

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

833 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001

www.stjohnagawam.com

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.

ANOIDTING 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.*

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time—November 7, 2021

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Lord provides for Elijah's needs as the widow of Zarephath shares with him from her want. Her generosity is mirrored in the widow in the temple who gives from her poverty and not from power, privilege, or excess. In Jesus, God became poor for us, offering himself to take away our sins.

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 Cusluski

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 Frago	Suzanne Lamkins

Pastoral Council:

Cecile Frago	Megan Baillargeon
Trisha Brown	Luke Hollwedel
Mary Kate Henle	Jeffrey Krause
Leo Marinak	Jessica Pokora
Jane Seaver	Jane Trevethan
Cara Grasso	

Bulletin Submissions are due 12 days prior to print

***Email: sje.parishsecretary@gmail.com**

Thoughts from the Rectory ...

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

"... but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." The closing words of this weekend's Gospel are a beautiful challenge and invitation for each of us. As the poor widow placed her offering in the temple treasury, she offered her whole livelihood.

Jesus invites us to give our total selves in service to the Gospel. To put our whole heart and soul in to the task of evangelization and holiness for the glory of God and the good of our neighbor.

Pope Benedict XVI offers us a beautiful meditation on the true value of the widow's gift and how we too are called to authentically give:

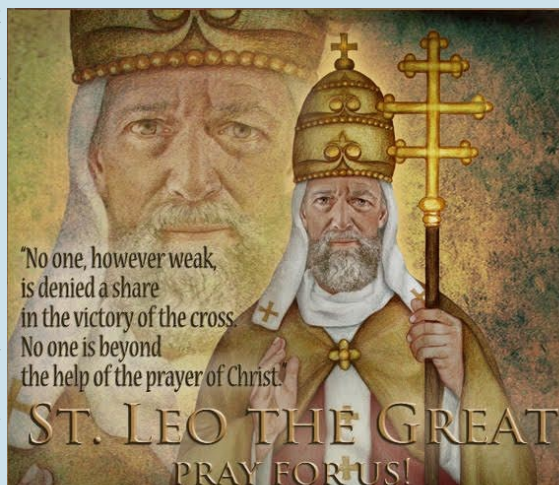
Yet, Scripture says that the objective state of need, in this case being a widow, does not suffice: God always asks for our free adherence to faith, that it is expressed in love for him and for our neighbour. No one is so poor that he cannot give something. And, in fact, both of these widows from today demonstrate their faith by carrying out an act of charity: one for the Prophet and the other by almsgiving. Thus they attest to the inseparable unity between faith and love, as between love of God and love of one's neighbour — as the Gospel of last Sunday reminded us. Pope St Leo the Great, whose memory we celebrated yesterday, affirmed this: "On the scales of divine justice the quantity of gifts is not weighed, but the *weight of hearts*. The widow deposited in the Temple treasury two small coins and by doing so surpassed the gifts of all the rich. No gesture of goodness is meaningless before God, no mercy is left barren" (*Sermo de jejunio dec. mens., 90, 3*)."

May each of us have the courage to give our total selves, all that we have, all that we are for the good of the Gospel message of our salvation in Christ! May each of us be true men and women of faith and love, gifts of our whole livelihood.

St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!

Fr. Pierz

PS Next week I will be on my canonical retreat, entering into several days of silence and prayer. I confirm you in my intentions and ask your prayers.



32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, November 6th

4:00 pm—ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, November 7th

8:00 am—FOR THE PEOPLE

10:30 am—Lucille Pellerin †

Requested by Marie

Monday, November 8th

8:00 am—Rev. L. George Clermont †

Requested by L. J. Parent and Family

**Tuesday, November 9th—Dedication of the
Lateran Basilica**

8:00 am—Souls in Purgatory

**Wednesday, November 10th—Saint Leo the Great,
Pope and Doctor of the Church**

**6:00 pm—In Thanksgiving to the Miraculous
Infant of Jesus of Prague**

Requested by Marilyn Barbour

**Thursday, November 11th—Saint Martin of Tours,
Bishop**

8:00 am—Dr. Norman G. Roy †

Requested by Sarah and Sean, Briana and Kayla
Sancucci

**Friday, November 12th—St. Josaphat, Bishop and
Martyr**

8:00 am—Joseph Iellamo †

Requested by Rosemarie Remillard

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, November 13th

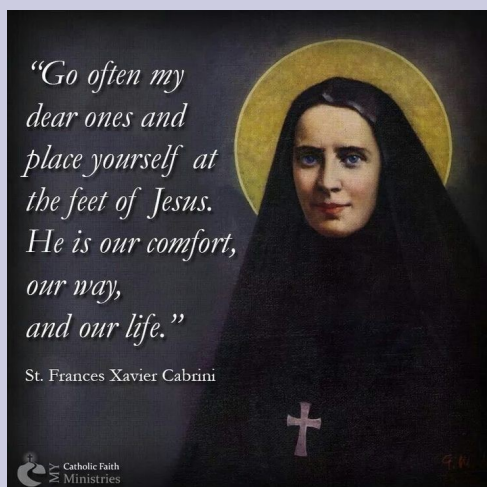
4:00 pm—Chet Sulboroski, Jr. †

Requested by His Wife

Sunday, November 14th

8:00 am—ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

10:30 am—FOR THE PEOPLE



SANCTUARY LAMP

NOVEMBER 7-13

WILL BE LIT IN MEMORY OF

JOHN & KATHERINE BURNS

REQUESTED BY

THE FAMILY

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, including Tom Paden and Sally Mackay.



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.parishsecretary@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.





Pro-Life Corner

St. John's Pro-Life Coordinators:
Judy Cross-Donahue & Diane LeDoux
(Call Parish Office)

Memorial to Our Children Born and Unborn

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for providing a monument to the children. Father Michael Pierz, present with Father John Hurley and Deacon David Picard, presided at the Memorial Dedication on the campus of St. John the Evangelist Church on a beautiful Sunday morning, surrounded by parishioners and local members of the Knights of Columbus.



"We give thanks to God that He gives us life and gives us the strength to defend and protect life everywhere," says Father Pierz. "In a special way as we give thanks to God for our mothers and fathers. We also give

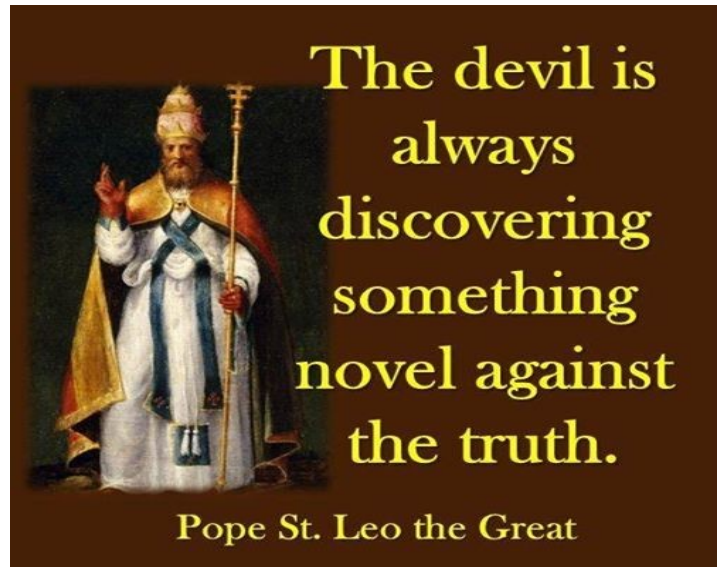


thanks to the great Knights of Columbus here in Agawam who are steadfast in the protection of life and the care of all peoples everywhere and their care especially here on the streets of Agawam."

Catholics for the Unborn: Our Lady's Prayer Vigil

Prayer Vigil for the unborn takes place the second Thursday of each month. Join us Thursday, September 9, 10 AM, at *St. Michael's Cathedral*, 254 State St., Springfield.

Exposition, recitation of the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration, Benediction at 12 pm, and Mass at 12:10 pm.



Liturgical Volunteer Retreat & Training

An evening of liturgical volunteer retreat/training is scheduled for Monday evening, **November 22nd**, from 6-8pm. All liturgical volunteers, including lectors, sacristans, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are required to attend this training, featuring guest speaker, Fr. Paul Norman.

New volunteers are also most welcome. Please call the parish office, at 786-8105. We invite you to join us in the lower church at 5:30, prior to the event, for a half hour of social time and light refreshments.

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, November 8th

5:30 pm Catholic Women's Club (Gym)

6:00 pm Ladies Exercise (PC3)

Tuesday, November 9th

4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)

5:15 pm Dance (PC3)

6:00 pm St. John's Guild (FJR)

7:00 pm Evangelization Commission (PCO)

Wednesday, November 10th

10:00am Knitting Group (FJR)

4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)

6:30 pm Music Ministry (Church)

7:00 pm Diocesan Men's Group (Lower Church)

Thursday, November 11th

4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)

6:00 pm Ladies Exercise (PC3)

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #77 (LC)

Friday, November 12th

4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)

Saturday, November 13th

8:00 am RCIA (FJR)

Sunday, November 14th

8:00 am Take and Eat (Kitchen/FJR)

9:00 am CCD (K-8) Children (LC)/Parents (Gym)

11:30 am CCD (Gr 11) (Lower Church)

6:00 pm CCD (Gr 9-10) (FJR)

O, COME
LET US ADORE HIM!

Every Wednesday
12:00pm — 5:45pm
with *Confessions* at 4:30-5:30pm,
and *Holy Mass* at 6:00pm



Sign up for an hour of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament! We are in need of people to cover all hours, especially 3pm-4pm.

For more information, please contact the parish office, 786-8105. Your time is so appreciated!

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH ADORATION

As the Year of St. Joseph culminates on December 8th, St. John's will host one more monthly Adoration in honor of St. Joseph on November 19th, 7-9 pm.

Guest Speaker Teaches About the Source and Summit of Our Faith to Confirmandi

Dan Baillargeon, Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Springfield, taught Adult Confirmation and RCIA students at St. John's to better-understand the Eucharist. He took the students on a journey through parts of the Old Testament and into the New Testament that prove Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist - body, blood, soul and divinity.



For example, Dan pointed out that the unblemished lamb of God asks for each family to provide for the first Passover in Exodus is a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ the only "unblemished Lamb!" The Passover Seder is God's prescription in perpetuity.

You can discover more about the Sacrifice of the Mass and of Jesus' true presence in the Eucharist in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Bishop to Preside at Adult Confirmation

Please join us Wednesday evening, November 10th, at 6:00 pm Mass, as Bishop William Byrne confirms three adults coming into the fullness of the Catholic Faith.



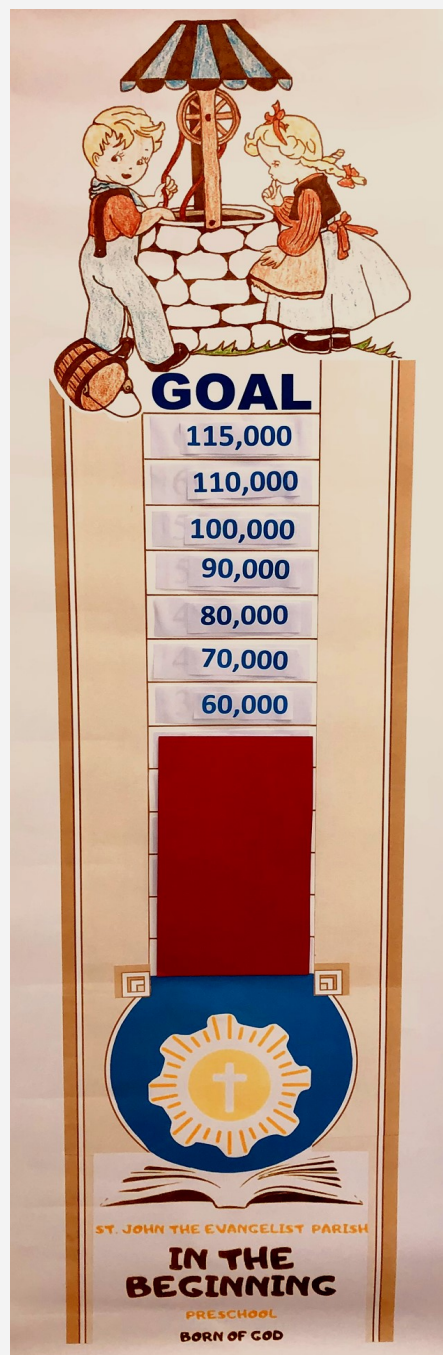
Each has completed a 6-week program here at St. John the Evangelist Parish and, strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, will be commissioned to defend and spread the faith.

"In the Beginning" Preschool
is approaching the goal!

Thanks to YOU, parishioners of St. John's, nearly half of the funds in support of the "In the Beginning" Preschool construction and renovation has been raised!

What a blessing you are!

Our "In the Beginning" Preschool Ministry will encourage spiritual growth and authentic human development while fostering family and financial support for the Parish well into the future of this our local Agawam community.



*With praise and thanksgiving to almighty God,
please join us in prayer for the repose of the soul
of Raymond C. Burke and gratitude for his life.*

*Please also express a word of thanks to all his family
and friends for the generosity of their contributions to our
parish in his memory!*

With heavy hearts and great sadness, the family of **Raymond C Burke** announces his passing at his home on October 22, 2021. Raymond was born in Springfield MA to the late William and Belinda (Scott) Burke on August 3, 1942. He attended local schools graduating from Classical high school class of 1960. Raymond went on to honorably serve his country in the United States Navy aboard the U.S.S. Barry. He wed the love of his life Eleanor Harrington in 1975 and together they spent 45 years happily married. Ray and Ellie lived in East Longmeadow for over 20 years relocating to Agawam and finally to Westfield recently. Ray chose a career in sales and retired from Verizon after many years as a successful member of their team. Ray was a man of many talents among them was as a musician playing the banjo, accordion, and the spoons. In his leisure he enjoyed watching NASCAR and was an avid fan. He was proud of his Irish heritage and continued the traditions with great enthusiasm. He was an active member of the St. Patrick's parade committee in Holyoke as well as Springfield. Ray was a loving husband and a devoted father and beloved grandfather. Spending time with his family and showering them with his love was his greatest pleasure.



Ray is survived by his beloved wife Eleanor and his devoted children, Maureen Burke of Westfield, Daniel Burke of Agawam and Paige Burke and her husband Kevin of Boston. To carry on his legacy, he leaves his cherished granddaughters Cora and Colleen. He is survived by his beloved brothers Vincent and his wife Lynne Burke of Darien CT and Kevin and his wife Barbara Burke of Hyannis, sisters-in-law Ruth Daigneau, Joan and her husband Ronald Kokernak, Helen Harrington and brother-in-law Edmond Bowler as well as many nieces and nephews and countless friends. For remembrances in Ray's name the family suggests considering **St. John the Evangelist Preschool** 833 Main St Agawam MA 01001.

Ministry to Sick & Homebound **PASTORAL MINISTRY HOURS:**

Monday-Thursday from 9am-1pm

Francesca Brandt, Pastoral Minister

413-786-8105 ext. 105 | sje.homebound@gmail.com

HOSPITAL VISITS: HIPAA Medical Law restricts access to patient admittance information. Emergency transport of a loved one to a local area hospital does have a Catholic Priest in residence. Be sure to ask, upon admittance, for a Catholic Priest to visit you or your loved one for an emergency anointing if warranted.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY: If your loved one is confined at home because of an illness and/or anticipating surgery, call the parish office to request a visit by Pastoral Minister, Francesca. She will bring the Sacrament of Holy Communion, as well as, inform Fr. Pierz and Fr. Hurley of the visit.

FOLLOW UP VISITS: Upon request by contacting the pastoral minister, a follow-up visit will be made to the home post-surgery and/or illness during the recuperation period.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND: One on One home care visits have resumed since April of this year to the Sick and Homebound residents.

HELP NEEDED: In this Spiritually Filled Vocation, help is needed to bring Holy Communion to confined Catholic residents, Home visits or Nursing home visits. Contact Francesca if you are interested in this Highly Spiritual Vocation, a given from your heart of Spiritual Love, bringing Jesus, the Holy Eucharist, to those who cannot receive HIM without help from you. Francesca will assist you and train you personally.
ALL CALLS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.

BEREAVEMENT: If you have experienced any loss and are in need of grief counseling, and/or your period of sadness is a prolonged process for you, do not suffer in silence. A bereavement visit may be prudent to help you understand Our Lord's words of never being left alone. Here at SJE, Fr. John Hurley and Francesca are ready to help you please call 786-8105 x105. ALL CALLS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.

PRAYER SHAWLS: If you have a family member, friend, or know someone who could benefit from a bit of extra comfort, please contact Francesca who will pass on the information to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Each shawl includes the name of the prayer shawl Angel who crafted the shawl with prayerful love. Please note, the shawl must be picked up and delivered by the person who submitted the request. Call Francesca with your request and be sure to leave your phone number for a return call.

HERITAGE HALLS: Masses have resumed for Genesis, Heritage Nursing Home campuses on a monthly basis, contingent to scheduling openings, with Fr. Michael Pierz or Fr. John Hurley. Upcoming dates: 11:00 am on November 18 (HHN), November 19 (HHW), and November 22 (HHS).



Saint John the Evangelist RCIA 2021-2022

Come join us Saturday mornings at 8-9:30 a.m.

Fr Joyce Room of the Pastoral Center

Have You ...

- Wondered how one becomes Catholic?
- Been away from the Church, and now returned, but want to know more?
- Seeking the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation or First Holy Communion
- Do you want to learn 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.

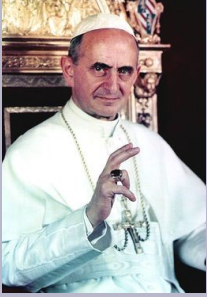


We look forward to welcoming you: RSVP at our Parish Office @ 413-786-8105

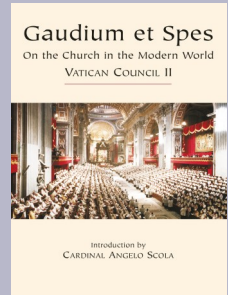
There is no obligation to join the Church at this time – the decision is always yours to make.



St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Parish
833 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 786-8105
www.stjohnagawam.com



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



CHAPTER III: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE

SECTION 1: Economic Development

64. Today more than ever before attention is rightly given to the increase of the production of agricultural and industrial goods and of the rendering of services, for the purpose of making provision for the growth of population and of satisfying the increasing desires of the human race. Therefore, technical progress, an inventive spirit, an eagerness to create and to expand enterprises, the application of methods of production, and the strenuous efforts of all who engage in production—in a word, all the elements making for such development—must be promoted. The fundamental finality of this production is not the mere increase of products nor profit or control but rather the service of man, and indeed of the whole man with regard for the full range of his material needs and the demands of his intellectual, moral, spiritual, and religious life; this applies to every man whatsoever and to every group of men, of every race and of every part of the world. Consequently, economic activity is to be carried on according to its own methods and laws within the limits of the moral order," so that God's plan for mankind may be realized.

65. Economic development must remain under man's determination and must not be left to the judgment of a few men or groups possessing too much economic power or of the political community alone or of certain more powerful nations. It is necessary, on the contrary, that at every level the largest possible number of people and, when it is a question of international relations, all nations have an active share in directing that development. There is need as well of the coordination and fitting and harmonious combination of the spontaneous efforts of individuals and of free groups with the undertakings of public authorities.

Growth is not to be left solely to a kind of mechanical course of the economic activity of individuals, nor to the authority of government. For this reason, doctrines which obstruct the necessary reforms under the guise of a false liberty, and those which subordinate the basic rights of individual persons and groups to the collective organization of production must be shown to be erroneous. Citizens, on the other hand, should remember that it is their right and duty, which is also to be recognized by the civil authority, to contribute to the true progress of their own community according to their ability. Especially in underdeveloped areas, where all resources must urgently be employed, those who hold back their unproductive resources or who deprive their community of the material or spiritual aid that it needs—saving the personal right of migration—gravely endanger the common good.

66. To satisfy the demands of justice and equity, strenuous efforts must be made, without disregarding the rights of persons or the natural qualities of each country, to remove as quickly as possible the immense economic inequalities, which now exist and in many cases are growing and which are connected with individual and social discrimination. Likewise, in many areas, in view of the special difficulties of agriculture relative to the raising and selling of produce, country people must be helped both to increase and to market what they produce, and to introduce the necessary development and renewal and also obtain a fair income. Otherwise, as too often happens, they will remain in the condition of lower-class citizens. Let farmers themselves, especially young ones, apply themselves to perfecting their professional skill, for without it, there can be no agricultural advance. Justice and equity likewise require that the mobility, which is necessary in a developing economy, be regulated in such a way as to keep the life of individuals and their families from becoming insecure and precarious. When workers come from another country or district and contribute to the economic advancement of a nation or region by their labor, all discrimination as regards wages and working conditions must be carefully avoided. All the people, moreover, above all the public authorities, must treat them not as mere tools of production but as persons, and must help them to bring their families to live with them and to provide themselves with a decent dwelling; they must also see to it that these workers are incorporated into the social life of the country or region that receives them. Employment opportunities, however, should be created in their own areas as far as possible. In economic affairs which today are subject to change, as in the new forms of industrial society in which automation, for example, is advancing, care must be taken that sufficient and suitable work and the possibility of the appropriate technical and professional formation are furnished. The livelihood and the human dignity especially of those who are in very difficult conditions because of illness or old age must be guaranteed.

(*Second Vatican Council. GAUDIUM ET SPES. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, 7 December 1965, 64-66)

Harvest Festival Winner of the Chili Contest!

Congratulations Aiden Therrien!

Aiden Therrien is the winner of SJE's 2021 Harvest Festival Chili Cook-off. Out of six contestants, parishioners preferred Aiden's chili the best, with just the right amount of spicy and meaty. Since Aiden was at the St. Andrew's Dinner with Bishop Byrne, his brother Jacob and sister Maddie with their mom Heather stood in for the photo opportunity.



The Harvest Fest was held indoors due to rain, however, that did not deter the fun had by many parishioners in attendance. Arts and crafts, games, and a donut eating contest were weaved in with fellowship and yummy foods provided by the Family and Human Life Commission.

NOTE: The Family & Human Life Commission will be on break until February. The next meeting will be Monday, February 28, 6:30 pm in the Parish Center.

Weekend of October 31st

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

Weekly: \$3,613
Maintenance: \$200
Fuel: \$823
Loan: \$469
Loose: \$245.11
Online Giving: \$977
Total: \$5,527.11

Loan Update:

Original Loan Amount : \$275,000
Loan Repayment Collected this week: \$469
Required Monthly Loan Payment: \$5,049.05
Loan Repayment Collected as of 9/30/21: \$79,719.14
Loan Balance as of 9/30/21: (\$166,841.72)

"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."

Benefit "In the Beginning" Preschool Ministry

WIN A 55" TV!

Tickets are 1 for a \$5.00 donation or 6 for a \$25.00 donation. The TV name has not been revealed, but it is a 55", 4K, Smart TV with ROKU. The winner will be drawn on December 12th during coffee hour.

Tickets can be purchased after Masses in November, Breakfast with Santa, and at the CWC Bazaar.

What's Happening around the Parish...

Catholic Women's Club Notes:

Call for Items for the Christmas Bazaar

(Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, Nov. 20)

Donation drop-off days/times at the Parish Center:

Nov. 8-11, Nov. 15-18, noon—3 pm.

(Kitchen side of the stage):

Donations of clean, gently used books (no encyclopedias), CDs and DVDs.

(Parish Office side of the stage): Christmas items.

Call For Gift Baskets and Gift Certificates

The CWC is seeking donations of baskets or gift certificates for the Christmas Bazaar raffle. If you are able to make a donation contact Julie Smist. You may bring gift certificates to the Parish Office during business hours NO LATER THAN Nov. 19th.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH PARISH CENTER

833 Main Street, Agawam, MA

Saturday, November 20, 2021

9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

ATTIC TREASURES CHRISTMAS ITEMS

JEWELRY CANDY

BOOKS BASKET RAFFLE

KNITTED ARTICLES BAKED GOODS

SNACK BAR

SANTA VISITING FROM 9:00 to 11:00

Bazaar proceeds will go to the Parish loan repayment.

All local/state Covid protocols at time of event will be followed.

Girls celebrate at a Catholic summer camp with Sr. Marie Therese of the Sister Servants of the Eternal Word.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

NOVEMBER 7-13, 2021

WORLDWIDE CHANGE

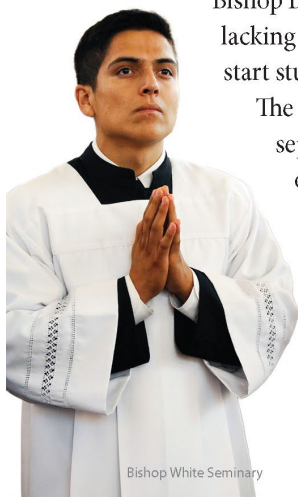
VATICAN TO REQUIRE NEW 'PRE-SEMINARY' PERIOD

A seismic change is coming that will affect every diocese in the world. Men who feel called to the priesthood—even those who have been fully vetted by their bishops—will not be starting seminary right away. Rather, the Vatican will soon require a “propaedeutic phase” that lasts one to two years before seminary.

Why the change? According to Bishop Thomas Daly of Spokane, who served for years on the U.S. Bishops' committee for vocations, it's because the cultural climate has shifted: “Many men aren't coming from intact families or Catholic environments as they did in the past,” said Bishop Daly. “As a result, these well-intentioned men are often lacking in basic Christian values and knowledge. Before they start studying for the priesthood, we need to fill in the gaps.”

The new propaedeutic phase, which is envisioned as separate and distinct from seminary proper, will focus on forming mature Christian men who have a firm grasp on prayer, scripture, and Church teaching.

While some observers have worried about further lengthening the 6-9 years of formation, others view it as necessary. “Simply put: my guys need it,” said one vocation director. “I want to ensure they have solid foundation before jumping into the intensity of seminary life.”



Bishop White Seminary



Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

TRANSFORMATIVE JOY

“Each of you has a personal vocation which He has given you for your own joy and sanctity. When a person is conquered by the fire of His gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow Him and give Him the best of ourselves. This is what the saints have always done, spreading the light of the Lord... and transforming the world into a welcoming home for everyone.”

~Pope Benedict XVI





Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia/Nashville Dominicans

LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME HOW YOUNG IS TOO YOUNG?



How young is too young to think about priesthood or religious life? It depends on the person, of course, but most teenagers are constantly thinking about what they're going to do with their lives: "Who am I going to marry?" "What college will I attend?" "What kind of career will I have?"

The numbers prove the point: by age 17, sixty-one percent of diocesan priests and forty-nine percent of religious sisters first considered their vocations. There are historical precedents, too. St. Therese entered Carmel when she was 15. Mother Teresa entered religious life at age 18. St. Maximilian Kolbe took

final vows when he was just 20, which means he was just 16 when he entered.

Left: Boys imagine what it would be like to baptize a baby. Teaching the class is a sister from the Nashville Dominicans, one of the fastest-growing religious communities in the U.S. Their average age of entry to the convent is 23.

But is "choosing young" a relic of a different era? Perhaps not. Consider that today, even middle schoolers are expected to be thinking about their college major, so they can take the right high school classes and thus enter a good university. Given this reality, encouraging young Catholics to think about the path to priesthood or religious life makes a lot of sense.



PRAYER LEADING TO ACTION

Mother Teresa famously said, "I used to pray that God would feed the hungry, but now I pray that he will guide me to do whatever I'm supposed to do... Prayer changes *us* and we change things." The same applies to praying for vocations. Many of us are also called to *work* for vocations: to talk to kids, reach out to youth, and guide our own children. What work is on your heart to do?

THE NEXT GENERATION BY FR. GARRETT MCINTRYE

After graduating high school in 2003, I entered college seminary to discern a call to the priesthood. When I left, my pastor held a reception and presented me with this San Damiano crucifix. He said he had it hanging in his office and promised to give it to the first man to enter the seminary from a parish where he was pastor. He was celebrating his tenth anniversary as a priest that year. He told me that if I became a priest, I had to do the same.

"I'm happy to say that this year, during my own tenth year of priestly service, I was able to give the cross to Nico Broussard, who was born the year I received it, and who will be entering seminary this fall. I pray that it will be a source of inspiration for him as it was for me. And ultimately I pray that he will be able to give it away to some future seminarian at his own parish."



Fr. McIntyre (right) presents a cross to a new seminarian from his parish.



2021: THE BRIGHT SIDE

Despite pandemic disruptions, several religious communities experienced very large classes of new novices, such as the Dominican Province of Saint Joseph, which welcomed 14 young men into formation in Washington, D.C.