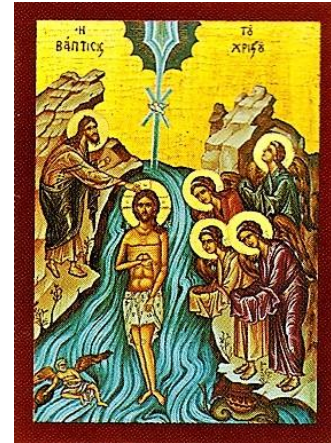


SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD January 12/13, 2019



COMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

- Jan. 12 – First Communion class resumes
- Jan. 12/13 – The Baptism of the Lord – **SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION**
- Jan 18 – 25 – Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Jan. 19/20 – The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)
- Jan. 22 – Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of unborn children
- Jan 22 – 27 – World Youth Day in Panama
- Jan. 25 – Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul
- Feb. 1 - First Friday – Adoration following the 8:30 AM Mass
- Feb. 2 – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Blessing of Candles at the 8:30 AM Mass
- Feb. 2/3 – Blessing of candles and blessing of throats at both weekend Masses
- Feb. 3-5 – Papal Visit to Abu Dhabi
- Feb. 9/10 – **SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION**
- Feb. 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes
- February 16/17 – Renewal of Marriage Vows at both Masses (Tentative)*
- Feb/ 22 – Feast of the Chair of Peter
- March 1 - First Friday – Adoration following the 8:30 AM Mass
- March 4 – Novena of Grace to St. Francis Xavier begins
- March 9/10 – **SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION**
- March 12 – Canonization of St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Francis Xavier
- March 13 – **ASH WEDNESDAY** – Mass at the Jesuit Center at 8:30 AM and 6 PM
- March 17 – 1st Sunday of Lent; Feast of St. Patrick
- March 19 – Feast of St. Joseph
- March 21 – Mother's Day in Jordan
- March 23 – First Confessions
- March 25 – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord



Pope Francis'

MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume this weekend at the Sweifieh Mass. The children seem to like it, the parents seem to like it, and the volunteer teachers are enjoying it.

BUT

We need more people to volunteer for these sessions if we are to continue. Adults who are interested are welcome to come and sit in on a session. You will find it's fun and easy and only a little bit scary. If you get lost, the children will show you what to do. For more information, contact Karen or Ian Hopkins at karenandian2407@gmail.com and thank you.

OCTAVE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY 18-25 JANUARY

A Prayer for Catholics in Their Homes, With Families, With Friends

+ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

"That they all may be one, as You, Father, in me and I in You; that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that You have sent me."

V. I say to you, you are Peter;

R. And upon this rock I will build my Church.

-- *Each day, meditate about and ask God's favor for the intention indicated: --*

January 18: For the union of all Christians in the one faith and in the Church.

January 19: For the return of the Eastern Orthodox Christians to communion with the Holy See.

January 20: For the reconciliation of the Anglicans with the Holy See.

January 21: For the reconciliation between European Protestants throughout the world and the Catholic Community.

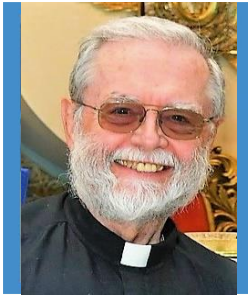
January 22: That Protestant Christians in the Americas, Africa, and Asia may be one, and reconciled in Christ with Catholicism.

January 23: That lapsed Catholics will return to the Gospel and to the Sacraments of the Church.

January 24: That the Jewish people come into their inheritance in Jesus Christ.

January 25: That missionary extension will extend the Gospel and knowledge of Christ with credibility and fidelity.

--*Each day, conclude with this prayer: --*Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, who said to Your Apostles: Peace I leave you, My peace I give to you; regard not our sins, but the faith of Your Church, and grant unto her that peace and unity which are agreeable to Your Will; Who live and reign forever, one God, world without end. Amen.



RAMBLINGS

OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

My mother was a nag. I say that with great love and respect – and I have come to realize how right she was and how important were the things about which she would nag us. She was an equal opportunity nagger – my father got his fair share of attention as well, it was not just aimed at the children.

For instance, we all got “Stand up straight.” My father’s version often had the additional “You’ll look like an old man.” And I have come to realize that an erect posture unconsciously makes people think you are younger than you might actually be. I often find myself pulling up my shoulders and straightening my spine and I can hear my mother’s voice in the back of my mind.

She was a bear about trying new things. “Don’t tell me you don’t like it if you haven’t tasted it.” It didn’t matter if I NEVER liked Brussel spouts – each time they were served, by heaven I had to try them again. I have to admit, to this day I don’t like Brussel sprouts. But for years I never liked cheese and today I love it. Our tastes do change, and I have – fastidiously – all around the world, been open to trying pretty much everything, whether it was something to eat or jumping out of an airplane, spending several weeks as a blind man going through basic skills training or accepting as assignment from my Provincial before I knew what it actually was.

In my father’s later years, he started to develop a trait that his mother and his sister had had to the point of paralysis. Apparently there was in that side of the family a fear of leaving the house. My father’s mother had it, and his older sister spent months without ever going outside. She became so focused that there were times she wouldn’t answer the doorbell, because it would disturb her routine. After he retired (at age 80, which meant moving to a new city and starting a new business) he would sometimes want to stay in the house and my mother would simply not allow it. Whether taking the dog for a walk to dropping something off at church or going out for lunch, he was NOT going to turn into his mother or his sister if my mother had anything to say about it. And she did.

Having heard this conversation many times, I have, on occasion, been aware of a similar tendency in myself. When I was teaching at Fordham, I lived in a large community, and one long holiday weekend I suddenly realized I had not been out of the building for four days. I could hear my mother’s voice again, and I immediately went out for a long walk, and had lunch in Little Italy in the Bronx.

There is a point to this reminiscent rambling. Whether it is a trait in your family or not, many of us have the same feeling about our Church. We are comfortable, we feel safe – and without realizing it, we don’t really want to leave. Now I am not talking about “leaving” the Church and becoming a Buddhist or joining some sect. But our faith doesn’t live only in the Church. If it does, we are not following the call of Jesus. Our faith requires us to get out and live our belief outside the building. We don’t always want to do that. It can be difficult, or uncomfortable, there are a lot of other events and people and activities and even responsibilities that can make us want to come to Mass and do nothing else. That’s not it. That’s not enough. Our faith calls us out. Church is where we strengthen ourselves, but so that we CAN go out. If you don’t want to get out and share your faith, I have to tell you – my mother would not approve. I suspect Jesus wouldn’t either.

Let us continue to pray for one another.

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

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

Facebook: Go to Parish Group and ask to be admitted to the group. You will be.

Possible Calendar Items for the Next Months

Here are some suggested items and dates for celebrations at Mass or other events in association with the Parish. If you think there is something left out, if you see possible conflicts, all suggestions and reflections are welcome. There are some things that are firm – First Confessions on March 23rd, and First Communion on May 18th. Liturgical dates like Ash Wednesday and Easter are also firm. We will try to build receptions in the church all around special events, and those will be announced once the other items are set. So please let Fr. John know if you see date that has a problem, something you think we should skip or something we should do that has been left out.

February 16/17 – Renewal of Marriage Vows at both Masses

February 18 – Ask Fr. John

February 25 – Celebrating the 25th – Father John Sings (Again!)

March 9 – Children’s Mass at Sweifieh

March 17/17 – 1st Sunday of Lent; Mass in Latin in both churches

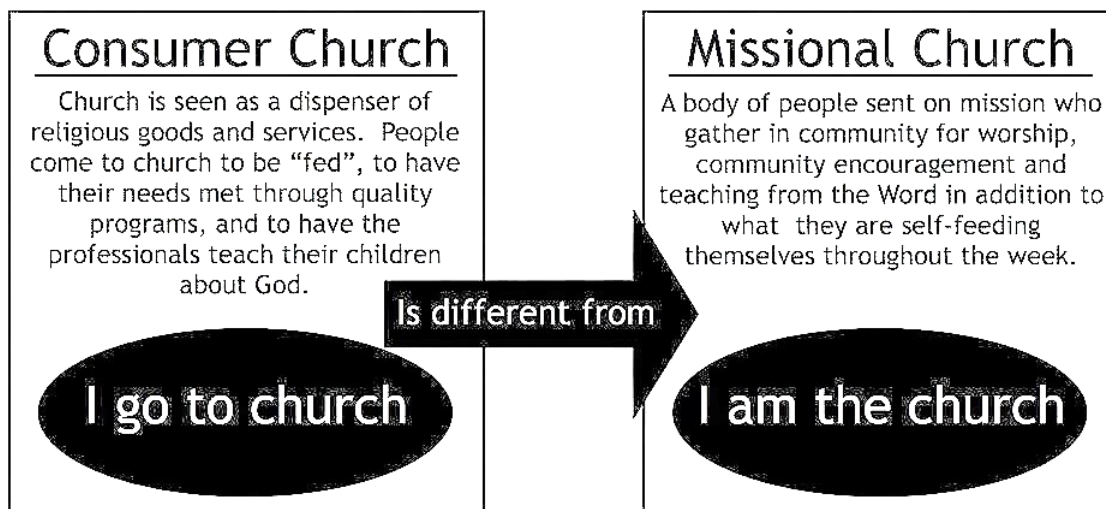
March 23/24 – Mass of Anointing of the Sick at both Masses

April 8 – Ask Fr. John

May 11 – Children’s Mass at Sweifieh

June 1 / 2 – Farewell Mass and blessings for those leaving

There are no small pilgrimages or trips. Suggestions are welcome. There are no days of recollection or Sunday morning Masses scheduled for Lent, because the response in the past has been weak.



THE PARISH WEBSITE (www.shp.jordanjesuits.org)

Last year we had 13,001 visitors who made over 40,000 visits. Were you one of those who visited our site? The most visitors came from the United States (3,515) followed by visitors from Jordan (2,978) and then in much smaller number, German, China, the United Kingdom, France, Australia, Russia and Canada. Our website has 22 pages, maps and directions to all the Churches where we celebrate Mass, and links to several other useful Catholic sites, including Abouna.org, the registration page for the parish, and Universalis, where you can get the readings for the day or any day you wish. If you don't know the parish website, it's a new year – try it out!