



May 12, 2022

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Dear Parishioners:

First off, after months of waiting, I hope that you had a chance to read the information about the results of our Sunday Mass Times and Parish Pictorial Directory survey last weekend. If you have not done so, I am happy to share the results and to echo my previous statements of gratitude for all who participated, since early February as the level of participation (590 responses) gave us solid representation of the opinions on these two matters. Beginning Saturday, July 2, 2022 our Weekend Mass schedule will be Saturday at 4:30pm and Sunday at 8am and 10:30am. With these times, we anticipate being able to add an additional Easter Sunday Mass to alleviate crowding. Coupled with St. John Neumann's new Sunday Morning schedule (9am and 11am), our new times are staggered from theirs and help provide a variety of Mass times within our community. If you did not see my letter, or have forgotten some of the background around our changes, you can visit www.sjohio.org/survey for complete results and background. Even though other parishes have reduced Masses on account of priest changes, our changes are based primarily on the number of people of attending Mass each weekend as it relates to the capacity of our church and secondarily a smaller pool of Liturgical Ministers. Fr. Kevin is in the midst of a four-year assignment as our Parochial Vicar that is scheduled to conclude in June of 2024. If you are a Liturgical Minister or an Usher or Greeter, you should have received an email from your scheduler. If you did not, please reach out to either Doug or Judy, depending on your ministry, and update your contact information and Mass preference with them so that they may begin work on your next schedule. As a reminder to the whole parish of the new Weekend Mass schedule, we will be distributing magnets next month with our new times and will most certainly offer reminders as the changes approach in early July.

Secondly, since just over 59% of those responding to the survey were not interested in having their picture taken for a Parish Pictorial Directory, I revive the invitation that I offered late last year and invite you to please consider signing up for *MyStJoseph*. This online tool allows you to update your own parish census records with your most current contact information, add and change individual or family pictures, and communicate with other parishioners. If you would like to sign up for this, please launch your web browser and go to my.sjohio.org, click Need a login?, and enter the email you received my letter on (because this is the one that we have for you on file); hit Find Me. Once you are found, an email will be sent to you; if you are not found, you can email office@sjohio.org and they can help you. Once you receive an email with your information, you will have 24 hours to use that link provided. When using *MyStJoseph* and setting up your account, you choose what information is shared with other parishioners. Out of respect for your privacy, no information is shared with others unless you choose it to be shared. YOU control whatever information you would like to share once you sign-up. You can do this on *MyStJoseph* by clicking on home, my account, personal preferences, and following the screen prompts.

Once you allow your information to be shared, you can find other parishioners who have also allowed their contact information to be shared.

Additionally, you have may noticed in a recent Sunday bulletin that we are currently planning for the restart of two popular programs later this year, but we could use a little help to make this a reality. We're looking to restart our customary Coffee and Donuts after our new Sunday morning Mass schedule begins in July. In order to do this, we're looking for people: single, married couples, and even entire families, who may wish to assist and be scheduled to work these. We ask anyone interested, new or old, to contact the Parish Office so we can update our lists. On-the-job training will be provided! In addition, we would like to offer our Funeral Luncheons again as these have ministered very well to those mourning the loss of a loved one, but we have experienced our own losses in volunteers to setup, serve, and clean up at these lunches. We need to find some new faces, particularly to assist in coordinating these luncheons, in order to continue to offer these effectively. All are welcome to lend their hand to either of these programs, please give the Parish Office a call or send us an email using office@sjohio.org. We'll get you connected to the right people!

Finally, we continue to celebrate 75 years of serving God and Neighbor during our Anniversary Year with two upcoming celebrations in June. Tickets continued to be available for our Grand Celebration Dinner in June. Through Tuesday, May 31st, you can purchase tickets by calling the office or visiting www.sjohio.org/75. We will be gathering at the Event Center at the Strongsville Recreation Center on Saturday, June 11 for our Grand Celebration Dinner. Our evening will feature a catered buffet from Stancato's, a ticketed cash bar, DJ, dancing and door prizes. We will close our year-long celebration with Noon Mass and a Reception here on Sunday, June 26. We are working on inviting back all living priests, deacons, sisters, and former staff members for the Closing Mass and Reception. And I am happy to announce that Father Sanson, our Pastor Emeritus, will be the preacher for our Closing Mass. I hope that you can join us for one or both of these upcoming events!

May the Risen Lord continue to bless us all...

St. Joseph, pray for us!

~Fr. Joe