

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

1312 Dallas Street
Waco, Texas 76704

Website: www.stjohnswaco.org

E-mail: saintjohn1312@yahoo.com

Phone (254) 753-6742

Pastor/Administrator: Father Cyril Ejaidu

Confession: Sunday 10:00-10:25 am

Mass: Sunday 10:30 am

Mass: Wednesday 6:00 pm

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 3, 2021

October 10, 2021

Lectors

Destiny Maxwell
Emily Stambaugh

Eucharistic Minister

Heather Weekley

***Ministry for the
Sick and Homebound***

Mrs. Gwendolyn Stewart and
Mrs. Carolyn Brown

Photographer

David Haliburton

Bulletin

Celeste Sheehy

Live-Streaming and Music

Greg Guerra



Parish Council Members

Chairman: Father Cyril Ejaidu

President: Ms. Faye Stewart

Vice President: TBD

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Carolyn Brown

Finance Committee:

Mrs. Bobbie Sharkey

Mrs. Carolyn Brown

Ms. Jessica Breda

Mrs. Joyce Fonteneaux

Mr. Matthew Sheehy

Other members

Mr. Joseph Brown, Mr. Freddy

Duron, Mr. Stanley Glynn,

Mrs. Sylvia Glynn, Mr. David

Gradel, Mr. Freeman Hayes,

Mr. Fred Ouellette,

Mrs. Elvira Salinas, and

Mrs. Yvette Guardiola

Knights of Peter Claver Council

and Court Council #385

Grand Knight

Mr. Joseph Quinones

Court #385 Grand Lady

Mrs. Teaberta Black

“But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh.

Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate.” Mark 10:6–9

Those three words, “From the beginning,” are key words for our day and age. It is important for people of faith to recognize not only the supernatural gifts God has given us but also the natural gifts. The supernatural gifts are all those gifts given us by the Cross of Christ. His life, death and Resurrection poured forth upon us grace from Heaven and made holiness, salvation and Heaven possible. But there is a whole other order of “gift” that God gave us that we often take for granted. That’s the gift of nature.

Creation itself, the order of the Universe, our humanity and the natural design of God are all gifts. Science can do much to discover the secrets and mysteries of the natural world, but ultimately a full understanding of even the natural world is mysterious, deep and awe-inspiring.

One aspect of the natural world God gave us is our sexuality. “God made them male and female...” This natural design is part of the glorious wisdom of the Creator and must be understood, loved and respected fully. Being “male and female” is something that is quite obvious and naturally understood. Within each person are certain attributes, desires, tendencies, etc., that go hand in hand with being either male or female.

In many ways, the uniqueness and complementarity of the sexes have been challenged and even disregarded at times, especially in our day and age. But deep down we all understand that being male or female is part of who we are. It makes up our very identity as a person and brings with it many blessings. Femininity and masculinity, at times, also can become distorted and confused. But in essence, these attributes of our personhood cannot be discarded or denied. In fact, embracing who we are in our nature is nothing more than being honest and enables us to continue down the road of true natural integrity.

Reflect, today, upon the many ways that being “male and female” are natural blessings from God. Reflect, also, upon the ways that these natural gifts are challenged and undermined in our world today. Embrace who you are, embrace who God made you to be, and let that natural gift from God flourish in your life.

Lord, I thank You for Your countless gifts. Thank You for the gift of grace won by Your Cross, and thank You also for the gift of nature and for the way You made me. Help me to embrace my full identity in accord with Your design and, in that embrace, help me to continue to discover my very dignity. Jesus, I trust in You.

St. John’s Offering

September 26, 2021

Regular Offering: \$ 988.74

Please add names of church members and their family members to the sick list in the foyer of the church so that we may pray for you. We will update the list weekly and remove names from the list monthly. If a name should remain on the list indefinitely, please notify Celeste Sheehy.

Sick List

Father God, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in their bodies.

We ask that you restore their health, soothe their pain, and ease their worries. Give them your peace and comfort.

In Jesus name, Amen!

Don McKelvain	Sonja Hemstreet Gaines
Hilde Ouellette	Mike Wardlaw
Linda Guerra	Jessie Hithe
Robert Gradel	Gloria Johnson
Thomas Relgablo (RIP)	Delores Brown

Diocesan News

October 15, 2021, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Spend a “Fall” day at Cedarbrake being renewed in the spirit by reflecting on God’s love for you through the beauty and silence of nature, plus His word and holy eucharist. Brian Egan, Director at Cedarbrake, will lead the reflections and there will be mass as part of the retreat day. Cost is \$40 which includes lunch.

November 13, 2021, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm A retreat day explaining The Holy Mass, a retreat led by Fr. Paul-Michael Piega, pastor of St. Patricks in Hutto. Cost is \$40 which includes lunch.

Our Mission Statement: To be a faith community bringing the presence of Christ to all by celebrating God’s word and the Sacraments.

Our Vision Statement: To build a strong and vibrant community through core values based on love, selflessness, and service.



Announcements

Father Cyril requests that we continue to wear masks during Mass.

We will have **pastries and coffee available in Sophie Hall after Mass every Sunday**. Please stop by and visit for a few minutes.

On the **first Saturday of every month**, we will have **Adoration** from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm **followed by Mass** at 4:00 pm.

Deacon Greg George holds a **Bible Study every Wednesday** at 7:00 pm to discuss the coming week's readings. You may attend in person at St. Jerome's or via Zoom. Contact Fred Ouellette for the details if you are interested in attending.

October 3, 2021 –Parish appreciation dinner immediately after Mass. Menu is hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, drinks and dessert. Due to Covid, limited seating inside; meals available to go for all parishioners.

October 10, 2021 – You and your family are cordially invited to pray the **Rosary for America** at 10:00 am on the lawn in front of Planned Parenthood, 700 West Highway 6.

October 23, 2021 – Join us for **Oktoberfest at St. Philip Catholic Church** from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Craft fair, a silent auction, raffles, beirgarten and plenty of activities for children. Live auction at 1:00 pm. Meal is \$10; hotdog plates for children are \$5.

Between Jobs Waco is a start-up ministry and service for those seeking employment. BJW meets **every Wednesday from 9:15 am – 10:30 am** at the Crestview Community Center, 7129 Delhi Road, Waco, TX. For more information contact Lynn Strang at 713-301-4380, stranglynn@gmail.com

We now have a webpage at www.stjohnswaco.org! More information will be added to the webpage in the coming weeks including the ability to make your offerings online. We encourage you to visit the webpage and notify Celeste Sheehy if you have any suggestions for information to be included.

If you are interested in **becoming a member of St. John's**, please fill out the membership card located at the back of the church. St. John's would like to welcome our new members and our guests. We are so very glad to have you with us.

If you have **items for the bulletin**, please submit them to Celeste Sheehy at saintjohn1312@yahoo.com. Please submit all items by 5:00 pm on Thursday to allow time to prepare the bulletin for Sunday Mass.