

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

Sunday of Divine Mercy

April 24, 2022

May 1, 2022

Lectors

Patsy Lehron
Vernessa Hall

Eucharistic Minister

Fred Ouellette

***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

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

The Mercy of God in Superabundance!
***What a grace-filled day this is! It is the eighth and final day of the
Octave of Easter.***

On this eighth day of Easter we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a day when the flood-gates of mercy are opened wide and God lavishes us with more than we could ever hope for. Divine Mercy Sunday has been celebrated for years as a private devotion. But in the year 2000, Pope Saint John Paul II, who himself was an extraordinary instrument of God's mercy, put this feast on the Church's official calendar as he raised Sister Faustina to sainthood. Saint Faustina was a member of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Krakow, Poland. She died in 1938. She came from a simple and poor family of farmers, had only three years of simple education and performed the humblest of tasks in her convent. But she also was a mystic who was privileged to have many private revelations from our Lord which she recorded in her diary of Divine Mercy.

She writes of her experience on February 22, 1931:

In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From the opening of the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord; my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy. After a while Jesus said to me, 'paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the inscription: Jesus, I trust in You.'

Later, Jesus explained to her in another vision:

"The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous; the red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My most tender Mercy at that time when My agonizing Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross....Fortunate is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him."

Jesus spoke again to her of His desire that the Solemnity of Divine Mercy be established:

"On that day (the 8th day of Easter each year) the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity."

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, intensely reflect upon the abundance of this gift that God wishes to pour forth upon us. There is no limit to how much we are loved by our God of perfect mercy. And today, on this the eighth day of Easter, we should especially be aware of the fact that the floodgates of Heaven are opened to us to an unimaginable degree. Turn your eyes toward our merciful Lord and be open to all that He wishes to bestow.

Lord of Mercy, help me today to begin to understand what mercy is all about. Help me to first be open to the mercy You wish to bestow upon me. As I receive Your own Divine Mercy, help me also to be an instrument of that mercy for all to see. Jesus, I trust in You.

St. John's Offering

April 17, 2022

Regular Offering: **\$791.55** Building Fund: **\$65**

Holy Land Special Collection: **\$370.60**

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

Jessie Hithe

JoAnn Moore and Family

Delores Brown RIP

Jerry Yubarra

Bobby Hurtado

Patsy Lehron

Diocesan News

April 29 – May 1, 2022 - Cedarbrake will **host a weekend of rest and renewal for moms and female caregivers of children with physical, mental or intellectual disabilities and/or chronic medical issues.** The weekend will be led by Judy Hoelscher who is a spiritual director and retired hospital chaplain. To register please call our office at (254) 780-2436.

May 6, 2022, 9:00 am-2:30 pm – During this trying time of war, it seems appropriate to reflect upon **The Peace Prayer**, attributed to Francis of Assisi. Based upon his book, SOUL TRAINING WITH THE PEACE PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS, Franciscan priest Albert Haase will explore the implications of the Peace Prayer and how it can shape the contours of the soul by challenging us to live lives of service and selflessness. The cost is \$45, lunch included.

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

Masks are now optional for Mass. Please continue to use hand sanitizer, and watch the live stream rather than worshipping in person if you are ill.

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.

May 14, 2022 – the **Parish Council Meeting** will be at noon in Sophie Hall. All **70th Anniversary Committee Chairs** are asked to come to the Parish Council meeting to give an update on your progress.

Catholic education offers students an opportunity to reach their full potential, not only academically, but also spiritually. **Explore Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Austin today. Tuition assistance and scholarship opportunities are available.** With 20 Catholic Schools in Central Texas, we are ready to welcome you and your family to ours! Learn more at CSDATX.org/explore.



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.

Contact Carolyn Brown or Gwendolyn Stewart either while at church or email at saintjohn1312yahoo.com **if you are aware of a church member who is ill, hospitalized, or homebound.**

If you have **items for the bulletin**, please submit them to Celeste Sheehy at stjohn1312@yahoo.com. Please submit all items by 5:00 pm on Thursday to allow time to prepare the bulletin for Sunday Mass.

