

St. John the Evangelist Church

57805 Main Street — Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764-2531
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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:

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



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."

Matthew 16:18

Jesus Preaching the Keys to St. Peter by Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, 1818
© Museum

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time August 27, 2023 Rocky

I wonder how many men named Peter know that originally it was a nickname. Jesus gave Simon a name based on the word for "rock." Like any good nickname, Jesus had a reason to give this one. Peter had just acknowledged Jesus to be the Son of God and the Messiah (Christ). Jesus used that as an opportunity to teach us about the importance of faith as the foundation of the church.

The church was initially the Jews who followed Jesus. For them, the tradition of a coming messiah was a symbol of their hope for the future. So believing that Jesus was the Messiah first meant that he was the reason to hope. But more importantly, it showed what "messiah" really means.

There were many variations on what people thought the messiah would be. Some expected a political leader who would unite the Jews and maybe even overthrow their Roman masters. Others thought he would be a wonder-worker, like a super-hero, who would use his power to make Israel a great and free nation. Or perhaps the messiah would provide food and riches in abundance.

By calling Jesus the Messiah, we see that he saves us not by royal leadership, or amazing feats or great riches, but by giving his life for us on the cross. He shows that love is a greater power than political power

or wealth. And by learning about Jesus, we learn about the love of God for us. We learn that Jesus has fulfilled all messianic hopes. He unites not just the Jews, but all people who believe in him. He sets us free from sin and death. He feeds our spiritual hunger with his own Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

By commending Peter's faith, Jesus shows us that faith is the foundation (rock) of the church. For the church is not just a social club of people who like to worship the same way; it is a family of people who believe all that Jesus taught because we believe in the person of Jesus. That is, we don't just believe that Jesus was real. We affirm that he is alive and important to our lives. We have experienced him in his words, in the sacraments, and in each other. May our faith always be solid as a rock.

Tom Schmidt

August 27, 2023

Dear Family:

Although Jesus' disciples may have hoped that he was the Messiah they awaited, they needed confirmation for such a radical claim. Jesus offered that confirmation slowly, establishing solid foundations before building further. For example, the disciples offer a list of people to whom many have compared Jesus---John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or another prophet. We can sense that they had weighed each option and found it lacking. Peter's response, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God," may have been something he had been considering for a while, or it may have come to him in the moment. Either way, Jesus recognizes that the insight came from the Father.

Peter's awareness brought him a new mission. This was symbolized in his new name and a special grace, the "power of the keys," a unique spiritual gift to support the leadership to which he was called. Christians throughout the centuries have discovered similar missions in their conversions. A sudden awareness of Christ's presence and power brings with it a new identity and unique grace. For example, St. Francis had a sudden conversion that led to service with the poor. St. Therese of Lisieux experienced a more gradual conversion and developed a life of intense contemplative awareness.

Christ calls every Christian to a similar, deeper conversion. These encounters may be sudden and powerful, or they may be gradual and gentle. Like Peter, we come to realize that Christ is more than a teacher or ancient prophet. He is a loving presence still alive and at work among us. Like Peter, we too can receive a new identity and unique spiritual gifts. With such new awareness, we can help fulfill the mission that Christ entrusts to those who bear his name.

Some questions for reflection:

Why is it important that Peter calls Jesus "the Son of the living God"?

How has the living Christ called you to serve?

What new gift and identity has Christ given you?

Have a Blessed Week.

Peace,

Fr. Greg



We congratulate and welcome the St. John Homecoming Court to 9am Mass.

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.

Register online under the FORMATION tab on our website, www.stjohnchurchplaq.org or call Donna Carville at 225.687.2402 for more information.

Baptisms and Baptism Seminars



Baptism Seminars

Monday, September 18, 2023
Monday, October 9, 2023
Monday, November 6, 2023

Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass

Saturday, August 26, 2023
Saturday, September 23, 2023
Saturday, October 28, 2023
Saturday, November 25, 2023

The Baptism Seminars are held on the third floor of the church office at 7pm. The Baptisms are usually held on the fourth Saturday of the month following 4pm Mass.

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 August 27-September 2, 2023

Sunday, August 27:

Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Monday, August 28:

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1-6, 9; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 29:

1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday, August 30:

1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12b; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday, August 31:

1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday, September 1:

1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday, September 2:

1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30

RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time #1254

Entrance: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! #672

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: All Who Hunger #1032

Sending Forth: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation #852

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

These words of Saint Mother Theresa are an excellent invitation to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

"I worry some of you still have not really met Jesus—one to one—you and Jesus alone. We may spend time in the chapel—but have you seen with the eyes of your soul how He looks at you with love? Do you really know the living Jesus—not from books but from being with Him in your heart? Have you heard the loving words He speaks to you? Ask for the grace; He is longing to give it. Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear Him saying 'I Thirst' in the hearts of the poor. Never give up this daily intimate contact with Jesus as the real living person—not just the idea." —Saint Mother Teresa, p.129-130

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.



A Vocation View

As a parish family, and in your individual families, pray that God will bless us with an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Rev. Joshua Johnson at 225.336.8778, jjohnson@diobr.org.

GROWING IN FAITH Fall Bible Studies Begin



The Gospel According to Mark

Monday, September 11 — 4-5:30pm

This 14-part series on the Gospel of Mark will show us St. Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching since Mark was a follower and scribe for St. Peter, the first leader of the church appointed by Christ.

Exodus: Called to Freedom

Thursday, September 14

1:30-3pm or 6:15-7:45pm

This 10-part series looks through the lens of Christ and the Church to show that, more than just seeking to free his people from the domination of Pharaoh, God desired to free his people from the far more dangerous grip of sin. The Exodus story is not just Israel's story but our story as well, because it reveals who God is and what he calls us to be.

Both Bible Studies, will be held in the church office and are free of charge. To sign up, please call the church office at 225.687.2402.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

September 2023

St. John the Evangelist

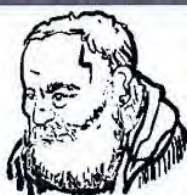
Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

St. Padre Pio

Born to farmers in 1887, in southern Italy,

Francesco Forgione joined the Capuchin Friars at the age of 15, taking the name "Pio." In 1918, St. Pio received the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion, called the stigmata, in his body. Renowned for his preaching, holiness, and charity, thousands flocked to him for Confession and spiritual direction. Amidst his suffering, he continued to labor for the spiritual and physical well-being of others, founding a hospital that still operates today.



Perfect is possible

Jesus said, "... be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Perfection to Jesus means loving God with all our hearts, praying for our enemies, and taking care of the poor. Love and service is the true measure of perfection.

"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor" Romans

12:9-10.



Seven virtues for successful Catholics

Practicing virtues – habitual and firm dispositions to do good – leads to long-lasting interior freedom, joy, and peace. The following seven virtues, with God's grace, can help you do that:

Faith enables our belief in God and all that He has revealed through Scripture, Tradition, and the Church's teachings. Reciting the Creed, especially at Mass, is an act of faith.

Hope is the desire for Heaven and trust in God's promises to us. Trusting in the Lord even in trials and asking for forgiveness for sins are acts of hope.

Charity enables us to love God above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. True love is when we wish – and act for – the authentic good of others.

Prudence is the virtue that helps us to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it.

Justice helps us respect others' rights and give to each his due. We owe God our worship.

We are made in His image, so we owe each other respect.

Fortitude strengthens us to follow Christ in the world, even if it's unpopular and uncomfortable.

Temperance properly orders our desire for pleasure, so that we appreciate earthly goods in moderation and value heavenly goods most. Observing the one-hour fast from food before receiving the Eucharist is an act of temperance.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics attend Mass on holy days of obligation?

Throughout the year, the Church celebrates six feasts that honor a central mystery of our faith with extra enthusiasm. These days are so important that all Catholics are required to attend Mass to celebrate. They are listed on the US Conference of

Catholic Bishops' website, <http://www.usccb.org>.

All Sundays are also holy days of obligation. We live the third commandment to honor the Sabbath by attending Mass every Sunday.

Celebrating these holy days is a reminder that we belong firstly to God.

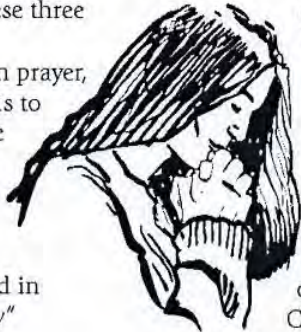


Finding time for powerful prayer

If you struggle to find time to pray, try these three tips:

Prioritize. Much unseen good depends on prayer, and it's as critical to our souls as breathing is to the body. Jesus corrected St. Martha because she lost sight of *"the one thing...needful"* (Luke 10:41-42). Reserve time for daily prayer. Treat it as an important appointment – because it is.

Set boundaries. Jesus dismissed the crowd in the evening and *"went up into the hills to pray"*



(Matthew 14:23). Give God your undivided attention in prayer for whatever time you can. Be fully present, minimizing distractions. Let the world wait while you spend time with the One who loves you most.

Activate your work. Few of us have the luxury of being able to spend all day in prayer but we can make a morning offering, giving our day to God's service. Entrust all the events, tasks, and concerns of the day to God's mercy and providence. This way, our work is made holy and can help bring souls to Christ.

from Scripture

Matthew 20:1-16a, The generous landowner

In this Gospel reading, Jesus told a parable in which He compared God's kingdom to a vineyard in the charge of a generous landlord. In the parable, the landlord hires groups of workers at various times of the day. All agree with the landlord to work for a "fair wage."

The vineyard is God's kingdom and God is the generous landlord. Some Bible scholars propose that the earlier groups of workers represented the Jewish people, who had followed God's laws for thousands of years, while the Gentiles were the latecomers. The workers also stood for



those whom God calls at various stages of life: from infancy, adolescence, adulthood, and old age.

Then the landlord paid the laborers, beginning with the five o'clock workers. It must have shocked Jesus' listeners to hear that the landlord paid those who worked one hour as if they'd worked for twelve hours.

Clearly, God's idea of a "fair" wage is not the same as ours. What is important is not how many hours we've served God, but if we answered Him when He called us.

Q & A What's the proper way to show reverence before I receive Communion?

In days past, everyone approached the altar, knelt at the altar rail and received the host on our tongues. That was prescribed as a posture of reverence to show respect and adoration for the Body and Blood of our Lord.

The bishops in the United States have decided that we may approach the altar and stand to receive Communion. When we approach, we are to bow as a gesture of reverence before we receive the consecrated host from the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

Today we can receive the host either on the tongue or in the hand. To receive in the hand, we place one hand, palm up, on top of the other to form a "throne." We can also receive Holy Communion in the form of precious Blood. When Holy Communion is offered under both kinds we repeat the bow of our heads before receiving each one.

Genuflection is appropriate at other times. For example, we genuflect before the tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament.

Our Mission
To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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Feasts & Celebrations

September 1 – St. Giles (710). Shrouded in mystery, St. Giles was a hermit who lived near the Rhône River in France. His fame as a miracle worker drew crowds and disciples to him. Eventually, St. Giles became abbot of a monastery.

September 8 – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary's birth brought her parents joy, and we are joyful too – because Mary brings salvation to all of us with the birth of Jesus.

September 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (c.326). St. Helena, mother

of Emperor Constantine, discovered what is believed to be the Cross of Christ while on pilgrimage in Jerusalem. Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on the site.

September 28 – St. Wenceslaus (929). Raised by his devout grandmother, St. Ludmilla, "The Good King" St. Wenceslaus worked to end Christian persecution in Bohemia, encouraged German missionaries, built churches, and cared for the sick and poor. He was martyred by a group of dissatisfied nobles, led by his brother, Boleslaus.



Mass Intentions — September 2-8, 2023

Saturday, September 2-4pm 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; Robert Mooney, A. J. & Margie Doiron, Sylvia Gascon; M/M L. J. Raymond, M/M Joseph E. Bujol; Carol Brandt, Raymond & Amanda Ducote; J. Hubert Millet, Milda Millet, Louis Family, M/M Harold Marionneaux; Winnie & Harry Gallagher, Ethel & Harry Blanchard; Michael Laurent; Sidney "Benny", Rose & Sid Quatrevingt; Gulotto Family, M/M Houston LaBauve, Sr., Claudia LaBauve, Cecilia Laurent; Yvonne G. Melancon, John E., Cecile D. & Maurice E. Brown, Joan B. Heath, Brown & Duhon Families; Ronnie Palermo, Brown Family, Palermo Family; Alfred, Mercedese, Lester & Mary Carville, M/M Edmund Bujol, Reid & Gerry Rainey; Faye & Harry Martinez; M/M Victor Crescienne, Crescienne Family, Michelle Family, Sister Joycelin Staempfli; Charles & Marion Clement; Carol Breau Sims; John Hawley Landry, Kathleen Landry; Conrad "Poopy" Joffrion; Jack Laurent

Sunday, September 3-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, September 3-9am 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; Jaynell Lopez, Albert Lopez, Jr., Johnson & Lopez Families; Fred Hebert, George & Gloria Ramirez, Agnes & Jimmy LeBlanc; Glynn Hebert, A Special Intention; Alberta Buquoi, Michael Clause, Mary Jo Primeaux; Denise Miranda; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Virginia Simon; The Calvaruso Family; Devin & Douglas Durand; Dwayne Strickland

Sunday, September 3-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Colletti & Family, A Special Intention through the Intercession of St. Peregrine, St. Jude, St. Joseph & Mother Mary; 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; Isaac Jr. & Brent Vaughn, Nilda & Isaac Vaughn; David Borden Tidmore; Ann Bryant Wilbert Arbour

Tuesday, September 5-6pm Mass

Dennis Ourso

Wednesday, September 6-7am Mass

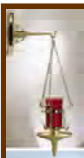
Llewelyn LeDoux

Thursday, September 7-7am Mass

Trista Parro, Diane Irwin, Judy & August Sharsky

Friday, September 8-7am Mass

Marie Ragusa LeBlanc



Sanctuary Candle
August 27, 2023

St. John the Evangelist
David G. Hebert

St. Clement of Rome
Mary Ann Gregoire

Coffee & Donuts
September 3, 2023



Guy & Sabrina Ruggiero (7:30am Mass)

Blane & Deryl Ourso (9am Mass)



Altar Society

Altar Society Extra Team 3 will be
cleaning the church Wednesday, August 30 at 8am.
Volunteers are welcome.

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST. JOHN SCHOOL

FISHING & CORNHOLE TOURNAMENTS

FISHING TOURNAMENT

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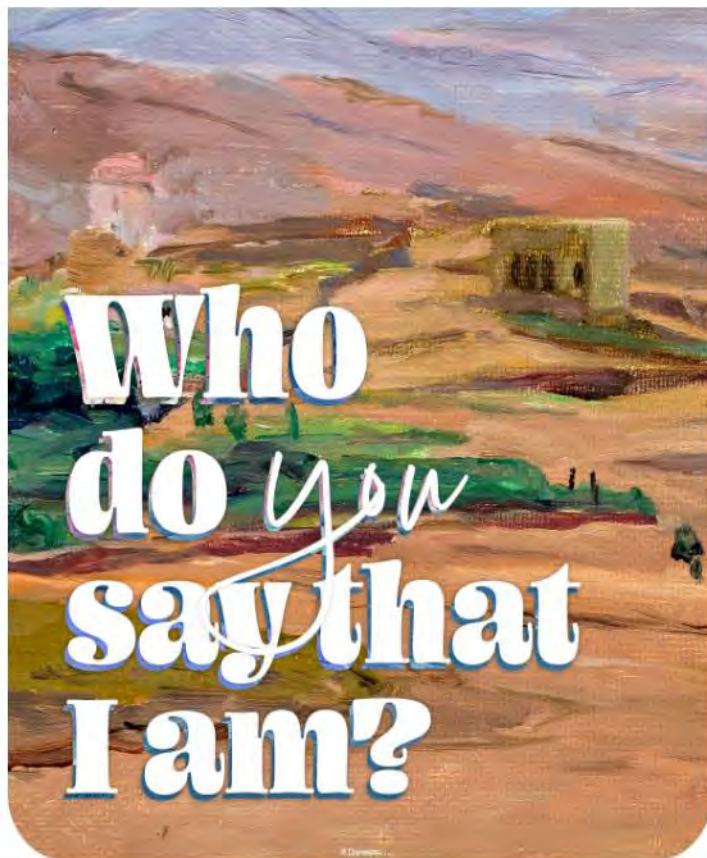
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Structural	Electrical	Survey																		
Process	Mechanical	Civil																		
Laser Scan	Construction Support	Piping																		
Field Services		Staffing																		
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