## St. John the Evangelist Church

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**Pastoral Team:** 

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle, Pastor Alfred J. Ricard, II, Deacon

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**Parish Office Staff:** 

Medric Smith, Jr., Business Manager

Marsha Dupont, Secretary Johnette Gourgues, Secretary Susan Landry, Secretary Gary Perrault, Maintenance

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm Sunday 7:30 am 9:00 am

11:00 am

Monday (Liturgy of the Word) 7:00 am Wed., Thurs., Fri. (Mass) 7:00 am First Tuesday of the Month 6:00 pm

(Mass, Novena, Benediction and Anointing of the Sick)

All other Tuesdays - Confessions 5:30 pm (Mass and Novena) 6:00 pm

**Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office** 

Marriage: Please contact the pastor a minimum of

six months before the wedding Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:00 pm

September 11, 2016 — Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to "Lost and Found Sunday"! Just in case being in church makes us proudly consider ourselves especially religious, today's Gospel suggests that we'd be wiser to admit that we're sometimes lost. Then we'll eventually be happily counted among Jesus' "found," because today Jesus focuses on a lost sheep, lost coin, lost son. Jesus does so because the Pharisees and scribes, proudly considering themselves especially religious, "began to complain" that Jesus "welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus warns them--and us--to stop judging others. Marvel instead that God's amazing grace has found us! Indeed, in this Jubilee Year of Mercy, we should become Jesus' friends lovingly trying to find others. So Exodus asks, if God "relented in punishment" and pardoned us, shouldn't we forgive fellow sinners graciously? Even Paul admits his "arrogance" as "foremost among sinners." We too, happy at being "mercifully treated," should share with everyone else Jesus' unfailing patience.

BEGINNING WITH IMAGES OF LOST PROPERTY Jesus' first question seems simple: "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?" But wouldn't most shepherds fear being fired for leaving so many safe sheep to find a lost one? Even more gently, Jesus' shepherd does not harshly chase the lost sheep home, but "sets it on his shoulders with great joy," like the Good Shepherd on Pope Francis' cross. Then Jesus asked those religious men, whose Berakah prayer blessed God daily "for not making us women," to picture a woman upset at losing one coin. Could Jesus be challenging those who fancy themselves especially religious to imagine God being like people they despised? Today, Jesus asks us: if God is like that shepherd and that woman, are we at all like God? In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, we should imitate God by lovingly "searching carefully" for the lost, then celebrating with the rejoicing angels when God's mercy, which often finds us, finds everyone whom others judge foolish, unworthy, or insignificant.

A MOVING IMAGE OF A LOST PERSON How "lost" the younger son became, squandering his father's money, serving unclean animals, then returning home, not in repentance but solely out of self-interest. How gracious the father, running to embrace that "lost" son as "found," unconditionally--undeservedly--forgiven. How bitter the elder son, declaring that what seemed loyal help to his father was only grudging service and disowning his brother as "your son," who "swallowed up your property with prostitutes." To challenge us, Jesus doesn't conclude this parable with forgiveness and reconciliation. Jesus' first two stories teach us, so often found by God's mercy, to be "searching shepherds" and "sweeping women" in this Jubilee Year of Mercy, compassionately seeking those lost whom God needs to find. But Jesus' last story challenges us to resolve that, when someone returns after wandering far and sinfully squandering much, God's warm embrace in our unconditional love will joyfully welcome them home.

Today's Readings: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

September 11, 2016

**Dear Family:** 

Today's readings reflect on the unconditional mercy of God. The conversation between God and Moses is especially engaging. Who would blame God for being angry and disappointed with the Israelites for their incredible acts of infidelity? Moses calls on God to remember the covenant, and in response to the crying out of Moses, God relents.

The mercy that Paul experiences is personal. He readily confesses that his life as a "blasphemer and persecutor" is deserving of punishment, but the grace of God "has been abundant" and he has been "mercifully treated" by the Lord. Paul believes that the love and patience of Christ that he has received were intended to give encouragement to others, that they, too, will receive mercy.

The fifteenth chapter of Luke's Gospel account is the familiar collection of the parables of forgiveness. The closing lines of the parable should give all of us the courage to seek the loving mercy of the Father, no matter how lost we might feel in our spiritual journey. The embrace of the Father is never withheld.

This Sunday marks the 15th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks on New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania. I vividly remember the terror of that day and the months after. I lost four friends who were in the World Trade Center that day. Such a tragedy. Such a life changing event for us all.

Our recent troubles from the death of Alton Sterling, to the killing of local law enforcement professionals, to the devastation of the recent flood has called forth a new kind of unity from our community at large. As we did 15 years ago after 9/11, let us continue to build one another up in Christ as we share our many gifts with those in need. In this way, we are the hands, eyes, ears and voices of God's compassion reaching out in the Spirit.

Some questions to ponder:

- Which one of the three parable gives you hope? Why?
- When have you felt so lost that you doubted the love of God?
- How have you celebrated the mercy of the Father deep in your heart?

I will be out of the office until Wednesday, October 14th.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

### **Catechetical Sunday**



Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical

Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Next Sunday, September 18, all teachers are invited to receive a special blessing on Catechetical Sunday at all Masses. Father Greg will ask you to stand and will offer a blessing to those who are teaching at public and private schools.

At the 11:00 am Mass particularly, we are encouraging our Catholic School teachers and teachers of Religion to be present for a blessing at this Mass.

#### Our Hymn Selections this weekend are:

**Entrance: Gather Us In** 

Music Issue 302

Preparation: There is a Balm in Gilead

**Music Issue 471** 

**Communion:** Bread of Life

Music Issue 352

**Sending Forth:** Holy, Holy, Holy

Today's Missal 38

#### St. John Choir



We welcome the beautiful voices of our choir back to 9:00 am Mass.

The St. John Adult Choir is continuing rehearsals every Wednesday at 6:45 pm. We would like to invite anyone who may have considered singing in the choir to join us in Church for rehearsals.

#### Weekday Worship & Scripture—Week of Sept. 12

**Monday, September 12: 7 am Liturgy of the Word** 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday, September 13: 6 pm Liturgy of the Word

1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1-5; Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday, September 14: 7 am Mass

Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Thursday, September 15: 7 am Mass

1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Friday, September 16: 7 am Mass

1 Cor 15:12-20; Ps 17:1bcd, 6-8b, 15; Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-14;

Lk 8:4-15

**Sunday:** Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8;

Lk 16:1-13 [10-13]



#### RCIA—Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



### CATHOLIC.....

Thinking about it or know someone thinking about it?

If you are interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith and even exploring the possibility of becoming Catholic, please join us this fall for a wonderful faith journey.

RCIA begins Tuesday, September 13, 2016, then every Tuesday until November 29, 2016. Classes are held after 6:00 pm Mass from 6:45 pm-8:15 pm in the Parish Hall.

RCIA resumes after Advent on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 9:00 am Mass then every Sunday at 9:00 am Mass until Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 15, 2017.

For more information, call Donna Carville at 225.687.2402.

#### PERPETUAL ADORATION

These words of Jesus are an excellent invitation to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament: "Could you not keep watch for one hour?"

Mark 14:37

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Are you retired? Do you have a desire to become an Adorer, but not be confined to one hour every week? Do you see an open hour which may suit you from time to time?

Why not volunteer to become a substitute Adorer and visit Our Lord periodically in the Adoration Chapel. What a great way to serve our parish through the powerful witness of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity to grow in your own personal prayer

Being an Adorer costs nothing but the gift of your time before the Lord. Men are particularly needed for the nighttime hours. You'll be surprised how quickly the hour passes — and the Lord will bless you.

Listed below are open hours in the Adoration Chapel:

-Tuesday: 3:00 am-4:00 am

-Wednesday: 11:00 pm-12 Midnight -Wednesday: 12 Midnight-1:00 am -Friday: 12 Midnight-1:00 am

-Friday: 1:00 am-2:00 am -Friday: 2:00 am-3:00 am -Saturday: 12 Midnight-1:00 am

-Saturday: 2:00 am-3:00 am -Saturday: 3:00 am-4:00 am -Saturday: 3:00 pm-4:00 pm -Sunday: 9:00 am-10:00 am

To volunteer, call Mickey Rivet at 225.687.6549 or JoAnn Daigle at 225.687.4621.

### **Baptism Seminars & Baptisms**



#### **Baptism Seminars**

Monday, September 12, 2016 Monday, October 3, 2016 Monday, November 7, 2016 Monday, December 5, 2016

#### **Baptisms**

Saturday, September 24, 2016 \*Saturday, October 22, 2016 Saturday, November 26, 2016 \*Saturday, December 17, 2016

The Baptism Seminars are held in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm. \*Baptisms are usually held after 4:00 pm Mass on the last weekend of the month.

Dates are subject to change. Please call the church office at 225.687.2402 during the early stages of pregnancy to confirm the date of the seminar.

#### **GROWING IN FAITH**

Fall Bible Study begins Thursday, September 15 from 1:30 pm-3:00 pm and 6:30 pm-8:00 pm & Monday, September 19 from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm in the Parish Hall. The Bible Study will end on November 17 and November 21 respectively.



In "The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy" you will:

- Discover who the prophets were, what their message was, and why they are important to us.
- See how God is constantly calling you to a deeper relationship with him.
- Discover the areas in your life that prevent you from drawing closer to God.
- Understand how the central message of the prophets is one of love, proclaiming the mercy of God for his
- See how their powerful words speak to us today, shedding light on our faith and our lives.
- Discover the ways you are called to be the voice of God to others...and much more!

Please call Donna Carville at 225.687.2402 to order your study guide.

### **Our Brother's Keeper Food Bank**



Due to the recent flooding of the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, the 160 families which are serviced monthly by Our Brother's Keeper in Plaquemine have been greatly affected.

Our Brothers Keeper Food Bank is in need of nonperishable food items. Especially needed are such items as peanut butter, jelly, cereal, macaroni and cheese, tuna, soup and fruit juices.

Please place your contributions in the baskets next to the Baptistery in Church. We appreciate your donations!

### MASS INTENTIONS — September 17 - 23, 2016

#### Saturday, September 17-4:00 p.m. Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Sister Catherine Laboure', Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Catherine & Andrew Roucher; Vincent A. Ferachi & Dr. Larry Ferachi; Edward & Rosina Achee, Emile & Irene Achee; Raymond & Gertrude Thibodeaux, Jr., Adrain Banta, Michelle Elliott; Annie Matirne, Bossier Matirne Family, Nick Mancuso Family, Tarek Smart; Cheryl, Marie, Herman & Ruta Mae Courtade & Family; May W. Currier; Alcee & Pauline Becnel; Evans & Virgie Dugas; DeNoux, Dugas, Durand & Panepinto Families; Murray & Dixie Suffrin; Melvina Devillier & Larry Melancon; Ione & Calvin Robbins, Calvin Robbins, Jr.; Earl & Mary Devillier; Frank Ragusa Family, Placito Mancuso Family, Mose Gibson Family, J. D. Collins Family; Maxine & Willis Berthelot, Lucille & Mack Guillot; Dace K. & Earline Hahn, Kim & Luke Baggett; CDA Court St. John #1214 Deceased Members; Gloria Michelle, Brendon Joseph Landry, Ronald "Coop" Landry, Floyd Langlois; J. P. "Joe" Messina, M/M Lindon Rivet & Family; Kearney Thibodeaux, Sr., Kearney Thibodeaux, Vernon Suggs, Joe Suggs, Kyle Landon Ourso; Bobbie F. Clouatre; Ralph Rivet, Sr.; M/M Millard Bourgeois, Sr., Middy Bourgeois, M/M Louis Martinez, Sr.; Sidney Falcon; Lena & Peter Corrent

#### Sunday, September 18-7:30 a.m. Mass

St. John Parishioners

#### Sunday, September 18-9:00 a.m. Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Sister Catherine Laboure`, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Jules Gilpatrick; Jep Daigle, Eddie & Virginia Clebert, Ulger & Nilda Daigle, Clebert & Daigle Families; Lloyd Bouchereau, Sr.; Barbara & Harold Himel, Sr., Frances Himel; Kerne M. Coreil, Sr.; Charles & Hazel Repp, Repp Family, Landry Family; Bill Tullier; Linda Seneca Rafflee, Norman Morales, Cathy Dupont

#### Sunday, September 18-11:00 a.m. Mass

Lillie Distefano; Betty Gongre; M/M Frank Canella, Anthony F. Canella, Victor J. Canella; Cindy Dickerson; Irwin & Ione Wilbert; Mary Louise Hidalgo; Russell & Enola Rivet, Tommy Rivet; Milton Allen; Anita Landry, Leslie Prejean, Walton Landry, Chase Prejean

#### Tuesday, September 20-6:00 p.m. Mass

David G. Hebert & Roy A. Hebert; M/M Anthony Orcino, Sr., Caliste "Joe" Landry & Kimberly; Kearney Thibodeaux, Jr., Vernon Suggs

#### Wednesday, September 21-7:00 a.m. Mass

Sue Wakeling, Trista Parro

#### Thursday, September 22-7:00 a.m. Mass

Fred Hebert

#### Friday, September 23-7:00 a.m. Mass

Curtis & Ella Robert





# September 18, 2016

St. John the Evangelist Church Anthony Marino, Sr.

St. Clement of Rome Church Salvador Spano & Douglas Breaux



<u>Coffee & Donuts</u> <u>September 18, 2016</u>

Ed & Anne Reeves (7:30 am)

Larry & Jeanette Schlatre (9:00 am)

**Children's Liturgy** September 18, 2016



Diana Seneca (9:00 am)

Mary Hamilton (11:00 am)



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