

## 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](http://www.stjohnchurchplaq.org)  
Email: [stjohnchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net](mailto:stjohnchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net)  
[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

### 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

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 23, 2023

Whoever has ears ought to hear. (Matthew 13:43)

Does Jesus' explanation of today's parable make you uncomfortable? Especially his image of God sending his angels to toss the "children of the evil one" into a "fiery furnace" (Matthew 13:38, 42)? If a loving human father would never treat his children that way, how could God, our heavenly Father, do such a thing?

If you find this story troubling, it might help to know you're in good company. Even the ancient Fathers of the Church were divided on how to interpret it. In the third century, Origen of Alexandria taught that these "children of the evil one" were not individual people (Matthew 13:38). Rather, they were the "evil opinions" that the devil sows in our souls (Commentary on Matthew, 10.2). He said that God wants to burn these sinful thoughts and attitudes out of all people so that they can enter eternal life.

On the other hand, St. John Chrysostom, writing about a hundred years later, said that the "children of the evil one" were indeed sinners. These, Chrysostom said, would be "given over to punishment," and a "severe" punishment at that. Meanwhile, the



### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them."  
Matthew 13:29

righteous would "depart into the kingdom of heaven" (On Matthew, Homily 47).

You may favor Origen's view or Chrysostom's, but both men make one thing clear: sin is serious. It burdens us. It darkens our minds and poisons our hearts. It keeps us from loving each other and receiving God's love. But they both also taught that Jesus offers us the only way to escape its grasp: his cross and resurrection.

Jesus ended his parable with a warning: "Whoever has ears ought to hear" (Matthew 13:43). Let's do just that. Let's take his words to heart. Let's believe that his grace is powerful enough to save us from sin. Let's trust that he can make us "shine like the sun" (13:43).

*"Jesus, give me ears to hear you as you call me out of sin and into your kingdom."*

"Reprinted with permission of The Word Among Us, 7115 Guilford Dr #100, Frederick, MD 21704 Issue Date July 2023, [wau.org](http://wau.org), 1-800-775-9673."

July 23, 2023

Dear Family:

The parables are concise narratives with concrete images to help people understand abstract points. The three parables in Matthew describe the kingdom of God as both spiritual and physical.

Ancient prophecies foretold a time when God would govern the world in person. Some expected God to govern a literal kingdom, while others thought the "kingdom" would be some kind of intellectual or spiritual transformation. Jesus' parables suggest that both understandings are true.

The parable of yeast is the clearest example of a spiritual kingdom. In the minds of ancient peoples, yeast was a mysterious substance that transformed a paste of flour and water into bread. Just so, the kingdom of God was an unseen power that transforms people and communities.

The parable of the mustard seed has similar themes. Mustard vines grow at such a rate that one ancient author warned against planting it. Ancient peoples wondered at the power of a tiny seed to produce something of such vigor. Similarly, Jesus teaches, the kingdom of God may seem small, but it draws on divine power and will flourish anywhere it takes root.

The parable of the wheat and weeds speaks in concrete terms. Jesus offers the observation that not everyone is a child of the kingdom. Jesus warns, however, against using the exclusionary tactics of human communities to separate the two groups. It is almost impossible to tell the two plants apart. The "weeds" will do no damage, so there is no need to tear them out. It is better, he cautions, that they should grow together. Only God can sort out the weeds from the wheat, since only God knows the human heart. Following centuries of Israelite tradition, Jesus recognizes mercy to be the basis of God's kingdom.

Some questions for reflection:  
What does the first reading express as the traits of God?  
How has God shown you mercy?  
To whom have you shown mercy?

Many thanks to all the parents, Alumni, and St. John School supporters who spent Saturdays at our school getting ready for the beginning of the school year. Your support with generous gifts of your skills and your time are truly appreciated.

Thanks to our Knights of Columbus Council for their hosting of our recent Blood Drive. Thanks as well to the many donors who helped our local Blood Bank.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

## ST. JOHN SCHOOL NEWS



### Math Teacher Wanted

St. John School is looking for a high school math teacher for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year.

If you or anyone you know is interested in finding out more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Cherie Schlatre at [cschlatre@stjohnschool.education](mailto:cschlatre@stjohnschool.education).

### St. John Alumni Softball/Kickball Tournament

The St. John Alumni Softball/Kickball Tournament will be held August 4 & 5, 2023 at Belleview Park in Plaquemine. Concession stand workers, cooks and umpires are needed for the tournament's success. For information regarding playing or volunteering, please call Mary Gaye David at 225.776.1694 or Bart Schlatre at 225.385.5712.



## St. John Alumni Golf Tournament Winners



The St. John Alumni Golf Classic was held June 26 at the Island Golf Course. Congratulations to the winning teams!  
**1st Place (top):** Team Caleb Kleinpeter - Senator  
**2nd Place (middle):** Team Edward Jones - Chris Reeves  
**3rd Place (bottom):** Team Barker Brothers Plumbing

## RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time #1239  
 Entrance: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty #714  
 Preparation: \*\*Instrumental\*\*  
 Communion: Seek Ye First #800  
 Sending Forth: Sing a New Song #718



## PSR (Parish School of Religion)

**Register NOW**

Online registration is open NOW for Confirmation and 1st Eucharist. Access forms via our church website, [www.stjohnchurchplaq.com](http://www.stjohnchurchplaq.com) under the Formation tab. Schedules are also posted under Formation.

The deadline to register is Sunday, August 20, 2023.

## Baptisms and Baptism Seminars

**Baptism Seminars — 7pm**

**Church Office Third Floor**

Monday, August 7, 2023

Monday, September 4, 2023

Monday, October 2, 2023



**Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass**

Saturday, July 22, 2023

Saturday, August 26, 2023

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Saturday, October 28, 2023

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

## Daily Scripture Readings — July 23-29, 2023

**Sunday, July 23:**

Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16;

Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or Mt 13:24-30

**Monday, July 24:**

Ex 14:5-18; Ex 15:1b-6; Mt 12:38-42

**Tuesday, July 25:**

2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1b-6; Mt 20:20-28

**Wednesday, July 26:**

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-28; Mt 13:1-9

**Thursday, July 27:**

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Dan 3:52-56; Mt 13:10-17

**Friday, July 28:**

Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 13:18-23

**Saturday, July 29:**

Ex 24:3-8; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Jn 11:19-27 or

Lk 10:38-42

## A Prayer to Avert Storms and Hurricanes

*Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Calm the storms and hurricanes that threaten us and turn our fear of your power into praise of your goodness.*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*







## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

"In our self-centered culture and classic American emphasis on work, we often feel we have to accomplish something during our times of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We rate our experience by how 'good' our prayer was, how heartfelt our devotion was, or how focused we could remain. Yet prayer and contemplation are fundamentally God's work, in which we are invited to participate. We need only to give Him the opening, and He will do the rest. By coming to adoration, we are handing Him the keys to our hearts, allowing the rays of His love and grace to bathe our souls in the light of His Presence, as the rays of the sun bathe our bodies in light. If we can take the time to pull away from the busyness and distractions of life and just sit at His feet, He will lead us."

—Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, p. 33  
An excerpt from Manual for Eucharistic Adoration

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.



23910 Railroad Avenue  
Plaquemine, LA 70764

**225-687-6337**  
[www.anthembank.com](http://www.anthembank.com)



IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF

Richard Gutknecht

**Bellevue Mobil**  
58830 Bellevue Rd. 687-1060



Dr. Charles L. Carville, Jr.  
Dr. Katie C. Berthelot

**PLAQUEMINE**  
**687-(PETS) 7387**



P.O. Box 695 - Plaquemine

**225-687-2091**

[www.TheFirstBank.com](http://www.TheFirstBank.com)



**SIGMA**  
ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS, INC.

Procurement	Facility Services	Instrumentation
Safety/Risk	Architectural	Automation
Structural	Electrical	Survey
Process	Mechanical	Civil
Laser Scan	Construction Support	Piping
Field Services		Staffing

225.810.3100 [www.sigmaec.com](http://www.sigmaec.com)

**catholicmatch®**

Louisiana



[CatholicMatch.com/myLA](http://CatholicMatch.com/myLA)



**LEGACY**  
Nursing & Rehabilitation

**(225) 687-0240**

[Legacy-Nursing.com](http://Legacy-Nursing.com)

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to  
[www.DM.CHURCH/5595](http://www.DM.CHURCH/5595)

...or scan →



DISCOVERMASS

**A.J. DOHMANN**



**BUTCH FALCON**, Certified Sales Consultant  
Sales: 225-224-0204

Cell 225-773-8631 • Fax 225-687-5338

[cfaalcon@ajdohmann.com](mailto:cfaalcon@ajdohmann.com)  
[www.ajdohmanncdjr.com](http://www.ajdohmanncdjr.com)

24945 Highway 1 South  
Plaquemine, LA 70764



**PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES**

**KATHRYN C. ELKINS, MD**

**MICHAEL M. QUINN, MD**

59325 Riverwest Dr., Suite D Plaquemine, LA 70764

**(225) 687-3055**

**Fax (225) 687-6686**





# Diocesan is proud to now be printing *St. John the Evangelist's Sunday Bulletin*



**You are invited to help support our Parish!**  
**For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-997-4986**



## PATRICK GUIDRY DDS

*Family Dentistry*

**24021 RAILROAD AVE.**

**687-4892**



### *Trosclair Print, Inc.*

23725 Eden Street • Plaquemine  
(225) 687-3261 • [www.trosclairprint.com](http://www.trosclairprint.com)

*"Supporting St. John for 105 Years"*

**ADVERTISE HERE**

**Promote your Business  
AND support your Parish.**

**Give us a call!  
800-997-4986**

### *Air Control, Inc.*

Air Conditioning  
& Heating

24330 Sabastian Rd.

Plaquemine, LA

**687-6417**



**A. Wilbert's Sons, L.L.C.**  
Land Leasing and Land Management  
Since 1887

**225-687-3591**



**The Cottonport Bank**  
Est. 1902

**225-231-6606**

[www.cottonportbank.com](http://www.cottonportbank.com)

More than Community

**BANKERS**  
We're your Community  
**PARTNERS**

**Citizens**  
Bank & Trust

**Roland Gaudet**  
Branch Manager  
[Citizensbankandtrust.com](http://Citizensbankandtrust.com)



### **Edward Jones**

Chris Reeves, CFP®  
Financial Advisor  
23725 Church St.  
(225) 687-0912

Kyle M. Robichaux, AAMS™  
Financial Advisor  
58725 Belleview Rd., Ste. A-1  
(225) 687-9110



**CATHERINE WILBERT CHUSTZ**  
Pre-Need Counselor  
Call 921-2182

Record Your Personal Wishes &  
Instructions in a Pre-Arrangement  
[www.wilbertservices.com](http://www.wilbertservices.com)



**Knights of  
Columbus**  
Asset Advisors®

**Matthew Maurin**

Advisor  
985-208-4206

[MaurinOfficeMail@kofc.org](mailto:MaurinOfficeMail@kofc.org)  
[www.kofcassetadvisors.org](http://www.kofcassetadvisors.org)

**Catholic Investments for Catholic Investors**



### **PATRICK DOOLEY, D.D.S.**

*Family Dentistry*

Dr. With A Gentle Touch

23840 Church Street

Plaquemine, LA 70764

**Phone: (225) 687-3010**



**Consider  
Remembering  
Your Parish in  
Your Will**

*For further information,  
please call the parish office.*



*"Caring For You  
and About You"*

**225-687-4349 • 225-383-5458 B.R. Line**  
**57930 LaBauve Avenue • Plaquemine, LA**

HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
SATURDAY 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

**Lucy Johnson, RPH**

[www.goudeauspharmacy.com](http://www.goudeauspharmacy.com)



**Allstate.**  
You're in good hands.

**Daniel Durand**

Exclusive Agent

Daniel Durand Agency

**Allstate Insurance Company**

58920 Belleview Drive, Plaquemine, LA 70764

Phone 225-687-8236/Fax 225-687-8237

[danieldurand@allstate.com](mailto:danieldurand@allstate.com)

24-Hour  
Customer Service



[www.allstateagencies.com/a058962](http://www.allstateagencies.com/a058962)



**M A R K E T**  
6651 LA Hwy. 1 South  
Addis, LA 70710

**225.749.7309**

[www.BenedettosMarket.com](http://www.BenedettosMarket.com)



**Plaquemine Bank & TRUST COMPANY**

**24025 Eden St. • Plaquemine, LA**

**225.687.6388**

[www.plaqbank.com](http://www.plaqbank.com)

