

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

833 Main Street  
Agawam, MA 01001

[www.stjohnagawam.com](http://www.stjohnagawam.com)

[sje.information@gmail.com](mailto:sje.information@gmail.com)

Office Phone: 413-786-8105 | Fax: 413-455-3100



## Welcome!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church,  
No matter what your family or marital situation,  
No matter what your past or present religious affiliation,  
No matter what your personal history, background, race or other,  
No matter what your own self-image or esteem,  
You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here at St. John's.

## EUCCHARIST:

Lord's Day Mass: *Saturday* 4:00 pm, *Sunday* 8:00 am, 10:30 am

Weekday Mass: Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday at 8:00 am & Wednesday at 6:00 pm | Adoration: Wed. 12:00 - 6:00 pm

CONFESSION: Saturday 2:45 to 3:45 pm, Wednesday 4:30 to 5:30 pm, or by Appointment.

BAPTISM: Please call the parish office to schedule.

MARRIAGE: To be arranged at least one year in advance. Please call the parish office.

ANointing OF THE SICK: Is available in the Confessional every Saturday or see Father after Mass. If you or a loved one needs Father to come to you, please call the parish office.

CONFIRMATION: Takes place in 11th Grade, please contact the Director of Religious Education to enroll in classes. If you are an adult and need to make your Confirmation, please contact the same office and ask about the RCIA program.

HOLY ORDERS: Are you thinking about a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Please call Fr. Pierz at the parish office, or call the Office of Vocations at (413) 452-0811.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: *We are a Roman Catholic community inspired by the Holy Spirit to follow the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by sharing, growing and spreading God the Father's love through our parish ministries, and by coming together as a community in meaningful prayer and worship to celebrate that love.*

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time—August 22, 2021**

## **21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Joshua confronts the tribes of Israel: Will you desert your covenant with Yahweh? The desertion of disciples is a prelude to the paschal mystery. With Peter, however, let us profess our faith in the Lord, who gave himself up for us all.*

### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

*Monday-Thursday - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm*

*Friday - Closed*

**Pastor:** Fr. Michael Pierz

sje.priest@gmail.com

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. John Hurley

sje.curate@gmail.com

**Deacon:** Deacon Dave Picard

sje.deacon@gmail.com

**Priest in Retirement:** Fr. John Lis

**Office Manager:** Andreana Perkins

sje.operationsmanager@gmail.com

**Parish Secretary:** Debbie Whitehead

**Reception Volunteers:** Mary Talarico,

Patricia Brown, Shirley Cuslusi

**Pastoral Ministry to Sick & Homebound:**

Francesca Brandt

sje.homebound@gmail.com

**Director of Religious Education:** Claire Riberdy

sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com

**Director of "In the Beginning"**

**Pre-School Ministry:** Claire Riberdy (Interim)

sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com

**Pre-School Teachers:** Isabel Dunn

**Director of Music Ministry:** Isabella Manning

sje.musicdirector@gmail.com

**Maintenance Supervisor:** Beth Thomas

sje.maintenance@gmail.com

**Child Advocate:** Mary Beth Swindell

Private Line: (860) 386-6009

### **Finance Council:**

David Ross (Chair)

Dale Marie Breault

Cecile Fragoso

Suzanne Lamkins

Ted Muszynski

### **Pastoral Council:**

Cecile Fragoso (Acting Chair)

Megan Baillargeon

Luke Hollwedel

Jeffrey Kraus

Dorota Maliszewska

Leo Marinak

Jessica Pokora

Jane Seaver

Jane Trevethan

Cara Waterman

**Bulletin Submissions are due 9 days prior to print**

**Email: [sje.parishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:sje.parishsecretary@gmail.com)**

## **Thoughts from the Rectory ...**

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

"We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God". These words of St. Peter, heard in today's Gospel, are a bold declaration and a profound realization of truth. They are a witness to the unfolding mystery of divine revelation and an appropriation of that mystery into the exercise of the Apostle's will. "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life".

St. Peter, and we with him I pray, begins a journey, a process of coming to believe. As with any relationship, there is a time unknown, busy or idle with the things that simply occupy our days. For him, it was working on the sea, hauling his nets. For us, it may be our 9 to 5, our errands and to-do list, our Zoom meeting or studies. Then a first encounter that offers us a choice, "Come and follow me". Perhaps we were introduced to Jesus already at a young age, in our schoolrooms or through our parents and grandparents. Perhaps we were introduced through a friend, in college, or in our dating and marriage. Perhaps a prayerful experience in an empty and quiet church. Perhaps a stimulating conversation or consideration of some words of Scripture. Each of us will have had that first encounter with the Lord.

As Jesus affirms "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world", we are confronted with the choice to ever deepen our relationship with Him or to remain mere observers. We can be drawn into deeper faithfulness or simply acquainted from afar. "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you".

Jesus challenges us. He rouses us from our fatigue and drudgery, and commands our attention. He asks us to go all-in, full board, without holding back. He places before us a clear choice ...

Each of us must respond to that choice with the fullness of our lives. We cannot only go in toe-deep, the shallow end of faith. Belief must become conviction.

Jesus' claims are hard, but they are true. He is truly present to us, especially in the awe-inspiring mystery of the Eucharist, His flesh and blood. While St. Peter, the Apostles, and countless more over the centuries have responded to Jesus' call with the very witness of their lives, many others remained timid and slight. Faced with the choice of authentic belief, that shakes and rocks us to the core, fickleness and flight can seem comforting. "As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him" (Jn. 6:66).

**21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Saturday, August 21st**

**4:00 pm—Richard Keizer**

Requested by His Friend Robert

**Sunday, August 22nd**

**8:00 am—For the People**

**10:30 am—Jack & Jane Seaver,  
Matt & Claire Riberdy**

Requested by The Seaver Family

**Monday, August 23rd—Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin**

**8:00 am—Florence Stasiak ✝**

Requested by the Stasiak Family

**Tuesday, August 24th—Saint Bartholomew, Apostle**

**8:00 am—Jerry Quill ✝**

Requested by Christl and Ted

**Wednesday, August 25th—St. Louis, St. Joseph  
Calasanz, Priest**

**6:00 pm—Living Members of the Nocturnal  
Adoration Society of Agawam & W. Springfield**

**Thursday, August 26th**

**8:00 am—Bernard Julian ✝**

Requested by The Family

**Friday, August 27th—Saint Monica**

**8:00 am—Steve & Tom Passanisi ✝**

Requested by Rick & Cheryl Passanisi

**22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Saturday, August 28th**

**4:00 pm—Jack Bodurtha ✝**

Requested by His Wife & Children

**Sunday, August 29th**

**8:00 am—Deceased Members of the  
Chartier Family ✝**

Requested Cecile Fragoso

**10:30 am—FOR THE PEOPLE**

Let us not be the ones who are knocked off course, tempted to doubt and disbelief, fallen prey to the wiles of the Enemy. Let us be the ones who hear the words of the Lord our Saviour and rejoice in the mystery of His revelation. Let us be the ones bound to the Eucharist and inheritors of eternal life. Let us be the ones who have come to believe and are convinced that He is the Holy One of God!

*St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!*

**Fr. Pierz**

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

**AUGUST 22-28**

WILL BE LIT IN MEMORY OF

**THE TALARICO FAMILY -  
LIVING & DECEASED**

REQUESTED BY

**MARY**

If you would like to request the Sanctuary Candle to be lit in honor of or in memory of someone, please contact the parish office.



**Please remember in your prayers:**

Please pray for the sick and dying of our parish. Remember all who are in hospitals, nursing homes and homebound. Pray for the hungry, the unemployed and under-employed. Pray for an end to abortion and a true respect for all life, from conception to natural death. Pray for peace. In a concrete way we pray for all those who have died and all the deceased members of our parish and diocese, especially Glenn Consolini and Dory Collette.

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.**

*And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

**May they rest in peace. Amen.**

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

*If you would like to include someone who has recently passed away, please call the parish office or email: [sje.pariahsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:sje.pariahsecretary@gmail.com).*

**IN MY MOTHER'S ARMS  
PRAYER LINE:**

If you have a serious intention that you need prayers for: surgery, sufferings, medical, illness, cancer treatment, a sick child, or anything like that, please give Pat (786-3023) or Mary (786-9671) a call and you will have countless rosaries and prayers.

*If anyone else is interested in being a prayer partner, please call Pat or Mary.*



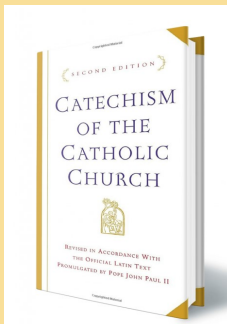


## Coffee, Fellowship and Q&A with Father Pierz

**September 2nd**  
**After the 8:00 am Daily Mass**  
**In the Father Joyce Room**

**Join us for fellowship, and bring  
your Catholic Questions  
for this Q & A session.**

## CCC Part II, Chapter Two, Article 4 The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation



### V. THE MANY FORMS OF PENANCE IN CHRISTIAN LIFE

1434: The interior penance of the Christian can be expressed in many and various ways. Scripture and the Fathers insist above all on three forms, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving,” which express conversion in relation to oneself, to

God, and to others. Alongside the radical purification brought about by Baptism or martyrdom they cite as means of obtaining forgiveness of sins: efforts at reconciliation with one's neighbor, tears of repentance, concern for the salvation of one's neighbor, the intercession of the saints, and the practice of charity “which covers a multitude of sins.”

***Want to learn more? You can read the remainder of section 1 by:***

- ♦ searching “CCC 1434” online
- ♦ purchasing a Catechism of the Catholic Church, available online, or for a \$10 offering from the Parish Office while supplies last.

### Outdoor Movie Night at St. John the Evangelist Church



**Friday, August 27th**

**7:00 pm—entrance and concessions**  
**8:30 pm—Movie begins**

We will view “*The Chosen*”, Episodes 5 & 6, with a brief intermission.

Through concessions, we will raise money  
for Agawam Knights of Columbus,  
local pro-life ministry, and our  
“In the Beginning” Preschool Ministry.

Concessions include bagged popcorn,  
bottled water, and cans of soda.

There will be a 50/50 opportunity drawing.

*Free admission (Donations accepted)*

## There's a New Preschool in Town!

833 Main Street, Agawam  
(located in the Lower Parish Center)

Now Accepting Enrollment for 2021-2022



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH

**IN THE  
BEGINNING**  
PRESCHOOL  
BORN OF GOD

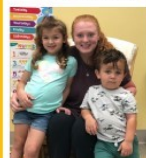
*with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd!*

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY  
&  
SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!**

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH  
833 MAIN STREET | AGAWAM, MA  
SJF.RELIGIOUSEDUCATION@GMAIL.COM

FULL TIME PRESCHOOL

PART TIME PRESCHOOL



413-786-8105  
STJOHNAGAWAM.COM  
MONDAY-FRIDAY  
7 AM-5 PM  
BEGINNING SEPT. 7, 2021

AFTER  
SCHOOL CARE  
SUMMER  
PROGRAMS





Class Dates: Sept. 25th,  
October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30



8AM - 10AM



St. John the Evangelist  
833 Main St.  
Agawam, MA

## *Are you Catholic but not yet confirmed?*

Join us for 6 classes to learn more about the faith and as you prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation with other adults.

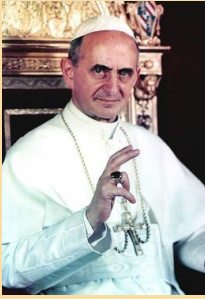
Please contact the office at St. John's to learn more and register at  
(413) 786-8105 / [sje.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:sje.secretary@gmail.com).

*All sessions will be in the Father Joyce Room of the Pastoral Center at St John the Evangelist Church. Materials can be purchased at the first meeting for approximately \$45*

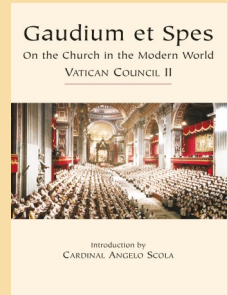
*Come and be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

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PASTORAL CONSTITUTION  
ON THE CHURCH IN THE  
MODERN WORLD  
*GAUDIUM ET SPES*  
PROMULGATED BY  
HIS HOLINESS  
**POPE PAUL VI**  
ON DECEMBER 7, 1965



**PART I: THE CHURCH AND MAN'S CALLING**

**CHAPTER IV: THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN THE MODERN WORLD**

43. This council exhorts Christians, as citizens of two cities, to strive to discharge their earthly duties conscientiously and in response to the Gospel spirit. They are mistaken who, knowing that we have here no abiding city but seek one which is to come,(13) think that they may therefore shirk their earthly responsibilities. For they are forgetting that by the faith itself they are more obliged than ever to measure up to these duties, each according to his proper vocation.(14) Nor, on the contrary, are they any less wide of the mark who think that religion consists in acts of worship alone and in the discharge of certain moral obligations, and who imagine they can plunge themselves into earthly affairs in such a way as to imply that these are altogether divorced from the religious life. This split between the faith which many profess and their daily lives deserves to be counted among the more serious errors of our age. Long since, the Prophets of the Old Testament fought vehemently against this scandal(15) and even more so did Jesus Christ Himself in the New Testament threaten it with grave punishments.(16) Therefore, let there be no false opposition between professional and social activities on the one part, and religious life on the other. The Christian who neglects his temporal duties, neglects his duties toward his neighbor and even God, and jeopardizes his eternal salvation. Christians should rather rejoice that, following the example of Christ Who worked as an artisan, they are free to give proper exercise to all their earthly activities and to their humane, domestic, professional, social and technical enterprises by gathering them into one vital synthesis with religious values, under whose supreme direction all things are harmonized unto God's glory.

Secular duties and activities belong properly although not exclusively to laymen. Therefore acting as citizens in the world, whether individually or socially, they will keep the laws proper to each discipline, and labor to equip themselves with a genuine expertise in their various fields. They will gladly work with men seeking the same goals. Acknowledging the demands of faith and endowed with its force, they will unhesitatingly devise new enterprises, where they are appropriate, and put them into action. Laymen should also know that it is generally the function of their well-formed Christian conscience to see that the divine law is inscribed in the life of the earthly city; from priests they may look for spiritual light and nourishment. Let the layman not imagine that his pastors are always such experts, that to every problem which arises, however complicated, they can readily give him a concrete solution, or even that such is their mission. Rather, enlightened by Christian wisdom and giving close attention to the teaching authority of the Church,(17) let the layman take on his own distinctive role.

Often enough the Christian view of things will itself suggest some specific solution in certain circumstances. Yet it happens rather frequently, and legitimately so, that with equal sincerity some of the faithful will disagree with others on a given matter. Even against the intentions of their proponents, however, solutions proposed on one side or another may be easily confused by many people with the Gospel message. Hence it is necessary for people to remember that no one is allowed in the aforementioned situations to appropriate the Church's authority for his opinion. They should always try to enlighten one another through honest discussion, preserving mutual charity and caring above all for the common good.

Since they have an active role to play in the whole life of the Church, laymen are not only bound to penetrate the world with a Christian spirit, but are also called to be witnesses to Christ in all things in the midst of human society.

Bishops, to whom is assigned the task of ruling the Church of God, should, together with their priests, so preach the news of Christ that all the earthly activities of the faithful will be bathed in the light of the Gospel. All pastors should remember too that by their daily conduct and concern(18) they are revealing the face of the Church to the world, and men will judge the power and truth of the Christian message thereby. By their lives and speech, in union with Religious and their faithful, may they demonstrate that even now the Church by her presence alone and by all the gifts which she contains, is an unspent fountain of those virtues which the modern world needs the most.

By unremitting study they should fit themselves to do their part in establishing dialogue with the world and with men of all shades of opinion. Above all let them take to heart the words which this council has spoken: "Since humanity today increasingly moves toward civil, economic and social unity, it is more than ever necessary that priests, with joint concern and energy, and under the guidance of the bishops and the supreme pontiff, erase every cause of division, so that the whole human race may be led to the unity of God's family."(19)

Although by the power of the Holy Spirit the Church will remain the faithful spouse of her Lord and will never cease to be the sign of salvation on earth, still she is very well aware that among her members,(20) both clerical and lay, some have been unfaithful to the Spirit of God during the course of many centuries; in the present age, too, it does not escape the Church how great a distance lies between the message she offers and the human failings of those to whom the Gospel is entrusted. Whatever be the judgement of history on these defects, we ought to be conscious of them, and struggle against them energetically, lest they inflict harm on spread of the Gospel. The Church also realizes that in working out her relationship with the world she always has great need of the ripening which comes with the experience of the centuries. Led by the Holy Spirit, Mother Church unceasingly exhorts her sons "to purify and renew themselves so that the sign of Christ can shine more brightly on the face of the Church."(21)

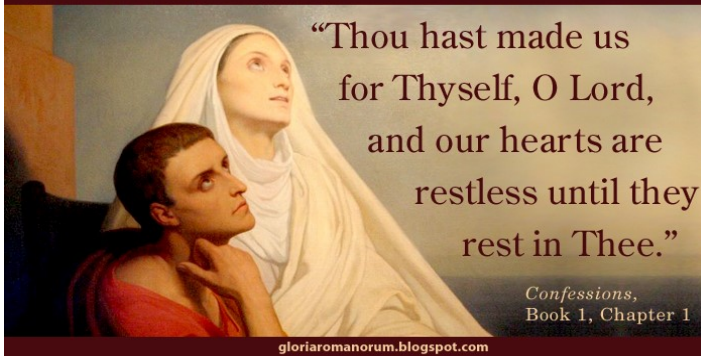
44. Just as it is in the world's interest to acknowledge the Church as an historical reality, and to recognize her good influence, so the Church herself knows how richly she has profited by the history and development of humanity.

The experience of past ages, the progress of the sciences, and the treasures hidden in the various forms of human culture, by all of which the nature of man himself is more clearly revealed and new roads to truth are opened, these profit the Church, too. For, from the beginning of her history she has learned to express the message of Christ with the help of the ideas and terminology of various philosophers, and and has tried to clarify it with their wisdom, too. Her purpose has been to adapt the Gospel to the grasp of all as well as to the needs of the learned, insofar as such was appropriate. Indeed this accommodated preaching of the revealed word ought to remain the law of all evangelization. For thus the ability to express Christ's message in its own way is developed in each nation, and at the same time there is fostered a living exchange between the Church and the diverse cultures of people.(22) To promote such exchange, especially in our days, the Church requires the special help of those who live in the world, are versed in different institutions and specialties, and grasp their innermost significance in the eyes of both believers and unbelievers. With the help of the Holy Spirit, it is the task of the entire People of God, especially pastors and theologians, to hear, distinguish and interpret the many voices of our age, and to judge them in the light of the divine word, so that revealed truth can always be more deeply penetrated, better understood and set forth to greater advantage.

Since the Church has a visible and social structure as a sign of her unity in Christ, she can and ought to be enriched by the development of human social life, not that there is any lack in the constitution given her by Christ, but that she can understand it more penetratingly, express it better, and adjust it more successfully to our times. Moreover, she gratefully understands that in her community life no less than in her individual sons, she receives a variety of helps from men of every rank and condition, for whoever promotes the human community at the family level, culturally, in its economic, social and political dimensions, both nationally and internationally, such a one, according to God's design, is contributing greatly to the Church as well, to the extent that she depends on things outside herself. Indeed, the Church admits that she has greatly profited and still profits from the antagonism of those who oppose or who persecute her.(23)

(*Second Vatican Council. GAUDIUM ET SPES. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, 7 December 1965, 43-44)

## St. Augustine and St. Monica



"Thou hast made us  
for Thyself, O Lord,  
and our hearts are  
restless until they  
rest in Thee."

Confessions,  
Book 1, Chapter 1

gloriaromanorum.blogspot.com

### Weekend of August 15th

*"Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may  
be acceptable to God, the almighty Father"*

Weekly: \$3,541

Maintenance: \$1,366

Fuel: \$74

Loose: \$240.91

Loan Repayment: \$635

Online Giving: \$2,667

**Total: \$8,523.91**

*"May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for  
the praise and glory of His name, for our good and  
the good of all His holy Church."*

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Registration is open for Fall 2021  
enrollment at St. John the  
Evangelist Church's CCD  
Program! A parent meeting will be  
planned for late September, and  
classes will begin early October.



Download a registration from our website,

**www.stjohnnagawam.com**

(click *About Us*, *Downloadable Forms*)

Mail in your completed form with a check to cover  
the registration fee, or drop off to the Parish Office.

\$55 per child, \$100 for two or more children.

If you are interested in volunteering your time as a  
catechist, please reach out to:

Claire Riberdy, Director of Religious Education

sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com or 413-786-8105, ext. 103

### Marian Antiphons

*Did you know? ...* After daily Mass each day, our  
wonderful community sings in veneration of Mary.  
Often we hail Mary Immaculate, her praises we sing!

Holy Mother Church celebrates songs of St. Mary,  
especially throughout the various liturgical seasons.

To grow more familiar with the rich treasury of  
Christian hymnody, we will soon begin singing some  
of these Marian Antiphons after the 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Masses.

Each liturgical season has its proper Marian hymn!

Late Ordinary Time:

*"Salve Regina"* ("Hail, Holy Queen")

Advent & Christmas:

*"Alma Redemptoris Mater"*

("Kindly Mother of the Redeemer")

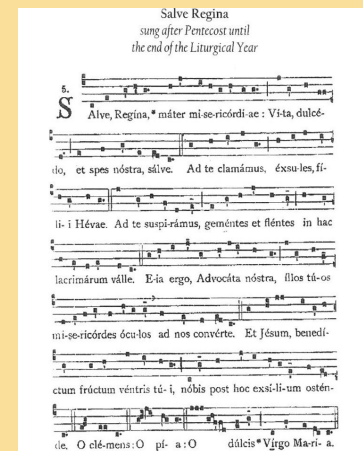
Early Ordinary Time & Lent

*"Ave Regina caelorum"* ("Hail, Queen of Heaven")

Easter:

*"Regina caeli, laetare"* ("Queen of Heaven, Rejoice")

Song sheets will be made available at the church  
entrance. In preparation, you can learn the tune and  
view lyrics at youtube.com (search: *"Salve Regina  
simple tone"*).



**"Salve Regina" antiphon**

Sung from Pentecost to Christ the King

### COMING UP AT ST. JOHN'S

**Daily Mass Times: 8 am (M, T, Th, F) 6 pm (W)**

**Confession Times: Wed. 4:30 pm, Sat., 2:45 pm**

**Monday, August 23rd**

6:30 pm Family & Human Life (PCO)

**Wednesday, August 25th**

6:30 pm Altar Server Training (Church)

**Friday, August 27th**

8:30 pm Drive-in Movie Night (Parking Lot)

**Sunday, August 29th**

6:30 pm Scouts (PC3)



## What's Happening around the Diocese and beyond...

### Support Immediate Relief Efforts for Haiti



The massive 7.2 magnitude earthquake that hit Haiti, killing nearly 1300 people, leveled homes, leaving thousands without shelter. Countless others are injured and hospitals are already overwhelmed.

Haiti is a country already susceptible to hurricanes and still recovering from the disastrous earthquake a decade ago and many in Haiti are already facing widespread hunger due to drought and economic instability. Catholic Relief Services invites you to contribute for the critical needs of families in Haiti.

*Your prayers and support will make so much difference. Visit [support.crs.org](http://support.crs.org) to make an online contribution, or call 877-435-7277*

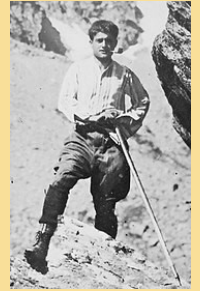
### Office of Young Adult Ministry



Young Adults are encouraged to monitor the online upcoming events calendar, and to get involved: Visit <http://diospringfield.org/Ministries/office-of-young-adult-ministry/>

Contact: Joe Austin,  
[j.austin@diospringfield.org](mailto:j.austin@diospringfield.org)

*"Verso l'alto!" ("To the Heights!")*  
– Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati



**SACRED HEART PARISH  
446 MOUNTAIN RD, SUFFIELD, CT**

### ALL NIGHT PRAYER VIGIL

**Friday, September 3, 2021  
8:00 PM—5:30 AM**

First Friday All Night Vigil  
To Console the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary



Volunteers are needed for this year's Faith On Fire Rally at Sacred Heart-Feeding Hills.

**September 9th:** set up tents, tables, chairs

**September 10th:** greeters, nurses, health professionals

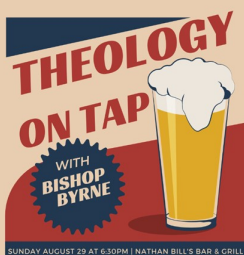
**September 11th:** take-down tents, put away chairs, tables, clean the grounds

*Faith On Fire Volunteer Contact:  
Deb Briancesco, RN, 786-8200 x3*

### Join us for a Jericho Walk the night before the Faith on Fire Catholic Charismatic Rally

On September 9, 2021 at 6 P.M. there will be a Jericho Walk for the protection of the Holy Grounds of Sacred Heart Parish, 1061 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Ma. This walk has occurred the night before every Faith on Fire Rally since it began in 2013. The walk includes praying, singing, meditation and the sprinkling of Blessed Salt and Holy Water.

There will be a short teaching by Jeanne Raczowski of the meaning of a Jericho walk and what it's purpose is, just before the walk begins.



Join Bishop William Byrne for a night of fun, faith, and fellowship at the East Forest Park neighborhood Thomas Sullivan Banquet Hall at Nathan Bill's on Sunday August 29 at 6:30pm. More info at [www.facebook.com/events/461893778557214](https://www.facebook.com/events/461893778557214).



**St. Rose de Lima  
(1856-1617)**

**Feast Day: August 23rd**

*"When we server the poor and the sick we serve Jesus. We must not fail to help our neighbors, because in them we serve Jesus."*



## **Saint John the Evangelist RCIA 2021-2022**

**Begins Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>**

### ***Have You ...***

- Wondered how one becomes Catholic?
- Been away from the Church, and now returned, but want to know more?
- Not celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation?

*(Baptism, Confirmation, First Holy Communion)*

- Want to hear more about the Catholic faith?

### ***If YES ...***

Please join us to find out more through our program called:

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

**A journey that begins with your questions.**

*There is no obligation to join the Church at this time – the decision is always yours to make.*

**Inquiry Session: Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.**

**Fr Joyce Room of the Pastoral Center**

**We look forward to welcoming you: RSVP at our Parish Office @ 413-786-8105**



## Diocese of Springfield

### Office of the Bishop

August 18, 2021

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Like many of you, in recent days and with tremendous sadness, I have read news articles and watched television reports on the devastating effects of the massive 7.2 earthquake which struck the impoverished country of Haiti on August 14.

Unfortunately, this is a place that is no stranger to tragedies, both natural and man-made. Many of the people, even in the best of times, live in destitute poverty and they look to the Catholic churches to assist them. This recent natural disaster has impacted the churches as well, leaving tens of thousand struggling just to find safe shelter, food, and care for their families.

It is at just such a moment that we are called by our Lord and Savior to reach out in true Christian charity to help those who have so little.

I invite you, therefore, to prayerfully consider making a special offering for the people of Haiti through your parish in the coming weeks. These funds will be gathered from across the diocese and then distributed to Catholic Relief Services, as well as given directly to the local dioceses in Haiti which were most impacted by this earthquake.

I am asking all parishes to take up a special collection on the weekends of August 21/22 and August 28/29. To expedite this collection, if you wish to donate via check, please make it payable to your parish and put in the notation "Haiti 2021 Collection."

Lastly, I ask that you join me in prayer for the people of Haiti, that they will know that our loving God is with them, especially in such difficult times. May we demonstrate God's love for them through this act of charity.

In prayerful gratitude,

Most Rev. William D. Byrne  
Bishop of Springfield