We are considering homeschooling our children. Does this present a problem when it is time for them to receive the sacraments? What must we do?

Homeschooling is legal in all fifty states and like other types of education, has its advantages and its drawbacks. There are many factors to consider, and each family has to decide what the best way to educate its children is. With religious education, many dioceses have a formal policy that outlines procedures and expectations, some of which include more than just academic information. Call the religious education office to find out what they are for your area.

In general, though, an appointment with your parish priest to discuss your situation is the best first step. An opportunity to discuss what is available, what the expectations are for each sacrament, and how you can best prepare your child helps make your time of preparation more effective. The priest can direct you to good catechetical materials, parent information classes, and other choices and possibilities for your child. All parents need to be part of their child’s religious education, taking a lead in instilling the values and beliefs of their faith. Communication and information helps us all to teach and preach the Gospel as Jesus did.
**St. John The Evangelist Parish**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Special Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>All The People of The Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Alexine Nista (Birthday Remembrance) - Req. by Joe Nista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>In Celebration of The Birthday of Geof Loviza—Req. by Joe Defino Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Marie &amp; Randy Nelson—Req. by Their Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Greco—Req. by Bernice Palumbo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Special Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Rose &amp; Arthur Zambrella (Wedding Anniversary Remembrance) - Req. by Their Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Holy Communion Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Special Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>All The People of The Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>In Celebration of The Birthday of John Renner &amp; (Birthday Remembrance) of Katherine Renner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>In Celebration of The Birthday of Kieran Defino—Req. by Joe Defino Sr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES—**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name and Special Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>St. Benedict, Abbot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**100-MILE POWERWALK FUNDRAISER—** Feel free to sponsor Fr. Woodruff in his 100-Mile Power Walk. (July 1st – August 29th) Sponsorship money can be given directly to Fr. Bill, or you can drop it in the collection basket with a note indicating the 100-miak walk. Checks are to be made payable to St. John The Evangelist Church with the memo stating 100-Mile Walk. All monies will be used to offset next year’s budget deficit. Thank you for the love of your parish.

**WANTED—** We are looking for a volunteer organist to led us in instrumental hymn at the 5:00 PM Holy Mass on an occasional basis. If interest, please contact Fr. Bill at 246-9581.

**ULTREYA—** Join your Cursillo Community as we gather for Ultreya here at St. John’s on July 9th at 8 PM. Bring something for the sharing table. FMI call Joe Defino at 246-6908.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER/DANCE-A-THON—** For our Master’s Plan Project, we will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner/Dance-A-Thon on July 12th from 3:00 to 7:30 PM. Dinner will be served from 3:30 P.M. Dancing will follow. All of the money will go to families of children affected by cancer or serious illness. At present, we have four children who are benefiting. Eli who is a four-year-old who is battling ALL a type of leukemia. Sean who is a 6th Grader who has a disease called ITP where his blood cannot produce platelets. Aaliyah a three-year-old who is currently being treated for cancer and Jayden who was a 3rd Grader from Grand D Morse who passed away in March from a ruptured brain tumor. We want to do as much as we can to help these families. Suggested donation is $8 pp or $25 per family. This project is being done this in loving memory of Beverly Defino, Benjamin Martinez, Ann Kirvin, Vlata Matta, and Cecelia Mills. For reservations call Tommy Baker at 247-3454. There will be take out/gluten free as well as vegetarian pasta available. Its going to be a great time for a great cause!!!!

Tommy Baker & Angela Martinez

**SPECIAL COLLECTION—** Will take place this weekend for The Church of Africa. They need our prayers and support to teach, sanctify, and spiritually lead the many millions on that continent who are coming into the Catholic Faith. We thank you in advance for your support.

**YOUR HELP NEEDED—** Community Action will be collecting any type of long-sleeve shirt for the immigrants who will be working in the fields this summer in Ulster County. Shirts can be placed in the Food Pantry Box located at the side entrance of the church. FMI, contact Maria Granda at 246-3635.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—** Will take place from July 27th to 31st from 9 AM to 12 PM at St. Mary of The Snow on Cedar Street. For more information, call 532-5687.

**INSTRUCTIONAL PRAYER MEETING—** Will take place on Sunday, July 5th at 12:00 PM. The topic of discussion is The Joseph Story. Come learn more about your Catholic Faith. This discussion will be lead by Fr. Bill. Question and Answer period to follow.

**CHICKEN BARBEQUE—** Will take place at the Plattekill Reformed Church on July 15th from 5 to 7 PM.

**MISSION CO-OP COLLECTION—** Next weekend we will welcome Father Francis J. Gargani, C.Ss.R. who will be the guest homilist on behalf of the annual special second collection for the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. Father Francis is a Redemptorist priest of the Baltimore Province. He served as retreat director at Mount Saint Alphonsus Retreat Center in Esopus from 2000 until 2009 and many years ago, he served our parish as a catechist seminarian. Thank you in advance in welcoming Father Francis to our parish.

**ARE YOU REGISTERED IN THE PARISH?** If you would like to register in the parish or check to see if you already are, call the office at 246-9581. Census Forms are also available at the church and rectory office.

**BLOOD DRIVE—** We will be having a Blood Drive on Wednesday, July 15th from 3:00 to 7:30 PM. Please come and give the gift of life. Photo ID is required.
My Dearest Brothers and Sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ,

This weekend is the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time; it is also the Fourth of July weekend. This Saturday, July 4th, our nation turned 239 years young! May we ask God to continue to bless the United States of America and may we always follow the God-given principles that the Founding Fathers lived and believed upon which our country was founded. In that way, we will follow the first part of the French political scientist DeToqueville’s quote that “America will be great as long as America is good…” and not live the second part of that quote that “…America will cease to be great when America ceases to be good.” On the humorist side of things, may you have a hot dog on me (HA! HA! HA!).

Next weekend we will welcome at Saint John the Evangelist, Father Francis J. Gargani, C.Ss.R. who will be the guest homilist on behalf of the annual special second collection for the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. Father Francis is a Redemptorist priest of the Baltimore Province. He wrote a wonderful letter of introduction to me in which he will be more than happy to offer any or all of the Holy Masses during the weekend of July 11th and 12th. I think it will work out best if Father offers the 10:30 A.M. Holy Mass on Sunday, July 12th. He served as retreat director at Mount Saint Alphonsus Retreat Center in Esopus from 2000 until 2009 and many years ago, he served our parish as a catechist seminarian. I want to thank you in advance for your prayers for Father Francis and the Propagation of the Faith; I also want to thank you in advance in welcoming Father Francis to our parish next weekend and for supporting next weekend’s special second collection.

Next Sunday, July 12th, two members of Barbara Renner’s Fourth Grade Religious Education (Faith Formation) Class, Tommy Baker and Angel Martinez, will be spearheading a Spaghetti Supper from 3:00 until 5:00 P.M. and then a Dance Contest from 5:00 until 10:00 P.M. in our Church Hall. This is their Master’s Plan project and the proceeds will benefit children in our community who have grave diseases as well as a few families who have lost children from terminal illnesses. For more information, please call the Baker family at 1-845-247-3454. Yours truly plans to be there most if not all of the time. Please support this fun and charitable effort.

This Sunday, July 5th, from 12 Noon until 1:00 P.M., the Instructional Prayer Meeting will occur in our Chapel. The topic is the “Joseph Story” from chapters 37 through 50 of the Book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible. He is not to be mistaken for Saint Joseph, the Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster father of Christ Jesus our Lord. This Joseph was one of the sons of Jacob/Israel. Please be more than welcome to learn more about our precious Catholic Faith.

Finally, this Tuesday, July 7th, at 3:30 P.M., our Parish Finance Committee will meet in the Rectory to finalize our parish budget for the Archdiocesan fiscal year of September 1st of 2015 through August 31st of 2016. Please pray that we will have a grace-filled and blessed meeting. Everything that we do serves our parish goal of the salvation of souls; parish finances are just a tool to help in the mission of our parish in particular and the Church in general to help as many souls as possible to avoid Hell, avoid Purgatory, and reach Heaven for all eternity. May God bless you.

Sincerely, with prayers,
Father Bill Woodruff

P.S.: “Making All Things New” or the Strategic Pastoral Planning of the Archdiocese of New York continues to need our prayers as 71 parishes are scheduled to merge into 68 other parishes by August 1st. Please thank God that we were not involved in parish merging!!!

CANNOT MAKE IT TO MASS? Do you know of anyone, a relative, friend or neighbor who is sick, homebound, - unable to come to Mass, and would like to receive communion at home, regularly, or would like someone to come and pray with them? If so, please call or leave a message at the rectory at 246-9581.

CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS- Every day in this country, nearly 9,000 children are reported abused and neglected, over 170 in Ulster County alone. Many of these children are eventually placed into the foster care system. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Ulster County is helping to make a positive impact in the lives of these children by training volunteers to speak on behalf of their best interest and, essentially, be their voice in court. By working one-on-one, CASA volunteers become well-acquainted with each child’s unique situation and present recommendations to the court for placement, ensuring that judges are equipped to make informed decisions. CASA is working to make sure abused and neglected children in the local community have strong advocates at their sides; however, there is an urgent need for more volunteers. This is your chance to make a difference in the life of a child. All you need is 10-15 hours a month and a willing heart. If interested, please contact 339-7543.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ULSTER COUNTY— Is looking for volunteers to help with their food pantry which is open every Tuesday and Friday afternoon. If you would like to help stock our shelves, serve our clients or enter their information into our database, we could use your help. Stocking and set-up start on pantry mornings at 10:30 and food is distributed from 1 to 4 PM. Clients can sign in from 12—3:30. Volunteers hours vary and you can sign up for however long would be best for you. If you would like to help on a regular basis or if you would like to be on call as needed, please call us at 340-9170 X100.

JOKE– The pastor was standing outside of Church one Sunday morning chatting with a parishioner. He asked the man how he is doing. The man said, “I am concerned about my hearing.” The pastor called two other parishioners over and asked them to each place a finger in one of the man’s ears. The pastor then laid hands on the man and said a few prayers. The pastor instructed the parishioners to remove their fingers from the man’s ears and proceeded to ask the man how he was. The man said, “I fell fine but he hearing isn’t until Wednesday.”
Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.” So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them.

- Mk 6:4-5

“Please Pray For All Bishops, Priests, Deacons & Religious!”

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

**THE LORD HAS BLESSED US**

**IN SO MANY WAYS...**

Let us return to Him a fair share of

**THE MANY GIFTS**

He has already given us.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

June 13/14, 2015

2015 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>282</th>
<th>249</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This Week’s</th>
<th>Year To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>$2,218.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>3,413.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>5,631.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>1,063.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $ 4,567.80 $ (3,299.51)

Extraordinary Expense: $15,693 (Side Walkway)

**PARISHIONER’S COMMENT**– When there is NO tithing we keep wanting; when there IS tithing we want for nothing.

**PASTOR’S COMMENT**– I am thrilled and very grateful to God and to all who have adopted God’s biblical plan for giving. I am grateful for the spiritual benefits that are coming to our parish and to all who so put their trust in God.

“Remember St. John’s in Your Will!”

**FOOD PANTRY ITEM FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**MACARONI AND CHEESE**

PRAYER FOR LIFE

Jesus, Mary and Joseph we love you very much.
Help us spiritually adopt and protect all human life
from preborn to natural death.
Amen.

MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

God our Father, through the Gospel and the Eucharist,
You bring us together as Your Church in the
Archdiocese of New York.
Send us Your Holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds and guide our actions
as we plan for the future of parish life in this Archdiocese.
Help us learn new ways to strengthen and revitalize our parish communities, and to be good stewards of the spiritual and material gifts that sustain them.
Bless our work, so that our parishes may continue to witness to the truth of the Gospel, and be a sign of Your love for all people.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CAST OUT THE NET

Very early in life we are trained to be successful according to the world's definition of success. We are driven by goals and accomplishments from the day we take our first steps. As we grow older, we are pressured to accumulate knowledge and "things" in order to prove our success.

In our Christian walk, Jesus calls us to a new definition of success - one determined not by what we accomplish, but by our obedience. The disciples walked and talked with Jesus, but they still faced many challenges with faith and obedience.

One morning after fishing all night without a catch, Jesus called from the shore. John 21:6 "He said, 'Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some {fish}.' When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish." The disciples were successful that morning. But we must understand that the large number of fish did not define their success. They would have been successful even if the nets remained empty. They were successful the moment they were obedient and threw out the net.

King Saul was told to "attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belongs to them," (1 Samuel 15:3). But Saul allowed the Amalekite king and the best livestock to survive. He tried to cover His disobedience by saying the calves and lambs were for a sacrifice to God. "But Samuel replied: 'Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.'" (1 Samuel).

In any task we undertake for God, it's easy to become discouraged by our apparent lack of success. We often feel inadequate - and those feelings increase when our goals seem to be elusive. But we must remember, the outcome of the task is secondary to our obedience. God doesn't need our "fish" - He wants our devotion and trust. He desires that we love Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Let's take our eyes off the accomplishment of the "catch" and what we can produce. Rather, let's focus on walking according to His leading. Let's concentrate our effort on obeying His call to cast out the net.