

19th APRIL 2020
2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER *A*
PSALTER WEEK II

Welcome to all our new parishioners. If you are intending to make St. John Fisher Parish your spiritual home, please complete a Data Information Form which can be found in the foyer of the church, so we can personally give you a warm welcome to the Parish. To all our visitors today ~ welcome and enjoy your visit. God bless. Fr. Bogdan

PLANNED GIVING CAMPAIGN

We would like to thank all our parishioners who help to keep the church working with your generous donations. Should you wish to join the Planned Giving System and need envelopes for the rest of this year please take them from the foyer of the church. For those of you who wish to donate electronically (EFT) please see the banking details in the bulletin.

"Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence."



DATES TO REMEMBER

ST. MARCELLINUS	20/04
ST. ANSELM	21/04
ST. GEORGE & ST. ADALBERT	23/04
ST. FIDELIS OF SIGMARINGEN	24/04
ST. MARK	25/04
FREEDOM DAY	27/04
ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA	29/04
FR. BOGDAN'S BIRTHDAY	29/04
OUR LADY, MOTHER OF AFRICA	30/04
ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER	01/05

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr. Bogdan Wilkaniec (SChr)
 Cell 082 856 6026 or bwilkaniec@gmail.com
 Tel: 012-361 1561
 321 Border Street Lynnwood Pretoria 0081
 PO Box 35251 Menlo Park 0102
 Email: lynwoodparish@gmail.com
 Website: www.stjf.co.za
 Name Account: St. John Fisher Catholic Church
 Account No. 011930071
 Bank: Std. Bank Lynnwood Ridge 012445
 Chair: Imade Ayo-Yusuf 084 621 0727
 Secretary: Sabie Pattinson 084 583 1206
 Sabie works Monday and Friday mornings from 09h00-14h00



SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Saturday: 17h00 to 17h45 Week days - Before or after morning Mass or on request.



MORNING PRAYERS Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday – 07h45 Liturgy of the Hour and Rosary. Holy Mass begins at 08h30

TUESDAYS – NO MORNING PRAYERS OR MASS AS THIS IS FATHER'S DAY OFF

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 18h00 Sunday: 07h30 / 09h30 / 18h00
 English Sunday: 11h00 Polish Mass

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Notice must be given at least six months before receiving the Sacrament of Marriage. A MAP Course must be attended and confirmation given thereof. Contact Karin Human 0790362262 karintheassistant@gmail.com or Fr. Peter Switala 0722365070 for further details on these courses. Contact Karin Human for course dates ~ Cost R850-00 (Subject to change) per couple. Application forms are available from Sabie in the office here at the parish.

BAPTISMS: Notice for the preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism has to be done at least one month before the Sacrament is received. Please contact: MARIA BOTHA: 0833971064

POLISH COMMUNITY

ELZBIETA OSUCH: 082 770 0629

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE / CWL

FLOWERS & HALL DELENE HOLT 082 560 2224

ADULT ENQUIRY CLASSES

MARIE McCREA VD MERWE079 692 0365 marie@cil.net
 MARIA BOTHA 083 397 1064 mariabotha2@gmail.com

CATECHISM CLASSES – Compulsory for all children G1-G11.

SUNDAYS 08H30 TO 09H30 THURSDAYS 17H15 TO 18H15 (FRANCIS WARD 0724197580 kib@eyecare.co.za). Please ensure your children ATTEND Mass every weekend as Catechism classes do not replace Holy Mass.

YOUTH GROUP: Kolade Ayo-Yusuf 0712758328 and Kiara Ragoonath 0833262325

ALTAR SERVERS: Jan d'Oliveira 0824980614; Alvaro Peres 0824476231

RENEW GROUPS: Vanessa King 071 156 0499, and Lillian Naidoo 0834191588

MASS INTENTIONS: Please write your Mass Intentions with the preferred Mass time on an envelope and give to Father personally or place in the collection plate.

CAR GUARD: We are looking to get new quotes for a security company to be contracted. Please be patient.

THE PARKING GATES WILL BE CLOSED DURING MASS.

CATHOLIC LINK HE IS RISEN! ~ 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER LORD * YEAR A
FORGIVENESS IS A RESURRECTION

Old-school Catholics are often accused of suffering from "Catholic guilt". This may in part be due to the Jansenism that prevailed prior to Vatican Council Two. Jansenism leaned towards the Calvinist theology of the fundamental corruption and sinfulness of everything. This influenced Catholics, mainly from France and Ireland, into believing that just about anything was a sin, the remedy for which was frequent confession. More scrupulous people would find themselves running off the confession every day.



True, we must not deny the sinfulness of our human nature. We all need a humble spirit of repentance and conversion. The season of Lent which we have just kept for six weeks highlights this. No doubt many parishes held penitential services. But isn't it significant that the second Sunday of Easter is called "Mercy Sunday" – the day on which we hear the gospel passage where Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Mercy? Penance? But it's Easter! Lent is over, are we back-tracking now?

Not at all. God's mercy and forgiveness is perfectly manifested in the resurrection of Jesus, his Son. The new life, which is his by being risen from the dead, is the power-house – the energy source - of all forgiveness. In the experience of divine mercy – God's forgiving love – we are dead to our sins and participate by grace in the risen life of Christ. Every gesture of reconciliation, every act of absolution is a celebration of new life in Christ. It makes for new beginnings.

The primary sacrament of initiation into the risen life of Christ is baptism, as Paul teaches: "We are those who have died to sin; how can we continue to live in sin? Don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death. We were therefore buried with him in baptism in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too might live new life!" (Roman 6:2-4).

Every celebration and experience of forgiveness is Risen Life at work. It is a renewal of baptismal grace, sacramentally in the Sacrament of Penance, but also when enemies reach out to each other, when relationships are healed and when we make a fresh start at love.

Traditionally the Church teaches us that Catholics need to confess their sins at least once a year. For those old enough to remember the catechism before Vatican II, the requirements added "at Easter or thereabouts". Nowadays the time of year is not included. As Good Pope John XXIII used to say, **any day is a good day to receive God's grace.**

Still, as this Link article is suggesting, perhaps we should shift our emphasis from the negative to the positive. Negatively, we might say, repentance and forgiveness is dying to sin. Positively, it is rising to new life – indeed participating in Christ's Risen Life. Forgiveness and mercy are intimate experiences of new life in Christ, of the new beginning that his resurrection implies. Christ instituted the Sacrament of Confession **after** his resurrection. His mercy is empowered by his risen life. Indeed, in itself forgiveness is a kind of resurrection for those who experience it.

The Redemptorist Publications have very kindly sent us the Catholic Link electronically up until the end of April. If you would like a copy please email the parish and I will send it to you. ♥ Sabie



THE WEEK AHEAD LIVE THE WORD

MONDAY ACTS 4:23-31 PSALM 2 JOHN 3:1-8	TUESDAY ACTS 4:32-37 PSALM 93 JOHN 3:7-15	WEDNESDAY ACTS 5:17-26 PSALM 34 JOHN 3:16-21	THURSDAY ACTS 5:27-33 PSALM 34 JOHN 3:31-36	FRIDAY ACTS 5:34-42 PSALM 27 JOHN 6:1-15	SATURDAY 1 PETER 5:5-14; PSALM 89 MARK 16:15-20	SUNDAY ACTS 2:14,22-33 PSALM 16 LUKE 24:13-35
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