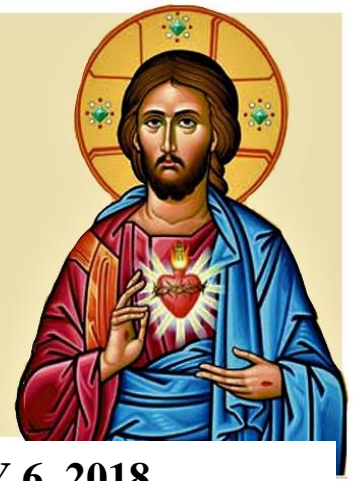


SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – JANUARY 6, 2018
THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST - JANUARY 6/7, 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



Pope Francis'

MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

FOR JANUARY

Religious Minorities in Asia

That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

OUR PARISH PRAYS TOGETHER

Feel free to share your special needs and intentions, so they can be included here and all of our parish will join in praying with you. Individual names are welcome but not necessary.

For victims of natural disasters and violence
For family members who have died
For all those looking for work
For a woman concerned about her family
For those suffering from the cold
For the end to abortions

For the former Jesuit Provincial of Indonesia
For the safety of all who are traveling
For those who died in the road accident
For those preparing for sacraments
For all those in pain
For justice for immigrants and refugees

SACRED
HEART

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
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*Find God
in All Things*

2018 CALENDAR

The SACRED HEART PARISH 2018 CALENDAR

has arrived. It is available after Mass, and at the Jesuit Center. We ask for a contribution of 2 JD for one, but 3 copies for 5 JD and 10 copies for only 15 JS. Help promote the parish and spread the word that we exist.

ALL EXPERIMENTS ARE SUCCESSFUL. Whether they do what you had hoped or not, you learn something. We have learned that there is not enough interest in a Sunday Mass at the Jesuit Center to warrant keeping it. Thank you to those who attended.

COMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

January 5 – First Friday – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8:30 Mass

January 6 – Epiphany, Holy Day of Obligation. Mass at the Jesuit Center – 8:30 AM

January 6 – Celebration of the Birth of John the Baptist, Sweifieh, 5 PM

(NOTE: Attending the Saturday evening Mass does NOT fulfill the Holy Day obligation)

January 7 – Celebration of the Birth of John the Baptist, 10 AM Jesuit Center

January 7 – Celebration of the Birth of John the Baptist, Freres, 6 PM

January 7 – The last day of the Christmas season. NOW you can take down the tree and decorations.

January 10 – Fr. Robert McChesney SJ arrives

January 12 – Pilgrimage to the Baptismal Site, Mass at 11:00 AM. All must be in place by 10:30 AM.

January 12 – Confirmation class resumes, 3:30 PM at St. Mary of Nazareth

January 13 – First Communion class resumes, 1 PM at the Jesuit Center

January 13 – Care for the Poor group, to sort contributions. All are welcome. 3 PM at the Jesuit Center

January 13/14 – SECOND COLLECTION FOR SACRED HEART PARISH

January 14 – World Day of Prayer for Refugees and Migrants

January 15 – 7 PM, “Ask Father John” at Paul David’s residence - 9 Anwar Al Khatib Street, Sweifieh

January 17 – Fr. Gerald on vacation until February 18. Weekend Mass at Jabal Weibde and Amman will be in English only until his return.

January 18 – Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

January 19 – 12 Noon – English Mass at Jabal Weibde

January 21 – 11:30 AM – English Mass at Jabal Amman

January 23 – Day of Prayer for the protection of unborn children

January 25 – Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul

January 26 - 12 Noon – English Mass at Jabal Weibde

January 26 – 7 PM - ONE BIG FAMILY HAVING FUN at Terra Sancta – a performance by the Theatre Arts Workshop and the Jesuit Center

January 28 - 11:30 AM – English Mass at Jabal Amman

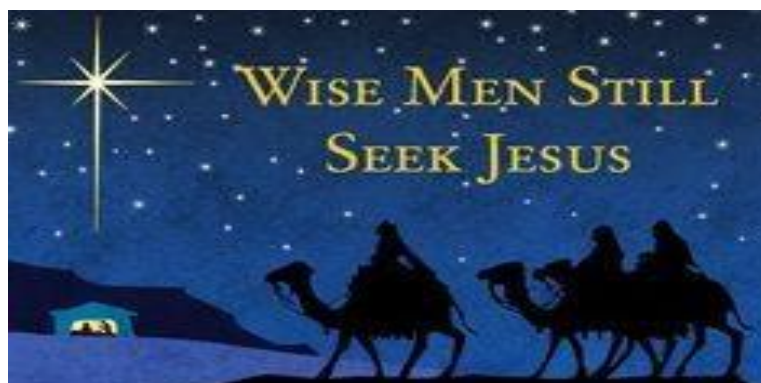
February 1 – First Friday - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8:30 Mass

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – Blessing of Candles

MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Monday to Saturday	8:30 AM	Jesuit Center
Saturday	5:00 PM	Sweifieh, St. Mary of Nazareth
Sunday	6:00 PM	Jabal Hussein, St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle

Confessions are 30 minutes before weekend Masses, or available by appointment.



ASK FATHER JOHN (Part II)

On Monday, January 15, there will be another session of "Ask Father John," an open conversation about anything you want to know or ask. It will be at Paul S. and Vivian David's House, 9 Anwar Al Khatib Street, Sweifieh. Map on the right.

Phone if you are lost – 079 588-9330.

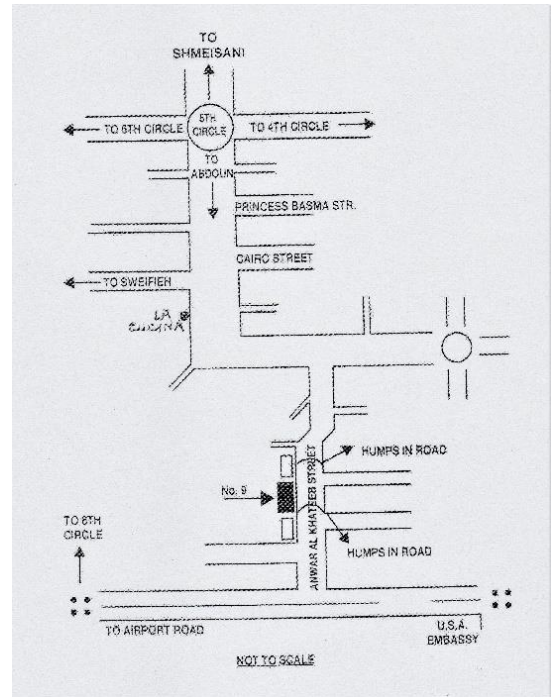
HAVE YOU REGISTERED IN THE PARISH?

Go to www.jordanjesuits.org, go to the link for SACRED HEART PARISH and on the right side is a direct link so you can register on line.

Couldn't be easier. Thank you.



ADVENT BASKET COLLECTION

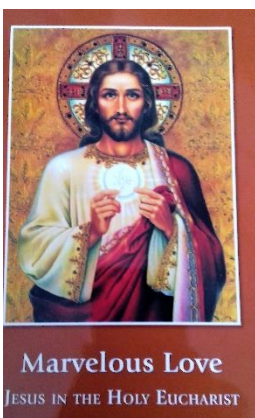


Advent is over and it is time to turn in your Advent baskets, so we can sort and bundle and get our contributions ready to be delivered.

- 1) You may bring your baskets – or however you have assembled things – to the Jesuit Center. Please call or email Fr. John ahead of time, so someone will be there to receive your gifts.
- 2) Bring your baskets to the Church. Please call or email Fr. John so we can coordinate cars in the parking lot. Let us not carry things more than we need to.
- 3) Call or email Fr. John (this starts to sound like a song refrain) so we can arrange to pick up items at your house. We would like to finish the collection as soon as possible, so we can sort and bundle and get things on their way.

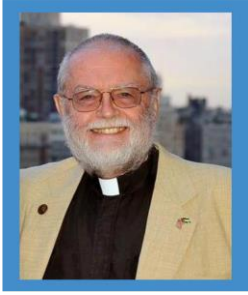
And of course – if you have not actually put something in a basket each day during Advent, but would like to be part of this project, gifts of cash are flexible, enabling us to buy items that are missing or minimally represented, like rice, flour or other foodstuffs.

For your generosity and cooperation – THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.



THE CHRISTMAS SEASON GOES UNTIL JANUARY 7

So here is one more present. We have some copies of Bishop Selim Sayegh's book, *MARVELOUS LOVE – Jesus in the Holy Eucharist*. The book is free but you have to contact Fr. John in advance and he will bring it to Mass or have it at the Jesuit Center if you attend weekday Mass there. Email is best. Be sure and indicate at which Mass location you wish the book, since some of our parishioners attend both Freres and Sweifieh depending on circumstances.



RAMBLINGS

OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

We will shortly leave the festive season of Christmas – the infamous 12 days of Christmas actually end of January 6th – and we return to “Ordinary Time.” The celebrations are over, we return to work and to school, we return from visiting family or visiting family returns to their homes, we pack up trees and ornaments, write Thank You notes that we had forgotten or put off, we put the new clothes in the cupboard, the new toys take up residence with old toys and the routine of life asserts itself once again.

But it occurred to me the other day that for Catholics, there is – no offense to the Church calendar – no such thing as “ordinary time.” We believe in the Resurrection of the Dead. We believe in the forgiveness of sins. We believe that each day on altars all around the world, a piece of bread and a chalice of wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God. Every day in our lives is – should be – EXTRAORDINARY time.

Which leads me (as many things do) to questions. IF we really believe this – what difference does it make? How does it change or influence our lives? Would someone observing us know we are Catholics by the way we live and work and treat other people? As an old bumper sticker said, “If you were accused of being a Catholic, would there be enough evidence to convict you?”

On a recent “news” broadcast – and I put the word in quotes on purpose – an interviewer was asking people in the street about their New Year’s resolutions. We heard people wish for (and I note in passing that what we wish for is not necessarily the stuff of which a resolution should be made) a boyfriend (or girlfriend), for peace in the world, for an end to violence. Now these are lovely thoughts, but the idea of a resolution is that YOU are doing to DO something. We also heard from people who were resolving to lose weight, to spend more time with their children, to read more and spend less time with the computer. All good resolutions, and unlike the first batch, all things that involved a personal commitment.

I noted, with a little sadness, that none of the people interviewed – or at least none that made it to the broadcast – talked about helping others, or going to Church, or working with the poor, or even trying to follow the Commandments. Religious comments may have been edited out, but I suspect that most people, in their resolutions, focused on themselves. Understandable, but it made me a little sad.

I suggest that being a Catholic should be less about what we want for ourselves (with the possible exception of eternal salvation) and more about loving and helping and taking care of other people (which is how we obtain eternal salvation). Not what we say, but what we do. Our lives should somehow be different because we are Catholic. Now that will be different for each person, but because we share a common faith, there should also be elements in each of our lives that we also share.

At a certain point in life, many people stop making New Year’s resolutions, because they were not successful in keeping the ones they made the previous year. Go ahead – make at least one resolution. And then resolve to keep it. Stick a note on your bathroom mirror or on your computer screen to remind you. Keep a journal of your attempts. Rejoice when you succeed and try again when you don’t. Don’t be harder on yourself than God is – and He is always willing to let us try again. As I said in a recent homily – you and God, working together, can do practically anything. And that should make 2018 a very exciting year!

And let us continue to pray for one another.

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

Fr. John’s Phone: Office: 06 461-4190, Ext 29 Mobile: 079 013-8985

Website: Jordanjesuits.org with a link for the Sacred Heart Parish

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