

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://www.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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 5, 2023

Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. (Matthew 5:16)

How are our good deeds like a shining light? And why do they bring glory to God? A key to understanding Jesus' words lies in today's first reading from Isaiah.

The reading describes what has come to be called the corporal works of mercy: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, giving to the poor (Isaiah 58:7, 10). By performing these works, we imitate our heavenly Father, whose mercy knows no bounds. So when people see these "good deeds" (Matthew 5:16), they see how God loves them: with generosity, mercy, and faithfulness. We believe that God himself reaches out to people through our actions. He is helping us display a "family likeness" to him, and it points anyone who sees us back to him.

In a broader way, our works of mercy can also contribute toward the kind of society that reflects God's priorities. How? The mercy we show people changes our own hearts. We see other people as beloved children of God, and that affects the way we act. And people notice. When, for instance, we sacrifice a night out so that we can give time or money to the needy, our corner of the world begins to look a little more like God's kingdom. When

his generosity starts to overcome our selfishness or materialism, we help the people around us see that something different, something better, is possible. And, as Isaiah says, our "light shall break forth like the dawn" (58:8).

What concrete ways can God show his mercy through you? Start at your parish. It likely has programs to serve the poor or reach out to those in need. Maybe you could work at a homeless shelter or even start an outreach like serving lunches at a soup kitchen. Get involved, and let the light of God's likeness shine forth.

"Father, I want my actions to glorify you!"

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5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."
Matthew 5:16

Sacrament of Confirmation



We welcome 36 Confirmation candidates with their sponsors to 11am Mass Sunday, February 5. We will welcome Bishop Michael Duca Wednesday, February 15 to 7pm Mass as he seals these candidates with the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Everyone is invited to a reception in the Parish Hall following Confirmation hosted by the St. John Altar Society.



Parish Wedding Anniversary Mass and Celebration 2023

On Saturday, February 11 at St. John the Evangelist Church, couples celebrating 25, 50, 55, 60, 65 or greater years of marriage will be honored at 4pm Mass. A reception hosted by the St. John Altar Society will follow in the parish hall for family and friends.

If you are celebrating one of these anniversaries this year and would like to celebrate with us, please email marshaadupont@sj.brcoxmail.com, call the Church office (225.687.2402), or fill out the form below. You may drop the form in the collection basket at any 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 _____

Baptisms and Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminar — 7pm
Church Office Third Floor
Monday, February 6, 2023
Monday, March 6, 2023
Monday, April 3, 2023



Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass
Saturday, February 18, 2023
Saturday, April 22, 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.



Altar Servers

Any boy or girl in the 4th grade or older interested in becoming an Altar Server and assisting at Holy Mass is invited to join. The ministry of Altar Server is a wonderful way for our young children and youth to involve themselves in service at the Table of the Lord.

Access the registration form located on our website, www.stjohnchurchplaq.org, under the FORMS tab. Upon completion of the application, someone will contact you regarding a brief training.

RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time #1206
Entrance: Gather Your People #940
Preparation: *Instrumental*
Communion: Christ, Be Our Light #692
Sending Forth: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #684

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.

Altar Society



The St. John altar Society will be selling “Little Lenten books” Saturday, February 4 & Sunday, February 5 before and after all Masses. The books (\$1) contain six-minute meditations on the Passion according to Matthew.

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

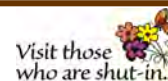


Anointing of the Sick

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 Anointing of the Sick Tuesday, February 7.

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

Community Lay Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist



Community Lay Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist bring Communion weekly to those who are unable to attend Mass. They may be ill, confined to their homes, care facilities or in the hospital. Families of the sick are encouraged to notify the church parish office at 225.687.2402.

If you are a Eucharistic Minister and are willing to help with this important ministry, please call the church office.

St. Joseph Altar Kick-off Meeting

Wednesday, February 8 ~ 2pm
Church Office Conference Room



Divine Mercy Novena Mass and Chaplet

This year on Tuesday, February 14 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.

You are invited to come on the nine Tuesdays from February 14 through April 11, 2023 in preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy, Sunday April 16 (the second Sunday of Easter).

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.

Angels for Angels Ministry

The response to the Angels for Angels Ministry has been very positive. Already over 200 pairs of underwear, 15 pairs of shorts, 5 pairs of pants, 40 blankets and 10 pairs of socks have been distributed to the schools.

A grateful acknowledgement is made to Dr. Katie Berthelot for implementation and to our parishioners for responding to the needs of our local school children.

For more information, contact the church office at 225.687.2402.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention February 2023

For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Daily Scripture Readings February 5-11, 2023

Sunday, February 5:

Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

Monday, February 6:

Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35, Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 7:

Gn 1:20 - - 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 8:

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2, 27-30; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 9:

Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 10:

Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, February 11:

Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10

A Vocation View



How blest are those who have the vocation of marriage and strive to live it faithfully each day. How blest are parents who support their children who embrace the vocation of marriage or religious life, knowing that it is God who calls them to such a commitment. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Rev. Joshua Johnson at 225.336.8778, jjohnson@diobr.org.



Contribution Tax Statements

Anyone needing a 2022 contribution statement for tax purposes should call Susan at the St. John Church Office at 225.687.2402. Statements will be printed upon request.

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



- **Safety.** In times when there are concerns about exposure to disease or spreading of a virus, Online Giving is a convenient option to continue to support your church and its mission.
- **Forget your envelope?** Use Online Giving to keep up on offertory. Go to our church website and click on the Online Giving link, it's quick and easy.
- **Make giving easier.** Visit your church website on your mobile device, click the Online Giving link, and begin giving.
- **Manage gifts.** Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift right from your phone.

Visit www.stjohnchurchplaq.org.

Your support during the year helps sustain our church.

Manresa Retreat Convent, Louisiana

A Manresa Retreat will be held Thursday, February 23 through Sunday, February 26, 2023. Spots are available and open to men 18 years of age or older. All religions are welcome.

If you are interested in attending contact David LoBue at 225.776.6473 or "Punchy" Daigle at 225.413.4685. For more information, visit manresala.org.

Sanctuary Candle February 5, 2023

St. John the Evangelist
Frances Santangelo LeBlanc

St. Clement of Rome
Alex & Alice Nolan



Coffee & Donuts February 12, 2023

Gary & Dolores Pruitt (7:30am Mass)
Tom & Germaine Bradley (9am Mass)

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2023

St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

Flee temptation

Christians are meant for Heaven.

Yet, the world can work against our efforts for holiness. St. Peter tells us to "escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires" (2 Peter 1:4). Ask God often to protect you from sin, to give you the wisdom and courage to make good choices and, become sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. God will reveal when you've messed up, and rejoice with you when you get it right.

Serve without complaint

Every job has aspects about it that are tedious, messy, and unrewarding, yet they are necessary. However, they can be opportunities to grow in virtue: humility, patience, self-discipline, etc. When you dread doing your work, smile and say a prayer, "and your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you" (Matthew 6:4).

"The works of God are all of them good; in its own time every need is supplied" (Sirach 39:16).



Take steps to share your faith during Lent

Jesus didn't intend for the Great Commission - "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19) - to be a heavy burden.

He meant witnessing to His love to come through the natural course of living a Christ-inspired life. Consider making more disciples this Lent:

Live a Catholic life. Non-believers may hear what we say about Jesus, but they are persuaded by seeing how our love for Him shapes our lives. It is critical that worship - Sunday Mass, Confession, Scripture - informs our life choices. When we spend time in Jesus' presence, His character rubs off on us.

Bring Christ out into the world. Jesus asked that we care for the poor and needy, thus acting as

His hands and feet in the world. We may not be able to solve all of their problems, but we can show them the reality of Christ's love in their lives.

Talk about God's plan. God wants us each to experience the peace He offers.

Help others know that God's love is personal and He has a specific plan for each of us.

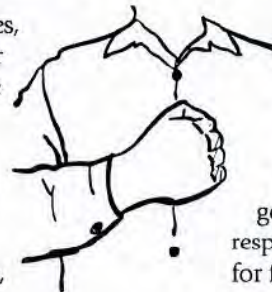
Invite. Some people will be ready to "come and see," so consider inviting seekers to Mass. Others might be ready to "take up and read." Share your favorite inspirational reading. If you need other suggestions, ask your pastor or favorite religious.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics strike their chests?

When we use our voices, our minds, and even our bodies during prayer, we pray with deeper meaning and enthusiasm. During the Confiteor at Mass, for example, we strike our chest three times, saying,

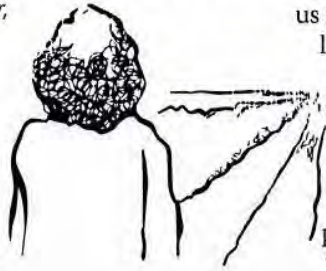


"through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault." It's an ancient symbol of sorrow and repentance for having offended God or hurting our neighbor. Such a gesture reminds us to take responsibility for our actions and pray for forgiveness and grace to change.

Lent leads us back to God

"For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment" (Joel 2:13). Lent may be a penitential season, but it is also a wonderful reminder that no matter how we let sin interfere in our relationship with God, He always wants us back. Gracious and merciful is He. *"Return to me with your whole heart."*

Throughout the year, sin creeps into our daily lives almost without our noticing. A bad habit such as using bad language or gossiping can keep



us from loving God fully. Lent is a time to examine our lives and sweep aside whatever keeps us from giving God our whole heart.

"Rend your hearts, not your garments." God doesn't just want outward acts of repentance. Our Father wants a change of heart. Start with Confession and then practice virtues such as prudence, temperance, and fortitude.

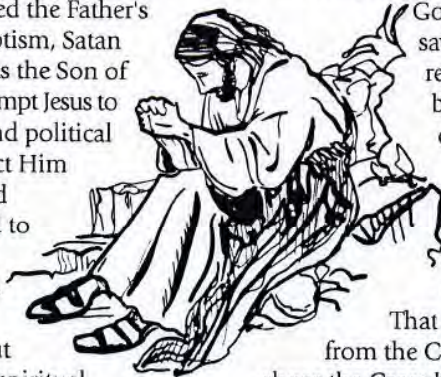
"Gather the people, notify the congregation." Become more active in your parish to build it up. Consider attending Mass more often than just once a week.

from Scripture

Matthew 4:1-11, Victory in the wilderness

In this passage, Jesus is tempted by the devil. Having witnessed the Father's declaration at His baptism, Satan tested Jesus' identity as the Son of God. His goal was to tempt Jesus to embrace an earthly and political mission and to distract Him from the suffering and death that would lead to the world's salvation.

Satan tempted Jesus to satisfy His hunger with a miracle - to put physical needs above spiritual needs. In His response, Jesus taught us to put spiritual needs first and to entrust both body and soul to God's care. Next, Satan commanded Jesus to jump from



the temple roof in an effort to force God to miraculously save Him. Again, Jesus refused. God is not to be forced or controlled.

Finally, Satan offered to surrender all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would worship him.

That would save Jesus from the Cross. Instead, Jesus chose the Cross because it was the only way to save us. When tempted to do what's "easy" versus what's morally right, ask for the strength to choose what's right.

Q & A What's a simple way to explain the Faith, if asked?

St. Peter says to be ready to *"account for the hope that is in you"* (1 Peter 3:15). Consider using this simple, five-point explanation, inspired by Bishop Michael Jackels:

Pinky: The smallest finger recalls our weakness and need for a Savior.



Although Jesus redeemed us, we're still weak and must pray for God's graces daily.

Ring finger: To save us, Jesus took on our human nature, "wedding"

Himself to us. At Sunday Mass, we worship God and become one with Him in Holy Communion.

Middle finger: Jesus was raised up on the Cross for sins, then raised from the dead. We attend Confession monthly and receive the saving graces. We hope to be raised to eternal life.

Pointer: Jesus' call is universal, yet personal. He singled you out and chose you to follow Him; only you can give Jesus your "Yes" - in word and deed.

Thumb: Lastly, hitchhikers point their thumbs to ask, "Are you on my way?" Likewise, we're called to ask, "Are you going His Way?" (John 14:6).

Feasts & Celebrations

Lent begins February 22, and is devoted to the Passion of Our Lord. One form of observance is to pray the Stations of the Cross and meditate on Jesus' walk to Calvary.

February 1 - St. Brigid of Ireland (525). Born to an Irish chieftain and an enslaved mother in Ireland, St. Brigid founded a monastery for monks and nuns at Kildare and served as abbess until her death.

February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes (1858). A heavenly "lady" appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl

from a village in France and a miraculous spring emerged from a nearby cave. The "lady" revealed herself as the "Immaculate Conception," the Blessed Virgin Mary.

February 22 - Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. Ashes are placed on the foreheads as a sign of penance.

February 27 - St. Gregory of Narek (1003). Born in Armenia to a devout Christian family, St. Gregory entered the Narek Monastery and was ordained in 977. He wrote treatises, letters, mystical poems, and Scripture commentaries.



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)

Mass Intentions — February 11-17, 2023

Saturday, February 11-4pm 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; Frances Santangelo LeBlanc, Rita & Mike Santangelo, Anatole Santangelo; Trista Parro, Capt. John Lively, Jean & David “G. E.” Lively; John & Ann Ruiz, Mervin & Leona Gourgues; Henry “Tutie” Berthelot, M/M Edmund Berthelot, Sr., M/M Earl Breaux, John D. Bourg; Kenneth Ourso, Sr.; Aubrey Quebedeaux, Blanche, Saul & Robert Quebedeaux; Andrew, Josephine, Carlo & Kurt Canova; Joseph Graves, W. A. Graves Family; Michael Rarick, Thomas Morales Family; J. Hubert Millet; Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Colletti & Family; Charles Varnell, Brad & Ambrose Tullier; Michael Laurent; Sidney “Benny”, Rose & Sid Quatrevingt, Quatrevingt Family; M/M Frank Ragusa & Family, M/M Placito Mancuso & Family, M/M Mose Gibson & Family, J. D. & Ella Collins & Family; M/M Edmond Gomez & Family; Josie & Tony Palermo; The Lazzaro Family, Kolby Lorio, Butch & Sadie Tullier; A Special Intention

Sunday, February 12-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, February 12-9am 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; Betty Ann Cedotal Dupuy; Anthony “Tonto” Pizzolato; Aleece & Pauline Becnel, Evans & Virgie Dugas; Clinton & Wendell Fournerat; M/M A. J. Rodriguez, M/M Vives Vicknair, Sr., M/M Alger Rodriguez, Scott Marino; Rosemary Cox; Mary Ann Gregoire; Anthony & Margie Vitale, Lloyd & Lillian Bouchereau; Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Agnes & Sam Colletti & Family, Vincent M. Ferachi & Family; Gary Ourso, Sr., Gary Ourso, Jr., Gerret Ourso; Lawrence & Winnie Miller, Edward Miller, Paul & Myrtle Richard; Dalfay, Angele & Jean Claude Cavalier; Bill Toups, Jr.; Mitchell Dufour, Boudreaux & Dufour Families; Denise Miranda; Flo, Allen & Paco Ourso; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Virginia Simon

Sunday, February 12-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Michael Shepherd, Ruth “Se Se” Becnel; Buck Fourroux; Dorothy & Laura Lynn Grass; Kathy Kocke, Oliver & Edward Kocke, Jr.; Marshall & Virginia Peavy, Cleo & Ella Dupont; Joseph & Lillian Crescionne, Peter & Rosalie Crescionne, Dr. Joseph & Tina Alesi; Roy A. Hebert, David G. Hebert; Brenda Fremin; Sam “Buttie” & Lucille Leggio Distefano; Isaac Jr. & Brent Vaughn, Ezora & Sidney Hedges; James & Marie Miranda, Denise & Glenda Miranda; Colby Gomez, Pitre & Gomez Families

Tuesday, February 14-6pm Mass

Murray & Dixie Suffrin, Pim & Nu Nu Clebert, Louise & Edmund Bujol, Billy Wright; Betty Dupuy; Lillian Bouchereau; Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Agnes & Sam Colletti & Family, Vincent M. Ferachi & Family; Brennan Eugene Bujol, Mary A. D. Quaid; Bret Thompson; Joshua “Josh” Landry, Harry & Vivian Banta, Caliste “Joe” & Gloria Landry; Marvin, Nora, Ernest Sr. & Ernest Jr. Allen

Wednesday, February 15-7am Mass

Bobby Wilson

Thursday, February 16-7am Mass

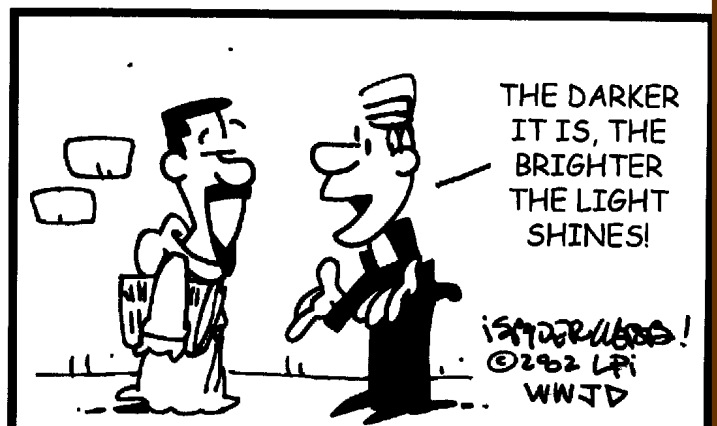
Crossland & Francis Family

Friday, February 17-7am Mass

Rosemary Cox



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A dramatic landscape featuring a sunburst breaking through a cloudy sky over rolling green hills. The sun is positioned behind a layer of clouds, creating a bright, golden glow that illuminates the scene. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and the sun's rays create a powerful, divine atmosphere. The foreground shows a lush green hillside with small yellow and purple flowers. The background consists of rolling hills and mountains under a vast, colorful sky.

Who is this king of glory?

It is the Lord!