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.

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Email: stjohnchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net

facebook.com/pages/St John the Evangelist Catholic Church

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 7:30 am Sunday

9:00 am

11:00 am **Tuesday** 6:00 pm Wed., Thurs., Fri. 7:00 am

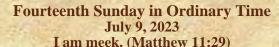
Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office.

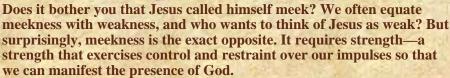
Marriage: Please contact the pastor a minimum of

six months before the wedding.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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





Today's first reading from Zechariah gives an excellent illustration of a meek ruler. He banishes the chariot and the warrior's bow and proclaims peace to the nations (Zechariah 9:10). Instead of provoking aggression and conquering with force, he is a "just savior" whose meekness diffuses anger and violence (9:9).

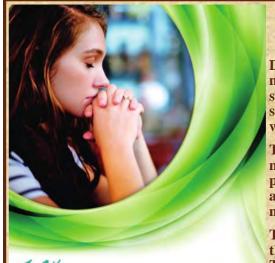
That's the type of meekness and gentle strength that Jesus showed throughout his life. Jesus wasn't one to be always "spoiling for a fight." Think about the way he calmly passed through the midst of a crowd that wanted to kill him (Luke 4:30). Or the way he quietly endured his passion and death. Though he was harshly treated, like Isaiah's Suffering Servant, "he submitted and did not open his mouth" (Isaiah 53:7). As the Son of God, Jesus could have reacted with terrifying displays of power. But he exercised self-control and refused to let anger

overpower him. And because he responded in a peaceful way, he disarmed his enemies.

Jesus calls us to learn the same gentleness from him. So consider: where do you need a little more meekness? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you. Maybe you need the grace to curb your tongue instead of responding angrily to an insult. Maybe you need the strength to react thoughtfully when you see injustice instead of flying off the handle. The more you practice, the more you imitate Jesus, the more his grace can lay a foundation of gentleness and meekness in vour heart.

"Jesus, lead me on the path of true strength through meekness."

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Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

July 9, 2023

Dear Family:

It is startling imagery the prophet Zechariah puts forward as he predicts the arrival of Israel's new king on a donkey, and then describes him banishing horses and chariots from Jerusalem. These symbols make sense when we remember that the primary use of horses in the ancient world was for warfare. Horses pulled chariots or carried mounted cavalry. Farmers, by contrast, kept donkeys. These would have been the animals that most families would have used for labor and transportation. In modern language, Zechariah means that Israel will recognize God's chosen king when he arrives not in a tank but a pickup truck.

Zechariah's words probably did not surprise those Israelites who understood their traditions. Texts like this Sunday's responsorial psalm seek God's glory in the fullness of divine compassion and fidelity. Israel's God forces no one to their knees, but "lifts up all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down."

Jesus knew these traditions. His kingship did not conform to the model of Israel's Roman conquerors, who reinforced their authority with displays of power and wealth. Instead, Jesus gave witness to his anointing through a commitment to God's Word and an even-handed mercy. Many fellow Jews resonated strongly with his mission, but poorer people received his message with special enthusiasm. They recognized in him the king that the prophet Zechariah had foretold and found in his message a compassion that gave rest to their souls.

Christ calls all disciples to live with similar simplicity and mercy. This is what Paul means when he counsels Christians to live "by the Spirit." Like the God of the psalms and prophets, Jesus was loving and just. In the same way, we who bear Christ's spirit must make it our mission to lighten humanity's burdens and "raise up all who are bowed down."

Some questions for reflection:

- What observations can you make about the kingdom of God from the first reading and the Gospel?
- How does Christ's authenticity and simplicity appeal to you?
- How can you lighten another person's burden today?

I pray you are enjoying a summer full of relaxation and recreation.

Peace,

Fr. Greg Daigle

Summer Program at St. John Church



The St. John Summer Program was held June 5-28, 2023 in St. John the Evangelist Church and Parish Hall. Teacher Bobbie Cavalier, center, with Ambassador Meghan Brandau, second from right, pause a brief moment with a group of smiling participants enjoying the program.

We gratefully acknowledge the parents, grandparents, volunteers, teachers and ambassadors for partnering to foster the spiritual growth of our youth.

Photo credit Donna Carville

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

These words of Jesus are an excellent invitation to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart: and you will find rest for yourselves. For my voke is easy, and my burden light." (Mt 11:28-30)

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.



Congratulations to Deacon Alfred Ricard on his 21st Anniversary of Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. Deacon Ricard was ordained on July 13, 2002.

In Loving Memory...

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the following person who donated a memorial gift to St. John the **Evangelist Church Building Fund in loving memory of:**

Larry Skidmore

Donated by: **Barbara Coreil**

Daily Scripture Readings — July 9-15, 2023

Sunday, July 9:

Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Monday, July 10:

Gn 28:10-22a; Ps 91:1-4, 14-15; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday, July 11:

Gn 32:23-33; Ps 17:1-3, 6-8, 15; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday, July 12:

Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a; 17-24a; Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday, July 13:

Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 10:7-15

Friday, July 14:

Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40;

Mt 10:16-23

Saturday, July 15:

Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Ps 105:1-4, 6-7; Mt 10:24-33

Baptisms and Baptism Seminars



Baptism Seminars — 7pm **Church Office Third Floor** Monday, July 10, 2023 Monday, August 7, 2023 Monday, September 4, 2023

Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass Saturday, July 22, 2023 Saturday, August 26, 2023 Saturday, September 23, 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.

RITUALSONG

(Readings and Songs this Weekend)

Readings: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time #1233

Entrance: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Sav #821

Preparation: **Instrumental** Communion: Taste and See #1031

Sending Forth: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Holy Spirit Prayer Group

The Holy Spirit Prayer Group will meet Sunday, July 9 from 4-6pm in church. The mission of the prayer group is to offer praise to God, and intercessory prayers for individuals, our community and the needs of the world. All are welcome!

For more information, call the church office at 225.687.2402.



Pray Paul assures us that the Holy Spirit helps us Vocations in our weakness. Ask the Holy Spirit, then, what you are to do with your life. Is it

possible you are being called to the priesthood or 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.

St. John Altar Society

Due to much higher cost of candles plus tax and shipping, the 5-day and 14-day candle prices have increased to cover these costs by the St. John Altar Society. Devotional candles at the candle stand in church are now \$5 and the large Sanctuary Candles cost \$20. This change became effective July 1. Any profit made is given back to the church to buy Communion hosts and wine and upkeep of altar linen.

Team 2 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, July 12 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.



Knights of Columbus Blood Drive K. C. Hall ~ 58715 Price Street Tuesday, July 11 ~ 3pm until 8pm

ST. JOHN SCHOOL NEWS **Math Teacher Wanted**



St. John School is looking for a high school math teacher for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. If vou or anyone vou know is interested in finding out more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Cherie Schlatre at cschlatre@stjohnschool.education.

Fathers Club Crawfish Bisque

The St. John Fathers Club members are selling Crawfish Bisque tickets for \$25 per quart. The bisque, cooked by Tugar Martinez will be available for pick up Saturday, July 22 from 3-6pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 58715 Price Street.

For bisque tickets or more information, contact Mike Markins at 225.955.5276 or Dwayne Boudreaux at 225.776.7522.

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

St. John the Evangelist Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute **Meditations**

Room for God

"Make room therefore for Christ, and refuse entrance to all others. When you have Christ, you are rich and have need of (nothing) else." Thomas À Kempis

Give love

One way to give thanks to God for all the gifts He Has bestowed on you is to work for the poor and vulnerable. Sharing your gifts with those less fortunate is how God intends you to use what He gives you. "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more" (Luke 12:48).

Say, "Amen!"

The proper form when receiving Communion is to reply "Amen" when the Eucharistic minister raises the Host or Chalice and pronounces it, "The Body (or Blood) of Christ." By responding this way, you openly state your belief in the presence of Christ in the Eucharistic bread and wine, as well as in His Body, the Church.

Respond to the gift of the Holy Spirit

God loves us so much, He gives us what He values most - His only Son (John 3:16) and His Holy Spirit in Baptism (Romans 5:5) so we can have access to God's

divine life and love. The Holy Spirit's presence with the entire Church throughout the centuries is as a comfort. consolation, leader and guide. To accept this gift, we can ...

Listen for Him: Spending time with Scripture can help tune our hearts to hear the "still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12) of the Holy Spirit. The better we are attuned to God's voice, the more likely we'll hear Him amidst the noise of the world.

Consult Him: Jesus promised to send

the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, to lead His disciples to truth (John 14:6). He helps us to see, evaluate, and choose like Christ. Call on the Holy Spirit

> when you're facing a difficult situation or decision.

Take refuge in Him: Every day, entrust yourself to the Holy Spirit and dedicate your day to His service. Let Him guide your actions.

Actualize Confirmation graces: Upon our Confirmation, the Holy Spirit fortified and empowered our souls with His seven Gifts:

Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2). When we rely on the Holy Spirit, we can overcome temptations to fear, distrust, and selfishness with His powerful gifts.

Why Do Catholics Do That

Why do Catholics fold their hands when they

The custom of folding our hands comes from ninth century Europe where folded hands symbolized obedience by those subordinate to the lord or king. This gesture was also used by priests to show respect to bishops. The faithful adopted it to signify obedience to

In some cultures today, such as India and other parts of Asia, clasped hands are also a sign of reverence. In fact, Mother Teresa was often photographed greeting people with this gesture.

Use the Bible well

There's a saying, "Bibles that are falling apart usually belong to people who aren't." The Church wants us to read the Bible daily because it contains everything we need to know to live a full, Christian life. Try these ideas to use your Bible well.

Choose the right version. We hear the New American Bible during Mass but any of the approved Catholic translations will do. Most important is having a modern edition that you can understand. If you need advice, ask your

pastor or priest.

Use the aids. The Bible contains customs and terms that are foreign to us. Read the introductions and footnotes for helpful explanations.

Focus on passages. The Bible will make more sense if you read the sections that are grouped together rather than sentence by sentence.

Mark it up. Underline passages and make notes in the margins as you read to make your book more useful.

Read aloud. The Bible began as an oral tradition. Hearing the passages may help them become clearer than just reading them.

Read slowly. Let the words sink in.

Place yourself in the scene. What would you do? How would you react?

Put it to use. What you read in the Bible will help you find strength to meet the challenges of life. Don't just read it. Live it.

from Scripture

Matthew 13:44-52, The only thing worth everything

Jesus used the parables in this Gospel passage to emphasize the life-changing value of the Kingdom. In the first parable, a man discovers – seemingly by accident – a treasure buried in a field. Recognizing its value,

he sells everything he has to buy the field. In the second story, a merchant finds a valuable pearl after diligent searching. He also sells everything to possess the precious pearl.

By these parables, Jesus taught that being part of God's Kingdom – accepting His love for us and loving others as He loves – is the only way to live that will completely fulfill our hearts. God's unconditional love is worth everything we have. If we

accept His invitation (He forces no one), our lives may change as our hearts change. Finally, Jesus compared the separation

"/ between the evil and righteous to the sifting that happens when a large catch of fish is brought ashore. When we put our whole life in service to God's love, then the individual pieces fall into place around that love, and anything contrary to it falls away.

Feasts & 🖊 💿 Celebrations

July 16 – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (1251). The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Simon Stock in England, carrying the brown scapular, a sign of her favor of the Carmelite Order, and promised whoever wore the scapular until death would avoid the fires of hell.

July 23 – St. Bridget of Sweden (1373). Born in Uppland, Sweden to nobility, she was a wife, mother, reformer, and mystic. She is known for founding the Order of the Most Holy Savior, which was approved in 1370.

July 25 - St. James the Apostle (1st

Century). When Jesus called St. James and his brother, St. John, to become apostles, they promptly left their father in a fishing boat. He was one of the three apostles to witness Jesus' Transfiguration.

July 29 – Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (1st Century). These holy siblings often hosted Jesus at their house in Bethany. Although Martha was corrected for being anxious about many things, Jesus rewarded her tremendous faith by raising Lazarus from the dead.

Q & A

Is there a special prayer I can pray for healing of a serious illness?

Jesus knew that sickness can bring misery and isolation, and He dedicated much of his ministry to healing every kind of illness – physical or spiritual. He wanted us to see in His healing ministry God's saving power and concern for His children.

The Church continues Jesus' concern for the sick in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It is administered by a priest to a baptized person who may be in danger of death because of illness or old age, through prayer and the anointing of the body with special oil. The effects of the sacrament include a special grace of healing and comfort, and the forgiving of the person's sins.

Anyone baptized Catholic, regardless of age, can receive the sacrament if his or her health is seriously impaired. It can also be administered before surgery and can be received more than once if the original illness gets worse or if another serious sickness is diagnosed. Please see your pastor or parish priest to receive this important Sacrament.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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Mass Intentions — July 15-21, 2023

Saturday, July 15-4pm 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; John & Ann Ruiz, Michael Gourgues, Shirley G. Zito; Vincent A. & Dr. Larry Ferachi, Hebert & Ferachi Families; Yves & Vera Ramirez, Jane & Jerry, Kirsch Kember; M/M John Caffarel, M/M G. E. Marix; Vincent & Jean Pizzolato, Francis & Roxanna Pizzolato, Raymond & Esther Pizzolato Schexnayder; Robert, Lee & Betty Mooney, Sylvia Gascon; Jimmy, Sarah & Jackie Migliacio, P. W. Albert, Jr.; Faye & Paul Troxclair, Carolyn Bordelon; Murphy Blanchard, Tim Himel, Lana & Amelia Himel; M/M Frank Ragusa & Family, M/M Placito Mancuso & Family, M/M Mose Gibson & Family, J. D. & Ella Collins & Family; The Currier Family; M/M Tony Falcon, Anthony Falcon, Camille Tempanaro, M/M Ray Murry, M/M Earl Quatrevingt, M/M C. J. Saurage, M/M Ronald Lee Gary, Tommy, Brian, Jay & Randy Quatrevingt; Sharkey Altazin; Wayne Gary, Thelma & Jim Mitchell, Thomas Woolam; Anthony F. Canella, Aaron & Delia LeRay, Shannie Verrett; Berthelot & Guillot Families; Sadie & Tony Mancuso; Charles & Marion Clement

Sunday, July 16-7am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, July 16-9am 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; Kristina Mellema; Marie Ragusa LeBlanc, Terry Landry, Sr., Terry Landry, Jr., Kynlee Bueche; Frances Santangelo LeBlanc, Rita & Mike Santangelo, Anatole Santangelo; Henry "Tutie" Berthelot, M/M Edmond Berthelot, Sr., M/M Earl Breaux, Sr., John D. Bourg; Mary Ann Gregoire; Belvin & Claire Bergeron; Gary Ourso, Sr., Gary Ourso, Jr., Gerret Ourso; Lawrence & Winnie Miller, Edward Miller, Paul & Myrtle Richard; Janice Brown; Bill Toups, Jr.; Mitchell Dufour, Boudreaux & Dufour Families; Denise Miranda; Flo, Allen & Paco Ourso; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Virginia Simon; Ray, T. N. & Steve Patin; Brenda Blank; A Special Intention through the Intercession of St. Peregrine, St. Jude, St. Joseph & Mother Mary

Sunday, July 16-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Michael Shepherd, Ruth "Se Se" Becnel; Mike "Fuzzy" Marino, Melissa Jarreau, Maggie David, Amadee David, Edwin "Peanut" Gras, Houston Blanchard, Lisa J. Sands, Adam Sands, Glenda "Phyne" Cedotal; Joseph & Lillian Crescionne, Peter & Rosalie Crescionne, Dr. Joseph & Tina Alesi; Brenda Fremin; Gloria A. Dupont, J. G. Dupont, Sr.; Isaac Jr. & Brent Vaughn, Sidney Hedges, Jr., Margaret Landry; Wayne & Colby Gomez, Pitre & Gomez Families; Ann Bryant Wilbert Arbour

Tuesday, July 18-6pm Mass

Brenda Comeaux

Wednesday, July 19-7am Mass

Joan B. Heath & Maurice E. Brown

Thursday, July 20-7am Mass

Pepper Jackson

Friday, July 21-7am Mass

Harold J. Himel, Sr.

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.

Coffee & Donuts — July 16, 2023

George & Patricia Ramirez (7:30am Mass)

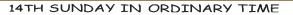
Kevin & Kelly Gourgues (9am Mass)

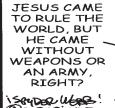


Sanctuary Candle July 9, 2023

St. John the Evangelist Clinton & Wendell Fournerat

St. Clement of Rome Walter Mazone & Joann Nolan



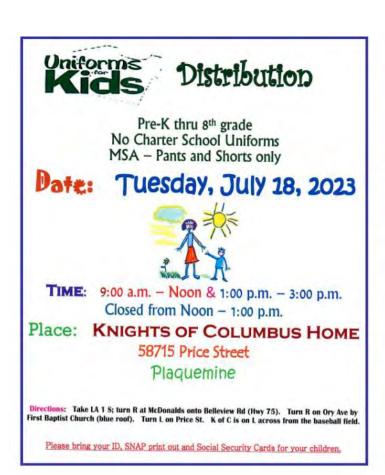


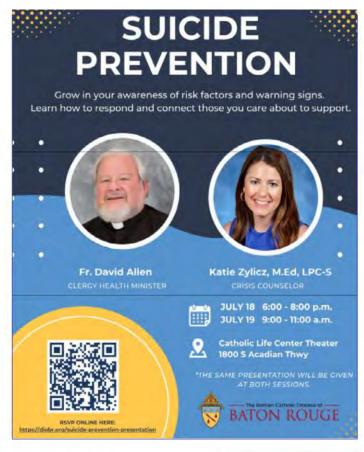














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