

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@coxbusiness.net
[facebook.com/pages/St John the Evangelist Catholic Church](https://facebook.com/pages/St%20John%20the%20Evangelist%20Catholic%20Church)

Parish Office Staff:

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Marsha Dupont, Secretary
Susan Landry, Secretary
Lily Skidmore, Secretary
Gary Perrault, Maintenance

Masses:

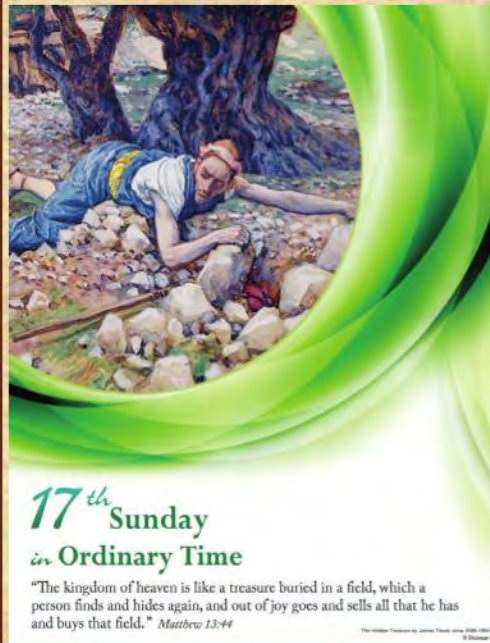
Saturday Vigil	4:00 pm
Sunday	7:30 am
	9:00 am
	11:00 am
Tuesday	6:00 pm
Wed., Thurs., Fri.	7:00 am

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



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 30, 2023

The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field.
(Matthew 13:44)

Today's Gospel begins with two parables that, taken together, illustrate a paradox about the kingdom of God. In the first parable, a man discovers, quite by surprise, a treasure "buried in a field" (Matthew 13:44). In the second, a merchant also comes across a great treasure—this time, a pearl—but only after searching very hard for it. So what is the kingdom of God like? Is it something we discover by grace? Or is it something we find through diligent seeking?

Jesus seems to be saying that it's both. On the one hand, God in his infinite goodness pours grace into our lives whether we are seeking Him or not. He buries rich treasure in the field of our lives—treasures of His kindness, His love, His presence—in the hopes that we will find them, and so find Him. God provides these gifts for everyone, just as He causes the rain to fall "on the just and the unjust" (Matthew 5:45).

At the same time, there are some graces that we discover only as we seek the Lord. The very act of searching for God opens our hearts more fully to His grace. It stretches us and makes us more willing to let go of

anything that would keep us from Him. And the more we seek Him, the more our capacity for His grace grows. As we "sell" what we have, we experience even more of His goodness, mercy, and joy.

God has so much that He wants to give us. But this all-powerful, ever-generous God will not force His grace upon us. We have to choose to receive it. Even the man who finds the buried treasure by surprise ends up selling all he has "and buys that field" (Matthew 13:44)!

Today, ask the Spirit to help you unearth the treasures of grace in your field. Ask Him to help you "sell all you have" to find the Lord and His pearls of grace. Pursue Him with all your heart! You won't be disappointed.

"Lord, you are my treasure!"

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July 30, 2023

Dear Family:

For several weeks, the Sunday Gospel readings have come from the parables of Jesus. In each one, Jesus has tried to find some concrete illustration for the reign of God. God's direct rule over all things might be the ultimate reality, but it is a subtle process. Recognizing it requires discernment and the ability to identify God's presence and action. The parables Jesus shares this week each emphasize that process of search and discovery.

Spiritual discernment is a type of wisdom. Solomon recognizes the difficulty of making good decisions on behalf of God and Israel and begs God for the grace to do so. The wisdom he receives is a special treasure, because not only does it help him judge things rightly, it also offers him insight into God's mind, which made all things. The psalm reinforces this belief, adding a need for commitment. Those careful to follow the will of God will discover things that only God can reveal.

Those exercising discernment in today's Gospel had already trained themselves to find what they sought. The fortune hunter knew how to discover treasure; the pearl merchant recognized an especially valuable pearl; the fishermen knew what to keep and what to discard. Likewise, those who seek God's kingdom must first train themselves to recognize it. Prayer, works of mercy, and study of God's Word are the training that opens the heart to recognize God's constant presence and action.

This Sunday's second reading reveals the result of an open heart. "All things work for good for those who love God." The person whose mind is trained to seek the kingdom encounters divine gifts at every turn. Loving God and living out Christ's commands will attune the mind to the treasures hidden in open view all around us.

Some questions for reflection:

What role does hope play for each of the people in the parable as they seek treasure, the pearl, or a catch of fish?

Has living the Gospel opened your mind to hidden treasure?

How has your love for God brought you unexpected help in time of need?

Thanks to the St. John School's Fathers' Club for their fundraiser last weekend. Preparing and cooking Crawfish Bisque is hard work. It is best described as an act of love. My brother, Paul, had been craving some good Crawfish Bisque and I was able to pack and send him two quarts. I love when I can do something for my brother and his family. We may be separated by hundreds of miles but shared moments like this deepens our unity and love for one another.

Our new school year will soon begin. For those traveling to take advantage of time with family before the rigors of school begins, know of our prayers for your safe recreation and return.

Peace,

Fr. Greg Daigle

****NOTICE****

Our bulletins are delivered by UPS. Due to the pending UPS strike, our bulletins may be delayed or not received at all in the upcoming weeks.

Therefore, we are encouraging our parishioners to sign up to receive weekly bulletins via email through DiscoverMass.com. You can easily sign up at discovermass.com/subscribe.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

These words of Jesus are an excellent invitation to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:
“And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Luke 11:9-10)

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.

In Loving Memory...

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the following persons who donated a memorial gift to St. John the Evangelist Church Building Fund in loving memory of:

Kolby Lorio

Donated by:

His dad Lance, sister Kacy and Family,
Grandparents Calvin & Rosemary Lorio
and Judy McLaughlin



PSR (Parish School of Religion) Register NOW

Online registration is open for Confirmation and 1st Eucharist. Access forms via our church website, www.stjohnchurchplaq under the Formation tab. Schedules are also posted under Formation.

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

Anointing of the Sick

Every first Tuesday, following 6pm Mass, our parish celebrates the SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK for those who are seriously ill, experiencing depression, battling cancer treatments, disabled in any way, the elderly and those who are to undergo surgery in the near future. Father Greg will administer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, Tuesday August 1, 2023.

Four to six months is recommended between anointing unless otherwise urgent.



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, 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.

RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
#1242

Entrance: The Summons #886

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: All Who Hunger #1032

Sending Forth: Joyful, Joyful We Adore You #707

A Grateful Acknowledgement



Recently we bid farewell to our dedicated musician, Rachel Lorando. Rachel has been with us for 7 years and has truly been a blessing to our music department as well as our parish family. We wish her well as she embarks on a new adventure with her relocation to New York.

“Good luck, Rachel, and know you always have a home here at St. John.”



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 contact Mary Gaye David at 225.776.1694 or Bart Schlatre at 225.385.5712.

“Uniforms for Kids” Distribution



Members of the Knights of Columbus picked up the “Uniforms for Kids” in Baton Rouge to be distributed from the K. C. Hall on July 18. Helping with sorting and heavy lifting, from left are St. John Church employee Gary Perrault and K. C. members John Miller, Peshu Richard, Gary Bertrand, Boonie Boudreaux, Ralph Rivet and Roy Kolder. Not pictured is Luke Berthelot.



The “Uniforms for Kids” program was able to supply 125 families of our community, some with more than one child, with new school uniforms. Distribution team members, l to r, are Cameron Thibodaux, Jennifer Markins, Christy Brocksmith, Betty Gayle Markins, coordinator Gwen Hayes, Audrey Blank, Derryl Comeaux, Rita Jean Mooney, Beverly Kolder, Connie Hebert, Donna Carville, Betty Aucoin, Addie Pellerin, Bobbie Cavalier and Joyce Quebedeaux. Not pictured are Nadine Carline, Ann Joffrion, Marie Pugh, Lisa Sanchez and Carolyn Wilson.

Photo credits Luke Berthelot



St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4  SJS Alumni Softball/Kickball Tournament Bellevue Park Aug. 4 & 5	5 Maintenance & Repairs Collection 11am-Noon Pray the Rosary every Saturday for Vocations Adoration Chapel
6 Maintenance & Repairs Collection 11am Mass Landmark	7  7pm Baptism Seminar Conference Room 7pm SJS Back to School Rosary School Grotto	8	9	10	11	12
13  2pm Ladies of Peter Claver Meeting Parish Hall 4-6pm Holy Spirit Prayer Group Church	14  2pm Catholic Daughter Meeting Parish Hall	15  OFFICE CLOSED Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses: 7am 8:30am- St. Clement 6pm	16	17  7pm K. C. Meeting K. C. Hall	18	19
20 11am Mass Evangeline Presented	21 10am Communion Service Landmark	22	23	24	25	26  Following 4pm Mass Baptisms
27 9am Mass St. John Homecoming Court	28	29  9:30am Altar Society Meeting Conference Room	30	31		

Mass Intentions — August 5-11, 2023

Saturday, August 5-4pm 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, Sue Wakeling, Mike Wakeling, Galen Chiasson; Elmire Caffarel; Mayon, Callahan & Clement Families; M/M L. J. Raymond, M/M Joseph E. Bujol; Carol Brandt, Raymond & Amanda Ducote; M/M Vincent M. Ferachi, Cadence & Cassidy Diamond, Stephanie Rivere, Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Ferachi & Marino Families; Winnie & Harry Gallagher, Ethel & Harry Blanchard; Ronnie Palermo, Brown Family, Palermo Family; M/M Houston LaBauve, Sr., Claudia LaBauve, Cecilia Laurent; Joe Rockforte, Judy Priester, John E., Cecile D. & Maurice E. Brown, Joan B. Heath, Brown & Duhon Families; Alfred, Mercedese, Lester & Mary Carville, M/M Edmund Bujol, Reid & Gerry Rainey; Faye & Harry Martinez; Angelo F. Mancuso, Connie Mancuso, Saraphine Stein; M/M Victor Crescionne, Crescionne Family, Michelle Family, Sister Joycelin Staempfli; Charles & Marion Clement; Wayne Gomez; Carol Breaux Sims; John Hawley Landry, Kathleen Landry

Sunday, August 6-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, August 6-9am 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; Glynn Hebert, A Special Intention; Fred Hebert, George & Gloria Ramirez, Agnes & Jimmy LeBlanc; Alcee & Pauline Becnel, Evans & Virgie Dugas; M/M Vives Vicknair, Sr., M/M Alger Rodriguez; Scott Jude Marino, M/M A. J. Rodriguez, Anthony & Mary Marino, Kids of St Jude; Anthony "Tonto" Pizzolato; Gladys "Butsy" Palermo, Peter A. Palermo, Patrick Burleigh, Douglas Brewer; Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family, Vincent M. Ferachi & Family; Denise Miranda; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Virginia Simon; The Lazzaro Family, Kolby Lorio, Butch & Sadie Tullier; The Calvaruso Family; Devin & Douglas Durand; Dwayne Strickland; A Special Intention through the Intercession of St. Peregrine, St. Jude, St. Joseph & Mother Mary

Sunday, August 6-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; O. J., Buster & Pearl Hidalgo Songy & Families; Gloria A. Dupont, J. G. Dupont, Sr.; Brenda Fremin, Luke & Mary Fremin, Charles & Rosa Drago, Ellis & Enola Fremin; George "Brother" Michel, Alvin J. Daigle, Sr. Family, Alvin J. "Peta" Daigle, Jr., Edith E. Guillot; William H. Middleton, Bill Middleton III, Clouatre & Middleton Families; Isaac Jr. & Brent Vaughn, Nilda & Isaac Vaughn; Ann Bryant Wilbert Arbour; David Borden Tidmore

Tuesday, August 8-6pm Mass

Case, Gum & Schuler Families

Wednesday, August 9-7am Mass

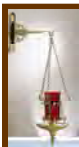
Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Schexnaildre & Nicolosi Families

Thursday, August 10-7am Mass

Ruth & Bill Ostergren

Friday, August 11-7am Mass

Joann Nolan



Sanctuary Candle July 30, 2023

**St. John the Evangelist
Ragusa, Mancuso, Collins, Morales,
Nola & Bezet Families**

**St. Clement of Rome
Brenda Comeaux**

Coffee & Donuts August 6, 2023

**Derryl Comeaux, Bobbie Cavalier &
Janis Rockforte (7:30am Mass)
Patrick & Helen Pendley (9am Mass)**



Altar Society

The St. John Altar Society annual dues (\$20) are due in August. Just drop an envelope marked "St. John Altar Society" in the church collection. Please make checks out to St. John Altar Society.

Altar Society Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, August 2 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

"Do not be afraid!", Jesus said. Have faith, and trust in the Lord's call. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Rev. Joshua Johnson at 225.336.8778, jjohnson@diobr.org.





Pope Francis' Prayer Intention August 2023

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Daily Scripture Readings July 30-August 5, 2023

Sunday, July 30:

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130;
Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46

Monday, July 31:

Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-23; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday, August 1:

Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-13; Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday, August 2:

Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5-7, 9; Mt 13:44-46

Thursday, August 3:

Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11; Mt 13:47-53

Friday, August 4:

Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-6, 10-11;
Mt 13:54-58

Saturday, August 5:

Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12



CATHOLIC

THINKING ABOUT IT

OR KNOW OF SOMEONE THINKING ABOUT IT?

RCIA—Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a faith journey open to all unbaptized or baptized adults who wish to explore the possibility of becoming Catholic.

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.

Classes are held every Sunday following 9am Mass until 10:45am in the church office conference room. The dates for RCIA are Sunday, September 10, 2023, then every Sunday until December 10.

RCIA resumes after Advent on Sunday, January 7, 2024 following 9am Mass until 10:45am, then every Sunday at 9am Mass until Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 30.

For information, call Donna Carville through the church office at 225.687.2402.



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and About You"*

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