“But Peter and the apostles said in reply ‘We must obey God rather than men. The God of our ancestors raised Jesus, though you had him killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things, as is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.’ So they left the Sanhedrin rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.”

How amazing that in such a short time following Peter’s denial, he boldly proclaimed his faith before the very same authority. He had no trouble stating that he and his companions were witnesses of the grace of the paschal mystery.

The Easter time is most appropriate for all to consider what it means to be a witness and how we can make this same mystery relevant to our needy world.

We remind ourselves of the basic steps. We have an encounter with the Risen Christ, through the scriptures, a special event, through one of His ministers. We are drawn to form a relationship with Him through prayer. This leads us to become like Peter, knowing the Christ and then willingly speak of Him, and His role in our lives.

Consider for a moment. What if Peter’s talk had not been recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. What if he had failed to answer the question posed by Jesus – ‘Peter do you love me?’ Peter indicated he was a witness. Am I?

### JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

**Suggestions for the Year of Mercy**

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, try putting mercy into practice each week.

- Offer to run an errand (groceries, dry cleaning pick-up, dog-walking) for a busy parent or homebound person.

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**THIS WEEK & IN THE WEEKS AHEAD...**

- **Faith Formation/CLOW Teacher Meeting**
  - Tuesday, April 12, 6:00 PM
- **Walking in Hope - Caregivers**
  - Wednesday, April 13, 6:30 PM
- **Film, "Jesus Man of Joy/Compassion" (Part I)**
  - April 14, 1:00 and 6:30 PM
- **Charismatic Mass**
  - April 14, 7:00 PM
- **Families in Faith Bake Sale, after all Masses**
  - April 16 & 17
- **ARISE Leader Meeting**
  - April 20, 6:30 PM
- **Parish Finance Advisory Council**
  - Tues., April 26, 6:00-7:30 PM, All-Purpose Rm
  - **Practice for First Communion**
  - April 17 & 24 during Faith Formation
  - and April 26, 5:30-7:30 PM & April 28, 5:30-7:00 PM
- **First Communion**
  - April 30
- **Parish Pastoral Council**
  - Thursday, May 5, 6:30-8:00 PM, Multi-Purpose Room
- **Parent Meeting, 1st Level**
  - Sunday, May 15, 10:00 AM
- **Spring Fling**
  - Saturday, May 21
- **Parent Meeting, 7th Level**
  - Sunday, May 22, 10:00 AM
- **SJB Golf Tournament**
  - August 20
SUNDAY STEWARDS
1,289 families receive envelopes
432 white offertory envelopes were used on the weekend of April 2/3.
Total Mass Attendance: 1,366
Total Sunday Offering: $10,667.00
Totals for the Easter collection will appear in a future edition of the bulletin.
Thank you for your generosity!

ADDITIONAL EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS
Vincent R. Garvey, Sr.; Mary Anne Yurista; Al Juris; Battley, Juris, & Smelster Families; All Deceased Religious; Defant Family; Frank & Mary Tarselli; Charles & Marina Paul; Joseph & Verna Nilles; Lewis & Marie Smith.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS
St. John Bosco Parish extends a warm welcome to the following new parishioners: Dr. & Dr. Senen & Mila Alday, Andian, Andrew & Angel Alday.

BAPTISMAL WELCOME
We extend prayerful congratulations and a warm welcome to our newest parishioner, Taylor Alivia Hengst, daughter of Rick & Shanan Hengst, who was recently baptized. May she continue to grow in age, wisdom and love before God and others.

DAILY READINGS
Sunday
Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14
Monday
Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday
Acts 7:51—8:1a; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday
Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday
Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51
Friday
Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday
Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69

WALKING in HOPE MINISTRY
~ Support for Dementia Caregivers ~
Anyone with an interest is invited to join an ongoing conversation as to the needs of and support for present caregivers. Call Sister Marilyn to assure seating and handouts, (570) 788-1997, ext. 5. All are welcome ~ 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the all purpose room, Wednesday, April 13.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER
Beginning in 2016, during the summer months ONLY, there will be a slight change to our Sunday Mass schedule. From Memorial Day weekend, May 29-30 through Labor Day weekend, September 5, the last Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM and NOT at 11:30 AM. The other weekend Masses will remain the same. Baptisms on Sundays will be at Noon or 12:15 during that time. Your understanding is deeply appreciated.

PAROCHIAL PRIDE: KUDOS TO OUR YOUTH
I am extremely happy to announce that Adrienne Seiwell, the daughter of Jason and Lisa Seiwell, has been recently notified by the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Carl A. Anderson, that her poster was selected as one of the winners in the 2015-2016 K of C “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest. Adrienne is a member of St. John Bosco First Holy Communion Class and an altar server. More than 2,000 entries were received, and she was named an INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION in the Contest. She received from them a framed Certificate of Recognition as well as a $250 prize for her design. We are very proud of her initiative and creativity and offer her our prayerful congratulations and best wishes. You are a tribute to your parents and family, our Faith Formation Program and our Parish. May your poster serve to remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas. ~ Father Ric

CHARISMATIC MASS, Thursday, April 14, 7:00 PM. Father Johnson presiding.

faith Formation Corner
• Our Families in Faith group will meet Sunday, April 10 in the Kitchen during Faith Formation to finalize plans for our Bake Sale. Please plan to attend.
• There will be a meeting for Faith Formation and CLOW teachers and substitute teachers and aides on Tuesday, April 12 at 6:00 PM in the Multipurpose Room. Thinking about volunteering with Faith Formation or CLOW next year? Please plan to attend. We always welcome new volunteers.
• Faith Formation Families will hold a Bake Sale after all Masses the weekend of April 16 and 17. Proceeds will benefit the Remembering Ryanne Cara Foundation and the Missionary Childhood Association. Please see the tri-fold board outside of the Faith Formation office for more information about both of these charities.
• Practices for First Communion will be during Faith Formation on April 17 and 24, and in the evenings on Tuesday, April 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM and Thursday, April 28 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM.
• Please note the last day for Faith Formation for ALL students (this includes 2nd and 8th Level students) will be Sunday, May 1. May Crowning will take place during the 9:00 AM Mass on May 1. 8th grade students will crown our outdoor Mary statue during Faith Formation.
EASTER MOMENTS OF MERCY

Give Drink to the Thirsty

Did you know that there is a water crisis in Flint, Michigan because of lead contaminated drinking water? Children suffer the most from such contamination which has been going on for many months. These amounts of lead cause developmental delays and lower children’s IQs. STJB wants to help the Catholic Social Services of Flint purchase clean drinking water for distribution. After each Mass on the weekends of April 9/10 and April 16/17, you will find empty water jugs in the vestibules waiting to be filled with your spare change.

The Tuesday ARISE group and newly confirmed Faith Formation students will help with the after Mass collections and send the “MONEY FOR CLEAN WATER” to our neighbors in Flint, Michigan.

Come celebrate the Great 50 days of Easter and Pentecost
Jesus Man of Joy and Compassion

Watch the Gospel of Matthew come alive, with breath-taking beauty, as the VISUAL BIBLE presents a six-part video series filmed in North and South Africa. The six segments will be spread out over three months so viewers have time in quiet prayer and meditation with each segment. There will be a 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm showing of each. The dates are: April 14, 28; May 12, 26; June 9, 23. For more details watch for a flyer in the April 2/3 bulletin. Call Sister Marilyn at (570) 788-1997, ext. 5, with your choice of viewing time.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SPRING FLING 2016

Our Easter Season continues to unfold, and our fabulous annual Spring Fling will soon be upon us. It is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and Sunday, May 22, from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM (bag day).

Spring is the time to find yourself compelled to maximize your life by minimizing that which might cause distraction in your life, such as an accumulation of long lost treasures in your attic and basement. Please help us make this Spring Fling bigger and better by donating these long lost treasures. Remember, “One person’s junk is another person’s treasure”.

You can bring your “treasures” to the Parish Center by the inside gym doors starting on Sunday, May 15 at 1:00 PM through Friday, May 20 until Noon. Absolutely NO clothing, Christmas trees, electronics, encyclopedias, or broken or soiled items.

There will be plenty of food available all day – breakfast and lunch. Also, the homemade spaetzle-type halushki are back.

More information will be forthcoming very soon in subsequent bulletins. We are looking forward to a great event. Everyone is invited to join us for a day of friendship and fun.

TABERNACLE CANDLE

The Tabernacle Candle burns this week in memory of Pasquale Ferrari by wife, Carol.
April 9-10, 2016

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The Gospel story assigned to today's Mass is rather lengthy but very powerful. It is the third appearance of the Risen Christ to His Apostles - appropriate because today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Easter. Also, significant to a lesser degree because it is a fish story and on Saturday, April 9th, we marked the opening of "Mentored Youth Trout Day." I hope that many of our youngsters aged 16 and under got out with a mentor (adult angler) to fish. If not, next Saturday, April 16, is the Statewide Opening of Trout Season beginning at 8 am. Time to get your essential gear together: tackle box, pole, reel, net, wading boots and of course bait hooks and lures. Growing up I recall going out for night crawlers but thought salmon eggs or corn pellets were good too.

The Gospel story begins as a fishing expedition, continues with a breakfast at the seashore of grilled fish and bread and concludes with a dialogue between Jesus and the Apostle, Simon Peter. In other words, Breakfast at the Lake minus the eggs, ham and home fries. That would not be kosher!

As I reflect on this story, I see a very close link between an incident involving Peter in the Account of the Passion, which we read during Holy Week, and this passage also involving Peter from the Gospel of St. John.

One of the things that tie them together is that both incidents occur around a charcoal fire and involve three questions. You recall that when Jesus is betrayed, arrested and taken away for interrogation Peter follows at a distance. He is seen warming himself around a charcoal fire in the courtyard of the High Priest. Others ask him three times if he is Jesus disciple and three times he denies the accusation and even swears and says that he doesn't even know Jesus. Peter's denial was in triplicate. In today's setting on the shore of the Sea of Tiberius, Peter is given the chance to state his love for Jesus, again in triplicate. "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" His response is clear: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Peter, who at the Last Supper was the first among Jesus followers to adamantly proclaim that he would follow Jesus even to death, soon followed by a humbling fall. "I don't even know the man."

I can only imagine how the scene on the seashore took place. With much pain, Peter remembers how three times he vehemently denied Jesus just before his crucifixion when Jesus needed him the most. He can hardly look Jesus in the eye. He is ashamed and humbled as he mumbles: "Yes Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus says, "Feed my sheep." Three times Jesus asked Peter to affirm his loyalty, love and commitment - once for each time Peter had denied him. Three times Jesus re-affirms Peter's call to ministry. Jesus not only forgives Peter for his denial but he restores him fully to his confidence. Three times Jesus gives him a command: "Feed my sheep, tend my sheep, feed my lambs." Jesus is asking for Peter's love but with that love, obedience too. Peter knows what the Lord is saying to him. Jesus once described the crowds as helpless, "like sheep without a shepherd." "Yes, I love you, Jesus." Peter says clearly, now lifting his eyes to meet the Master's. Jesus says, "Peter, I need you to feed and nurture my sheep for me." "Yes, Lord, of course I will," whispers Peter, as his eyes flood with tears. You can count on me. Jesus had told him, "When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." The Gospel tells us that these words referred to Peter's martyrdom. Peter remained faithful and eventually gave his life for Christ and the Church. Peter suffered crucifixion under the Emperor Nero.

Jesus is asking you and me the same question today. We who have denied Jesus through our many sins. He is asking us: "Do you love me?" He forgives us our sins and gives us a command, then feed my lambs, tend my sheep, feed my flock. Our word must be lived out in our daily life. It is not sufficient to say, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Words come too easily to the lips. We also have to prove those words by lives of faithful service to others. Perhaps you or I will not experience such a terrible death as did Peter, but following Jesus might take us "where you do not want to go." What matters is our response to his most urgent question, "Do you love me?" Can we answer that with conviction - with lives of faithful service even when it is painful and difficult?

God Bless You!

Father Ric

BISHOP’S YOUTH AWARDS 2016

We extend our prayerful congratulations to the following young parishioners on receiving the Bishop’s Youth Award and for their active involvement in the ministry of Saint John Bosco parish. These awards will be given to each student by Bishop Bambera on Thursday, April 14, during a Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral in Scranton.

Our 8th Grade Award Recipients are: John Ashton, Michael Fuccile, Julia Ruggiero, Christian DeAngelo, Dante Manjone, and Abigail Tomczak.

Our 12th Grade Award Recipients are: Michael Bednar, Alexis Ciavarella, Morgan O’Hara, and Geran Triano.