

St. John the Evangelist

Father Satish B. Adhav
Pastor

Deacon David Allen
Pastoral Associate

David Scaia
St. Vincent de Paul

Scott Weis
Knights of Columbus

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272 Fax: 228-864-2273

Email: stjohnthee@stjohnsgulfport.org

Website: stjohnsgulfport.org

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

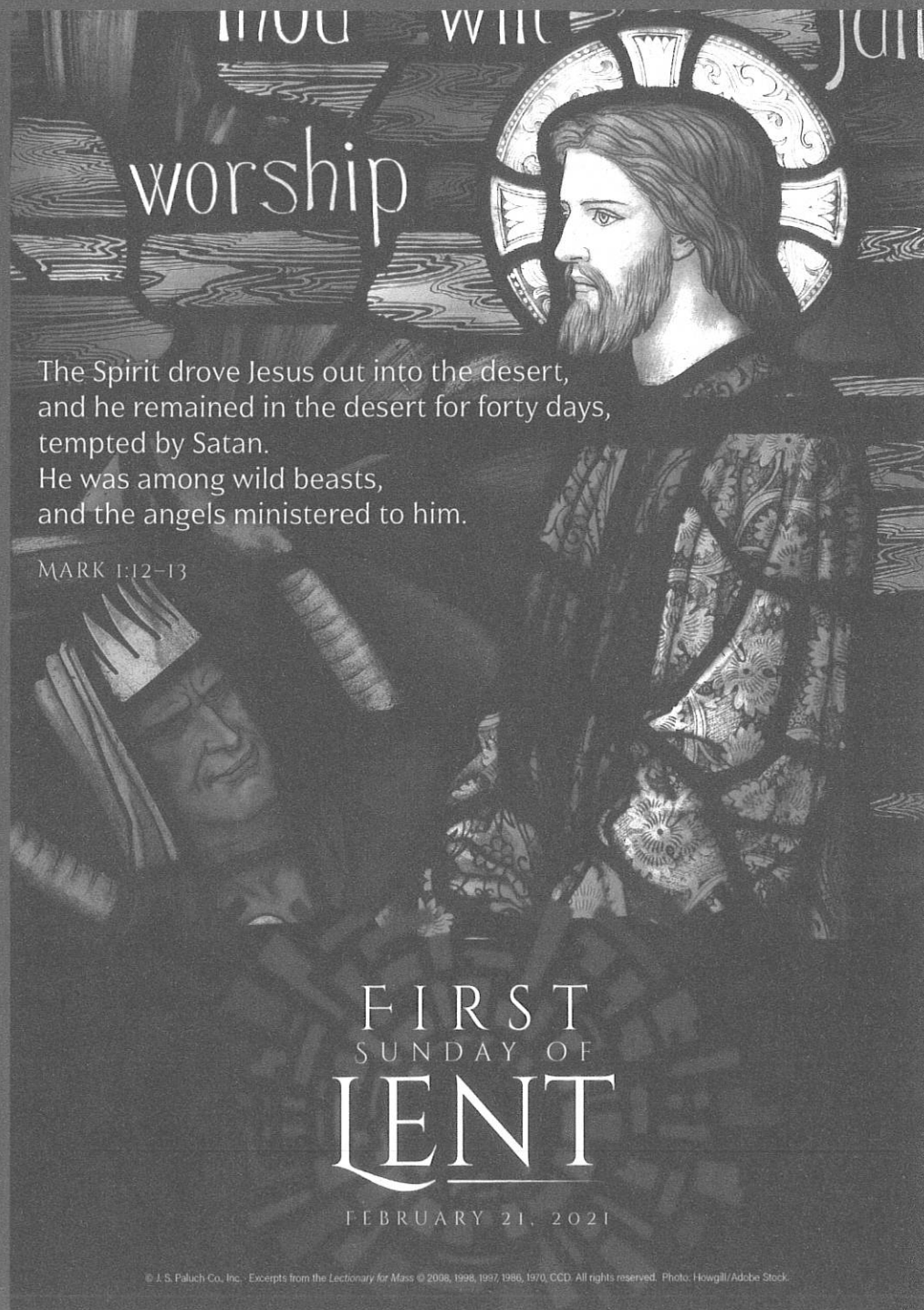
Weekday Adoration:
Every Friday following Mass
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

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



The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days,
tempted by Satan.
He was among wild beasts,
and the angels ministered to him.

MARK 1:12-13

Pray
For Peace



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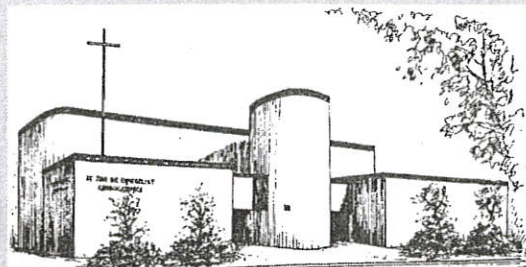
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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist!

Whether you're just visiting for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we are happy you're here! To learn more about St. John, please visit stjohngulfport.org.



If you are new to the parish, please go to our website and click on the "New Parishioner" tab.

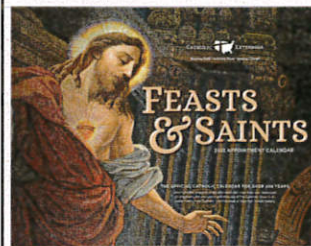
MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday: 4:00 PM +Keleel Salloum
Sunday: 8:00 AM +Curtis Miller
 +Kevin Papania (Special Intention)
10:30 AM People of the Parish
5:00 PM +Martita Pierce
Monday: 7:00 AM +Alex North
12:00 PM +Dale Hode
Tuesday: 7:00 AM +Mackie Fayard
12:00 PM +Dan Goad
Wednesday: 7:00 AM +Cecile and Margaret Dubuisson
12:00 PM +Anton Bui C. Xan
Thursday: 7:00 AM +James Garrett
12:00 PM +James Kaigler, Sr
Friday: 7:00 AM +Parker Hewes
12:00 PM +Anthony Verin Davis

Happy birthday blessings are extended to:

Clarice Massengill Feb 21, Sara Nguyen Feb 23, Suzanne King, John Vincent Dauro Feb 24, Debbie Beach Feb 25, Ashley Comstock, Felecia Galle, Joe Salloum Feb 26

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!



The 2021 Catholic Extension calendars have arrived and are on the tables in the back of the church. Please take one per family. There are English and Spanish versions.

Pray for a Priest Calendar

The Pray for a Priest Calendar for January can be found on our website. If you'd like a copy mailed or emailed to you, please contact the Parish Office.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
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 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending
Monday: Washington's Birthday; Julian Calendar Lent begins
Tuesday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Thursday: Purim (Jewish observance) begins at sunset
Friday: Abstinence



Adult Faith Formation

Credo sessions are open to all parishioners and are held on Thursdays at 6:00 PM in Presentation Hall.

† Hear Us and Heal Us †

Your prayers are asked for the following individuals who are facing illness or other life challenges.

John Atwood	Kory Hudson	Joan Sample
Mary Ann Bishop	Bill Jones	Peg Saxon
Andy Borga	Kent Killegrew	Don Schiffner
Dean Bowles	Suzanne King	Vicki Smith
Harriett Bowles	Doug Kirk	Charlie Underwood
Suzanne Bowles	John Knight	Erma Wilson
Garry Cooper	Linda Langenbach	Pauline Mensi
Ed Croal	Betty Martin	
Ronnie Cuevas	Rhonda Mires	Parishioners of
Mimi Davis	Carolyn McClellan	St. John the
Carolyn Fayard	Helena Nichols	Evangelist
Marcia Flagg	Judy Northrup	
Julie Foster	Bernard Papania	
Angel Garcia	Colette Quigley	
Alan Goad	Colette Marissa	
Dan Goad	Quigley	
Jordan Hoang	Peggy Ryland	
Werner Huber	Skip Ryland	

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. Names will appear on the prayer list for six weeks, but are renewable.

BEAUTY IN FORGIVENESS

Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another.

—Jean P. F. Richter



Wednesday / January 13

6:00 PM

All 6th - 12th grade students are welcome.



The 2021 Offering Envelopes are now available for pick up. They are located on the table in the Memorial Room and are listed alphabetically by family name. If you would like envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

Children's Activity Guides

These guides go along with the Sunday readings. If you have children, please see an usher to obtain a copy, or contact the Parish Office.

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Please see our website for this week's FORMED offerings!

We hope you are enjoying the free parish subscription to FORMED, which gives you 24/7 access to over 300 quality Catholic online programs, 99+ movies, 101+ audios, and 98+ E-Books.

Last Week's Collection

General Collection: \$ 4898

Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Office Hours

Temporary office hours are Monday thru Friday from 9 am to 3 pm.

In the event of an emergency or if you need to reach Fr. Satish, you may call or text him at 228-297-7774.

Notice for Contributions

During these difficult days, it's still important to support your parish. Our families are encouraged to maintain their church contributions by mail, by dropping it off at the Parish Office from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday – Friday; by utilizing automatic drafts (contact the Parish Office if you'd like to sign up); or by giving electronically at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohngulfport>.

Your support is graciously appreciated!

A Reflection on Sunday's Readings

REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL

Lent is the time of year we devote to scrutinizing our lives in the light of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. Today's readings are a nice shorthand catechism of what our baptized lives mean. As Noah passed through the waters of the flood to a covenant with God, so did we enter into a covenant, a promised relationship with God through our baptism.

Peter's letter gives an explicit explanation of what our baptism means: it is an appeal we make to God for a clear conscience. How do we obtain this clear conscience? The words proclaimed by Jesus immediately following his temptation show us the way: "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual exercise to keep these readings before us throughout the entire season of Lent, a means to help us return to a life lived by our baptismal promises.

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FEAST OF FAITH

Seasonal Changes for the Liturgies of Lent

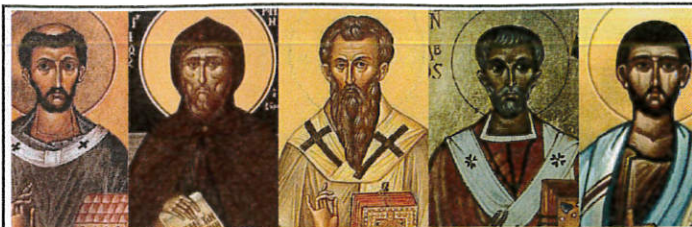
Today is the First Sunday of Lent. During this season of preparation for Easter, our churches look stark and simple—no flowers at the altar, no festive banners or decorations. And our liturgies feel different, too. The organ is quiet except to accompany the singing of the assembly. The Gloria, our Sunday song of rejoicing, is not heard except on solemnities, and we will not sing the Alleluia, our joyful acclamation of praise, until the Easter Vigil. "Alleluia cannot always / Be our song while here below," says an eleventh-century hymn. "Alleluia our transgressions / Make us for a while forego; / For the solemn time is coming / When our tears for sins must flow" (*Alleluia dulce carmen*, J. M. Neale, trans.).

These changes in the liturgy will catch our attention, and make us eager for the festive outpouring of joy that will return with Easter. This year, may the stripped-away liturgies of Lent remind us to strip away what is not essential in our lives to make space for the crucified and risen One, and thus to be ready to sing "Alleluia" once again when Easter returns.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

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



Theological Writings by the Church Fathers on the Holy Eucharist

ST. JUSTIN MARTYR (Alt)

St. Justin Martyr was born a pagan but converted to Christianity after studying philosophy. He was a prolific writer and many Church scholars consider him the greatest apologist or defender of the faith from the 2nd century. He was beheaded with six of his companions some time between 163 and 167 A.D.

"This food we call the Eucharist, of which no one is allowed to partake except one who believes that the things we teach are true, and has received the washing for forgiveness of sins and for rebirth, and who lives as Christ handed down to us. For we do not receive these things as common bread or common drink; but as Jesus Christ our Savior being incarnate by God's Word took flesh and blood for our salvation, so also we have been taught that the food consecrated by the Word of prayer which comes from him, from which our flesh and blood are nourished by transformation, is the flesh and blood of that incarnate Jesus."

"First Apology", Ch. 66, inter A.D. 148-155.



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 consider such a gift.

YEAR of ST. JOSEPH

A father "in the shadows," centered on Mary and Jesus

Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father* — a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński — Pope Francis describes Joseph's fatherhood of Jesus as "the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father."

"Fathers are not born, but made," says Pope Francis. "A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child." Unfortunately, in today's society, children "often seem orphans, lacking fathers" who are able to introduce them "to life and reality." Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be "capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities."

This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a "most chaste" father, which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, "knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the center of things. He did not think of himself but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus."

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: "In him, we never see frustration, but only trust," writes Pope Francis. "His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust." Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that "needs fathers," and not "tyrants"; a society that "rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction."

True fathers, instead, "refuse to live the lives of their children for them," and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that "he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied." Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, "has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a 'sign' pointing to a greater fatherhood": that of the "heavenly Father" (7).

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;

teach me your paths.

— Psalm 25:4

YEAR of the EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar and the Presentation of the Gifts

This is the moment in which the bread and wine are brought to the altar, two very simple foods that the priest will offer to God in order that Christ makes himself present in the Eucharist. The simplicity of these foods reminds us of the child who brought Jesus his offerings, five loaves and two fish. It was everything he had, but this smallness, placed in the hands of Jesus, was converted into abundance and sufficed to feed an immense multitude, there were even leftovers. **In this way, our simple offerings of bread and wine, placed in the hands of the Lord, will also be converted into the greatest abundance, into the Body and Blood of Christ to feed a great multitude who are hungry for God.** In every Mass, we are this multitude. Together with this bread and wine, we also present ourselves to God. We offer him our efforts, sacrifices, joys, and sufferings. We offer him our frailty so that he may do great things with us. When God converts the bread and wine into the Body and Blood, he also converts us, making us better, more like him.

A daily prayer to St Joseph

*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.*



2021 CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL



Dear Friends in Christ,

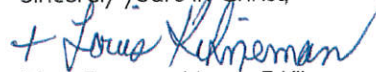
As I reflect on the challenges of last year for our diocese, I turn to the model of St. Martin de Porres, our patron. He knew well what it was like to experience obstacles in life. Throughout his lifetime in Peru, St. Martin de Porres faced incredible poverty and other hardships. Still, he never missed an opportunity to serve those in need around him. Whatever he was facing in life, he gave everything he could to help others.

St. Martin de Porres is a perfect example of what it means to live Witnessing the Eucharist within Us. As we recognize Christ's sacrifice for us, we are in turn called to follow His example of sacrifice for the benefit of others. We give thanks for what Christ has offered to us by living sacrificially as intentional disciples.

Our 2021 Catholic Sharing Appeal offers us the opportunity to be a witness to the Eucharist in the world today. Each year, the campaign raises critical funds that support Catholic Charities, Seminarian Formation, Care of our Retired Clergy, and Faith Formation that serve adults and youth, as well as those men in the Diaconate discernment and formation process.

As we celebrate this Year of the Eucharist, we can give thanks for what Christ has done for us by sharing our gifts with those in need.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman
Bishop of Biloxi



Choose Life

PRAY PRAY PRAY

The St James Pro Life Initiative has now expanded diocesan wide. Our name is now "Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life". You can still use St James Pro Life Billboard on our Facebook page for news and updates. If you would like to support and continue to keep this ministry alive, please directly to Venmo@dioceseofbiloxiprolife or mail checks directly to: Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life, 1700 Popps Ferry Rd, Biloxi, MS 39532, and mark "Pro Life" on memo line of check. Thank you all for your support and please continue to pray for the unborn.

Michele Pisciotta MD., Director of Pro-Life Ministries, NFP Coordinator; Karen Rhodes, President Diocese of Biloxi Pro-Life; Penny Sullivan, Founder Diocese of Biloxi Pro-Life.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this notice, please contact me. Thank you for your assistance.

Debbie Bazzone

Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life Ministry

dbaz9@aol.com

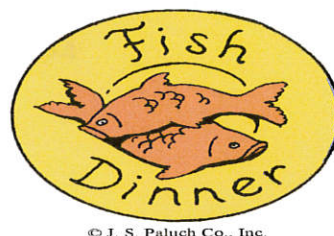
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Lenten Schedule of Activities and Opportunities for Grace

Daily Mass: Monday- Friday at 7:00 am & 12:00 noon

Stations of the Cross - (English) Fridays at 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross (Spanish) - Fridays at 7:00 pm



Fish Fry - Fridays during Lent from 5:00 - 7:30 PM (Presentation Hall)

Penance Service – Monday, March 29 at 6:00 pm

Holy Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 pm



Good Friday Stations of Cross – April 2 at 2:00 pm in the church

Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion – April 2 at 3:00 pm

Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 3, 7:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass, (whole liturgy with 12 readings)

Easter - Sun, Apr. 21 - Masses at 8:00 am and 10:30 am and Spanish Mass at 2:00 pm 5:00 pm



ST JOHN'S ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY

Each Friday of Lent February 19th - March 20th

In Presentation Hall

All orders are Take Out only

Orders can be placed in person or by calling the parish office.

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Serving hours are 5pm - 7pm

