

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



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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

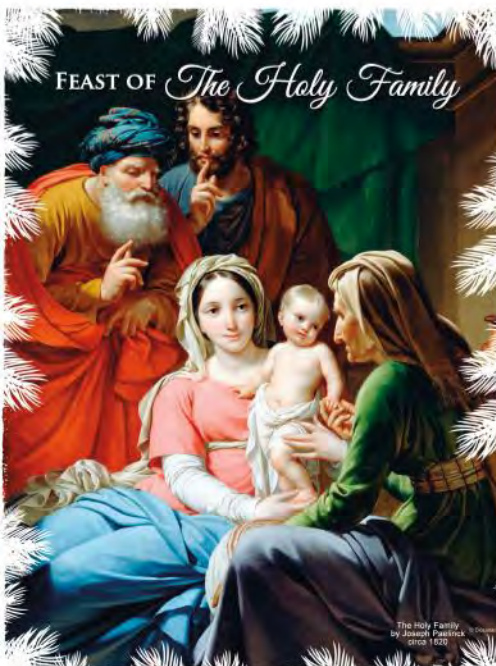
Medric Smith, Jr. ... Business Manager
Marsha Dupont.....Secretary
Susan LandrySecretary
Lily Skidmore.....Secretary
Gary Perrault..... Maintenance

Masses

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday...7:30 am, 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

Tuesday5:30-5:45 pm
Saturday3:00-3:30 pm



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 29, 2024

Great Expectations

Christmas can be disappointing. We remember the Christmases from our childhood, all the joy, the excitement, and the fun we had. When we grow up, we have to shop for gifts, write and mail the cards, put up the decorations, and do all the preparations that seem to stress us out. We may be sad that the day did not meet our expectations. Now that most of that is done, we can reflect on how the first Christmas upset all expectations.

I'm sure Joseph never expected to have a child so soon. And those Jews who looked forward to the coming of a Messiah never expected him to come as a baby. Yet God had his reasons for coming in this way. Jesus was born in a stable because no one had room for him. The first to see him were the shepherds, the migrant workers of the time. The political leaders (Herod and friends) wanted to kill him.

Jesus was born in this way to show that he came not for the important and wealthy, but for the poor and outcast. So today he continues to come to us in the homeless, the illegal alien, the sick, those in prison, the unborn infant, that we might find him where we least expect. Can we learn to see him in the unexpected, in our trials and difficulties, our own weaknesses? When we do, we will celebrate what Christmas is truly about.

Tom Schmidt



Pastor's Letter

December 29, 2024

Dear Family:

Merry Christmas to you and your families from our School and Parish Staff, Deacon Ricard, Mrs. Schlatre, Mrs. Morel, Mrs. Dupont and myself.

As people have married into my large Sicilian-American/Cajun family, I have tried to help them make sense of the many relationships. Generations of first, second, and third cousins number into the hundreds. Within this web of blood relations are several "branch-crossing" personal friendships. Some people are closer to their distant relatives than to siblings. Complicating everything are the "relatives" with no blood relationship but who have been grafted in through long association. Newcomers are easily intimidated by the complexity; one of my cousins even made a scorecard and map for his fiancée the first time she came to a family reunion. They've been married over twenty years now, but sometimes she will still pull it out at events.

Large and open family structure characterized early Israel, as is seen especially in the Book of Genesis. More importantly, God had a family as well. People who served the Lord, such as Eli and Samuel in today's first reading, were thought to be members of God's household as well as that of their human family. Early Christians used this traditional idea to talk about Jesus' relationship to God, most notable in today's Gospel reading. When Jesus speaks of his Father's house, he makes a double entendre, speaking of the temple building but also of his place in God's household.

Early Christians understood Jesus to be the head-of-household of the family of the Church. For example, Jesus' relationship to the twelve apostles resembles a kind of brotherhood. Grafted to his family, they joined him for Passover, attempted (but failed) to protect him, and became heirs to his Spirit. In today's second reading, Jesus plays the role of the head of the family not just to the twelve but to all who follow him [1 Jn 3:1-2]. As we find our place in the large and fractious family of the Church, we can be confident that Christ is looking out for us, protecting and providing as we serve his mission.

Some questions for reflection:

Where is your place in God's household?

How do you serve Christ's mission?

How has Christ provided for you as a member of his family?

Many thanks to the members of our parish family; the men, women, boys and girls who gave their time and love to the ministry of decorating our beautiful Church. Your ministry makes our church such a wonderful place for our parishioners and pilgrims who come here to pray. Thanks as well for all our Liturgical Ministers. Thanks to our Sacristans and the Loaves and Fishes ministry who help our bereaved parishioners. May God grant us many blessings this Christmas Season.

Peace,

Fr. Greg



Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars — 7pm

Third Floor Conference Room

Monday, January 13, 2025

Monday, February 3, 2025

Monday, March 10, 2025

Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Saturday, February 15, 2025

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



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 through Sunday, January 19, 2025.



Eucharistic Adoration

Come and Adore. Jesus is Waiting for YOU.

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, says the Lord.” (Mt 11:28)

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

Epiphany Concert

St. John the Evangelist Church

Sunday, January 12, 2025

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 for the journey - Sacred, Broadway & Big Band music performed by Father Greg Daigle accompanied by Bill Grimes and the St. John Epiphany orchestra benefitting St. John School.

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:

Saturday & Sunday, December 28 & 29 — 2-8:30pm

New Year's Eve, Monday, December 30 — 5-8:30pm

New Year's Day, Tuesday December 31 — Noon until fireworks run out.

Raffle Calendars

The Knights of Columbus Council 970 has 2025 Raffle Calendars for sale to support their charity endeavors through the year. The calendars are \$20 each and offer 365 chances to win. Call or text Bart Schlatre @ 225.385.5712 if interested in purchasing.

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

Ritualsong

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph #1108

Entrance: O Come, All Ye Faithful #521

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: What Child is This #552

Sending Forth: Angels We Have Heard on High #524



We will celebrate Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at 7am and 9am.

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:

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Panepinto



The Sacrament of Confirmation Age Change

Frequently Asked Questions

For some time, clergy and parish catechetical leaders have expressed a desire to lower the age of Confirmation. The two collective reasons as articulated by Bishop Duca are:

1. A strong desire to offer the graces of the sacrament to young people earlier and in closer proximity to their baptism.
2. To prepare young people and their families at a less busy time of their lives. As our youth enter adolescence, their schedules, involvements, commitments and pastoral needs increase in degree and complexity. Inviting young people to receive those strengthening graces at an earlier time will help fortify them as they encounter the trials and challenges of young adulthood.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for January

For the Right to an Education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.



The St. John Church Office will be closed until Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Happy New Year!!



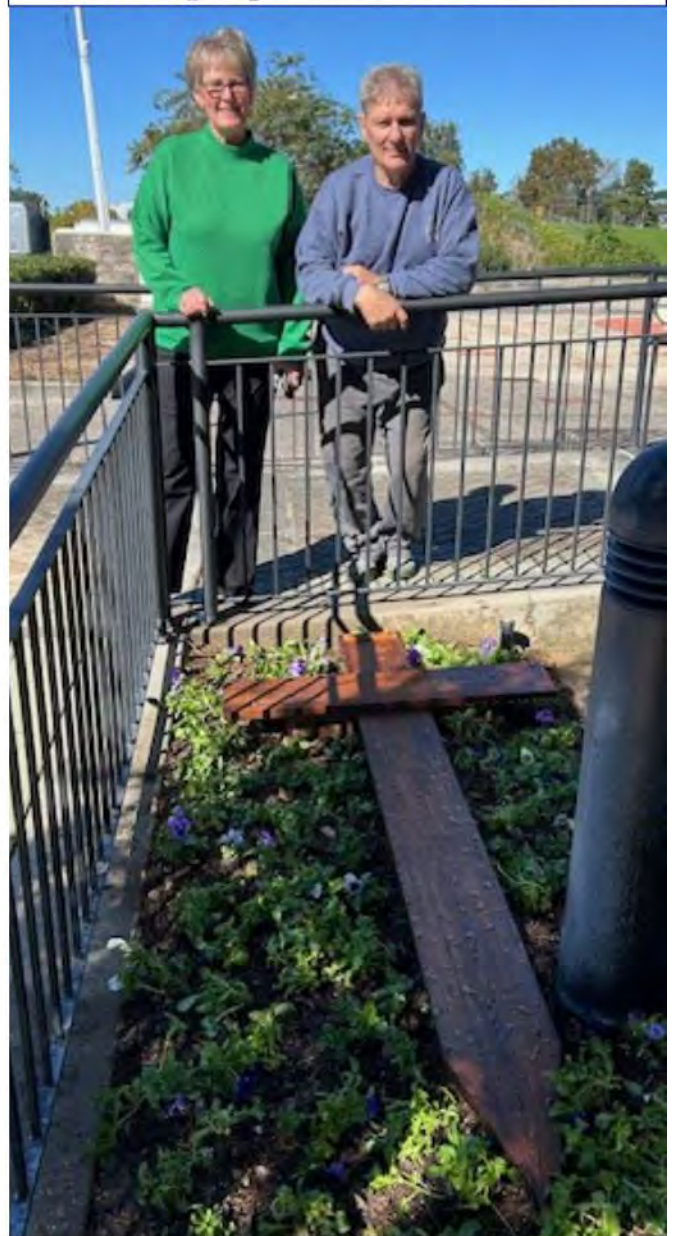
Called By Name

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.

Landscaping Committee at Work



Master Gardeners and St. John Parishioners collaborated recently in refurbishing the flowerbeds on the church grounds. Admiring the 100-year old cypress cross, above, made by parishioner Jason Leonard and donated by Lucky Songy, Vanessa and Guy Boudreaux are cultivators Deryl Ourso and Lucky Songy. Others helping with the planting were Donna Carville, Lorraine Hidalgo, Kelly Hebert, Barbara Quirk and Trish Ramirez. A variety of snapdragons and pansies were generously donated by **Dupont Nursery**.

Parish Activities — January 2025

Wednesday, January 1: Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Masses: 7am & 9am

OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, January 9, 16, 23 & 30

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

Sunday, January 12

Ladies of Peter Claver Parish Hall
2-4pm

Epiphany Concert Church
4-5:15pm

Monday, January 13

Catholic Daughters Meeting Parish Hall
2pm

Baptism Seminar Conference Room
7pm

Monday, January 13 & 27

Bible Study Conference Room
1-2:30pm

Saturday, January 18

Baptisms Church
Following 4pm Mass

Sunday, January 19

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

Monday, January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, January 28

Altar Society Meeting Conference Room
9:30am

“Sprucing Up” the Rectory for Christmas



Many hands are needed for preparing the rectory for Christmas. Volunteers adding their expertise and creativity are at top, l to r: Mary Kay D’Albor, Lorraine Hidalgo, Nettie Michel, Rita Jean Mooney, Sandra Bizette and Derryl Comeaux. At bottom are: Aurdrey Martinez, Trish Ramirez, Janet Bryant, Eugene Bujol, Jo Ann Carline and Roy Kolder. Not pictured are Betty Aucoin, Denny Bujol, Donna Carville, Ann Joffrion, Alice and Peedy Mire, Gary Perrault, George Ramirez and Jackie Simpson.

LET US
ADORE HIM
Christ the Lord

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 4-4pm 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; Charles Champagne, Jr.; Mary & Chuchie Flatau, Anthony & Carmella Orcino, Orcino & Flatau Families; Brennan Bujol, Pim & NuNu Clebert, Derley Barbier, Louise & Edmund Bujol, M/M L. J. Raymond, M/M Joseph E. Bujol, Alfred & Mercedes, Lester & Mary Carville; Reid & Gerry Rainey; Judge Edward & Lucille Engolio, Pauline E. deVerges, Ed Engolio, Jr.; Henry "Tutie" Berthelot, M/M A. J. Rodriguez, M/M Vives Vicknair, Sr., M/M Alger Rodrigue, Scott J. Marino; John E. & Cecile D. Brown, Maurice E. Brown, Joan B. Heath, M/M Robert E. Brown & Families, M/M Maurice E. Duhon & Families, Wayne A. "Parin" Achord; M/M Houston LaBauve, Sr., Claudia LaBauve, Cecilia Laurent; Carol Brandt, Raymond & Amanda Ducote; Johnny Zito, Sr., Johnny Zito, Jr.; Ronnie Palermo, Brown Family, Palermo Family; Charles Gerard Landry, Sr., Eloise LeBlanc Landry, Caliste Joseph Landry, Sr., Angelique Callahan Landry; M/M Frank Ragusa & Family, M/M Placito Mancuso & Family, M/M Mose Gibson & Family, J. D. & Ella Collins & Family; Stag Gomez, Catherine Gomez, Bryce Gomez, Les Gomez; J. P. "Jep" Daigle, Eddie & Virginia Clebert, Ulgere & Nilda Daigle & Family, Guy, Doris & Matthew Allen, Cathie Blanchard

Sunday, January 5-7:30am Mass-St. John Parishioners

Sunday, January 5-9am 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; Dudley & Marie Ragusa LeBlanc, Terry Landry, Sr. & Jr., Kynlee Bueche; Fred Hebert, George & Gloria Ramirez, James & Agnes LeBlanc; J. W. & Sue Bryant, Bill Bryant; Harold Sr., Barbara & Frances Himel, Brenda Blank; Anthony & Margie Vitale, Lloyd & Lillian Bouchereau; Paul & Emily Bourgeois, V. J. & Carolyn Vicknair; Frank, Josie, Anthony & Victor Canella; Rosemary Cox; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Sylvia Rivet, Shane Smith, Rivet Family; Ida Gaudet Family, Ruel Seneca, Sr., Leah Diamond, Linda Rafflee, Gloria Cavalier, Donald & Mary Cavalier, Mark Cavalier

Sunday, January 5-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; John Hanks; Nolan J. Bueche III

Tuesday, January 7-6pm Mass

Robert Mooney, Rita & Lyman Marchand, Scott Jude Marino, A. J. & Nera Rodriguez, Anthony & Mary Marino, Kids of St. Jude; Ida Gaudet Family, Ruel Seneca, Sr., Leah Diamond, Linda Rafflee, Gloria Cavalier, Donald & Mary Cavalier, Mark Cavalier

Mass Intentions (continued)

Wednesday, January 8-7am Mass

Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Nicolosi & Schexnauldre Families

Thursday, January 9-7am Mass

Alex, Alice & Joann Nolan

Friday, January 10-7am Mass

Ed Bahry



Sanctuary Candle

December 29, 2024

St. John the Evangelist
Calvin Wilbert III, Marion & Betty, Cal & Betty Wilbert

St. Clement of Rome
Ernest & Josephine Lapeze, Lapeze Family & Ragusa Family

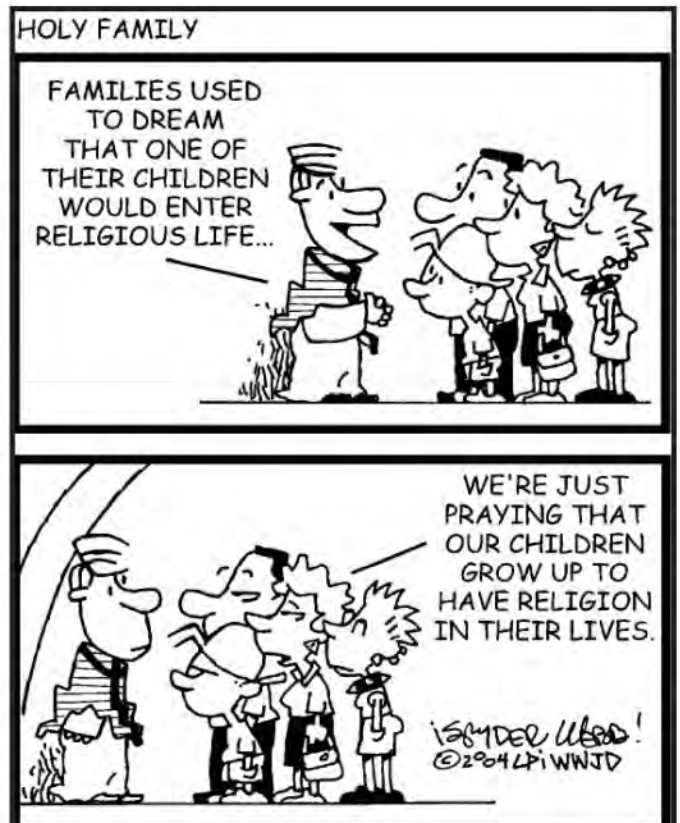
Coffee & Donuts

January 5, 2025

George & Patricia Ramirez
(7:30am)



Roger & Rosalind Sadden (9am Mass)



December 29, 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Scripture Readings

Week of December 29, 2024

Sunday The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Monday 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God
 Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Friday 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Saturday 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Sunday The Epiphany of the Lord
 Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

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 \$50 per person
 Limit 650 tickets
 Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

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Strengthening the Soul for the Battle

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025
 8:30 AM TO 5:45 PM - CHECK-IN AT 7 AM
 ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH ACTIVITY CENTER
 14158 FRENCHTOWN ROAD

Guest speaker
FR. CHAD RIPPERGER

Guest speaker
KYLE CLEMENT

This conference will focus on Understanding Diabolical Influence and Spiritual Combat. Join us to learn about angels, the way fallen angels/demons attack us mentally, diabolical influence in our culture, tactics and weapons for combat against it, being open to the flow of grace, and more.

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