

St. John the Evangelist Church

57805 Main Street — Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764-2531
Phone: (225) 687-2402 — 687-3337 — Fax: 687-1587
24 Hour Prayer Line: (225) 687-1554



Pastoral Team:

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle, Pastor
Alfred J. Ricard II, Deacon
Wanda Ashley, Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry
Donna Carville, R. C. I. A.
Website: www.stjohnchurchplaq.org
Email: stjohnchurchplaq@sj.brcxmail.com
[facebook.com/pages/St John the Evangelist Catholic Church](https://facebook.com/pages/St%20John%20the%20Evangelist%20Catholic%20Church)

Parish Office Staff:

Medric Smith, Jr., Business Manager
Marsha Dupont, Secretary
Susan Landry, Secretary
Lily Skidmore, 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



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

Emmanuel

On this last Sunday before Christmas, we see that Jesus' birth is the fulfillment of the promise of Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23). The Gospel refers to the first reading from Isaiah. There we see the king of Judah, Ahaz, under attack by the kings of Aram and Israel. He wants to ask the Assyrians for help instead of relying on God. He is afraid to admit his lack of faith. So the weakness of Ahaz gives us the wonderful prophecy of the birth of Jesus.

In the Gospel, Joseph also does not understand how Mary came to be pregnant. But unlike Ahaz, Joseph did have faith in God and the message of the angel. He took Mary as his wife and helped her through her pregnancy and in raising Jesus afterwards.

So now we have to choose whom to rely on. Do I act like Ahaz, relying on worldly powers, or like Joseph, who trusted the Lord? If I look at my actions and priorities, I might be more like Ahaz than I want to admit.

How much time do I spend watching television (especially now that it's in HD) compared to time in prayer? How much time do I spend reading the scriptures compared to the newspaper or magazines? If I really believe that "God is with us," which is what Christmas is all about, how much of God can people see in my actions? Maybe if we kept in mind that promise that God is with us--in the baptism we received and the sacraments of the Church, and in the love of our spouse or parents--we could see how close God really is, and let others see in our actions that Jesus is Emmanuel.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

December 22, 2019

Dear Family:

On behalf of our St. John Parish and School Staff, **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Christmas Day and throughout this Season of Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Jesus is God made human (flesh) for us. Fully divine, yet fully human. Born in a stable, not in a palace. Laid in a manger, not in a bed. Born in a distant town, so greeted by strangers, not by family and neighbors. Born to a woman chosen by God. Joined to a lineage traced back to Abraham. The One prophesied and longed for, now born into this world. Here now, with us, among us, in us. Jesus is born.

From the beginning of our Advent Season we have been patiently, prayerfully watching and waiting for Christ to be born in us again at Christmas. There is so much evidence that Christ has come anew to us. So many of our ministries reach out in preparing the way for Christmas to be celebrated. Likewise, so many individuals take on an active way of sharing our love of Christ as we reach out to others.

Thanks to all of you who minister God's love to others. Throughout this season the active work of you who help with church and rectory decor enable an environment that draws us into the joy of this celebrated season. Church support organizations represented by Catholic Daughters, Ladies of Peter Claver, Knights of Columbus, Our Brothers' Keeper, Alhambra, Nursing Home and Homebound ministers, all liturgical ministers (ushers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, servers, sacristans, cantors, choir, choir director, organists and musicians), Altar Society, Giving Tree, Gwen Hayes offering of a silent retreat for women, St. John School's Christmas concert, St. John School's visit to nursing homes to bring joy, St. John School's entertainment for the GEMS luncheon, the GEMS Christmas luncheon, and many other offerings from generous hearts and spirits. I can see clearly the love of Christ being heralded especially during this season by the generosity shown to others. We thank you all who help us to recognize Christ in our brothers and sisters.

I am grateful for our team at Parish and School and ask God for a generous Christmas Blessing for all of you who foster what Bishop Duca proclaims by his chosen motto, "HOPE IN THE LORD".

I leave you with this prayer from the Christmas Day Liturgy:

Grant, we pray, Almighty God,

that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your Incarnate Word,

the light of faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deeds.

Christmas Peace,

Fr. Greg



Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24, 2019
4pm Mass (Children's Liturgy)
6pm Mass
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25, 2019
9am Mass

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Saturday, December 28, 2019

4pm — Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 29, 2019
7:30am, 9am, 11am Masses

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1, 2020
9am Mass

The St. John Church Office will be closed from Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, 2019 until Thursday, January 2, 2020.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!!

The Advent Wreath Candle for the 4th Sunday of Advent burns in loving memory of:



Coletti, Ferachi & Landry Families

Ragusa, Mancuso, Collins, Morales, Nola & Bezet Families

Carol, Millard, Middy & Lindsey Bourgeois

Brenda Comeaux

Nativity Scene in Church

Our beautiful crèche with life-size Fontanini figures will be available for viewing for anyone who would like an opportunity to make a prayerful visit to our Lord and Savior.



The church will be open and the lights will be on daily from 7am-3:30pm until Sunday, January 12, 2020.



Epiphany Concert

Join us at St. John Church as Fr. Greg Daigle crowns the Christmas season with songs of faith and other music on Epiphany Sunday, January 5 from 4pm-5:30pm

Tickets (\$25) are available for purchase through St. John School (225.687.3056) and the St. John church office (225.687.2402). These tickets make wonderful Christmas gifts.

Make plans now to celebrate Christmas with your loved ones and help St. John School at the same time.



Knights of Columbus Fireworks Sale

The Knights of Columbus will be selling fireworks at the K.C. Home, 58715 Price Street in Plaquemine.

Fireworks will be sold on the following dates & times:

Sunday, December 22 — 2-8:30pm

Monday, December 23 — 6-8:30pm

Thursday, December 26 — 6-8:30pm

Friday, December 27 — 6-8:30pm

Saturday, December 28 — 2-8:30pm

Sunday, December 29 — 2-8:30pm

Monday, December 30 — 6-8:30pm

Tuesday, December 31 — 12-8:30pm

Please support the Knights of Columbus in all the good works they do for our church and community.

Daily Scripture Readings December 23-29, 2019

Monday, December 23:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday, December 24:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Christmas - Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24 & 25:

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17,

22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13;

Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6,

11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6;

Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Thursday, December 26:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17;

Mt 10:17-22

Friday, December 27:

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday, December 28:

1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7c-8; Mt 2:13-18

Sunday, December 29:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17];

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars — 7pm

Church Office Third Floor

Monday, January 6, 2020

Monday, February 3, 2020



Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass

Saturday, December 28, 2019

Saturday, January 25, 2020

Saturday, February 22, 2020

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



We gratefully acknowledge the following holiday helpers for spreading Christmas joy:

Decorating Crew

To the team who decorated the rectory for Christmas:

Betty Aucoin
Gary Bertrand
Sandra Bizette
Gene Clement
Derryl Comeaux
Joey Daigle
Joyce Daigle
Ann Joffrion
David LoBue
Rita Jean Mooney
Joey Nicolosi
Gary Perrault
George Ramirez
Ralph Rivet
Jeannette Schlatre
Mary Ann Smith
Sallye Troxclair
Evelyn Varnell

Christmas Cards for Inmates

To all of our parishioners and Mrs. Hergruder's 2nd graders at St. John School who purchased and brought in Christmas cards for inmates.

Your generosity has made it possible for Deacon Alfred Ricard to take thousands of Christmas cards to Louisiana State Penitentiary.

GEMS

To GEMS coordinators, Lorraine Hidalgo, Sylvia Erwin, and partners who brought dishes, set up, and served Christmas joy to our parishioners at the Annual GEMS Christmas Social.

The St. John School Choirs under the direction of music teacher, David Aguiard, enhanced the festive event with their angelic voices.

Giving Tree

To the Giving Tree volunteers, under the supervision of Dr. Katie Berthelot, who strive to provide the less fortunate children of our area with a happy Christmas every year.

We are grateful to our parishioners who provided more than 400 gifts!!

Holiday Visits to the Homebound

To Joann Landry and the volunteers who brought poinsettias to the homebound and nursing home residents.

St. John students supervised by Donna Purpera, made sweets for the homebound to brighten their day.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

These words of Jesus are an excellent invitation to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."
(Mt. 7:7-9)

There is one available hour for scheduled visitation to the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel.

-Sunday: 4pm-5pm

To volunteer as a scheduled adorer or substitute, please contact JoAnn Daigle at 225.687.4621 or 225.776.4865.



Our Brothers' Keeper Food Bank

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

In the spirit of the Christmas giving season, please place your contributions near the Baptistry in Church. We appreciate whatever you can give.

Knights of Columbus Calendars

The Knights of Columbus Charity Calendar Sales Drive is in progress.



Over \$15,000.00 in cash prizes!! Buy a calendar for \$20.00 and participate in 365 drawings REGARDLESS OF HOW OFTEN YOU WIN!! 2020 drawings begin the first week of February. Calendars can be purchased by contacting Ruel Seneca at 225.385.0930.

Please support the KCs and all the good works they do for our church and community.



Travel Opportunities

St. John School teacher, Donna Kirkland is coordinating 2 international trips in 2020. If you are interested in visiting Sicily or Thailand call Donna at 225.803.6013, email donnakirkland@gmail.com or visit www.donnakirkland.com.

Our Hymn Selections this weekend:
(Subject to change)

Entrance: People, Look East
Today's Missal 22

Preparation: Christ, Circle Round Us
Today's Missal 37

Communion: O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Today's Missal 20

Sending Forth: **Instrumental**



St. John Parish Open House 2019



MASS INTENTIONS — December 28, 2019-January 3, 2020

Saturday, December 28-4pm Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Sister Catherine Labouré, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Trista Parro; M/M Paul Pruitt; Mary & Chuchie Flatau, Anthony & Camella Orcino, Orcino & Flatau Families; Pim & NuNu Clebert, Gomez & Clebert Families, Frank & Catherine Ferachi, Bro Bujol; Jim Morris; The Currier Family; Alton & Jenny Boudreaux, Curtis & Rosa Breaux

Sunday, December 29-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners



Sunday, December 29-9am Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Sister Catherine Labouré, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Kristina Mellema; Benny & Annie Vaughn; Jimmy, Sarah & Jackie Migliacio, P. W. Albert, Jr.; Brian "Paco" Ourso, Allen Ourso; Kathleen Anastasio; Connor Brown; Kevin Ardoin; Pim & NuNu Clebert

Sunday, December 29-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family; Arnold "Buck" Fourroux; Isaac Vaughn, Jr., M/M Sydney Hedges, Sr.; Anthony "Tony" Falcon

Tuesday, December 31 — No Mass

Wednesday, January 1, 2020-9am Mass

Ruth Ricard; Jep Daigle, Eddie & Virginia Clebert, Ulger & Nilda Daigle, Clebert & Daigle Families; Oneil Favron, Sr., Oneil Favron, Jr., Randy Favron, Sr., Patricia Savoie Hebert; Sadie Thibodeaux; Anthony "Tony" Falcon; Virginia Simon; Jim Gerace, Flor, Stella & Sonny Rills, Kye Boudreaux; Judge Edward & Lucille Engolio, Pauline E. deVerges, Edward Engolio, Jr.; Jaynell Lopez; Yves Ramirez Family, Vincent A. Ferachi, Dr. Larry G. Ferachi; Roland "Doogie" Rivet, Hebert & Rivet Families; T. N. & Ray Patin; Calvin W. Wilbert III, Marion & Betty Cazes, Cal & Betty Wilbert; Ronnie Palermo; Douglas Breaux & Family, Salvador F. Spano & Family; Gulotta & Quatrevingt Families; Gladys "Butsy" Palermo, Peter A. Palermo, Patrick Burleigh; Carol, Millard, Middy & Lindsey Bourgeois

Thursday, January 2-7am Mass

Alex & Alice Nolan

Friday, January 3-7am Mass

Harry & Winnie Gallagher



Christmas Flower Envelopes

The envelope for Christmas flowers has been placed in the December packet of envelopes.

The names of loved ones remembered with Christmas flowers will be published in future bulletins.



Sanctuary Candle December 29, 2019

St. John the Evangelist Church
Calvin W. Wilbert III,
J. Marion Cazes & Family,
Calvin Wilbert & Family

St. Clement of Rome Church
Donald, Barbara & Dale David

Weekly Ministries

There will be no Children's Liturgy
Sunday, December 29, 2019.



Coffee and Donuts December 29, 2019

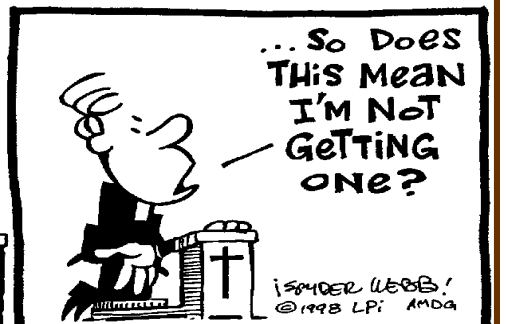
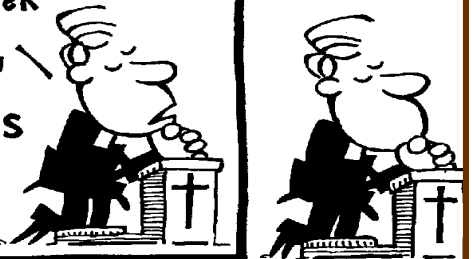
Guy & Sabrina Ruggiero (7:30am Mass)

Larry & Jeanette Schlatre (9am Mass)

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

LORD, I
WOULD NEVER
PRESUME
TO ASK YOU
FOR A
MIRACULOUS
SIGN...

IS 7:10-14



... So Does
THIS MEAN
I'M NOT
GETTING
ONE?

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