

26th APRIL 2020
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER* A
PSALTER WEEK III

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

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
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS	03/05
BL. MARTYRS OF ALGERIA	08/05
MOTHER'S DAY ♥	10/05

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 Holy 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 EASTER VIRTUES ~ 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER LORD * YEAR A

VIRTUE OF FAITH



Lent is the liturgical season when we face our vices and work to overcome them. In the Easter season let's focus on virtues to counterbalance this. In other words, as during Lent we concentrated on human weaknesses, so during the next five Sundays of Eastertide we will give attention to human strengths.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle saw virtue as equivalent to excellence. Virtue is an inclination to behave in the right manner, developing a middle way between the extremes of deficiency and excess. The important thing for Aristotle is that we acquire virtue through repeated practice rather than through reasoning or just being told what to do. In other words, becoming a person of virtue is practical, not theoretical.

St. Thomas Aquinas applied the wisdom of Aristotle to Catholic theology, developing the practice of virtue from a Gospel perspective. For Aquinas, there are three theological virtues: faith, hope and love; and there are four "cardinal" virtues (not the prerogative of the Church's cardinals! Rather in the sense of being "key" to a good life): prudence, justice, courage and moderation. *Catholic Link* will examine some of these during the weeks of Eastertide.

FAITH Today's Gospel text provides the perfect prompt for reflecting on the theological virtue of faith. Jesus admonishes the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: "Why so slow to believe...?" (Luke 24:25). Indeed, like these two disciples, like doubting Thomas, like Peter and many others we all tend to be "slow to believe". Faith is, as some would say, a leap into the dark. But it is precisely because we are slow to believe that the practical approach of virtue comes into its own. Faith is not simply a once-off flash of insight. It is something to be worked at, to be developed and nurtured. It is a habit to be acquired. But, as Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas caution, we need to avoid extremes. We cannot afford to sit back and say, "Oh, this is all too much for me" or, on the other hand, put ourselves on a pedestal and say, "I've got it all!" To develop the virtue of faith is to find the middle way, in humbleness to be able to pray with the sick child's father in Mark's Gospel: "Lord, I do believe! Help my unbelief!" (9:23-25). This man has found the middle way. He acknowledges his incipient faith but asks for help in developing it.

To get back to Luke 24, after Jesus admonishes the disciples for being slow to believe, he then takes the time to explain and instruct. He understands human nature. He knows that growth in virtue is gradual. Slowly but surely, he leads them out of their unbelief into complete insight when, finally, "their eyes were opened" (Luke 24:31). Faith is a virtue; it is a habit that begins with an attitude of humility and acquired through hard work and persistence. Every one of us, at some stage or other in our lives, has our faith tested. It cannot mature without such testing. By developing faith as a virtue, we are better equipped to deal with any test. The good thing is that the work is not all ours. God graces us as we pray: "Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief!"

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THE 29TH APRIL DEAR FATHER BOGDAN!! We at St. John Fisher wish you a wonderful birthday. May God give you the power, courage, knowledge and wisdom to continue to propagate His words and continue to be our beloved priest. May Almighty God and Our blessed Mother Mary bless you always.



MONDAY ACTS 6:8-15 PSALM 119 JOHN 6:22-29	TUESDAY ACTS 7:51-8:1; PSALM 31 JOHN 6:30-35	WEDNESDAY ACTS 8:1-8 PSALM 66 JOHN 6:35-40	THURSDAY ACTS 1:12-14 LUKE 1:46-55 John 2:1-11	FRIDAY ACTS 9:1-20 PSALM 117 JOHN 6:52-59	SATURDAY ACTS 9:31-42 PSALM 116 JOHN 6:60-69	SUNDAY ACTS 2:14,36-41 PSALM 23 JOHN 10:1-10
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