

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



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Rev. Gregory J. Daigle Pastor
 Alfred J. Ricard II Deacon
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 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



Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2023

Reasons to Rejoice

Saint Paul seems to be throwing out a handful of sayings that may sound overly optimistic, but are actually very practical. "Rejoice always"? If we pray constantly and thank God for all that happens to us, we have reason to rejoice. Even the things we don't like can be turned to good by God. God allows sin because it leads to forgiveness, an experience of God's love for us. And God allows even death, because God can bring us to eternal life.

When Paul tells us not to quench the Spirit he means we should be open to what the Holy Spirit moves us to do. "Prophetic utterances" refer to things that other people were inspired to proclaim. If we pray constantly (1 Thessalonians 5:17), the distractions of this world will not keep us from hearing the Spirit within us. We won't be so critical of others that we miss what the Spirit is telling us through them.

How do we know if something really is from the Spirit? Saint Paul says, test everything. Retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21). Use the scriptures, the teachings of the Church, and your conscience to decide whether the Spirit is moving you, or if advice you hear is worthwhile. Trust God to make us holy if we only allow it. Then we will be ready for the coming of the Lord, whether through the sacraments, the

celebration of Christmas, or God's final coming in glory. I'd say that's a reason to rejoice.

Tom Schmidt



Pastor's Letter

Dear Family:

The Song of Mary, also known as the Magnificat, is basically a repetition of Hannah's thanksgiving prayer in 1 Samuel 2 after God answered Hannah's prayer for a child. Not to be missed is the emphasis these words place on how God turns things upside down or right side up. Those who are proud, powerful, and rich, God will scatter, bring down, and send away empty. In contrast, those who are lowly and hungry, God will lift up and fill with good things. Instead of treating all in the same way, in Mary's song God operates with a preferential option for those who

are humble and on the margins, such as the young, pregnant, and unwed Mary.

The word "humble" appropriately describes the attitude of John the Baptizer in John 1. Although John could make himself sound more impressive before the religious authorities, he does not make himself the focus of his work. Instead, he confesses that neither his status nor his work is comparable to those of Jesus.

A similar message is found in Isaiah 61, where God's good news and favor are said to be focused upon "the poor," "the brokenhearted," "the captives," and "the prisoners." Isaiah 61 is part of what scholars call Third Isaiah 9 (Isaiah 56-66), written during a time that the exiles began the difficult task of restoration upon their return from Babylon to Palestine. When Luke's Jesus begins his ministry (Luke 4:18-19), he will choose these very words from Isaiah to characterize his ministry.

The passage in Thessalonians suggests that to be "blameless" in God's advent, we must not only pray and give thanks but also know and do what is good by not quenching the Spirit but attending to and carefully discerning what God may want to tell us.

Some questions for reflection:

Who are the "poor" "the brokenhearted," "the captives," and "the prisoners" in our society and world today?

How much of what we do today is upholding or challenging the status quo?

What is the difference between a humble ministry of preparation such as John's and the word done by Jesus?

Many folks try to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time in preparation for Christmas. Please remember that we have confessions every Tuesday evening from 5:30 - 5:45 and Saturday afternoons from 3:00 - 3:30. For your convenience, I will also be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Tuesday evening, December 19th, from 6:30 to 7:30.

Many thanks to Katie Berthelot, her family and others who helped organize our Christmas Giving Tree ministry this Advent. Thanks as well to all of you who have heard the call of the Gospel to respond to the needy in this season. May God Bless you all.

Regarding the celebration of Christmas: Our schedule is on the Christmas Card sent from the church. Saturday, December 23rd at 4:00 p.m. will be the one Mass that celebrates the 4th Sunday of Advent. There will be no morning Masses on December 24th. Masses for Christmas are as follows: Sunday, December 24th - 4:00 p.m. (children's Mass with procession of Joseph & Mary); 6:00 p.m.; and Mass at Midnight. On Christmas Day there will be one Mass at 9:00 a.m. We look forward to celebrating this Christmas Season with you all.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

Epiphany Concert

St. John the Evangelist Church
Sunday, January 7, 2024
4pm-5:15pm

Tickets (\$25) are available for purchase for our Annual Epiphany Concert through St. John School (225.687.3056) and the St. John Church Office (225.687.2402).

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.



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 beginning Monday, December 18, 2023 until Sunday, January 7, 2024.



The Advent Wreath Candle for the 3rd Sunday of Advent burns in loving memory of:

Andrew & Josephine Canova

**Agnes & Sam Coletti,
Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry**

Hollye Comeaux

Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars

Monday, January 15, 2024

Monday, February 5, 2024

Monday, March 4, 2024

Baptisms

Saturday, December 16, 2023

Saturday, January 27, 2024

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Baptism Seminars are held in the third floor church office conference room 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. There are no Baptisms during Lent.



Ritualsong

Readings & Songs this Weekend

Readings: Third Sunday of Advent #1097

Entrance: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #492

Responsorial Psalm: My Soul in Stillness Waits #499

Preparation: *Instrumental*

Communion: Christ, Circle Round Us (Bulletin)

Sending Forth: Savior of the Nations, Come #498

Eucharistic Adoration

Come and Adore! He is Waiting for You!

"The devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble, because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation, because it gives us the Author of Grace, it is the sweetest, because the Lord is Sweetness Itself." — St. Pius X

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.



Scripture Readings

Week of December 17

Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10 14 Lk 1:57-66
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Knights of Columbus Fireworks Sale

The Knights of Columbus will be selling fireworks at the K.C. Home, 58715 Price Street in Plaquemine. Fireworks schedule is as follows:

Friday, December 22 — 5-8:30pm

Saturday, December 23 — 2-8:30pm

Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26-29 — 5-8:30pm

Saturday, December 30 — 2-8:30pm

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31 — Noon until fireworks run out.

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



A Vocation View

Chosen to Consecrated Life

"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me." God is empowering you for a specific purpose! How will you

respond to so great a love? Is He asking you to follow Him by serving in the priesthood or consecrated life?

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 225.336.8778 or via email: jjohnson@diobr.org.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 23-4pm 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; Roland "Dougie" Rivet, Hebert & Rivet Families; Ronnie Dugas, M/M Falon Trabeaux, M/M Alvin Dugas, Russell Naquin, Jr., Fal Naquin; John & Ann Ruiz, Michael Gourgues, Shirley G. Zito; Vincent A. & Dr. Larry Ferachi, Hebert & Ferachi Families; M/M A. J. Rodriguez, M/M Vives Vicknair, Sr., M/M Alger Rodriguez, Scott Marino; Rita & Lyman Marchand; J. W. Bryant Family; Mrs. E. J. Clifton; Jimmy, Sarah & Jackie Migliacio, P. W. Albert, Jr.; Robert & Leana Brady, Cleveland & Lucy Boudreaux; Bret Thompson; Wayne Gary, Fontenot & Gary Families; Sam & Lillie Distefano; Hollye A. Comeaux, Achee Family, Carrington Family, Dale R. Miller; Ione Robbins, Calvin Robbins, Calvin Robbins, Jr.; M/M Thomas Keith & Family; Sadie, Kearney Sr. & Kearney Jr. Thibodeaux, The Suggs Family; Gerald "Lil Jerry" Mire; Allen Cavalier

Sunday, December 24-4pm Christmas Eve Children's Mass

Jaynell Lopez, Albert Lopez, Jr., Johnson & Lopez Families; Marie Ragusa LeBlanc, Terry Landry, Sr. Terry Landry, Jr., Kynlee Bueche; Mary Ann Gregoire; Jeffery Martinez; Anthony & Margie Vitale; Lloyd & Lillian Bouchereau; Denise Miranda; George Gullotto, Maggie & Joe Gullotto, Lola & A. J. Adams; O. J., Buster & Pearl Hidalgo Songy & Families; Brenda Fremin; Isaac Jr. & Brent Vaughn, Ezora & Sidney Hedges; Peter & Yvonne Palermo; Bobby & Bootsie Dupont; Judge Edward & Lucille Engolio, Pauline E. deVerges, Ed Engolio, Jr.; Buté Richard, Tommy Griffon, M/M Matt Berthelot & Family; M/M Lawrence Landry, Sr.; Mike "Fuzzy" Marino, Melissa Jarreau, Maggie David, Amadee David, Edwin "Peanut" Gras, Glenda "Phyne" Cedotal, Houston Blanchard, Lisa J. Sands, Adam Sands; J. P. "Jep" Daigle, Ulger & Nilda Daigle & Family; Eddie & Virginia Clebert, Guy, Doris & Matthew Allen; Winnie & Harry Gallagher, Ethel & Harry Blanchard; Brennan Eugene Bujol, Pim & NuNu Clebert, Louise & Edmund Bujol, Derley Barbier; Oliver Denoux, Landry, Zeringue, Roth & Daigle Families; Caroline Elizabeth & Charlotte Mae Carville, LeBlanc & Cavalier Families; Gloria A. Dupont, J. G. Dupont, Sr., Roy A. Hebert, David G. Hebert, Myrle & Clancy Ostergren; Faye & Paul Troclair, Carolyn Bordelon; Ignace & Vivian Tullier; Joshua "Josh" Landry, Harry & Vivian Banta, Caliste "Joe" & Gloria Landry, Anthony & Carmella Orcino, Kimberly Landry, M/M Eldon Flatau; M/M Frank Ragusa & Family, M/M Placito Mancuso & Family, M/M Mose Gibson & Family, J. D. & Ella Collins & Family; Rosa, Curtis, Brian & Denise Breaux; Josie & Tony Palermo; The Allen Family, The Diamond Family; Maggie Dunn; Wayne & Colby Gomez, Pitre & Gomez Families; The Lazzaro Family, Kolby Lorio, Butch & Sadie Tullier; Angelo F. Mancuso, Connie Mancuso, Seraphine Stein; The Currier Family; Frank, Josie, Anthony & Victor Canella; Randy, Lucy, Peter & Florence Morales; Berthelot & Guillot Families; M/M Merrill Judice, M/M James Brandau, Frank Pasqua; John "Shane" David Smith; Sadie & Tony Mancuso; Charles & Marion Clement; M/M Joseph Matassa, Jr., M/M Ed Reeves, Sr.; Allen Cavalier; M/M Roy Ourso, Sr. & Jr., Cecil Comeaux; A Special Intention through the Intercession of St. Peregrine, St. Jude, St. Joseph & Mother Mary; M/M Lawrence Landry, M/M Louis Zeringue, Carmen Landry, Ray P. Zeringue, Donald Stockman, Leslie Font, Jr., Mary Font, Ross Campessi, Sr., Marion Campessi; Christopher Stassi, Patricia Nelson, Ralph Stassi, Jr.

Sunday, December 24-6pm Christmas Eve Mass

Bobby & Bootsie Dupont; M/M Jules J. Noel, Jr.; Frank, Josie, Anthony & Victor Canella; Kenneth Ourso, Sr., Gina Ourso; Max, Leona, Gerald & John Sr. Hoffman; Johnny Zito, Sr., Johnny Zito, Jr.; Scott Jude Marino, A. J. & Nera Rodriguez, Anthony & Mary Marino, Kids of St. Jude; Andrew, Josephine & Carlo Canova, Jerry & Cutsey Blanchard; J. Hubert Millet, Milda Millet, Louis Family, M/M Harold Marionneaux; Sidney "Benny", Rose & Sid Quatrevingt, Quatrevingt Family; Mitchell Dufour, Boudreaux & Dufour Families; Allen & Alberta Buquoi, Michael Clause, Mary Jo Primeaux, Lane Panepinto, Dwight Marix; Victor J. Canella; Rose Marie LeBlanc, LeBlanc & Canella Families; M/M Victor Crescionne, Crescionne Family, Michelle Family, Sister Joycelin Staempfli; Jesse & Pat, Dr. Lee, Timothy Ishmael; Hebert Family, Huey Hebert, M/M R. J. Gaudet, Sr. & Jr., Velma Gaudet, Gaudet Family; Tarek Smart & Nick Mancuso Family, Roger Adams, Josh Barker

Sunday, December 24-Midnight Mass

Donald Aucoin, Aucoin & Wunstel Families; Yves & Vera Ramirez, Jane & Jerry, Kirch Kimber; Gasper Pizzolato, Sr. Family, Alma, Roxanna, Carolyn & Troy Michael Pizzolato; M/M John Caffarel, M/M G. E. Marix; The Drago & Bobby Freeman Families

Monday, December 25-9am Christmas 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; Bobby & Bootsie Dupont; Bobby Wilson; Ernest & Josephine Lapeze, Lapeze Family, Ragusa Family; Clinton & Wendell Fournerat; Douglas Bourgoynne, Artie Lyons, Lydia Mae Blanchard; Rosemary Cox; Domic Engolio, Pauline & Joseph Engolio, Charles Engolio; Lorraine "Catty" Hebert, Mary Kay Marchand Hudson, Hebert & Clement Families; Murray & Dixie Suffrin; J. R. Boudreaux, Virgie Junot, Jerry & Carl Orcino; Kathy Kocke Oliver, Edward Kocke, Jr.; Joshua Barker, M/M Harry Kember, Jr., P. W. Albert, M/M James Migliacio; Gladys "Butsy" Palermo, Peter A. Palermo, Patrick Burleigh, Douglas Brewer; Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family; M/M Vincent M. Ferachi, Cadence & Cassidy Diamond, Stephanie Rivere, Tina Ferachi Loyacano, Ferachi & Marino Families; Margaret "Maggie" Edline Dunn; May Berta Olano, Robert C. Olano, Paul Joffrion, Keith Edenfield; Ronnie Palermo, Brown Family, Palermo Family; Gary Ourso, Sr., Gary Ourso, Jr., Gerrit Ourso; Lawrence & Winnie Miller, Edward Miller, Paul & Myrtle Richard; Brenda Fremin; Janice Brown, Mary Gullotta Brown, Rita Pinell Sharon, Ada Pinell Hebert; Faye & Harry Martinez; George "Brother" Michel, Alvin J. Daigle, Sr. Family, Alvin J. "Peta" Daigle, Jr., Edith E. Guillot; Harry Marionneaux, Charles, Doris & Paul Barbier; Henry & Janice Himel, Blanchard Family; William H. Middleton, Bill Middleton III, Clouatre & Middleton Families; Flo, Allen & Paco Ourso; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Ray, T. N. & Steve Patin; Anthony F. Canella, Aaron & Delia LeRay; Yvonne Curry; The Calvaruso Family; Evelyn Varnell; Kenneth "Klu" Brown; Burman & Vera Guidry, Clarence "Pete" & Mary Berthelot; Kevin Mellieon, Jean Powell, Mary Louella Senegal, Geraldine Kelly; Gloria, Mark & Donald Cavalier; Lisa Orcino; Devin & Douglas Durand; Dwayne Strickland; Missy Hopkins; Dr. Vincent Leggio, The Tony Leggio Families; M/M Dudley LeBlanc; Nolan Bueche, III

(continued on next page)

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, December 26-6pm Mass

Emma & George H. Grass, Fred & Josie Hamilton

Wednesday, December 27-7am Mass

Joshua "Josh" Landry

Thursday, December 28-7am Mass

Llewelyn LeDoux

Friday, December 29-7am Mass

Pat Dupont & Kathy Dupont Fulton

**Sanctuary Candle**

December 17, 2023

St. John the Evangelist

Murray & Dixie Suffrin

Brennan Bujol

St. Clement of Rome

Jack Laurent

There will be no Coffee & Donuts
Sunday, December 24.**Altar Society**

Essential Support System of the Church

Altar Society Team 3 will be cleaning the church
Wednesday, December 20 at 8am. Volunteers are
welcome.

37

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Dani Schutte

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