

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

1312 Dallas Street
Waco, Texas 76704

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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

Second Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2023

March 12, 2023

Lectors

Faye Stewart
Fred Ouellette

Eucharistic Ministers

Matthew Sheehy
Stanley Glynn
Vernessa Hall

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

Mrs. Gwendolyn Stewart and
Mrs. Carolyn Brown

Photographer

David Haliburton

Bulletin

Celeste Sheehy

Live-Stream and Music

Greg Guerra



Parish Council Members

Chairman: Father Cyril Ejaidu

President: Ms. Faye Stewart

Vice President: Mr. Darren Sliva

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Carolyn Brown

Other members

Mr. Joseph Brown, Mr. Freddy
Duron, Mr. Stanley Glynn, Mrs.
Sylvia Glynn, Mr. David Gradel,
Ms. Roseanne Reyes

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

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Matthew 17:1-3

This was not the first time that the Son of God spoke to Moses and Elijah on a high mountain. Recall that Moses was called up to Mount Sinai (also called Horeb) to be with the Lord for forty days and forty nights, during which time the finger of God inscribed the Law on tablets, given to Moses to give to the people. During that time, the Israelites, from the base of the mountain, saw the summit consumed in fire. Similarly, Elijah, the great prophet, was called up that same mountain to encounter the Lord. He entered a cave and waited. Elijah then encountered a strong and violent wind, an earthquake and a fire. But God was not in any of them. Then Elijah heard a light quiet sound, a whisper, and he hid his face out of reverence as the Lord spoke to him. In the experience of the Transfiguration, which we ponder today, the Son of God, now in the flesh, allowed His glory to once again shine forth. As He did, He conversed with Moses and Elijah in the presence of three of His disciples. These disciples were in awe, just as Moses and Elijah had been during their first encounters with God on Mount Sinai. These two great Old Testament figures now stand as witnesses of God's unfolding plan, revealing by their presence that Jesus is the fulfillment of all they had been entrusted to teach in their lifetime. Moses' encounter with God on the mountain provided the foundation of the Law for the people of Israel. This Law guided them for centuries and ultimately came to fulfillment in Jesus, Who transformed the Law and elevated it to a new level by grace and mercy. Elijah's encounter with God on the mountain gave him direction to anoint kings to lead the people and to anoint Elisha as the prophet to succeed him. Elijah and Elisha continually preached to the people, calling them back to fidelity to the covenant God had made with them. On the Mount of the Transfiguration, Jesus prepared three new disciples to continue the mission He began through Moses and continued through Elijah. Jesus gave these disciples the New Law of grace and mercy that He came to institute. The disciples were also entrusted with the prophetic mission of Elijah to call people to repentance and to fidelity to the covenant. Today, our Lord calls all of his faithful servants up a spiritual mountain with Him so as to entrust to them the ongoing mission given to these great servants of old. Through prayer, God will manifest His divine presence to each of us if we are willing to make that journey. As He does, He will entrust to us His New Law and inscribe it on our hearts. He will command us to embrace the perfection of the love of God and the bestowal of mercy on others. He will entrust us with the prophetic mission of calling others back to God and will empower us to fulfill that mission in accord with His perfect will. Reflect, today, upon this glorious scene of the Transfiguration. This image teaches us about the entire plan of God throughout time. Prayerfully ponder the idea that Jesus is inviting you to make the arduous journey up the mountain of prayer, self-discipline, virtue and holiness. Pray that your eyes will be open to see His glory and that this experience will inspire

you and strengthen you to continue to fulfill the mission of God started long ago, until it comes to completion when He returns at the end of time.
My Transfigured Lord, You spoke Your divine will to the great leaders of old on a high mountain. You also entrusted Your mission to the disciples on a holy mountain. Please give me the grace and determination I also need to journey with You up the mountain of prayer so that I will be entrusted with the mission You give to me. Jesus, I trust in You.

St. John's Offering

February 26, 2023

Ash Wed.:**\$409** Regular Offering: **\$2,493.52** Building Fund:**\$25**

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

Gary Gradel

Gloria Johnson

Diocesan News

March 17 – 19, 2023 – Come and listen to God inviting you into the desert of silence at a **Silent Lenten Retreat**. Fr. Harry Dean and Brian Egan will each give one reflection talk. Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be part of the retreat. The cost is \$280 for a private room and \$230 for a shared room.

March 18, 2023, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm – Retiro del Cuaresma Dirigido por la Madre Olga Estrella & Hermana Lucero Espitia, DJ. El tiempo de la cuaresma es una oportunidad para encontrarnos con Jesús, que se prepara para realizar el cumplimiento de la Voluntad del Padre, cuyo instrumento más importante será la Cruz. Este retiro será un espacio para encontrar nuestra cruz de cada día y así, caminar hacia el cumplimiento de la Voluntad de Dios. El costo será de \$40 por persona e incluirá el almuerzo.

Announcements

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

In conjunction with Shepherd's Pantry, we provide a **food pantry for the community in Sophie Hall on the second Saturday of every month.**

March 3 – 31, 2023, 4:30 pm – 7:00 or sold out! St. Joseph's **Annual Lenten Fish Fry** every Friday at the St. Joseph's CCE Center, 9656 Elk Road, Elk, TX. Dine in or to-go plates \$12.

March 3 – 31, 2023, 5:00 pm – the fish runs out! St. Philip Catholic Mission of China Spring KofC will be hosting their **Annual Lenten Fish Fry** every Friday. 13095 Old China Spring Highway. Drive through or dine-in.

March 4, 2023, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm – Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Aux Court 385 will have a **Yard Sale** at the church. Tables can be rented for \$10.

March 4, 2023, 9:00 am – CDA #739 in Taylor, TX invites all women to join us for **Reflections on the Gospels from Ash Wednesday to Easter.** Meet in St. Mary's School Cafeteria followed by a salad luncheon. Please rsvp to jackievrana@gmail.com or call 512-352-2175.

March 11, 2023, 12:00 noon – The **Parish Council** will meet in Sophie Hall.

March 12, 2023 – For decades, Audrey Werner researched anti-Christian trends in public schools. Audrey will present for **Pro-Life Waco's Second Sunday Luncheon** under the title of **"You Can Raise Pure Kids in Today's Culture."** This event is at the parish hall of St. Mary's Church in Waco. An Italian buffet will be served throughout the noon hour—adults \$5. Children free. The program hour, beginning at 12:45 PM, brings to you the author of "Ten Tips on How NOT to Talk to Your Kids About Sex." Check it out on Amazon. For further questions contact John Pisciotta at prolificwaco@gmail.com or 254-644-0407.

March 25, 2023, 8:00 am – 2:30 pm - CDA DAY OF REFLECTION, KC Hall in West. Cheryl Maxwell, the former Director of Worship for the Austin Diocese, will speak. Lite breakfast & lunch provided. Sr. Mary Danielle Peters, member of the Secular Institute of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary will speak in the afternoon. Submit name, phone number & \$10 registration fee (checks made out to CDA #829), or cash, by FRIDAY, **MARCH 17**, to Ann Vanek, 810 N. Harrison St., West, TX 76691. For additional information, contact Ann Vanek (254-744-6553) or June Danker (214-208-7514). Registration includes the cost of the meal. Be sure to invite a friend. Come and enjoy a day of rest, reflection & spiritual enrichment during Lent.