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

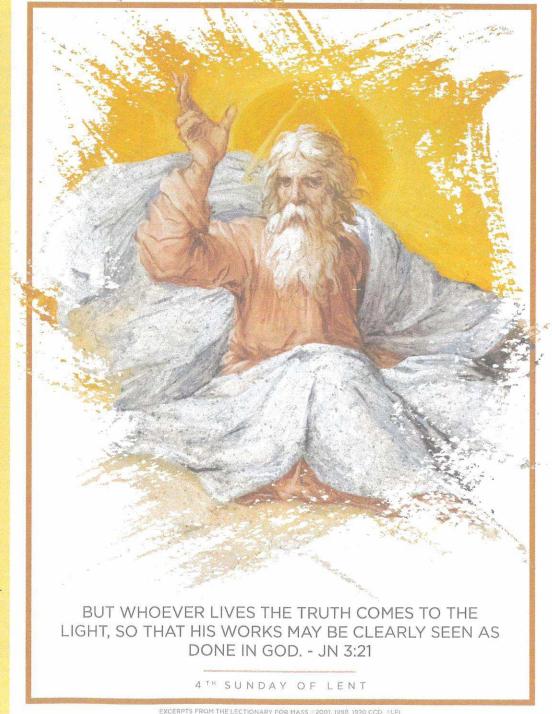
9:00 AM: Healing Mass

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Email: stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org

March 10, 2024



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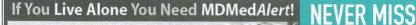
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Whether you're visiting for a brief time, looking for a parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we are so that happy you're here! To learn more about St. John, please 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

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.



Congratulations to Our Parishioners

Pat & Susie Peresich, 35 yrs on March 12 Nancy & Andrew McMahan, 37 yrs on March 14 Sally & Dick Bartlett, 51yrs on March 17

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

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
Seder Supper	March 14—6:00 pm	Presentation Hall
	HOLY WEEK	
Penance Service (Monday)	March 25th 6:00pm	Church
Lenten Reflection Fr. Mike (Tuesday)	March 26th 6:00 pm	Church
Tenebrae (Wednesday)	March 27th—7:00 pm	Church
Holy Thursday	March 28th 7:00 pm (bi-lingual) NO 7am or noon mass	Church
Good Friday	3:00 pm Passion & Veneration 5:00 pm Live Stations NO 7am or noon mass	Church Presentaion Hall
Easter Vigil	7:30 pm (No 4pm Mass)	Church
Easter Sunday	All Masses Regular Times	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

Seder Meal Committee

In preparation of the Seder Meal, the decoration committee is need of vard ivy to decorate the ta-

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

Happy Birthday blessings this week are extended to:

Anthony Quigley, March 10 Elnora Ladner, Mike Quigley, March 12 Lyndon Ladner, March 13 Mary Cartagena, March 16, Richard Salloum, March 17

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

♥ We pray for all the sick, especially: ♥

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 8:00 AM People of the Parish Sunday

10:30 AM [⊕] Kris Allen

☆ Aarol Thibodeaux **⁺** Deceased Legion of Mary Members

Monday:

> 7:00 AM Pablo & Aida Cabasa

Tuesday:

Wednesday: 12:00 Noon

Raleel Salloum

Thursday:

12:00 Noon ♥ Suzanne Bowles

Friday:

12:00 Noon ⊕ Jean Cunningham

Congratulations to Father Mike

St. John the Evangelist's friends and parishioners want to congratulate Father Mike on his 38 anniversary in the priesthood (March 17th). After each mass next Sunday, celebrate with Fr. Mike in the breezeway with coffee and cake.

Last Week's Collection:

Identified: (checks) \$2,915 (cash): \$132

Loose: (checks) \$2,380.57(cash): \$1,062 ACH Direct Debit:\$1,710 Egiving: \$1,356.38

Spanish Collection: \$791.00

Total: \$10,346.95

2nd Collection: Church Renovation\$3,184.00

2nd Collection Mar 17th is for Catholic Relief Ser-

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.

\$10.00 Includes: Catfish and Price: homemade potato salad, baked beans, hush puppies, and desert.

PARISH LIFE



Father Mike baptizing Haley Zelenka's daughter Sarah.

GOOD NEWS INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

4th Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 10 2 Chr 36:14-16,19-23 Ps 137:1-6 Eph 2:4-10 Jn 3:14-21

Monday, March 11 Is 65:17-21 Ps 30:2,4-6,11-12a,13b Jn 4:43-54

> Tuesday, March 12 Ez 47:1-9,12 Ps 46:2-3,5-6,8-9 Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday, March 13 Is 49:8-15 Ps 145:8-9,13c-14,17-18 Jn 5:17-30

> Thursday, March 14 Ex 32:7-14 Ps 106:19-23 Jn 5:31-47

> > Friday, March 15 Wis 2:1a,12-22 Ps 34:17-21,23 Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30

Saturday, March 16 Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7:2-3,9b-12 Jn 7:40-53

God's love is more than we can ever imagine. Through God's infinite and merciful love, He sent his only beloved Son, Jesus, to Earth to teach us how to love. He sacrificed his Son to suffer and die a cruel death on the cross to save us from eternal death and damnation for our sins and the sins of Adam and Eve. He sent the Holy Spirit to guide us out of darkness and promised that if we believed, we would be rewarded with true happiness in heaven.

What an amazing gift this is! Through our faith and commitment to Jesus, we can be assured that God, who knows everything about us, including our faults and imperfections, loves us and promises us salvation rather than judgment for our failings!

But what is meant by the words "everyone who believes in Him?" The action word "believes" is much more than merely saying, "I accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior." Real belief in Jesus involves turning one's life over to Jesus and His teachings. It means

making Jesus the center of our lives. It's a commitment to surrender one's selfish ways and to love others the way Christ loves.

It is still true today that many people continue to stay in the darkness rather than have their sins exposed in the light. Sometimes it is self-denial and they are afraid to confront their own sins. Other times, they don't want to admit to others that they are struggling. They fear that changing will be too hard. If only they would trust our most gracious and merciful God, who forgives and restores our souls when we offer our lives to Him.



We show belief when we come into the light and see, accept, and live in the truth of Jesus and His teachings. When we are true believers, our works of love will be Christ-like. Those who believe in Christ love Him and want to be like Him. Our good works will be done out of pure love and gratefulness for our God. Our belief — our faith in Christ — will go hand in hand with our actions — our works — to save us, and we will reach out to bring the Good News to others, too.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How do you live your life in a way that others can see that you believe God loves you and He loves them, too?
- † In what areas of your life must you continue trusting in the love and light of Christ to transform you out of darkness?
- † How can you clearly and simply communicate the Gospel message of God's saving grace through Jesus to others?
- † How can you sincerely share your testimony to show your personal need for a Savior?

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GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE March 10, 2024

4th Sunday of Lent

Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if *they* are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good.

What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will accomplish it without an act of condemnation. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the least godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn. LPi — Father John Muir

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

"A God merciful and gracious"

After Israel's sin, when the people had turned away from God to worship the golden calf, God hears Moses' prayer of intercession and agrees to walk in the midst of an unfaithful people, thus demonstrating his love. When Moses asks to see his glory, God responds "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you my name 'the LORD' [YHWH].". Then the LORD passes before Moses and proclaims, "YHWH, YHWH, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness"; Moses then confesses that the LORD is a forgiving God. #210

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH (SECOND EDITION)

Differences Between Priest & Brothers

Question:

What's the difference between priests and brothers, friars, etc.?

Answer:

The distinctions titles and categories used for priests and the male members of religious communities can be confusing, especially since the categories can sometimes be intertwined as a man can be both a priest and a monk, or a brother and a friar. So, to help to piece the puzzle together, it's important to begin by noting some basic distinctions:

The distinction between priests (who are ordained for sacramental ministry) and brothers (who are non-ordained members of religious communities and who are committed to lives of prayer and service).

Priests: A priest is a man who has been ordained for sacramental ministry and these fall into two categories: A) Diocesan (or Secular) Priests can either be attached to a diocese and who serve under a bishop. Their ministry is usually oriented toward pastoral service. B) Religious Priests are members of religious communities (like the Franciscans, Jesuits, Salvatorians, or Carmelites) and their lives are guided by the special mission and charism of their community. While both kinds of priest practice sacramental ministry, their spirituality and how they live out their priesthood can be very different.

Brothers: Brothers are non-ordained members of religious communities (such as those mentioned above) who live lives committed to prayer and service. Religious priests and brothers serve together in their communities and their ministries include much more than the care of parishes.

Monks, Friars, and Canons: These are broad categories that include religious priests and brothers, and each of these is connected to specific ways of life and spiritualities.

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