

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

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 2, 2023

July 9, 2023

Lectors

Matt Sheehy
Melissa Byrd

Eucharistic Ministers

Patsy Lehron
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: TBA

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

“Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” Matthew 10:37–39

Clearly, this saying is a play on words that is meant to make you pause and think. It's almost like a holy and sacred riddle, spoken by Jesus to get your attention and to communicate a very deep and foundational truth about how you are to live. Essentially, this saying teaches that those who live in a selfish, self-centered way do not accomplish their goal. The goal of those who are selfish is to elevate themselves with the thinking that this is what is best for them. But Jesus clearly points out that when you live selfishly, seeking to put yourself above others, you lose what is most important in life. You lose your very soul. On the contrary, if you live selflessly, putting others before you, it is in this act that you actually find your true purpose in life and fulfill yourself on the deepest level. Think, for example, of Jesus. He is God, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, existing for eternity in perfect union with the Father and the Holy Spirit. His soul radiates pure love. And for that reason, He chose to become human, suffer greatly and be killed. Was that fulfilling to our Lord? Most certainly. Why? Because His sacrifice went to the heart of Who He is. He is Love itself. And love is always self-giving. It is always fulfilling. It always seeks the good of the other. Love fulfills the lover when it is pure, holy, selfless and total. Jesus' sacrificial death on the Cross not only redeemed us, but it also manifested the Son of God's own perfect fulfillment and satisfaction in His human nature because His death was an act of pure love. Sin confuses us. Selfishness especially clouds our thinking. As a result, it becomes difficult to clearly see that the way to fulfillment in life is by the complete and unwavering sacrifice of our lives given to others, in imitation of and in union with Jesus' perfect sacrifice. The moment that sin leads us to think first about ourselves, we begin to become blind to who we are and what makes us truly fulfilled. Reflect, today, upon the divine mission you have been given to lose yourself for the sake of Christ, which is for the sake of true love. By loving God and others in this pure way, selflessly, you become who you are and who you were created to be. You find yourself only by choosing to lose yourself in this world. Ponder this deep mystery and believe it. Once you do believe it, commit to live sacrificially, casting aside every doubt, so that you will never hesitate to love everyone sacrificially. For in that radical act of selfless love, you will discover and become who you were created to be.

My sacrificial Lord, You are not only the perfect model of human love, Your sacrificial love is the source of human fulfillment itself. Please give me the grace I need to love all people in a perfect and selfless way and, in that act, also discover and become who I was made to be. Jesus, I trust in You.

St. John's Offering

June 18, 2023

Regular Offering: **\$1,481** Building Fund: **\$225**

June 25 2023

Regular Offering: **\$1,216**

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

Julie Hemstreet

Diocesan News

September 14, 2023 9:00 am – 2:30 pm -In our Creed, we pray, "I believe...all things visible and invisible." We are taught in the catechism of "the existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings" yet do we pay attention to these beings? Spend this retreat day to **learn more about the angels among us and their presence in our lives.** The retreat at Cedarbrake will be led by Mary Pomeroy. The cost is \$45.

September 28, 2023 9:00 am – 2:30 pm As part of the U.S. Bishop's Eucharist Revival, Cedarbrake is offering a day retreat on **"The Gift of the Holy Eucharist"** at St. Thomas More in Austin. Fr. Harry Dean will share insights from some saints on the Eucharist and Brian Egan will speak about scripture passages that teach us about Our Lord who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist. The retreat, which includes mass and lunch, cost \$45.

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

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**. Contact Sylvia Glynn if you would like to volunteer to help.

July 15, 2023 - Heather Weekley will be holding **Ethics and Integrity in Ministry (EIM) classes at 9:00 am and 3:00 pm** for those who need to become Virtus compliant. EIM is required by all who serve the church in any capacity, paid staff and volunteers alike. If you have questions, please contact Heather Weekley, Celeste Sheehy, or Fred Ouellette.

July 22, 2023, 9:00 am – The Central Texas Fellowship of Catholic **Men's Mass** will be held in Manor, TX this year. A signup sheet will be available in the foyer. More details will follow. Please contact Matt Sheehy if you have any questions.

Contact Carolyn Brown or Gwendolyn Stewart either while at church or email at saintjohn1312@yahoo.com **if you are aware of a church member who is ill, hospitalized, or homebound.**

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. Please submit all items **by 5:00 pm on Thursday** to allow time to prepare the bulletin for Sunday Mass.

