

The HERALD



TWO CATHOLIC PARISHES
ONE FAITH COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 17, 2023



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:30pm Mass

Sunday

7:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

Weekdays

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

8:00am Mass

Confession Schedule

Saturday | 3:00pm

15 minutes before Daily Masses

Office of Religious Education & Youth Ministry

225-654-5885 | Mon, Tues, Wed

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." - Jn 1:26-27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Mass Schedule

Sunday

9:00am | Mass

Tuesday

5:30pm | Confession

6:00pm | Mass

PARISH INFORMATION

WWW.SJB-OLA.ORG

St. John the Baptist

4826 Main St., Zachary, LA 70791

Our Lady of Assumption

11444 Church St., Clinton, LA 70722

Pastor: Father Lamar Partin

Parish Office (mailing address)

4727 McHugh Dr., Zachary, LA 70791

225-654-5778

frontdesk@sjb-ola.org

Monday-Thursday | 8:30am-Noon

1:00pm-5:00pm

Friday | 8:30am-1:00pm



Today we light the Shepherd's Candle, the pink candle of our Advent wreath, which symbolizes Joy. This Sunday is known as "Gaudete Sunday", the day we are called to reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.

The newborn king's birth was announced first to the poor Shepherd's, to those on the margin of society.

What joy they must have felt to be the first to receive the news of this newborn king, but more so the joy they must have felt when they found this newborn king just as poor as they were, he was one of them! Jesus could have chosen to be born in the royal palace, he could have been born in a lavish environment, but he chose to be born in abject poverty, in a town that was insignificant.

Jesus' birth gave Joy to the first ones who announced the Good News of what they had seen, what they had experienced. That my friends, is Evangelization; sharing the Joy that we experience in our relationship with Jesus! May we like the Shepherds eagerly share the Joy of our experience with the God, who comes to us in prayer, in sacrament and in others.

~Father Lamar

Gospel Meditation

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: **"There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him."** The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a *pattern* at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light. — *Father John Muir*



LITURGICAL AND PRAYER LIFE



SANCTUARY LIGHT: Dec 16—Dec 22

The Sanctuary Light at SJB
will burn in memory of
Sonney Naquin

The Adoration Light
will burn in memory of
Dana Parmelee

The Sanctuary Light at OLA
will burn in memory of
Rita & Joseph Landry, Jr.



Saturday: 12/16: Caleria Ranatza, Bruce Pitre, Luke Everett Fontenot, Austin Hollingsworth, Orin Hollingsworth, John Dickinson, Thomas Rabalais, Todd Rioux, David Litchliter, Kenneth Wilkewitz, Dr. Froilan Tolentino, Rita O'Quinn, Frank Partin, Nick Adams, John Chaney, and Ida Guidry

Sunday: 12/17:

7:00 AM: Luke Everett Fontenot, Caleria Ranatza, Ed Bridwell, Brad Vince, Huey Tullier, Maxine Rupeter, Fr. Mark Beard, Dr. Froilan Tolentino, Alicia Summers, and Doris Tracy

9:00 AM: Jacob Meek, Evelyn Beauchamp, Kathy & Charles Weaver, Jr., Anthony Musso, Davis family, Steve Jacob, Terry Davis, Leslie Ligon, Cliff Muller, Grace Andes, Fr. Mark Beard, James Abadie, Sr., Harry Roland, Ethel Roland, Msgr. Cage Gordon

11:00 AM: Charles Rissler, Joe Anzalone Family, Tyler Craig, Berni & OD Nugent, Anna & Augustino Marchiafava, Marianne Lewis, Laura Gremillion, Newman & Jane Mary Matte, Dr. Froilan Tolentino, Rita O'Quinn, John Pollet, Ida Guidry, Will Holder, Bonnie LeBlanc

Tuesday: 12/19: Caleria Ranatza, Evelyn Beauchamp, Kathy Weaver, Msgr. Cage Gordon

Wednesday: 12/20: Caleria Ranatza, Ruth & Erin Delahoussaye

Thursday: 12/21: Luke Everett Fontenot, Caleria Ranatza, Jimmie McKenzie, June & FJ Bello

Friday: 12/22: Caleria Ranatza, David Litchliter, Rita O'Quinn, Don Metcalf, Moise & Virginia Deslatte, M. E. & Mary Deslatte, Jimmie & Olga Lambert, George & Carol Wysor, Dennis & Rena Trosclair

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Aaron Barr, USAF

Jared Barr, USAF

Nathaniel Barr, USN

James A. Benning, USM

Matthew Boyd, Army

Cody Castello, USMC

Eugene Cazedessus, USMC

Manley Anthony Cazedessus, USAF

Matthew Thomas Cazedessus, USAF

Allen Jude Charlet, Army

Daniel Clesi, USAF

LeLand Crochet, III, USMC

Matthew Charlet Dart, USN

Jeffrey Oliver Davis, USN

Stephen DiLorenzo, Army

Thomas Foster, USN

Neil Ahldwin Garcia, US Army

Brad Gautreaux, USMC

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James Anthony Johnson, USAF

Sabrina Jones, LaNG

Markus Kippers, USN

Dustin Knight, USN

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James Rouchon, USMC

David Welch, LaNG

Gordon M. White, USAF

Christopher Williston, USAF

In Sympathy

Our Communities of Faith
extend our sympathy and
prayerful support for the
family of:

John McCrary

May the Lord grant comfort
and peace to this family. May
hisi souls and the souls of all
the faithful departed, through
the mercy of God, rest in
peace. Amen

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

St. John the Baptist

Sunday, December 24th: 4:00pm

Sunday, December 24th: 11:30pm

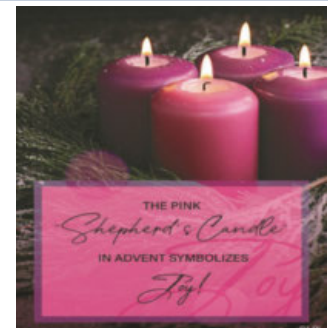
Monday, December 25th: 9:00am

Our Lady of the Assumption

Sunday, December 24th: 6:00pm



We will have the regular weekend Mass schedule on Dec. 23/24.



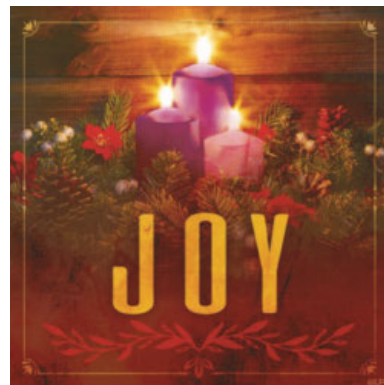
LITURGICAL AND PRAYER LIFE

Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Observances for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent
Monday:
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Friday:
Saturday: St. John of Kanty, Priest
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve



A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

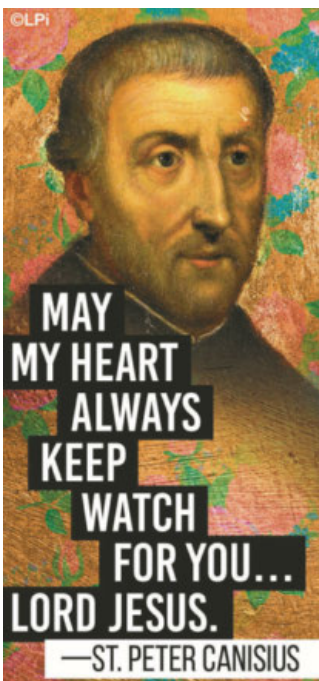
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi





**Offices will be Closed
from December 23-
January 1, 2024.**

**The offices will
reopen on
Tuesday,
January 2, 2024.**

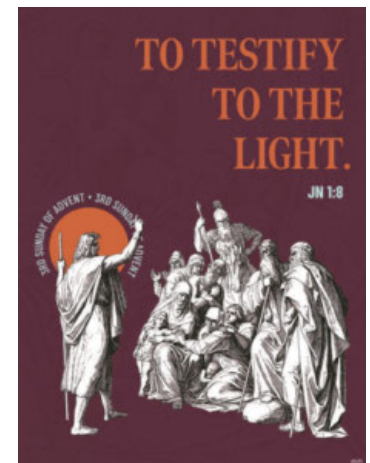


Born in Holland, St. Peter Canisius (May 8, 1521 – December 21, 1597) was a preacher, teacher, and writer throughout his whole life. At the age of 19, he received a master's degree from the university at Cologne. Soon afterwards, St. Peter met Peter Faber, the first disciple of Ignatius of Loyola, who influenced him so much that he eventually joined the Society of Jesus.

St. Peter Canisius founded colleges and seminaries, served as a missionary, cared for the sick or imprisoned, and wrote close to eight volumes of letters — many about St. Cyril of Alexandria and St. Leo the Great.

A man blessed with many talents, St. Peter Canisius is a wonderful example of a man who developed his talents to further God's work here on earth. ©LPi

Fight all false opinions, but let your weapons
be patience, sweetness and love.
Roughness is bad for your own soul and
spoils the best cause.
~Saint John of Kanty



New Year's Eve & New Year's Day Mass Schedule

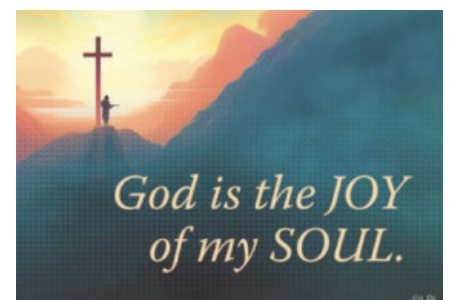
St. John the Baptist

Vigil: Sunday, December 31st: 6:00pm
Monday, January 1st: 8:00am

Our Lady of the Assumption

Monday, January 1st: 6:00pm

*We will have the regular weekend Mass
schedule on Dec. 30/31*



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, Dec 17

Third Sunday of Advent

-7:00 am: Mass

-9:15 am: K-5 Rel Ed

-10:30 am: Catholic Daughter Rosary

-11:00 am: Mass

-4:00 pm: Middle/High School Rel Ed

Monday, Dec 18

-7:00 am: 12 Hour Adoration begins

Tuesday, Dec 19

-4:00 pm: Homeless Shelter

-5:30 pm: Childrens Choir practice

-6:00 pm: Adult Choir practice

Wednesday, Dec 20

-8:00 am: Mass

-5:00 pm: SVDP Christmas Party

Thursday, Dec 21

-8:00 am: Mass / P.H. Novena

-7:00 pm: OCIA (RCIA)

Friday, Dec 22

-8:00 am: Mass / Divine Mercy/ Benediction

-8:30 am: Lite Breakfast & Coffee

Saturday, Dec 23

-3:00 pm: Reconciliation

-4:30 pm: Mass

Sunday, Dec 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

-7:00 am: Mass

-11:00 am: Mass

-4:00 pm: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

-11:30 pm: Midnight Mass

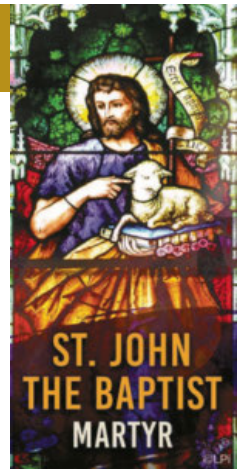
COLLECTIONS (12/17/23)

Collections will be reported next week



Thanks to all who participated in the **Christmas Program**. The children worked very hard. We hope you all enjoyed it.

K-5 & 6-11 Religious Ed Classes—
Dec. 17



Our annual ADVENT GIVING TREE is now set up in the vestibule of church. This year, we are asking you to choose how you would like your donation used:

La. War Vets –provides a Christmas gift for the Catholic residents at the home

St. Vincent the Paul– provides assistance with rent, utility bills, food & other needs for those in our area

Zachary Food Bank –provides food for the hungry in our area

Church Projects-current project is a screen and projector system for the PAC and Parish Hall

Take an envelope from the tree. Check off your choice on the front of the envelope and place your donation inside. Return the envelope in the basket under the tree, in the collection at Mass or to the office.



Monthly 12 Hour

Adoration

Monday, Dec. 20th beginning at 7:00am

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." -

Saint Padre Pio



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OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION



Purchase the items listed on the ornament. Please return your gift "wrapped and ready" by **December 19th**. Remember to attached the ornament to the gift so we can identify the recipient.

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, Dec 17

Third Sunday in Advent

-9:00 am: Mass

Tuesday, Dec 19

-5:30 pm: P. H. Novena

-5:30 pm: Reconciliation

-6:00 pm: Mass

-6:30 pm: Christmas Program and Potluck

Wednesday, Dec 20

-1:00 pm: Adoration

-6:15 pm: Vespers

Sunday, Dec 24

Fourth Sunday in Advent

-9:00 am: Mass

-6:00 pm: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass



The Children's Annual Christmas Program is **Tuesday, December 19th at 6:30pm**

Christmas Program & POTLUCK to follow the 6:00 pm Mass...

Please SIGN UP in the entrance of church to bring your favorite dish to the potluck.

COLLECTIONS (12/17/23)

Collections will be reported next week



Advent Bible Study

Last class is Thursday, December 21st at 5:00 pm in the Parish Hall.



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