

# ST. JOHN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

VIRTUAL BULLETIN • MARCH 29, 2020 • FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

## FR. MARK'S CORNER

My dear St. John family,

With less changes each day being required by state and archdiocesan guidelines in response to the pandemic, we are beginning to settle into the unease and restlessness of a “new normal” for the coming weeks. Participating in Mass through LIVE stream, rolling down the window of your car to go to confession and faith formation opportunities by video conferencing are now becoming weekly routines. The Vatican and archdiocese announced that our Holy Week celebrations will be done without a congregation. The pastoral staff and I will continue to think “outside the box” on how we will commemorate these most holy of days while being “socially distant,” but fully in communion with one another as a parish family. Remember to check Facebook, FlockNote and our website for the latest information!

Beginning this week I will be meeting via ZOOM with members of our Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Corporators and full staff as we keep the lines of communication open and further extend our collaborative efforts to maintain our ministries and the well-being of those we are called to serve.

The senior staff continue to text each other constantly, meet often through ZOOM, and check in to the parish office to keep vital operations up and running while the parish center remains closed to meetings, ministry and regular office hours. The Adoration Chapel remains open for private prayer and devotion with a ten-person limit and sanitation

procedures in place. All other buildings, including the main church, will remain closed.

I cannot thank everyone enough for signing up for online giving through Give Central, dropping off your offertory envelopes outside the Parish Center or mailing them. Not only have you shown great support and care for our parish during this time of crisis, but I have been truly touched by the notes, prayers and wishes of well-being that many have contained for Fr. Andrew, Fr. Gerard, Sem. Jim and myself.

Although you may only see Fr. Gerard on Monday evenings with us praying the rosary LIVE on Facebook, please know that he is well, keeping himself healthy and taking the appropriate steps to be safe. I am very proud of him that he LIVE streamed his first Mass EVER on Facebook. You could say we are all learning some new tricks.

As for the rest of us, our day is made up of LIVE streaming events, meetings via ZOOM, carrying our tripod from one location to another, eating meals together and watching movies in the rectory living room on Netflix.

Please know that we love you and miss you. We promise to continue to be as present as possible in these coming days and cannot thank you enough for your kindness and prayers. We will get through this together united as a parish family.

With love and gratitude,  
Fr. Mark

## ST. JOHN WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY

8-9 a.m.

Drive Thru Confessions

10:30 a.m.

Sunday Mass Live Streaming

6-7 p.m.

Virtual Holy Hour & Drive Thru  
Benediction (more info on page 3)

7-9 p.m.

Antioch (for high schoolers) on Zoom  
(more info on page 3)

### MONDAY

8 a.m.

Mass Live Streaming

7 p.m.

Rosary Live Streaming

### TUESDAY

8 a.m.

Mass Live Streaming

7 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet Live Streaming

### WEDNESDAY

8 a.m.

Mass Live Streaming

4 p.m.

Streaming Scripture (for high schoolers) on  
Zoom (more info on page 3)

### THURSDAY

8 a.m.

Mass Live Streaming

7 p.m.

Holy Hour & Benediction

### FRIDAY

8 a.m.

Mass Live Streaming

7 p.m.

Stations of the Cross Live Streaming

### SATURDAY

8 a.m.

Mass Live Streaming

\*Info on more times for Drive Thru  
Confessions will come in the following  
days. This information will be  
communicated through social media, our  
website and FlockNote.

# NEWS FROM ST. JOHN

## PARISH VESPERS & ZOOM HANGOUT

We miss you! You are all invited to join members of the Parish Staff on Zoom on Saturday, March 28, 7-8 p.m. We will pray Vespers and hang out! Everyone must log in with their real names. We will use the “mute all” feature periodically so that everyone has an enjoyable experience. Once in the meeting, parishioners can use the chat feature to communicate with each other, but only with completely appropriate language. We encourage you to use the “Raise Hand” feature if you would like to speak (we will send a FlockNote with this information). This meeting will have a limited number of spots available.

<https://zoom.us/j/103757468>

## PRAISE JESUS PROJECT

Msgr. Art Valenzano was a longtime beloved pastor of St. John Westminster and the Archdiocese of Baltimore. In order to honor and preserve his memory, we are collecting cherished memories, personal encounters, and reflections about Msgr. Art Valenzano. We will be collecting stories online through a Google form (<https://bit.ly/2xcmati>). If you would like to submit a handwritten story, please send to Elizabeth Puleo or Charlene Lesniak at 610 Geneva Drive, Westminster, MD 21157. After several months of collecting stories, we plan to arrange these memories into a book to be shared throughout the parish and the Archdiocese.

If you know of anyone from surrounding parishes or communities who might be interested in contributing to the project, please share this message! Msgr. Art's reach was far and wide and he inspired many to Praise Jesus!

## TOTUS TUUSDAY

Our Totus Tuesday book club will meet online at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, to discuss Walker Percy's *The Moviegoer*. Please RSVP to Sarah [sarahliz77@gmail.com](mailto:sarahliz77@gmail.com) so we can invite you to the online Zoom meeting.

## FAITH FORMATION VIRTUAL PARENT HAPPY HOUR & SUPPORT SESSION

There will be a Parent Happy Hour & Support Session on April 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Grab your favorite beverage and join St. John staff, Kristin Fisher of Youth in Christ and Amanda Burrill, LCPC, in talking about how we can best help our kids during these changing times. There will be a short talk followed by a time of question and answer. Join us on Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/582106202> | Meeting ID: 582 106 202

## CREATE A STATION OF THE CROSS

Looking for creative things to do with kids who are going stir-crazy? We are looking for your student's original artwork for our Drive Thru Stations of the Cross! [Drive Thru stations will be available as soon as we can pull it together].

### WHAT TO DO:

1. Create an ORIGINAL piece of artwork depicting one of the 14 stations of the Cross. See the Stations here: <https://www.catholic.org/prayers/station.php>
2. Each Submission should be at least 11 x 14 (digital submissions must be of the highest quality or 300dpi)
3. ALL Stations are due by Sunday, March 29th at 8 p.m. You can drop your finished work off in the vestibule of the parish center, OR you can scan it and email it to [jtippett@sjwest.org](mailto:jtippett@sjwest.org).

Depending on your child's age . . . he or she should go only create stations accordingly:

Elementary Students – 1st-4th Stations of the Cross  
Middle School Students- 5th-8th Stations of the Cross  
High School Students/Adults- 9th-14th Stations of the Cross

Selected artwork will be used to help our parish family pray the Stations of the Cross. If you have any questions, please contact Jordan Tippett at [jtippett@sjwest.org](mailto:jtippett@sjwest.org).

## BUILDING THE

# *domestic church*

Having a hard time getting used to attending online Mass? Here are a few tips and tricks to help you adjust:

1. Dress appropriately. Wear clothes that you normally would wear to church.
2. Participate. Sit, stand and kneel at the appropriate times. Say the responses out loud. Sing if there is music!
3. Avoid distractions. Turn off or silence cell phones and put toys and electronics away. Ask everyone to focus on the Mass.
4. Enjoy a meal - at the right time! Save the coffee and breakfast for after Mass.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## High School Youth Ministry

Are you following us on Instagram yet? We have some awesome updates and games! Check us out @sjwestyouth.

Current Series: "Belong." At some point in life, every person encounters the deep ache of loneliness and isolation. Many factors cause us to experience this pain but the Coronavirus is intensifying these feelings to a greater degree today. Even though we have multitude of solutions to overcome loneliness, these solutions often leave us feeling even more alone. In this series, we will address the importance of moving from isolation to solitude as well as our need for acceptance and community, which can be found and fostered in the Catholic Church, even when we cannot physically be together.

Antioch on 3.29: Belong, Week #2 "Invited". Quarantine has made us redefine what community looks like. Not for the Church! Did you know by the nature of your Baptism, you always belong in the Church. We're going to play large group PONG, hear an amazing witness, spend some time in small groups and some awesome prayer time. We hope you can join us:

Sunday Night Antioch Meetings @ 7 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/359922779>

Meeting ID: 359 922 779

"Streaming Scripture" Bible Study: Each week we will stream a movie or a TV show, study some Scripture and then summarize our thoughts in a weekly Zoom call! This week, we will be looking at having faith in a difficult time and we will be watching some episodes of the Twilight Zone. To get the study guide for the week, email Kenn or go to <https://linktr.ee/sjwestyouth>

Wednesday Night "Streaming Scripture" Bible Study @ 4 pm:

<https://zoom.us/j/620551435>

Meeting ID: 620-551-435

Virtual Service Night: With our seniors being trapped indoors during the Coronavirus, we are going to offer a talent show to nursing home residents. What can you do? Juggle? Magic? Sing? Dog Tricks? Email Kenn at [kdemoll@sjwest.org](mailto:kdemoll@sjwest.org) to sign up.

## Middle School Youth Ministry

Summit is Back! On April 8th, Summit is going virtual! We will be meeting from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. We will have some more details for you next week!

# VIRTUAL HOLY HOUR & DRIVE THRU BENEDICTION

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 | 6-7 P.M.

Due to the latest regulations from the State of Maryland and the Archdiocese of Baltimore, we can no longer offer Drive In Adoration.

Instead, we will be live streaming a Virtual Holy Hour to our Facebook page, Sunday, March 29, 6-6:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., we invite parishioners to drive up in front of the main church and one of our priests will offer you a blessing with the Blessed Sacrament.

All who attend must remain in their cars, and must leave the campus after receiving your blessing.

## STAY CONNECTED

### Facebook

[facebook.com/SaintJohnWestminster](https://facebook.com/SaintJohnWestminster)

### Instagram

[@stjohnwestminster](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnwestminster)

### Website

[sjwest.org](https://sjwest.org)

### COVID-19 Updates

[sjwest.org/coronavirus](https://sjwest.org/coronavirus)

### Sign Up for FlockNote:

<https://sjwest.flocknote.com/>