

St. John the Baptist Church

11150 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 • Phone (510) 232-5659 • Fax (510) 236-0960

www.sjtbc.us • E-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us

Welcome!

*Our warmest welcome to all who worship with us,
whether a long-time parishioner or newly arrived in the parish.
As Catholic Christians, we are committed to knowing,
loving and serving God by obeying His commandments
and serving our brothers and sisters with love and respect.*

Schedule of Masses

Every Day at 8am.
Vigil, Saturday, 5pm.
Sunday, 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am, 1pm (Chinese),
6pm (Brazilian).

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday

For inquiries,
please call, e-mail stjohns@sjtbc.us
or www.sjtbc.us



Priests

Rev. Thuong Nguyen, Pastor
Rev. Thang Nguyen, Rev. Joseph Tran

Deacons

Thom McGowan: (707)-653-4920
Loch Sekona: (510)-837-1052

Parish Office

Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

Bulletin Editor:

Ed Bautista, OCDS

Accountant/Bookkeeper:

Arthur De Leon

Children's Religious Education

Camille Herrera: (510) 220-3839

Confirmation – Youth Ministry

Gina DeLaTorre: (510)-815-0050

Adult Inquiry – RCIA

Christine Hickey: (510)-815-6022

Pastoral Council

Thomas Fleming: (510)-502-0080

St. Vincent de Paul Society

(510)-232-5659 for messages

St. John's Elementary School

Principal: Dina Trombetta
(510)-234-2244 • www.stjohnec.org

St. John's Community Center

6500 Gladys Ave.

St. John's Divine Mercy

Adoration Chapel

11152 San Pablo Ave.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

September 12, 2021

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Is 50:4c-9a

Jas 2:14-18

Mk 8:27-35

Faith or Works?

Unfortunately, these two facets of our faith are often pitted against each other. In many of his letters, St. Paul insists on the superiority of faith, while today's reading from St. James underscores the importance of good works. It is understandable that one might get confused. Actually, both are vital. In fact, one without the other does not result in full Christian living. At issue is how they fit together.

Paul's insistence on faith was probably a corrective for the erroneous belief that we can earn eternal happiness by our good works. This was not simply a problem with the Jewish law and practices but with the religious law and practices of many societies. Even today we find people convinced that obeying religious laws assures salvation. To this, Paul insisted that it was faith in Jesus that saved, not conformity to law. Paul never said that believers should not obey the law.

Rather, he would insist that such obedience should flow from faith, not vice versa.

It seems that the people to whom today's second reading was directed took the idea of "faith alone" to an extreme. They were not committed to good works. This letter corrected that error. It states that faith without works is dead. In fact, good works demonstrate the authenticity and depth of one's faith.

The message for today should be clear. Faith and works belong together. Genuine faith manifests itself in works of love and mercy, and the works of love and mercy that flow from faith are of God.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✧ *Which works of mercy does your faith inspire?*
- ✧ *How are these works fortified by faith?*

Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

JAMES 2:18



To All Church Ministries and New Volunteers:

Good Afternoon to All!

Our annual workshop here at St. John the Baptist Church for all of our Ministers and new ministers will be held at the Church on September 18, 2021, Saturday from 10am to 2pm. I find it of utmost importance particularly, during these trying times, that we gather to pray, develop and encourage each other, to better serve one another, and be a witness to the Gospel in a new way.

It is an opportune time to have a retreat, a time, also, for commissioning and a renewal for all ministers at St. John the Baptist Church.

Our retreat will include all of our ministries, new and current ministers and volunteers at our church, including Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Choir members, Decorators, Church CleanUp, Linen Volunteers, and Pastoral, Liturgy and Finance Council members, and anyone who would like to become a volunteer at the Church.

We will have a Mass and a guest priest as speaker. Lunch will be provided at our meeting.

I, strongly, encourage you to attend this retreat. Hopefully, I will see many of you on this day.

To RSVP for this retreat, please email Reyline Artiaga at: reynalina@yahoo.com.

May God bless us always!

Fr. Thuong Hoai Nguyen

Mass for the Intentions *for the Week*

Saturday, September 11	5pm	For the intentions of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Requested by Elaine LeCrom
Sunday, September 12	8am	Roger Boggess †	Keller Family
	9:30 am	For complete healing and recovery of Elvira P. Rodriguez	Nicanor and Linda Samson
	11:30am	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, September 13	8am	For Special Intentions	
	6:30pm	Procession Participants and Their Loved Ones	Ancelle Nguyen
Tuesday, September 14	8am	For Special Intentions	
Wednesday, September 15	8am	Eric Ewen †	Ewen Family
Thursday, September 16	8am	Eleanor Ewen †	Ewen Family
Friday, September 17	8am	For Special Intention	
Saturday, September 18	8am	Roger Barce-Death Anniversary	Alice Barce and Children

Stewardship

Online giving at www.sjtbc.us/give

Thank you for your generosity.

Volunteer at Church

Meet ministers/volunteers on Sep. 18, Saturday from 9am-2pm at the Church. A priest is invited as guest speaker. Lunch will be served.

Plant Ministry

Exterior of our Chapel undergoes improvement. Sandbags, bricks, artificial turf, a fountain were brought in to improve the patio landscape located between the side of the chapel and the Convent.

St. John Senior Center, 6500 Gladys Ave



Statewide Gubernatorial Recall Election, Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Offering Prayers for Healing

Virginia Alday, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste
 Irene Blair, Julia Bustamante, Gustavo Caceres and Family, Evelyn Canepa, Al Carlson, Brenna Clark
 Jennette Cleadenger, Linda Crittendon, Cora Dongon
 Mary Dong, Tami Duncan
 Juanita Estrellas, Eduardo Garchitorena, Frank Gardner
 Filomena Giese, Mike Giovannini
 Joseph Golinveaux, Victoria Gregorio, Andy Gutierrez, James Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry
 Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Ann Jones, Avelina Juat
 Tom Kennedy, Marija Limon, Bernice Lockett,
 Marian & Michael Luoma, Mary Agnes, Nancy McVey, Cecilia Mendiola, Francis Mondragon,
 Lorraine Ostrowski, Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella,
 Angelina Patacsil, Pam Paun, Victoria Payless, Marlen Pineda and Family, Wayne Price, Rose Anne, Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider, Dimitri Smith, Elsie Sowinski, Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara
 Pat Tilley, Isaac Tiongson, Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal
 Evodio Walle, Winston Williams, Jan Williamson
 Jonathan Zumwalt



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the Second Reading today, St. James had harsh words for those who do not put their faith into action. May we be good stewards of God's gifts to us that we can never be accused of having 'faith that does nothing in practice.' -James 2:17

This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Is 50:4-9. Ja 2:14-18. Mk 8:27-35.

Monday Readings: 1 Tm 2:1-8. Lk 7:1-10.

Our Lady of Fatima Devotion. Mass and Procession at 6:30pm.

Tuesday Readings: Nm 21:4-9. Ph 2:6-11.

Jn 3:13-17.

Wednesday Readings: 1 Tm 3:14-16. Jn 19:25-27

Or Lk 2:33-35.

Thursday Readings: 1 Tm 4:12-16. Or 2 Cor 4:7-15. Lk 7:36-50. Or Jn 17:11-19.

Friday Readings: 1 Tm 6:2c-12. Lk 8:1-3. Or Wi 7:7-10, 15-16. Mt 7:21-29.

Saturday Readings: 1 Tm 6:13-16. Lk 8:4-15.

Eucharistic Adoration. Daily, 24 hours a day. Chapel.

Confessions. Sat., 4pm.

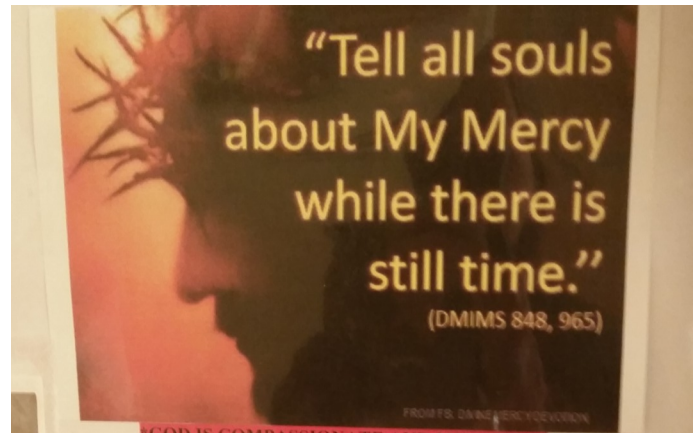
2021 Bishop's Appeal

The Bishop's Appeal supports religious education, faith formation, clergy formation and support, pastoral ministries, Catholic schools and parishes in need, assisting local parishes and priest retirement and care.

All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Payments may be made via cash, check, credit card, or direct debit. To donate online, visit: www.oakdiocese.org/giving

The Camino, a Walking Journey for the Soul

Enjoy this 11-day experience. May 15th, 2022 - May 25th, 2022. Your destinations are MADRID, SPAIN - SARRIA-PORTOMARIN- LESTEDO-MELIDE- ARZUA-AMENAL- SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA-FINISTERRE-MUXIA- and back to MADRID, SPAIN. Mass will be offered daily. Land prices begin at \$2639 per person, based on double occupancy. Deposit of only \$500 per person will reserve your space. Contact Brian or Eileen at 860-399-1785/ Brian@CatholicCruisesandTours.com.



Baptism Classes

For information, E-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us. Or www.sjtbc.us. Call (510)232-5659. Deacon Loch, (510) 837-1052.

Covid 19 Restrictions/Updates

All employees, volunteers, visitors are required to sign in and date at all entrances to the Parish Rectory. (For details, please check our Church Bulletin Boards Or www.sjtbc.us)

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Do you hunger for a deeper love in your marriage?
Let Jesus fill your hunger by participating in the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. Both Virtual and In-Person Experiences are available. Go to www.wwme.org to find the Experience that is just right for you!

Calls for Help & Hope

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided a lifeline of help and hope for 60 years.
Call 1-800-833-2900

Communion to the Elderly

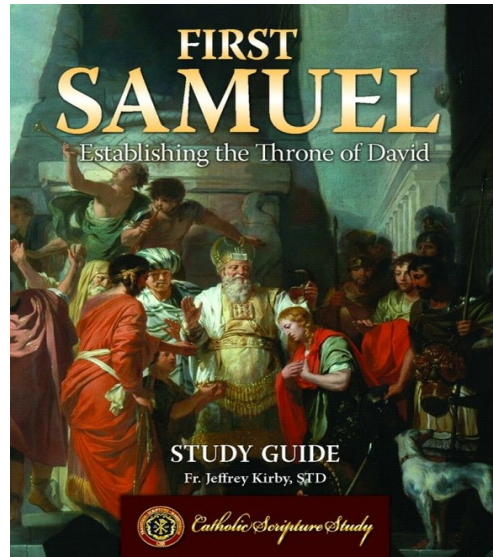
Minister to the Elderly by bringing Communion at El Cerrito Royale and to parishioners who are unable to come to church. Call Larry Mundy at (510) 233-6783 or the Rectory at (510) 232-5659.

First Samuel Scripture Study

This year the St. John the Baptist scripture study group will be studying the first book of Samuel from the Old Testament.

The book of Samuel chronicles a pivotal period in the story of salvation history, when the era of the judges was coming to a close and Samuel, the last of the judges and the first prophet, becomes the instrument by which God transitions Israel from a confederation of tribes to a kingdom. The Throne of David is established as a new institution, one that would usher in the long-awaited Messiah, the anticipated Lord and Savior, ensuring he would be known and recognized when he came.

We will meet on Wednesday evenings starting September 22. The study is 18 weeks long. We will have a full schedule of meeting dates at our first meeting. Because of the continued limitations imposed on us by the COVID virus, we will meet on Zoom.



Everyone is welcome. We welcome people for whom this will be their first scripture study and we welcome those who have been studying for a long time. We work together to help each other.

We are using a program from Catholic Scripture Study. The program requires preparation and **homework** for each lesson. When we meet, we have both group discussion of the questions that were asked in the homework and videos from Fr. Jeffrey Kirby, the author of the program.

The textbook and access to the videos will cost \$50 which will be collected when we pass out the materials.

Sign up on the parish website at sjtbc.us/scripture-study. If you have questions, call Richard Keller at 510 734-1268

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