

April 28, 2024 5th Sunday of Easter

# St. John the Apostle Gatholic Church

A Family Focused Parish



## Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 67: Showing the Host

#### STEP-BY-STEP WALK THROUGH THE MASS

"Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." After his genuflection to Our Lord really present in the Most Holy Eucharist, the priest raises the chalice with the host and proclaims these words of St. John the Baptist (Jn 1:29). This part of the Mass is called the "Showing of the

Host."

The current General Instruction of the Roman Missal includes a paragraph on this part of the Mass: "Then the Priest shows the faithful the Eucharistic Bread, holding it over the paten or over the chalice, and invites them to the banquet of Christ; and along with the faithful, he then makes an act

of humility, using the prescribed words from the Gospels" (GIRM, 84). There is really a communication going on here. Like St. John the Baptist, the priest is proclaiming the word and my soul shall be healed." presence of the Lord Jesus and pointing him out so that everyone may know he is with us. Then the priest extends an invitation to those who are able to partake in this special gift, the Holy Eucharist.

#### An Invitation and a Gift

"Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." As Edward Sri indicates, "these words are taken from a climactic moment in the book of Revelation and indeed, the entire Bible (Rv 19:9)." The scene is set as the great multitude in heaven is singing together the Lord's praises. Sri continues, "And the angel instructs John to write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb' (Rv 19:9). What is gospels and amazes even Jesus: he believes Jesus can heal the festive supper of the Lamb? It is the Lord's Supper, the Eucharist. First of all, the supper and the Lamb bring to mind the Passover supper in which Jews would sacrifice a lamb and eat of it as the main course of the meal... But this passage tells

us something even more dramatic. In Revelation 19:6-9, the Lamb is revealed to be a bridegroom! And that means this Passover supper is a wedding feast. The Bridegroom-Lamb is Jesus, and the Bride represents us, the Church, whom Jesus is coming to wed... When you hear those words at Mass, do you realize that you are receiving a wedding invitation? You are being called to participate in the marriage feast of Jesus and his Church" (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, pp. 138,

140). We are so blessed by his invitation and the gift of Jesus himself. What do we do now? The only right thing to do is to be honest with the Lord about his generosity and recognize that without his grace and mercy, we could never be worthy of such a gift. Thankfully for us, the words of the centurion from the Gospel (see Mt 8:8) summarize well what our response should be. After the showing and "Lamb of

God," the priest and the people respond, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the



#### **Our Response and Reception**

As the Diocese of Peoria teaches, "We respond to this invitation of the priest to receive the Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist with humility. Like the centurion servant who recognized himself unworthy to have the Lord 'under his roof' to heal his child, it calls to mind our humility—and the Lord's divine majesty that He can do this work despite our weaknesses" (A Study of the Mass, p. 19). As Edward Sri notes, these words of the centurion are also a prayer that "expresses a great faith that surpasses many others in the from afar, simply by speaking his word... Jesus praises this man for his faith. Just like the centurion, we recognize our unworthiness to have Jesus come under the 'roof' of our souls in holy communion. Yet just as the (Continued on Page 2)

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In the hope of heaven, St. John the Apostle is a family focused parish where disciples seek union with Christ and his Church by knowing God's love through sacraments, prayer, faith education, fellowship and service.

#### Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 67: (Cont'd)

centurion believed Jesus was able to heal his servant, so do we trust that Jesus can heal us as he becomes the most intimate guest of our soul in the Eucharist" (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 142).

The Diocese of Peoria reminds us: "it is for this reason that Jesus came into the world, as 'people who are well do not need doctors, sick people do!' 'I have come to seek out those who are lost!' In the Holy Eucharist, Jesus seeks us out! He comes to our doors and He knocks. Our reception of Communion is an opportunity to allow Him into our hearts..." (A Study of the Mass, p. 19). The Lord Jesus, of course, knows our failings. That he wants us anyway is what makes his love so powerful and so amazing. That he would offer his very Body to us is even more amazing. It is natural for us to desire to repay a kindness, but what do we do when the kindness is the greatest gift in the history of the world? Thankfully, the rest of the Mass will help us to know what to do.

#### For Reflection:

- 1. Pray with the account of Jesus healing the centurion's servant in Mt 8:5-13. If desired, extend your meditation to include the accounts of other healings and miracles in the rest of this chapter. Reflect on your own identification and/or connection with one or more of the persons who encounter Jesus, and ask for the healing you need at this time.
- 2. Reflect on what may be blocking the door of your heart or obstructing the Lord Jesus' entrance. Make it a point to receive the Sacrament of Penance to prepare yourself to welcome Jesus more freely and fully in Holy Communion.

- Fr. Luke Spannagel

#### **Deacon James Vocation Story**

I was born in Colorado, attended public schools, and Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School in Boulder. For high school I had the opportunity to attended The Fountain Valley School of Colorado, a boarding school outside of Colorado Springs where I played soccer, ice hockey and lacrosse. I attended The College of Wooster

(Wooster, Ohio) where I played varsity lacrosse and was elected president of my fraternity for my senior year. Following graduation, I entered the corporate world where I spent the next twenty-three years specializing in insurance sales and risk management. From the age of fifteen to the age of forty-five I lived what one would a call a very worldly life focused on the pursuit of worldly things.

Saint Augustine once wrote "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." This is as true as statement that you'll ever hear!

My call to the priesthood began with what Archbishop calls a reversion. Meaning I was

person is obliged to speak with their priest.

baptized Catholic but had fallen away. My reversion happened in my midforties. I found myself looking around at my life and wondering why I felt unfulfilled... that something was missing. To top it off I just was not happy but I couldn't put my finger on why. Then I began to think of my devout grandmothers and how the deep faith life they had demonstrated always seemed to bring them such peace. And no matter how challenging the circumstances-and there were many- they always seemed to be at peace. And then it hit me like a flash of lightening. I needed to begin practicing the faith I was raised in. Just like that... it was that quick. I grabbed the phone book and looked up the closest Catholic parish in my area, called and set an appointment to meet with the priest for a general confession. Once I began practicing my faith, for the first time in a very long time I felt at peace. Moreover, I felt a deeper call to serve the Church in some capacity. My initial thought was fundraising or something of that sort. In prayer though I began to feel the call to the priesthood. I didn't think there

Confident that my parish priest would chuckle and say something like "are you kidding... have you lost your mind!" And to be honest I was hoping that he would say that. How could someone like me even attempt the priesthood? I am still young enough to get married and raise a family... those types of questions, doubts rattled though my mind. To my absolute surprise Fr. Dave said, "I think there is something there" meaning he felt

was any way though: too old, to many years not practicing the faith so on

and so forth. But I read that if one feels the call to the priesthood then that

that I might have a vocation. So, I began the discernment and seminary application process.

Two years later I entered seminary at the age of 47, leaving my twenty-three plus years of "worldly living" behind. Seminary formation has been

nothing short of pure gift for me. The monastic community, these holy men steeped in the word of God, provided me the example of what living a fully holy life looks like day to day, helped reshape my prayer life. The rigid academic standards reshaped my intellectual life. Before seminary I would have scoffed at the idea I could make it through seven years of graduate school. It really is that challenging. But if you give 100% of yourself to the process anything is possible!

But the most impactful experiences in my overall seminary formation are twofold; one, my year serving as a hospital chaplain during my pastoral year; and two my time here at St. John the Apostle. Serving as your Deacon this year is a time I'll never

forget. You all have had such an impact on me! This was my first Holy Week serving as ordained clergy and it will always hold a special place in my heart. Working with Fr. Maxy, Ryan and you all throughout the week and being able to spend real time at the parish rather than just the weekend drew me closer to the parish. And in drawing closer to the parish I received insight on what it really means to serve the people. My biggest takeaway is that it is a labor of love. And the labor of love flows both ways. It flows from the clergy to the people and from the people to the clergy. The mutual love converges and then flows upward to the Lord in praise and worship. Wow! It is often said by priests here at Mt. Angel that it is the people who form the priest. I never really understood that until I served here. So to you St. John the Apostle, this family of families, I say with utter gratitude thank you for allowing me to be a part of your family and for forming me as a priest. You are forever in my heart.

One June 22nd 11:00 am, at St. Mary's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland, I will join two of my brother deacons for the Rite of Priestly Ordination.

Please know you all invited. St. John the Apostle has been a major part of priestly formation. I am forever indebted to you and Fr. Maxy for everything you have taught me. Thank you and know you are in my daily prayers always.

-Dcn. James





# Pope Francis' MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

#### **April 2024 - FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN**

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.



#### St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Our needs for the week include Cereal

This week's featured advertiser is:

#### Herbst Florist

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Congratulations & Welcome to our newest members

Oliver David Brock & Tenley Kuchler Baptized on April 28th, 8:30am Mass

## A LIVING ROSARY TO PRAY FOR PEACE MAY 7, 7:00pm

Organized by the Catholic Daughters. The Living Rosary will be formed by one person representing each bead and reciting that prayer. We need a total of 61 people. Your entire family is encouraged to participate. Children need to be able to recite the prayer for the bead they represent.

Please call **Judy Peitz** at **503-655-7977** so she can assign as many positions as possible in advance. We are asking Our Lady of Fatima to bring peace to the world.

# PHOTO DIRECTORIES

#### **Parish Picture Directory Update**

The Parish Directory is in its final stages. It's been delivered to the printer and pending final approval. We will announce once they arrive. Thank you for your patience.

#### **Church Open During The Week**

The church is open Monday - Friday after 8:00am Mass to 4:00pm for personal prayer and reflection. Bring your family and come spend some time with Jesus.



# CHARISTIC SECTION OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

During this year of our parish family Eucharistic Revival, I urge you to come

with your spouse and children and spend time in Adoration and prayer during our time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays 8:30am to 4:00pm and second Mondays from 8:30am to 8:00pm.

### **Holy Rosary**

We pray the holy rosary devotion after morning Holy Mass Mon-Thurs. Please join us!







**Church Located** at 410 Center St, Oregon City, Oregon | **Office & Mailing Address** 417 Washington St Oregon City, OR † 503-742-8200 † www.sja-catholicchurch.com

Daily Mass Time: Monday - Friday 8:00am

Sunday Mass Times: Sat. 5:00pm | Sun. 8:30am, 10:30am, 1:30pm (Spanish)

Little Lamb Childcare: Provided for 10:30am Mass in Pre-K Room

Confessions: Saturday 3:30-4:30pm or by appointment

#### **Parish & School Staff**

#### Pastor:

Fr. Maxy D'Costa | 503-742-8200 pastor@sja-catholicchurch.com

**Deacons**: Rev. Mr. José Gutiérrez | 503-803-0329 |

ig.dynamis@gmail.com Rev. Mr. James Ladd | james.ladd@mtangel.edu

#### Business Manager:

Flora Dole | 503-742-8203 f.dole@sja-catholicchurch.com

#### Pastoral Associate:

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Parish Office: office@sjacatholicchurch.com

Parish Secretary & Bulletin Editor

Lisandra Mathews | 503-742-8210 l.mathews@sja-catholicchurch.com

Facilities Manager:

Juvenal Jaimes | 503-742-8202 j.juvenal@sja-catholicchurch.com

#### Spanish Ministry Assistant:

Ma.Luisa Navarro | 503-742-8221 m.luisa-navarro@sjacatholicchurch.com

#### Youth Ministry:

Maria Holmes | 503-742-8201 m.holmes@sja-catholicchurch.com

**Sunday Child Care:** Mary Carroll 503-757-6675 | mfcarroll23@gmail.com

Website Editor: Felix Barba f.barba@sja-catholicchurch.com Admin Council Chair: Barry

Brenneke

503-819-7179 | barry\_tbb@yahoo.com

Pastoral Council Chair: Contact

parish office 503-742-8200 |

School Principal: Mary Haluska mary.haluska@sja-eagles.com SJA Cemetery: Gary Avery |

503-655-7148

## **Weekly Offertory**

Week of April 7th \$ 13,150.26 Week of April 14th \$ 20,275.81 Week of March 21st \$16,797.33

#### **Sacraments and Services**

For Baptism, First Communion/Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Holy Matrimony, our process begins with filling out our Sacramental Inquiry Form. Fr. Maxy will contact you for next steps. You can find the link to the form at: www.sja-

#### catholicchurch.com/sacraments

**Funeral Mass / Service:** Please first contact Rev. Maxy D'Costa at 503-742-8200 to plan a funeral service at St. John the Apostle for your loved one at your earliest convenience. If you would like your loved one buried in the St. John the Apostle cemetery, please contact Gary Avery at 503-655-7148 to make those arrangements

#### Family Member that has moved to assisted living/care facility/

**hospice:** If you have a family member that has moved to a care facility, please inform the parish office so we can arrange for pastoral care and we will note the address in our records.

**Assisted Hearing System:** We have an assisted listening system to help facilitate better hearing for all of our members.

Contact the office.

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Formation Content

Visit sja-catholicchurch.formed.org to register.

#### **Bulletin Announcements**

Bulletin Announcements due on the Friday, nine days before the Bulletin publication date.



#### **Calendar and Mass Intentions**



#### Sat April 27

8:00am Family of Faith Marriage Enrichment, PC 1:00pm Cassandra & Joseph Bassich Wedding 3:30-4:30pm Confessions

5:00pm Anticipated Holy Mass-Terri Courtney, Jr INT

6:00pm Deacon James Farewell Celebration, PC

#### Sun April 28

8:00am K of C Rosary Devotion & Corporate Communion

#### 8:30am Holy Mass - All Parishioners

9:15am Children's Choir Rehearsal, Music Room 9:30am Deacon James Farewell Celebration, PC 10:15am Little Lambs Catechesis and Childcare, Pre-School Rm

#### 10:30am Holy Mass - Allen Jones INT

11:30am Confessions

11:30am Deacon James Farewell Celebration, PC

1:15pm Confessions (Spanish)

1:30pm Holy Mass (Spanish)

2:30pm- Deacon James Farewell Celebration, PC

#### Mon April 29

8:00am Holy Mass - Fr. Maxy INT

#### Tues April 30

8:00am Holy Mass - Holy Souls in Purgatory 6:30pm Mystagogy Catechumenate, YR

#### Wed May 1

8:00am Holy Mass - Fr. Maxy INT 6:00pm First Saturday Choir Practice 6:30pm SEARCH & Catholic Inquiry, PC

#### Thurs May 2

8:00am Holy Mass (School) - Joe Engelhardt †
6:30pm K of C General Mtg, YR
7:00pm CDA Monthly Mtg, PC
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (10:30 Choir)

#### Fri May 3

**8:00am Holy Mass - Mason Hopkins INT** 8:45am-4:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

#### Sat May 4

3:30-4:30pm Confessions 1:00pm CDA Mother's Day Tea, PC 5:00pm Anticipated Holy Mass - Souls in Purgatory †

#### Sun May 5 Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30am Holy Mass - All Parishioners

9:15am Children's Choir Rehearsal, Music Rm 9:30am Knights of Columbus Breakfast, PC

10:15am Little Lamb's Catechesis & Childcare, Pre-School Rm

10:30am Holy Mass - Albert Lou †

11:30am Confessions

1:15pm Confessions (Spanish)

1:30pm Holy Mass (Spanish) -Rutilio Lopez Bautista †

#### **Pastor's Message**

**OUR GRATITUDE AND BLESSINGS:** Looking back at my years in formation, the significant times of priestly formation have been the pastoral experience and diaconate ministry where a seminarian truly learns about the joys and challenges of priestly ministry. We have had many deacon during my time as pastor of this parish but Deacon James is the first one from our archdiocese that was assigned to do his diaconate ministry at our parish. I know there were other deacons from our archdiocese with my predecessors who are priests in active ministry today. Once ordained a priest this June, deacon James will be serving the people of God in our archdiocese in western Oregon and what a gift he is going to be for the people he serves and all of us.

Deacon James has been a great blessing to me personally and to our parish during his diaconate ministry since the last fall. His love for the Eucharist and the gift of humility are evident in his disposition as well as interaction Deacon James' homilies with his real-life experiences have inspired many in our congregation. He has a great passion to serve the people of God of all ages and has shown it by his commitment to our parish especially during the Holy Week services.

We will miss deacon James as he concludes his diaconate ministry at our parish. We all believe and pray that deacon James will be a holy priest after the sacred heart of Jesus and the immaculate heart of Mary, and that he will draw many to Christ by his holy priesthood. We assure deacon James our prayers and our support in his future priestly ministry. We will all have the opportunity this weekend to express our gratitude to deacon James and wish him our very best. I know your words of gratitude and encouragement will mean a lot to deacon James. May God bless and protect deacon James always.

Rev. Maxy D'Costa

l. hajdurt

Pastor

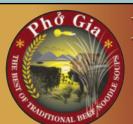




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