

St. John the Evangelist

Father Satish B. Adhav
Pastor

Deacon David Allen
Pastoral Associate

Ann Wiborg
Pastoral Secretary

David Scaia
St. Vincent de Paul
David Ames
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:
7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Mass, Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and Benediction

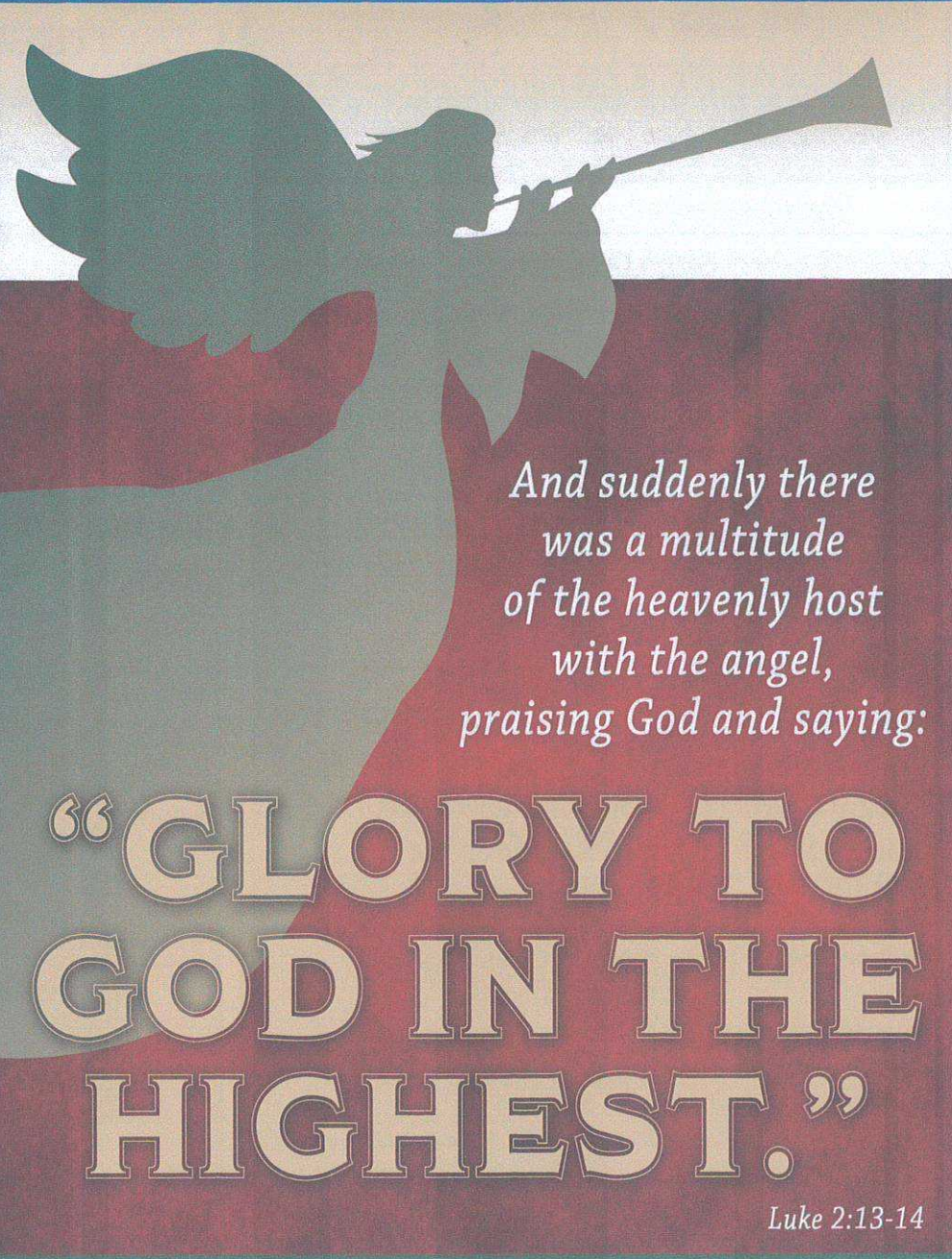
First Saturday Devotion:
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Confession, Rosary
Meditation, Benediction and Mass.

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272

Email: stjohnthee@stjohnsgulfport.org

Website: stjohnsgulfport.org



And suddenly there
was a multitude
of the heavenly host
with the angel,
praising God and saying:

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST."

Luke 2:13-14

December 25, 2022 • Christmas

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For Peace



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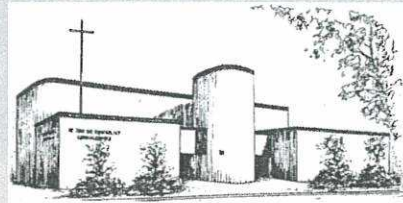
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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist!

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.

Parish Office Hours

Parish Office will be closed Monday Dec 26

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**.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST EVENTS

Knights of Columbus: 1st & 3rd Wednesday - 6:30 PM
Grief & Loss Support Group 1st Tuesday (Jan 3) 4 PM
K C Ladies Auxiliary: 3rd Tuesday (Jan 17) - 6:30 PM
Young at Heart: Jan 19th in Presentation Hall at 12:00 pm
Legion of Mary: Every Thursday - 10:30 AM
RCIA CREDO January 5 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Mass: 4:00 PM Children's Mass
6:00 and 11:00 PM

Special music 10:30 PM - Flute, violin, piano and organ

Christmas Day Mass: 9:00 AM

Couples Date Night: Dec 29 6:00 pm (The 'Sign up' sheet is in the back of church)

Dec 31: Mass 4:00pm

Jan 1: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM **(NO 5PM MASS)**

Happy Birthday blessings this week are extended to:

Martha Chapin, Cleo Dossett, Dec 24
Lindy Callahan, Suzanne Shifalo, Dec 25
Diana McNeill, Dec 26
Payton Dedeaux, Steve Ellis, Dec 27
Mario DiRaimo, Anthony King, Dec 28
Joyce Dedeaux, Larry Dedeaux Dec 29
Michael Craft, Dec 30

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

**Congratulations
to Our Parishioners
Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries**

Wayne & Suzanne Bowles 63 yrs, Dec 26

*May God bless them with many more
happy years together!*

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Monday: St. Stephen;
Tuesday: St. John
Wednesday: The Holy Innocents
Thursday: St. Thomas Becket;
Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Friday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Saturday: St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve
Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer at the Manger: With the Shepherds

Your Good News was sung by angels
to these lowly ones in the night.

Look on us in our lowliness.

Let us rejoice in the glad tidings of Christ,
now and forever. Amen.

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✠ Hear Us and Heal Us ✠

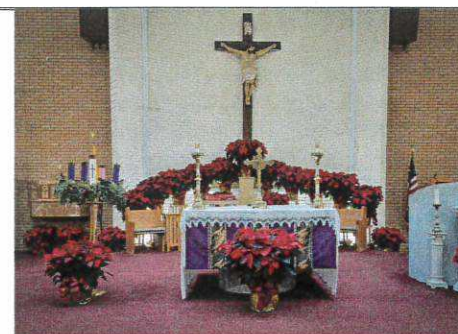
*Your prayers are asked for the following individuals
who are facing illness or other life challenges.*

Carolyn Fayard	Jolene Wilson	Kendall Dedeaux
Ed Martin	Brett Cooper	Ronnie Wade
Frank Fink	Brileigh Dunn	Vicky Tiner
Karen Fink	Camela Fant	Jack Watson
Beverly Crawford	Amy Elizabeth	Roberta Hill
Peggy Ryland	Wheeler	Paul Fair
Michael Eckles	Harvey Young	Sue Papania
Gloria Newman	Suzanne Bowles	Ann Wiborg
Werner Huber	Shirley Caston	
Betty Martin	Ernie Brown	Parishioners of
Suzanne King	Dean Bowles	St. John the
Buddy Cospelich	Beverly Crawford	Evangelist
Bennie Roy	Diane Riel	
Easterling	Jordan Hoang	
Ray Peregoy	Kim Hoang	
Kathy Dufrene	George Balhofs	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 4:00 PM ✠ People of the Parish
6:PM ✠ Kenneth O'Neal
11:PM People of the parish
Sunday 9:00 AM ✠ Deceased members of the Parish

Monday 7:00 AM ✠ Kaleel Salloum
Tuesday: 7:00 AM ✠ Kris Allen
Wednesday: 7:00 AM ✠ William Burke
Thursday: 7:00 AM ✠ Mackie Fayard
Friday: 7:00 AM ✠ David Schiffner



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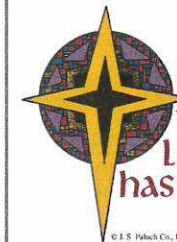
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Father Satish and staff
would like to wish everyone
a very Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year.

May God bless you all.

Last Week's Collection:

Identified checks: \$3810

Identified cash : \$310

Loose checks: \$1705

Unidentified Cash: \$568

ACH Direct Debit: \$2130

Egiving: \$917

Spanish Collection: \$541

TOTAL: \$9981

Second collection: Flowers \$900

Ways to Contribute

Many parishioners like to give their church contribution at mass. Others like the convenience of sending it by mail, or dropping it off at the church office Monday through Friday (9am-3pm); or 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!

The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5
Acts 13:16-17,22-25
Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9:1-6
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

Daytime Mass

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Monday December 26

St. Stephen

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
Ps 31:3-4,6,8ab,16bc,17
Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday December 27

St. John

1 John 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
John 20:1a,2-8

Wednesday December 28

Holy Innocents

1 John 1:5--2:2
Ps 124:2-5,7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday December 29

St. John

1 John 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-3,5b-6
Luke 2:22-35

Friday December 30

Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
or Colossians 3:12-21
Ps 128:1-5
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Saturday December 31

St. John

1 John 2:18-21
Ps 96:1-2,11-13
John 1:1-18

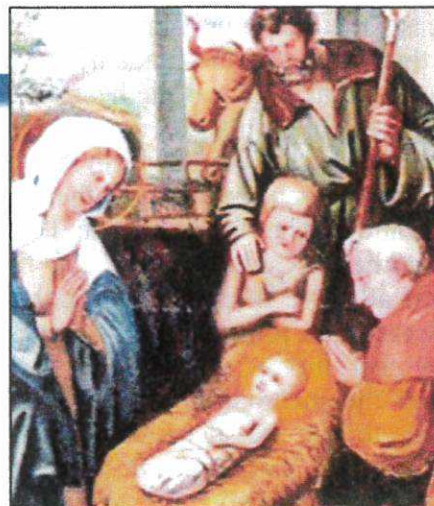
Joy to the world! This is our song. This is what we should always be proclaiming as a people of faith.

Don't focus on what destroys your joy, for nothing can destroy the coming of the Lord. The absence of joy is merely a blank area in your view of what God is doing.

Look at the love that Jesus has for you! Jesus was born not only to save you from the darkness of sin; he was born because he loves you -- he loves YOU! Even if you had never sinned, he would have come into the world so that he could love you on your level, human-to-human.

Sometimes, great things come in surprising packages that do not seem to be great at all. The Eucharist -- in the form of a little wafer of bread -- does not look like it contains the full presence of Jesus with all of his humanity and his divinity. The baby Jesus -- a tiny, helpless child -- does not look like the conqueror of evil. But he is! And so is Jesus in the Eucharist; he is here for you.

And you! You might not seem to be a great person, but you contain Jesus. You contain greatness beyond imagining! This greatness does not dwell only in you; it comes out from



you in every good thing that you do. This is a life of faith!

To be a follower of Jesus means we learn to imitate him. In doing good, evil is defeated. In this goodness, the greatness of Jesus extends outward from us. In this goodness, there is cause for great joy.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much do you *really* believe that Jesus loves you? What are some examples of Jesus taking good care of you?
2. How do you reveal the love of Jesus to others?
3. When was the first time you can remember experiencing the love of Jesus and realized that it was a gift from God?
4. What does the Eucharist mean to you? How can it change you so that you leave church ready to give the love of Christ to others?

Merry Christmas! Be very blessed this Christmas season -- because Jesus is delightedly in love with you! You are invited to experience the extravagant love of Jesus all year.

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Christmas Time

The feasts that make up Christmas Time all illuminate in their own way the fundamental mystery of the Incarnation that stands at the heart of this sacred season. Each celebration sheds its own distinct light on our conviction that, in the birth of Jesus, earth and heaven have been wedded together for the sake of our salvation. The feasts of the Holy Family, Mary the Mother of God, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord all have their own particular histories. But they have been joined together in a single seasonal flow that invites us to trace the unfolding meanings of the Incarnation from myriad perspectives. As we follow the successive meanings of Jesus' birth, his participation in family life, the meaning of Mary's motherhood, the significance of the Magi's visit, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, we are invited to explore in deeper and deeper fashion the staggering truth that Jesus has shared completely in our human experience, has truly become one with us, fully human while remaining fully divine.

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LEARNED AT HOME

The mind of Christ is to be learned in the family. Strength of character may be acquired at work, but beauty of character is learned at home.

—Henry Drummond

CHAPTER THREE

ARTICLE 1 I BELIEVE

I. THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

Abraham- "father of all who believe"

The *Letter to the Hebrews*, in its great eulogy of the faith of Israel's ancestors, lays special emphasis on Abraham's faith: "by faith, Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go." By faith, he lived as a stranger and pilgrim in the promised land. By faith, Sarah was given to conceive the son of the promise. And by faith Abraham offered his only son in sacrifice.

ST. IRENAEUS OF LYONS

St. Irenaeus succeeded St. Pothinus to become the second bishop of Lyons in 177 A.D. Earlier in his life he studied under St. Polycarp. Considered, one of the greatest theologians of the 2nd century, St. Irenaeus is best known for refuting the Gnostic heresies.

[Christ] has declared the cup, a part of creation, to be his own Blood, from which he causes our blood to flow; and the bread, a part of creation, he has established as his own Body, from which he gives increase to our bodies."

Source: St. Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies*, 180 A.D.:

"So then, if the mixed cup and the manufactured bread receive the Word of God and become the Eucharist, that is to say, the Blood and Body of Christ, which fortify and build up the substance of our flesh, how can these people claim that the flesh is incapable of receiving God's gift of eternal life, when it is nourished by Christ's Blood and Body and is His member? As the blessed apostle says in his letter to the Ephesians, 'For we are members of His Body, of His flesh and of His bones' (Eph. 5:30). He is not talking about some kind of 'spiritual' and 'invisible' man, 'for a spirit does not have flesh and bones' (Lk. 24:39). No, he is talking of the organism possessed by a real human being, composed of flesh and nerves and bones. It is this which is nourished by the cup which is His Blood, and is fortified by the bread which is His Body. The stem of the vine takes root in the earth and eventually bears fruit, and 'the grain of wheat falls into the earth' (Jn. 12:24), dissolves, rises again, multiplied by the all-containing Spirit of God, and finally after skilled processing, is put to human use. These two then receive the Word of God and become the Eucharist, which is the Body and Blood of Christ."

- "Five Books on the Unmasking and Refutation of the Falsely

Named Gnosis". Book 5:2, 2-3, circa 180 A.D. "For just as the bread which comes from the earth, having received the invocation of God, is no longer ordinary bread, but 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."

- "Five Books on the Unmasking and Refutation of the Falsely named Gnosis". Book 4:18 4-5, circa 180 A.D.