

# Saint Joseph CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 10, 2021

Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

I hope that this note finds you and your families remaining healthy as we enter into this New Year! Last month, we had some trouble with this email and after talking with the program's IT support, I hope this one will go without a hitch. I have several things to share with you this month, so I will get right to it!

First off, Lent begins a week from today! Our full schedule is available in the bulletin and on our website. As a reminder of what I wrote last month, Ash Wednesday will be a little different this year. While the imposition of ashes has been done through sprinkling them over one's head in Europe that has not been our custom. This, however, will change this year as the Vatican has mandated that those who wish to receive ashes do so through sprinkling them over the head so as to limit any contact. While it is customary to receive ashes, you do not have to do so, and if you choose to do so this year, please be mindful of this.

Secondly, along with every parish in the Diocese of Cleveland, our parish will be participating in a parish-wide survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute, a non-profit Catholic apostolate that does leadership training and development. I need your help as we want as many parishioners as possible to complete a 10-15 minute survey. The survey will only be available from February 20 through March 21, 2021 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on what our parish is doing to help you grow. It will be available online ([www.sjohio.org/survey](http://www.sjohio.org/survey)) and in paper format on our Literature Rack in the Gathering Area. Paper copies should be returned to the Parish Office. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole. The survey results will be invaluable to me, the staff, and our many volunteers as we seek ways to best support everyone in their faith journey. I look forward to sharing the findings with you when the project is complete. Thank you for helping with this important project!

Third and finally, our Parish Office will return to its normal hours on March 1. Our Parish Staff remains committed to doing everything that we can to provide a safe environment here at St. Joseph. If there is anything we can do for you, do not hesitate to let us know. Please continue being mindful of what has been asked of us all throughout this pandemic. We seem to have had good success in providing a safe worship environment and together I trust that we can continue that. As a reminder, our complete set COVID-19 policies and procedures can always be found at [www.sjohio.org/covid](http://www.sjohio.org/covid).

Know that Father Kevin and I, and our entire Parish Staff, continue to keep you in our prayers; please continue to keep us and our entire parish community in yours!

St. Joseph, pray for us!

~Fr. Joe