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 & Youth Ministry **Cindy Rodrigue, Religious Education Coordinator, Grades 1-9** Donna Carville, R. C. I. A. Website: www.stjohnchurchplaq.org Email: stjohnchurchplag@sj.brcoxmail.com facebook.com/pages/St John the Evangelist Catholic Church Parish Office Staff: Medric Smith, Jr., Business Manager Marsha Dupont, Secretary Johnette Gourgues, Secretary Susan Landry, Secretary **Gary Perrault, Maintenance** Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm Sunday 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am Monday (Liturgy of the Word) 7:00 am Wed., Thurs., Fri. (Mass) 7:00 am First Tuesday of the Month 6:00 pm (Mass, Novena, Benediction and Anointing of the Sick) All other Tuesdays - Confessions 5:30 pm (Mass and Novena) 6:00 pm **Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office** Marriage: Please contact the pastor a minimum of six months before the wedding Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00 pm

August 6, 2017 — The Transfiguration of the Lord

Today's feast of the Transfiguration presents the full force of God's power. In the rare moments when humans are permitted to encounter God's intense fullness, the human reaction is the same: fear. The prophet Daniel is so frightened by his visions that he falls flat on his face in terror. Today's Gospel reports that Peter, James, and John were "very much afraid" when they saw Jesus transfigured on the mountain. They too fell prostrate in fear. These mighty revelations of God's brilliant majesty have a paralyzing effect on those who witness them. God does not prefer to terrify us, however. God chooses only rare moments to reveal the divine glory, and then sends witnesses to the rest of us so we can believe without fear. Saint Peter's letter advises us to be attentive to God's witnesses. Their testimony is true. Their words renew our hearts and transform our lives.

THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER Saint Matthew's Gospel reveals that Jesus' face "shone like the sun" during his transfiguration. The evangelist is using a figure of speech, of course, but we can imagine what beholding the Transfiguration might have been like for Peter, James, and John. The brightness of Jesus' face is compared to the sun. Earth is about ninety-three million miles distant from the sun, yet if we look directly at it, we suffer retinal burns, permanent eye damage, or severe vision loss. The disciples were so close to the Lord during his transfiguration that he could touch them. What is it like to behold the brightness of Jesus? The disciples were terrified. Perhaps looking at Jesus in his glory feels as dangerous as staring at a solar eclipse. Sure enough, the disciples hid their eyes, falling flat on their faces.

GOD'S MERCY Although the disciples' experience on the mountain was frightening, our merciful Lord does not want fear to overshadow the miracle they witnessed. Jesus touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." God's words from the cloud overhead were similarly encouraging: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." God lovingly reassures us, confirming Jesus' identity as the Son of Man and inviting us to pay attention to the One who comes to save us. Saint Peter, an eyewitness to the event, declares that his testimony is "altogether reliable." We can depend on his word. Saint Peter hopes his words act like a "lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts." Thanks be to God, we can rely on the life-changing experiences of others to help transform our own lives. We may not ever have intimidating mountaintop revelations like Peter, James, and John, so we listen to them as witnesses of God's majesty. All of our readings today remind us that God gives us the Word to believe and live, and sends us the words of Daniel, Peter, and Matthew to encourage us.

Today's Readings: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

August 6, 2017

Dear Family:

We celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord this weekend. "And he was transfigured before them". What mysterious and amazing words! Though unfamiliar to us, early Christians would have recognized the idea of transfiguration. In Jewish end times writings, the verb "metamorphoo" pointed to the miraculous change of form to be experienced by God's faithful in the age to come after a time of intense earthly suffering. Although that verb isn't used in the vision of the prophet Daniel, the scene he pictures bears some similarities to the Gospel scene: one "like a Son of Man" is given glory and kingship by God ("the Ancient One"). The phrase "Son of Man" - in its most generic meaning, a human being - here refers to an exalted figure who comes in triumph at the end of time. The title is commonly used for Jesus in the Gospel accounts as in Matthew 16:27.

All three of the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) place the event on a mountain. In biblical tradition, human beings usually encounter God on mountains. The Transfiguration account in Matthew comes just after Jesus' prediction of his Passion and his teaching that disciples must be prepared to follow the same way. It also follows Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah, and so this majestic scene of Jesus in the presence of Moses and Elijah (who represent the Law and the Prophets), his face glowing, as did Moses' face when he received the Commandments, reinforces Peter's insight that Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus is transformed into a glory, or brilliant light, evoking the radiance of God. The transformation experienced at that moment was but a preview and perhaps a preparation for the glory that would be his when he rose from the dead.

Some questions for reflection:

How many references to light can you find in all of the readings? What do you make of them? At what other time have we heard the same words from God about Jesus? When have you had a "transfiguration" experience? What was it like?

Even though the pace of summertime slows down somewhat, we still have lots going on. We recently settled an issue with an infiltration of bees. Reported leaks from our roof into the church are being investigated and soon to be repaired. A company has been busy cleaning up the sanctuary and all the floors in our church. Several of our candlesticks that were on the former Altar needed repair and the others were brought to J. Prestes and Co., for a good cleaning. Summer often affords us the opportunity to clean up and/or build up. A big thanks to the Altar Society for their help with the clean up in our church. Also, many thanks to Mr. Gary Perrault and Mr. Medric Smith, Jr. for their coordination and supervision of these projects.

Congratulations to Mrs. Wanda Ashley & Mrs. Cindy Rodrigue and all who assisted with Vacation Bible School for a wonderful Vacation Bible School.

Thanks to Mr. Vic Blanchard and Mr. Chris Reeves who have been nominated, selected and have accepted positions on the St. John School Advisory Board. Many thanks as well for the hard and dedicated work of Chief Kenny Payne and Mr. Danny Cedotal for their years of service on the Advisory Board.

I am humbled to make this appeal to you for some additional assistance with regard to St. Clement Chapel. Our Chapel needs a new roof. I was wondering, hoping and praying that some of our parishioners might come forward to help with their donations that we might replace the roof. We did patch a section over the summer, but were told by the inspector that a new roof was needed. Can you please help? Please call Medric Smith, Jr. or speak to me if there is a way you can help.

I also need assistance from willing parishioners to assist with Fr. Pat Mascarella's travel from his condo on Spanish Town Road to St. John's and back on the days he will be celebrating Eucharist with us. His friend and driver, Beverly LeBeau, has some health issues that will require surgery. You who have seen Beverly with Father Pat and Pace (aka Fr. Pat's service dog) know of her dedication to them. We are praying for a successful surgery and full recovery. Are you able to help? Please call the office or speak to me after Mass if this is a ministry in which you might be able to serve.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

Priestly Transportation

Fr. Pat and Pace need transportation from his Spanish Town Road condo to St. John's and back. His usual driver has some health issues that require surgery. Fr. Pat is usually scheduled two or three times a month. Please help us by taking part in this ministry to Fr. Pat and to all of us. Hopefully, enough will come forward to serve in this way that it will not be a burden on a few. If we had 3 or 4 teams (one for pick up and transportation to St. John and one for Fr. Pat's return home) all should go well. We need your "Yes". Please call the office or speak to Fr. Greg after Mass if you can assist. Thanks.

2017 VBS, "A Treasure Tour of the New Testament," was a Tremendous Success! Thanks to all parents, grandparents, volunteers, teachers and Junior Helpers for making our VBS so successful. A special thank you to those who made monetary donations.

Especially thank you to all students for their participation and for making our week a truly spiritual event.



Parish School of Religion (PSR)

The deadline to register is Friday, August 25.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

REGISTRATION for PSR Grades 1-9 (including First Holy Communion children) is in progress.



Registration forms and schedules may be found in the back of church, in the church office or online at stjohnchurchplag.org under FORMS.

the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation) Tuesday, August 15, 2017

Feast of the Assumption of



On the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will honor **Our Heavenly Mother.**

Masses are as follows: 7:00 am Mass 8:30 am St. John School Mass at St. Clement Church 6:00 pm Mass

9:00 am Mass at the Madonna Chapel in Bayou Goula

We welcome the Catholic Daughters Court #1214 to 4:00 pm Mass Saturday, August 5 as they celebrate their Quarterly Communion with us.

GEMS Ice Cream Social

The GEMS (Golden Eagle Members, aged 50 and older) are hosting an Ice Cream Social, Saturday, August 5, immediately following 4:00 pm Mass.

All GEM parishioners are invited to join us in the Parish Hall for sweet treats and fellowship.

Weekday Worship & Scripture-Week of Aug. 7, 2017

Monday, August 7: 7 am Liturgy of the Word Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-17; Mt 14:13-21 Tuesday, August 8: 5:30 pm Confession/Mass/Novena Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-7, 12-13; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14 Wednesday, August 9: 7 am Mass Nm 13:1-2, 25 -- 14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-23: Mt 15:21-28 Thursday, August 10: 7 am Mass 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26 Friday, August 11: 7 am Mass Dt 4:32-40; Ps 77:12-16, 21; Mt 16:24-28 Saturday: Dt 6:4-13; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20 Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

An envelope marked "<u>Altar Society</u>" has been included in the August packet of contribution envelopes.

If you would like to join the Altar Society or renew your membership, kindly place your yearly dues of \$20.00 in the "Altar Society" envelope or a regular envelope in the collection at any weekend Mass.

Please make checks to St. John Altar Society. ******

Altar Society Team 2 will be cleaning the church on Monday, August 7 at 8:00 am.

Volunteers are welcome!



Mandatory Student/Parent Registration/ **Orientation with Father Greg** Wednesday, August 23 ~ 6:30 pm-7:30 pm St. John Parish Hall

All students registering and a parent must be present. Confirming student's Baptism certificates are due at this time. Upon receiving the Baptism certificates. additional information will be given out and the registration process will be complete.

Please call Wanda Ashley at the church office (225.687.2402) with questions.

BAPTISMS & BAPTISM SEMINARS

Baptism Seminars Monday, August 7, 2017 Monday, September 11, 2017 Monday, October 2, 2017



Baptisms Saturday, August 26, 2017 Saturday, September 30, 2017 Saturday, October 28, 2017

The Baptism Seminars are held in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm. Baptisms are usually held after 4:00 pm Mass on the last weekend of the month.

Dates are subject to change. Please call the church office at 225.687.2402 during the early stages of pregnancy to register for the seminar.

Our Hymn Selections this weekend: (Subject to change) Entrance: All Creatures of Our God and King **Music Issue 536 Preparation: Organ/Piano Instrumental Communion: I Have Loved You Music Issue 608** Sending Forth: Rejoice! The Lord is King **Music Issue 719**

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 Tuesday after 6:00 pm Mass from 6:45 pm-8:15 pm in the church office conference room. The dates for RCIA are Tuesday, September 12, 2017 (intro session), then every Tuesday until November 28, 2017.

RCIA resumes after Advent on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at 9:00 am Mass from 9:30 am-10:45 am, then every Sunday at 9:00 am Mass until Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 31, 2018.

For more information, call Donna Carville at 225.687.2402.



PERPETUAL ADORATION

These words of Jesus are a wonderful invitation to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

Jesus said to the crowds: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my voke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light". Matthew 11:28-30

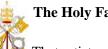
Listed below are open hours in the Adoration Chapel: -Monday: 10:00 pm-11:00 pm -Monday: 11:00 pm-12 Midnight -Tuesday: 3:00 am-4:00 am -Tuesday: 11:00 pm-12 Midnight -Friday: 1:00 am-2:00 am -Friday: 2:00 am-3:00 am -Saturday: 12 Midnight-1:00 am -Saturday: 2:00 am-3:00 am -Saturday: 5:00 am-6:00 am -Saturday: 3:00 pm-4:00 pm -Saturday: 5:00 pm-6:00 pm -Saturday: 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

To volunteer for an hour, call JoAnn Daigle at 225.687.4621 or 225.776.4865.

1ST DAY OF SCHOOL

St. John School, Iberville Elementary, MSA & Plaquemine High School Thursday, August 10





The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for August Artists

That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

GROWING IN FAITH

The Wild Goose is Loose!



The Wild Goose is a work of the Holy Spirit, which is awakening in the hearts of all those participating in God's love and transforming power. We are all created by God so His love is given to all of us. This is a love that has been revealed to us by Jesus Christ and that leads us to our heavenly Father.



Discover a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit this fall by attending any of the 3 sessions beginning on Thursday, September 7 (1:30 pm-3:00 pm or (6:30 pm-8:00 pm) or on Monday, September 11 in the Church Office conference room.

There is no homework, but bring your Bible.

You may call the church office at 225.687.2402 to register. There is no fee for the series.

Holy Spirit Prayer Group

A prayer group has been formed and is active whose mission is to offer praise to God, and



intercessory prayers for individuals, our community and the needs of the world. Prayers are offered for the success of our parish efforts through our many organizations that reach out to parishioners and the community at large.

The group meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm in church.

The Holy Spirit prayer group also welcomes folks of different denominations and those who may not be connected to a Church community at this time.

All are welcome! Please come join us! Contact the Church office at 225.687.2402.



Please note...

If you are a newcomer to St. John the Evangelist Church Parish, have recently married, or no longer live with your parents, please remember to fill out a census form to register here.

Anyone who does not receive Church contribution envelopes is not registered. You may register by calling the St. John Church office at 225.687.2402 and we will mail a census form to you; or you may access FORMS via our website, www.stohnchurchplaq.org. ******

Additional printable registration forms may be accessed from the St. John Church website for Baptism, First Holy Communion & Reconciliation, Confirmation, PSR (with schedule), RCIA and Altar Server. Mass Intention forms are also available.

MASS INTENTIONS — August 12-18, 2017

Saturday, August 12-4:00 pm 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; M/M L. J. Raymond; M/M Joseph E. Bujol; J. Hubert Millet, Milda Millet, Louis Family, Harold Marionneaux; Joseph Graves, W. A. Graves Family, Jack Jackson, Thomas Morales Family; Daisy Ourso; Orian Gulotta; Peter Palermo, Benny Palermo, Rosa C. Granada & Saraphine Stein; M/M Edmond Gomez, Chris Gomez, Kathleen Garrene; Willis & Maxine Berthelot, Mack & Lucy Guillot; Sidney "Benny" Quatrevingt; Harry "Shot" Hanks; Annie Matirne, B. E. Matirne Family, Nick Mancuso Family, Roger Adams

Sunday, August 13-7:30 am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, August 13-9:00 am 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; Dwight Marix; Betty Gongre; Mitchell Dufour, Boudreaux & Dufour Families; Lena Canella; Betty Dupree

Sunday, August 13-11:00 am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Lucy & Cleveland Boudreaux; Marshall & Virginia Peavy; Cleo & Ella Dupont; Edward Kocke, Jr.; Betty Gongre; Joseph & Lillian Crescionne, Peter & Rosalie Crescionne, Dr. Joseph & Tina Alesi; M/M Merrill Judice; M/M Frank Canella, Anthony F. Canella, Victor J. Canella; Timothy Coupel; Milton Allen, Tommy Allen Mosley, Vivian & Doris Allain; Edward Engolio, Jr., Edward Engolio, Sr., Lucille Engolio, Jean Lejeune Landry; Doris & Matthew Allen

Tuesday, August 15-6:00 pm Mass

Kye Boudreaux; Vernon J. "Nook" Dupuy, Jr.; LeBlanc & Cavalier Families, Neila LeBlanc; Dudley Nicholosi, Linda Mae & "Boogie" Schexnaildre

Wednesday, August 16-7:00 am Mass Fred & Beverly Allain

Thursday, August 17-7:00 am Mass Brendon, Ronald & Dudley Landry & Coletti Family

Friday, August 18-7:00 am Mass

Michael Gourgues

STEWARDSHIP

July 29 & 30, 2017

 Stewardship
 \$ 9,760.00

 Education Fund
 \$ 581.00

To sign up for ONLINE GIVING, visit <u>www.stjohnchurchplaq.org</u>.

If God is calling you to full-service in the Church, do not be afraid. Jesus promised He would be with us always.

So, if you think God could be calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." Ephesians 2:8-10

You are Covered in Prayer

May you feel His presence-

Experience His Peace-Draw from His strength-Rest in His love-

May God bless and keep you in His loving care.

If someone you know is having major surgery or has been diagnosed with cancer or any other grave illness, please let us bring you a prayer blanket to help get you through this tough time. It matters not the age, all who need it will receive it.

Contact Jane Gauthreaux at 225.413.7157.



Sanctuary Candle August 13, 2017

<u>St. John the Evangelist Church</u> Jaynell Lopez

<u>St. Clement of Rome Church</u> Brendon, Ronald & Dudley Landry & Coletti Family

> <u>Coffee and Donuts</u> <u>August 13, 2017</u>



June Pinsonat & Sandra Bizette (7:30 am Mass)

Kevin & Kelly Gourgues (9:00 am Mass)

There will be no Children's Liturgy in August. We will resume on September 3.





407850 St John the Evangelist Church (B)

www.jspaluch.com

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407850 St John the Evangelist Church (A)

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