

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

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

March 31, 2024

Lectors

Darren Sliva

Emily Stambaugh

Eucharistic Ministers

Fred Ouellette

Gwen Stewart

Heather Keahey

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

**The Knights of Peter Claver
and Ladies Auxiliary**

Council # 385 Grand Knight

Mr. Stanley Glynn

Court #385 Grand Lady

Mrs. Teaberta Black

Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!” Mark 11:9–10

Throughout Jesus' life, He traveled to Jerusalem many times. As a child, He was presented in the Temple. At age twelve, He was found teaching the teachers of the Law in the Temple. As He grew, He made regular pilgrimages to the Temple. During His temptation in the desert, the devil took Him to the pinnacle of the Temple. In the Gospels, we read of at least four different trips to the Temple during Jesus' public ministry. However, the trip to Jerusalem that we commemorate today was unlike any other. As Jesus entered Jerusalem this time, His life was already being sought by the religious leaders. Despite that fact, Jesus entered Jerusalem with great solemnity and with much attention. “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” was the cry by the crowd as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey while palm branches and cloaks were strewn before Him. Though this was the most fitting way for the people of faith to welcome their King, their warm welcome, their cries “Hosanna!” and their excitement were more beneficial to them than they were to Jesus. Jesus is God. He has no need of our praise and honor. But Jesus came to us to invite us to praise, honor and worship Him because it is good for us. We need to praise Him. This is what we are made for. This leads to the fulfillment of our lives. As we begin Holy Week, try to spend time with this image of the people honoring our Lord with much enthusiasm. This is an image depicting who we must become. As we continue through this Holy Week, we must become increasingly aware of the God to Whom we offer our praise and worship. He is a God Who lowered Himself in the eyes of all, took on the form of a slave, permitted Himself to be labeled as a grave sinner, was rejected, beaten and killed. This week, especially, we worship the suffering Christ. We worship a Man Who was arrested and cruelly treated. We worship a Man who was hated and mistreated in the worst way possible. Our wholehearted worship of the suffering Christ is an important act to fulfill. In many ways, it is easier to worship God as He is in Heaven on His glorious throne. When we ponder the myriads of angels gathered around Him, the saints of all time bowing to the ground and glory and splendor radiating from His face, worship seems right. To worship a Man accused of being a criminal and suffering capital punishment while enduring the hatred of many is more difficult to comprehend. But if we are able to see Jesus through the eyes of faith and peer through the hatred and lies that surrounded Him, then we will be in awe of the humility of our God Who came to us this way. Our worship of the suffering Christ also invites us to share in His virtue as He endured all that was inflicted upon Him. When we worship the humiliated Christ, our humiliations take on new power and meaning. When we worship the suffering Christ, our sufferings are elevated to share in His redemption. When we worship the rejected, despised and persecuted Christ, any ways that we share in these hardships are transformed. Reflect, today, upon the God Whom you worship this Holy Week. Do not shy away from all that Jesus endured. Gaze at His rejection and passion.

Look at the hatred He endured. As you do, see not only your glorious God, see also the remedy for all your ills. God descended to us in this most humble form so that He could meet us where we are at and raise us to new life with Him. *My suffering Lord, I worship You and praise You with all my heart. As You entered Jerusalem for the Passover, You intended to give new power to that celebration by becoming the New and Eternal Paschal Lamb. May I always worship You Who suffered for me and give to You all that I endure in life to be transformed by Your saving act. Jesus, I trust in You.*

St. John's Offering

March 10, 2024

Regular Offering: \$996 Building Fund: \$10

March 17, 2024

Regular Offering: \$1,254.80 Building Fund: \$235

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

Jessie Hithe

Julie Hemstreet

Stanley Marek

Diocesan News

April 6, 2024 9:00 am- 3:30 pm – Art and Prayer God is the ultimate creator and artist. God loves us so much that he lets us express ourselves creatively, like Him. Mara Johnson, parishioner at Emmaus Catholic Church and with Moon Bird Arts will lead this retreat inviting you to paint, draw and pray as a way of praising God. The cost is \$55 with lunch and art supplies included.

April 19, 2024 3:00 pm – April 21, 2024 12:00 noon - This Weekend Retreat will be led by Holy Cross Brother Joel Giallanza who will share insights on four saints and their love for the Eucharist. The cost is \$295 for a private room, \$255 for a shared room, and \$150 for commuters.

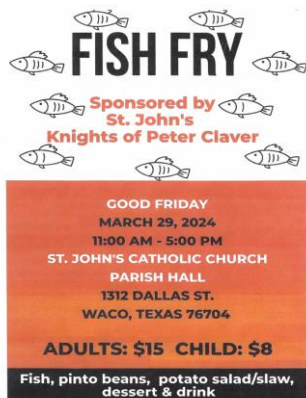
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Jerome Conference is having a **Spring Raffle**. Tickets will be sold for 1 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$20 after Masses. Grand Prize is a Traeger Pellet Grill valued at \$2,000, 2nd Prize - HEB Gift card \$500. Many more prizes to be drawn valued at over \$3,000. **The drawing will be held on May 4th at St. Jerome Mayfest, you need not be present to win.** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a world-wide Catholic charitable organization whose mission is to grow in holiness by helping our neighbors in need. The St. Jerome Conference of SSVdP is working in the Waco area helping our neighbors by providing food, clothing, household goods, and financial assistance. Thank you for your support.

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 at 254-495-5292 if you would like to volunteer to help.

March 29, 2024 11:00 am – 5:00 pm – The Annual Fish Fry sponsored by St. John's KOPC will take place in Sophie Hall. Adults \$15, children under 12 \$8.



The poster is for a Fish Fry event. It features a central orange rectangle with white text. Above the rectangle, the words "FISH FRY" are written in large, bold, black letters. To the left and right of "FISH FRY" are several small, stylized fish icons. Below "FISH FRY", the text "Sponsored by St. John's Knights of Peter Claver" is written in red and black. The orange rectangle contains the following text in white: "GOOD FRIDAY", "MARCH 29, 2024", "11:00 AM - 5:00 PM", "ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH", "PARISH HALL", "1312 DALLAS ST.", "WACO, TEXAS 76704", and "ADULTS: \$15 CHILD: \$8". Below the orange rectangle, a black bar contains the text "Fish, pinto beans, potato salad/slaw, dessert & drink" in white.

FISH FRY

Sponsored by
St. John's
Knights of Peter Claver

GOOD FRIDAY
MARCH 29, 2024
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH HALL
1312 DALLAS ST.
WACO, TEXAS 76704

ADULTS: \$15 CHILD: \$8

Fish, pinto beans, potato salad/slaw,
dessert & drink

March 30, 2024, 1:00 pm – Our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will take place on the grounds of St. John's. The community is invited; food and drinks will be available.



March 30, 2024 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm – A **Virtual Job Fair** will feature a variety of positions in Catholic schools throughout the Diocese of Austin, including teaching positions, administrative roles, and support staff positions. The job fair will provide attendees with the chance to connect with representatives from various Catholic schools in our Diocese, learn about their missions and values, and explore job opportunities. For more information or to rsvp, go to csdatx.org/careerfair.

March 31, 2024 11:30 am – The Catholic Women's Group is hosting an **Easter Cake Sale** after Mass. Cakes are \$25 and all proceeds will go to the sanctuary building fund. Volunteers are welcome to bake and donate cakes. Please contact Destiny Vallejo or Heather Weekley.



April 7, 2024 – The KOPC Men will sponsor **Breakfast Burritos** in Sophie Hall immediately after Mass. Details coming soon.

April 13, 2024 7:30 am 4:00 pm – The women of our church (6th grade and up) are invited to join the women of First Baptist Church of Hewitt for the **Lifeway Women Simulcast**. Over the course of one day, attendees will pursue Christ together with their favorite Bible teachers and authors while connecting with old and new friends. The doors will open at 7:30 am for women to eat some breakfast and get checked in before the simulcast actually begins at 8:30 AM.

The event will end around 4:00 PM with multiple breaks including lunch. The cost is \$35 for the simulcast and \$20 for the t-shirt. Breakfast, lunch, snack foods and drinks will be provided throughout the day.

April 23, 2024 4:30 to 5:30pm –The **Virtual Job Fair** will feature a variety of positions in Catholic schools throughout the Diocese of Austin, including teaching positions, administrative roles, and support staff positions. The job fair will provide attendees with the chance to connect with representatives from various Catholic schools in our Diocese, learn about their missions and values, and explore job opportunities. Register at CSDATX.org/careerfair.

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

*We invite all to contribute to a **Love Offering for Father Cyril** whose mother, Maria Ejaidu, passed away peacefully in her sleep on February 17, 2024. In Nigeria, families do not bury the dead during Lent. Instead her children, all extended family, and the village will gather after Lent to pay their respects and celebrate the life of Maria Ejaidu for several days. **Someone will be at the back of the church with a designated basket on March 10, 17 and April 7th** to accept any donation you wish to make in cash or check made payable directly to Cyril Ejaidu. Father Cyril will be in Nigeria from April 11 – 26th. Please pray for his safe travels.*