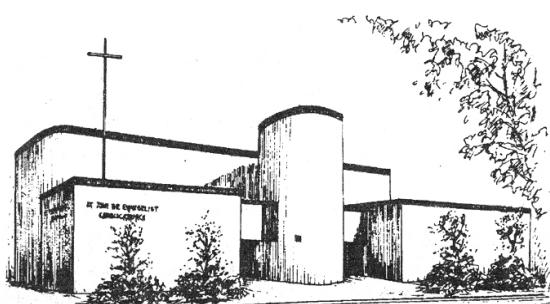


St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

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Email: stjohnthee@cableone.net



Staff:

Rev. Ryan McCoy, Pastor
Deacon David Allen, Pastoral Associate
Sr. Mary Kealy, PBVM, Pastoral Associate
Teri Patton, Parish Secretary

Masses: Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

First Saturday Devotion: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Spanish Mass: Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Holy Days: 6:00 p.m., Vigil, 7:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

Confession: Saturday 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. and anytime on request



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First Sunday of Lent February 14, 2016

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Each of the scriptures for the First Sunday of Lent contains some sort of confessional statement. As we enter into the season of Lent these texts focus our attention on our own choice to place our trust in God. They help the elect prepare to profess their faith in Jesus Christ and be baptized at the Easter Vigil. They remind the rest of us of the faith we once professed in baptism and invite us to choose wholeheartedly to renew those baptismal promises at the Masses of Easter.

Today's first reading is considered one of the most important professions of faith in the Hebrew Bible. By ritually reciting their history, the Jewish people expressed their faith in one God who oversees all of human history and who will continue to gather, save, and sustain every new generation of the Chosen People. The reading from Paul's letter to the Romans shows that the heart of the Christian profession of faith is trust in the Lordship of the risen Christ, source of all salvation. The Gospel contains the familiar story of the temptation of Jesus by the devil, the setting for Jesus' threefold profession of faith and trust in God.

DAY BY DAY

At Easter, throughout Lent, and every day of our lives we are to profess and live our faith that "Jesus is Lord" (Romans 10:9). Both Moses and Jesus tell us that we are to serve God alone. God chooses us as adopted children in baptism. Day by day we must choose to trust in God to save us, as Jesus did in the desert. During Lent God asks us to scrutinize every choice we make, so that at Easter we can truthfully "confess with [our] mouth that Jesus is Lord" (Romans 10:9). With those who have chosen to be baptized this Easter, we must choose to put our faith in God rather than material goods, power, or any other devilish temptation.



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First Sunday of Lent February 14, 2016

*The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart.*

— Romans 10:8

C.C.D. (Grades K-12) Sundays, 9:00-10:15 A.M.
Knights of Columbus..... 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.
K C Ladies Auxiliary..... 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 P.M.
R.C.I.A..... Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M.
St. Vincent de Paul..... 2nd Wednesday, 9:00 A.M.
Young At Heart..... 4th Thursday, 12 Noon

JESUS AND THE DEVIL

The devil tempted Jesus by quoting scripture, as today's Gospel reminds us. Try a self-serving miracle. Try selling out. Try dazzling the audience; people are gullible, after all. Try all these easy ways. The tempter tries to urge Jesus onto the slippery slope, attempts the old soft-soap, the snake-oil solutions that are always readily at hand. The devil knows better, but is powerless to do better, much less be better. The devil is evil personified, who senses in Jesus the stronger, truly attractive presence of holiness.

Evil is exposed and engaged, we are reminded in this Sunday's Gospel. Evil knows the jig is up. The undoing of lies begins with Jesus, who takes up the work of soul-healing and world-healing. This Lent, the Church invites us to enter into this renewing, re-creative work and be made whole again.

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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church!

If you are new to the parish and have not yet registered, please out one of the registration forms on the back table or call the parish office at 864-2272.



Happy birthday wishes to— Tony Sauro, Cassie Williams & Dustin Williams celebrate Feb 13; Joshua Foltin & Zoe Johnson celebrate Feb. 14; Jason McHugh, Pauline Mensi celebrate Feb. 15; Margie Dedeux & Patrick Foltin celebrate Feb. 16; Ardeth Hessell celebrates Feb. 17; Carolyn Faynard & Sophie Frommeyer celebrate Feb. 19.

May God Bless them with many more Happy Birthdays!



We extend our deepest sympathy to Curt & Cecile Arleth in the death of Cecile's father Elwin Bostwick and to the family and friends of Cecile Baker in the death of Cecile. May God reward Elwin and Cecile with Eternal Rest, Light and Peace and may He comfort their families in their sorrow.



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Sunday, February 14 is World Marriage Day.

World Marriage day is the 2nd Sunday in February. This year it falls on February 14, Valentines Day. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life. The theme for WMD has been permanently adopted as "Love One Another". This phrase is the commandment given us by Jesus in John 15:12. It speaks to us in a simple but challenging way of how our Father wishes us to live. Loving one another is a daily decision, simple but challenging.

Prayer for the Vocation of Marriage

Heavenly Father, through the intercession of the Holy Family, help us treasure the gift of marriage that reflects the love of Christ for the Church, where the self giving love of husband and wife unites them more perfectly and cooperates in you plan for new life created in your image. Help us support men and women in their vocation of marriage, especially in difficult times when they join their sufferings to the Cross. Help us uphold the institution of marriage in our society as the place where love is nurtured and family life begins. Help us acknowledge that our future depends on this love and on your providential care for us. Amen.

RCIA



Our RCIA Catechumens and Candidates will celebrate the Sending of Catechumens for Election and Candidates for Recognition by Bishop Morin at the 10:30am Mass this Sunday, February 14. Our Parish has the responsibility of surrounding them with prayer, love and hospitality. Next Sunday, February 21 our Catechumens and Candidates will participate in the Rite of Enrollment at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Biloxi.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 23, at the Noon Mass. This Sacrament of Healing will be celebrated within Mass. We encourage you to bring a neighbor or loved one to this celebration. Everyone is welcome.

The second collection at all Masses this weekend is for Black and Indian Missions.

The second collection next week is for church hospitality.

Lenten Schedule

Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 7:00am & 12 Noon
Stations of the Cross: Fridays, 6:00pm
Anointing of the Sick: Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 12 Noon
Lenten Penance Service: Monday, March 14 at 6pm
Seder Meal: Tuesday, March 15 at 6pm in Presentation Hall
Tenebrae Service: Wednesday, March 23 at 6pm

The Friday evening Stations of the Cross will be conducted by the following people:

February 19: Fr. Ryan McCoy
February 26: Fr. Jacob Matthew
March 4: Deacon David Allen
March 11: Fr. Ryan McCoy
March 18: Deacon David Allen

Catholic Sharing Appeal is underway in our Diocese
The Catholic Sharing Appeal is the once a year program to help raise funds to support the ministries of our Church. The beginning of our Lenten season gives each of us the opportunity to generously support the CSA with our prayer and financial gifts. Please consider being a part of this Stewardship program that does so much for so many people. Our goal for this year is \$26,391.00. Together we can provide for God's people by achieving our goal.

The Pope's intentions for February

GENERAL

Care for Creation

That we may take good care of creation –a gift freely given - cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

MISSION

Asia

That opportunities may increase for dialogue and encounter between the Christian faith and the peoples of Asia.



XLT Adoration

Tuesday, February 16 at 7pm
We will have XLT Adoration here at St. Johns every Tuesday at 7pm. Come enjoy some one-on-one time with Jesus for an hour He wants to hear your troubles, your needs, your joys, your prayers...come and ADORE Him! If you've never been, let this be your invitation. Adoration with live worship music. Confessions will be available. Everyone is welcome!!

Ultreya will be Monday, Feb. 15 at 7:00 pm in Presentation Hall. Our lay speaker is Doug Lemere and our spiritual speaker SURPRISE, Fr. Ryan McCoy. Please make an effort to attend. If you would like bring a snack, but not necessary. Spend some quality time during this Lent with fellow Cursillitas. For more information contact Mike or Dean Craft 228-896-4253.



Come Support our St. John Men's Club

Friday's during Lent ~

Starting Feb. 12 - Mar. 18

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Walk-ins are welcomed!

**Come to the Stations of the Cross Devotion in the church at 6pm and then
enjoy some tasty fried fish.**

The proceeds of this fundraiser will be used to make improvements to the Presentation Hall Kitchen.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Judy Allen	Lorraine Goad	Edward Panter
William Allen	Bobby Gordon	Linda Papania
Brian Bacuzzi	Oren Haddock	Trey Patterson
Peter Bacuzzi	Jessi Hebert	Rhonda Piltcher
Theresa Barlow	Loyce Hire	Doris Ransom
Charlie Barnes	Annie Hosli	Gary Reeves
David Bell Jr.	Baby Lillian Jackson	Ken Saxon
Mary Anne Bishop	Darron Johnson	Austin Seymour
Ashley Blair	Bethanie Jones	John Simmons
Melissa Bowles	Roy Jones	Rick Stinnett
Pablo Cabasa	Margaret Jowers	Joye Travis
Rodolfo Cabasa	Mary Kealy	Becky Truxillo
Carol Campbell	Les Knighten	Felecia Vann
Buddy Cospelich	Kimberly Lacap	Jack Vincent
Socorro Crabbe	Gary Lacy	Vanessa Vincent
Kevin Crane	Larry Lee	George & Evelena Watson
Jennifer Davis	JoAnn Liner	Melanie White
Susanne Davis	Faye Lizana	Rosemary White
Nita Dawkins	Kathy Lizana	Bianca Williams
Linda Elford	Walter Lolley	Addie Wittmann
Don Enroth	S. J. Marengo	Margaret Woods
Joe Felts	Patricia McGoey	Ginger Worth
Lynda Felts	Celeste McInnis	
Elizabeth Flanders	Rhonda Mires	
Nicole Gilbert	Margaret Moran	
Dan Goad	Angel Nichols	

Prayer is the door through which all God's Graces comes to us -St. Theresa of Avila

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today Lent begins. Ash Wednesday initiates the forty days of the Lenten fast, but since Sundays are not tallied in the days of fasting, today is the solemn opening of the forty days of Lent. The Church has work to do today, principally the calling forward of those chosen (the proper word is elected) for the Easter sacraments. Some of those who have been catechumens may now make a transition to a new way of life as the "elect." For them, this Lent will be a time of "purification" and "enlightenment." For us who accompany them, it is a time of helping them discern God's call and prepare for new life.

This year, while the readings from the third year of the Lectionary cycle are usually read, they are set aside on certain Sundays for the benefit of the elect. We turn then to the readings from Year A, and we give those who journey to the font of baptism three extraordinary companions. In the Gospels for those days, we meet the woman of Samaria and the man born blind, and we come to the tomb of Lazarus three days after his death. Many bishops celebrate the Rite of Election on or near today, affirming God's choice for these new faithful, and also offering them the solidarity of many companions. In 2013, over 38,000 adults entered the baptismal waters in the United States, a remarkable testimony to the vigor of our tradition of receiving and nurturing adult faith.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites show their faith by offering the LORD first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalm — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

Second Reading — All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday:	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1]; Lk 9:28b-36

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	First Sunday of Lent; Valentine's Day; World Marriage Day
Monday:	Presidents' Day
Wednesday:	The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Friday:	Abstinence

Collections Feb. 6-7

Identifiable: \$3314 Unidentifiable: \$1099 ACH: \$1645
Church Maintenance \$652

Thank you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday:	+Anthony Davis; +Benjamin North
Sunday:	8:00am- People of the Parish 10:30am- +John McWaters; +Mike Pickich 6:00pm- +Johnny & Betty Fayard
Monday:	7:00am- +Cecil Dubuisson 12:00pm- +Thomas Edward Connell
Tuesday:	7:00am- +Teodoro Dominguez 12:00pm- +Robert Emmett McAuliffe
Wednesday:	7:00am- +Mackie Fayard 12:00pm- +James Mullins Jr.
Thursday:	7:00am- +Delfin Argao 12:00pm- +Kermit Patton
Friday:	7:00am- +Matthew & Thelma Serpa 12:00pm- +James Mullins Jr.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

February 14, 2016

First Sunday of Lent

On Ash Wednesday Pope Francis commissioned “Missionaries of Mercy,” priest-confessors sent forth worldwide as “living signs of the Father’s readiness to welcome those in search of [God’s] pardon.” In a way, though, Pope Francis challenges all of us to become “missionaries of mercy” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 18) by living Lent in this *Jubilee Year of Mercy* “more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God’s mercy” (*MV*, 17). Francis bids us make the prophet Micah’s words our own: “God . . . who does not persist in anger forever, but delights rather in clemency. You will cast into the depths of the sea all our sins” (Micah 7:18, 19). Having experienced God’s mercy ourselves in the unconditional forgiveness of our sins, how eager we should be to invite others to know the peace of God’s boundless mercy; perhaps even to experience, through our reaching out in gentle kindness and compassionate care, something of God’s unconditional love for them.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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Calendar of Events

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Feb 13/14 | World Marriage Day Celebration |
| 16 | XLT Adoration 7pm in the church |
| 23 | Anointing of the Sick, Noon |
| Mar 14 | Lenten Penance Service |
| 15 | Seder Meal, Presentation Hall, 6pm |
| 19/20 | Palm Sunday |
| 22 | Chrism Mass at Cathedral (No Noon Mass) |
| 24 | Holy Thursday , Mass of the Lord’s Supper, 7pm |
| 25 | Good Friday , Live Stations of the Cross at 3pm
Good Friday Services at 7pm |
| 26 | Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil at 7pm |
| 27 | Easter Sunday Masses 8am, 10:30am, 6pm |

We have a prayer group that meets every Thursday afternoon from 5:15-6:15pm. Everyone is invited to join us. For more information call the Parish office, 864-2272.

Weekly prayer group Thursday's at 10:00am. Call Annette Seymour 326-0851.



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