

# SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764

[stjohnchurchplaq.org](http://stjohnchurchplaq.org) • (225) 687-2402

[stjohnchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net](mailto:stjohnchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net) • 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 & 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  
Saturday .....3:00-3:30 pm



## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 31, 2023

### Remember, Reflect, Respond

This feast has had several names through history. Strangely, the title that is most confusing to non-Catholics is the official one. When we call Mary the Mother of God, we are not saying that she somehow preceded God or is equal to God. We are simply recognizing that her human son Jesus is also the divine Son of God.

Today's Gospel records one simple action of Mary: to keep these things in her heart. Even in this simple sentence we are given a good example of being a disciple. Like Mary, we need to both keep, or remember, what God has done, and to reflect on what we remember. First, how much do we remember about what God has done for us? How well do we know the stories of salvation found in the scriptures? Do we recall the prayers God has answered, the guidance given, the love of God that others have shown us, the times God has forgiven us?

Second, how much do we reflect on what God has done? Even if we have many memories of God's goodness to us, we also need to pray over them and ask ourselves how we have changed because of what God has done. Do I forgive hurts more readily? Do I share my faith with my family or friends? Do I support my parish with my time or offerings? Let us ask God's help to imitate Mary by remembering and reflecting.

Tom Schmidt



## Pastor's Letter

Dear Family:

This weekend's liturgy centers around The Holy Family. Joseph and Mary offer in the Temple for Jesus' birth "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Such an offering is prescribed in Leviticus 12 for the poor who cannot afford a lamb or a sheep. From this, we can deduce that Luke's Jesus is born into a poor family. The image of the newborn Jesus lying in a manger is consistent with this picture. Given the less - than - desirable circumstances of Jesus' birth, it may be difficult for the couple to hold on to the angel's pronouncement to Mary about Jesus, especially given Simeon's words to Mary that "you yourself a sword will pierce".

Abraham and Sarah held onto God's faithful promise to them of descendants and land. Both were advanced in age, but they went out, "dwelling in tents" and "not knowing where" they were going. Unlike Simeon, who was able to see the messiah before his death, they died seeing neither the promised multiplication of descendants nor the promised land. Defining faith as "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen," Hebrews 11 was written to encourage a community wavering in their faith.

We witness God's faithfulness in these passages. We also see the need for our response in faith, and that faith requires endurance and action. Just as Abraham and Sarah made the move out of Ur, Joseph and Mary offer a sacrifice out of their limited means and, by faith in what they have heard from Simeon and Anna (as well as from the angel Gabriel and the shepherds), they do the hard work of raising and parenting Jesus.

Some questions for reflection:

What challenges keep you, our parish, or society from seeing a way forward?

Whose example do you lean on when your faith wavers?

How do you imagine God's faithfulness?

I pray you all have a great beginning to 2024 in the year of our Lord. Please remember our concert for St. John School will take place next Sunday, January 7th at 4:00 p.m. I look forward to sharing the gift of music with you all again at our Epiphany concert. Tickets are still available through the office.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

## A Vocation View

### Chosen for Consecrated Life

"I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." If you feel God is offering you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life as a sister, brother, or consecrated virgin, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 225-336-8778 or via email: [jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org)



## Ritualsong

### Readings & Songs this Weekend

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph #1106

Entrance: O Come, All Ye Faithful #521

Preparation: *Instrumental*

Communion: What Child is This #552

Sending Forth: Angels We Have Heard on High #524

## 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 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 until Sunday, January 14, 2024.

The St. John Church Office will be closed until Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

**Happy New Year!!**

## Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

### Baptism Seminars

Monday, January 15, 2024

Monday, February 5, 2024

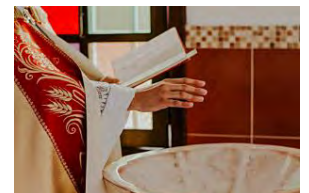
Monday, March 4, 2024

### Baptisms

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.





## Christmas Flowers and Decorations 2023

### In Loving Memory

Patricia Ann Bahry LeBlanc  
 Felix F. Fernandez, Jr.  
 My Papa  
 My Momma  
 MaMa & Papa Brown  
 MaMa & Papa Duhon  
 Maurice E. Brown  
 Joan B. Heath  
 Yvonne G. Melancon  
 Mary A. D. Quaid  
 Brennan Eugene Bujol  
 Pim & NuNu Clebert  
 Louise & Edmund Bujol  
 Lillie & Sidney Gomez  
 Virginia & Eddie Clebert  
 Bro Bujol  
 Penney Clifton  
 Jim & Ella Panepinto  
 Dr. James & Frances Durand  
 Ed & Rosina Achee  
 Cheryl Ann Panepinto  
 Lane Michael Panepinto  
 Hollye A. Comeaux  
 Calbert & Leonie Dugas  
 Ed Bahry, Jr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ed Bahry, Sr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Biem Gomez & Family  
 Beulah Cedotal & Leonce Cedotal & Family  
 Patrick Gaudet  
 Brent Lawrence Alexander  
 Brent Paul Alexander  
 Paul & Jean Zito  
 Zito & Scarsone Family  
 Charles W. Clough, Jr.  
 Charles & Rita Clough  
 Terri Baker  
 Stanley & Ella Creoli  
 Kacie Gage  
 Vivian A. and Doris B. Allain  
 Florence Baist  
 Marie Baist  
 Phil Pettus  
 Warren LeBourgeois, Sr.  
 Ede Bahry, Jr.  
 The Bahry Babies  
 The LeBourgeois Family  
 The Bahry Family  
 Dudley & Marie Ragusa LeBlanc  
 Yves & Vera Ramirez  
 Jerry & Jane Ramirez  
 Kirsch Kember

The Bueche Family  
 J. P. "Jep" Daigle  
 Eddie & Virginia Clebert  
 Guy, Doris & Matt Allen  
 Ulger & Nilda Daigle  
 Cathie Blanchard  
 Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Raymond  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Bujol  
 Dom Engolio  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Savariste  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Engolio  
 Cecil J. Vaughn  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Aucoin  
 Judge Edward and Lucille Engolio  
 Pauline E. deVerges  
 Ed Engolio, Jr.  
 Deanie Granada  
 Toni O. Engolio  
 A. N. Diodené, Jr., M. D.  
 Lonnie & Gladys Diodené  
 Natalie & Albert Bourgeois  
 Richard A. Bourgeois  
 Lindon A. Rivet  
 J. A. Palermo  
 Vincent A. Palermo  
 Peter A. Palermo  
 Ann P. Ruiz  
 Anthony D. Capone  
 Ronald L. Capone  
 Cindy L. Capone  
 Mr. & Mrs. Vivian Allain  
 Milton Allen  
 Tommy Allen Mosley  
 Hawley Landry  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gasper Pizzolato, Sr. Family  
 Van & Thelma Junot  
 Elvis & Mamie Rabalais  
 Peter & Mary Ann Miranda  
 J. W. & Sue Bryant  
 Bill Bryant  
 Panepinto Family  
 Dr. Herman Samson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Landry, Sr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Zeringue  
 Raleigh & Mercedes Ohlmeyer  
 David & Erlene Carville  
 Raleigh Ohlmeyer, Jr.  
 Annelies Ohlmeyer Martinez  
 Ruth Larpenteur  
 Nancy Stevens

(continued in future bulletins)



## Eucharistic Adoration

**Come and Adore! He is Waiting for You!**

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.

## The Pope's Prayer Intention January 2024

### For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic church.

## Growing in Faith

### Winter/Spring Bible Study

Bible Study begins Thursday, January 11, 2024 on the Book of Revelations from 1:30-3pm and the Thursday night group will discuss 1Corinthians from 6:15-7:45pm. The Monday study will be from 4-5:30pm beginning Monday, January 29 with the continuation of the Gospel according to Mark.

All sessions take place in the church office conference room. Please call the church office at 225.687.2402 to register for the study or studies which are free to attend.

## Scripture Readings

### Week of December 31

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Sunday    | Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph<br>Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-5<br>Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Lk 2:22-40<br>or 2:22, 39-40 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3;<br>Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Heb 11:8, 11-12,<br>17-19; Luke 22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 |
| Monday    | Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God<br>Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;<br>Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21   |
| Tuesday   | 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28   |
| Wednesday | 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Ps 98:1-3, 6; Jn 1:29-34   |
| Thursday  | 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42   |
| Friday    | 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100; 1-5; Jn 1:43-51   |
| Saturday  | 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;<br>Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 or<br>Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38   |
| Sunday    | The Epiphany of the Lord<br>Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;<br>Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12   |

## Joyous Christmas

### Grateful Acknowledgements

To the volunteers who helped decorate the church for Christmas-new & ole timers! Our next generation of holiday helpers were trained!

Betty Aucoin, Grant Blanchard, Leigh Blanchard, Gary Bertrand, Alex Bickham, Tommy Bickham, Sandra Bizette, Bonnie Breau, Janet Bryant, Denny Bujol, Dale Burns, Bruce Capone, Jo Ann Carline, Donna Carville, Christina Cedotal, Derryl Comeaux, Jim Cox, Joey Daigle, Joyce Daigle, Syl Daigre, Michael P. Edwards, Glen Ferachi, Donna Guerin, Olivia Guerin, Sue Gilchrist, Charlotte Gulotta, Ann Joffrion, Beverly Kolder, Roy Kolder, Barry Lamothe, Gage Landry, Tommy LeBlanc, David LoBue, Dillon Lopez, Audry Martinez, Cindy Michel, Brody Miller, John Miller, Alice Mire, Peddy Mire, Rita Jean Mooney, Chad Nelson, LeBoeuf Ourso, Vinh Pham, Gary Perrault, George Ramirez, Trish Ramirez, Clayton Repp, Ralph Rivet, Bart Schlatre, Joseph Schlatre, Rose Marie Hebert and Jacob Wilbert.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Parish Open House

To the St. John Altar Society for hosting the Parish Open House at the rectory and to all the parishioners who attended.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Cards for Inmates

To all of our parishioners and Mrs. Kirkland's and Mrs. Murray's 2nd graders at St. John School who purchased and brought in Christmas cards for inmates.

Your generosity has made it possible for Deacon Alfred Ricard to take thousands of Christmas cards to the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

\*\*\*\*\*

### GEMS

To GEMS coordinator Lorraine Hidalgo and the GEMS committee who brought dishes, set up, and served Christmas joy to our parishioners at the Annual GEMS Christmas Social. A special thanks to Paula Adams for solicitation of door prizes.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Giving Tree

To the Giving Tree volunteers, under the supervision of Dr. Katie Berthelot, who strive to provide the less fortunate children of our area with a happy Christmas every year.

We are grateful to our parishioners who provided almost 400 gifts.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Visits to the Homebound

To Joann Landry and the volunteers who brought poinsettias to the homebound and nursing home residents.

St. John students, supervised by Donna Purpera, made and delivered sweets to the homebound to brighten their day!

LOVE



### Santa's Helpers



Diligently working are just a few of the many talented parishioners who decorated our beautiful church for Christmas.



## Parish Activities January 2024

**Monday, January 1**

**Church Office Closed - Happy New Year!!**

**Sunday, January 7**

Epiphany Concert ..... St. John Church  
4-5:15pm

**Monday, January 8**

Catholic Daughter Meeting ..... Parish Hall  
2-3pm

**Thursday, January 11**

Bible Study ..... Conference Room  
1:30-3pm, 6:15-7:45pm

**Sunday, January 14**

PSR Mass ..... Church  
11am

Ladies of Peter Claver Meeting ..... Parish Hall  
2-4pm

Holy Spirit Prayer Group ..... Church  
3-5pm

**Monday, January 15**

**Church Office Closed**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Baptism Seminar ..... Conference Room  
7-7:45pm

**Tuesday, January 16**

Liturgy of the Word ..... Church  
6pm

**Thursday, January 18**

Bible Study ..... Conference Room  
1:30-3pm, 6:15-7:45

**Tuesday, January 23**

Altar Society Meeting ..... Conference Room  
9:30-10:30am

**Thursday, January 25**

Bible Study ..... Conference Room  
1:30-3pm, 6:15-7:45pm

**Saturday, January 27**

Baptisms ..... Church  
Following 4pm Mass

**Sunday, January 28**

Confirmation Students & Sponsors ..... Church  
11am Mass

**Monday, January 29**

Bible Study ..... Conference Room  
4-5:30pm

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, January 6, 2024-4pm 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; Caliste, Joe, Gloria & Josh Landry; M/M Louis Zeringue, Carmen M. Landry; Tina & Jake Loyacano, Vincent M. Ferachi; Dudley Landry Family, Joe Coletti, Sr. Family; Judge Edward & Lucille Engolio, Pauline E. deVerges, Ed Engolio, Jr.; Missy Hopkins; Robert Lee & Betty Mooney, David Chaloux; Yves & Vera Ramirez, Jerry & Jane, Kirsch Kember; Mary & Chuchie Flatau, Anthony & Camella Orcino, Orcino & Flatau Families; Brennan Bujol, Pim & Nu Nu Clebert, Louise & Edmund Bujol, Derley Barbier; John E., Cecil D. & Maurice E. Brown, Joan B. Heath, Brown & Duhon Families; Carlo, Kurt, Andrew & Josephine Canova; Callahan, Clement & Mayon Families; Ronnie Palermo, Brown Family, Palermo Family; M/M L. J. Raymond, M/M Joseph E. Bujol; Jimmy, Sarah & Jackie Migliacio, P. W. Albert, Jr.; Alfred, Mercedes, Lester & Mary Carville, Reid & Gerry Rainey, Edmund & Louise Bujol; M/M Houston LaBauve, Sr., Claudia LaBauve, Cecilia Laurent; Johnny Jr. & Johnny Zito, Sr.; M/M Tony Falcon, Anthony Falcon, Brandy Quatrevingt, M/M Frank Tempanaro, Camille Tempanaro, Paula Morales, M/M Ray Murry, M/M Earl Quatrevingt, M/M C. J. Saurage, M/M Ronald Lee Gary, Tommy, Jay, Brian & Randy Quatrevingt

### Sunday, January 7-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

### Sunday, January 7-9am 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; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Margaret "Maggie" Edline Dunn; Annie G. & Guy Comeaux, Sr., Guy "Scooter" Comeaux, Jr.; Dudley & Marie Ragusa LeBlanc, Terry Landry Sr., Terry Landry, Jr., Kynlee Bueche; Fred Hebert; George & Gloria Ramirez, Jimmy & Agnes LeBlanc; Scott Jude Marino, A. J. & Nera Rodriguez, Anthony & Mary Marino, Kids of St. Jude; Rosemary Cox; Anthony "Pet" Cilano; Cathie Blanchard; Robert Jude Grace; Harold Sr., Barbara & Frances Himel, Brenda Blank; Laurence & Winnie Miller, Paul & Myrtle Richard, Edward Miller

### Sunday, January 7-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Nolan Bueche, III; Mary Font, Leslie Font, Jr., Ross Campesi; Joseph & Lillian Crescionne, Peter & Rosalie Crescionne, Dr. Joseph & Tina Alesi; Christopher Stassi; Sam "Buttie" Distefano, Jr.

### Tuesday, January 9-6pm Mass

Irwin "Bro" Wilbert, Roy A. Hebert; Case, Gum & Schuler Families

### Wednesday, January 10-7am Mass

Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Schexnaildre & Nicolosi Families

### Thursday, January 11-7am Mass

Fred & Beverly Allain, Angela & J. E. Dupont

### Friday, January 12-7am Mass

Alice & Alex Nolan, Joann Nolan, Larry Skidmore

## Online Giving

Join the parishioners who are using Online Giving for automated giving to St. John. It is secure and convenient. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish.

To sign up for Online Giving,  
visit [www.stjohnchurchplaq.org](http://www.stjohnchurchplaq.org).



December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



## Sanctuary Candle

December 31, 2023

**St. John the Evangelist**  
Joshua "Josh" Landry

**St. Clement of Rome**  
John "Sonny" Bunch

## Coffee & Donuts

January 7, 2024



George & Patricia  
Ramirez (7:30am Mass)

Ruel & Diana Seneca (9am Mass)

## Altar Society

Essential Support System of the Church

Altar Society Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, January 3 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

## St. John Church 100 Years Capital Campaign Tidbit

Did you know?

- ♦ **How old is the church's clock tower?** It was built in 1879 and installed by then Reverend Harnais. It has stood steadily over time for two of the three churches built at this location. The bells were rung for the city for fires and other events warranting notification of the citizens of Plaquemine.
- ♦ **Do the bells in the bell tower have names?** Yes. The original bell used as the city's fire alarm cracked and was replaced by "Joanna Maria" in 1885 and then "Anna" in 1888.
- ♦ **Do the bells in the bell tower work?** Not any longer; the wooden cradles that held the large brass bells collapsed after many years of weathering the weather. A recording of bells ringing is currently used to announce Mass, weddings, funerals and other events at the church. Research has been done to consider installing metal cradles and stationary bell ringers to replace the wooden cradles so that the bells may be used once again. It is listed as one of the Phase 3 projects of the 100 Years Capital Campaign.

Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help restore St. John Church as well as your regular tithe that "keeps the lights on." As Jesus taught us in Mark 12:42-44, "Then a poor widow came and put in two very small coins, worth less than a penny. Jesus called his followers to him and said, 'This poor widow put in only two small coins. But the truth is that she gave all that she had, more than all those rich people. They have plenty and they gave only what they did not need.'"

Our goal is to have 95% of us contributing since this is OUR church. It's a very big goal but doable if we all do something to help OUR church.

Contribution forms are available in church and in the church office to designate one-time or recurring contributions. Online donations are also possible at the church's website, [www.stjohnchurchplaq.org](http://www.stjohnchurchplaq.org).



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