

# Parish VOICE

SJA's Weekly Parish Bulletin



Our mission is drawn from the Fleur de L.L.S. – Leadership • Integrity • Service

www.sjoa.org

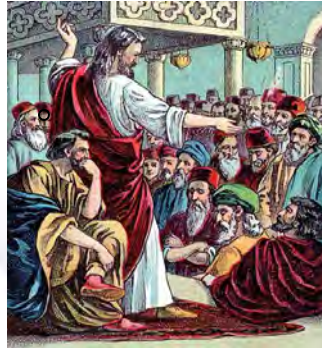
Blessings: This week's message:

September 4, 2011

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Tough Love

This past week, we celebrated the memorial of the beheading of St. John the Baptist. Most often, martyrs are those who died because they refused to stop proclaiming Jesus Christ as Savior. John, however, did not die for proclaiming Jesus as Savior, but because he preached against immorality. Herod Antipas had seduced his brother Philip's wife, Herodias, and she was now living with him. John pointed out that this was immoral, which angered the couple. Still, Herod loved to hear John preach about Jesus, and would frequently visit him in the dungeon to hear the Gospel message. Eventually, Herodias was successful in having John beheaded. Although Herod had the order carried out, he was grieved in his soul, torn between right and wrong.



Many people in the world today are torn, like Herod. On the one hand, they love to hear the good news of God's love, and forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ. But on the other hand, they cling to sinful and immoral ways. Our duty, as Christians, is to proclaim the full Gospel, not just part of it. We are to announce that God sent His Son into the world to die for our sins, and that He did this purely out of love for us. We are also called to point out what is sinful and harmful, and what causes people to lose their eternal salvation. This is not easy, and it may make us unpopular, but it is an act of love.

Jesus' love is tough love. People might ask, "If Jesus loves me, why doesn't He accept me just as I am, and love me in spite of my choices?" The answer is, Jesus already loves us in spite of our sins, but He loves us too much to leave us in them. If we truly love someone, we want what is best for them, what is healthy and bene-

ficial. It does no good to tell someone they are doing fine if, in fact, they are heading for destruction. In teaching Tae Kwon Do, I must correct a student's technique, and challenge him to strive for the next level. It may seem like love to say to a student, "You're doing fine," if he really is doing poorly. Such a student may enter a sparring match with another, whose skills are good, and the poor student will get seriously hurt. At the very least, he will be humiliated. We do no favors to others if we see them failing spiritually and morally, and do nothing to help.

What kind of physician would diagnose a patient with a terrible, yet treatable, disease, but tell the patient, "Your health is fine"? We are obliged to proclaim both God's love, as well as His judgment, for such tough love delivers souls from hell.

This doesn't mean we have to become judgmental. Jesus Himself tells us, "Judge not, lest you be judged." Jesus teaches us the best way to lead others from sin is to have our own lives in order. Are we genuine in our own practice of the faith? Do people respect us as people who sincerely follow the teachings of Jesus? Hypocrisy is often held up by those outside the Church as the reason they are not Christians themselves. But what if we all, in humility, acknowledged our own sins, and that each of us struggles against temptation? What if we made it clear that, apart from God's grace, no one can follow the way of Jesus? What if Catholics showed true compassion and concern for all people? Would our testimony not carry tremendous weight? Proclaiming the love of God, and turning others from sin, begins with the example of our own lives.

Jesus' love calls us away from sin to total conversion. It requires a struggle against temptation, and daily taking up the cross. Jesus' love is tough love, but it gives eternal life. May we love others with this same tough love.

Fr. Roberts

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### SJA Web site:

www.sjoa.org



**Sacraments:**

**Weddings:** Contact Pastor at least six months in advance.

**Baptisms, Communion to the Sick, Anointing of the Sick:**

Call Parish Office between 8 am and 4 pm weekdays.

**Penance:** Saturday, 4:30 pm to 5 pm -Other times by appointment.

Interested in reserving our parish facilities (Doyle Hall) for your next special event? Contact Kelly Wood: 283-5508, ext 111.

**Mass Times:**

**Saturday Evening:** 5:30 pm

**Sunday:** 8:30 am  
10:30 am  
5:30 pm

**This Week at St. Joan of Arc**

**St. Joan of Arc** is hosting the Tri-Parish Labor Day Mass at 9 a.m. Monday, September 5. Please join us for a reception in Doyle Hall as we welcome our neighboring parish families. Our parish offices and school will be closed on Monday to observe the holiday.

**Jeff Cavins: Book of James, Pearls for Wise Living meets** Wednesday, September 7, at 7 p.m., lower level parish office. Topic: James 4:11-5:6 A WISE PERSPECTIVE FOR LIVING Shift your focus so as to maintain an eternal perspective on life. Keep the end in mind and live in light of it! All are welcome. Questions? Contact Carmie Klein, at 691-8225.

**Curious About Catholicism** or know someone else who is? It is not too late to join us for RCIA sessions Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the lower level of the Parish Center Offices. For more information, contact Melinda Rivelli at 283-5508, ext. 1116 or [mrivelli@sjoa.org](mailto:mrivelli@sjoa.org).

**RCIA Sponsors** are needed. Grow in your faith while helping someone else do the same. To find out more about being a sponsor, contact Andrea Collier at [andrea@collierandcolliercpa.com](mailto:andrea@collierandcolliercpa.com) or Rachel Becker at [rachelbecker07@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbecker07@gmail.com)

**Wedding:** James Malenkos and Marissa Anatao, September 17; Samuel Watkins and Whitney Daniels, September 24.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Indiana Catholic Women's Conference** "God Alone" will take place Saturday, September 17, from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. at Cathedral High School. The day includes several keynote speakers, Mass, lunch and the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Contact the Marian Center for more information at 924-3982 or [www.indianacatholicwomen.com](http://www.indianacatholicwomen.com).

**Our Second French Market Early Bird Raffle Winners** are Rod and Sharon Kramer. Congratulations! Let's keep selling those tickets and praying for blessings of great weather next weekend.

**Weekly Prayer Petition:** Dear Lord, please bless our French Market and all who attend. We give thanks for the many gracious volunteers who work so hard to make this event happen.



**Please Pray for the Health Needs of:** Agnes Brake, Connie Gigax, Ray Hassan, Hattie Williams, Dolores Yeadon, Heather Adams, Mary Ann Waldron, Charles Smith, Myron Dill, Joseph M. Brown, Gary Williams, Pat Kane, Tim Kelly, Pat DeVault, Esther Shimer, Gene Gigax, Lindsey Morris, Candy Hammond (friend of Patty Carroll), Roseanne Clancy, (mother-in-law of Ron Poe), Michelle (friend of Kathy Junk), Candy Junk (sister-in-law of Kathy), Cee Cee (sister of Carmie Klein), Annette Cwikla, Jay Ruckleshaus, Carla Quinn, Wendy Ward, Kathy Sauer, Jennifer McCotter (mother of Liz Halsey), Patrick Diemer (brother of Mary Ellen), Annette Geier (mother of Eric), Tom Jeatran, Bill Lennon (father of Liz Bradshaw), Nolan Harrington (son of Lyndsy & Jim), Dick & Jo Ann Cady (parents of Barb), Sr. Sue Bradshaw, Vernell Hart.

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Monday	9/05/11	Weekday
	8:00 am	Tri-Parish Mass/SJA
Tuesday	9/06/11	Weekday
	9:00 am	No Mass
Wednesday	9/07/11	Weekday
	5:30 pm	Int. of Fr. Fabian
Thursday	9/08/11	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	8:45 am	Carmen Sandoval DeGonzalez
Friday	9/09/11	Weekday
	5:30 pm	Int. of Foye/Walker families

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Saturday	5:30 pm	Katherine Scheuring
Sunday	8:30 am	No Intention
	10:30 am	<b>For SJA Parish</b>
	5:30 pm	No Intention

**Next Sunday's Readings**

Sir 27: 30-28:9  
Rom 14: 7-9  
Mt 18: 21-35

**Parish Staff:**

Father Guy Roberts	Pastor
Molly Ellsworth	Business Manager
Kelly Wood	Parish Financial Bookkeeper
Judy Cox	Parish Office Administrator/Secretary
Joseph Burrows	Director of Music Ministries
Mary Anne Schaefer	Parish Administrator of Religious Education
Melinda Rivelli	Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation
Mary Pat Sharpe	Principal, St. Joan of Arc School
Carolyn Holder	Director of Neighborhood Youth Outreach
Chris Roberson	Boys Athletic Director
Peggy Kline	Girls Athletic Director

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 mpsharpe@sjoa.org  
 cholder@archindy.org  
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**August 27 & 28 Collection**

Weekly Budgeted Contributions \$	12,712.82
Regular Contributions \$	9,338.08
Direct Deposit \$	60.00
Weekly Overage (Shortfall) \$	(3,314.74)
Yearly Overage (Shortfall) \$	(9,042.83)

**It's That Time Again** to begin planning your baked goodies for our French Market Bake Sale. Contact Carol Johnson at carcor59@sbcglobal.net with questions.

**St. Joan of Arc Catholic School** will celebrate its 90th Anniversary at the first Annual Founder's Day Celebration on Friday, January 13, 2012. The event includes 5:30 p.m. Mass in the church followed by a reception in Doyle Hall. Information and RSVP: Ellen Chrapla at echrapla@sbcglobal.net or mpsharpe@sjoa.org (283-1518). We are also looking for copies of graduation, May crowning and first communion pictures to display in the Heritage Hallway.

**Holy Angels Parish** will host a Free Community Health Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 17 at the church on the corner of 28th and Martin Luther King St

**St. Rita Catholic Church 9th Annual Reverse Raffle and Auction** will be held on September 24, from 6 to 10 p.m.. Tickets ar \$30 per person and no tickets will be sold at the door. Call 632-9349 or fax 678-0973 for details.

**SS Peter and Paul Cathedral** will perform a concert on September 11 at 3 p.m. to mark the 10th anniversary of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks on the United States. The concert is free and open to the public.

**We Are Collecting** spiritual books and Bibles for the French Market Soul Food booth. If you have any to donate, please place them in the collection boxes at the entrances of the church or bring them to the parish office.

**50/50 Club:** No. 599 was drawn and they were not among the 93 who participated. Therefore, \$93 will roll over to next week.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

This past week we celebrated the Light of Leadership Mass with our students. At this Mass, we recognize the 8th-graders as leaders of our student body. They each received their Class of 2012 sweatshirt and we surprised them with class T-shirts this year.

ISTEP+ Average % Passing Comparisons for 2011:

Grade 3-8	Eng.LA	Indiana	Archdiocese	St. Joan of Arc
		78%	92%	94%
Grade 3-8	Math	79%	91%	91%
Grade 4&6	Science	69%	88%	74%
Grade 5&7	Soc.Studies	Indiana	Archdiocese	St. Joan of Arc
		67%	90%	80%

I inadvertently left Carlos Sosa's name off my thank-you list from Growing the Arts last week. I apologize. Carlos designs the best-looking invitations each year for the Growing the Arts Event. He is also so good about being our official photographer not only at the GTA but for many other school events as well. Thank you, Carlos!

God Bless,  
Mary Pat

**Our Parish Mission Statement:**

*St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church is a community gathered in Jesus Christ. We welcome all people and provide them opportunities to know God, grow in faith, and use their gifts to serve others. Through Word, Sacrament, Prayer, and Service, we honor our tradition as we extend our ministry to each new generation.*