



HEARTBEAT

News Notes and Inspiration

For the People of Sacred Heart Parish

Volume 1 – No. 8

April 22/23, 2017

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Music for the Third Week of Easter

(We will recite the Gloria, the Creed and the Our Father)

ENTRANCE HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ALLELUIA (Gaelic)

OFFERTORY

Alelluia Sing to Jesus

HOLY

ACCLAMATION – When We Eat This Bread

AMEN (Lilies of the Field)

AGNUS DEI (*Latin*)

COMMUNION

I Am the Bread of Life

RECESSIONAL

Sing Alleluia, the Lord Is Risen



From now on we will try to have the music for the following week in each edition of *HEARTBEAT*. Suggestions are always welcome.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – Saturday May 6 – Sweifieh

We will be celebrating the First Holy Communion of several children of our parish on this day, which is a very special event.

JUNE 3 AND 4 - IN BOTH

ST. MARY OF NAZARETH and ST. JEAN BAPTISTE de LaSALLE

That weekend we will be celebrating the great feast of Pentecost. At both Masses, we will also celebrate the renewal of marriage vows. There will be more details forthcoming, but mark your calendars for this very special occasion.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

April 25 – Feast of St. Mark, Apostle

April 27 – St. Peter Canisius, SJ (Memorial)

May 1 – St. Joseph the Worker

May 3 – Feast of SS. Philip and James, Apostles

May 6 – First Holy Communion at Sweifieh

May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima (Memorial)

4:30 pm – First Reconciliation Service

Mass of Installation of Fr. John Sheehan as Pastor of the English Language Church in Amman – at Sweifieh at 5 PM.

Bishop William Shomali will be the Principal Celebrant.

A reception will follow and all are invited.

May 24 – Our Lady of the Way (Memorial)

May 25 – Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord

Holy Day of Obligation – Masses at 8:30 AM and 6 PM

May 31 – Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

June 3/4 – Solemnity of Pentecost

Renewal of Marriage Vows in both churches

June 23 – Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart – Patronal Feast of Our Parish

June 24 – Solemnity of St. John the Baptist

MAY 13 – MASS OF INSTALLATION

Formally installing a priest as the Pastor of a Church is not always done. The Bishop may not be readily available, the Pastor may not wish the attention or there may be other circumstances that make that kind of celebration not appropriate.

Since the English language parish had been so long without a formal Pastor, I felt that a ceremony was a terrific opportunity for us to celebrate together, and the Bishop was delighted to be able to come. Although our “parish” includes six different sites where we celebrate Mass, we can obviously only have one installation Mass, so that will be at Sweifieh at 5 PM on May 13th. (Certainly one of the reasons for choosing that church is that it is convenient for the Bishop.)

Please come. Even if you normally celebrate at another site, we would love to have members from all the different communities coming together, to let the Bishop know that the English language community, although we are dispersed, is a sizeable gathering of Catholics in his diocese. And of course, there is a reception afterwards, to which all are invited.

If you would like to participate – as a lector, an altar server, minister of hospitality, sing with the choir or help with the reception – please let me know. Plans for this event will be set well in advance – I am not a believer in “last minute” bringing things together. We have invited several special guests to join us, and I very much want to “show off” our parish in all its joy and diversity.

CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS

St. Ignatius always said that God listens to our prayers, and when something important was coming up, he would encourage the early Jesuits to “storm heaven with can be included here and all of our parish will join in praying with you.

For a woman trying to decide if she should have surgery
For a young woman, Kaitlyn, fighting cancer
For Ray Olfky, who has been diagnosed with cancer
For Fr. John’s sister, Terry who will have open heart surgery on the 24th
For a woman concerned about her daughter and her grandchildren

PLEASE REGISTER!!!

There are usually registration slips at the back of the Church. There are four ways to register:

- 1) Fill out the slip of paper and give it to me.
- 2) Go onto the website and there is a space where you can register online.
- 3) Send me an email with the basic information.
- 4) If you are on Facebook, go to Parish Group and leave me a message. I will admit you to the group and you can leave your details in a private message there as well.

ENGLISH MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Saturday – 8:30 AM – Jesuit Center, 43 Al Razi Street, Jabal Hussein
3rd Friday, 12 Noon - Jabal Luweibdeh, St. Mary of the Annunciation
Every Saturday at 5 PM– Sweifieh, St. Mary of Nazareth
3rd Sunday – Jabal Amman, St. Joseph – 11:30 AM
Every Sunday – 6 PM - Jabal Hussein, St. Jean Baptiste de LaSalle

Most weekend Masses have confession for 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the Mass. Fr. John or other Jesuit priests are available to hear confessions by appointment as well.

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Fr. John’s Email: pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org

Fr. John’s Phone: Office: 06 461-4190, Ext 29

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Website: Jordanjesuits.org and there is a separate section for the Sacred Heart Parish

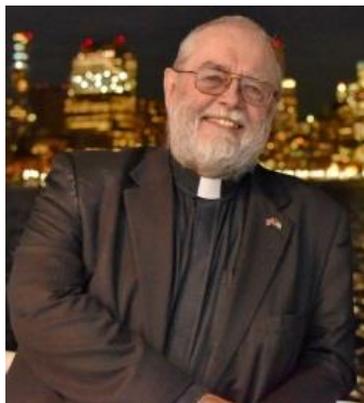
Facebook: If you are on Facebook, go to Parish Group and on your first visit you will request to be admitted. After that the system will recognize you so you can post.

PRAYER INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR APRIL

Young People – That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

RAMBLINGS

FROM THE REVEREND REDACTOR



I was having a conversation with some parishioners recently, and one of them said something about my getting my homilies from the Internet. I assured him that I wrote my own, and he was quite surprised. He asked me several times, and I told him that for better or worse, the words from the pulpit are mine, all mine.

I know there are some who do use “canned” homilies, from books or the Internet or services that will provide such things. I confess, I’ve never understood it. Each community is different, the circumstances are different – I’ve written separate homilies for Saturday and Sunday, when we have had special celebrations; I’ve written separate homilies for weekends when I celebrate with the Filipino community, and sometimes I even have different homilies for Sweifieh and Freres. The homily may be based on the readings of the day, but it should apply to the community, and the time, and whatever else may be going on in the world or in that particular church. You can’t get that from the Internet.

The experience of a priest preparing a homily is in many ways the same as any one of us using Scripture to pray with. We keep coming back to the same Scripture section, and each time we can find something new, some different perspective or understanding or application. Part of that is simply because we keep changing (hopefully growing), but part is also how God is using us.

We change; our lives change; the community in which we live and the world around us all change. Yet in every moment, God’s word has something to say to us, some help or support or strengthening of our faith. Each time we approach Scripture, we will find new things, even if it is a section or a parable that we have heard many times before. The insight may not be instantaneous; often enough it will take time and patience and maybe even a little work. But the richness is there, if we are willing to spend the effort and energy to find it.

There are lots of wonderful things on the Internet and published in books. The thoughts and reflections of others can be a great inspiration. But nothing can match the richness of discovering God’s message for you, individually. Your own reflections may never be published or read aloud, but nothing can be more relevant to your life.

Pray your own prayers. Write your own kind of music, sing your own kind of songs. (That’s a line from a song – not original.) Find your own inspirations.

Write your own homilies.

Fr. John’s Email: pastorsh@jordaniesuits.org

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Announcing Auditions

I am looking for several people who would be willing to become a Leader of Song for either of the church communities (Sweifieh and Freres). If we have several people for each site, there can be a schedule and people would not have to sing each week.

Candidates need to have a solid sense of musical pitch, a strong voice and some musical is experience is helpful although not absolutely necessary. I will audition potential leaders, and if chosen, individuals will work with me to develop their singing, help me select music for each week along with members of the choir and some others, and help teach new songs to the congregation. It may be that not all candidates who volunteer will be selected but I will certainly work with people whom I feel have potential.

Please contact me to set up a time when you can come and sing for me.

Fr. John

Lector Training Program

I would like to begin a program for working with those who want to read in Church. The Lector needs to be able to proclaim the Word of God, not just read it. A Lector needs 4 P's – To **prepare** the reading, to **peruse** (ie to study and know the background of) the reading, to **practice** the reading, and to **pray** with the reading. That is not possible if readers are asked to read as they walk into Church. The Lector needs to know how to use the microphone according to the acoustics of each church, and how to properly set not just the content but also the emotional tone of the reading.

I can work with a group at once, or with individuals, as time permits. The goal is to have a group of Lectors who will have a regular schedule, will know in advance when and what they will be reading, and who will be responsible for finding replacements from among the group of Lectors if they are unable to attend Mass on their scheduled date.

In the Church, being a Lector is such a serious responsibility that it is one of the minor orders that priests and deacons receive as they prepare for ordination. When the circumstances permit, I would to formally install Lectors for our communities, to acknowledge the responsibility that these individuals are willing to assume.

Please contact me to indicate your interest, and we will start the process.

Fr. John

Ministers of Hospitality

It is an important thing to be known as a welcoming Church, and one of the key roles in that is the Minister of Hospitality. It is not simply being available at the door to say welcome, but these volunteers can play key roles in creating an orderly and worshipful atmosphere, helping with the movement of people, and making sure that elements of the Mass and the community are efficiently handled. I would like to have a formal group of volunteers with a regular schedule, so we know who is available, and can be sure that if there are changes, special details to be handled, that can be communicated in advance with all the necessary information. I would like to have a meeting with those interested – again, either as a group, or small groups, or individually, as needed to accommodate schedules. But it is time to recognize this important work and share the work. Please contact me if you would be interested in being a part of this ministry.

Fr. John

Thank you



Because this newsletter has to go to the printer early so we can get it back in good time, often I am not able to be absolutely current with news and notes. So even though the Triduum was a week ago, this is the first chance when I can really say Thank You.

I will not try to name names – some people would be embarrassed, and no matter how carefully I tried, I know I

would forget someone. But the members of the choir continue to perform as they have throughout Lent, rescuing us from musical moments of potential disaster and leading us to lovely moments of beauty and recollection. The altar servers were a life saver, especially since I had not been expecting them. A special thanks to Archbishop Ortega for joining us at the Vigil.

So many people stepped up at the last minute to take up a collection, read at one of the services, help pass out or collect materials – while I get very nervous when things are not settled in advance, at the same time it is a joy to see people stepping out of the boat of their comfort zone in answer to a call. That goes in a special way for those who let their feet be washed at the Holy Thursday Mass. No one had been alerted in advance, so no one was “prepared,” and neither were the Apostles.

Although it was not part of Holy Week, I feel I should also acknowledge the continuing generosity in the once a month “Second Collection” for Sacred Heart Parish. It is important, but it is tremendously encouraging when I see the financial support each month. And for all the other invisible things that get done each time we gather, special blessings on those who are responsible.

We have several special celebrations coming up – First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation Service and an installation Mass (and reception), and the renewal of Marriage Vows on the same weekend we celebrate Pentecost. Life will be simpler during the summer months, but hopefully we will be able to do some planning and conversation in anticipation of the Fall. I’d like to see if there is any interest in starting a more formal catechism program, in addition to preparation for First Communion, and to explore the possibility of a Liturgy of the Word for children, to run concurrently with the Liturgy of the Word at Mass each week.

So God bless you all, and continue to celebrate Easter and the Risen Christ for the next weeks.

Fr. John