

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/St John the Evangelist Catholic Church](https://facebook.com/StJohntheEvangelistCatholicChurch)

Parish Office Staff:

Medric Smith, Jr., Business Manager
Marsha Dupont, Secretary
Susan Landry, Secretary
Lily Skidmore, Secretary
Gary Perrault, Maintenance

Masses:

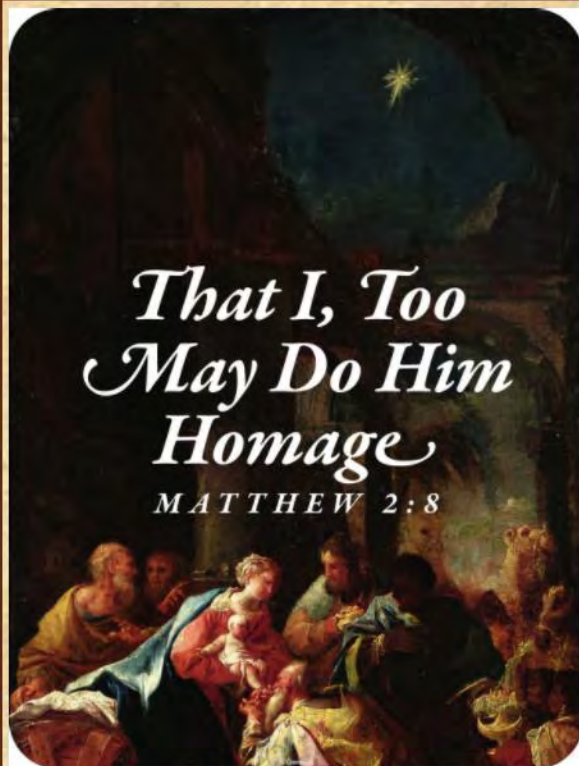
Saturday Vigil	4:00 pm
Sunday	7:30 am
	9:00 am
	11:00 am
Tuesday	6:00 pm
Wed., Thurs., Fri.	7:00 am

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



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2023

The Star of Bethlehem

Almost every year at Christmastime, you can find a newspaper article or TV documentary about the star of Bethlehem.

Astronomers give various theories about whether the magi saw a supernova, or a comet, or a conjunction of two or more planets. But for us, the star has a deeper meaning.

In Matthew's Gospel, light is used as a symbol of the good news of Jesus coming into the world. That's why verse 9 of the Gospel has the image of the star preceding the wise men and stopping over the house where Jesus was. By following the star, they become followers of Christ. So what do the magi show us about following Jesus? First, they take the initiative. They saw the star, figured out what it meant, and made their journey. As followers of Jesus, we can look for what needs to be done (in our family, parish, or community) and do it.

Second, they expressed their faith in Jesus by the gifts they brought: gold--a gift for a king, who is worthy to be followed; frankincense--Jesus is worthy to be worshiped as Son of God; and myrrh--Jesus becomes king by dying for us all. We can express our faith in many ways. We can volunteer to help the poor, the elderly, or the disabled. We can teach our children how to pray and tell them about all that God has done for us.

Third, they were not afraid to take risks for Jesus. How often do we take risks for the Lord, by openly speaking about our faith, or giving God credit for the good that we do? Let the star of Bethlehem remind us that Jesus is the star of our lives.

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Epiphany Concert
St. John the Evangelist Church
Sunday, January 8, 2023
4pm-5:15pm



Join us for songs from Broadway, big band and sacred music performed by Father Greg Daigle accompanied by Bill Grimes and the St. John Epiphany orchestra benefitting St. John School. Tickets (\$25) are available at the door.



Nativity Scene in Church

Our beautiful crèche with life-size Fontanini figures will be available for viewing for anyone who would like an opportunity to make a prayerful visit to our Lord and Savior.

The church will be open and the lights will be on daily from 7am-3:30pm through Sunday, January 15, 2023.

With Gratitude from the Deacon

To All the Generous Parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Church Parish:

I am overwhelmed to have so many good friends remember me and my family at Christmas. You all remain in my daily prayers and I ask that you keep me and my family in yours. Happy New Year!

With Sincerest Appreciation,
 Deacon Alfred Ricard

Daily Scripture Reading — January 8-14, 2023

Sunday, January 8:

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Monday, January 9:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday, January 10:

Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 11:

Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday, January 12:

Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-7c, 8-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday, January 13:

Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday, January 14:

Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

St. Jude Pilgrimage

A pilgrimage to St. Jude in New Orleans is planned for Monday, January 23, 2023. It's a beautiful day of getting together, relaxing with friends and our Lord in prayer. There are a few seats available on the bus. The cost of the trip is \$32.00.

For more information and if you feel you would like to join us, please call Cecilia Blanchard (985-513-2252).

RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: Epiphany of the Lord #1110

Entrance: We Three Kings #547

Preparation: *Instrumental*

Communion: The First Nowell #554

Sending Forth: Angels We Have Heard on High #524

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. —Psalm 95:6-7

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.

Baptisms and Baptism Seminars



Baptism Seminars

Monday, February 6, 2023

Monday, March 6, 2023

Monday, April 3, 2023

Baptisms

Saturday, January 21, 2023

Saturday, February 18, 2023

Saturday, April 22, 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.



The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE

RESPECT LIFE MASS

St. Joseph Cathedral

Saturday, January 21, 2023 | 8:30 a.m.

Please join Bishop Duca as he celebrates a special "Respect Life Mass" offering prayers for mothers and children, for all those who have lost their lives to abortion, and for an end to abortion.

Christmas Flowers and Decorations 2022

In Loving Memory

Sidney & Myrtis Babin
Rudy & Louise Martinez
Jimmy Armendariz
Anna Martinez
Sarah Babin
Jimmy & Sarah Migliacio
Beverly Woodward
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Morales
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Graves
Joseph R. Graves
Michael Rarick
Jack Jackson
Dr. Micah Day
Tony & Frances Savariste
Cat & Gloria Ramirez
Jimmy & Agnes LeBlanc
Philo & Celeste Brown
T. L. & Goldie Lowe
Rapdel & Pauline Joffrion
Adam & Emma Pepitone
Brenda Devillier
Curtis & Ella Robert & Family
Petu & Mary Palermo & Family
Jimmy & Buddy Romano
Daisy & Roy Romano
Frank & Angeline Messina
Frank Jr. & Chad Messina
John Leo Persick, Sr.
Lena Messina
Sarah Jane Seviro
Lena & Toby Cataldo
Vic & Lucille Profito
Doice & Gus Falcon
Walton & Mildred Landry
Charles J. Miller Family
Hilda Rose Landry & Family
John W. Smith Family
Quentin & Annabel Buquoi
Helen Kokiernak
F. J. "Red" & Ethel Ramagos
Violet Boudreaux
Mitchell Dufour
Boudreaux & Dufour Families
Ed, Myrna & Sonny Hargrove
Alfred & Mercedes Carville
Reid & Gerry Rainey
Edmund & Louise Bujol
Lester & Mary Carville
Trisha Hebert
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Guillot
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Rivet
Cecil P. Comeaux
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Ourso & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dolza Comeaux & Family
Lorenza Carter

Fred Sanchez
Mary Ann Gregoire
Phillip Pettus
Vivian & Doris Allain
Marie Baist
Florence Baist
Kotchie Tullier
Jean Scorsone
Rosie Tullier
Alex Tullier, Jr.
Randy Tullier
John & Ann Ruiz
Mervin & Leona Gourgues
Shirley G. Zito
Michael Gourgues
Ruiz & Gourgues Families
Van & Thelma Junot
Elvis & Mamie Rabalais
Harry & Ethel Blanchard
Andrew & Josephine Canova
Carlo & Kurt Canova
Jerry & Cutsy Blanchard
Vic & Olivia Blanchard
Marx & Leona Hoffman
Ronnie Palermo
Carl Brown
William & Eyoula Brown
Dominick & Mary Palermo
Sandra Dupont
Tubby & Gertrude Allain
Green & Flo Joffrion
Roy Landry, Sr.
Roy Landry, Jr.
Edwin C. Joffrion
Ernest & Mary Gulotta Brown
Janice Brown
Emile & Rita Pinell Sharon
Alfred & Ada Pinell Hebert
Harry & Faye Martinez
Mr. & Mrs. Dego Rivet
Nolan Rivet
Ann & Joe Marix
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Giroir
Mr. & Mrs. Murray Delaune
Mary Ann Gregoire
May Currier
David F. Currier
Mr. & Mrs. L. Currier
Mr. & Mrs. Lionel F. Currier
Dr. Mortimer Currier
Vincent A. Ferachi
Dr. Larry Ferachi
Hebert Family
Ferachi Family

(continued in future bulletins)

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2023

St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

A kinder, gentler you

Kindness is contagious. A recent study found that witnessing an act of kindness produces good feelings and inspires imitation. In the new year, make efforts to be kinder – more friendly, generous, and considerate – and inspire others to do the same.

Choose not to be offended

In the news or on social media, it can appear that there is more polarization around issues now than in the past. Each side wants to persuade the other. Being right is no compensation for broken friendships, however. If there is someone in your life who deliberately pursues you to argue, don't take the bait. Rather than let arguments create a rift, look the other way when feeling slighted. Being kind is more rewarding than being right.

"I have told you this that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world" (John 16:33).



Fall deeper in love with Christ in the New Year

At the center of all we do as Catholics must be a close and personal relationship with Jesus. He offers to each of us a deep, intimate, "I love you forever" kind of relationship. Make time to fall deeper in love with Christ:

T-Talk: Prayer is an amazing privilege. Through it, we have an open invitation: "Call to me, and I will answer you" (Jeremiah 33:3). We have a promise that He hears us: "When you call me, and come and pray to me, I will listen to you" (Jeremiah 29:12). The God of the universe wants to hear from you.

I-Intimacy: To love Christ, we must know Him. In Scripture, God tells us

who He is (Exodus 34:6), how He feels about us (Isaiah 43:4), what He desires for us (Luke 12:32), and how being His will make us happy (Matthew 5-7). Make Scripture a part of every day.

M-Meet Him: Relationships grow through shared experiences. We meet Jesus in prayer, Scripture, the Sacraments, and above all, during the Mass.

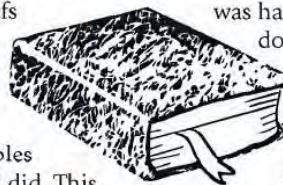
E-Everything for love: St. Thérèse of Lisieux discovered that she could

delight God by simply picking up a pin out of love. He wants to hear us, His beloveds, say, "I love you, too," in words and actions. Essential to falling in love with God is making time for Him.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe things that aren't in the Bible?

Catholics recognize the Bible as the inspired, inerrant Word of God, and we reject beliefs that contradict Scripture. Long before the Gospels were written down, the Apostles passed on to their disciples all that Jesus taught and did. This



is what we call, "Tradition," or what was "handed on." Not everything that was handed on could be written down. It was impossible to include everything Jesus did (John 21:25). Catholic beliefs don't depart from Scripture, but delve deeper into it.

Make one change for God this year

When making New Year's resolutions this year, consider one change that will bring you closer to God. Here are some ideas other Catholics have used to strengthen prayer, serve the poor, and evangelize our faith ...

Laura felt her prayer life growing stale, so when her parish asked for adorers for the perpetual adoration chapel, she jumped at the chance. Now, Mondays at midnight, Laura can be found in the presence of the Eucharist. She



said, "I really look forward to my peaceful hour each week. It's just me and Him."

Peter's law practice is incredibly busy, but he takes an afternoon off every month to work at the local soup kitchen serving hot meals to the homeless and working poor. When asked why, he said, "Jesus said, 'When I was hungry, you gave me to eat.'"

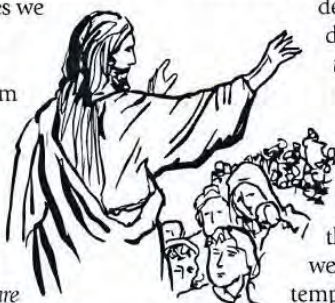
JoAnn's children are grown, yet she teaches a religious education class at her parish. "What better way to spread our faith than to children? That's where I can do the most good," she said.

from Scripture

Matthew 5:1-12a, Jesus' blueprint for holiness

This passage contains the Sermon on the Mount during which Jesus detailed the Beatitudes – the attitudes we need to be truly holy, and therefore happy. In fact, "beatitude" is translated from the Greek word for happiness. Jesus was saying, "Happy are you!" or "Congratulations!" if you live by these attitudes.

When Jesus said, "blessed are the poor in spirit ... blessed are they who mourn ... the persecuted" He promised that when we turn to God in times of trial, we will be comforted and cared for. When He said, "Blessed are the pure in heart ... those who hunger and thirst



for righteousness," He was showing us that a holy heart will receive what it desires. When He described "the meek ... the merciful ... the peacemakers," He gave us a blueprint for how to act.

We can measure our behavior against these standards. When we are faithful to God in tempting moments, and translate holy inner attitudes into outward actions, we'll know we're on the right path to holiness. When we live by the Beatitudes, we'll be truly happy.

Q & A What qualities can I pursue to make me a better follower of Jesus?

Actually, when you were baptized, made your First Communion, or got Confirmed, the Holy Spirit conferred gifts to help you grow in strength and holiness. Recognizing these gifts and nurturing them will certainly make you a better Christian.

Wisdom: This gift helps us stay focused on God's will and His plan for us.

Understanding: Lets us grasp truths. It means seeing with the heart and the mind.

Counsel: Also called "right judgment," counsel enables us to weigh alternatives to make the right choice.

Fortitude: The ability to remain firm against pressure. (Also called courage.)

Knowledge: A person with knowledge sees more than one dimension of an issue to determine the right path.

Piety: Helps us think of ourselves as children of God and be eager to serve Him.

Fear of the Lord: The wonder and awe God inspires encourages us to respect Him and all his creations.

The more you use these gifts, the more you will grow in faith and holiness. Then you will certainly become a better Christian.

Feasts & Celebrations

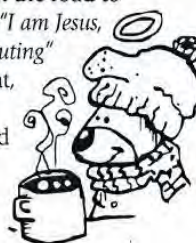
January 2 – St. Gregory Nazianzen (389). Known as "The Theologian" for his faithfulness and eloquence, St. Gregory was unwillingly made Bishop of Sasima. He worked to clarify the Church's teachings about the Holy Trinity.

January 16 – St. Berard and Companions (1220). St. Francis of Assisi sent St. Berard and his companions to evangelize in the Muslim territories. After being arrested in Morocco, they were martyred after refusing to stop preaching and renounce their Faith.

January 23 – St. Marianne Cope

(1918). St. Marianne began religious life as an educator in New York schools, and later became a nurse. In 1883, she helped St. Damien de Veuster serve the leper colonies of Hawaii, continuing his work after his death.

January 25 – Conversion of St. Paul (1st Century). Formally called "Saul", he persecuted the Christians until Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus, saying, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5). After that, Saul became Paul and traveled around the known world, preaching the Faith.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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Mass Intentions - January 14-20, 2023

Saturday, January 14-4pm 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; Liz Adams; Anthony & Frances Palermo, Daisy P. King, Jim Cashiola; M/M John Caffarel, M/M G. E. Marix; Ernest & Josephine Lapeze, Lapeze Family, Ragusa Family; Robert Mooney, Lyman & Rita Marchand; Joseph Graves, W. A. Graves Family; Michael Rarick, Thomas Morales Family; J. Hubert Millet; Brennan Eugene Bujol; Pim & Nu Nu Clebert, Louise & Edmund Bujol, Derley Barbier; Sidney "Benny", Rose & Sid Quatrevingt, Gulotta Family; Janice Brown; Ignace & Vivian Tullier

Sunday, January 15-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners



Sunday, January 15-9am 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; Virginia Simon; Frances Santangelo LeBlanc, Rita & Mike Santangelo, Anatole Santangelo; Bobby Wilson; Anthony "Tonto" Pizzolato; Alcee & Pauline Becnel, Evans & Virgie Dugas; Rosemary Cox; Lorraine "Catty" Hebert, Mary Kary Marchand Hudson, Hebert & Clement Families; Mary Ann Gregoire; Denise Miranda; Bill Touns, Jr.

Sunday, January 15-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; O. J., Buster & Pearl Hidalgo Songy & Families; Michael Shepherd, Ruth "SeSe" Becnel; Patrick, J. P. & Anna Gaudet; Kathy Kocke, Oliver & Edward Kocke, Jr.; Brenda Fremin; Harry Marionneaux, Charles, Doris & Paul Barbier

Tuesday, January 17-6pm Mass

Ruth & Bill Ostergren; Joshua "Josh" Landry, Harry & Vivian Banta, Caliste "Joe" & Gloria Landry

Wednesday, January 18-7am Mass

Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Agnes & Sam Colletti & Family, Vincent M. Ferachi & Family

Thursday, January 19-7am Mass

Catherine Roucher, Andrew Roucher

Friday, January 20-7am Mass

Lorraine "Catty" Hebert, Mary Kay Marchand Hudson, Hebert & Clement Families



Sanctuary Candle

January 8, 2023

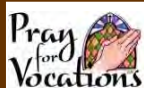
St. John the Evangelist

Alex & Alice Nolan

St. Clement of Rome

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Allain

Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Dupont



A Vocation View

In Baptism we are called to live a holy life. Could it be that you are being called to fulfill that responsibility as a priest, sister or brother?

If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Rev. Joshua Johnson at 225.336.8778, jjohnson@diobr.org.

Coffee & Donuts

January 8, 2023



Lou Anna Canella & Lionel Schexnaildre
(7:30am Mass)

Kevin & Kelly Gourgues (9am Mass)

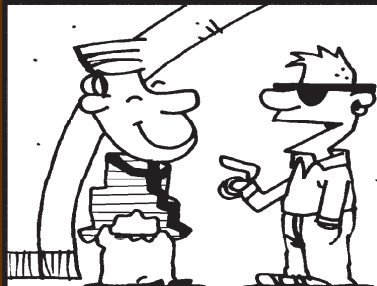


Altar Society

Altar Society Team 2 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, January 11 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

EPIPHANY

WHY WERE YOU WEARING SUNGLASSES IN CHURCH?



HEY, MAN, IF JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, I WANT TO BE PREPARED.

Signed: Debbie
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