

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 22, 2020

ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ATTLEBORO

WORSHIPPING AT
SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST & SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL PARISHES



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133 North Main Street, Attleboro MA 02703



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

71 Linden Street, Attleboro MA 02703

Office Address: One Saint John Place, Attleboro MA 02703

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8AM-4PM, Friday: 8AM-12PM

Telephone: 508-222-1206 | 508-226-1115

Fax: 508-226-6461

Email: office@attleborocatholics.org | stvincentdpattleboro@gmail.com

Website: www.attleborocatholics.org

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

8:30AM

Monday at St. John's
Tuesday at St. Vincent's
Wednesday - No Mass
Thursday at St. John's
Friday at St. Vincent's
Saturday at St. Vincent's

Saturday:

3-3:45PM Confession at St. John's
4PM Mass at St. John's

Sunday:

8AM & 10AM at St. John's
9AM in Portuguese at St. Vincent's
11:30AM at St. Vincent's
1PM in Spanish at St. Vincent's
4:30-5:15PM Confession at St. Vincent's
5:30PM at St. Vincent's

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

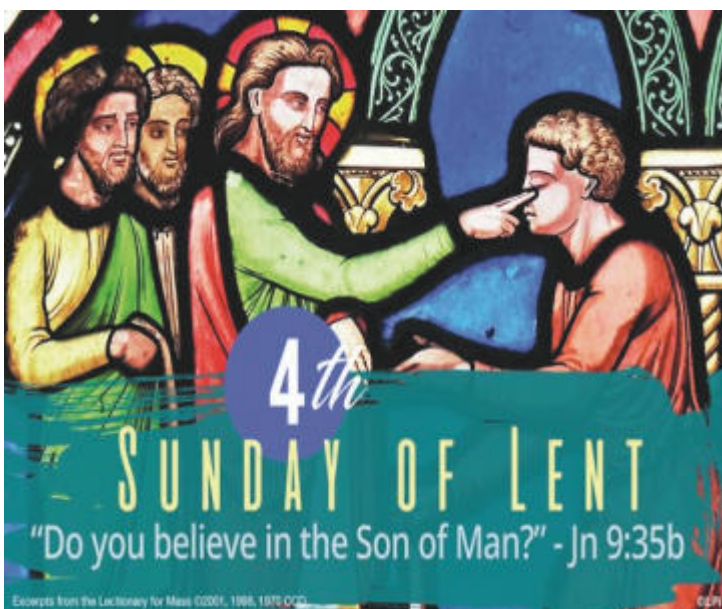
This past Wednesday my assignment as Pastor to the parishes of St. John and St. Vincent began in a most unusual way due to the situation with COVID-19. Bishop da Cunha has mandated that all public Masses and liturgical celebrations are suspended out of concern for the health and well-being of all. Our parishes will follow the Bishop's directives, however I look forward to celebrating Mass with all of you when we receive permission to do so. Until then, let us remember that this Lenten Season is a time for conversion in preparation for the Easter Triduum. The Scriptures offer us a way to walk with the Lord and join ourselves to him in his passion and death so as to share in the new life he promises. You are in my daily prayers.

-Fr. Craig Pregana

Queridos feligreses,

El miércoles pasado mi asignación como Párroco a las parroquias de St. John y St. Vincent empezó en una manera bien diferente por la situación del virus COVID-19. Nuestro obispo Edgar da Cunha ha suspendido las Misas y las celebraciones litúrgicas a respeto de la salud de la gente. Nuestras parroquias obedecerán sus ordenes, sin embargo yo espero con alegría celebrar la Santa Misa con todos ustedes cuando el obispo nos permita. Hasta entonces, recordemos que este tiempo de Cuaresma es un tiempo de conversión en preparación para las Fiestas Pascuales. La Sagrada Escritura nos ofrece un guía para caminar con el Señor en su pasión y muerte para merecer la vida que el nos promete. Ustedes estarán en mis oraciones diarias.

-Fr. Craig Pregana



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at **St. John's** this week burns for the Intentions of **our parishioners**

The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at **St. Vincent's** this week burns in loving memory of **Eddy Rodrigues**.

The **HOSTS** for **March** at **St. John's** were donated in loving memory of **John P. Doona and Samuel & Virginia Aiello**.



This Weekend | March 21 & 22

4PM - Joseph Gomes (†)

8AM - For the Parishioners

10AM - Harold Fuller (†)

11:30AM - Ida LaGreca (†)

1PM - Noe Barboza (†)

5:30PM - Sean McNally (†)

This Week | March 23 - 28

Monday 8:30AM - Joao Feteira (†)

Tuesday 8:30AM - Luis I. Sousa (†)

Thursday 8:30AM - For the Souls in Purgatory (†)

Friday 8:30AM - For the Legion of Mary

Saturday 8:30AM - Deodato Laureano (†)

Next Weekend | March 28 & 29

4PM - Rosalie & Bruno Alegi (†)

8AM - Maria S. Ferreira (†)

10AM - Luciano Alves (†)

11:30AM - Maria Xuan Nguyen &

Andre Chau N. Vo (†)

1PM - Gabriel Rodriguez (†)

5:30PM - Ada Proulx (†)

MARCH 22, 2020

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: As always, we thank you for your continued generosity and support towards St. John's & St. Vincent's Parishes. During the COVID-19 crisis, we ask that you prayerfully consider continuing to financially support our parish community. We will accept contributions through the mail and online at our website, www.attleborocatholics.org.



THE PARISH OFFICES: will remain open during the COVID-19 crisis. Our office hours are **Monday-Thursday, 8AM-4PM & Friday, 8AM-12PM**. While the Parish Offices remain open, **we ask that parishioners only call or email the Parish Offices.**



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

CURBSIDE CONFESSION: Since Confessions will not be held during normal hours, Fr. Pregana is offering "Curbside Confessions" outside the rectory in the parking lot. If you are interested in receiving the Sacrament, please call the Parish Offices.

PARISH SUPPORT

ST. JOHN'S

Offertory for March 14 & 15 - \$3,500.00

Fuel Fund - \$1,220.00

ST. VINCENT'S

Offertory for March 14 & 15 - \$1,268.80

Maintenance & Project Fund - \$464.05

LENTEN REGULATIONS: On all Fridays of Lent, which includes Good Friday, all those 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat. Good Friday is an obligatory day of abstinence and fasting for Catholics. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Our **HEAVENLY DELIGHTS COOKBOOK** is still available for sale in the Parish Office and after weekend Masses. The cost is \$15 per book. Cash, check (payable to St. John's Church), or charge (in the parish office) is accepted.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS HELD AT 7PM

March 27 — St. John's

April 3 — St. Vincent's

No Friday Devotions at St. John's on April 3



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



MORE WAYS TO READ OUR BULLETIN! If you are sick or homebound and would like to **receive our weekly bulletin in the mail**, please reach out to the Parishes Offices, and we will be glad to have it mailed to you! In addition, you can **have our bulletin emailed to you each week**. To sign up, please visit: www.parishesonline.com/find/rcca/subscribe

DAILY MASS: Bishop Robert Barron and Word on Fire media are offering the Daily Mass for the foreseeable future. You can simply log online and watch the Daily Mass at www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass. **In addition, both parishes will remain open throughout the day so that all the faithful may come and pray. We are blessed for the doors to remain open for prayer, so please give yourself and others adequate space.**



Please remember the following who are serving overseas in the **MILITARY**:
Sgt. Keith Aussant, PV2 Adam Baker, General Jon Braga, US Army James Brasar, Matt Brasar, Andrew DiFonzo, US Army Aaron Kuffrey, & Theodore

Food Pantry



The next **MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION** at St. John's is the weekend of **April 4 & 5!**

This month we are in need of crackers, jelly, and canned fruit. Baskets are available for food drop off at the doors of the Church or the Hospitality Center Monday-Friday, between 9AM-3PM.



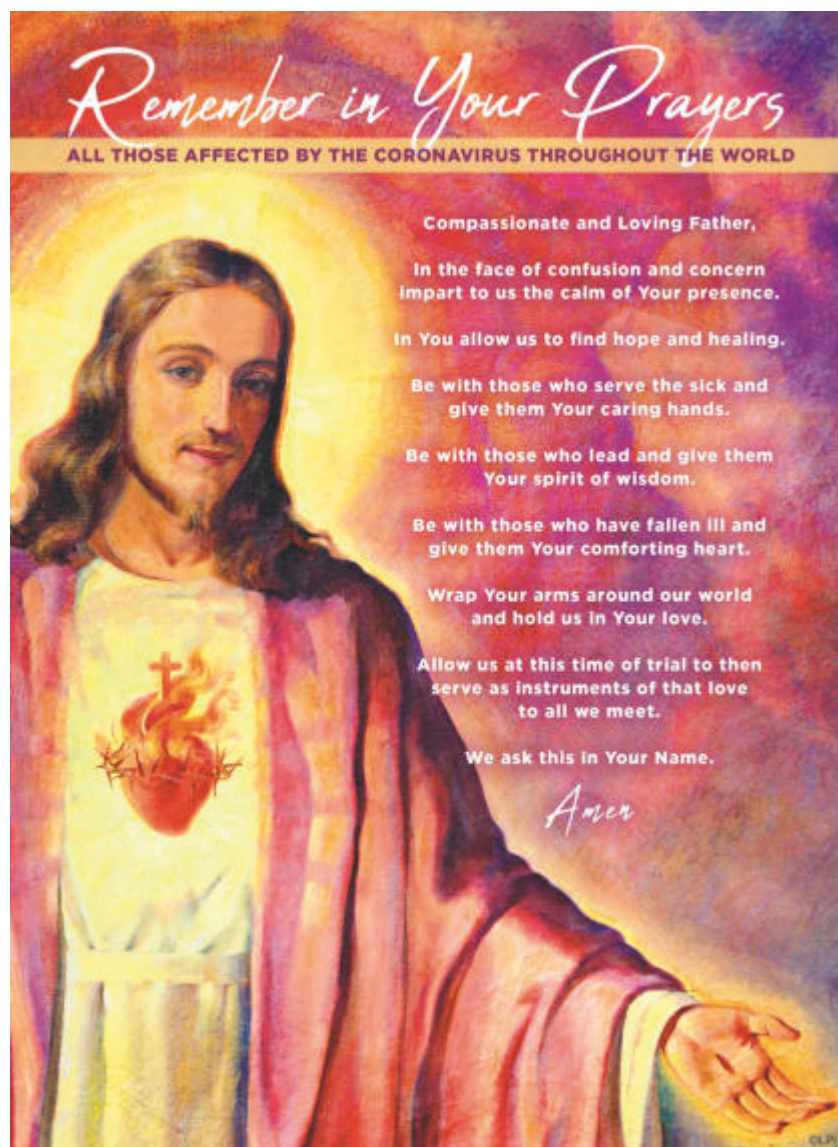
Faith FORMATION ©LPI

****All Classes, K-9 Confirmation II, are cancelled until further notice due to the COVID-19 crisis!****
We will notify all families when classes will resume.

The Religious Education Program continues to participate in the **OPERATION RICE BOWL** during the Season of Lent. Rice Bowls were distributed to the students during class. The Operation Rice Bowl Program supports Catholic Relief Services. We ask that all rice bowls be returned the week of April 26. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!



CONFIRMATION UPDATE: The Confirmation Celebrations scheduled for Saturday, March 14 & Saturday, March 21 were postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis. **All families will be notified when the new dates are determined.**
Thank you for your understanding!





DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER

CHANCERY OFFICE

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

News Release

March 16, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement of Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., Suspending the Celebration of Masses in the Fall River Diocese

March 16, 2020

Out of concern for the health and well-being of all who reside in Southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod and the Islands and in response to the direction of public officials, I am suspending all public Masses and other liturgical services in the Diocese of Fall River effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and continuing until further notice. This includes Masses of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

At the same time, I am issuing a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass during this time to all Catholics of the Diocese.

Exceptions are granted for the celebration of weddings and funerals, but attendance must be limited to immediate family members only, not to exceed 10 persons. Every effort must be made to follow precautions already announced in previous communications from the Diocese along with recommendations of public health officials.

I am asking that churches be open for a limited time during the day to the extent possible and at the discretion of the pastor to provide the faithful who still wish with an opportunity to visit for private prayer. Parishes should provide this information on their websites.

I strongly encourage our Catholics to pray at home and to seek out opportunities to participate in Masses available on television or online instead. Information is available on our website, www.fallriverdiocese.org.

The Mass is our central act of worship, the source and summit of our Catholic faith, and it goes without saying that this difficult decision was not made lightly. It was done after prayerful consideration of the critical health threat that now confronts us. The gravity of it demands that we take whatever action is needed, despite the hardship, for the good of the protection of all especially those who are most vulnerable at this time.

Please join me in prayer in these challenging days for all who are impacted by COVID-19 and in a special way for those who are sick and for those who work to combat the disease.

I wish to entrust all of our people especially our sick and elderly to the protection of our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of the Assumption the patroness of our Diocese, so that under her motherly care we all may persevere in faith to support one another. Let us all pray that this may come to a quick end and normalcy may be restored.

MARCH 22, 2020

DEVOTIONS

Rosary: Monday & Wednesday 6PM at SJE
Wednesday 6:45PM *at SVdP*
Thursday 7PM in Spanish *at SVdP*

Legion of Mary: Tuesday 12PM at SJE

Marian Cenacle: Fourth Tuesday 8-9PM *at SVdP*

Prayer Group: First & Third Thursday 6:30PM at SJE

First Friday Devotions: 7PM at SJE
8-9PM *at SVdP*

Adoration Chapel: Chapel open 24/7 *at SVdP*

CLERGY & STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Craig Pregana
office@attleborocatholics.org

Permanent Deacon: Deacon Del Malloy, St. John's
deacon@attleborocatholics.org

Permanent Deacon: Deacon David Harum, *St. Vincent's*
saintvincentdpattleboro@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Renee DePietro
rdepietro@attleborocatholics.org

Business Manager: Diane Blaha
dblaha@sje-school.com

Director of Music: Sheryl Walsh, St. John's
sjechoir@attleborocatholics.org

Director of Music: David Avila, *St. Vincent's*
saintvincentdpattleboro@gmail.com

Maintenance: Gregory Viens
office@attleborocatholics.org

SAINT JOHN'S CEMETERY OFFICE

1 Saint John Place, Attleboro MA 02703

Cemetery Secretary: Marjorie Soares
msoares@attleborocatholics.org

Telephone: 508-222-9086

Cemetery Address: 165 West Street, Attleboro MA 02703

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

13 Hodges Street, Attleboro MA 02703

Director of Rel. Ed: Margaret Keenan
mkeen@sj-school.com

Rel. Ed Assistant: Christine Healy
chealy@sj-school.com

Telephone: 508-222-0707

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL

13 Hodges Street, Attleboro MA 02703

Principal: Kellie Kickham
kkickham@sj-school.com

Admissions & Finance: Diane Blaha
dblaha@sj-school.com

Telephone: 508-222-5062

Fax: 508-223-1737

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY HELPLINES

St. John's Helpline: 508-222-8400

St. Vincent's Helpline: 508-838-5867

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES

Baptism: Parents requesting the baptism of their child should be registered members of St. John's or St. Vincent's and attend weekend Mass on a regular basis. Please contact the Parish Offices for a census form if you are not yet registered. Parents are asked to attend a Baptismal Registration Class. Classes are held one Sunday a month at 12PM in the St. John's Hospitality Center. Contact the Parish Offices to register. Baptisms are held one Sunday a month at 12PM at St. John's, and the second Saturday of the month at 12PM at St. Vincent's.

First Eucharist & Confirmation: Please contact the Religious Education Office to register. Two year preparation required.

Marriage: Please contact the Parish Offices at least eight months in advance. Preparation course required.

Ministry to the Sick: Please contact the Parish Offices if someone is unable to attend Mass and wishes to receive the Sacrament of the Sick and/or Communion. If you or a member of your family is hospitalized and would appreciate receiving pastoral visits, please be sure to state your religious preference and place of worship upon admission, and to indicate your desire to be visited by your clergy.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process whereby adults become members of the Catholic Church. For more information, please contact the Parish Offices or email *rcia@attleborocatholics.org*.

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Bulletin Requests: Please send bulletin requests to Kevin Baker at *office@attleborocatholics.org* at least nine days before desired publication date.

MINISTRY & COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Adoration Chapel: Paula Andrikopoulos
508-212-8528
Andrew Costantino
508-930-6198
John Costantino
781-264-3949
Doreen George
774-254-2234
mkeen@sj-school.com

Altar Servers: *mission@attleborocatholics.org*

Evangelization: Jim Spratt
774-219-6493

Food Cellar: *events@attleborocatholics.org*

Hospitality: Mary Gill (English)
508-226-1837
Leticia Balcarcel (Spanish)
508-226-1115
Maria Bridges (Portuguese)
508-226-1591

Liturgy: *liturgy@attleborocatholics.org*

Media: *media@attleborocatholics.org*

Pastoral Council: *office@attleborocatholics.org*

Pro-Life: Mary Gill
508-226-1837

Youth Choir: *youthchoir@attleborocatholics.org*

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man "sees" as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture.

Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God's kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them?



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