

St. John the Evangelist

Father Michael Somers, SVD

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 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 AM - 5 PM

Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

First Saturday Devotion:

8:00 AM—9:30 AM

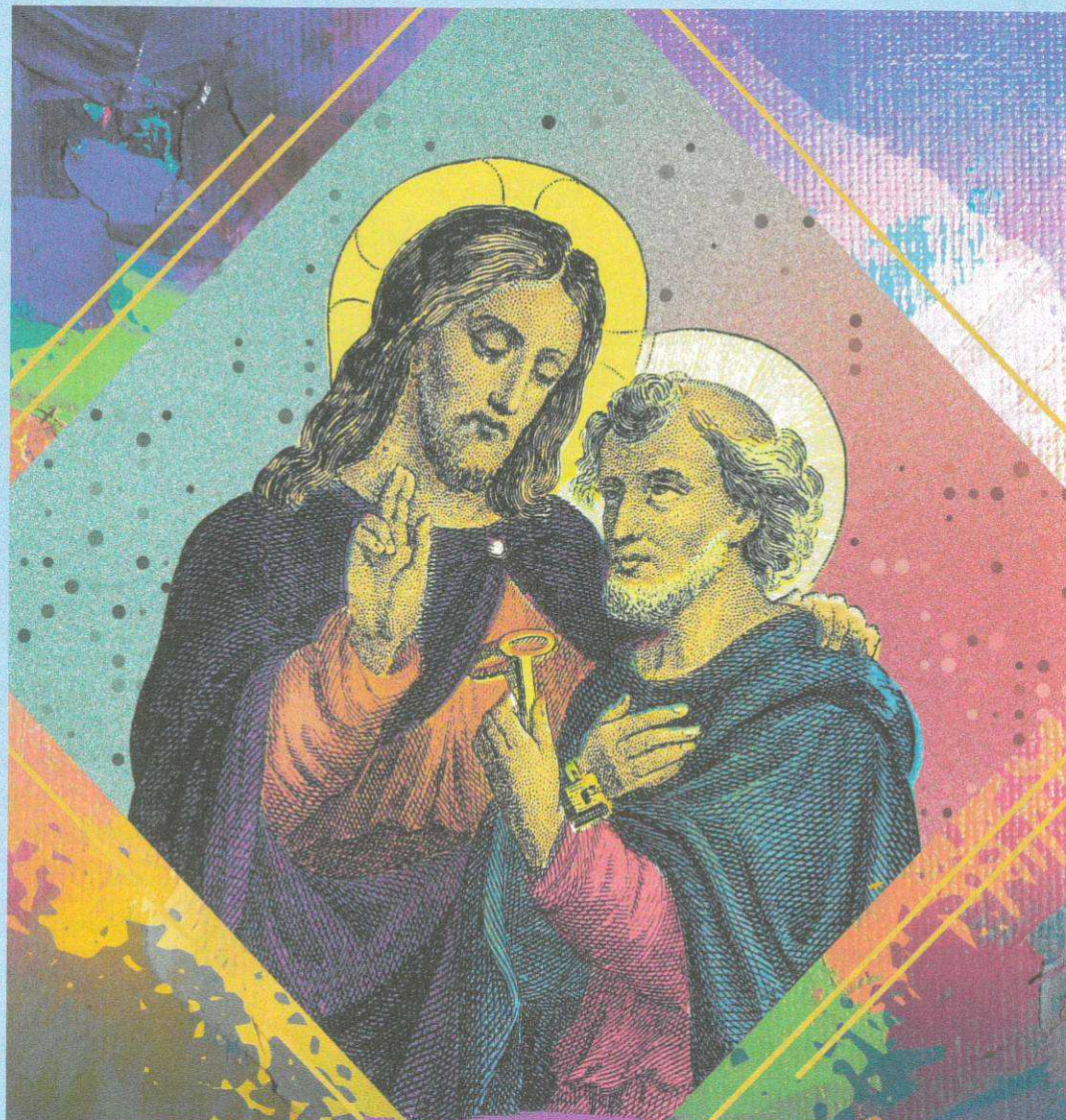
Confession, Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Meditation and Benediction

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272

Email: stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org

August 27, 2023



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:15-16

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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

Office hours are Monday thru Friday: 9 am to 3 pm.
Office phone number: 228-864-2272
Father Mike: 850-288-0155

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST EVENTS

Rescue project: September 11, 6 PM
Knights of Columbus: 1st & 3rd Wednesday - 6:30 PM
Grief & Loss Support Group Tuesday (Sep 5) 4 PM
K C Ladies Auxiliary: 3rd Tuesday (Aug 15 6:30 PM)
Legion of Mary: Every Thursday - 10:30 AM
OCIA classes: Every Thursday 6pm

You are all Invited

to a

special presentation by

Dr. Alan Schreck,

Professor of Theology at
Franciscan University of Steubenville
and author of many books, including

Your Life in the Holy Spirit

Saturday, September 16th

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

St. Vincent de Paul Gym

Please R.S.V.P. to the Holy Family Parish
Office at 228-452-4686 by September 11th.



First Friday Adoration

First Friday is September 1st from 7:30am until 5:00pm. A sign up sheet is in the back of the church outside of the Memorial Room. Please consider spending an hour with Jesus! He loves you so very much!

First Saturday Devotion 8:00am September 2nd.
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, & Confession)

Holy Mass at 9:00am.



JOIN US Mondays at 6:00!

The Rescue Project is a 9-week study starting on September 11th that will enrich your faith and give you an entire new look at the world! Bring your own dinner and we'll provide the rest. There is NO COST to attend!

First Holy Communion and Confirmation Classes

First Holy Communion classes will begin this September for (7 & 8 year olds).

Confirmation classes for (16-17 year olds) also begin in September.

Applications can be found at the back of the Church.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO
PARISH OFFICE!

Happy Birthday blessings this week are
extended to:

Stephanie McNeill, Fiona Rigby, Aug 26
Matthew Cospelich, Aug 27
Thomas Daglis, Richard Faul, Matthew Serpa, Aug 28
Christopher Patti, Aug 29
James Papania, Aug 30
Thomas Brosig, Isabel Leatherman Aug 31
David Allen, Sept 1
May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!



Congratulations



to Our Parishioners

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries

Laurie & Todd Landry, 37 years on Aug 30

Paula & Billy Hewes, 38 years on Aug 31

May God bless them with many more

happy years together!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday: 4:00 PM † Glen Carter
Sunday: 8:00 AM † Carl & Jenny Lizana
† Mary Ann Bishop
(Special intention Catrin Bosch)
10:30 AM People of the Parish
Anyone with birthdays,
anniversaries
5:00 PM † Kendall Dedeaux
Monday: 7:00 AM † Loretta and Harold Dubuisson
Tuesday: 7:00 AM † Carl & Jenny Lizana
Wednesday: 7:00 AM † Carolyn & Mackie Fayard
Thursday: 7:00 AM † Kris Allen
Friday: 7:00 AM † (Happy Birthday David Allen)

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

St John Parishioners Home Enthronements

"Welcome the presence of the Heart of Christ, entrusting your home to Him...Seek to draw from this open heart the saving and healing love that is so necessary for families today...in order to build a civilizations of love"—*St. John Paul 11*

For more information about the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your home, contact the parish office at 228-864-2272.



† Hear Us and Heal Us †

Your prayers are asked for the following individuals

Ed Martin	David McGuffie	Gene Wecorich
Peggy Ryland	Wendel Johnson	Kent Killegrew
Werner Huber	Cathy Bond	Catrin Bosch
Betty Martin	Meredith Kajdan	Justina Arnold
Suzanne King	Joann Hoda	Joyce McIntosh
Buddy Cospelich	Wade Shoemaker	Matt Hill
Suzanne Bowles	Monica Manuel	
Beverly Crawford	Naomi Patton	Parishioners of
Jordan Hoang	Na Nguyen	St. John the
Kim Hoang	Leza Hardy	Evangelist
George Balhofs	Melanie Reneé	
Ronnie Wade	Abe Kassiss	
Paul Fair	Thomas Graves	
John Cuevas	Amy Wheeler	

Last Week's Collection:

Identified: (checks): \$2385 (cash): \$212

Loose: (checks): \$1890 \$ (cash): \$942

ACH Direct Debit: \$1230 Egiving: \$1058

Spanish Collection: \$654

St. Vincent de Paul: \$150

Total: \$8461 Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Day (Assumption) \$1051

2nd Collections

Sept 2, 3 — Church Renovation

Sept 16, 17 — Seafarers and Truckers

Holiness Runs in the Family

Raising faithful children is no easy task. For St. Monica, it seemed nearly impossible. Her husband wasn't Christian and often mocked her faith. Their son, Augustine, fell quickly into wild ways. He and his friends drank, stole, and caroused throughout town. Monica never stopped praying for Augustine, no matter how far he strayed. Augustine became swept up in heresy, a false form of Christianity. He lived with a mistress and had a child out of wedlock. All the while, Monica kept praying. Conversion came slowly to Augustine, but at age 32, he was finally baptized. Augustine would go on to become a priest, then bishop, then world-renowned theologian whose works have stood the test of time. May St. Monica and St. Augustine inspire us to never stop praying for our loved ones. lpi

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday August 27

Isaiah 22:19-23
Ps 138:1-3,6,8
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Monday August 28 St. Augustine, Bp, Dr

1 Thes 1:1-5,8b-10
Ps 149:1b-6a,9b
Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday August 29 Passion of St. John the Baptist

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Ps 139:1-6
Mark 6:17-29

Wednesday August 30

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Ps 139:7-12b
Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday August 31

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13
Ps 90:3-5a,12-14,17
Matthew 24:42-51

Friday September 1

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
Ps 97:1,2b,5-6,10-12
Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday September 2

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11
Ps 98:1,7-9
Matthew 25:14-30

When Jesus ordained Peter to become the rock upon which he would build his Church, he made a promise. The gates of hell, he said, speaking of the netherworld that belongs to the principalities and powers of darkness (see Ephesians 6), "shall never prevail against it."

Jesus did not say that hell would never win battles against the Church. He said that the gates of hell would not win. Of course they won't; gates don't attack! Gates protect. Gates hold inside their boundaries whatever has been enclosed by a fence or wall. Do you know anyone who's been imprisoned by their sins? Or by hellish circumstances?

Christians are not called to take a defensive posture against attacks and encroachments from evil-doers. Christians are called to take the offensive — we are called to attack the very gates of hell, knock them down, and conquer the devils that are trying to drag people into their kingdom of misery and eternal death.

What are the keys? The gates of hell are unlocked by Sacraments; they open the way to eternal life. When a priest "looses" (releases) the grace and forgiveness of God upon a repentant sinner during the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or when a priest "binds" a man and woman together in the Sacrament of Marriage, it's Jesus who's doing it through him.



The supernatural power of the Sacraments conquers evil every time

we take them seriously and rely on the graces they provide.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † Where is there a locked gate in your life, which needs to get blown open so that Jesus can rescue you from some sort of darkness?
- † What will you do this week to utilize the Sacraments more deeply, more profoundly?
- † Who do you say Jesus really is, and how do you encounter this Jesus in the Sacraments?
- † Which Sacrament (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Marriage, Ordination, or the Anointing of the Sick) is most powerful for you personally? Why?

What Jesus did 2000 years ago to free people from evil he still does today through you and me.

For the sinners who want to escape from evil before it's too late, Jesus gave gate keys to Peter when he ordained him as the first shepherd (priest and pope) of Christianity. These keys have been passed from generation to generation through the unbroken line of Catholic priests.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

August 27, 2023

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isn't it a bit weird that Catholics call the Pope "papa," father? This Sunday provides us with essential Scriptural background on the papacy, the petrine office. Jesus gives Peter the "keys to the kingdom of heaven," after witnessing to the special grace Peter has to know Jesus' true identity. Many have pointed out that the "keys" refer back to the figure of Eliakim, King David's prime minister. True enough. But notice this is not mere authority or power. It's a family relationship. The Lord says to Eliakim, "He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem" (Isaiah 22:21). David's prime minister was a spiritual *father* to the family of Israel. Peter, and his successors, will be spiritual fathers in the family of the Church.

This means we have a serious obligation to not only recognize the Pope's authority, but also to love him with the affection of children for their papa. We should never speak about him with disrespect or rancor. We should listen to him with trusting hearts, and ignore the slander thrown at him in various media. When we show the world we are loving and obedient to our Holy Papa, perhaps they'll see more clearly that the Church is indeed God's beloved family.

— Father John Muir

CHAPTER THREE

ARTICLE 2

WE BELIEVE

II. THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH

We do not believe in formulas, but in those realities they express, which faith allows us to touch. "The believer's act [of faith] does not terminate in the propositions, but in the realities [which they express]." All the same, we do approach these realities with the help of formulations of the faith which permit us to express the faith and to hand it on, to celebrate it in community, to assimilate and live on it more and more. CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH (SECOND EDITION) #170

The Giving of Treasure

Question:

Why are Catholics required to give money to the Church?

Answer:

Offering money and other goods to God and the Church is, before all else, a statement of gratitude. We see this when we look at how our spiritual ancestors showed their gratitude to God for the gifts they had received (e.g. Genesis 14:18-20 and Genesis 28:16-22). One of the ways they offered thanks to God was through a practice called "tithing," in which 10 percent of a person's goods (crops, livestock, money, etc.) were given back to God.

Today, the practice of tithing — giving 10 percent — is still common in many Protestant communities, but it is not required for Catholics. Instead, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches us that, "The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to [their] own abilities" (no. 2043). This means that, although we are not bound to practice "tithing" in the traditional sense, we do share a responsibility to share our money or other resources with our parish communities. Like our spiritual ancestors, we give as a sign of our gratitude for the many gifts that God has given to us. Beyond this, we also share our resources with other Catholic organizations to help them finance their ministries, to continue and grow their outreach to the poor and the needy, and to provide just wages for their employees.

How much we give depends on our individual circumstances, but since we share a responsibility for the programs, outreach, and health of our parish communities and Catholic organizations, this question gives us a wonderful opportunity to ask some important questions about the quality of our giving and what our priorities are. Remember, we are only stewards of our time, talents, and treasures and as the First Letter of Peter reminds us, "As each one of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied graces" (4:10). lpi

