

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

1312 Dallas Street  
Waco, Texas 76704

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

E-mail: [saintjohn1312@yahoo.com](mailto: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

**30<sup>h</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***October 29, 2023***

**November 5, 2023**

***Lectors***

Joe Quinones  
Joseph Brown

***Eucharistic Ministers***

Stanley Glynn  
Vernessa Hall  
Darren Sliva

***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

**“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:37–40**

Think about the many things you desire in life. What would make up that list? Perhaps there are many good things that would be included, such as a desire for strong family relationships, good health, a happy life, good friends, and financial security. Perhaps there are other things that would be included, such as success in an occupation, nice vacations, a new home, and fun adventures in life. If you were to make a list like this that began with your deepest desire, what would come first? We might all know what should come first, but if you were to honestly examine the desires of your heart right now, what would be on the top of that list? Ideally, the first and greatest desire of our souls would be the two greatest commandments. Above all else you will desire to love God with all your heart, soul and mind and love your neighbor as yourself. Is that the deepest desire of your heart? What’s important to note is that we ought not love God with most of our heart, soul and mind. We don’t just love Him with 51% and then allow ourselves to disseminate the other 49% to other loves. No, 100% of our love must go to God. God must be the single and exclusive object of our love. If you were to give to God 100% of your love, what would you have left for others? The glorious nature of our love of God is such that the more love we offer to God, the more we have to give away to others. When we give our love to God, He does not take it away from us and keep it for Himself in a selfish way as if He is jealous and possessive. Instead, loving God transforms our ability to love in such a way that we have even more than we started with. We are limited creatures and we are limited in our ability to love. God is infinite and His love is infinite in nature. Therefore, when we give our limited love to God, we receive back from Him His infinite love. This love is then able to overflow from our lives and can be distributed without reserve. So back to our original question: Do you love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind? If you do, then it means that every part of who you are is caught up in the mind and will of God. It means that you continuously seek to understand God and all that He has revealed to you. It means that you seek to comprehend His perfect will for you every day of your life. It means that you choose only that which God wills and that you do so with passion, zeal and fervor. It means that you are continuously attentive to God, respond to His gentle promptings of grace, and are led by Him every moment of every day of your life. That is a high calling! But it is the calling you have been given. Then, and only then, will you be loving yourself with the love of God by opening yourself to His outpouring of love, and only then will you be able to act as an instrument of God’s love to those around you. Reflect, today, upon the high and definitive calling you have been given to love God with every fiber of your being. Your love must become all-consuming. It must be total and without hesitation. It will require the complete sacrifice of your life, the full purging of your sins, the denunciation of all selfishness and a heart that is open

to the infinite power of God's transforming touch. Because God commanded this, it is possible. It is possible to become a great saint. Shoot for nothing less. Never give up on this high calling, and know that it is the only way to the fulfillment in life that you deeply desire.

*My loving Lord, You have given everything to me and ask for everything in return. Please help me to understand Your perfect love and to choose it with all my might. I do love You, dear Lord. Help me to love You with all that I am. Jesus, I trust in You.*

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

**October 22, 2023**

Regular: **\$1,137.05** Building Fund: **\$35** Special Collection: **\$174**

*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

Julie Hemstreet

Mario Campos

Sonja Hemstreet Gaines

Jessie Hithe

Stanley Marek

### ***Diocesan News***

**November 10, 2023, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Exploring the Road Blocks to Letting Go** What keeps you from experiencing true joy and the love of God? Is it control, doubt, fear, pride, past hurt or anger? Come and open your hearts and uncover what may be blocking your path to live a life in Jesus Christ with purpose, freedom, and joy. Cindy Isaacson, a gifted retreat leader and parishioner at St. Theresa in Austin will guide us on retreat from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The retreat includes mass and lunch; the cost is \$45.

### ***Announcements***

**October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.** Please pick up a pink ribbon in the foyer to wear in recognition of breast cancer survivors.

**November 2, 2023 - Dia de los Muertos** is believed to have been celebrated originally in the summer by the Aztecs, but when the culture became Catholic, it was moved to coincide with All Souls and All Saints Days. The essence of Catholic celebration of this feast has been an emphasis on the Communion of Saints, that we are all connected to each other both in this world and the next. The Catholic Women invite you to celebrate and honor our deceased loved ones. You may bring a 4x6 or 5x7 framed photo to place on the ofrenda located in Sophie Hall. We will have a rosary on All Souls Day prior to mass.

**November 4, 2023 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm** – The KOPC Ladies Auxiliary Court 365 presents their **Fall Tea, Living Life with a Purpose** in Sophie Hall. Donations of \$15 are requested.

**November 5, 2023** – All Souls Day was November 2. The Catholic Women's Group invites us to **celebrate our loved ones by sharing a potluck lunch of your favorite Mexican dishes** after Mass in Sophie Hall.

**November 5, 2023** – St. Joseph Catholic Church in Marlin will host its **2023 Turkey and Dressing Dinner** for \$15 per plate serving from 11:00 am until sold out. There will also be a Bake Sale with lots of cakes, pies, and cookies.

**November 8, 2023 10:00 am** – All ladies of the parish are invited to attend the next **Waco Deanery meeting of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women**. The meeting begins at 10 AM and will be held at **St. Mary Church of the Assumption, 303 S. Harrison, in West**. Lunch will be provided by the ladies of St. Mary Church with donations accepted. Meeting, brief program, meal and door prizes will conclude about 1:30 PM. Make plans to attend and be ready to be inspired in your role as a Catholic woman and enjoy great fellowship with Catholic ladies from throughout the Waco Deanery. Call/text Bernice Helpert @ 254-723-6521 or email [bbhelpert@gmail.com](mailto:bbhelpert@gmail.com) for more information.

**November 17, 2023** - The 2023 **RED-C Catholic Radio KYAR 98.3 FM Benefit Dinner** will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in West. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. David Anders, host of EWTN's daily show, "Called to Communion." **To reserve a table or individual seats go to [redcradio.org](http://redcradio.org) or call Deacon Robin Waters at 254-749-4937.**

If you are interested in **becoming a member of St. John's**, please fill out the membership card located in the foyer 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](mailto:saintjohn1312@yahoo.com). Please submit all items **by 5:00 pm on Thursday** to allow time to prepare the bulletin for Sunday Mass.