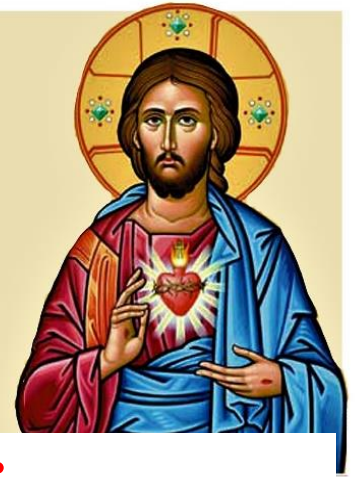


SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



21st Sunday of Ordinary Time August 24/25, 2019

COMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

August 24 – Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle

August 26 – St. Mariam of Bethlehem

August 28 – St. Augustine

August 29 – Feast of the Passion of St. John the Baptist

Patron of the Amman Vicariate

August 31 – Children's Liturgy of the Word resumes (CLOW)

September 2 - Meeting for parents of 1st Communion candidates, 7 PM at the Jesuit Center

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE FOR THIS MEETING

September 7/8 – Narrated Mass, Part 1

September 14 – Welcome Mass for new and returning Parishioners – Reception after the Mass
First Class for First Communion candidates – 3:30 PM

September 19-23 – Visit of the Jesuit Provincial

September 21/22 – Narrated Mass, Part 2

September 23 – Deadline for ads for the program for Fr. John's Concert

September 24 – Lector Workshop, 7 PM, Jesuit Center – Please register in advance

September 26 - Lector Workshop, 7 PM, Jesuit Center – Please register in advance

September 27 – Lector Workshop, 10 AM, Jesuit Center – Please register in advance

September 28 – Mass for children at Sweifieh

September 29 – Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Session 1 of 2, 3 PM Jesuit Center

October 1 - Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Session 1 of 2, 7 PM Jesuit Center

October 5/6 – Mass in Latin

October 7 – FATHER JOHN SINGS AGAIN!! A Concert at Bank Al-Etihad

October 10 - Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Session 2 of 2, 7 PM Jesuit Center

October 11 - Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Session 2 of 2, 10 AM Jesuit Center

October 11/12 – Installation of Liturgical Ministers

October 19 – Mass for Jesuit Alumni and Friends



Pope Francis'

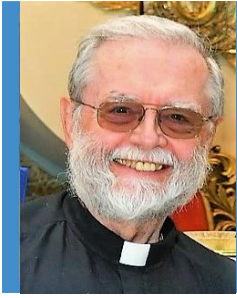
MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

FOR AUGUST

Families, Schools of Human Growth

That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth."

https://youtu.be/f3Etn_Zjbl



RAMBLINGS OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

I am my own worst distraction at Mass and the other day – my thoughts having nothing to do with the readings or with Father Michael’s homily – I found myself reflecting yet again on the First Commandment. For those of you for whom it may have slipped your mind, it says:

I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt not have any strange gods before Me

Now most people skip over this one, because very few in this day and age find themselves praying to trees like the ancient Druids, or bowing down before a calf made of gold or sacrificing sheep so the blood drips into a bowl so it can be sprinkled on the worshippers present. However, may I gently suggest that anything that takes you away from God – anything that becomes more important in your life than God – becomes your own version of “**strange gods**” and you have put them before God. Some examples:

(and for those whose memory of grammar school math may be a little fuzzy, \neq means NOT equal to.) Ready?

YOUR CELL PHONE \neq GOD

YOUR JOB \neq GOD

THE SPORTS OR ACTIVITY SCHEDULE OF YOUR CHILDREN \neq GOD

BEING TIRED \neq GOD

A PICNIC, A BIRTHDAY PARTY, A TRIP \neq GOD

SOCIAL WORK AND CHARITY \neq GOD

FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM, WHATSAPP \neq GOD

And here’s the really difficult one: YOUR FAMILY \neq GOD

Now most of these things are either neutral or intrinsically good. What we have to keep reminding ourselves about, however, is that any of these can all too easily become an excuse for not going to Mass, not spending time in prayer, not making sure our children are educated in the faith – heck, not making sure that WE are continuing our own education in the faith. Being an educated Catholic is not something that is finished when you receive your First Holy Communion or when you are confirmed. Your call as a Catholic is lifelong, and part of that is sharing your faith – which you cannot do if you do not KNOW your faith.

Some may think this list is extreme. The thing is – God is extreme. God wants you and he wants ALL of you, every little bit of you and He wants you to give it to Him freely and with love. That – as most of you already know – takes practice. And that takes precedence over everything else. (See First Commandment)

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES – LAST CALL

The first class of preparation for those who wish to make their First Holy Communion in 2020 will be held on Saturday, September 14, at 3:30 PM in the basement of the hall next to St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweifieh. But before that – Fr. John needs to meet with the parents (at least one) of each child, and then he will schedule a meeting with the child at the family home, to determine if he thinks the child is ready. Both of these MUST be completed before the child is admitted to the program.

Fr. John does NOT look happily on late applications.

Meeting for Parents of Candidates:

September 2 – 7 PM at the Jesuit Center. Please register.

**HAVE YOU REGISTERED IN
THE PARISH?**

WWW. <http://shp.jordanjesuits.org/>

MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Mon - Sat	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 (Al Razi Street)

I NEED ANOTHER WEEK OF EIDI!! (*Tales of Father John*)

One of the things I used the “free time” for was organizing – catching up on filing, checking records, and putting things in better order. As part of that, I spent a long day dealing with parish registrations. I have been fighting a spam attack, hundred of phony registrations flooding our system. At the same time I tried to catch up with people I know have left (although few actually tell me they’re leaving, or they do it after Mass, so I will be sure to remember it – NOT) and some who registered for reasons I know not.

So naturally I discovered people who HAD registered I had missed and who had NOT been added to the Newsletter mailing list, or whose birthdays had not been noted, or who had never been contacted about working on a parish project where they had indicated an interest. I think I have caught them, but...

MY APOLOGIES!!!

Trust me, we DEFINITELY want you to get the newsletter and volunteer, so either

- Send me an email if you’re not sure we have everything about you we should, especially if there are areas of interest; you do NOT want to tell me after Mass and assume I will remember. Or
- On September 14 at the reception there will be a series of sign up sheets for various parish ministries and projects, some already underway and some we would like to start. ANYONE who signs up will get a confirming email and a contact with a couple of days after the event.

If you are new, or have NOT registered, or need to update or add something – you can register or change your registration on line, or if the system doesn’t love you (and it doesn’t always love me, so it’s nothing personal) send me an email (pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org) and I will make sure it all gets straightened out.

PILGRIMAGE UPDATE

Just to make it official, the proposed pilgrimage to Malta has been cancelled. We did not get enough people to commit to the trip. If there are other trips in the future, we will announce, and as always, suggestions are most welcome.

IN CASE YOU HADN’T HEARD

Over the last weeks both here and around the world, we have been praying for Aiya Aghabi and her family. On August 19th, God called her home. Let us continue to pray for the repose of her soul, and the consolation of her family and all those who love and who supported her.

SAINT MONICA – FEAST DAY AUGUST 27

Most people know something about Saint Monica, even if it is only that she was the mother of St. Augustine and she prayed for his conversion for many years. She was born in 331 AD, in Thagaste (in present day Algeria) and died in 387 AD, in Ostia Antica, Italy. She had two other children besides Augustine and is the patron saint of married women, mothers, conversion, abuse victims, and alcoholics.

She did not have an easy life. She was Christian but her family married her off to a pagan husband who apparently had a vicious temper – and her mother-in-law lived with them. She included them in her prayers and both converted to Christianity, the husband only a year before his death.

Monica not only prayed for Augustine, but after a vision in which she was assured he would convert, she followed him around, a fidelity he did not always appreciate. He several times tried to escape but she always found and followed him. They went to Milan, where he was taught and eventually baptized by Saint Ambrose. Everything we know about Monica comes from St. Augustine's *Confessions*.

St. Monica and her faith in persistent prayer has inspired a lot of people both to pray themselves but also to write prayers. Here is one:



O Good Shepherd, you never cease to seek out the lost, to call home the stray,
to comfort the frightened, and to bind up the wounded.
I ask you to bring *(insert the names of people you want to pray for)*
back to the practice of the Faith,
and to remove all obstacles that prevent them from receiving your abundant mercy,
Which flows sacramentally through the heart of your holy Church.
Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God,
Their Guardian Angels, their Patron Saints and the ever-prayerful St. Monica,
May you pardon their sins
and unshackle them from whatever hinders their freedom to come Home.
For you, O Good Shepherd, loved us to the end
and offered yourself to the Father for the salvation of all. Amen.

SEPTEMBER 14 – WELCOME/WELCOME BACK

After Mass on September 14th at Sweifieh, we will have a reception in the Church hall to both welcome those who are new to the Parish, and to welcome back those who were away for all or part of the summer. There will be tables where you can sign up to participate in various ministries and projects in the Church, and lots of food and drink. Please plan on coming, and on bringing something to share – your favorite recipe, a dish no one else can make quite like you can – or just something fun. You are welcome even if you don't bring anything but yourself but the culinary surprises in the past have always been exciting.

*A bit beyond perception's reach
I sometimes believe I see
that Life is two locked boxes, each
containing the other's key.*