

# SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764  
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
stjohnchurchplaq.org • (225) 687-2402 • Fax (225) 687-1587  
stjohnchurchplaq@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 .....OCIA

## 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...7:30 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

Tuesday ..... 5:30-5:45 pm  
Saturday..... 3:00-3:30 pm



## Second Sunday of Lent March 16, 2025

### Have Faith

The story of the Transfiguration of Jesus in Luke's Gospel this week is similar to the ones in Matthew and Mark. One difference I noticed in Luke's version is that Jesus does not tell the three disciples to keep it secret. It seems they decided on their own not to tell anyone.

One reason may be what they heard. While Matthew and Mark just say that Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah, Luke is more specific: They "spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem" (9:31). Jesus had just said that he would suffer, die, and be raised from the dead in Luke 9:22. They probably hoped he was just telling them the worst that could happen, not what really would happen. So hearing it from

Moses and Elijah as well as from Jesus was too much for them.

This is where we come in. The apostles were afraid to face the coming passion and death of Jesus. I think we are like them in that we suffer more in anticipating what would hurt us than we do going through it. That is where faith can help. In faith, we hear Jesus tell us not to fear, as he often told his disciples. We know that Jesus suffered on the cross, so he knows what suffering is. And faith tells us that he is with us even when the suffering is the result of our own sins. After all, he himself suffered because of our sins. So have faith!

Tom Schmidt

### St. Joseph Altar

**Sunday, March 16, 2025**  
**12 Noon - 1:30pm**  
**Knights of Columbus Hall**  
**58715 Price Street**  
**Plaquemine, LA**

Blessing and viewing of the altar takes place at the K. C. Hall following 4pm Mass Saturday, March 15. Doors will open at the K. C. Hall at 10am Sunday, March 16 for anyone wishing to participate in the program. Everyone should be seated before 11am when doors are closed for the program to begin. Serving from the altar for the public takes place from noon-1pm immediately following Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the saints being served.



### Eucharistic Adoration

**Come and Adore. Jesus is Waiting for YOU.**  
 The Adoration Chapel is open from 4am-10pm. To schedule an hour, please email or call Susan Landry, [susanblandry@sj.brcoxmail.com](mailto:susanblandry@sj.brcoxmail.com), 225.687.2402.

### Ritualsong

**Second Sunday of Lent #1121**  
 Entrance: Forty Days and Forty Nights #565  
 Preparation: \*\*Instrumental\*\*  
 Communion: Jerusalem, My Destiny #568  
 Sending Forth: Silence

### The Light is On for You!

**Lenten Confession**  
 St. John, along with other churches in our Diocese, will open for confession at night during Lent.  
 Father Greg will be hearing confessions from 6-7pm on **Wednesday, March 26 & Wednesday, April 9.**

### Scripture Readings

**Week of March 16, 2025**  
 Second Sunday of Lent  
 Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17-4:1 or Phil 3:20-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36  
 Monday Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38  
 Tuesday Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12  
 Wednesday Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 2 Sam 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
 Thursday Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31  
 Friday Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
 Saturday Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
 Third Sunday of Lent  
 Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103: 1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9  
 Scrutiny Readings: Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rm 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or Jn 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

### Women's Silent Lenten Retreat

Joy



COMES FROM THE  
 CROSS

**Lead By:** the Holy Spirit & Gwen Hayes  
**When:** Saturday, March 22, 2025  
**10:30 - 2:30pm**  
**Light lunch provided**  
**Where:** St. John the Evangelist Church Parish Hall  
**in Plaquemine**  
**Register today by calling (225) 687-2402**



Join us immediately following 4pm Mass Saturday, March 22 to kick off the "100 Years Capital Campaign." We will meet on the piazza for wine tasting, classical music, hors d'oeuvres, prayer and fellowship.



St. John the Evangelist  
Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

# LENT 2025

 = a day of fasting and abstinence from meat  
 = a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>9</p> <p><i>"Each tree is known by its own fruit" (Luke 6:44). After Mass, ask God what "good fruit" He wants your life to bear this Lent.</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Practice true charity: "Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself" (St. Francis de Sales).</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Take fifteen minutes today for silent prayer. Don't worry about finding the right words. Just be still and let Him love you.</p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Ash Wednesday</i> Attend Mass and receive ashes as a sign of penance. Ask the Lord to help you grow closer to Him this Lent.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Prayerfully choose meaningful but achievable practices of prayer, penance, almsgiving.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Wake up five minutes early to dedicate your day to God's service.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Offer to pay for coffee, fast food, or groceries for the person in line behind you.</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Stay after Mass today to pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.</p>	<p>17</p> <p><i>St. Patrick's Day</i> In honor of St. Patrick's missionary work in Ireland, offer extra prayers for those who teach the Faith.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Listening well is a small but meaningful act of courtesy. Give the gift of your full attention.</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>St. Joseph's Day</i> In honor of St. Joseph, focus on the joyful Mysteries today, reflecting on St. Joseph's role in each event.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Skim the glossary of the <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> until something strikes your interest, and dive deeper.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy today, especially for the dying. You can find more information here: <a href="https://www.usccb.org/prayers">https://www.usccb.org/prayers</a></p>	<p>15</p> <p>Write a note of encouragement to someone you think needs cheering up.</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Write down three points you remember from Father's homily. Choose one you want to put into practice this week.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Honor your word, even to yourself. Perform a chore you've been putting off.</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>The Annunciation</i> Happy Solemnity! Today, we celebrate that God became man (John 1:14). Attend daily Mass or have a dessert—or both!</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Make a small sacrifice today: No cream in your coffee, no butter on your toast, no music in the car.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Lent and Holy Week are busy times in a Catholic parish. Call or stop by your parish office and ask how you can help.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>"There is no such thing as innocent slander" (Pope Francis). Today, practice the penance of not complaining about anyone.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Contact Catholic Relief Services (877-435-7277 or <a href="http://www.crs.org">www.crs.org</a>) to see how you can support any of their projects.</p>
<p>30</p> <p><i>Laelare Sunday</i> Today marks the halfway point to Easter! Have a dessert to celebrate that you have made it halfway to Lent.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Renew your commitment to your Lenten resolutions.</p>	<p>1</p> <p><b>April</b> Examine your conscience, using the Ten Commandments as a guide (Exodus 20:1-17).</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Go to Confession and experience God's mercy. Thank Him for His love and resolve to avoid future sin.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Instead of spending time on your screen, read a good spiritual classic.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Attend daily Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament sometime today. Thank Jesus for His sacrifice of love.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Choose to forego a financial luxury, such as online shopping or eating out. Abstain from it until Easter and donate the extra money.</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Extend fellowship. Invite friends to brunch after Mass, either at a restaurant or at your home.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Loving others well starts with knowing we are loved. Ask God to reveal His love to you today.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Read the Passion Narrative from the Gospel of Luke (Luke 22:23). What areas of your life and heart need His grace?</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Reduce the contents of your closets. If you used or worn something in a year, donate it to charity.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Go for a walk and look for signs of Spring.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Observe a (recreational) screen fast, from 12:00pm to 3:00pm, the time Jesus hung on the Cross.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, meditating on Christ's Passion through the eyes of His mother.</p>
<p>13</p> <p><i>Palm Sunday</i> When listening to the Gospel readings at Mass, imagine yourself in the scene. How would you respond?</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pray for all those coming into the Church at Easter Vigil.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Forgive anyone who has hurt you. Ask forgiveness of anyone you have harmed.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Reflect on your Lent: where did you grow? What graces did you receive? What habits would you like to continue after Easter?</p>	<p>17</p> <p><i>Holy Thursday</i> Make a Holy Hour today in a church or chapel to console Jesus for the abandonment, indifference, and sacrifice He suffers by us.</p>	<p>18</p> <p><i>Good Friday</i> Reread Luke 23. Jesus carried His Cross out of love for you. Resolve to imitate Him more faithfully this year.</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>Holy Saturday</i> Light a candle and renew your baptismal vows to remain committed to Christ.</p>





Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

March 2025

**St. John the Evangelist**  
Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

### One Minute Meditations

#### St. Agnes of Bohemia

Imagine refusing marriage proposals from two kings and the Holy Roman Emperor.

For Agnes, daughter of Queen Constance and King Ottokar I, none but the King of Heaven could win her heart. In 1236, after financing the construction of a Poor Clare monastery in Prague, she entered this monastery with seven other noblewomen. Elected abbess, she continued to perform the lowliest tasks in the community. She exchanged letters with St. Clare of Assisi, which survive today.

#### Scripture is God's love letter

Sacred Scripture isn't just a record of events that happened long ago but is intended for us today. When we read the Bible through the lens of Church teaching, we see God revealing the ways of the love of His heart for each of us, "back then" and still today.

"And what is the secret of perseverance? Love. Fall in Love, and you will not leave him." —St. Josemaría Escrivá

## Cultivate a heart for Lent

Just as an experienced gardener prepares the soil before planting to ensure healthy growth, we must prepare the "soil" of our hearts during Lent. This season invites us to clear away obstacles that hinder our relationship with God and nourish our spirits through prayer and the Sacraments. By doing so, we cultivate the "good fruits" that lead to a renewed and vibrant spiritual life.

**Uproot the Weeds:** Studies suggest that forming a new habit takes at least three weeks, depending on its nature. Begin by uprooting unhealthy habits and replacing them with holy, life-giving practices. Start small but be consistent — like waking up just five or ten minutes earlier to pray. Even small acts of self-discipline build the spiritual strength needed to face greater

challenges, including temptations.

**Nourish the Soil:** Spiritual growth isn't possible without grace. Mother Teresa, despite her incredible work, insisted on a daily Holy Hour, affirming, "How can we last even one day living our life without hearing Jesus say, 'I love you'— impossible." Follow her example by creating and following a routine of daily prayer, weekly Mass, and monthly Confession.

**Preserve the Fruits:** Commit to practices that bring new life, like choosing kindness over gossip, and prayer over screen time. By nurturing these habits, you'll encounter Jesus' love more deeply and reflect that love to others.

As we journey through Lent, may our hearts become fertile ground where faith, hope, and love can blossom abundantly.

### Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics give something up for Lent?

Catholics around the world make sacrifices during Lent to remind us that God is greater than anything the world can offer. By giving up small comforts or practicing acts of self-denial, we acknowledge that every good gift comes from Him. The sacrifice serves to remind us.

True love requires sacrifice. God demonstrated this perfectly by giving His only Son for our salvation (John 3:16). Our Lenten sacrifices help us imitate this divine love. By uniting our sacrifices with Christ's ultimate sacrifice on the Cross, we become more like Him.



## The virtue that leads to a balanced life

Prudence is the virtue of wise decision-making, guiding us to apply moral principles in everyday life with clarity and integrity. It empowers us to navigate complex situations with fairness and sound judgment.

**Act justly and fairly by treating others with justice,** free from favoritism or prejudice. For example, when caring for children, prudence ensures we give equal attention to each child, fostering an atmosphere of respect and equality.

**Balance courage and caution** by finding the middle ground between fear and recklessness. Prudence empowers us to make bold yet responsible choices. For

example, taking out a mortgage for a comfortable home is a prudent investment, whereas going into excessive debt to impress others is not.

**Master desires and avoid greed** to keep from becoming enslaved by life's pleasures. This virtue helps us avoid excessive consumption. Prudence allows us to appreciate good food, fine entertainment, or the latest technology without falling into excessive consumption.

**Prudence brings us practical wisdom.** When we practice prudence, we not only make better decisions but also move closer to living a balanced, fulfilling life.

### from **S**cripture

#### John 9:1-41, Faith gives us true sight

In this Gospel reading, Jesus cured a blind man on the Sabbath by making mud and smearing it on the man's eyes. This cure was two-fold; the man received both physical sight and the sight of faith. As he was being questioned by the Pharisees, his understanding of who Jesus was moved from knowing Him as simply a man, to acclaiming Him as a prophet, and finally, to worshipping Him as the Son of God.

While the faith of the cured man progresses, the spiritual sight of

the Pharisees does the opposite. In their anger, they were blinded to the truth—that the curing of the blind man was God's work. Furious that Jesus failed to observe the Sabbath, they refused to believe that the man had been blind from birth and had been healed by Jesus.

In Baptism, we are given the gift of faith—the ability to "see" God and our life in relation to him. The longer we follow Jesus and learn from Him, the better we understand Him. However, through sin, we can become spiritually blind.

### **Q & A** Why don't I feel better after Confession?

After Confession, many feel lighter, more peaceful. Other times, we may feel no change, or even sadness. Still, we are forgiven. Here's how to find peace.

**Make amends:** That lingering unease might be God's gentle nudge to make things right. Forgiveness is given in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but healing continues through restitution. If you confessed to stealing \$20, you're forgiven—but you still need to return it. Making amends completes the reconciliation process.

**Reject false guilt:** "Healthy" guilt alerts us to sin, like a burglar alarm. Once you've confessed, the alarm should turn off. If guilt lingers, recognize it as a temptation to doubt God's mercy. God doesn't hold grudges and neither should you. If you're struggling, seek help from a priest, counselor, or trusted Catholic friend.

Then do what pleases Him most – be still and let Him love you.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**March 6 - St. Colette (1447).** St. Colette was born in Corbie, France. She was orphaned at seventeen and gave her inheritance to the poor. She later became a Franciscan Tertiary and later reformed the Poor Clares. She founded seventeen convents under the reformed rule.

**March 17 - St. Patrick (493).** Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited with establishing the Church there.

**March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of Mary.** Jesus' earthly foster father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and protector of families.

**March 20 - St. Cuthbert (687).** St. Cuthbert joined the Benedictines at the Melrose Abbey. For his holiness, fervor and charity, he was made abbot of the Lindisfarne Abbey. He retired to be a hermit.

**March 25 - the Annunciation.** The angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary with the extraordinary news of her role as the mother of God. Even at her young age, she had complete confidence in God's grace and trusted in his wisdom.

#### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living  
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)



**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, March 22-4pm 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; Rose, Benny & Sid Quatrevingt, Gulotta & Quatrevingt Families; Jackie Jackson, Kirt Jackson, Melanie Rodrigues, Ronnie Touchet; Lazzaro Family, Kolby Lorio, James "Butch" & Sadie Tullier, Michael Lazzaro; M/M Edmond Gomez & Family

**Sunday, March 23-7:30am Mass**

St. John Parishioners

**Sunday, March 23-9am 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; Kristina Mellema; Charles Champagne; Paul & Emily Bourgeois, V. J. & Carolyn Vicknair; Scott Jude Marino, A. J. & Nera Rodriguez, Anthony & Mary Marino, Kids of St Jude; Fred Sanchez, Sr.; Laurence & Winnie Miller, Paul & Myrtle Richard, Edward Miller; Ida Gaudet Family, Ruel Seneca, Sr., Leah Diamond, Linda Raffle; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso

**Sunday, March 23-11am Mass**

Cindy Dickerson; John Hanks; Joseph & Lillian Crescionne, Peter & Rosalie Crescionne, Dr. Joseph & Tina Alesi; Isaac Vaughn, Jr., Brent Vaughn, Ezora Hedges, Sidney Hedges, Sr.; Wayne & Colby Gomez, Pitre & Gomez Families

**Tuesday, March 25-6pm Mass**

Robert Mooney; Dom Engolio; Allen, Flo & Paco Ourso

**Wednesday, March 26-7am Mass**

Ed Bahry

**Thursday, March 27-7am Mass**

Ronnie Dugas, M/M Fallon Trabeaux, Russel Naquin, Jr., Fal Naquin, M/M Alvin Dugas, Jackie Dugas Fremin

**Friday, March 28-6pm Mass**

Scott Jude Marino



**Sanctuary Candle**

**March 16, 2025**

St. John the Evangelist  
**William Middleton & Bill Middleton III**

St. Clement of Rome  
**Mr. & Mrs. Fred L. Allain**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Dupont**

**Lenten Weekday Schedule**

Tuesday - 6pm Mass  
6:30pm - Chaplet of the Divine Mercy Novena  
Wednesday & Thursday - 7am Mass  
Friday - 12 Noon Stations of the Cross  
6pm Mass & Stations of the Cross  
(No 7am Mass during Lent)



**Baptisms & Baptism Seminars**

**Baptism Seminars**

Monday, April 7, 2025  
Monday, May 5, 2025  
Monday, June 2, 2025

**Baptisms**

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025 - 9am Mass  
Saturday, May 31, 2025  
Saturday, June 28, 2025

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.

**Altar Society**

**Essential Support System of the Church**

Altar Society Team 3 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, March 19 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

**Children's Liturgy — March 2025**

**A safe and nurturing environment for children to participate in the Mass at an age-appropriate level**

March 16, 2025	11am Mass	Alexis Schlatre
March 23, 2025	9am Mass	Carrie Chiaravalle

**Coffee & Donuts**

**March 23, 2025**



**June Pinsonat, Sandra Bizette & Mary Joe Caffarel (7:30am)**

**Ruel & Diana Seneca (9am Mass)**





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## Kids' Corner

### 2nd Sunday of Lent

W	K	B	F	Q	C	H	O	S	E	N
K	G	S	I	N	A	W	A	K	E	S
S	Y	Y	V	L	D	H	P	U	T	S
M	P	G	K	A	A	X	X	N	F	X
A	C	R	G	E	Z	I	E	P	B	G
S	V	F	A	S	Z	T	H	R	H	L
T	Z	H	E	Y	L	P	M	A	C	O
E	L	G	N	E	I	E	I	N	L	R
R	F	Z	S	X	N	Y	E	A	O	Y
Y	Z	M	D	B	G	V	J	P	U	R
L	S	I	L	E	N	T	Q	J	D	M

Pray Dazzling Glory Sleep Awake  
 Master Tents Cloud Chosen Silent



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