St. John the Evangelist

Father Satish B. Adhav Pastor

> Deacon David Allen Pastoral Associate

Elizabeth Martin

Scott Weis Knights of Columbus

Worship Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM

Spanish Mass: 2:00 PM

Weekday Masses: Monday - Friday 7:00 AM

Weekday Adoration: Every Friday following Mass 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Holy Days:

Vigil Mass: 6:00 PM Holy Day: 7:00 AM and 12:00 PM

Confession:

30 minutes before Vigil Mass and anytime by request all the other Masses

First Friday Adoration: 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

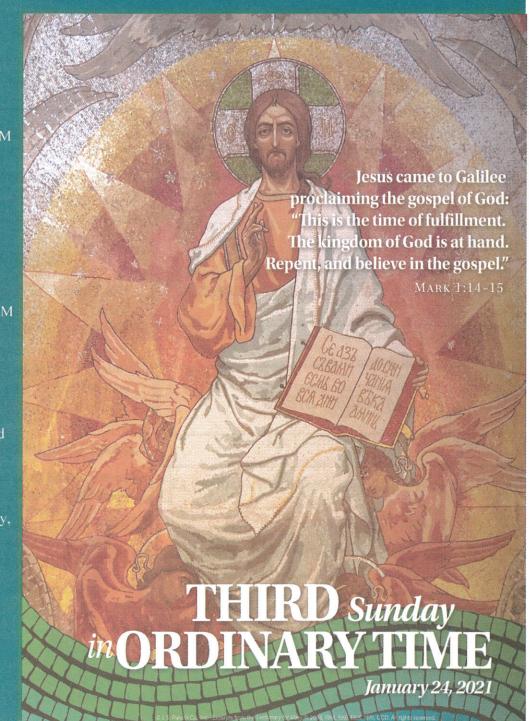
Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

First Saturday Devotion:

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM Confession, Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary. Meditation and Benediction

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

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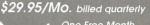
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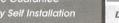
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A Reflection on Sunday's Readings

SPEAK, LORD, WE ARE LISTENING

A NEW DAY DAWNS

Today we hear how Jonah, sent by God to warn the people, storms through the streets of Nineveh, scaring the citizens out of their wits. And it works! God has a change of heart, seeing "by their actions" how the people turn from evil (Jonah 3:10). A new day dawns.

Next we hear Paul telling the Corinthians, "The world in its present form is passing away" (1 Corinthians 7:31). He calls for a change of heart. Stopping short of telling them to stop carrying out their everyday activities, he urges them—rather mysteriously—to live "as though" they aren't doing the things they are doing. A new day has dawned.

Finally, Jesus stands on the shore and cries, "The kingdom of God is at hand!" (Mark 1:14). Simon and Andrew abandon their nets—and even their father—and follow him. A new day had dawned.

Everyone has to change when a new day dawns: the Ninevites, the Corinthians, the apostles, even Jesus! Didn't a new day dawn today for us as well?

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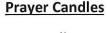
Happy Birthday blessings are extended to:

Mary Ann Smith Jan 24, Bridgett Bermond Jan 25, Brianna Adams, Sharon Foltin, Nicholas Ray Jan 26, Robert Flagg, Christina Peterson Jan 27, Fabi Lambert Jan 28, Gary Beach, Kaleb Fredericks Jan 29, Dixon Massengill Jan 30

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

If you would like a charitable contributions statement for filing your taxes, please contact the Parish Office by telephone or email.





5-Day Prayer Candles are available for a \$5 donation and may be picked up in the Church Sacristy after Masses and in the Parish Office from 9:00 AM — 4:00 PM throughout the work week.

Red Candles for St. Joseph Blue Candles for the Blessed Mother



Theological Writings by the Church Fathers on the Holy Eucharist

'Just as the bread which comes from the earth, having received the invocation of God, is no longer ordinary bread, the Eucharist, consisting of two realities, earthly and heavenly, so our bodies, having received the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible because they have the hope of the resurrection.'

(St. Irenaceus of Lyons (c. 140-202 A.D.)

Children's Activity Guides

These guides go along with the Sunday readings. If you have children, please see an usher to obtain



Did You Know?

Over 50% of all adults neglect to make out a Last Will and Testament; and of those who have one, many do not keep it up to date. Think about getting your will made or having it reviewed – it provides a plan for distributing your hard-earned estate. And while you're at it, please consider helping St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church through a bequest. In addition, stocks and bonds, especially if appreciated in value over the years, can cost you or your heirs a lot of capital gains taxes, but they can also make substantial gifts to St. John. Please

YEAR of ST. JOSEPH

A beloved, tender, obedient father

Saint Joseph, in fact, "concretely expressed his fatherhood" by making an offering of himself in love "a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home," writes Pope Francis, quoting his predecessor St Paul VI. And because of his role at "the crossroads between the Old and New Testament," St Joseph "has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people" (PC, 1). In him, "Jesus saw the tender love of God," the one that helps us accept our weakness, because "it is through" and despite "our fears, our frailties, and our weakness" that most divine designs are realized. "Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser," emphasizes the Pontiff, and it is by encountering God's mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we "experience His truth and tenderness," – because "we know that God's truth does not condemn us, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us" (2). Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his 'fiat' he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to "do the will of the Father." Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he "cooperated... in the great mystery of Redemption," as St John Paul II said, "and is truly a min-

A daily prayer to St Joseph

ister of salvation" (3).

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil.

Amen.



YEAR of the EUCHARIST

FEAST OF FAITH

Penitential Act

In the presence of God, the Church invites us to recognize with humility that we are sinners. Because as Saint Paul says: "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do." (Rm 7:15). We can all echo the words of Paul in our own lives... Therefore, at the beginning of the Eucharist we recognize humbly to all our brothers, that we are sinners. To ask for forgiveness to God, we use the words of the blind man who heard that Jesus passed by and knew that he could not be cured himself, but needed the help of God as he began to shout in the middle of the crowd: "Lord, have mercy on me". Thus, with trust in God's mercy, we pray also "Lord have mercy".

Gloria

On Sundays and solemnities we sing this hymn of praise that truly gives glory to God: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



Pray for the Protection of the Unborn

The Love of Life

Love is not merely a feeling, but is rather the desire for the best possible good for those whom we love. Through our natural intelligence and through Divine Revelation we become aware of the value of this most basic of all gifts which is life. Mere reason leads us to comprehend that it is better to be alive than never have had been in existence. The knowledge of the value of life that comes through revelation leads us to understand better this gift and to appreciate it: as a result, we worship and love more and more the Giver of this gift. This love is what moves us to protect the life of the unborn or any who might be unjustly treated. We are also led to protect women that might feel tempted or forced to commit abortion, as we know the devastating consequences that abortion will have in their lives. Last, but not least, we have to love, even if most of them seem to be utterly unlovable, the many perpetrators of abortion: medical personnel, and pro-abortion activists and politicians. We have to do everything that we can to convince them of their errors so that they repent and change their ways, both for their own benefit and for the benefit of society.

All human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. Using a traditional scholastic term, we can state that He is the exemplary cause of every human being, in other words, He is the model on which all human beings are created. He looked upon himself and wished that other beings would share in His own happiness. So if we reflect upon ourselves, we can begin to understand our participation in the greatness of our Creator. This participation on His greatness leads us to comprehend that He has brought us out of nothing with a purpose, because knowing His intelligence and His loving nature it is clear that all His actions are always guided by a magnificent purpose. The first intention for which He has created us is that we should enjoy for an eternity His loving company in Heaven. All human persons are called to this eternal and loving company, no one is excluded, save those who, through their own actions, exclude themselves.

This manner of creation brings us to understand the unique essential dignity of every human being. A dignity that is not lost for any deprivation of the many external perfections that we might expect to find in a human person. A person might be born with a disability, or may suffer disability through injury or disease, but these deprivations do not affect his basic dignity. A Christian also has the hope that one day when the doors of Paradise will be opened for those children, all their human imperfections will be healed and they will enjoy forever the beatific vision that we all long for.

We are also created to be collaborators in the salvation of the World. The Lord normally does not intervene directly in the world; He does it through our free collaboration in his plans of salvation. He gives to us the saving truths through Holy Scripture, our natural reason and the mediation of the Church and we have to manifest them in our daily lives. If we love those truths we should be impelled to share them with all whom the Lord places in front of us. So when we speak with love and conviction of those truths we cannot be accused of carrying out an exaggerated rhetoric when we defend human life from its biological beginning until natural death. Nobody in his right mind can call it "vitriolic rhetoric" when we denounce that millions upon millions of unborn babies have been killed in the womb in the U.S. and in the rest of the world. It is literally a question of life and death, for the victim, for the mother of the baby and for the perpetrator of abortion, assisted suicide or euthanasia. The victim will have his earthly life terminated; the mother will suffer greatly for her actions, and the perpetrator and the mother will live under the shadow of the unhappiness of having rejected the loving truths of their Creator and certainly they will place their eternal salvation in jeopardy. Our main solidarity has to be always with the victim of the crime, because if the conscience of the nation is not moved by this growing injustice, we know that a growing number will be victimized in the future. Our solidarity is also with the mothers of those babies because often they have been misled or forced into committing this terrible action.

Last but not least we wish and pray that all abortionists will understand the terrible consequences of their actions and be converted.

- ~Excerpted from Spirit & Life, Monsignor Ignacio Barreiro-Carámbula, Interim President, Human Life International
- ~CatholicCulture.org

Celebrate

EVERY LIFE



