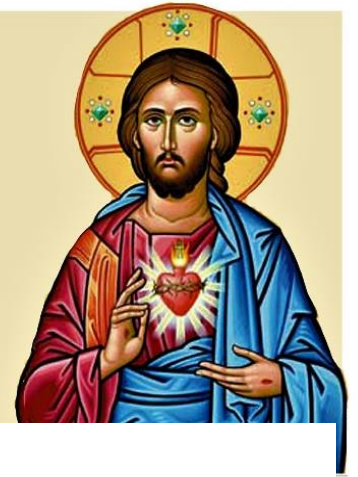


# SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of EASTER May 11/12, 2019

### COMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

#### **May 11/12 – SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION**

May 14 – Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle

Iftar Dinner at the Jesuit Center, hosted by Sacred Heart Parish

*Parishioners welcome, to act as hosts. Short (free) musical show follows the dinner.*

#### **May 18 - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT SWEIFIEH – RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**

May 24 – Our Lady of the Way

May 25 – Independence Day in Jordan

May 26 – Father John leaves for the US until July 4

#### **May 30 – THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD - A Holy Day of Obligation**

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

June 7 - First Friday – Adoration following the 8:30 AM Mass

June 10 – Mary, Mother of the Church

June 11 – Feast of St. Barnabas, Apostle

June 13 – St. Anthony of Padua

June 15/16 – **SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST**

#### **SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION**

June 21 – St. Aloysius Gonzaga, SJ

First Day of Summer - Father's Day (Take a priest to lunch!)

June 23 – Solemnity of the Holy Trinity

June 24 – Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist

June 29 – Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles

July 3 – Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle

#### **July 5 – Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

*Patronal Feast of our parish*



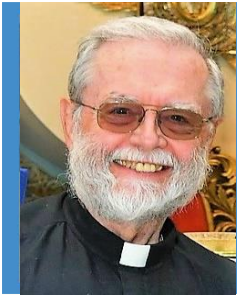
*Pope Francis'*

MONTHLY  
PRAYER  
INTENTIONS

#### FOR MAY

That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z7hFaaXozPQ>



# RAMBLINGS

## OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

In almost every society for which we have records, there is usually found some variation of the Golden Rule – ie, do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Jesus talked a lot about that – the measure with which you measure will be measured back to you; forgive us our trespasses AS WE forgive those who trespass against us, and so on. Jesus was talking about judging and forgiveness, and for most people I know, the whole question of judging and not judging and loving everybody is an ongoing difficulty in their lives. Mine too.

Today I'd like to make it a little simpler – and more focused perhaps. Let's just call it courtesy. In many cultures, there is a norm of hospitality. You welcome people into your home in a certain way because you know you will be welcomed into theirs according to the same standards. In Nigeria, a complete stranger may come to your door and ask for water, and you are expected to provide it, because water is so important. And you know that if you are in trouble anywhere, you can go to a door and ask for water.

Courtesy. The simple act of thinking of another person before you think about yourself. It is not universal. In Jordan, there are traffic laws and some of them are followed. At other times, however, a driver that hesitates is like a wounded fish in the water, and the sharks attack. A driver will pull into an empty spot in a traffic jam so he (or she) can advance two feet, even though by doing that he (or she) completely freezes the intersection and makes it impossible for ANY car to advance in ANY direction. Drivers park as they will, often enough blocking all or part of a lane, and thereby causing more traffic problems. I was on a road the other day that is supposed to 5 five lanes of traffic. ONE lane was open – all the others were blocked because of parked cars or buses or trucks unloading.

Now that is not unique to Jordan. Or Nigeria. Or New York City, my home town. The trait, I fear, is universal, taking care of myself without worrying about anyone else. Leaving garbage on the streets, throwing paper out the window of a car, there is a long list of rude behaviors that come down to nothing more than lack of courtesy – lack of thinking of other people.

Churches are not immune. Our parish celebrates Mass in two local churches, and in each – more than once – we have had the case where people from an upcoming Mass enter the church while our Mass is still going on, and they take seats occupied by others, take selfies, light candles, wander around, and generally act as though nothing is happening. Rude? Inconsiderate? Yes, absolutely. This is in a church, with people who theoretically are following the same Gospel and the same set of beliefs as we are. But they don't respect it.

Next week we will be welcoming a number of guests at Sweifieh for the First Communion Mass. Let us make them welcome. Let us be considerate. Let us follow directions and respect "Reserved" signs and think of others before we think of ourselves. Let us be considerate. (I know – I said it twice.)

And not just next week – but everywhere we go, and in everything we do. "Do unto others..." and so on.

Let us continue to pray for one another and for a world that needs changing.

*Fr. John's Email: [pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org](mailto:pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org) Website: [Jordanjesuits.org](http://Jordanjesuits.org)*

*Fr. John's Mobile: 079 013-8985 (If no answer, leave a message.)*

*Facebook: If you are on Facebook, go to Parish Group and ask to be admitted to the group. You will be.*

## IFTAR DINNER HOSTED BY SACRED HEART PARISH – MAY 14th

Sacred Heart Parish will be hosting an Iftar dinner at the Jesuit Center in the garden on Tuesday May 14. The meal will begin at around 7:30 following the call to prayer. The guests will be predominantly refugee families, and some members of the parish would be most welcome to come as hosts. It is “our” party and it would be lovely to some of “our” people there to welcome guests and interact. Most of the guests have some English, and are always eager to practice but Arabic speakers are always helpful as well. A donation of 5 JOD is appreciated but not required but you **must** notify Fr. John in advance, so we don’t get so many parishioners that we swamp the guests. Parishioners should plan an arriving by 7 PM. After dinner, there will be a free show of dance and music in the garden theatre for about 40 minutes.

## A RAMADAN MISSION TRIP

Tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, the plan is to go to Anjara with anyone interested. It’s a project that can involve the whole family, children **most** welcome, to bring lemon trees to poor families in the area. The local priest is helping to coordinate and identify recipients. They can grow and use the fruit or sell it. How many trees we are able to provide will probably depend on how many people sign up. We’ll provide a bus and lunch, we’re hoping that some of the orphans will also participate, and we will bring the trees with us in a separate truck (or trucks). Schedule and details in the next HEARTBEAT but if you’re interested, please let Father John or Alejandra ([alejandra.susarrey@gmail.com](mailto:alejandra.susarrey@gmail.com)) know ASAP.

## SOME PROPOSED DATES

Looking into the future, here are some tentative dates for events at Sacred Heart Parish. They are listed here so if there are reactions, comments, we can hear them BEFORE things get permanently enshrined. There may be other competing events or schedules of which we are not aware, and so it’s always good to try and fix things before problems arise. This does not include weekly Bible study groups (perhaps 2) and a weekly class for young people who have made their First Communion but not yet been confirmed, and if there are any candidates for Confirmation, that could be another schedule item.

May 24 – Ramadan Work Project in Anjara

May 26 – July 4 – Father John in the U.S.

**July 5 – FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS (Patronal Feast of our parish)**

July 6 – Reception after Mass for the parish feast

July 31 – Solemnity of St. Ignatius Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits)

August 17 – Announcement of First Communion registration for 2020

August 20 – Meeting of the Parish Advisory Council

September 14 – First announcement of Fr. John’s Concert

First class for First Communion candidates

Welcome to the Parish and the New Year – reception after Mass

September 17 – 21 – Pilgrimage to Malta

September 30 – Advertising deadline for the concert program

October 7 – Father John’s concert

October 28 – Progressive Dinner (Possible date)

October 30 – November 9 – Father John on retreat

October 31– Progressive Dinner (Possible date)

November 7– Progressive Dinner (Possible date)

November 20 – Deadline for calendar advertising for the 2020 calendar

November 24 – Christ the King

March 4 - ASH WEDNESDAY (*Orthodox calendar*)

March 21 – First Confessions

April 19 - EASTER SUNDAY (*Orthodox calendar*)

April 23 - Ramadan begins

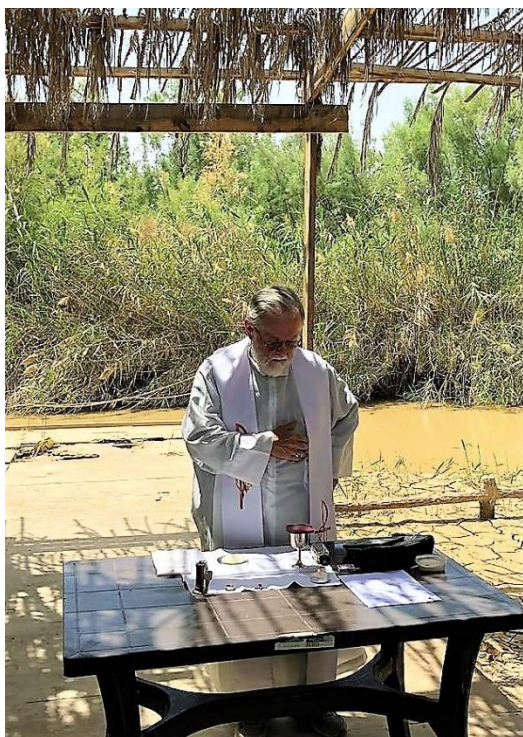
May 9 or 16 – FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

# 2020

## THE REREAT EXPERIENCE

Last week 17 people, men and women, took off for the Baptismal site to spend Tuesday and Wednesday in silence and prayer and reflection, an experience designed to help bring them closer to God, and to bring God closer to them. The site was the Russian Pilgrim's Center and the rooms were comfortable (each with a private bathroom), the air conditioning worked, the food was good, the scenery was gorgeous, the weather was gentle and the staff was accommodating. Father John celebrated Mass each day, provided material for reflection and was available for "The 3 C's" – counseling, conversation and confession.

We may try and schedule a slightly longer experience, and experiment with different kinds of retreat experiences. When he was in Canada, for instance, Fr. John had a weekend retreat for young adults where the material for prayer and conversation were films. The group would watch the movie, go away to reflect and pray and then come together for conversation and sharing. If anyone would like to be put on a mailing list to get an early alert for possible future retreats, send a note to Fr. John.



*The first Mass was celebrated next to the Jordan River.*



*We moved the 2nd Mass indoors, and yes, that is Mr. Putin on the wall. It IS the Russian Pilgrim's Center.*



*The Russian Orthodox Chapel*

There is a short video on the time at the Pilgrim's Center available at the website and the Facebook page.



The Pilgrim's Center is right on the Jordan River and is one of the sites where visitors can enter the river for a full immersion. There are lovely gardens, and a delightful fountain. Smoking is not allowed on the premises, and guests may drive their cars onto the site.