



**ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH BULLETIN October 04, 2020**

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**Mass time on Saturday**

The new 'Order of the Provincial Health Order', issued on September 18, 2020, states: "There must be at least one hour between events during which there are no patrons present on the place or the area of the place to permit cleaning and sanitizing".

Effective on **October 10, 2020**, the schedule for the Anticipated Mass on Saturday evening is

**4 pm in Cantonese  
And  
6 pm in English**

**Meetings & Classes on Zoom**

**JP2 Circle** for young adults & youth. Monthly meeting on the First Wednesday of each month via Zoom.

First meeting on October 7 (Wednesday) from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm with Rosary, Devotion to St. Joseph, learning about modern youth saints, and discussion.

Please contact Father Anthony (fatheranthonyho@gmail.com)

Online or in-person Catechism classes for adults (**RCIA**):

- Class in English on Wednesday from 7 pm to 8 pm
- Class in Cantonese on Saturday from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm
- Class in Mandarin on Thursday from 10:30 am to 11:30 am.

Online or in-person Catechism classes for children (**PREP**) on Tuesday from 4:15 pm to 5 pm:

- Grade 1 to Grade 3 in-person class (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd)
- Grade 4 to Grade 7 in-person or online (Zoom).

Father Anthony's **prayer groups** are meeting online with Night Prayer, Rosary, Bible Study, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

- Prayer meeting in English on Monday from 7 pm to 8:30 pm
- Prayer meeting in Cantonese on Sunday from 7 pm to 8:30 pm

Please contact Father Anthony (fatheranthonyho@gmail.com) to register.

**"Death through Eve, life through Mary."**

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. We celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7 each year. On October 7, 1571, the Christian fleet gained an overwhelming victory over the Turkish fleet at Lepanto. During the battle, Rosary Confraternities in Rome were reciting the rosary asking our Lady's intercession with God on behalf of the Christian navy.

Sister Lucia of Fatima said, "There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot solve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."

Pope Leo XIII said, "The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying."

The first Joyful Mystery of the Rosary is the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (#494) states:

"At the announcement that she would give birth to 'the Son of the Most High' without knowing man, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Mary responded with the obedience of faith, certain that 'with God nothing will be impossible': 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be [done] to me according to your word.' Thus, giving her consent to God's word, Mary becomes the mother of Jesus. Espousing the divine will for salvation wholeheartedly, without a single sin to restrain her, she gave herself entirely to the person and to the work of her Son; she did so in order to serve the mystery of redemption with him and dependent on him, by God's grace: As St. Irenaeus says, 'Being obedient she became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race.' Hence not a few of the early Fathers gladly assert ...: 'The knot of Eve's disobedience was untied by Mary's obedience: what the virgin Eve bound through her disbelief, Mary loosened by her faith.' Comparing her with Eve, they call Mary 'the Mother of the living' and frequently claim: 'Death through Eve, life through Mary.'"

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen wrote, "As the fall of man was a free act, so too the Redemption had to be free. What is called the Annunciation was actually God asking the free consent of a creature to help Him to be incorporated into humanity."

It is good to pray for the virtue of humility while meditating on Annunciation. Our Lady humbly consented to the Will of God, saying to the Angel: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word."

Reflecting on this humble response of Our Lady, St. Alphonsus Liguori wrote: "Thus, says St. Bernard, this innocent Virgin, although by her virginity she rendered herself dear to God, yet by humility afterwards rendered herself worthy, as much as a creature can render itself worthy, to be made the mother of her Creator. Although she pleased by her virginity, by her humility she conceived: 'Etsi placuit ex virginitate, tamen ex humilitate concepit.' And St. Jerome confirms this by saying, that God chose her for his own mother more for her humility, than for all her other sublime virtues. Mary herself expressed this to St. Bridget, by saying to her: How much did I merit such a grace to be made the mother of my Lord, if not because I knew my nothingness, and humiliated myself?"

There is a beautiful tradition in the Church to commemorate the Mystery of the Incarnation at morning, noon, and evening in the Angelus prayer. St. John Paul II wrote, "I ... came to understand why the Church says the Angelus three times a day. I realized how important are the words of that prayer. 'The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.... Behold the handmaid of the Lord: be it done unto me according to your word.... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us....' Such powerful words! They express the deepest reality of the greatest event ever to take place in human history."