

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: Confession, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary

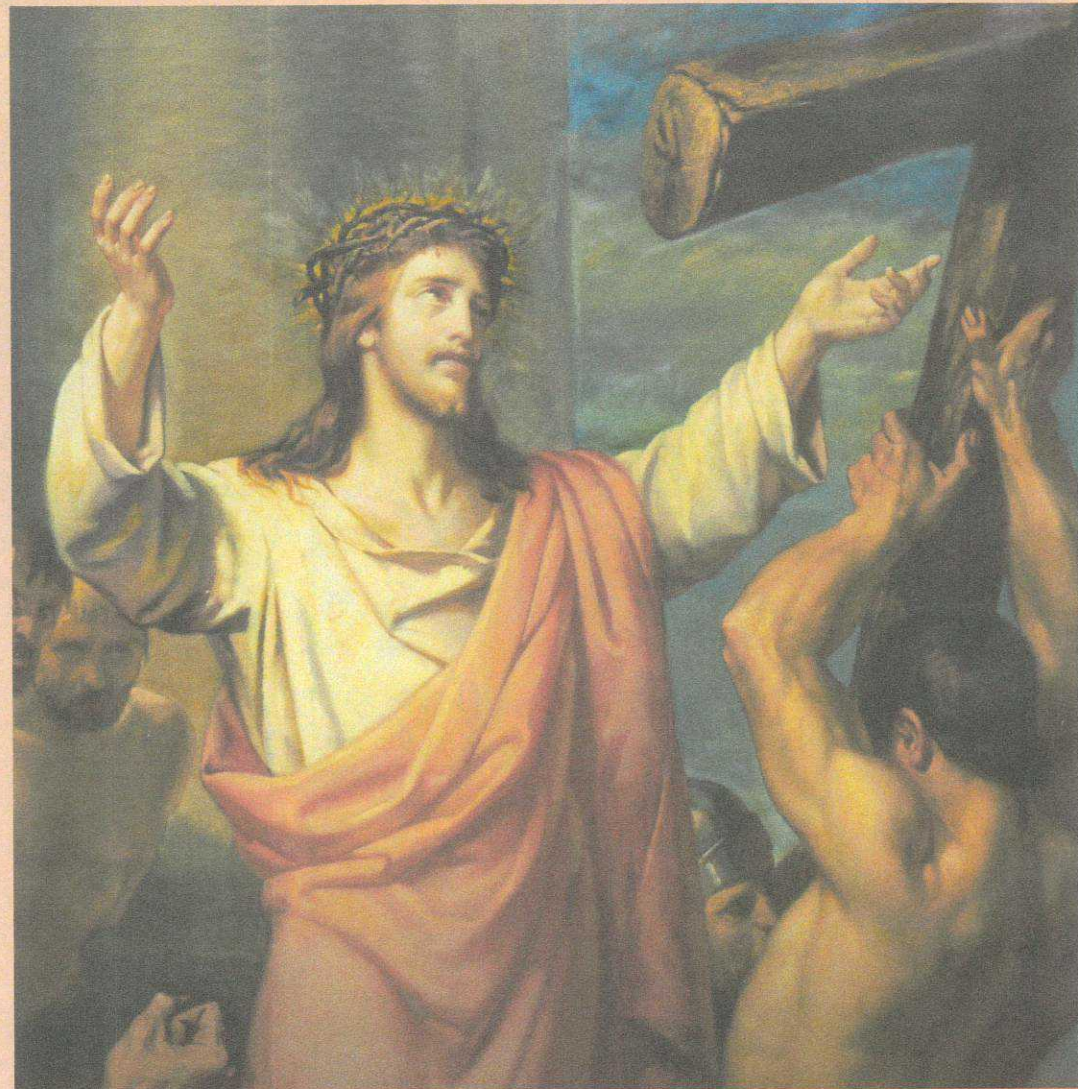
9:00 AM: Mass

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272

Email: stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org

September 03, 2023



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." - Mt 16:24b-25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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For Peace



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St. John the Evangelist Church, Gulfport, MS

A 4C 05-4106



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 closed Monday, Sep 4 Labor Day
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
Young at Heart: Sep 21 12:00 noon

Young at Heart

We invite our senior parishioners to join us for our monthly luncheon starting September 21st at 12pm. It will continue after that on the third Thursday of each month. A main dish will be provided and you are welcome to bring a side dish or desert. There will be bingo and fellowship in Presentation Hall. Call the office for more information. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us also!!



Dr. Alan Schreck

Dr. Schreck, professor of theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville and author of many books, including *'Your Life in the Holy Spirit'* will give a special presentation on Saturday, September 16th, 9:00am-3:00pm at St Vincent de Paul Gym
Please R.S.V.P to the Holy Family Parish Office at 228-452-4686

Welcome Father Mike to St. John the Evangelist



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!



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!

Happy Birthday blessings this week are extended to:

Lilnilda Cartagena, Sept 2
Charles Bridley III, Sept 3
David Eisman, Olen Hanberry, Sept 4,
Larry Dedeaux, Penny Dedeaux, Sept 5
Haley Zelenka, Sept 5
Morgan McCabe, Sept 6

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

✠ 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 Renee	
Ronnie Wade	Abe Kassis	
Paul Fair	Thomas Graves	
John Cuevas	Amy Wheeler	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday:	9:00 AM	✠Mary Ann Bishop
	4:00 PM	✠Glen Carter
Sunday	8:00 AM	✠Anthony Verin Davis
		✠Vincent & Helen Dauro
		✠Curt Arleth
	10:30 AM	People of the Parish
		Anyone with birthdays, anniversaries
	5:00 PM	✠Mary Ann Bishop
Monday:	7:00 AM	✠Mackie & Carolyn Fayard
Tuesday:	7:00 AM	✠Sue Papania
Wednesday:	7:00 AM	✠Cecil & Margaret Dubuisson
Thursday:	7:00 AM	✠Kris Allen
Friday:	7:00 AM	✠Harald & Loretta Dubuisson

Congratulations



Mary Repp for being given the *Lumen Christi*. Thank you for your many years of devotion and self-sacrifice.

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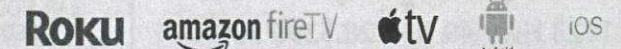
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Last Week's Collection:

Identified: (checks): \$ 1630 (cash): \$121

Loose: (checks): \$1890 (cash): \$1088

ACH Direct Debit: \$ 110 Egiving: \$65

Spanish Collection: \$680

Total: \$ 5,584

Thank you for your generosity!

2nd Collections (World Mission: \$869)

Sept 2, 3 — Church Renovation

Sept 16, 17 — Seafarers and Truckers

St. John Hospitality Committee



22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday September 3

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Ps 63:2-6,8-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

Monday September 4

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Ps 96:1,3-5,11-13
Luke 4:16-30

Tuesday September 5

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6,9-11
Ps 27:1,4,13-14
Luke 4:31-37

Wednesday September 6

Colossians 1:1-8
Ps 52:10-11
Luke 4:38-44

Thursday September 7

Colossians 1:9-14
Ps 98:2-6
Luke 5:1-11

Friday September 8

Nativity of Bl. Virgin Mary
Micah 5:1-4a or
Romans 8:28-30
Ps 13:6abc
Matthew 1:1-16,18-23

Saturday September 9

St. Peter Claver, Priest
Colossians 1:21-23
Ps 54:3-4,6,8
Luke 6:1-5

Today's first reading is one of my personal favorites. I have often felt the way Jeremiah does here. I have yelled at God, "You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped!" And I allow it again and again. "You knew this would happen, Lord! Why did you lead me into this trial?" Have you ever felt that way?



God. We can tell him, without getting punished, that we do not like working for him. Complaining to others, however, is a sin because it causes gossip and prejudices and makes God look bad.

Asking for prayer support during our trials is important, but

complaining to others shows how little we trust God. Eventually, we will see the good that comes from our sacrifices, and this is what we should communicate to others.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How do you feel when you do a good deed and it later works against you? Have you said "no" to allowing it to happen again?
- † What brings the healing love of Jesus to you to help you recover?
- † What unexpected sufferings have you encountered while giving someone a gift of unconditional love or while doing some other service for the kingdom of God?
- † How did you feel about God at that time? Was the cross you carried worth all the hardships? Explain.

Why do we let him do this to us? Why do we trust God even though he leads us into difficult situations? Why do we follow Jesus into giving our help and love to others even though it's going to feel very uncomfortable if not downright painful?

Walking with God and serving his kingdom is an adventure. We can expect the unexpected, and unfortunately in this world that includes suffering — denying ourselves the opportunity to pursue self-centered agendas, taking up crosses, and following Jesus all the way to Calvary (but then of course, all the way to resurrection, too, as explained in the Gospel reading).

Because we love God, we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice, like the second reading asks us to do. This is the highest form of worship; it's a spiritual communion that we experience outside of the Eucharistic liturgy of Mass. In union with Jesus, we are the Eucharist.

As Jeremiah's complaint shows us, we can safely complain to

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

September 3, 2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isn't it easy to relate to Peter? One moment Jesus announces Peter's deep communion with God the Father. The very next, when he rejects the logic of Jesus' suffering and death, Jesus calls Peter Satan. We Christians shouldn't be too shocked when we experience both spiritual highs and lows, when we perceive breathtaking contradictions in our hearts.

Like the great apostle, you and I are recipients of unfathomable graces. God dwells in us, calls his beloved children, and takes care of our every need. And we also continually fail to embrace our sufferings with trust in Jesus. We know the truth of the creed, but we easily scorn the weight of the cross.

The good news is that, like Peter, we are never abandoned by the Lord even at our worst moments. Peter will eventually learn the beauty of the cross when he is willingly crucified. But it took time for him to get there. And it takes time for us, too. This week let's not be too shocked at these divisions in our hearts but accept them and patiently seek to be more obedient to Jesus' cross-shaped plan for us.

— Father John Muir

CHAPTER THREE

ARTICLE 2

WE BELIEVE

II. THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH

The Church, "the pillar and bulwark of the truth," faithfully guards "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." She guards the memory of Christ's words; it is she who from generation to generation hands on the apostles' confession of faith. As a mother who teachers her children to speak and so to understand and communicate, the Church our Mother teaches us the language of faith in order to introduce us to the understanding and the life of faith. CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH (SECOND EDITION) #171

Church Teaching About suicide

Question: What does the Church say about suicide?

Answer:

Unfortunately, despite the Church's clear teachings in resources like the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, there are still many people who are confused about what the Church teaches regarding the tragic reality of suicide.

While we hold that all life is sacred, we are also all-too aware that psychological, emotional and even physical illness — as well as extreme anxiety, fear, and abuse — can lead individuals to take their own lives. Speaking to this, the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* reflects, "Although suicide is always objectively sinful, one should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives" (pg. 294). The text also states the reality of illness or other extreme influences can "diminish the responsibility of one committing suicide" (pg. 293).

Parishes and grief support groups should show special care and concern for those families that have lost a loved one to suicide. And, communities should always try to be mindful of those who might be at risk of suicide or self-harm.

If someone is contemplating suicide, please know that help is available, including the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255). ©LPi

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