

St. John the Evangelist Church

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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.
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[facebook.com/pages/St John the Evangelist CatholicChurch](https://facebook.com/pages/St%20John%20the%20Evangelist%20CatholicChurch)

Parish Office Staff:

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

Masses:

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am

9:00 am
11:00 am

Tuesday 6:00 pm
Wed., Thurs., Fri. 7:00 am

Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Please contact the pastor a minimum of six months before the wedding.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday 5:30-5:45 pm
Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022

A Gift for the Wise Men

A rather liberal priest was teasing one of the women of the parish, asking, "How do we know the Wise Men weren't Wise Women?" She answered, "If they were, they'd have brought bottles, diapers, and a bassinet, instead of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

The gifts, of course, are symbols of who Jesus is: a king who is both God and human. And I wonder what our gifts to the Lord say about our faith in him. Remember the song about the little drummer boy, who had no gift to bring but his ability to play the drum? It can remind us that a person who gives all they have, no matter how little it seems, is the most generous.

So what do we bring to the newborn King? I can give my time by coming to church for the feast of Epiphany and actually paying attention. Just making the effort to listen to the words of scripture, to hear what God may be trying

to tell me, could be a great gift. Or I could bring someone in our family, or a friend, who doesn't go to church very much.

Now let's not forget the meaning of "epiphany." In ancient times it meant the appearance or manifestation of a divine being. Maybe a way to celebrate the Epiphany is to reflect on how God has been made known to me. Simple things, like a hug from a friend or an answered prayer, or major events like a wedding, the birth of a child, or a funeral, can all be ways to experience the Lord. The Wise Men received the gift of an epiphany by following a star. May the light of Christ lead you to him also.

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



Epiphany Concert

Join us at St. John Church as Fr. Greg Daigle crowns the Christmas season with sacred music and songs from Broadway and the big band era on Sunday, January 9 from 4pm-5:15pm at St. John Church.

Tickets (\$25) are available for purchase through St. John School (225.687.3056) and the St. John Church Office (225.687.2402).

The proceeds from The Epiphany Concert support St. John School's music program.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

A prayer for reflection in the presence of the Lord:
Beloved Jesus, may I ever be conscious of the fact that I am in Your adorable presence—I am in the presence of You who by Your life, death and resurrection, paid the price of my sins and the sins of the world. May I always be open to receive this gift by a life of continual faith and love.

—“Reflections and Prayers for Visits with Our Eucharistic Lord” page 19

The Adoration Chapel is open from 4am-10pm. To volunteer for a scheduled hour or as a substitute, contact JoAnn Daigle at 225.687.4621 or 225.776.4865.

Daily Scripture Readings — January 3-9, 2022

Monday, January 3:

1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday, January 4:

1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday, January 5:

1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday, January 6:

1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday, January 7:

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday, January 8:

1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday, January 9:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4,3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Baptism Seminars and Baptisms

Baptism Seminars — 7pm

Church Office Third Floor

Monday, January 10, 2022

Monday, February 7, 2022

Monday, March 7, 2022

Monday, April 4, 2022



Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass

Saturday, January 22, 2022

Saturday, February 26, 2022

Saturday, April 23, 2022

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

RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: The Epiphany of the Lord #1110

Entrance: We Three Kings of Orient Are #547

Glory to God: Mass of the Renewal

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: What Child is This #552

Sending Forth: Angels We Have Heard on High #524

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January 2022

True Human Fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originates from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Nativity Scene in Church

The church will be open and the lights will be on daily from 7am-3:30pm through Sunday, January 16, 2022 for anyone who would like to make a prayerful visit to our Lord and Savior at the crèche.

Many hands are needed to construct the crèche and decorate our beautiful church every year for Christmas. We are grateful to all of our volunteers; some are pictured below and on the following page.



Joseph Schlatre, Joshua Daigle, Braxton Whittenberg and Jacob Schlatre



Cassidy Canella, Gracen Patin, Sarah Thompson, Isabella LoBue, Cindy Michel and Nikki Hanchett

Creative Christmas Crews



Pictured, left to right, front: Boonie Boudreaux, John Miller, Coot Breaux, David LoBue, Charlie Carville, Tommy LeBlanc, Gary Perrault, Punchy Daigle, Bruce Capone and Billy Bujol. Back row: Roy Kolder, Joe Culmone, Doug Gauthreaux, Jim Cox, Gary Bertrand, Barry Lamothe, Patrick Rivet, Jacob Wilbert, Jacob Schlatre, George Ramirez and Bart Schlatre



Left to right, seated: Joyce Daigle, Trish Ramirez, Nettie Michel, Sallye Troxclair, Evelyn Varnell. Standing: Rosemary Cox, Derryl Comeaux, Charlotte Gulotta, Sarah Thompson, Cindy Michel, Sandra Bizette, Rita Jean Mooney, Beverly Kolder, Betty Aucoin, Donna Carville, Bonnie Breaux and Ann Joffrion

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2022

St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

Laying our gifts at the feet of the King

The three Wise Men gave Jesus gifts worthy of a king. We can also present Him with our own royal gifts. While ours may not be actual gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we can still give to Him the best we have. Give God the first and the best of what you have and He will give you more than you can imagine in return.



Fall in love with God

From the moment God created you, he has been deeply in love with you. He made you deliberately so he could love you. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you" (Jeremiah 1:5). He waits for you like a parent anticipates the return of a beloved child. Don't let Him wait long.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ" (Ephesians 2:4-5).



Who needs Jesus?

Many today say that they don't have a need for Jesus. They go to work, have homes, put food on their tables, raise families without His help. In fact, daily activities go on but the world can't really make sense without Him.

Truth. The truth is in Christ, "*in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*" (Colossians 2:3).

We cannot understand the truth without Him. To make sense of the world, we need Jesus to lead us.

Life. The life we have will eventually end. To keep living, we need Jesus. "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father,*

but by me" (John 14:6). Eternal life comes through Him.

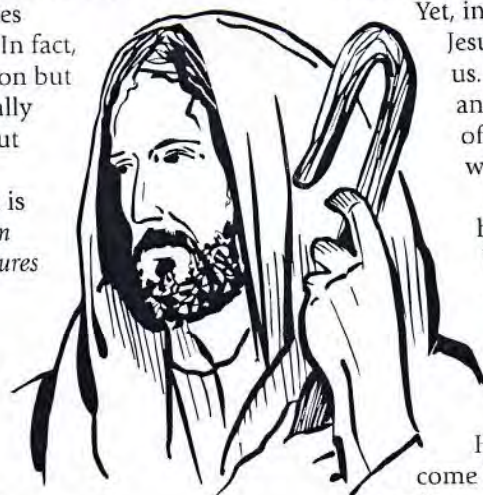
Death. None of us escapes death.

Yet, in the Resurrection, Jesus defeated death for us. It didn't hold Him and He offers the gift of life to each of us if we live in Him.

Sin. Even the holiest of us sins. Without Jesus, what becomes of us? He "*gave himself as a ransom for all*" (1 Timothy 2:6). If we don't accept

His price, our sins come back to us for eternity.

Suffering. Modern science can alleviate but not eliminate some of the world's suffering. Jesus provides comfort and healing to those who trust Him and surrender to Him.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics pray to Mary?

Catholics don't pray to Mary, but instead ask her to pray for us. For example, the Hail Mary prayer asks the Mother of God to stay close to us in prayer.

While we don't

worship Mary, we honor her as Jesus' mother. On the Cross, Jesus gave her to us as our own mother (John 19:27). We can approach her with our needs and concerns and ask her to present them to Her Son. Mary always leads us to Him.



Three tips to boost your prayer

Prayer fuels our spiritual life, but praying effectively can be challenging. Even the saints had dry spells. Among these was the mystic and Carmelite reformer, St. Teresa of Avila. Try these suggestions from her to enliven your prayer:

Become aware of God's presence. It may feel as if God is distant, but He is so close. St. Teresa began by enjoying God's nearness. Know that He is with you and wants your company.

Bring a good book. St. Teresa, who struggled with dryness in prayer, kept a book with her. Scripture,



Lives of the Saints, or a book about the Faith can help us focus and spark conversation with Him.

Be honest. It is said that St. Teresa once fell into the mud and told God bluntly, "If this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few of them!" God wants to you to share all your experiences with Him – good and bad. Entrust your cares to Him and "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).

from Scripture

Luke 4:21-30, God's will is unexpected

In this Gospel, Jesus returns to Nazareth after launching His public ministry. He announced He is the Messiah of Isaiah's prophecy. But then comes a twist: Jesus recounts a time when great prophets were sent to call Israel to repentance and were ignored and persecuted.

The response of faith God was looking for in His Chosen People was found elsewhere, in the Gentiles. Jesus' listeners doubted that He was really the Messiah and were deeply insulted at being reminded that "foreigners" had received God's favor instead of them. In anger, they threw Jesus out of the synagogue and tried to

cast Him off a cliff. He passed unharmed through their midst.

God's will can surprise us. For example, He willed that the Messiah-King be a local carpenter. God's favor extended beyond the Chosen People to include Gentiles, who were considered outsiders. Sometimes, we assume we know how God works, and lose faith when He does something that seems illogical. We can pray for the faith to see Jesus as He really is and trust Him, even if He does the unexpected.



Feasts & Celebrations

Jan. 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, and also Jesus, as true God and true Man.

Jan. 9 – Baptism of the Lord. Jesus began his public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. The Heavens opened up and God the Father spoke, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

Jan. 14 – St. Macrina the Elder (340). St. Macrina was related to St. Basil the Elder and St. Macrina the

Younger. She and her husband were forced to flee during the Diocletian persecutions and endured many hardships. After her return, she helped raise her grandchildren Saints Gregory of Nyssa and Basil the Great.

Jan. 23 – St. John the Almsgiver (616). Despite being a noble and the Patriarch of Alexandria, St. John lived a simple life and put all his wealth and authority to good use by serving the poor and aiding refugees in his diocese.



Q & A Can you suggest a New Year's resolution to grow in Holiness?

All Christians are called to holiness. "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.



Daily prayer. God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

Weekly Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus' body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-56). That's why we call it, "Communion."

Monthly Confession. Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for holiness.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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Mass Intentions — January 8-14, 2022

Saturday, January 8-4pm 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: Dorothy “Nona” Hebert; Murray & Dixie Suffrin; Aubry Quebedeaux, Mit, Aline & Dub Comeaux; J. W., Sue & Bill Bryant; Mary & Chuchie Flatau, Flatau & Orcino Families; May & David Currier, Johnny & Johnny Zito, Jr.; Jimmy, Sarah & Jackie Migliacio, P. W. Albert, Jr.; M/M Jimmy Hebert, Bryan Hebert, James Hebert; Carlo, Kurt, Andrew & Josephine Canova; Marie Marionneaux; George & Carol Allain, Gi Gi Allain, Barbara Bajan; Sam & Johnette Pizzolato, Alma Pizzolato, Orian Gulotta; Rose Marie LeBlanc, M/M Frank Messina, Lena Messina; M/M Tony Falcon, Anthony Falcon, Brandi Quatrevingt, M/M Ray Murry, M/M C. J. Saurage, M/M Ronald Gary, M/M Earl Quatrevingt, Tommy, Jay, Randy & Brian Quatrevingt, M/M Frank Tempanaro, Camille Tempanaro; M/M Edmond Gomez, Sr., Kathleen Garrene, Chris Gomez; Winnie & Harry Gallagher, Ethel & Harry Blanchard; Connor J. Brown, Theresa R. Hebert; Callahan, Mahon & Clement Families

Sunday, January 9-7:30am Mass — St. John Parishioners

Sunday, January 9-9am 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; Virginia Simon; Scott Jude Marino, A. J. & Nera Rodriguez, Anthony, Sr. & Mary “Dee” Marino, Kids of St. Jude; Rodney Pizzolato, LTC Craig T. Robinson, Marie Pizzolato Blanchard, M/M Gasper Pizzolato, Sr.; Edward Kocke, Jr.; Victor Crescienne, Theresa Crescienne, Crescienne Family, Michelle Family; Pete & Mary Ann Miranda, J. W. Bryant Family; Lawrence & Winnie Miller, Edward Miller, Paul & Myrtle Richard

Sunday, January 9-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Edward Hargrove, Jr.; Steve Patin, T. N. & Ray Patin; Brenda Fremin; Rodney Bourgeois; Marshall & Virginia Peavy, Cleo & Ella Dupont; Dominic Engolio, Pauline & Joseph Engolio, Charles Engolio; Sam “Buttie” & Lucille Leggio Distefano

Tuesday, January 11-6pm Mass

Ed, Myrna & Sonny Hargrove; Rita & Lyman Marchand, Margie Doiron, Robert Mooney; Van & Thelma Junot, Elvis & Mamie Rabalais; Jimmy LeBlanc, George Ramirez, Sr.

Wednesday, January 12-7am Mass

Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Nicolosi & Schexnaildre Families

Thursday, January 13-7am Mass

M/M Jules J. Noel, Jr.

Friday, January 14-7am Mass

M/M Fred L. Allain



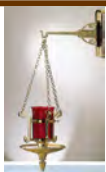
The glory of the Lord is revealed to us every day by the ministry of our priests, religious sisters and brothers. Would you consider helping other people to walk in the Light of the Lord?

If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Father Joshua Johnson at 225.336.8778, jjohnson@diobr.org, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

Sanctuary Candle January 2, 2022

**St. John the Evangelist
Mary Ann Gregoire**

**St. Clement of Rome
Mr. & Mrs. Colvin Hebert
Connor J. Brown**



St. John Altar Society

Altar Society Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, January 5 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome!!

Growing in Faith

Bible Study begins soon!!

**Sessions begin Thursday, January 13, 2022
1:30-3pm or 6:15-7:45pm**

“Ephesians” — Discover your inheritance as a child of God in an 8-part Bible Study featuring Jeff Cavins. For more information, visit ascensionpress.com.

Monday sessions begin January 17, 2022 — 6-7:30pm

“St. Peter” — The Epic story about the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire, focusing on St. Peter, the leader of that new religion. For more information, visit Formed.org.

Call the church office at 225.687.2402 to sign up.



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