

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

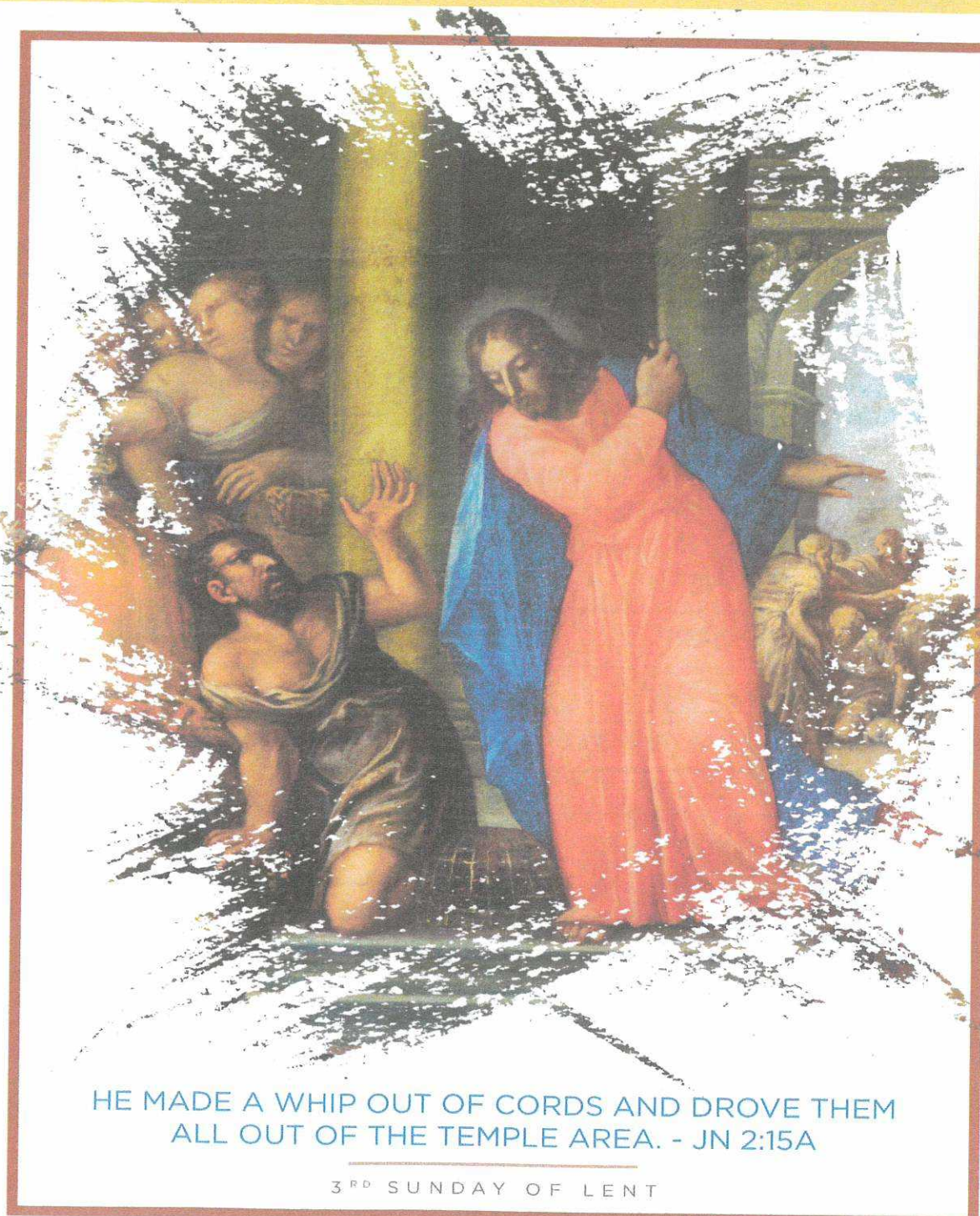
First Saturday Devotion:

2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272

Email: stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org

March 03, 2024



HE MADE A WHIP OUT OF CORDS AND DROVE THEM
ALL OUT OF THE TEMPLE AREA. - JN 2:15A

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS © 2001, 1998, 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.

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

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

PARISH TEAM GUIDE

The Diocese of Biloxi is blessed to have 6 men in formation for the priesthood for our diocese. We are also blessed to have 17 retired priests that continue to help minister to the 56,000 Catholics in South Mississippi. Your gift to the 2024 Catholic Sharing Appeal directly aids in the formation, education, and care of all of these men. Will you please consider a generous gift to the 2024 Catholic Sharing Appeal in support of our future and retired priests? Your gift of prayer and financial support ensures that we will continue to help the mission of the Church in a real way. Pledge envelopes are in the back of the church. Thank You!

Seder Meal Committee

In preparation of the Seder Meal, the decoration committee is need of **yard ivy** to decorate the tables.

Please bring your ivy to Presentation Hall on Tuesday March 12 at 10am. Thank you

Happy Birthday blessings this week are extended to:

David Robinson, Charles Smith, March 6
Peggy Schloegel, Brett Tanis, March 7
Jeanne Marcel, March 8
Cecil Arleth, March 9

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

✠ We pray for all the sick, especially: ✠

Peggy Ryland	Alyssa Henderson	Taylor Parker
Suzanne King	Al Allen	Butch Oustalet
Joann Hoda	Olivia Hood	
Naomi Patton	Thomas Woodcock	Parishioners of
Harriett Bowles	Bryan Cuevas	St. John the
Dean Bowles	Debbie Duckworth	Evangelist
Carl Necaie	Nadine Nichols	
Alma Dedeaux	Cathy Crane Vick	
Joe McCormick	Adrian Jacobs	
Chris Papania	Deanna Ladner	
Billy Ruble	Shelly Bryant	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	09:00 AM	✠ Alex North
	4:00 PM	✠ Sue Papania
Sunday	8:00 AM	✠ Mary Ann Bishop
		✠ Kaleel Salloum
		✠ Cecil & Margaret Dubuisson
	10:30 AM	People of the Parish
	5:00 PM	✠ Anthony Verin Davis
Monday:	7:00 AM	✠ Emily Webber
	12:00 noon	✠ Anthony Verin Davis
Tuesday:	7:00 AM	✠ Kris Allen
	12:00 noon	✠ Lucille Collins
Wednesday:	7:00 AM	✠ Poor Souls in Purgatory
	12:00 noon	✠ Tom Wiborg
Thursday:	7:00 AM	✠ Mackie & Carolyn Fayard
	12:00 noon	✠ William John Noeton III
Friday:	7:00 AM	✠ Mr & Mrs Spiro Vella
	12:00 noon	✠ Emily Webber

ALTAR SOCIETY

Giving time, talents and your creativity to maintain our beautiful church is a very special blessing! Please contact Rita Bailey at 228-234-0158 to help St. John's Altar Society.

Last Week's Collection:

Identified: (checks) \$1685.00 (cash): \$176.00

Loose: (checks) \$1695.00 (cash): \$1011.00

ACH Direct Debit: \$110.00 Egiving: \$833.63

Spanish Collection: \$941.00

Total: \$ 7395.26

Thank you for your generosity!

For an annual contribution statement, please contact the parish office at 228-864-2270.



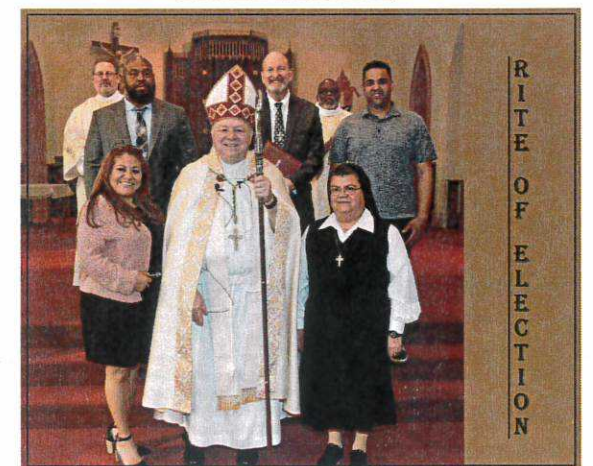
Knights of Columbus FISH FRY

The Knights of Columbus will host **Lenten Fish Fry** on Fridays from 5-7pm starting Feb 16th until March 22nd in Presentation Hall.

Price: \$10.00

Includes: **Catfish** and *homemade* potato salad, baked beans, hush puppies, and desert.

PARISH LIFE



Calendar of Activities for March

ACTIVITY	DATE	LOCATION
Week Day Lenten Masses	7am & 1200 noon	Church
Stations of the Cross	Fridays 6:00pm (English) 7:00pm (Spanish)	Church
KC Fish Fry	Fridays 5-7pm	Presentation Hall
Deo Gloria	March 5th—6:30pm	Church
Seder Supper	March 14—6:00 pm	Presentation Hall
Penance Service	March 25th 6:00pm	Church
Lenten Reflection Fr. Mike	March 26th 6:00 pm	Church
Tenebrae	March 27th—7:00 pm	Church
Holy Thursday	March 28th 7:00 pm (bi-lingual)	Church
Good Friday	3:00 pm Passion & Veneration 5:00 pm Live Stations	Church Presentaion Hall
Easter Vigil	7:30 pm <i>(No 4pm Mass)</i>	Church
REGULAR EVENTS		
Knights of Columbus	1st & 3rd Wednesday	KC Hall
Legion of Mary	Every Thursday at 10:30 am	Church dining room
OCIA classes	Every Thursday at 6pm	Presentation Hall
Young at Heart	March 21st—noon	Presentation Hall

3rd Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 3

Ex 20:1-17
Ps 19:8-11
1 Cor 1:22-25
Jn 2:13-25

Monday, March 4

2 Kgs 5:1-15b
Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday, March 5

Dn 3:25,34-43
Ps 25:4-5b,6,7b-9
Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday, March 6

Dt 4:1,5-9
Ps 147:12-13,15-16,19-20
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday, March 7

Jer 7:23-28
Ps 95:1-2,6-9
Lk 11:14-23

Friday, March 8

Hos 14:2-10
Ps 81:6c-11b,14,17
Mk 12:28-34

Saturday, March 9

Hos 6:1-6
Ps 51:3-4,18-21b
Lk 18:9-14

Jesus strongly reacted in Jerusalem when He drove out the money changers in the Temple. Remembering the psalm from Scripture, "Zeal for your house will consume me," imagine the disciples witnessing their beloved leader's assertive rampage of the temple that day. He was chasing away all that wasn't right and holy in the sanctuary of God. Jesus' righteous anger and firm actions were a clear sign from the beginning of His ministry that He would fiercely protect God's house, His truths, and teachings. He was serious about His mission to teach us to know God, to love Him, and to serve Him. Jesus showed us we could trust Him to keep us on the right path to heaven.

Just as Jesus was consumed with zeal for the Father's house in the Jerusalem Temple, He is also serious about His pursuit and protection of our souls, the temple of the Holy Spirit. He wants to keep us on track to our goal of heaven. Jesus suffered

and died for our sins and then resurrected from the dead so that we may have the hope of everlasting life in heaven.

If something or someone is blocking our relationship with God, making us less loving and less willing to sacrifice our selfish desires, Jesus will send the Holy Spirit to help us surrender our hearts to His Holy Will. He will pursue us with zealous passion; all we need to do is be open, listen, and follow Him. Jesus' passionate invitation and promise of heaven are there in front of us, but we must decide to answer His call, make our path straight, follow His Way to heaven, and lead others to join us.



A consistent prayer life, studying Sacred Scripture, participation in the Mass, and frequent reception of the Sacraments, along with love and service to others, are sure ways to cooperate with God's grace and strengthen our virtue and sanctity. This will surely lead to a zealous life for God and will likely draw others to Christ, too.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What do you need to drive out of your life to help you stay on the sure-footed path of God's Holy Will?
- † In what ways are you ready to commit your life and total trust more fully to the Lord?
- † How has someone else's zeal for Christ drawn you closer in your own walk with Christ?
- † How are you showing zeal for Christ through the living example of your relationships and life?

End of Mass

Question:

Is it ever Ok to leave Mass before it ends?

Answer:

This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it's okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is "no," but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.

First, when we think about questions like this, we must consider this in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. However, if it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. First, while we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. This is summarized in the Prayer After Communion offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to "Go forth" during the Dismissal of the Mass, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift — the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament — and that we are to share that gift with others.

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship — and communion in the fullest sense — and, second, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. This time of thanksgiving, reflection, and, ultimately, missioning, are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass.

Article 1

THE PROFESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

CHAPTER 1

"I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,
CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH"

II. The Living God

"I Am who I Am"

Out of respect for the holiness of God, the people of Israel do not pronounce his name. In the reading of Sacred Scripture, the revealed name (YHWH) is replaced by the divine title "LORD" (in Hebrew *Adonai*, in Greek *Kyrios*). It is under this title that the divinity of Jesus will be acclaimed: "Jesus is Lord." #209

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH (SECOND EDITION)

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

March 3, 2024

3rd Sunday of Lent

I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3

One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to "**have no other gods besides me.**" This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

— Father John Muir

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