

***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

***Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)***

***November 2, 2025***

**November 9, 2025**

***Lectors***

Youth Group

***Eucharistic Ministers***

Heather Weekley

Jessica Lozano

Matthew Sheehy

***Altar Servers***

Faith Ndeffo

Emanuel Lopez

Phoebe Madrigal

Julie Guerrero

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

Carolyn Brown

***Photographer***

David Haliburton

***Bulletin***

Celeste Sheehy

***Live-Stream and Music***

Greg Guerra

**Parish Advisory Council**

**Members**

**Chairman:** Father Cyril Ejaidu

**President:** Faye Stewart

**Vice President:** Darren Sliva

**Recording Secretary:** TBA

**Other members**

Joseph Brown, Freddy Duron,

Stanley Glynn, Sylvia Glynn,

David Gradel, Roseanne Reyes

**Finance Council:**

Bobbie Sharkey, Carolyn Brown,

Jessica Breda, Joyce

Fonteneaux, Matthew Sheehy,

Celeste Sheehy

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

**Council # 385 Grand Knight**

Stanley Glynn

**Court #385 Grand Lady**

Teaberta Black

**“For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day.” John 6:40**

Yesterday’s Solemnity of All Saints gave us an opportunity to celebrate and rejoice in the fact that there are countless people who have gone before us who are now enjoying the glories of Heaven. These faithful souls lived lives that were grounded in God’s grace and have been fully purified of all sin. They now gaze at our good God face-to-face. Today, we commemorate the fact that many who die in a state of grace are not immediately ready to stand before the glorious throne of God and see Him face-to-face. The only way this is possible is if every sin and every attachment to sin is purged from our souls. We must have nothing but pure charity alive within us if we are to enter the eternal glories of Heaven. But how many people die in such a state? The Church, in her wisdom and holiness, has taught clearly through the centuries that when a person passes from this world to the next while still attached to less serious sin, they need to be fully purified in order to enter Heaven. This is Purgatory. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (#1030–31a). For some, Purgatory can be a frightening and even confusing thought. Why doesn’t God, in His infinite mercy, simply take all our loved ones who followed Him straight to Heaven? The answer is simple. He does! And the path for them to Heaven is this incredible mercy of their final purification. Purification of all attachment to sin within our soul is a mercy beyond what we can imagine. Through this final purification, God prepares the holy souls who have died for an eternity of joy. But this purification is necessary because God, in His love, does not want any soul to live eternally with even a minor attachment to sin. God wants us all free. The truth is that every sin on our soul, even the smallest one, is reason enough for us to be excluded from Heaven. So Purgatory must be seen as a final mercy from God by which He lifts every last burden that keeps us from perfect love, so that our eternity will be one of utmost freedom and ecstasy. God wants us to be filled only with the purity of love forever. Thus, upon our death, we are graced to enter into a final and intense purification of every minor sin, so that when we see God in all His glory, we will see Him with the perfection to which we are called. Purgatory is a gift, a grace, a mercy. It will be painful to go through in the same way that overcoming any sin is painful. But the good fruit of freedom from sin makes every final purification we must endure worth it a hundredfold and more. Reflect, today, upon the spiritual truth that God wants you to be a saint. If you are among those few who die in a state in which you are purified from every sin, then be assured that you have already completed your purgatory on

earth. But if you or your loved ones are among the many who still hold some minor attachment to sin at the time of death, then rejoice that God is not done with you yet. Anticipate with much gratitude the final purification that awaits and look forward to the freedom that ultimately comes from that purification.

*My merciful Lord, You desire that my soul and the souls of all your faithful be purified of every sin, even the smallest imperfection. I thank You for the mercy of Purgatory and pray that I will continually work toward that purification here and now. I pray, also, for all those who have gone before me and are still in need of these purifying fires. Pour forth Your mercy upon them so that they may be counted among the saints in Heaven. Jesus, I trust in You.*

**St. John's Offering**

**October 26, 2025**

Regular Offering: **\$2417.20**

Building Fund: **\$10**

*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	Jessie Hithe
Julie Hemstreet	Roseann Reyes
Santos Rodriguez, Sr.	Ed Jasek
Caden Noon	Andrew Galindo
Alice Montoya	Roger Perez
Kay Jasek	Henry Walker
Ava Crogan	



***Events in the Austin Diocese***

Did you know Texas is offering a **new school choice opportunity through the Education Savings Account (ESA) program**? Eligible families may receive \$10,000 per student, per year, to help with approved educational expenses such as Catholic school tuition and fees. This program gives parents the resources to choose a faith-centered, mission-driven education that nurtures

their child's mind, heart, and spirit. Learn more at [csdatx.org/school choice](https://csdatx.org/school-choice) and be ready when applications open.

**October 31 - November 4, 2025 – The Major Relics of St. Therese of Lisieux** are coming to Texas at Little Flower Basilica in San Antonio! See the schedule and learn more at <https://littleflowerbasilica.org/relics-2025>.

**November 8, 2025, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm – Enjoy the Business and Craft Expo** at St. Jerome Catholic Church, Mother Teresa Family Center. Over 70 vendors will be present - food trucks, local businesses, crafts and more. Free admission.

**November 11, 2025, 11:00 am – Holy Trinity Church Dedication of Veteran's Memorial** at the Holy Trinity Church Cemetery (8626 M 1105, Jarrell, TX 76537). The dedication will commence with a speaker, a dedication ceremony and end with taps followed by a meal in the Parish Activity Center. Family members of those Veterans whose names appear on the Memorial are invited to attend. Please call Donald Tschoerner (512-930-8555) or Brenda Tschoerner (512-930-8566) to **RSVP, by November 4**, for the number of family members attending.

**November 12, 2025, 10:00 am – Waco Deanery DCCW Meeting** All ladies of the parish are invited to attend at St Mary's Catholic Church, 1401 Washington Waco. Lunch will be provided by the ladies of St Mary's. Meeting, brief program and meal will conclude about 1:00 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 Amy Rhoades @ 330-634-4068 or email her at [atrhoades@entouch.net](mailto:atrhoades@entouch.net) for more info.

**November 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.** – Join us for the **RED-C Apostolate Family Banquet** (doors open at 6:00) at the West KC Hall: **In Defense of Truth and Faith** with guest speaker Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM, of the Fathers of Mercy and host of Open Line Tuesday on EWTN. Tickets are selling fast so get yours at [redcradio.org/familybanquet](https://redcradio.org/familybanquet).

**Discover the gift of Catholic education with Bishop Louis Reicher!** Join us **Sunday, Nov. 16 at 3 pm** for a Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA) Information Session (English & Spanish) and **Tuesday, November 18 at 8:30 am** for Cougar Coffee, Talk, and Tour. Discover how faith and learning come together to foster saints, scholars, and leaders. Register at [bishopreicher.com/DCS-events](https://bishopreicher.com/DCS-events).

**November 20, 2025, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm – Pathways to Forgiveness** The Lord's Prayer instructs us, "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." Often, we want to forgive but do not know how to begin. Discover the meaning and myths related to forgiveness with practical how to steps to reach forgiveness. Forgiveness will set your heart free. This retreat will be led

by Cindy Isaacson, a gifted retreat leader and parishioner of St. Teresa's parish in Austin. The retreat will be held at **Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center**. The cost is \$50, which includes lunch. Registration is required.



*Regularly Scheduled Parish Events and Contact Information*

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 Heart, 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.

**The Parish Advisory Council** is no longer meeting monthly, and will now meet **quarterly** in Sophie Hall at noon. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

If you are aware of a **church member who is ill, hospitalized, or homebound**, contact Carolyn Brown at [saintjohn1312@yahoo.com](mailto:saintjohn1312@yahoo.com).

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.



*Upcoming Parish Events*

**November 2, 2025, 12:00 pm – The Beef Raffle of the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary (Council 385)** will be held at 12:00 pm in Sophie Hall. 1st prize 100 pounds of beef, 2nd 75 lbs, 3rd 50 lbs, 4th and 5th 25 lbs will be awarded.

**November 8, 2025, 12:00 noon – The Parish Advisory Council** will meet in Sophie Hall. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

