



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

9810 Indiana Ave
Suite 150, Mailbox #4
Lubbock, TX 79423

Phone: 806-771-2673
Fax: 806-771-2674

Website:
www.stjohnbaptistlbk.org

Email:
stjohnbaptistlbk@gmail.com

Pastor: Msgr. David R. Cruz

Business Admin. & Parish Secretary: Evangeline Jimenez

Masses: Sat., 5:00pm (English) & Sun., 10:00am (English)

Confessions by Appointment

Office Hours: Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9:00am - 1:00pm

Tues. & Thurs., 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Rectory (Fr. David's Home):

3323 86th Street, Lubbock, TX 79423

April 24, 2016

5th Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTION:

Saturday, April 23rd:
Albert Valdez (Eternal Rest) +

Sunday, April 24th:
Mass for the People

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading:
ACTS 14:21-27

Responsorial Psalm:
I will praise Your name forever,
my King and my God.
(Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13)

Second Reading:
Revelation 21:1-5a

Gospel Acclamation:
I give you a new commandment,
says the Lord: love one another
as I have loved you. (John 13:34)

Gospel:
John 13:31-33a, 34-35

UPCOMING ACTS RETREATS

Women's ACTS Retreat

June 9-12
November 3-6

Teen ACTS Retreat

July 14-17

Men's ACTS Retreat

August 18-21

ACTS Retreats are opportunities for men, women and teens to grow a deeper relationship with Christ over a weekend retreat. For more information or to register, please email Maria Treviño at faithlovehope15@yahoo.com

FIRST COMMUNION MASS

Saturday, May 14, 2016
at 5pm at SJTB



We invite you to join us
as our parish youth
receive the sacrament
of First Holy Eucharist.

All are welcome!

UPCOMING CURSILLO RETREATS

Men's Retreat (English)

May 5-8

The Cursillo focuses on training lay people to become effective leaders over the course of a three-day weekend, and to grow a deeper relationship with God.

For more information, please contact Dcn. Joe Morin at 806-792-4308 (office) OR 806-543-5686 (cell).

MAY MERCY DAYS

During May, we would like to visit with and/or provide meals for any of our parishioners that are ill, homebound, or just need company. If you, your loved one, or anybody you are aware of would benefit from a visit, please contact Sybille Neuber and the Spiritual Life Committee at sneuber6@gmail.com OR 392-3860.

PRAYER INTENTION LIST

Week of April 17, 2016

Healing & Good Health

-Juan Contreras -Ben Ybanez
-Martha Oyervidez -Pete Montes
-Yajayra Marin -Corina Escamilla
-Eloisa Landin -Sylvia Ortiz
-Karter Salazar -Martha Salazar
-Jason Mata -Mary Salazar
-Bea Rodriguez -Daniel Cortez
-Joe Porras -Andrea Garcia
-Michelle Olivarez -Patsy Paz
-Gracie Rodriguez -Eli Paz
-Michael Reyna -Jack Castilleja
 -Olga Hernandez
 -Alice Hernandez

General

-Contreras Family
-Marlene Lopez
-Edvardo Anchundia
-Adrian & Rosalinda Jimenez

Eternal Rest

-Ernestina Cardenas
-Cherly Drake Minnick
-Jackie Wright Quitevis

SECOND COLLECTION

For Disaster Victims of Earthquakes in Ecuador

April 30th & May 1st

We will be taking up a second collection to help those suffering in Ecuador after a series of devastating earthquakes. The death toll is over 500, and there have been over 4,000 injured. We ask that you pray for the families and victims.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Sat, May 7th from 10am—1pm

For more information or to register, please contact:

Alicia Alvarez at
aalvarez@catholicclubbock.org
OR call 792-3943.

Dear Friends of St. John the Baptist,

In a series of articles that appeared in *America*, a national Catholic magazine published by the Jesuit Fathers, the authors provide a summary of some of the major points of Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation on family life and marriage. The title of the Pope's teaching is "The Joy of Love."

According to the theologians who have reviewed the document, "Pope Francis not only ***strongly*** affirms the ideal of marriage; he also opens doors to those Catholics who can participate in it now only in an incomplete way because they are civilly married, living together or divorced and re-married." The Pope says the aim is to integrate, not exclude, these people who fall short of the Christian ideal. Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of reaching out to everyone to help each person find his or her proper way of participating in the Church and thus experience being touched by an unmerited, unconditional and gratuitous mercy. Pope Francis insists, "No one can be ***condemned*** forever, because that is not the logic of the Gospel." The Holy Father adds, "Here I am not speaking only of the divorced and re-married, but of everyone, in whatever situation they find themselves." He adds, "It can no longer be said that all those in any 'irregular' situation are living in a state of mortal sin and are deprived of sanctifying grace."

In a most important section, the Pope urges patience and mercy for those whose marriages have failed. He says, "it is important that the divorced who have entered a new union should be made to feel part of the Church." And he wants to abandon the old formulation, 'living in sin'. Pope Francis also reminds Catholics that "individual conscience needs to be better incorporated into the Church's practice. He reminds us of the traditional belief that we hold true, that a person's individual conscience is the final arbiter in defining the moral life. In other words, the Church has been "called to form consciences, not to replace them." Pastors, therefore, need to help people not simply follow rules, but to practice "discernment", a word that implies prayerful decision-making.

So, what does all this mean in our daily lives? To begin with, there is an awful lot to consume in the previous summary. The Pope is addressing some profound questions around marriage, divorce, and re-marriage, and how people in our faith who have undergone divorce and re-marriage should always be treated with dignity and compassion. Secondly, those who are not married in the Catholic faith should always be encouraged to be a part of the Church, and should be given greater assistance in order that they be included in the sacramental life of the Church. As Pope Francis says, "No one can be condemned forever", and no one should be deprived of sanctifying grace. (*To be continued...*)

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. David