

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

We celebrate this weekend the Solemnity of the Birth of St. John the Baptist. The celebration of this solemnity is ranked of higher importance than the Sundays in Ordinary Time. So when the 24th falls on a Sunday we celebrate the birth of St. John the Baptist, complete with a vigil mass.

The celebration of the birth of St. John is an ancient one in the church, dating from the fourth century. In the east the celebration was on the day after Epiphany. In the west the celebration was on June 24th because of the reference in the Gospel of St. Luke (1:36) that Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant when the Annunciation occurred. The Annunciation is generally celebrated on March 25th, unless like this year it is transferred to a later date. This year March 25th was Palm Sunday. The Annunciation is celebrated on March 25th because that date is 9 months before Christmas.

St. Augustine found this date appropriate in the Northern Hemisphere because days are generally growing shorter (fewer hours of light). Whereas Christmas falls during a time when days are growing longer (more hours of light). The significance occurs from the statement of St. John "He must increase and I must decrease" (John 3:30).

I guess this just reminds us that in the church there is always more going on than we initially realize. *Father Rick*

PARISH NEWS

FELLOW PRO-LIFE SUPPORTERS

Warren County Knights of Columbus Councils will be coordinating efforts to man a **pro-life table at the Warren Co Fair August 7th—11th**. The sign up sheets are on the table in the back of the Church or you can call the parish office to sign up. Thank you for your support! **Over 60,000,000 innocent lives have been lost since 1973 passage of Roe v Wade, and your continued support will help us to end that cycle of violence against the unborn.**

WHAT DID JESUS ASK OF US WHEN HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN?

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Matthew 28: 18-20



We are all given this call to evangelize, to build up the body of Christ and His kingdom on earth. A great way to answer His request is to think of your friends, coworkers, extended family & acquaintances and to pray. If they are not actively participating in a community of faith, invite them to come and see with you. **Spark their interest and ask them to talk with Fr. Rick. What better way to share the Love of Jesus. For our fellow baptized Christians, Fr. Rick is working to make joining the church a little easier.**

Interested in learning more about the Catholic faith?



THE WARREN COUNTY FAIR IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER.

Donations of pop and bottled water are being collected to stock the St. Luke Fair Booth which is a major fund raiser for the Parish. If you would like to make a donation please see the sign up sheet in the back of the Church. The list is specific to quantity and flavor needed. Please sign your name on the line with the quantity you are able to donate. As always we **THANK YOU** for your support of our Parish!

Sign up sheets to volunteer to work the St. Luke Fair Booth are also in the back of the Church or you can call the parish office to volunteer. This is wonderful way to come together as a Parish to support each other and to become acquainted. **** Free Admission Pass to the Warren Co Fair is given to each volunteer.**

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations for couples celebrating **25, 50, 60 or more years of marriage** in 2018 will be held **August 5th at 2pm, Saint George Parish, Erie** and **August 19th at 2pm, Saints Cosmas and Damian Parish in Punxsutawney**. Registration forms can be found at <https://www.ErieRCD.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>. For questions, call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1250. Or call the St. Joseph Parish Office at 723-2090, we will be happy to print the form for you.

THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD = DIVINE MERCY

Come and see what Divine Mercy is all about. Beginning Monday, **June 25th at 11:00am in St. Luke Church, classroom 3**, the award winning DVD series: **The Second Greatest Story Ever Told = Divine Mercy, will be shown**. Fr. Michael Gaitley weaves a tapestry of wonder and beauty from the threads of the dramatic history of Poland, the message of St. Faustina Kowalska, the message of Our Lady of Fatima, the witness of St. Maximillian Kolby, and the papacy of St. John Paul II. This is powerful and timely. **The series will be shown on June 25, July 2nd, 9th, 16th, and the 23rd. No Cost and No Homework.** Please call Susan Cronmiller at 563-4040 or 688-4867 with questions.

SERVING OTHERS IN GOD'S LOVE

Religious Freedom Week June 22nd—June 29th

As people of faith we are committed to serving others in God's Love in healthcare, child welfare, migration and refugee resettlement, education, and more. Let us take a few moments each day from June 22 - June 29 to pray and reflect on religious liberty, both here in this country and abroad. **Learn more at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek.**

THE ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL RUMMAGE SALE

The 8th Annual School Rummage Sale was a wonderful success! **So far we have a profit of \$6166.00** and there are still a few more items to sell. Thank you to all who volunteered to work and thank you to everyone who donated goods for the sale. **A Special Thank You** to our core group of volunteers who worked tirelessly for seven days preparing and working the sale! It would not have been possible without you!

LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, 6/24 **The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church
 10:30am James & Josephine Puleo by Family

Monday, 6/25 **Weekday**
 12:00pm Mass @ St Luke Church

Tuesday, 6/26 **Weekday**
 12:05pm Billy Weidner by Nick Tomassoni

Wednesday, 6/27 **St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**
 8:00am **Special Intention** Father Rick's 38th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood by Parish Staff

Thursday, 6/28 **Saint Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr**
 12:05pm Florence Scalise by C & D Hayes

Friday, 6/29 **Saint Peter and Paul, Apostles**
 8:00am Maxine Miller by M. Papalia

Saturday, 6/30 **13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Vigil Mass**
 5:30pm For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Joseph Parish

Sunday, 7/1 **13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 8:00am Mass @ St Luke Church
 10:30am Marti Harrington by Family

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
6/30			
5:30pm	A Fadale	S Courson, *H Zaffino, R Kujawa, P Lobdell, P Bailey, R Sharp, D Labowski	Madeline Fadale Ben Hoffman Jahzara Hunter
7/1	V & K Amsdell	*J & V Siliano, T Siliano, E Keeney, *A & L Tyers, Volunteer	Kyle Dippold Eric Dippold Rocco Siliano
10:30am			

In your charity please pray for the soul of **David Lopez**, husband of **Mary Lopez** and brother of **Jim and Carol Lopez** who passed away this past week. We extend our sympathy to his family, and ask God's love and strength to bring them peace and consolation.

MARRIAGE: Congratulations to John and Alisa (Pellegrino) Wagner Jr. who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage on June 16th. May God continue to bless them as they begin their married life together. Alisa is the daughter of Dan & Diana Pellegrino and John is the son of John & Robin Wagner. Best Wishes!

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY
 ITEMS NEEDED IN JUNE**

THE MONTH OF JUNE WE WILL BE COLLECTING CANNED VEGETABLES: PEAS, CORN, AND GREEN BEANS. In July we will be collecting canned meats and school supplies. Your support to the needy families of the Warren Community is amazing.

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Catholic education emphasizes self-discipline. Students are taught lessons that will give them a strong moral and ethical foundation to help them make Christ like decisions. If you or someone you know wants to attend St. Joseph Catholic School, please call the office at 723-2030. **WE HAVE OPEN ENROLLMENT**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Gospel Matthew 7:1-5

Tuesday 2 Kings 19:9b-11,14-21,31-35a,36; Gospel Matthew 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Gospel Matthew 7:15-20

Thursday 2 Kings 24:8-17; Gospel Matthew 7:21-29

Friday Acts of Apostles 12:1-11; 2 Tim 4:6-8,17-18; Gospel Matthew 16:13-19

Saturday Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Gospel Matthew 8:5-17

Sunday Wisdom 1:13-15;2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15; Gospel Mark 5:21-43,

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 24 **The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**
 8:00am Mass @ St. Luke Church
 10:30am Mass
 Liturgy of the Word for Children

Monday, June 25
 12:00pm Mass at St. Luke Church

Tuesday, June 26
 12:05pm Mass
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen

Wednesday, June 27
 8:00am Mass
 Bus will load following Mass for the Darien Lake Trip

Thursday, June 28
 12:05pm Mass
 12:30pm Adoration
 5:30pm Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, June 29
 8:00am Mass

Saturday, June 30 **2nd Collection—Holy Father (Peter's Pence)**
 4:30pm—5:15pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:30pm Mass

Sunday, July 1 **2nd Collection—Holy Father (Peter's Pence)**
 8:00am Mass @ St. Luke Church
 10:30am Mass
 Liturgy of the Word for Children

VOCATIONS ICON

Thank you to the **Siliano Family** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Parish.

*St. Joseph Church
 Weekly Offering—June 17th—\$8504.65
 Thank you for your continued generosity!*

MINISTRY CORNER: Do you know of someone in need of a pick me up? **Our Parish Card Ministry** will send a card to those who may be ill, grieving, having a baby, or just needing a friendly "Hello" from their Parish Family. If you know of someone, please call the office.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Northwest Bank

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Please thank them.