St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501 Telephone (228) 864-2272 Fax (228) 864-2273 Email: stjohnthee@cableone.net Website: stjohngulfport.org

Father Ryan McCoy, Pastor

Deacon David Allen, Pastoral Associate

Deacon Rick Conason, Pastoral Associate

Sr. Mary Kealy, PBVM, Pastoral Associate

Teri Patton, Parish Secretary

Worship Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday Masses: 8:00 & 10:30 am and 5:00pm

Spanish Mass: 2:00pm Weekday Masses:

Mon, Wed., Thu., Fri., 7:00am

Tuesday, 6:00pm Holy Days: Vigil Mass 6pm, 7:00am and 12:00pm

Confession: Before and after each

Mass and by appointment

Catholic Education

RCIA (Rite of Christian **Initiation for Adults**)

Tuesday at 7pm at St. Joseph's

St. James Elementary

603 West Av. Gulfport, MS 39507 Principal: Jennifer Broadus TN: 228 896-6631

St. Vincent De Paul Elementary

4321 Espy Av, Long Beach MS 39560 Principal: Carol Church TN: 228 222-6000

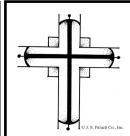
St. Patrick High School

18300 St. Patrick Rd., Biloxi, MS Principal: Matt Buckley TN: 228 702-0500

Knights of Columbus-1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.

K C Ladies Auxiliary- 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 P.M.

Young At Heart 4th Thursday, 12pm



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 14, 2018

Welcome to St. John the Evangelist Parish!

If you are new to the parish and have not yet registered, please fill out one of the registration forms on the back table or go to our website, stjohngulfport.org and click on the "New Parishioner" tab.

Family of Faith

Parent Catechetical Meeting Sunday, February 4 11:30-1

(Only one parent needs to attend the catechetical meeting)

Family Gathering Sunday, January 28 1:00pm-3:00pm

(the whole family is encouraged to attend)

Contact: Linda Hebert, Director of Religious Education-832-7551

Family of Faith, published by Sophia Press, is a dynamic new program which invites families to participate together in learning about and sharing our Catholic faith. The Church teaches that it is the duty and right of parents to be the primary educators of their children, while the role of the Church is to support and assist the parents. Our first year of Family of Faith begins with the Creed, one of the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and we will have the opportunity to deeply explore what we, as Catholics, believe. At the beginning of each month, a parent meeting is held and covers the topic for the month. After the parent meeting and throughout the course of the month at the convenience of the parents and their children, parents teach two lessons (based on the topic for the month) using the Parent's Guide and the children's Activity Book, which are provided at no cost to the family. Later in the month, all families participating in our Family of Faith program gather together for fun and fellowship.

Sal et Lucem

Open to all high-school students (9-12 grade), this is high school CCD and youth group all at one time! Food will be provided!

We will meet this Sunday, January 14

When: Sundays from 6-7:15 (after the 5:00 Mass)

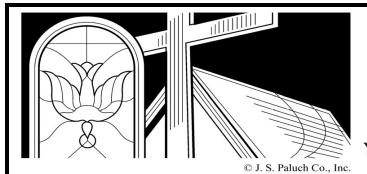
Where: upstairs, Parish Office building-2414 17th St, Gulfport

Who: all high school students, gr. 9-12

Contact:

Church office: (228) 864-2272 or

Mara Russo @ (228)697-8553 for further information.



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 14, 2018

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you.

— 1 Corinthians 6:19a

THE LAMB OF GOD

"Behold the Lamb of God!" We hear this phrase every Sunday at Mass, but there's a good chance that many Roman Catholics do not know who in the Bible originally spoke it. The phrase appears only in the Gospel of John, on the lips of John the Baptist, who utters it twice. In today's Gospel reading, John proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God, and two of John's own disciples then follow Christ. A little bit later Andrew, who heard John and then followed Jesus, brings his brother Simon to be re-named Cephas, or Peter. A careful look at these Bible verses shows us the mission of everyone baptized into the Body of Christ: we must always proclaim our faith in Christ, so that others will follow him. We may not know how the will of God might work through those we bring to Christ; that is not the point. The point is that our ongoing mission as a church is to bring others to Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Happy birthday wishes to—Roman Mattina celebrates Jan. 15; Tommy Wittmann celebrates Jan. 18; Josh Threadgill celebrates Jan. 19.

May God bless them all with many more happy birthdays!



We extend our deepest sympathy to Bob and Marcia Flagg in the death of Bob's aunt Hermina Henitz and to Sophie Nord and Family in the death of her father Peter Nord. May God reward Peter and Hermina with Eternal Rest, Light and Peace and may He comfort their families in their sorrow.

A note of gratitude!

To all those who loved, befriended and encouraged our mother, Ruby Morton, over the nearly seven decades she was a parishioner at St. John Church and throughout her lifetime, we offer our heartfelt gratitude. She loved this parish and especially the parishioners so very much.

And we are sincerely grateful for the outpouring of prayers, love, emotional support, Mass intentions, food and friendship during the monthes of our mother's illness and especially at the time of her death and funeral. Truly, we know you are Christians by your love...for mother and to us.

Sincerely, The children & extended family of Ruby Morton

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING

In today's first reading, Samuel hears the Lord's voice, but mistakes it for Eli's. Fortunately, Eli is familiar enough with the ways of the Lord to help Samuel make his response.

As we seek the Lord, it is good to have someone like Eli who is familiar with the Lord's voice. There are many voices that bid us "Follow this way," and the Lord's call is not always easy to discern. There are people, too, who would pretend to know the Lord and draw others to themselves rather than to God.

Eli could have taken advantage of Samuel's naïveté and claimed it was he who had summoned Samuel. But Eli claims neither to be God nor to speak for God. Instead, he encourages Samuel to listen for himself.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Perhaps the most profound line in all of today's readings is Jesus' question of the two disciples who begin to follow him. "What are you looking for?" he asks plainly and directly.

Finding the Messiah was partly a matter of what one was looking for. If one lived with the expectation of the Messiah's coming, there would be a certain alertness, a certain watchfulness to life, and a certain openness to God's movements. The two disciples had followed John the Baptizer, but as soon as John pointed to Jesus, they were ready to follow him.

It has been said that what we find in life is pretty much what we have sought. "What are you looking for?" is a challenging question for each of us to ask of ourselves. Our honest answer to this question can reveal much about our faith and our values. Those who, like Andrew and the other disciple, are looking for the Messiah will find the Messiah, dwelling now, as then, among the people. "Come and see!"

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The U.S. bishops' annual novena 9 Days for Life takes place Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26.

9daysforlife.com Pray for the respect and protection of all human life with new intentions, brief reflections, and more each day. Download

the novena online, or participate through Facebook, email, text message, or an app. Join at www.9daysforlife.com!



We will study Psalms: The School of Prayer beginning February 5 at 1pm and on February 8 at 6pm and continuing for 11 weeks. You may attend either session. The cost of the study guide is \$25. For more infor-

mation or to register for the study, call Teri at 228 864-2272 or via email:stjohnthee@cableone.net. I will have a sign up sheet on the back table in the church next week.

We hear the Psalms read or sung at every Mass between the first and second readings, but do we understand their significance?

The Psalms are at the heart of the Bible. They are the prayers from God that help us to learn to pray. The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. These sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us. Their words captivate the imagination and draw us into a deeply personal encounter with God.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 18-25, 2018

The theme of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is "Your Right Hand, O Lord, Glorious in Power." (Exodus 15:6). "Throughout the Biblical narrative of salva-

tion, an unmistakable motif is the unrelenting determination of the Lord to form a people whom He could call His own. The formation of such a people, united in a sacred covenant with God, is integral to the Lord's plan of salvation and to the glorification of His name. The prophets repeatedly remind Israel that their covenant demanded that relationships among its various social groups should be characterized by justice, compassion and mercy. Reconciliation often demands repentance, reparation and healing of memories."

The event that touches off this special experience is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the WPCU, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one."

Prayer for Christian Unity

God of all, we pray as one, that we may be one, just as the Lord Jesus prayed we may be one in Him. Your son Jesus compels us to be reconciled to one another.

May our spirits be joined to your Holy Spirit, that we may witness to the visible unity of your Church.

May we all recognize that we are truly one with you. Father, son and Holy Spirit and grow together in peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord.

Safe Environment

Notice

Every volunteer who works with minors and every employee of all parishes and Catholic schools of the Diocese of Biloxi must receive a copy of the *Policy of the Diocese of Biloxi Regarding Complaints of Abuse of Minors*. Copies of this policy are available from any pastor or principal. If any volunteer who serves with minors or any employee did not receive this policy, please contact your pastor or principal, or call 228-702-2126/27. A copy of the policy is also available to any interested person. In addition, a copy of the *Diocesan Code of Conduct Regarding Contact with Minors and the Diocesan Policy Concerning Supervision of Youth Trips and Other Youth Functions* are also available from your pastor or principal, or by calling 228-702-2126/27.

How to report a complaint of abuse

The clergy, religious, and laity who serve in the ministries of the Diocese of Biloxi are committed to making Church ministries safe for young people. Allegations of misconduct with minors are reported as the law requires and an internal investigation is conducted. A copy of the diocesan policy is available on the diocesan website (www.biloxidiocese.org) or by contacting your pastor. A complaint of misconduct should be reported directly to civil authorities. In addition, a complaint should be reported to the Diocese of Biloxi by calling the phone numbers on the diocesan website or by calling 228-702-2112 or to the State of Mississippi's Hot Line: 1-800-222-8000.

Jeff Cavins will be here to speak at St. John's on Thursday, March 1 from 7-8:30pm.

He will speak on the topic "The Modern Day Disciple". He will explain God's desire to walk with us as he introduces the 1st century relationship between a rabbi and his disciple as the metaphor for God's relationship with us. Jeff will describe the life of a disciple two thousand years ago and then paint a picture of how that can become a reality for people today. This is a very practical talk about walking with God in the modern world.

Please be sure to invite your family and friends.

Ladies Cursillo #273 is February 22-25, 2018 in Dedeaux.

We are inviting all ladies who have not attended a Cursillo to pray and consider joining us. You will spend a prayer filled, faith filled weekend learning about yourself and your relationship with God. Anyone wishing to attend or if you have any questions please contact Kathy Pitre at 228 229-8750 or Dean Craft 228 257-9419. There are Cursillo applications on the back table.

West Harrison County Ultreya will be held Monday, January 15 at St. James in the parish center at 7:00 pm. Our scheduled speakers are Rosi Healy and Deacon Dick Henderson. Any Cursillistas and anyone wanting to learn more about Cursillo are welcome to attend! Please mark your calendar and plan to join us! St James Ultreya point of contact is Roberta Hosler 228-383-3646.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Augie Alfonso Loyce & Nick Hire Margaret Northrup David Bell, Jr. Jordan Hoang Sophia Nuchereno Mary Ann Bishop Laurie Holliman Estelle Papania Colette Marissa Mary Boaz Mary Kealy Dean Bowles Florence Keppner Quigley Gary Reeves Hope Broadus Norbert Keppner Bob & Carolyn Rose Grace Bush Bernie Koehr Barbara Ryland Nunzio Caranna Gary Lacy Brvan Sample Ken D'Angelo Mary Ellen Ken Saxon Alma Dedeaux Lestrade Austin Seymour Mildred Douglas Joann Liner Jason Sneed JonViolet Flickinger Chuck Loftis Kim Stewart Rico Francisco S J Marengo Mary Ann Galle Jason Taylor Tanya McClellan George Thatcher Warren Galle Celeste McInnis Mary Kay Gaspar Felecia Vann Svlvia McNeill Ronnie Guidry Steve Watkins Melissa Mendoza Dan & Lorraine Jon Williams Cherie Mennis Goad Doan The Xinh **Bobbie Necaise** Louis Helwick Carl Necaise Alibe Hinton Helen Nilges

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

If you or anyone in your family is ill at home or in the hospital and would like us to visit you-please call the parish office at 864-2272.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Ordinary Time" began for us this week. On the old calendar, the feast of the Presentation, still more than two weeks away, was the last day of the Christmas season. Sadly, Bethlehem is hardly a place of peace on earth these days. The ancient Christian community has been largely uprooted by political strife. The Church of the Nativity stands (barely) in remarkable disrepair and disorder in Manger Square. The roof is crumbling, the major doorways are blocked, the wiring is faulty, and the worship life is disrupted by quarrels among Eastern Christians.

The church was founded by the Emperor Constantine in 325, destroyed in a Samaritan revolt in 539, and rebuilt by the Emperor Justinian. When the area came under Muslim control in 638, the holiness of the church was respected, and in return Christians allowed Muslims to pray in the south aisle, a right still upheld. Earlier in that century, invading Persians were ordered to destroy all churches, but when they saw the magi carved over the doorway of the Church of the Nativity, they spared it out of respect for their ancestors who bore gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the same city. The Crusaders restored and redecorated the church by the twelfth century, and it is their plan that survives. Down a few stone steps is a stone grotto with a silver star marking the place of Christ's birth: when the star was stolen in 1847 it triggered an international crisis that exploded into the Crimean War.

Since 1852, the church has been shared by the Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Armenian Churches. The Greeks are in charge of the grotto, but don't enjoy the best of friendships with the Armenians. Catholics have the care of the Chapel of the Manger, and avoid the squabbles by a separate entrance to the Franciscan monastery church of St. Catherine. Pray for peace in Bethlehem!

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Speak, for your servant is listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).

Psalm — Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 40).

Second Reading — Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?

(1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20). **Gospel** — Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus (John 1:35-42).

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;

Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28;

Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10;

Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13;

Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31;

Mk 1:14-20

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Monday: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Wednesday: St. Anthony

Thursday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins Friday: Julian Calendar Theophany (Epiphany)

Saturday: St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

Collections January 6-7

Identifiable: \$5553 Unidentifiable: \$867 ACH: \$1625

2nd Collection- Aged & Infirmed: \$435

Thank you for your generosity!

The second collection at all Masses this weekend are for Missionaries of the Holy Infant Jesus of Good Health. The second collection next weekend is for Catholic School Support.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday: +Anthony Davis; + Mary & Ludovic Lee

Sunday: 8:00am: +Vincent & Helen Dauro; +Carol Campbell

1030am: +Kaleel Salloum, Sr.;

+Vincente A. Pisciotta Jr. & Tena Pisciotta

5:00pm: People of the Parish

Monday: +Kaleel Salloum

Tuesday: +Joe Revon

Wednesday: +Mackie Fayard

Thursday +Anna Marie D'Angelo

Friday +Kaleel Salloum

Formed.org

FORMED is a tool to help you grow in your Catholic Faith. Formed.org can be accessed with a desktop, a laptop, a tablet or smart phone. Go to FORMED.org to register and enter our Parish Code ZQXK2X. It will ask you for personal information to establish a user name and password.

XLT Adoration

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!!

Electronic Transfer: We really appreciate all of the parish families who use the electronic method of making their regular church offerings. Electronic transfer is convenient for you and convenient for us. You never have to write another check, the money is simply transferred from your bank account to the church bank account electronically. If you are interested in signing up there are forms available in the back of the church or you can call the parish office, 864-2272.

Calendar of Events

Jan	25	Young at Heart, Noon in Presentation Hall
Feb	3	Feast of St. Blaise, Blessing of Throats
	4	General Blessing
	5	Bible Study: Presentation Hall 1pm
	8	Bible Study: Presentation Hall 6pm
	10/11	World Marriage Day Celebration

Prayer Groups

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.



We really appreciate those who donate toward the flowers for our church. If you would like to have flowers placed in church, for a birthday, anniversary or in memory of a deceased loved one, please contact the parish office at 228 864-2272.



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