

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764

stjohnchurchplaq.org • (225) 687-2402

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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
 Saturday3:00-3:30 pm

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time October 8, 2023

Where are the Grapes?

Jesus' parable is a little different from the one in the first reading. Isaiah has the vineyard under good and faithful care, but still it produces wild grapes. In the Gospel, the vineyard presumably had a good harvest, but the workers refuse to give any of the grapes to the landowner. Where do I fit in?

Do I ignore all that God does to help me be a good disciple? Am I too busy to take time to pray or read the Bible? Do I hold onto grudges instead of forgiving and releasing them? Do I decline the invitations to go on a retreat? If any of these are true, I might be like the vineyard in the first reading, producing no fruit despite all the opportunities God has given me.

Or we may be the other side of the coin. We had our children baptized when they were babies. We gave them as good an example as we could, teaching them to love others and be generous with what they have. Yet they grew up and drifted away from the faith. Then we have to remember how patient God is with us, God's people who don't always produce the fruits of faith.

The tenants in the parable refer to those who would have Jesus crucified. God is patient with them. Look what happened to Saul, who persecuted many Christians before he became one himself. In our second reading he tells us to follow his example as he follows Christ. Then, he says, the peace



of God will be with us, too (Philippians 4:6-9).

Tom Schmidt

Pastor's Letter



Dear Family:

We become what we ponder. Consider the thoughts of the tenants in this Sunday's Gospel reading. They knew the responsibilities of a tenant farmer, but their obsession led them to kill their landlord's son to seize his inheritance.

Jesus drew on the ancient prophecy from Isaiah that we hear in the first reading. In Isaiah's image, God planted a vineyard, but it produced a poor crop. Isaiah knew that many Israelites had drifted into foreign worship or the violent pursuit of power and wealth. These same activities had already caused the collapse and exile of the northern half of Israel, Isaiah hoped to avoid the same result among the remnant who were still free. This prophecy was part of an attempt, ultimately successful, to call the nation and temple to reform.

Centuries later, Jesus used the same imagery to tell a different story. In his parable, the crop is quite good. These are the average Israelites, whose deep faith is the harvest for which God has hoped.

By contrast, Israel's leaders-the chief priests and elders-are the problem. They are wicked tenants, who knew their responsibilities but resisted them. Jesus even accuses them of trying to "seize the inheritance." The obedience they demand as rulers of Israel, he contends, is a poor substitute for true faith in God. Such wicked thoughts-fear, resentment, pride, obsession-result in disaster for those in any age who indulge them.

Paul provides a contrasting example in this Sunday's second reading. To a community riddled with anxieties, he offered a meditation on things of transcending excellence. Those who focus their thoughts on things that are true, honorable, just, pure, beautiful, and gracious will find that the God of peace is with them.

Some questions for reflection:

How does Christ invite you to overcome your resentments?

Which of Paul's "excellent things" can you ponder in coming days?

Who today might be the vineyard, the grapes, and the tenants?

Next weekend we welcome Fr. Jon Koehler and Fr. Paul Counce as celebrants for our Masses. Please pray for me as I will be on my annual Tennis Trip (with a new hip) to Orange Beach with my Tennis buddies. Please give a warm welcome to Fr. Jon & Fr. Paul.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

Ritualsong

Readings & Songs this Weekend

Readings Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time #1272

Entrance All Are Welcome #925

Preparation *Instrumental*

Communion God of Day and God of Darkness #899

Sending Forth Christ is Made the Sure Foundation #852

All Saints' Day
 Blessing of the Graves
 Sunday, October 22, 2023
 St. John Cemetery — 12 Noon
 Grace Memorial — 1:30pm
 Masses — Wednesday, November 1, 2023
 7am — St. John Church
 8:30am — St. John Gym (School Mass)
 6pm — St. John Church

Help Keep Our Cemetery Beautiful
 A cemetery envelope has been added to the church contribution packet for the month of October. Please place your donation for the upkeep of St. John Cemetery on Main Street in the envelope provided. It will be marked "Cemetery" and can be placed in the offertory basket at any weekend Mass. Thank you for your generous contributions.

St. John School

St. John Cemetery Clean up Project

St. John students and teachers will be cleaning and painting graves at the St. John Cemetery on Main Street. This will be a service day for students in preparation and anticipation of All Saints' Day. If you have a loved one whose grave is unable to be cared for or know of any elderly people who are unable to care for loved ones' graves, the students would be happy to help. You may call St. John School (225.687.6616) and leave your name and telephone number with the school secretary.

Fathers Club \$10,000 Raffle

Fathers Club \$10,000 raffle tickets are \$100 each and are available for purchase by contacting Mike Markins at 225.955.5276 or Joel Ducote at 225.776.0761. Raffle drawing will be held Saturday, November 18 at 6pm at the Fathers Club Bingo Hall. There will be music, food, games, and lots of fun!

Notice:

When contributing to our 100 year campaign, please indicate on your check memo that the donation is for the 100 Year Capital Campaign so it will go into that account.

Thank you.

OLOL Blood Drive

Give Blood, Save Lives

The OLOL Mobile Unit will be in the St. John Church parking lot from 8am until 2pm Sunday, October 8.

2023 Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars

- Monday, October 9
- Monday, November 6
- Monday, December 4

Baptisms

- Saturday, October 28
- Saturday, November 25
- Saturday, December 16



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.

Holy Spirit Prayer Group

Community of Faith Praying for Others

The Holy Spirit Prayer Group will meet Sunday, October 8 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.

We welcome folks of different denominations and those who may not be connected to a church community at this time.

You may contact the church office at 225.687.2042 for more information.



A Vocation View

Called to Ministry

How do we make a return for all the gifts that God has given to us? One way is to respond to His call to

live the vocation He has in mind for us. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Rev. Joshua Johnson at 225.336.8778, jjohnson@diobr.org.

Eucharistic Adoration

An Invitation to Prayer

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 yoke 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.



In Loving Memory...

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

Kenneth "Zeke" Sanchez

Donated by:
Friends

55th Annual International Acadian Festival

Mass of Thanksgiving

Saturday, October 21 ~ 4:00pm

We will celebrate the Acadian Festival Mass of Thanksgiving at St. John Church marking the 55th Anniversary of the Acadian Festival.

Cajun Roasted Chicken Dinners

Sunday, October 15, 2023 ~ 11:30am-1pm

Plaquemine Council 970 Home
58715 Price Street

1/2 Chicken, 2 sides and a roll ~ \$12.00

For tickets, contact: Jay Morel ~ 225.939.4081

Ryan Comeaux ~ 225.776.7607

Schedule of Events

Mark A. "Tony" Gulotta Bayou Plaquemine Waterfront Park

Friday, October 27: 5pm Blessing of the Grounds
Rides/Crafts/Food Booths open

Saturday, October 28: 11am Rides/Crafts/Food Booths open
6pm ~ Presentation of Evangeline & Princesses Water Ceremony
Bayou Plaquemine

Sunday, October 29: 10:30am ~ Festival Parade
12 Noon ~ Rides/Crafts/Food Booths open

Please support the Knights of Columbus in all the good works they do for our church, school and community.

Notice: There will be NO 11am Mass on Sunday, October 29, due to the Acadian Festival Parade at 10:30am. Sunday Masses will be at 7:30am & 9am.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

October 2023

St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

St. John XXIII

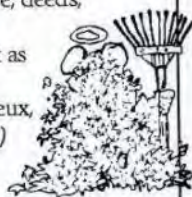
Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born to a poor farming family in Bergamo, Italy. His ordination as a priest in 1904 began a lifetime serving the Church as the bishop's secretary, a military chaplain, cardinal-patriarch of Venice, and finally, as pope. He often visited the poor, the sick and prisoners. He also spent his brief papacy working to improve relations with the Eastern Church. He is most remembered for opening the Second Vatican Council. He died in 1963.



Choose entertainment carefully

A steady diet of violent entertainment, objectifying media, or explicit reading helps us to become comfortable with violence and sex. We begin to see people as characters rather than humans. Sinful behavior becomes normalized. In our journey toward holiness, it is critical that we are choosy about what we watch and read.

"Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing." (St. Therese of Lisieux, *Story of a Soul*)



His Mother for our own

While He was on Earth, Jesus gave all of Himself for us – even His life – out of love. He even gave us His own mother to be our true mother (John 19:26-27). In turn, Our Lady works to bring us to the heart of her Son.

"To Jesus, through Mary." St. Louis de Montfort used these words to explain that devotion to Mary is the best way to grow closer to Jesus, because Mary herself will lead us to her Son if we ask for her help. When we are under temptation to sin, spiritually dry or discouraged, let Mary take you by the hand and lead you to Jesus.

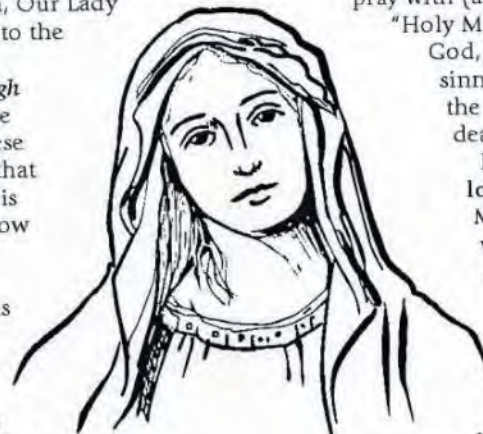
Our path to Jesus. We have one mediator in Christ (1 Timothy 2:5).

Yet, what loving son refuses his mother's requests? In His generosity, God is pleased to answer Mary's prayers for us. We can ask Mary to pray with (and for) us:

"Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death."

Entrust all we love to her. St. Maximilian Kolbe wrote, "Let us entrust to (Our Lady) all of those close to our hearts, and she, the best among mothers, will help them in the best way

possible." There is no safer place for all those we love than our Mother's arms.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have two versions of the Creed?

Both creeds summarize what Catholics believe but were written at different times for different purposes. The Apostles' Creed is the summary of the beliefs of the early Church. The Nicene Creed is the expanded form of the



Apostles' Creed, stemming from two Church councils (Nicaea, AD 325; Constantinople, AD 381) to combat Arianism, which proposed Jesus was not God but a kind of super-saint. The Nicene Creed emphasizes Jesus' divinity, His divine Sonship, and the divinity of the Holy Spirit.

Growing in Faith™

October 2023 Page 2

"Angel of God, my guardian dear ..."

"Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life," said St. Basil. The Church teaches that we each have a guardian angel, assigned to guide and protect us until death (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #336). Jesus said: "In heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 18:10). Tap your angel's powerful protection to grow in virtue and holiness:

Confide in your guardian. Guardian angels aren't mind-readers, but they do observe us



carefully. The more we tell them, the better they can help us make good choices, avoid sin, and keep us safe.

Ask for help. Our guardian can help make tough decisions, resolve conflicts, offer protection especially for our souls. They intercede for us, and help to prepare our souls for the moment when we stand before God.

Respect guardian power. Angels are powerful creatures, created by God to care for us. They aren't answerable to us but stand ready to help us get to Heaven.

from Scripture

Matthew 22:34-40, Jesus has the right answers

In their first meeting with Jesus, the Pharisees wanted to trap Him by getting Him to say something that contradicted Jewish law. Then He could be arrested and silenced. The lawyer they sent was aware that generations of Jews had debated fruitlessly about which law was the most important. Pretending to seek Jesus' opinion, he asked Jesus to choose which of the 613 commands of the Jewish law was the most important.

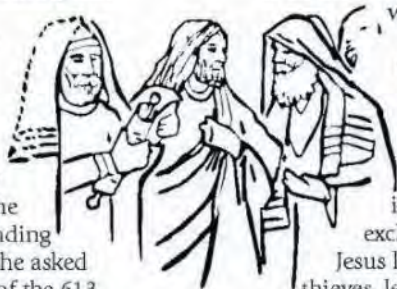
Jesus silenced them all by saying everything starts and ends with love - love of God and love of others. To love

God is to love one another. These laws are at the heart of all the other laws.

Even the Pharisees couldn't argue with that.

While it is easy to love God, loving others is more difficult. It means including people when the natural inclination is to exclude or avoid them.

Jesus loved prostitutes, thieves, lepers, even his political enemies. True love of neighbor is measured by how we treat the poor, the vulnerable, and our enemies. This is how God loves and He calls us to do the same.



Q Can Catholics & celebrate Halloween?

Catholics can celebrate Halloween as a holiday with Christian roots. In 835, Pope Gregory IV moved the commemoration of All Martyrs (later All Saints Day) from May 13 to November 1. The night before became known as All Hallows' Even or "Holy Evening," and eventually Halloween. Villagers visited local homes to gather contributions for the feast to be held the next day, All Saints Day.



Those who didn't contribute might be subject to a prank or "trick."

Catholics enjoy donning creative costumes and giving out candy, but it's important to avoid glorifying evil, death, and the Devil. Consider using the holiday to learn about a saint you didn't know or collecting food for the poor.

In short, Halloween is a chance to celebrate generosity, friendship, and community. It's the threshold of a time to remember the believers who have gone to Heaven before us and the hope we have of following. We also pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory to strengthen them during their purification before entering Heaven.

Feasts & Celebrations

October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary. Pope Gregory XIII named this feast because it was believed that Christians won a critical victory at the Battle of Lepanto after praying the Rosary.

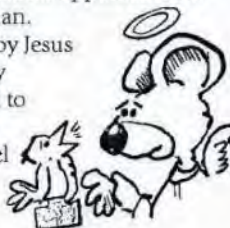
October 9 - St. John Leonardi (1609). Born in 1543 in Lucca, Italy, St. John spent his priesthood ministering in hospitals and prisons and teaching the Faith. He established the Clerks Regular of the Mother of God, and helped found the Congregation of Christian Doctrine.

October 16 - St. Hedwig (1243).

Born to the Duke of Croatia, St. Hedwig married the Duke Henry of Silesia. They founded a convent, hospitals, and monasteries. After his death, St. Hedwig became a Cistercian nun, donating her fortune to charity.

October 28 - Sts. Simon and Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot - Jews who believed the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman.

After being called by Jesus to be apostles, they eventually traveled to Persia where they preached the Gospel until they were martyred.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

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

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 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; John & Ann Ruiz, Mervin & Leona Gourgues; Yves & Vera Ramirez, Jane & Jerry, Kirsch Kember; Joseph Graves, W. A. Graves Family, Michael Rarick, Thomas Morales Family; Catherine & Andrew Roucher; Jimmy, Sarah & Jackie Migliacio, P. W. Albert, Jr.; Sidney "Benny", Rose & Sid Quatrevingt, Quatrevingt Family; Janice Brown; M/M Tony Falcon, Anthony Falcon, Camille Tempanaro, M/M Ray Murray, M/M Earl Quatrevingt, M/M C. J. Saurage, M/M Ronald Lee Gary, Tommy, Brian, Jay & Randy Quatrevingt, M/M Frank Tempanaro, Brandi Quatrevingt, Sharkey Altazin; M/M Edmond Gomez & Family; The Lazzaro Family, Kolby Lorio, "Butch" & Sadie Tullier; Evelyn Varnell; The Currier Family; Berthelot & Guillot Families; Sadie & Tony Mancuso; Charles & Marion Clement; Linda Hebert; John Hawley Landry, Kathleen Landry; Conrad "Poopy" Joffrion

Sunday, October 15-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, October 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; Frances Santangelo LeBlanc, Rita & Mike Santangelo, Anatole Santangelo; Anthony "Tonto" Pizzolato; Alcee & Pauline Becnel, Evans & Virgie Dugas; Mary Ann Gregoire; J. C. & Hetta Hebert, Gilmore & Cleora Couvillion; Gloria A. Dupont, J. G. Dupont, Sr.; Denise Miranda; Flo, Allen & Paco Ourso; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso, Jep Daigle, Eddie & Virginia Clebert, Ulger & Nilda Daigle; Virginia Simon

Sunday, October 15-11am

Cindy Dickerson; Dominic Engolio, Pauline & Joseph Engolio, Charles Engolio; Buck Fourroux; Mike "Fuzzy" Marino, Melissa Jarreau, Maggie David, Amadee David, Edwin "Peanut" Gras, Houston Blanchard, Lisa J. Sands, Adam Sands, Glenda "Phyne" Cedotal; Brenda Fremin; Theresa D. Businelle; Kathy Kocke Olivier; Isaac Jr., Brent Vaughn, Sidney Hedges, Jr., Margaret Landry; Ray, T. N. & Steve Patin; John "Sonny" Bunch

Tuesday, October 17-5pm Mass

Lance Blanchard, Edna "Buttons" Verrett; A Special Intention through the Intercession of St. Peregrine, St. Jude, St. Joseph & Mother Mary

Wednesday, October 18-7am Mass

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

Thursday, October 19-7am Mass

Winnie & Harry Gallagher, Ethel & Harry Blanchard

Friday, October 20-7am Mass

Murray & Dixie Suffrin

Altar Society

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

Scripture Readings

Sunday Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Monday Jon 1:1—2:2, 11; Jonah 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1-4, 7-8; Lk 10:28-42

Wednesday Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13

Friday JI 1:13-15, 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9, 16; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday JI 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

Sunday Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or Mt 22:1-10



Sanctuary Candle

October 8, 2023

St. John the Evangelist

Kathy Kocke, Oliver & Edward Kocke, Jr.

St. Clement of Rome

Devin & Douglas Durand

Coffee & Donuts

October 15, 2023

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

Roger & Rosalind Sadden (9am Mass)



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



October 8, 2023

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Can women in need count on you?

You can help women in need by participating in Woman's New Life Clinic's Born to Run - Baton Rouge 5K & 1/2-mile Fun Run presented by The Parable Foundation on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

Woman's New Life Clinic is a life-affirming counseling and medical clinic that serves women facing unplanned pregnancies in the Baton Rouge and New Orleans communities.

Sign Up Today!

womansnewlife.com/borntorun



@friendsofwnlc

Registration includes t-shirt*, the opportunity to win race prizes, and post-race party featuring free food, music, and fun for the whole family.

*Register by Wednesday, October 11, to receive a race t-shirt

Questions? Contact Chloe LeBlanc at 225.218.4862 or cboudreaux@womansnewlife.com

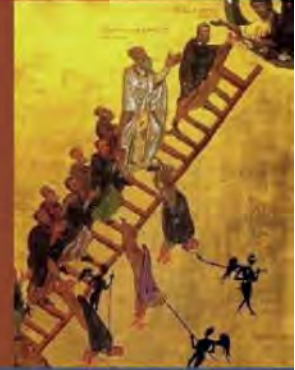


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