

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764
 stjohchurchplaq.org • (225) 687-2402 • Fax (225) 687-1587
 stjohchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net • 24 Hour Prayer Line: (225) 687-1554

Pastoral Team

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle.....Pastor
 Alfred J. Ricard II.....Deacon
 Laurie Barbier....Director of Religious
 Education
 Wanda Ashley.....PSR Coordinator
 Donna Carville.....RCIA

Parish Office Staff

Medric Smith, Jr. ... Business Manager
 Marsha Dupont.....Secretary
 Susan LandrySecretary
 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



First Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024

Strengthen Your Hearts

How good is good enough? Do you have to be perfect to get to heaven? In the second reading this Sunday, Paul seems to think so when he tells us to be “blameless in holiness” (1 Thess 3:13.) Now Paul never considered himself as perfect. But even with his weakness, Paul always did the best he could. So what should we strive for? Maybe we can take a hint from his phrase “strengthen your hearts.”

Think of athletes who try to do their best. A great ball player takes batting practice every day to improve his average. Good athletes are always looking for ways to improve themselves. They keep in shape so they can be stronger, faster, smarter. That same attitude is what Paul means by “strengthen your hearts.” And Advent is a good time to start.

As we prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord, we can get ourselves in spiritual shape. Spiritual reading can give us a stronger prayer life. But if our spiritual reading just makes us feel good, we may be wasting our time. Hopefully, it will lead us to try praying more often and more seriously. Likewise, we can read about volunteering to feed the poor, but making the commitment and doing it is what strengthens the heart. Then as the Gospel says, we may have “the strength...to stand before the Son of Man.” (Lk 21:36)

Tom Schmidt



Eucharistic Adoration

Come and Adore. Jesus is Waiting for YOU.

A Reading from the letter of St. James 4:6-10:

Be subject therefore to God, but resist the devil and he will flee from you ... Be sorrowful and mourn and weep ... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will exalt you.

The Adoration Chapel is open from 4am-10pm.

In Loving Memory...

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the following persons who donated a memorial gift to St. John the Evangelist Church 100 Year Capital Campaign in loving memory of:

Madeleine Samson

Donated by:
Charles & Janet Bujol



Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars

Monday, December 2, 2024

Monday, January 13, 2025

Monday, February 3, 2025

Baptisms

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Saturday, February 15, 2025

The Baptism Seminars are held in the church office conference room at 7pm. Baptisms are held once a month following 4pm Mass.

Dates are subject to change. Please contact Lily Skidmore at the church office, 225.687.2402, during the early stages of pregnancy to confirm the dates of the seminar.

Ritualsong

First Sunday of Advent #1092

Entrance: Ready the Way — Bulletin

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: Christ, Be Our Light! #692

Sending Forth: People, Look East #501

We welcome the PSR students and their families who are celebrating Eucharist with us at 11am.



The Advent Wreath Candle for the 1st Sunday of Advent burns in loving memory of:

Fred Hebert

The Pope's Prayer Intention for December

For Pilgrims of Hope

Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



Altar Society

Essential Support System of the Church

The Altar Society will be selling cookbooks "Old and New Tried and True" (\$20), one-of-a-kind Christmas ornaments of St. John Church (\$15), and mugs (\$10) Saturday, November 30 & Sunday, December 1 outside the doors of church before and after all Masses. These items would make wonderful Christmas gifts.

Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, December 4 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

In Loving Memory...

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the following persons who donated a memorial gift to St. John the Evangelist Church 100 Year Capital Campaign in loving memory of:

Charles Ray Champagne, Jr.

Donated by:
Mike & Linda Panepinto

OCIA December Class

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

December 1, 2024: Mary, The Mother of Jesus
Church Office Conference Room
9:30-10:45am

Children's Liturgy Schedule December 2024

A Safe and Nurturing Environment for Children to Participate in the Mass at an Age-appropriate Level

December 1, 2024
11am Mass—Alexis Schlatre
December 8, 2024
9am Mass—Tracy Cox
December 15, 2024
11am Mass—Alexis Schlatre
December 22, 2024
9am Mass—Tracy Cox

Scripture Readings

Week of December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14;
1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday
Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday
Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday
Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday
Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday
Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14;
Mt 9:27-31
Saturday
Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6;
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Second Sunday of Advent
Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6,
8-11; Lk 3:1-6



Church Dedication for December

The Immaculate Conception

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception (A Holy Day of Obligation) Masses will be on Monday, December 9 at 7am, 8:30am (SJS Mass at St. Clement) and 12pm.

The Blessed Mother was called "Full of Grace" by the angel Gabriel because she was first conceived without sin. As the Church prepares for the coming of Christ on Christmas Day, meditating on the mystery of Mary's Immaculate Conception can remind us of the saving work Jesus came to do through His Incarnation.

How to celebrate:

Go to confession. This is a great way to prepare for Christmas and give you the grace to imitate Mary's virtues.

Women's Silent Advent Retreat

Worship and Fellowship

When: Saturday, December 14, 2024
10:30am-2:30pm

Where: St. John The Evangelist Church Parish Hall
Lead By: The Holy Spirit & Gwen Hayes
A light lunch will be provided. Register today!!
Call the church office at 225.687.2402.

"Unwrap Your Gifts and Find True Advent Peace"

Jubilee Year Day of Reflection for Parish Leaders

Pope Francis has declared the Year 2025 as a Jubilee Year focused on the virtue of Hope. Our Diocese has formed a Jubilee Year Committee which is planning several events and celebrations during this time. The Committee has selected a theme for this year that is taken from the Epistle to the Hebrews. The theme is "Sure and Steadfast Hope."

The Diocese will hold a Day of Reflection on the psychological, theological and spirituality of hope. It will be held in the Ballroom of the Catholic Life Center on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 from 9am to 3pm. The event is free but you are required to register since lunch will be provided. To register, please follow this link:
<https://diobr.org/jubilee-recollection>.

READY THE WAY

Acc #462 / CP3 #221

Verses

1. "Read - y the way of the Lord! Read - y the
 2. "Let ev - 'ry val - ley be filled. Let ev - 'ry
 3. Des - ert and waste-land will bloom. Des - ert and
 4. Those who are blind will then see. Those who are
 5. Strength-en the ones who are weak. Strength-en the

1. way of the Lord!" A voice — cries out in the wil - der -
 2. val - ley be filled. Let ev - 'ry moun-tain be hum -
 3. waste-land will bloom. ‡ Glo - ry and splen-dor will fill the
 4. deaf will then hear. ‡ Those who are lame will then leap for
 5. ones who are weak. ‡ Say to the fright-ened: "Have cour -

1. ness: "Read - y the way of the Lord!" (to Verse 2)
 2. bled; let ev - 'ry val - ley be filled." (to Refrain)
 3. land. Des - ert and waste-land will bloom. (to Verse 4)
 4. joy. Those who are mute will then sing. (to Refrain)
 5. age." Strength-en the ones who are weak. (to Refrain)

Refrain

Here is your God, com-ing with your vin-di - ca - tion.

Look and be-hold the sav - ing pow - er of God.

1, 2 to Verses 3, 5 Final
 2
 The sav - ing pow - er of God.

Parish Activities December 2024

Sunday, December 1

Altar Society Selling cookbooks & ornaments...Church
Before & After All Masses

PSR Students and Families attend Mass Church
11am

Monday, December 2, 9, 16

Bible Study Conference Room
1-2:30pm

Baptism Seminar Conference Room
7pm

Thursday, December 5, 12, 19

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

Friday, December 6

St. Joseph Altar Volunteer Luncheon Parish Hall
11am

Saturday, December 7

Parish Open House Rectory
5-7pm

Sunday, December 8

Ladies of Peter Claver Church
11am Mass

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

Monday, December 9

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Masses:
7am, 8:30am (St. Clement) & 12pm

OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, December 11

GEMS Potluck Luncheon Parish Hall
11am-1pm

Thursday, December 12

SJS Christmas Concert Church
6-7:30pm

Saturday, December 14

Women's Advent Silent Retreat Parish Hall
10:30am-2:30pm

Monday, December 16

Decorating for Christmas Church
8am

Tuesday, December 17

Altar Society Big Cleaning/Meeting...Church/Conf Rm
8-10:30am

Saturday, December 21

Baptisms Church
Following 4pm Mass

Tuesday, December 24 — Christmas Eve Masses:
4pm (Children's Mass), 6pm & Midnight

Wednesday, December 25 — Christmas Day
9am Mass

December 23-31 OFFICE CLOSED

Bringing Christmas Joy

Rectory Open House

On Saturday, December 7, spend the afternoon with us at the St. John Rectory for our Parish Open House. Everyone is invited to join Fr. Greg for an afternoon of refreshments and fellowship directly following 4pm Mass from 5pm until 7pm.

Advent Giving Tree

The Giving Tree has been set up for you to take a candy cane with a child's name. Share the joy of Jesus' birth with the children. Please place purchased gifts under the Christmas tree by **Sunday, December 8**.

Sorting will take place Sunday, December 15 in the Parish Hall with distribution on Monday, December 16.

St. Joseph Altar Volunteers Luncheon

Friday, December 6 — 11am

St. John Parish Hall

Please bring a pot luck dish and needed supplies to be donated to our Veterans.

GEMS (50 years and older)

Christmas Potluck Luncheon

Date: **Wednesday, December 11**

Time: 11am-1pm

Place: St. John Parish Hall

Meats, soft drinks and bread will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

Holiday Visits to Homebound

We will be visiting the homebound, the sick and elderly parishioners during the holidays **Thursday and Friday, December 19 & 20**. If anyone would like to join us in bringing Christmas joy to the homebound, please call JoAnn Landry at 225.776.0782.

Christmas Flower Envelopes

The envelope for Christmas flowers has been placed in the December packet of envelopes. The names of loved ones remembered with Christmas flowers will be published in the bulletin.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Donations to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection help hundreds of US religious communities to provide for their aging members.

For more information, visit retiredreligious.org, or contact Robin Cabral, at 508.685.8899, robincabral@retiredreligious.org.

Please give generously.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 7-4pm 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; Trista Parro, Capt. J. E. & Myrtle Lively; Maurice Brown, Joan B. Heath, Judy Priester; Mary & Chuchie Flatau, Anthony & Carmella Orcino, Orcino & Flatau Families; John E., Cecile D. & Maurice E. Brown, Joan B. Heath, Brown & Duhon Families; Michael Laurent, Jack Laurent, Owen Miller, Sr.; Ronnie Palermo, Brown Family, Palermo Family; M/M L. J. Raymond, M/M Joseph E. Bujol; Alfred, Mercedese, Lester & Mary Carville, Reid & Gerry Rainey, Edmund & Louise Bujol; M/M Houston LaBauve, Sr., Claudia LaBauve, Cecilia Laurent; M/M Claude K. Cavalier; Patrick Gaudet, Iris & Audrey Callegan, Carol Brandt, Raymond & Amanda Ducote; M/M Victor Crescionne, Crescionne Family, Michelle Family, Sister Joycelin Staempfli; Marvin Allen & The Allen Family; Nolan Bueche, III; M/M J. E. Dupont, Pat Dupont, Kathy D. Fulton, M/M Wilton Watts, Francis LeFleur; Mildred LeJeune Hernandez; Bebe Rabalais

Sunday, December 8-7:30am Mass-St. John Parishioners

Sunday, December 8-9am 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; Laurent, Vicknair & Dupuy Families; Peggy Dupre; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Denise Miranda; Inez Carlin; Jason Guidry; Victor J. Canella, Anthony F. Canella, Frank & Josie Canella; Ida Gaudet Family, Ruel Seneca, Sr., Leah Diamond, Linda Seneca Rafflee; Dianne Grace

Sunday, December 8-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson: Marshall & Virginia Peavy, Cleo & Ella Dupont; Isaac Vaughn, Jr., Brent Vaughn, Ezora Hedges, Sidney Hedges, Sr.; Gladys Denais, Larris Denais; Helen Scallan Sasser, John W. Sasser, Jr.; Dorothy "Dot" Williams Bergeron

Tuesday, December 10-6pm Mass

Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family; Colt Rivet, Leigh Dupre, Charlotte Mae & Caroline Elizabeth Carville

Wednesday, December 11-7am Mass

Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Schexnaldre & Nicolosi Families

Thursday, December 12-7am Mass

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

Friday, December 13-7am Mass

Mary Ann Gregoire



Sanctuary Candle

December 1, 2024

St. John the Evangelist
Andrew & Josephine Canova
Jerry & Cutsy Blanchard

St. Clement of Rome
Roland "Dougie" Rivet

Coffee & Donuts

December 8, 2024

Derryl Comeaux, Bobbie Cavalier & Janis Rockforte

(7:30am Mass)

Kevin & Kelly Gourgues (9am Mass)



Wanted: Prayer Warriors

St. John the Evangelist has an automated prayer line (225.687.1554) for those requesting prayer; whether they are facing surgery, are ill or would like to pray for another. We have a team who pray for all prayer line intentions. If you would like to join our team of Prayer Warriors, call the church office at 225.687.2402.

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT



All Glory to Jesus Christ!



FR. MITCH PACWA
MASS AND TALK
Sunday, December 8 at 11:30 am
St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church
18768 Jefferson Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

Fr. Mitch Pacwa, television host on EWTN and author, will be celebrating Mass at St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church on Sunday, December 8 at 11:30am followed by a lunch and spiritual talk.

