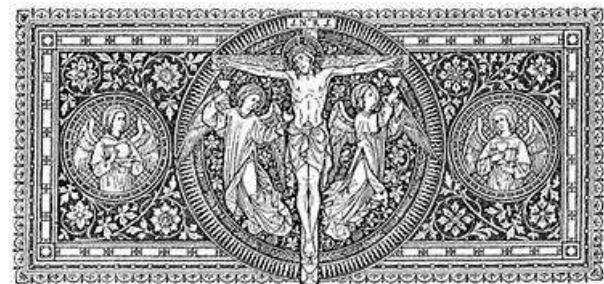


This booklet is dedicated to the deceased members of St. John the Evangelist.

Many thanks to everyone who made the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary special, including the Ladies of St. John, as well members of the Parish Council and Finance Council.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
EVERETT, PENNSYLVANIA

50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MASS  
AND CELEBRATION



AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

5:00 PM

## ORDER OF MASS:

Presider: Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D.

Concelebrants: current pastor and former pastors

Opening Hymn:	O God Beyond All Praising #733
Gloria:	Mass of Christ the Savior
First Reading:	Zechariah 3:14-18a
Psalm:	Psalm 96 #173
Second Reading:	Revelation 21:9-14
Alleluia:	John 15:4a, 5b
Gospel:	John 15:1-8
Homily:	Bishop Bartchak
Creed	
Intercessions:	Lord, hear our prayer
Preparation of the Altar:	Make Us One (choir)
Eucharistic Acclamations:	Mass of Christ the Savior
Communion Hymns:	The Prayer (choir) Fly Like a Bird #647
Closing Hymn:	The Church's One Foundation #571

## Outline of St. John the Evangelist's History

? – Log cabin church built in Clearville named St. John the Evangelist

1853 – Cornerstone laid for new church in Clearville

1855 – New church in Clearville dedicated

1862 – Church in Clearville sold

1965 – Mission congregation of St. John the Evangelist established

September 1, 1971 – St. John the Evangelist named its own independent parish

1971 – Fr. Paul Robine named first pastor

1972 – Rectory on East 1<sup>st</sup> Street purchased

1976 – Fr. John Elias named second pastor

1980 – Fr. Charles Rager named third pastor

1981 – Ground for new rectory and church purchased

1985 – New rectory and CCD center built and blessed

November 12, 1989 – New church built and dedicated

1994 – Fr. Joseph Orr named Parochial Administrator

1995 – Fr. Angelo Patti named fifth pastor

2000 – Fr. Norman Imgrund named sixth pastor

2003-2004 – Renovation project begun

2010 – Fr. Richard Tomkoksy named seventh pastor

2013 – Fr. Derek Fairman named eighth pastor

Dear parishioners of St. John the Evangelist:

It is with gratitude that I am here with you as the parish celebrates fifty years of faith, hope and love here in Everett. Be sure of my continued prayers during this Golden Jubilee year and beyond.

There are some things about St. John the Evangelist that have changed over these fifty years. When I first came, there was a pile of dirt sitting near the new overhead light. Somehow, with God's help, we were able to transform this pile of dirt and some other materials from the Rosary walk into a new meditation area. Many things have changed that have made all of us better.

However, there are some things that have not changed. Your faith and of course your generosity have made St. John the Evangelist a welcome home for all those who wish to find the Lord here in Everett. Your faith and generosity have been a constant in the midst of many changes.

The past fifty years are only the beginning. There will be many challenges that will come. There will likely be more changes in the coming years. I have no doubt that, with the Lord's help, you will rise to meet the challenges, and that your faith and devotion to the Lord will remain.

The beauty of the church reflects God's goodness and the beauty of Heaven. With the help of our patron, St. John the Evangelist, and with the help of the Mother of God, may the beauty of Heaven fill your souls on this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish.

God bless now and always,

Fr. Derek Fairman

## READINGS

Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

### A reading from the Book of the prophet Zephaniah

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!

    Sing joyfully, O Israel!

Be glad and exult with all your heart,

    O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has removed the judgment against you,

    he turned away your enemies;

The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst,

    you have no further misfortune to fear.

On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:

    Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
    a mighty savior;

He will rejoice over you with gladness,  
    and renew you in his love,

He will sing joyfully because of you,  
    as one sings at festivals.



**Psalm: Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

Sing to the Lord, sing a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all you lands;  
sing to the Lord; bless his name.

**Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

Announce his salvation, day after day.  
tell his glory among all the lands;  
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

**Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

Give to the Lord, you families of nations,  
give to the Lord glory and praise;  
give to the Lord the glory due his name!

**Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

Worship the Lord in holy attire.  
tremble before him all the earth;  
say among the nations: the Lord is king.  
He governs his people with equity.

**Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

Dear Parishioners of St. John the Evangelist,

As your Pastor from 2010 to 2013, I always pray daily for all the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist, and I pray in a special way on this momentous occasion of celebrating 50 years as a Parish Family that God, through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother Mary and St. John the Evangelist your Parish Patron, draw all of you close to His Heart and enable you to serve Him ever more faithfully in the years to come.

God bless you always,

Fr. Richard B. Tomkosky

Pastor, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bedford  
Pastor, Seven Dolors of the BVM Parish, Bean's Cove

Fr. Paul Robine, the first pastor of St. John the Evangelist, now a resident of Garvey Manor in Hollidaysburg, sends his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish. Be sure of his prayers for everyone.

Also, Fr. John Elias, the second pastor of St. John the Evangelist, now a resident of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Hollidaysburg, sends his congratulations and best wishes on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish. Be sure of his prayers as well.

We remember Fr. Charles Rager, and Fr. Norm Imgrund, who have passed to their eternal rest. We pray for them on this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Dear Father Fairman and parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish,

On the happy occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of Saint John the Evangelist Church in Everett, Pennsylvania, it is my distinct honor, as the parish's fifth pastor, to offer my heartfelt congratulations and prayerful good wishes to you and the entire parish community.

For 50 years, Saint John the Evangelist Church has treasured and preserved a rich Catholic heritage in Everett, Pennsylvania. The growth of the Catholic Faith, which started from humble beginnings in this beautiful area of Bedford County, was due in large part to the faith-filled efforts and good example of faithful priests, laity, and parishioners who bore witness to the Catholic faith and the Eucharistic presence of Jesus Christ through kindness, good works, and service to God and neighbor.

You, the pastor and faithful parishioners of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, continue to this day to show that love is more powerful than hatred; that hope is more enduring than despair; and that faith is more powerful than any force of prejudice or evil in the world. The celebration of Holy Mass, Prayer, Eucharistic devotion, and the power of the Sacraments, continues to bring about this abiding and loving presence of God in the Everett area.

I am most grateful to have been a part of your great history from 1995 to 1999. May God continue to bless your wonderful parish for many years to come.

I congratulate all of you as you celebrate your Golden Jubilee.

May God Bless you abundantly,

Father Angelo J. Patti, V.F.

Pastor, St. Peter Parish, Somerset

### **A reading from the Book of Revelation**

The angel spoke to me, saying:

“Come here. I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

He took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

It gleamed with the splendor of God.

Its radiance was like that of a precious stone, like jasper, clear as crystal.

It had a massive, high wall, with twelve gates where twelve angels were stationed and on which names were inscribed, the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.

There were three gates facing east, three north, three south, and three west.

The wall of the city had twelve courses of stones as its foundation, on which were inscribed the twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb.



### **Alleluia: John 15:4a, 5b**

Remain in me, as I remain in you, says the Lord;  
whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.  
He takes away every branch in me that does not bear  
fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it  
bears more fruit.

You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to  
you.

Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own  
unless it remains on the vine,  
so neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,  
because without me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me  
will be thrown out like a branch and wither;  
people will gather them and throw them into a fire  
and they will be burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you,  
ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

By this is my Father glorified,  
that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

### **From the Pastors:**

Congratulations to the parishioners of St John!

Shortly after I arrived at St John in Everett, a drifter rang the doorbell seeking a handout. He found me in an excitable mood. The guy asked for some cash and I heatedly exclaimed: “You want me to give you money? I have only \$10.99 in the bank. I should be asking you for money!” He stammered an apology and quickly left.

The parish had suffered greatly under poor administration. Parish records were missing. The parishioners had been driven into bitter factions. There were tens of thousands of dollars in overdue bills. And corporations were threatening to cut off service. As the weeks passed by, I was very impressed with how diligently the parishioners pulled together to save their parish. In less than two years the parish was out of debt and ready to welcome a full-time pastor.

During this time, I remained the pastor of St Stephen in McConnellsburg. It was a winding 26-mile drive over the mountains. By necessity I spent half my week living in Fulton County and half the week living in Everett. It became confusing and I'd wake wondering where I was. To alleviate the problem, I placed the alarm clock on one side of the bed in McConnellsburg and on the other side in Everett so that, when the alarm went off in the morning, I knew which parish I was in as I struggled from sleep.

God bless you,

Fr Joseph Orr

Pastor, Holy Spirit Parish, Lock Haven  
Administrator, St. Joseph Parish, Renovo

I can only thank God for the opportunity I was given to become a Pastor of a new Parish. I'm sure that God will reward and bless every family who helped and worked for the new Parish family.

Being so small in number, at the beginning, helped each one of us to appreciate the value of each individual. I began to see how God provides. We had the Holy Eucharist; I tried to walk the streets of downtown every day. Some people had very strange ideas about a priest! I lived above the restaurant – (next) to an apartment in Dr. Sipes' building. After a year the Diocese bought the house next to the old church.

We had the opportunity to walk daily before an old illicit book store, which settled on the highway. Eventually, they (robbed) themselves on Wednesday (eve) and they had a fire on Friday evening. We drove to Downingtown to the owner's (bank) to get information for the Newspaper and State Police.

God was present with us. It has been a humbling, beautiful, blessed experience. Thank you for thinking of me.

Fr. Paul Robine