

***St. John the Baptist Catholic Church***

1312 Dallas Street  
Waco, Texas 76704

Website: [www.stjohnswaco.org](http://www.stjohnswaco.org)  
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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

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

April 10, 2022

**April 14, 2022**

***Lectors***

Michael Tusa  
Heather Weekley  
Darren Sliva  
Destiny Maxwell

***Eucharistic Minister***

Emily Stambaugh

**April 15, 2022**

***Lectors***

Fred Ouellette  
Julie Hemstreet

**April 16, 2022**

Faye Stewart  
Emily Stambaugh  
Alica Pesina  
Faye Stewart

***Eucharistic Minister***

Matt Sheehy

**April 17, 2022**

***Lectors***

Fred Ouellette  
Gwen Stewart  
***Eucharistic Minister***  
Heather Keahy

**Parish Council Members**

**Chairman:** Father Cyril Ejaidu

**President:** Ms. Faye Stewart

**Vice President:** TBD

**Recording Secretary**

Mrs. Carolyn Brown

**Other members**

Mr. Joseph Brown, Mr. Freddy  
Duron, Mr. Freeman Hayes, Mr.  
Stanley Glynn, Mrs. Sylvia  
Glynn, Mr. David Gradel, Mrs.  
Elvira Salinas, and  
Mrs. Yvette Guardiola

**Finance Committee:**

Mrs. Bobbie Sharkey  
Mrs. Carolyn Brown  
Ms. Jessica Breda  
Mrs. Joyce Fonteneaux  
Mr. Matthew Sheehy

**Knights of Peter Claver Council**

**and Court Council #385**

**Grand Knight**

Mr. Joseph Quinones

**Court #385 Grand Lady**

Mrs. Teaberta Black

**“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.” Luke 19:38**

In today’s Liturgy, we face quite a contrast of experiences and emotions. We begin our celebration listening to the story of Jesus being welcomed into Jerusalem with great joy and exultation! “Hosanna!” they cried out. “Hosanna in the Highest!” Jesus was treated as He should have been treated. People were excited to see Him and there was much excitement.

But this excitement quickly turned to shock and horror as we enter more deeply into today’s readings. The Gospel culminates with Jesus hanging on the Cross crying out “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” And with that, “Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.” At that moment the entire congregation kneels in silence as we ponder the reality of Christ’s death. How things can change in one short week. What happened to all the people who were shouting and praising Him as He entered into Jerusalem? How could they allow Him to enter into this Crucifixion and death? The deepest answer to this question is one that we may not expect. The answer is that the Father willed it. The Father willed, by His permissive will, that so many would turn on Him, abandon Him and allow Him to be crucified. This is so very important to understand. At any time during that first Holy Week, Jesus could have exercised His divine power and refused to embrace His Cross. But He didn’t. Instead, He willingly walked through this week anticipating and embracing the suffering and rejection He received. And He didn’t do so begrudgingly or even with regret. He embraced this week willingly, choosing it as His own will. Why would He do such a thing? Why would He choose suffering and death? Because in the Father’s perfect wisdom, this suffering and death was for a greater purpose. God chose to confound the wisdom of the world by using His own suffering and Crucifixion as the perfect means of our holiness. In this act, He transformed the greatest evil into the greatest good. Now, as a result of our faith in this act, the crucifix hangs centrally in our churches and in our homes as a constant reminder that not even the greatest of evils can overcome the power, wisdom and love of God. God is more powerful than death itself and God has the final victory even when all seems lost. Let this week give you divine hope. So often we can be tempted toward discouragement and, even worse, we can be tempted toward despair. But all is not lost for us either. Nothing can ultimately steal away our joy unless we let it. No hardship, no burden and no cross can conquer us if we remain steadfast in Christ Jesus letting Him transform all we endure in life by His glorious embrace of His own Cross. Reflect, today, upon the contrast of emotions from Palm Sunday through Good Friday. Ponder the fear, confusion and despair that many would have had as they saw Jesus murdered. Reflect, also, upon this being a divine act by which the Father permitted this grave suffering so as to use it for the greatest good ever known. The Lord gave His life freely and calls you to do the same. Reflect upon the cross in your life. Know that the Lord can use this for good, bringing forth an abundance of mercy

through your free embrace as you offer it to Him as a willing sacrifice. Blessed Holy Week! Put your eyes upon the Lord's Cross as well as your own. *My crucified Lord, when I am tempted to despair, give me hope. Help me to see your presence in all things, even in those things that are most troubling to me. May this Holy Week transform my darkest moments and weakness as I surrender all to You, my God. Jesus, I trust in You.*



***St. John's Offering***

**April 3, 2022**

Regular Offering: **\$1898.69** Building Fund: **\$155**

*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

Hilde Ouellette

JoAnn Moore and Family

Jerry Yubarra

Sonja Hemstreet Gaines

Jessie Hithe

Delores Brown RIP

Bobby Hurtado

## *Announcements*

### **Father Cyril asks that we continue to wear masks during Mass.**

We will have **pastries and coffee available in Sophie Hall after Mass** every Sunday (except April 24, 2022.) 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.

**April 10, 2022** - Mayra Rodriguez of Phoenix will be the speaker for **Second Sunday Pro-Life Gathering**. Hear the story of Mayra's conversion from managing two Arizona abortion centers to a pro-life missionary. Pro-Life Waco's monthly luncheon/meeting is at the parish hall of St. Mary's Church in Waco. An Italian buffet will be served throughout the noon hour—adults \$3. Free for children. The program hour is from 1 to 2 PM For further information contact John Pisciotta at [prolifewaco@gmail.com](mailto:prolifewaco@gmail.com) or 254-644-0407.

**Holy Week - April 10-16, 2022** – A time to reflect on the events preceding Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial, torture, death by crucifixion and His resurrection.

**April 14, 2022, 6:00 pm** – Holy Thursday

**April 15, 2022, 6:00 pm** – Good Friday

**April 16, 2022, 8:30 pm** – Easter Vigil

**April 15, 2022** - Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary court #385 will have a **fish fry** at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm. Fish, coleslaw, fries, bean, dessert and a drink. Adults \$12.00 Children \$6.00.

**April 16, 2022, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon** - We will have a **thorough cleaning of the church**. Let Faye Stewart know if you are available to help. Routine cleanup will be on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9:00 am -12:00 noon. The next cleanup will be on May 21, 2022.

**April 16, 2022, 3:00 pm**- Annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Greater Portia Temple # 1255 and St. John's on the church grounds.

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 [stjohn1312@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohn1312@yahoo.com). Please submit all items by 5:00 pm on Thursday to allow time to prepare the bulletin for Sunday Mass.