

# 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: Healing Mass

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272

Email: [stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org](mailto:stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org)

November 12, 2023



32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You know neither the day nor the hour."  
- Mt 25: 13

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1993, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Pray  
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](http://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 CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Thanksgiving Raffle



Grand Prize \$10,000.00

Ticket price: \$100

Total tickets to be sold: 500

#### Additional Prizes

(1) \$250.00

(4) \$150.00

Drawing will be held at 5 PM on November 18th at Presentation Hall.

(ONE TICKET ADMITS 2 FOR DINNER AND LIVE DRAWING)

You do not have to be present to win.

Tickets are available: see the ushers, Father, or get them from the office.

## Happy Birthday blessings this week are extended to:

Kim Graves, Karen Morgan, Nov 12  
Sherri Killegrew, Robin Midcalf-Brosig, Nov 13  
Linda Carter, Nov 14  
Drew Myer, Nov 15

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

✠ We pray for all the sick, especially: ✠

Celeste Guy	Naomi Patton	Dean Bowles
Peggy Ryland	Melanie Reneé	Carl Necaie
Suzanne King	Abe Kassis	Alma Dedeaux
John Cuevas	Amy Wheeler	Julia Langford
David McGuffie	Catrin Bosch	Joe McCormick
Cathy Bond	Justina Arnold	
Joann Hoda	Joyce McIntosh	Parishioners of
Wade Shoemaker	Matt Hill	St. John the
Monica Manuel	Harriett Bowles	Evangelist

### Congratulations to Our Parishioners

Chris & Shana Patti, 15 yrs Nov 11  
Gary & Debbie Beach, 39 yrs Nov 15

May God bless them with many more  
happy years together!

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	VETERANS DAY
	4:00 PM ✠ Carolyn & Mackie Fayard
Sunday	8:00 AM ✠ People of the Parish
	10:30 AM ✠ Mary Ann Bishop
	✠ Shawn Dubuisson
	✠ Mike Barfield
	✠ Curt Arleth
	5:00 PM ✠ Kris Allen
Monday:	7:00 AM ✠ Harold & Loretta Dubuisson
Tuesday:	7:00 AM ✠ Emily Webber
Wednesday:	7:00 AM ✠ Mackie & Carolyn Fayard
Thursday:	7:00 AM ✠ Cecil & Margaret Dubuisson
Friday:	7:00 AM ✠ Lucas, Leonard, Andrew, Joe and Alice Papania

My soul  
is thirsting  
for you,  
O Lord.  
PSALM 63

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### Last Week's Collection:

Identified: (checks) \$2430.00 (cash): \$160.00

Loose: (checks): \$1530.00 (cash): \$669.00

ACH Direct Debit: \$110.00 Egiving: \$1666.45

Spanish Collection: \$577.00

Total: \$7142.45

2nd Collection-Church Renovations: \$3119.00

All Saints Collection: \$1494.00

Thank you for your generosity!

2nd Collection:  
Nov 18-19 Catholic Campaign for Human  
Development

### PARISH LIFE





## 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sunday November 12

Wisdom 6:12-16

Ps 63:2-8

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

### Monday November 13

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Wisdom 1:1-7

Ps 139:1b-10

Luke 17:1-6

### Tuesday November 14

Wisdom 2:23 – 3:9

Ps 34:2-3,16-19

Luke 17:7-10

### Wednesday November 15

Wisdom 6:1-11

Ps 82:3-4,6-7

Luke 17:11-19

### Thursday November 16

Wisdom 7:22b – 8:1

Ps 119:89-91,130,135,175

Luke 17:20-25

### Friday November 17

St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Wisdom 13:1-9

Ps 19:2-5b

Luke 17:26-37

### Saturday November 18

Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9

Ps 105:2-3,36-37,42-43

Luke 18:1-8

This Sunday's Gospel reading shows us what it means to be truly foolish. We believe in Christ – good! We pray – good! We put time into our faith growth and we value opportunities for more faith formation – very wise! And we say that we trust God – wonderful!

But what happens when God doesn't answer our prayers fast enough? What if we need Christ's loving embrace or his protection from evil and yet we're suffering with no end in sight? Where is Jesus then?

Usually, God's timing is not ours. We think we have the right idea about how soon God should intervene when we ask for his help. Right now is a good time for it, right? Of course! But perhaps not from God's perspective. (Why do we want to leave God in charge anyway, if he doesn't see things our way, huh?)

When we despair over unanswered prayer, the reality behind it is that we're emotionally unprepared for any timing that's different from what we think it should be.

The foolish bridesmaids thought the groom would arrive before their lamps burned out. They thought they understood the situation. Do we? Furthermore, if God's plans are illogical – if they don't make sense to us – we distrust them. And then we get ourselves into the mess of trying to handle things apart from God.

We cannot trust our logic. We cannot trust our perception or



our understanding of the situations we're in. The sooner we decide to enjoy the absurdity of being a Christian, the sooner we will find out that God's ways are awesomely much, much better than anything we can imagine!

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What have you resisted doing because it doesn't make sense?
- † What can you do, where can you turn, to whom can you go for help in discerning whether or not it's God's plan for you?
- † How do you know when an illogical plan is really what God wants you to do?
- † What's happened in your life that has taught you to trust the Holy Spirit's surprises?
- † Share a lesson you learned when you weren't ready for God's plan because you didn't believe it.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

November 12, 2023

32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lately I've been enjoying the deep meaning of Eastern icons. I love how they express a tapestry of meaning in a way that can surpass the written or spoken word. Today's parable of the ten virgins from Jesus is a good example. Try googling "wise and foolish virgins icon" and you'll see an image of how our Christ meets our heart's deepest needs if we attend to him with the proper attitude.

I'm serious. Take a moment to google and look at it. See how it depicts the risen Jesus behind a closed door with the five wise virgins with lighted lamps. He gazes with them toward the five foolish and lamp-less virgins, symbolizing the outward looking of divine love for the lost. Moreover, the wedding feast is no ordinary one. It takes place in a walled city and garden, indicating it's a new Jerusalem and a return to Eden. The table isn't typical, either. It's a Eucharistic feast. Now we see that the door in Jesus' parable is the way into the church, where Christ is the new light burning amidst the dark midnight of this world.

The richness continues. We notice, too, that the foolish virgins look *exactly* the same as the wise ones in their clothes, hair, and expressions. The only difference is they departed to buy oil and now they are sadly excluded. We often act like consumers in the marketplace to fulfill our need for love and mercy. We'll *always* end up disappointed if we shop around. Jesus sums up the moral of the story this way: **"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."** Watch, remain, don't spiritually shop. It is *always* better to quietly remain close to the Eucharistic community of the Church, even if we feel like our oil has run out. This week let's consider placing the icon of the wise and foolish virgins on our phone lock screen or computer desktop to help us remember to stay close to him, especially when life feels dark. *Father John Muir*

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## Church Collections

### Question:

Where does the money go that is collected each week at Church?

### Answer:

This is a good question! Every parish has financial obligations, including the basic operation of the buildings, salaries, maintenance, and improvements. In addition, there are schools to support, programs to run, charities to be funded, and operational expenses like hosts and wine for Mass, music books, vestments, and so on. In some cases, cemeteries and other buildings need attention. Finally, there is the diocesan assessment that each parish pays to help run the diocese and the support services provided to each parish.

Most parishes manage to get by with the collection, a few fundraisers and endowments. But contrary to popular opinion, cash flow is also a problem, and many parishes operate in the red. The Finance Committee is responsible for assisting the pastor in fiscal management, and good stewardship is the basis for successful programs.

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## SECTION TWO THE PROFESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH THE CREEDS

Through the centuries many professions or symbols of faith have been articulated in response to the needs of the different eras: the creeds of the different apostolic and ancient Churches, e.g., the *Quicumque*, also called the Athanasian Creed; the professions of faith of certain Councils, such as Toledo, Lateran, Lyons, Trent; or symbols of certain popes, e.g., the *Fides Damasi* or the *Credo of the People of God* of Paul VI.<sup>#192</sup>

None of the creeds from the difference stages in the Church's life can be considered superseded or irrelevant. They help us today to attain and deepen the faith of all times by means of the different summaries made of it...<sup>#193</sup>

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH (SECOND EDITION)