SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

CATHOLIC CHURCH

57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
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|-------------------------------------|-------------|
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| Laurie BarbierDirector of Religious | |
| Education | |
| Wanda AshleyPSR | Coordinator |
| Donna Carville | OCIA |

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| Marsha Dupont | Secretary |
| Susan Landry | Secretary |
| Lily Skidmore | Secretary |
| Gary Perrault | . Maintenance |

Masses

| Saturday Vigil | 4:00 nm |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| | • |
| Sunday7:30 am, 9:00 a | m, 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 Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2025

Unwavering Fidelity to God's Will

In the old tradition of the Church, the Christmas season was celebrated up until this day, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. While current calendars have us taking down our trees at the Baptism of the Lord, today's Feast still holds great significance.

Jesus' parents were faithful to God's will, whether it be agreeing to a supernatural conception, following instructions given in dreams or fleeing to a foreign land. Forty days after His birth, they carried out the religious custom of bringing their child to the temple to dedicate him to the Lord. They brought a humble offering of either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

But perhaps the most surprising element is the fact that the members of the Holy Family are not the main characters in this story, but rather two elderly individuals who appear when the Christ Child is brought into the temple. Simeon and Anna, two righteous and devout people awaiting the redemption of Israel, were chosen as some of the first people whose eyes lit up upon seeing our Savior!

And that is why some still call this day "Candlemas" as well. They bless candles that symbolize Jesus as the Light of the World. Simeon and Anna experienced first hand the splendor of the Lord and went on to give thanks to God and speak about the child to all who would listen. The light that shone forth from the tiny Babe, went on to shine forth through them, for Jesus illuminates all the nations.

As we gaze upon the unwavering fidelity of Simeon and Anna, Mary and Joseph, what will our response be? Let us ask for the intercession of these saints to imitate their prayerful faithfulness. May we always be ready to follow God's will in our lives and present all that we are to Him in love.

Tami Urcia

We welcome the Confirmation candidates and their sponsors to 11am Mass this weekend.



St. John Church Parish Wedding Anniversary Mass and Celebration

On **Saturday**, **February 15** at St. John the Evangelist Church, couples celebrating 25, 50, 55, 60, 65 or greater years of marriage will be honored with reserved seating at 4pm Mass. Corsages and boutonnieres will be available in the parish hall for couples before Mass. Family and friends are invited to a reception following Mass in the parish hall hosted by the Altar Society.

If you are celebrating one of these anniversaries in the year 2025 and would like to celebrate with us, please email marshaadupont@sj.brcoxmail.com, call the Church office at 225.687.2402, or fill out the form below. You may drop the form in the collection basket at weekend Mass or mail it to St. John Church, 57805 Main Street, Plaquemine, LA 70764

| Full Names: |
|---|
| Address: |
| Email: |
| Telephone: |
| Date of Marriage: |
| Please circle anniversary to be celebrated: |
| 25 50 55 60 65 More than 65 |
| |

Please respond by Monday, February 10.

Scripture Readings

Week of February 2, 2025

Tuesday

Sunday Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;

Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22-32

Monday Heb 11:32-40, Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32;

Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14,

17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11;

Mk 6:7-13

Friday Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9c;

Mk 6:14-29

Saturday Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6;

Mk 6:30-34

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 or 1 Cor 15:3-8, 11;

Lk 5:1-11

Ritualsong

The Presentation of the Lord #1296

Entrance: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #806

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: Christ, Be Our Light! #692

Sending Forth: I Want to Walk as a Child of the

Light #693



Eucharistic Adoration

Come and Adore. Jesus is Waiting for YOU.

"By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy." —Blessed Carlo Acutis

The Adoration Chapel is open from 4am-10pm. To schedule an hour, please email or call Susan Landry, sblandry@sj.brcoxmail.com, 225.687.2402.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for February

For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young

people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.





Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars

Monday, February 3, 2025 Monday, March 10, 2025 Monday, April 7, 2025

Baptisms

Saturday, February 15, 2025

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025 — 9am & 11am Masses

The Baptism Seminars are held at 7pm in the Church Office Conference Room. Baptisms are usually held once a month following 4pm Mass.

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.

Christmas Flowers and Decorations 2024

In Loving Memory

Frank & Angelina Messina Frank Jr. & Chad Messina

John Leo Persick, Sr.

Sarah Jane Severio

Donald Persick, Sr.

Don Persick, Jr.

Jason Guidry

Philo & Celeste Brown

Raphel & Pauline Joffrion

T. L. & Goldie Lowe

Fred Hebert

George Ramirez

Gloria Ramirez

Agnes LeBlanc

Jimmy LeBlanc

Dwight Marix

Allen & Alberta Buquoi

Mary Jo Primeaux

Michael Clause

Lane Panepinto

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Lopez

Mr. & Mrs. William Badeaux

Lee Anne DeVaux

The Mellieon & Clay Family

Burman & Vera Guidry

Guidry & Bourgue Families

Mr. & Mrs. Kervin Olivier & K. P.

Clarence "Pete" & Mary Berthelot

Adam Sr., Dorothy & Adam Jr. Berthelot

J. Hubert Millet

Milda Millet

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Marionneaux

Mr. & Mrs. Tony Louis

Ms. Rita Zito

Leona & Mervin Gourgues

Shirley Gourgues Zito

Michael Gourgues

J. P. & Dottie Markins

Lois Falcon

Betty Dupree

Eula & Jessel Ourso

Pat Messina

Rockforte, Alleman & Gonzales Families

Paula Glaser

Glen B. Pirnie

Lindon A. Rivet, Sr. Patricia Messina

Eddie N. Boudreaux

Myrle J. Boudreaux

Jimbo Jumonville

Myrle & Frank Jumonville

Olive & Shelby Dupont

Alvin J. "Pecan" Daigle

Eddie & Virginia Clebert

Ulger & Nilda Daigle

J. A. "Nu Nu" & Gloria Clebert

Stuart Goudeau

Mr. & Mrs. Walton Landry

Mr. & Mrs. Gus Falcon

Mr. & Mrs. Camile Revere

Mr. & Mrs. Oneal Guillot

Ede Bahrv

Warren LeBourgeois, Sr.

The Bahry Babies

The LeBourgeois Family

The Bahry Family

The Deslett Family

Kotchie Tullier

Jean Scarsone

Anthony "Cap" Scarsone

Brent Paul Alexander

Randy Tullier

A. N. Diodené, Jr., M. D.

Lonnie & Gladys Diodené

Natalie, R. N. & Albert Bourgeois

Richard A. Bourgeois

Huey Hebert

R. J. Gaudet, Sr. & Jr. Family

Velma Gaudet

Alden & Pauline Hebert Family

Gaudet Family

Hebert Family

Burke Daigle

Leigh Dupre

Mary Ann Gregoire

Roselvn Sanchez

Fred Sanchez

In Honor Of:

Gordon Gregoire

(continued in future bulletins)



Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2025

St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

St. Jerome Emiliani

St. Jerome led a wayward life while a soldier until he was captured in battle and turned back to God. Soon after returning to Venice, he began studying

for the priesthood and was ordained in 1518. With the devastation from the war came famine and plague. At his own expense, St. Jerome cared for the victims left behind, especially the children. For this purpose, he and some companions founded the Clerks Regulars of Somasca, in Somasca, Italy.

Imitating Christ in the world

When Jesus said, "I am the way" (John 14:6), He meant for us to follow Him and live as He lived. He ate, slept, worked, and cared for friends and family, much like we do. Now, ordinary life, lived in union with Christ, can be an opportunity of grace for us.

"All the feasts in the Church's calendar are events of remembrance and hence events of hope." Pope Benedict XVI

"I choose Heaven!"

Our time on Earth is but a fleeting moment compared to the vastness of eternity. Yet, we often prioritize earthly concerns over preparing for Heaven. Jesus reminds us of the right priority: "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you besides" (Matthew 6:33). When we put God first, He faithfully provides for our every need.

What are your true priorities? Your daily routine is a reflection of your heart. Pause and consider: What consumes your time and energy? The things that dominate your schedule are the true indicators of your priorities. If they are pulling you away from God, it's time to reevaluate and make a change.

Where do you turn for guidance? When faced with decisions, do you seek advice from friends, social media, or colleagues, or do you turn to prayer and Scripture? Aligning our choices with God's wisdom leads to lasting fulfillment and peace. Resolve to trust His direction over the fleeting opinions of the world. When we place our decisions in His hands, we can move forward with confidence.

Do you trust God with your happiness? God's promises assure us of His perfect plan: "For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe, plans to give you a future full of hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). If trusting Him feels difficult, invite Him into your doubts and fears. Ask Him to reveal His goodness and faithfulness—He will answer, because He is always near.

Refocus your heart and trust God's plan for your life. Let go of distractions, realign your priorities, and step into the peace that comes from seeking Him first.

Why Do Catholics Do That

Why are Catholics only baptized once?

The Catholic Church teaches that Baptism is the gateway to the Christian life, marking the beginning of our communion with God.

Through this Sacrament, we are adopted as God's children and permanently sealed as His own. Baptism transforms us into new creations, opening our hearts to grace, strengthening us against sin, and deepening our love for God and others (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1121).

Because this sacred mark is everlasting, Baptism is received only once, signifying our eternal bond with God and call to holiness.

Growing in Faith

February 2025 Page 2

Trusting God in unexpected moments

Imagine you're at a wedding celebration for your friends. The atmosphere is lively, the music is playing, and everyone is enjoying themselves—until you overhear a troubling conversation. The kitchen has run out of wine. Due to an oversight, the caterers didn't bring enough, and with all the stores closed, the situation seems hopeless. What now?

"They have no wine" (John 2:3). Moments of crisis can catch us off guard, but they don't have to shake us. When Mary encountered this dilemma at the wedding in Cana, she didn't panic or place blame. Instead, she turned to the one she knew could help—her Son, Jesus.

With confidence, she simply informed Him of the need, trusting fully in His ability to provide.

"Do whatever He tells you" (John 2:5). These profound words, Mary's last recorded in Scripture, offer us a powerful lesson. When we bring our problems to God, He often invites us to be part of the solution. Trusting Him means being open to His direction, even when it leads to unexpected actions. The servants at Cana likely didn't anticipate filling massive jars with water, yet their obedience led to an extraordinary outcome—the finest wine, far surpassing anything they could have imagined. With God, the impossible becomes possible.

from Scripture

Luke 6:27-38, The demands of merciful love

In this Gospel passage, Jesus challenges our natural sense of fairness by commanding us to "love your enemies ... lend expecting nothing in return ... and forgive."

These teachings contrast with the Old Testament principle of "an eye for an eye," which aimed to prevent excessive punishment, and the idea of exchanging favors as a sign of gratitude.

However, human justice can lead to destructive cycles of retaliation and diminish the sincerity of generosity. When giving is tied to expectations, it becomes difficult to discern whether kindness is motivated by love or the hope of something in return.

Jesus invites us to embrace God's justice—one that surpasses human understanding. God's love is not conditional or transactional; it is generous, selfless, and freely given to all, regardless of merit.

As children of God, we are called to reflect His love by extending kindness, forgiveness, and generosity without expectation. In doing so, we move beyond human limitations and participate in God's perfect justice.

Feasts & 🛊 🔘

February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord. In accordance with the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple forty days after His birth, and Simeon praised God for revealing the long-awaited Savior (Luke 2:29-32).

February 10 – St. Scholastica (543). Twin sister to St. Benedict, St. Scholastica established a community of religious women about five miles from her brother's monastery.

February 17 – The Seven Holy Founders (13th century). Seven

Italian noblemen who withdrew from the immorality of the times to live in prayer, simplicity and penance. Their order, the Servants of Mary, was later approved by the Holy See in 1304.

February 23 – St. Polycarp (155). Bishop of Smyrna, Asia-Minor, Polycarp was a disciple of the apostle St. John the Evangelist, and a friend of St. Ignatius of Antioch. He faithfully cared for his flock despite being surrounded by pagans and a government opposed to his religion. Before he was martyred, he thanked God for making him worthy of a martyr's death.

Q & A

What do icons offer to our devotional life?

Icons are a revered form of sacred art. These sacred images carry a deep historical and theological significance, rich in symbolism and spiritual depth. Recognizable by their distinctive "flattened" style, vivid colors, and frequent use of gold backgrounds, icons often depict significant events from the lives of Jesus, Mary, and the saints, offering a window into their mystical and spiritual dimensions.

At first glance, the stylized, twodimensional nature of icons, coupled with the direct gaze of the figures, can feel unfamiliar or even challenging to engage with in prayer. It is often recommended to begin by spending just five minutes a day in quiet reflection before an icon, gradually increasing the duration over time. There is no need to rush—prayer with icons is a contemplative journey, and as we remain open and attentive, the Holy Spirit gradually unveils their deeper meaning to us.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faithth and Pattners in Faithth (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax. http://www.infaithpublishing.com (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible—Revised)

| Parish Activities — February 2025 |
|---|
| Sunday, February 2 |
| Confirmation Candidates & Sponsors Church |
| 11am Mass |
| Monday, February 3 |
| Baptism Seminar Conference Room |
| 7pm |
| Monday, February 3, 10, 17, 24 |
| Bible Study Conference Room |
| 1-2:30pm |
| Thursday, February 6, 13, 20, 27 |
| Bible Study Conference Room |
| 1:30-3pm, 6:15-7:45pm |
| Sunday, February 9 |
| Ladies of Peter Claver Parish Hall |
| 2-4pm |
| Holy Spirit Prayer Group Church |
| 3-5pm |
| Monday, February 10 Catholic Daughter Meeting Parish Hall |
| 2pm |
| Wednesday, February 12 |
| Jubilee Mass Church |
| 6:30-7:30pm |
| Thursday, February 13 |
| Confirmation Church |
| 7pm |
| Confirmation Reception Parish Hall |
| Following Mass |
| Saturday, February 15 |
| World Marriage Day Mass Church |
| 4pm |
| Baptisms Church |
| Following Mass |
| World Marriage Day Reception Parish Hall |
| Following Mass |
| Monday, February 17 |
| St. Joseph Altar baking begins K. C. Hall |
| 8am |
| Tuesday, February 25 |
| Chaplet of Divine Mercy Begins Church |
| Following 6pm Mass |
| Wednesday, February 26 |
| SJS PreK3-5th Grandparents Mass St. Clement |
| 11am |

Altar Society

Essential Support System of the Church

Altar Society Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wed., February 5 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 8-4pm 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; Brad Tullier, Charles Varnell; J. W. & Sue Bryant, Bill Bryant; Adam Rock Martinez; Margie & A. J. Doiron, Sr.; Margaret & Kelly Navarre; Paul Joffrion, Sr., M/M Robert Olano; Patrick Gaudin, Iris & Audrey Callegan; Paul & Jenise Ortis, Earl & Mary Devillier; Pat Messina; May & David Currier; Edmund & Louise Bujol

Sunday, February 9-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, February 9-9am 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; Jason Guidry; Kerne M. Coreil, Sr.; Henry "Tutie" Berthelot; J. C. & Hetta Hebert, Gilmore & Cleora Couvillion; Paul & Emily Bourgeois, V. J. & Carolyn Vicknair; "Sissee" Reinhardt; Sylvia Rivet; Ida Gaudet Family, Ruel Seneca, Sr., Leah Diamond, Linda Raffle; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Nancy Angeron Taylor; Mitchell Dufour, Boudreaux & Dufour Families

Sunday, February 9-11am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Cameron Edward Whatley; Michael Shepherd, Ruth "Se Se" Becnel, Ruth Keller; O. J., Buster & Pearl Hidalgo Songy & Families; John Hanks; George O. Michel, Alvin Daigle, Sr. Family, Anatole Nestor Michel Family; Marshall & Virginia Peavy, Cleo & Ella Dupont; Isaac Vaughn, Jr., Brent Vaughn, Ezora Hedges, Sidney Hedges, Sr.

Tuesday, February 11-6pm Mass

Case, Gum & Schuler Families; Paul & Maude Boudreaux & Family; Anthony & Mary "Dee" Marino, Sr. & Family; Delfay, Angele & Jean Claud Cavalier; Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Agnes & Sam Coletti Family

Wednesday, February 12-7am Mass

Dudley Nicolosi, Beryl Fourroux, Nicolosi & Schexnaildre Families

Thursday, February 13-7am Mass

Mary Ann D. Quaid

Friday, February 14-7am Mass

Jaynell Lopez, Albert Lopez, Johnson & Lopez Families

February 2, 2025

The Presentation of the Lord

DISCOVERMASS



Sanctuary Candle

February 2, 2025

St. John the Evangelist

Ronald, Brendon & Dudley Landry, Joe Coletti, Sr., Agnes & Sam Coletti & Family

St. Clement of Rome
Alfred & Mercedese Carville

Coffee, Donuts & King Cake

February 9, 2025

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

Kevin & Kelly Gourgues (9am Mass)





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