

## MANY Thanks to Go Around

With the Lenten season and Sacred Triduum behind us, and the ongoing Easter Season, it's time to reflect on the many people and ministries who worked hard to bring the Triduum and Easter Sunday to the beautiful celebrations they were.



Once again we were blessed with a very successful **Lenten Fish Fry** supported by our **Knights of Columbus Council 3892**

(comprised of men, not only from St. John's, but also St. Charles and Our Mother of Sorrows) and dedicated **parishioners of St. John's**. Over the course of 6 weeks MANY people came to enjoy a delicious meal by dining in or taking their meal to go. All in all, 1493 meals were prepared and as a result, St. John's net proceeds totaled \$5,828.41. I'm grateful to know so many of our parishioners volunteered week in and week out to make this overall fish fry experience a wonderful one! Lastly, but certainly not least, a special thank you to all of the parishioners who supported this year's Lenten Fish Fry – we've had another successful year!



Some of you, along with myself, took part in our 5 week **Parish Lenten Retreat** led by **Deacon Lon Smith** and for those who were not able to take part, please

know it was an excellent and well done retreat that benefited those taking part. It was an opportunity to experience and explore compassion as a tender yet powerful inner capacity that helps cultivate well-being and overcome divisions. I wish to extend my gratitude to Deacon Lon for putting this wonderful Retreat together.



I also take this opportunity to thank the **Knights** for their annual **Easter Lily Sale** which results in making a difference to our homebound and nursing home parishioners who receive a hand delivered lily from the Knights. The recipients are very touched in being remembered especially at this holy time of year and it maintains a connection for them with their parish of St. John's. God bless you for your goodness and for those who donated to make this possible.



On Saturday, April 12, children were treated to an EGGstra-special time at our annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by our **Social**

**Ministry Team** led by **Karen Bessette** and **Melissa Ryan** along with various volunteers. This is a favorite event enjoyed by young and old alike so THANK YOU Social Ministry for a fun-filled event!



Thank you to the **Ushers, Greeters, and Security Team** who were available

to welcome and meet the needs and safety of parishioners and visitors.



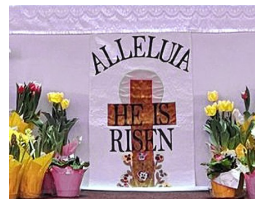
On a very holy night, Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025, the Catholic Church, here at our beloved St. John's, received into full communion, through the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist, **Glenn Smith** and **Jay Colgrove**.

These gentlemen spent several months, together with their sponsors, preparing through our parish **O.C.I.A.** program under the dedicated leadership of **Rick** and **Kathy Paoletti** to whom I am very grateful. Running this program is a long-term commitment and I am blessed by their solid understanding of the Catholic faith and helping to catechize others.



With much preparation taking place leading up to the Triduum, our **Music Ministry** provided beautiful

music adding to the sacredness of this Holy Week. We are blessed here at St. John's to have **Dawn** and **Consuelo** in their roles in our Music Ministry and the special gifts they share bringing out the best in our cantors and various choir members. From the bottom of my heart – THANK YOU!



By now we have all witnessed the Easter beauty in church and for this we can thank **Patty Hoag, Marianne Katz** and the **Volunteers** of our **Arts and Environment Ministry** who together put on this beautiful

display. They worked within a very tight schedule as we moved from one liturgy to the next. I appreciate the efficient planning through all of this. I also wish to thank all those who made a donation in memory of or in honor of loved ones – your generous support made these flowers possible! And where would all this beauty be now if not for the dedicated watering of these plants by **Barb** and **Bill Childs**.



Thank you to our **Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Sacristans, Deacon Elmer** and **Deacon Lon** who added in a special way to the beauty of the Masses and the season overall! To my **Parish Staff** who worked behind the

scenes to tend to the various details, please know of my gratitude.

Lastly, but certainly not least, to **all our parishioners** and **visitors** who so generously supported our Mite Box Project this year; \$5,000 was collected to share with the DOR Seminarians, Catholic Diocese of Obuasi, Ghana, and Mary's Place Outreach. In addition, you supported the Holy Land Collection on Good Friday, the Easter offering, and the Sunday offering. I thank all those who extended their wishes of Easter joy to me by way of your cards and your prayers. May our good and gracious God bless each and every one of you now and always.

In Gratitude to God for all these blessings, *Fr. Peter*