

# SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764

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## Pastoral Team

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle ..... Pastor  
Alfred J. Ricard II ..... Deacon  
Wanda Ashley..... Director of Religious  
Education & Youth Ministry  
Donna Carville ..... R.C.I.A.

## 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..... 7:30am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am  
Tuesday..... 6:00 pm  
Wednesday..... 7:00 am  
Thursday..... 7:00 am  
Friday..... 7:00 am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 4, 2024

### What do You Want?

Jesus was starting to become very popular, at least with the ordinary people. They had seen how he had cured the sick and cast out demons. Jesus knew the people would not understand this and try to proclaim him as their king. Jesus had no intention of living as a worldly king, in comfort and riches. In fact, he came to free people from needing wealth and power.

Popularity and wealth do not interest St. Paul, either. When he preaches the gospel, the good news of Christ's resurrection, He specifically refuses to be paid for his preaching, to show that he will be rewarded by Christ.

So what do you hope for; what is your goal in life? Do you only feel secure when you have saved enough money and invested it wisely? Do you need other people to make you happy? Or at least a few hundred Facebook friends?

We can follow Paul's example of love for all people no matter who they are. Paul's love was not to make others like him. He genuinely wanted to bring the good news to them: by his love for them, Paul showed that God loves them even more. Let us ask the Lord to fill us with his love, so that we can help each other to hear the good news. Tom Schmidt



**HE CURED MANY  
who were sick with  
VARIOUS DISEASES**

MARK 1:34



February 4, 2024

Dear Family,

Today's Gospel passage illustrates another Markan passage where Jesus is setting a person free from bondage. After having freed a man from an unclean spirit (1:21:28), Jesus restores a woman (Simon's mother-in-law) from the torment and paralysis of fever to health. As the psalmist declares, God's greatness is in God's goodness and graciousness, particularly to those who are wounded and in need (Psalm 147:1-6)

Just as the healing performed by Mark's Jesus seems to be instantaneous, the service of Peter's mother-in-law also seems to be immediate. As soon as she has experienced the healing touch of Jesus, she goes to work. Note that her service here is extended to everyone present and not limited to Jesus, who has cured her.

Similarly, we see Jesus healing all kinds of people with various problems (1:32-34). One of the signs of the coming of God's reign is the release of humans from the bondage of sickness and possession by demons, or what today we may call bondage of the body and of the mind.

Mark's Gospel makes a point of showing that Jesus is not concerned with bringing attention to himself. As he did with the unclean spirit, Jesus would not allow the demons who knew him to reveal his identity or talk about him (1:34). Instead of basking in the praise and thanks of those whom he has cured, he withdraws to a "deserted place" and then departs from Galilee, even though he has gained the attention of all the people there (Mark 1:21, 35-39). We see a similar message by Paul in today's reading from 1 Corinthians 9. Rather than boasting and seeking attention for himself, Paul emphasizes service to others. We also see this in the example of Peter's mother-in-law.

Some questions for reflection:

What kinds of things keep humanity in bondage today?

What makes service or ministry to others difficult or challenging?

What kinds of service or ministry can you extend to other people today?

Brothers and Sisters, all priests will be on retreat this coming week. Please keep us and our Bishop in prayer as we take this time away to be with the Lord Jesus.

Peace,

Fr. Greg Daigle

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION.**

It was good to celebrate Confirmation Mass with our Bishop on Thursday evening. It was a beautiful celebration and I'm grateful to all who had a part in preparing and celebrating Confirmation. Special thanks to Mrs. Wanda Ashley, our DRE, and to her team of dedicated catechists. Our volunteer teachers have continued to expand their knowledge and ministry of teaching the faith to our young people. We are blessed with your many gifts and grateful to you all.

I have had the honor of working with Mrs. Wanda Ashley these 11 years. Wanda has done a wonderful job following Mrs. Andrea Young. I am happy for Wanda's continued efforts in Catholic formation. At this time, Wanda is looking to move on from her administrative role as DRE. She intends to stay involved in teaching our young people. Please let Mrs. Wanda know of your appreciation for her as she begins a new phase in life and ministry.

Of course, this means we will be looking for a new DRE for our St. John the Evangelist Church Community. If you are interested, or you know someone who may be interested, please have them call Fr. Greg Daigle at the office number 225.687.2402.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
**BATON ROUGE**  
Office of the Bishop

23 January 2024

To the Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Baton Rouge:

The annual retreat for priests of the Diocese of Baton Rouge will be 05-08 February 2024 at Manresa House of Retreats in Covent. These days of prayer and contemplation represent an important occasion for their renewal and growth in spiritual formation and well-being. As such, participation by our active priests is mandatory.

Thus, their temporary absence during this period of retreat will affect certain regular pastoral ministries. In particular, the schedule of weekday Masses and possible times for funeral Masses may be impacted and adjusted in your parish to meet needs of our priests during this time of renewal. While I recognize that this is a sacrifice, I consider this a sacrifice worth making. Deacons can provide needed funeral rites (the Wake Service, a Funeral without Mass, and the Rite of Committal). If the local parish staff is unable to secure a deacon for funeral needs, the parish staff may call the Office of the Vicar General by dialing 225.387.0561 for further assistance.

Thank you for understanding and supporting our priests with their ongoing formation and renewal for ministry! Please pray for our priests and our diocese during these days. I appreciate your affirmation and encouragement of our priests who give their lives for our diocese. May God be generous in leading us into a future filled with hope.

Hope in the Lord,

Most Reverend Michael G. Duca  
Bishop of Baton Rouge



## Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Michael Duca sealed the following 34 students with the Holy Spirit with the Sacrament of Confirmation Thursday, February 1 at 7pm Mass.

*Sarah Elizabeth Barbier  
 Claire Alyse Bergeron  
 Luke Joseph Berthelot  
 Saige Madison Berthelot  
 Kadence Anne Billings  
 Amelie Capello Blanchard  
 Emma Anne Blanchard  
 Emily Elizabeth Booksh  
 Alison Marie Boudreaux  
 Katie Mae Bourgoyne  
 Brandt Michael Callegan  
 Caden Randal Cannella  
 Zaria MacKenzie Christmas  
 Ainsley Marie Crowson  
 Annalyse Marie Doyle  
 Amalie Grace Dupont  
 Maddie Alanna Dupont  
 Shelby Faith Dupont  
 Gracie Lynn Gantt  
 Brianna Marie Gary  
 Amelia Jeanne Gaudet  
 Benjamin Joseph Gourgues  
 Landon Paul Hanchett  
 John Kenneth Hanks  
 Camille Nichols Haydel  
 Gavin James Menard  
 Gabrielle Renee Noel  
 Marley Michael Ourso  
 Austin Joseph Purpera  
 Logan Michael Raffray  
 Brantly James Rivet  
 Olivia Ann Sanchez  
 Karsyn Leigh Vadnais  
 Jaxon William Walker*

May God continue to pour out His blessings on the members of these families, that they may continue to grow in faith and love throughout the years.

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the St. John Altar Society for hosting the reception following Confirmation.

## Ritualsong

### Readings & Songs this Weekend

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time #1207

Entrance: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #821

Preparation: *Instrumental*

Communion: There is a Balm in Gilead #831

Sending Forth: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #684



## Parish Wedding Anniversary Mass and Celebration

**World Marriage Day** On Saturday, February 10 at St. John the Evangelist Church, couples celebrating 25, 50, 55, 60, 65 or greater years of marriage will be honored at 4pm Mass. Corsages and boutonnieres will be available in the parish hall for couples before Mass. Family and friends are invited to a reception following Mass in the parish hall hosted by the St. John Altar Society.

If you are celebrating one of these anniversaries in the year 2024 and would like to celebrate with us, please email [marshaadupont@sj.brcocmail.com](mailto:marshaadupont@sj.brcocmail.com), call the Church office at 225.687.2402, or fill out the form below. You may drop the form in the collection basket at weekend Mass or mail it to St. John Church, 57805 Main Street, Plaquemine, LA 70764

Full Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle anniversary to be celebrated:

25 50 60 65 More than 65 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please respond by Monday, February 5.\*\***

## Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

### Baptism Seminars

Monday, February 5, 2024

Monday, March 4, 2024

Monday, April 8, 2024

Monday, May 6, 2024

### Baptisms

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Saturday, May 18, 2024



Baptism Seminars are held in the third floor church office conference room 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. There are no Baptisms during Lent.



## Divine Mercy Novena Mass and Chaplet

This year on Tuesday, February 6 at 6pm our parish will begin its nine-week Novena of Divine Mercy with Mass, followed immediately by the sung chaplet of Divine Mercy and Novena prayers.

Divine Mercy is a prominent theme of the Scriptures, in both the New Testament and the Old. In our own time, devotion to the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ has spread throughout the world in an extraordinary way through the grace of a private revelation given to a humble Polish nun, St. Faustina Kowalska (1905-38). Our Lord Himself appeared to St. Faustina and instructed her to act as His "Apostle of Divine Mercy," giving her the following commission: *My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy!* He also instructed her to have an image of His Divine Mercy painted, just as He had appeared to her, so that veneration of this image would lead a great number of souls to Him. At the foundation of that image is the simple message, Jesus, I trust in You. Our Lord likewise instructed Faustina to let it be known that He wished the Sunday after Easter to be instituted in the Church as a universal Feast of Divine Mercy. Concerning the feast, Jesus made the following promise: *On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I will pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My Mercy. The souls that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion on this day shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.* This incomparable grace has been described as a kind of "second baptism," including the remission of all sin and temporal punishment due to sin. (N.B. confession within a proximate time before the feast, e.g., during the season of Lent, is sufficient. One must receive the Eucharist worthily on the feast, this is, in the state of sanctifying grace.)

Jesus invites you to enter into the cloister of His Heart! This is the Message of Divine Mercy. He wants you to reside within His Heart and experience His Peace. Through His mediation, He wants you to come to know God the Father and the Holy Spirit, too. There is nothing that Our Lord withholds from the soul who sincerely seeks Him with humble repentance, generosity and trust. Jesus Christ loves you with all His Heart, and He wants to dwell within your heart, too. If there is a need for healing there (and indeed, there is always need for healing there), you can be sure that He knows just what to do.

You are invited to come on the nine Tuesdays from February 6 through April 2, 2024, in preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy (the second Sunday of Easter) on April 7.

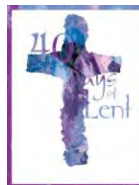
*Cor ad Cor Loquitur. Heart speaks to heart. The Heart of Christ speaks to the heart of man — to your heart — if you will but open the door and listen to Him.*



## Eucharistic Adoration

**Come and Adore! He is Waiting for You!**

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.



## Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, a day of fast and abstinence.

### Ash Wednesday Schedule:

7am - Mass & Distribution of Ashes  
12 Noon - Liturgy of the Word & Distribution of Ashes  
6pm - Mass & Distribution of Ashes

### Lenten Weekday Schedule:

Tuesday - 6pm Mass  
6:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet  
Wednesday & Thursday - 7am Mass  
Friday - 12 Noon Stations of the Cross  
6pm Mass & Stations of the Cross  
(No 7am Mass during Lent)

### Fasting & Abstinence

**Fasting:** On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, those who are 18, but not yet 59, are allowed only one full meal. Two small meals are allowed as needed, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

**Abstinence from Meat:** Those who are 14 years of age or older are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. The Church no longer attempts to prescribe our Lenten practices in detail. The above regulations simply highlight Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and other Fridays in Lent.

## Altar Society

### Essential Support System of the Church

The Altar Society will be selling little Lenten Books Saturday and Sunday, February 3 & 4 before and after all Masses. The books (\$2) contain six-minute meditations on the Passion according to Luke. Altar Society Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, February 7. Volunteers are welcome.

## St. Joseph Altar Kickoff Meeting

### Honoring Jesus' Earthly Father

When? Wednesday, February 7 — 2pm

Where? St. John Parish Hall

Who? All volunteers are welcome!

Questions? Contact Betty Aucoin at 225.776.1685.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, February 10-4pm Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Sister Catherine Laboure, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family; M/M John Caffarel, Sr., M/M G. E. Marix; Charles Varnell, Brad Tullier; Scott Jude Marino, A. J. & Nera Rodriguez, Anthony & Mary Marino, Kids of St. Jude, M/M Alger Rodriguez, M/M Vives Vicknair; Michael Laurent, Jack Laurent; Henry "Tutie" Berthelot, M/M Edmond Berthelot, Sr., M/M Earl Breaux, Sr., John D. Bourg; Joseph Graves, W. A. Graves Family, Michael Rarick, Thomas Morales Family; Kenneth Ourso, Sr., Gena Ourso; Sidney "Benny", Rose & Sid Quatrevingt, Quatrevingt Family; Rose Marie Canella LeBlanc, Jamie Cedotal Landry; Kerne M. Coreil, Sr.; Patrick Gaudet, Iris & Audrey Callegan; Clarence Voris Allen, Zelpha & Nick Hanjaras; J. Hubert Millet, Milda Millet, M/M Tony Louis, M/M Harold Marionneaux; Conrad Joffrion, Tubby & Gertrude Allain; Roy Landry, Sr.; Aubry Quebedeaux, Blanche, Saul & Robert Quebedeaux

### Sunday, February 11-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

### Sunday, February 11-9am Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Sister Catherine Laboure, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Frances Santangelo LeBlanc, Rita & Mike Santangelo, Anatole Santangelo; James Roucher; Guy Hopkins & Family; John "Sonny" Bunch; Clinton & Wendell Fournierat; Anthony "Pet" Cilano; Cathie Blanchard; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Shane Smith; Denise Miranda

### Sunday, February 11-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Michael Shepherd, Ruth "SeSe" Becnel, Ruth Keller, Pauline Becnel; Ronald L. Capone; Edward Kocke, Jr., Kathy Oliver; Mary Font, Leslie Font, Jr., Ross Campesi, Sr., Marion Campesi; Marshall & Virginia Peavy, Cleo & Ella Dupont; Isaac Vaughn, Jr., Brent Vaughn, Margaret Landry, Sidney Hedges, Jr.

### Tuesday, February 13-6pm Mass

Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Schexnaildre & Nicolosi Families; Murray & Dixie Suffrin, Pim Clebert; Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family; Joshua "Josh" Landry, Harry & Vivian Banta, Gloria & "Joe" Landry; Jaynell Lopez, Albert Lopez, Jr., Johnson & Lopez Families; Betty C. Dupuy; Huey Hebert; Bret Thompson; Dalfay, Angele & Jean Claude Cavalier

### Ash Wednesday, February 14-6pm Mass

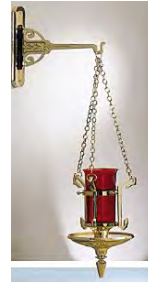
Dudley & Marie Ragusa LeBlanc; Brennan Eugene Bujol, Pim & Nu Nu Clebert, Louise & Edmund Bujol, Catherine & Frank Ferachi; Mary A. D. Quaid; Lillian Bouchereau; Tommy Griffon; Callahan, Clement & Mayon Families; Nolan Bueche III; Pat Messina

### Thursday, February 15-7am Mass

O. J., Buster & Pearl Hidalgo Songy & Families

### Friday, February 16-7am Mass

Trabeaux, Dugas & Naquin Families



## Sanctuary Candle

February 4, 2024

**St. John the Evangelist**

Frances Santangelo LeBlanc

**St. Clement of Rome**

Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Dupont,

Pat Dupont & Kathy Dupont Fulton

## Coffee & Donuts

February 11, 2024

Lou Anna Canella &

Lionel Schexnaildre (7:30am Mass)

Lee Ann Howard & Amy Bradford (9am Mass)



## Historical Tidbit About Catholicism in Iberville Parish and St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

When was Immaculate Conception Church decommissioned and parishioners asked to join either St. John the Evangelist Church or St. Clement of Rome Church?

Immaculate Conception Church was decommissioned in 1987 by the Diocese of Baton Rouge. It was a mission church established in the 1930's through the collaboration of Rev. Leonard Robin and Rev. Thomas McNamara, S.S.J. Superior General. Josephite priests served Immaculate Conception from 1960-1983. On December 8, 2017, the bell that rang at Immaculate Conception Church was commemorated by Rev. Gregory Daigle with a plaque and stand near the statue of Mary at St. John the Evangelist Church.

Envelopes labeled "100 Years" are located in the back of church; just drop your donation in the collection basket at any weekend Mass. **Please make a check separate from your stewardship check with the notation "100 Years Campaign".**

## Contribution Tax Statements

Anyone needing a 2023 contribution statement for tax purposes should call Susan at the St. John Church Office (225.687.2402). Statements will be printed upon request.

Please remember St. John Church and St. John School in your Last Will and Testament.

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## Online Giving

Join the parishioners who are using Online Giving for automated giving to St. John. It is secure and convenient. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish.

To sign up for ONLINE GIVING, visit [www.stjohnchurchplaq.org](http://www.stjohnchurchplaq.org).





February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## February Dedication: The Holy Family

In February we honor the Holy Family. The Holy Family is the most perfect reflection of the love of the Trinity and sets before us the most perfect model of virtue for all Christian homes. In the words of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII, "Nothing truly can be more salutary or efficacious for Christian families to meditate upon than the example of this Holy Family, which embraces the perfection and completeness of all domestic virtues."



### Scripture Readings

#### Week of February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jb 7:1-4, 6-7;

Ps 147: 1-6; 1Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Monday 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-10; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40; Mk 7:24-30

Friday 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Ps 81:10-15; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Ps 106:6-7, 19-22; Mk 8:1-10

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lv 13:1-2; 44-46;

Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; 1 Cor 10:31—11:1; Mk 1:40-45

### Called By Name

#### Chosen for Consecrated Life

"Jesus went away to a secluded place and prayed." If you are seeking greater simplicity of life and a closer following of the Lord in prayer and action, consider that He may be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life.

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 225.336.8778 or email: [jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org).



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