?
Did I participate in the Mass or did I daydream?
Have I prayed every day?
Have I read the Bible?
Have I been rebellious toward God and his commands?
Have I misused the name of God by swearing and cursing?
Have I told the Father that I love him for creating me and making me his son/daughter?
Have I thanked Jesus for becoming man, dying for my sin and rising to give me eternal life?
Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me conquer sin and temptation and to be obedient to God’s commands?
Have I lied or been deceitful to them or to others?
Have I been arrogant, stubborn or rebellious?

Have I talked back to my parents or those in authority?
Have I gotten angry or nurtured and held grudges and resentments? Have I refused to forgive others? Have I cultivated hatred?
Have I engaged in sexual fantasies? Have I looked at others lustfully?
Have I read pornographic literature or looked at pornographic pictures, shows or movies?
Have I masturbated?
Have I lustfully kissed or sexually touched someone? Have I had sexual intercourse?
Have I had an abortion or encouraged another to have one?
Have I gossiped about others? Have I slandered anyone? Have I told lies about others? Have I mocked or made fun of others?
Have I lied or cheated? Have I stolen anything? Have I paid it back?
Have I been selfish or spiteful toward others? Have I been jealous?
Have I gotten drunk, or taken drugs?
Have I participated in anything that is of the occult: ouija boards, fortune tellers, séances, channeling, astrology?
Have I been patient, kind gentle and self-controlled?
When my conscience told me to do something good, did I do it or did I ignore it?

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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 23, 2020

Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.
— Leviticus 19:2b

I wonder how many people read today's Gospel and said, “You expect me to do that?” Aren’t we supposed to resist evil? Yes, and we do it as Jesus did—we conquer it with love.

When Jesus died on the cross, this was the victory over sin and death because he gave his life for us out of love. This love was for everyone, especially those sinners who need it. All he asks of us is to show love to everyone, even our enemies.

Now when we read the examples in the Gospel (Matthew 5:39–42), we may be tempted to say that the way to stop evil is to make people suffer for doing evil. But Jesus didn’t say to let people run over us. Instead of a weak passivism, we actively offer the other cheek, hand over the cloak, or go the extra mile. And that’s just for the ones who occasionally annoy us. Later in the same Gospel, Jesus tells us to love and pray for our enemies.

But notice what he doesn’t say. He never promises that we will change these people, that our actions will eventually cause them to repent or become our friends. No, he only asks his disciples to change, to become “perfect” as the Father is perfect. That kind of holiness comes only from God, just as changing evil-doers or enemies is up to God. Perhaps the love we show to our enemies will at least open their hearts to the possibility of receiving the love of God, who can help them to become holy, too.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
February 23rd
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
To
March 1, 2020
First Sunday of Lent

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 23rd
8:00 † Richard Jones
10:00 † Thomas Dunlap by Family

Monday–Weekday February 24th
8:00 † Christopher & Bleav Addvcs Toulabo by Patrickson & Obe Durand

Tuesday–Weekday February 25th
8:00 † David Michalak by St. John Parshioners

Wednesday–Ash Wednesday February 26th
8:00 † Joseph Johnson by Susan Gates
7:00 † Kristen Kunst by Kim & Keri

Thursday–After Ash Wednesday February 27th
8:00 † Margret Boyd by Family

Friday–After Ash Wednesday February 28th
8:00 † Florence Rintrona & Family by Friend

Saturday–After Ash Wednesday February 29th
8:00 Eucharistic Service

Vigil of First Sunday of Lent
4:00 † Robert McFarland by Matusik Family

Sunday–First Sunday of Lent March 1st
8:00 † Frances Lisac by Bartkiewicz Family
10:00 † M/M Eugene Calgaro by Family

ASH WEDNESDAY

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: these disciplines, prescribed by Jesus himself in the Sermon on the Mount, along with strict instructions not to flaunt them in public to win recognition and praise (Matthew 6:1-18), have been embraced by all the saints at the beginning of every Lent for almost two thousand years. But mention Lent, and many react with a grimace or slight shudder—even now, years after official obligations have been reduced to a minimum! No wonder the Eastern Rite’s “Lenten Announcement” sounds surprising: “Let us receive with joy, O faithful people, the divinely inspired announcement of Lent! The Lenten Spring shines forth! Begin the fast with joy! Let us fast from passions as well as food, taking pleasure in the good works of the Spirit, and accomplishing them in love!” Saint John Chrysostom, whose feast is September 13, elaborates: “Do you fast? Give proof by your works. If you see a poor person, take pity. An enemy, be reconciled. A friend gaining honor, don’t be jealous.” A positive approach! May the saints help us keep such a Lent!

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
WHEN YOU NEED HELP CALL
Catholic Charities
12731 S Wood St.
Blue Island, IL 60406

Aid for Women
Pregnancy Care Center
24-hour helpline
312-621-1100

Catholic Charities
Senior Services
15300 S. Lexington, Harvey, IL 60426
708-596-2222

Courage
For single mothers & unplanned Pregnancies
708-636-8001

Wounded Healers
Grief Support Group
219-924-5577
www.woundedhealersnw1.com

SSC on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse
708-647-3333

Evening Supper
St. Anne Parish Hall
Mondays Only 5:30PM
16801 Dixie Highway,
Hazel Crest, IL 60429
708-333-8379

Faith Church
Various Support & Recovery Services
219-864-0300

Crisis Center
For South Suburbia
708-429-7255

Joyful Again
Widowed Ministry Program
708-354-7211

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE
Fr. William McFarlane
Karen Leluga-Secretary
Ora Adams                         John Kennerk
Ricki Biank                         Judy Konieczka
Evonne Blakey                       Ginny Williamson
Ron Carine                          Maira Zambrano

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE
Fr. William McFarlane
Joe Dillon/Bookkeeper
Dan Genisio-Co chair
Bill Miller-Secretary
Susan Gates                       Lynn Unyi
Phyllis Giroux

Welcome to Our Church

If you have been attending St. John and have been unsure about joining, don’t be. We are a welcoming community and would love to have you with us.

To become a member of St. John Parish, fill out the information below and place this in the Offer-tory Collection or mail it to the parish office. You may also call the parish secretary at 758-5098. If you have a new address or phone number please call the office or submit this form so we can keep our records updated.

Name(s)_______________________________
Address_______________________________
City__________________________________
Phone_________________________________
Email_________________________________

SUNDAY COLLECTION
Weekly Goal: $4,100.00
February 15th/16th

Sunday Collection $3,475.18*
Envelopes Received 128*
E-Giving $380.00*
Transactions 13

Total Sunday Giving $3,855.18**

* Includes Memorials ** Includes E-Giving

TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS
Total Pledges/Donations: $425,919
Parish Share: $319,919
# of Pledges/Donations: 121
Actual Collections through January 15, 2020
$279,320.00

Questions? Call the Parish Office or
The Campaign Office at 312-534-8500

St. John 50/50 Raffle
February 17, 2020

Envelope number 464 was drawn for the 50/50 raffle drawing. The parishioner assigned this number did not participate in the drawing. This week’s prize of $935.50 will be added to next week’s 50/50 raffle.

See church bulletin board for official rules.
Many thanks to all who participated.