For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

Our Parish Family

Calling St. John’s Senior Citizens!
Now that many of our parish seniors have been fully vaccinated, they want to get together again.
A meeting is in the works for May! There will be no luncheon - this is simply a time to see friendly faces.
Stay tuned. More information will be released soon.

Condolences to Baric Family
Our sympathies to the family of Kristina Baric. She died Feb. 15 at the age of 84.
A Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 25 at St. John the Baptist and she was buried at Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Friday Night Dinner
The Drive-Thru Shrimp dinner is coming right up - 5 p.m., March 26! Support St. John’s Catholic Club and have someone else cook. Dinner is $17 for shrimp and sides. Please reserve at (913) 371-9690. Pay by Venmo or mail a check to the club at 414 Barnett, KCK, 66101.

And, if you don’t want to cook this Friday, March 19, you can pick up dinner at St. Patrick’s. It opens at 4:30 p.m. - just drive up and pay. Cash is preferred.

Fish or shrimp dinner is $11 for adults and $6 for kiddos. The family meal deal is $30.

Alex Gorsky
Our own Alex Gorsky, who attended St. John the Baptist School, is the CEO of Johnson and Johnson! The Gorskys were longtime parish members before they moved to Michigan. Alex’s mother was Loretta Bartolac, sister of Kathleen Braun.

Alex has been a generous sponsor of our Croatian festival. Nice to see our “family” doing well.

Call to Share
A quick update on the annual Archbishop’s Call to Share appeal. St. John’s has reached 72 percent of the target amount of $18,176. Here is the breakdown of donations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Households:</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Donors to Date:</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Participants:</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Gift:</td>
<td>$237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Amount:</td>
<td>$18,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Target</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Pledge Amount:</td>
<td>$13,035</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weekly Collections March 7, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes:</td>
<td>$2,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance:</td>
<td>$1,487</td>
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<td>Candles:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Relief:</td>
<td>$65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Flowers:</td>
<td>$85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priest Retirement:</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Kitchen:</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Reading

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD’s temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place.

But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy.

Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects.

Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power.

All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah:

“Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled.”

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing:

“Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!”

Responsorial Psalm

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. On the aspens of that land we hung up our harps.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

For there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs, And our despoilers urged us to be joyous: “Sing for us the songs of Zion!”

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

How could we sing a song of the LORD in a foreign land? If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand be forgotten!

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

May my tongue cleave to my palate if I remember you not, If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Second Reading

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast.

For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for
the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

**Verse Before the Gospel**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

**Gospel**

Jesus said to Nicodemus: “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed.

But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

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2021 **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

The full Holy Week and Easter schedule was included in last week’s bulletin. You may also find it on our parish website.

**Reservations (and masks) are required for services.** There is a 75-person maximum allowed and includes both St. John the Baptist and Holy Family parishioners.

To reserve, call Holy Family at (913) 413-0222.

**Holy Thursday, April 1**
6:30 p.m., Holy Family Church

**Good Friday, April 2**
3:00 p.m., St. John the Baptist

**Holy Saturday, April 3 - BLESSING OF FOOD**
1:00 p.m., St. John the Baptist
2:00 p.m., Holy Family

**Holy Saturday, April 3 - EASTER VIGIL**
7:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist

**Easter Sunday, April 4**
7:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist (if needed)
9:00 a.m., St. John the Baptist
10:30 a.m. - Holy Family Church

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**St. John the Baptist Church**

708 N. 4th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

(913) 371-0627  FAX: (913) 342-3324

Email: OurCroatianParish@gmail.com
Web: stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com
Facebook: St. John the Baptist Croatian Parish
Instagram: OurCroatianParish

**St. John’s Catholic Club**

(913) 371-9690 (Messages only)
Email: stjohnmensclub@sbcglobal.net

**Prayer Line**: (913) 281-4448