

A WORD FROM FR. MICHAEL

I ended my note last week with the reminder that Christ is present in all places; He fills all things. And He has won the final victory over sin and evil, including Covid-19. And if it weren't still Lent, I'd add a hearty "**Alleluia**" at this point. But it is. So I won't. Yet.

There seems no point in filling a bulletin with "**has been cancelled**" written all over it, so we will use this simplified format in the interim. Since we have now had to close the Church and office, you will only be able to access it online - a wonderful tool, most especially these days! At the very least, this will allow me the opportunity to touch base with the Parishioners of St. John and St. Bernardine, and to pass on whatever information or message might be helpful. It is posted on Wednesday each week, and as you know, there are a host of new developments in any 7 day period. So, I'm also posting links to everything that I receive from our Bishop's office, as soon as I receive it. You will find all of those under the "Links" tab of our website. That way, you will have access to all new developments as soon as I do - including that eventual communication that says: "We are good to go!" I hope we don't have to wait too long.

Also under the "Links" tab, you will find ways to participate in the Daily Mass, both on television and online. It is one way to keep our connection with the Gift of God's Communion, even if we can't receive it at this time. If you wish, you can use the Prayer of Spiritual Communion that I printed in last Sunday's bulletin. You will also find there various suggestions of ways we can keep Holy the Lord's Day.

As I mentioned in last week's note, my daily Mass intention (celebrated privately) is for your needs. I will continue to do that for as long as this pandemic separates us physically. I have received many specific requests for prayer - a loved one who died and whose funeral cannot be celebrated, a loved one in hospital who cannot be visited, a sick family member or friend, etc. I am grateful for these prayer requests, and will hold all of them before God, most especially in my Daily Mass. So, if you have any specific needs at this time, please feel free to send them to me. I am present for the duration of this crisis.

The first weekend of April is Passion (Palm) Sunday, and I do have the palms we normally distribute for the Solemn Procession that day. I know that some of you like to keep those palms for various uses throughout the year, and so I will bless them and leave them outside the side entrance of the Church from Saturday (April 4th) at 4pm to Sunday (April 5th) at Noon. You can drive up, pick up as many as you like, and drive away without risk. Any left over will be discarded.

There is no doubt that this pandemic is an unprecedented event in our life times. The unknowns about it sow fear and, at times, division. It seems a time of darkness. Remember, however, that the singular most unprecedented event in ALL of history was the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. That event, still unfolding in our lives, sows joy, unity and light. And of those gifts, nothing can take them away from us. So walk in that hope, rooted in your deep faith, while continuing to love those God puts in your life this day. A time of trial does not destroy, but makes us stronger in the Lord.

Peace to all of you, Fr. Michael.

The Roman Catholic Parishes of
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST - Garson & Falconbridge
ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA - Skead

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Fax: 705-693-9725

Email: stjohnsgarson@gmail.com

Parish Website: www.stjohnsgarson.org

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK
- CLOSED -

March 29, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Pastor **Secretary**

Fr. Michael Williams **Lisa Walz**

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

RCIA and Pastoral Care: Marie Bardswich

Music Director: Jeannine Longe

Parish Organist: Mariette Hickey

Parish Pastoral Council

Myron McCormick	Finance - ex officio
Marie Bardswich	St. John's
Rachel Charette	St. John's
Sue Quackenbush	St. John's
Diane Myre	St. John's
Lisa Walz	St. John's
Trudy Hinds	St. Bernardine's

PRAYER LINE

Elaine Lamarche	705-693-3339
Rachel Corbett	705-693-3241

ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA

Parish Contact

Carole Larrett	705-969-4607
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Communion to the Sick

Rolande Kehoe	705-969-2838
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SUNDAY MASSES

~~Saturday 4:30 pm. St. John the Evangelist~~

~~Sunday 9:00 am. St. Bernardine of Siena~~

Sunday 10:30 am. St. John the Evangelist

WEEKDAY MASSES

Cancelled

RECONCILIATION

~~Saturdays: 3:30—4:00pm~~

CALL FR. MICHAEL REGARDING:

EMERGENCIES

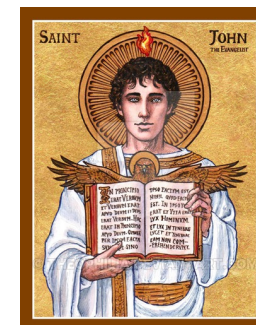
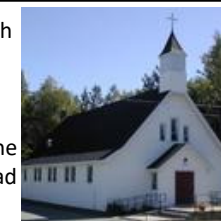
FOR BAPTISM, HOLY COMMUNION,
CONFIRMATION & MARRIAGE:

Please speak with Fr. Michael at any Sunday Mass
(6 months minimum notice is needed for Marriage)

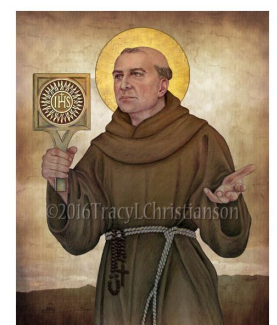


St. John Church
Garson

St. Bernardine
Church - Skead



St. John the Evangelist



St. Bernardine of Siena