



JOHN THE BAPTIST

*appeared
in the
desert*



Corpus Christi Cathedral

Diocese of Corpus Christi 505 North Upper Broadway
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401
(361) 883-4213

Dec. 10th, 2023 Second Week of Advent

The Most Reverend

WM. Michael Mulvey, STL, DD

Bishop of Corpus Christi

The Very Reverend Fr. James Stembler, Rector

Rev. Peter Thenan, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael Mantz

Deacon Adelfino Palacios

Deacon Amando R. Leal Jr.

MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday 7:00am (Emmanuel Chapel)

Monday - Friday 12:05pm (Main Church)

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30pm

SUNDAY MASSES

7:00am, 9:30am, 12:30pm

11:00am (Spanish)

9:30am & 11:00am Live Streamed

(www.CCCATHEDRAL.com)

(www.facebook.com/CCCATHEDRAL)

**9:30am Mass Live Broadcast @ KDF-TV & KLUX
Radio**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 12pm-1:30pm

Sacrament of Matrimony

Call Parish Office six months before
wedding date

Sacrament of Baptism

Call Parish Office (361) 883-4213 (ext. 4)

For New Parishoners:

Registration online or call Parish Office

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm

(www.CCCATHEDRAL.com)

(info@cccathedral.com)

Adoration	Joan Hamill	361-883-6650
St. Anne's Altar & Rosary Society	Mary Lawson	361-882-5725
Altar Servers	Parish Office	361-883-4213
Arts & Entertainment	Vicki Compian	361-944-5534
Catholic Daughters	Andrea Bell	361-799-0799
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Deacon Armando R. Leal Jr.	361-442-9947
Knights of Columbus	Fred Celaya	361-442-9947
Lectors	Mary Christmas	361-739-2415
Legion of Mary	Elida Lerma	361-232-6834
Music Ministry	Alex Oldroyd	883-4213 ext. 203
Religious Education	Nellie Serna	361-883-4213
Ushers	Raul Castillo	361-774-2645

THE C.C. CATHEDRAL BOOK STORE

As we eagerly anticipate the joyous season of Advent, we are delighted to announce that our parish bookstore is now stocked with a wonderful selection of Advent books and supplies.

Immerse yourself in the spirit of hope, peace, joy, and love as you explore these inspiring resources that will enrich your spiritual journey during this special time of preparation.

From insightful readings to beautiful candles and decorations, our bookstore offers a variety of items to help you embrace the true meaning of Advent. Come visit us and discover the tools that will guide you through this season of reflection and anticipation.

Let us join together in prayer and contemplation as we await the arrival of the blessed Savior this Christmas season.

Monday - Friday
11 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

Saturday - Closed

Sunday
10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

MASS INTENTIONS



Mass Intentions for: December 11- December 17

Monday, December 11 St. Damasus I

7:00 a.m. +Joseph P. Mueller by Patty Mueller

12:05 p.m. David & Celia Banda (Anniv) by Gloria Trevino

Tuesday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 a.m. +Larry Puig by Patty Mueller

12:05 p.m. +Jose Angel Silva by Irene Silva

+Virginia P. Villareal by David & Patsy Garcia

Wednesday, December 13 St. Lucy

7:00 a.m. +Ruben Perez by Daughters

12:05 p.m. Open Mass

+Michael Hayes by Neil & Marcy Hayes

+Anne Miller (Bday) by Daughter

+Leon & Lucila Hernandez by Orfie Hernandez

Jerry Mathieu by Friends

Thursday, December 14 St. John of the Cross

7:00 a.m. Ashley Perkins by Mom

12:05 p.m. Maddix & Madilyn Green by Grandma

Friday, December 15

7:00 a.m. Jerry Mathieu by Friends

12:05 p.m. Matthew & Joseph Morrison by Mom

Saturday, December 16

5:30 p.m. +Maria Angelina Gomez

Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m. Teresita Maria Perez-Cocker (Bday) by Nora Maria Perez

9:30 a.m. Open Mass

+Joe G. Cueva by Cueva Family

Deceased Members of the Haegelin Family by Twosy Haegelin

+Romulo Lopez, Jr. (Anniv.) by Linda Longoria

+Robert Villareal by David & Patsy Garcia

Jerry Mathieu by Friends

+Paul Pineda by wife, Myrna Pineda

+Isabel "Chavalita" Cruz by Orfie Hernandez

Knights of Columbus Deceased Members & Families

+Lillie Villarreal by Marian B. Elder

+Bill West by Ralph & Kay West

+Pola Hernandez & +Vicente Ramirez by Nina Ramirez & Letty Cortez

+Ramon J. Rios by Letty Cortez

11:00 a.m. For the People of Corpus Christi Cathedral

12:30 pm +Russ Heald & + Louis Gonzalez by Maria Heald

Sanctuary Lamps

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: +Jesse & +Anita Moreno

Deceased Members of the Moreno Family

Emmanuel Chapel: Jerry Mathieu

Scripture Reading

For the week of December 10th, 2023



First Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14;

2 PT 3:8-14; MK 1:1-8

Monday of the Second Week of Advent

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14;

Lk 5:17-26

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

ZEC 2:14-17; JUDITH 13:18BCDE, 19;

LK 1:26-38

Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10;

Mt 11:28-30

Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11,

12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday of the Second Week of Advent

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-

19

Saturday of the Second Week of Advent

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,

18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2A, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54;

1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Sponsor of the Week

Seaside Funeral

Stewardship for Sunday Sept. 26th, 2023

Thank you for your generosity!

Collection	\$ 8,373.03
Electronic Giving	\$ 1,179.40
Catholic Charities	\$418.6



Scan QR Code for online giving or go to

<https://www.osvhub.com/cccathedral/giving/funds>

ST. ANNE'S ROSARY AND ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

St. Ann's Altar and Rosary Society will be meeting the same day but at a new time, 11:30 A.M., December 13 in classroom 4. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us at 11:30 a.m. for a rosary, 12 noon for a short meeting and after for an Advent/Christmas celebration. Please bring the following:

- 1.) a white elephant gift for a gift exchange. This should be something that you already have around your house that you no longer want.
- 2.) used Christmas cards for recycling
- 3.) a covered dish to share.

Those with last names beginning with A-G, bring a salad. Those with last names beginning with H-M, bring a casserole, main course or side dish. Those with last names beginning with N-Z, bring a dessert.

For more information, please call Carmen Hernandez at (361) 443-0891, or Terry Serna at (361) 945-6933.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

This year's Diocesan Guadalupana celebration will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 12 with a public procession starting at Sacred Heart Parish in Corpus Christi and will end at the Corpus Christi Cathedral, followed by Mass then a reception in St. Joseph's Hall.

The evening's events will be live-streamed with commentary on the Diocese of Corpus Christi Facebook and YouTube pages. All are invited to attend this beautiful celebration.

John the Baptist was a striking messenger. Camel's hair, locusts, and wild behavior drew a lot of attention!

Gospel reading
Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice of one crying out in the desert:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Intercession

That, thirsty for souls, we may zealously meet the needs of our Bishop's Stewardship Appeal.

God called the Israelites through the waters of the Red Sea into the desert to become his people. John did something similar. He drew people to the waters of baptism, a prefigurement of our sacramental Baptism.

John is an image of the Church: "A voice of one crying in the desert." (Mark 1:3) The Church, from century to century, calls with love to parched souls: "All you who are thirsty, come to the water!" (Isaiah 55:1)

Our parish joins the cry of John and the universal Church. In our Bishop's Stewardship Appeal (BSA), your parish calls to you with the same thirst of all the souls longing for the coming of Christ. With your sacrificial gifts, you can simultaneously help us satisfy the thirst of our community, while making more room in your own heart for the coming of God. By your prayers, you can help our call ring out loudly and call many souls to the Church. Souls are thirsting for Christ right here in our streets. They need the water that only God can give. Join our BSA this Advent, and help our voice reach them in this thirsty corner of the country.

2023-2024 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

Parents please note schedule changes in yellow.

December 3	10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Session 10 First Sunday of Advent Family Faith Activity
	10:45 am – 12:00 pm	HS Confirmation Mandatory Meeting St. Joseph Hall (All Confirmation Prep Students, Parents & Sponsors)
Friday, December 8	Holy Day of Obligation	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, December 9	12:00 pm Emmanuel Chapel	First Holy Communion year 2 & RCIA-Children Mandatory Parent/ Student Meeting
December 10	10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Session 11 Second Sunday of Advent
	12:30 am Mass	Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming Mandatory for RCIA and RCIA-Children students and Sponsors
Saturday, December 16	8:30 am arrival 9:00 am Retreat Our Lady of Corpus Christi	HS Confirmation Retreat Our Lady of Corpus Christi
December 17	10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Session 12 Third Sunday of Advent
Wednesday, December 20	6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Adoration and Confession Mandatory for RCIA and RCIA-Children students and Sponsors
December 24	NO CLASS	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday, December 25	Holy Day of Obligation	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
December 31	NO CLASS	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY



505 N. Upper Broadway
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
Parish Office: (361) 883-4213

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Greetings to one and all as we begin the new year of Grace, 2024. May God bless our community in the coming year! As Rector, I have a responsibility to our Bishop, Michael Mulvey, and to you, the Cathedral parish community, to govern, teach and sanctify. It has always been my attempt to enter that responsibility to the best of my ability. In the area of teaching, I sense a great need here.

In the United States, we are presently within a National Eucharistic Revival, which is a wonderful thing. When you listen to the language that we usually engage in when speaking about the Eucharist, its celebration, or its reception within Mass, we tend to speak about ourselves, i.e., I like this Ritual over that Ritual, I like to receive Communion in this way as opposed to that way, etc. We tend to focus our speech on ourselves, not on who it is we are receiving. How I receive seems to be far more important to many than who I am receiving. I have even heard people indicate that the way they receive is more holy, or better, than a different way of receiving Communion. Again, the talk surrounds “how” not, “who.” We need to be engaged in a Eucharistic Revival. We need to get back on track as to who the Eucharist is all about. Our reception of the Body and Blood of Christ helps us to become more Christ-like; however, if we are constantly talking about ourselves in relationship with this Sacrament, where is Christ? Why are we not talking about him whom we receive?

Our prayer should be that through this Eucharistic Revival, we will come to understand the Sacrament of the Eucharist as the Church teaches us to understand this Sacrament than perhaps, we understand it presently. If faith is growing and expanding within us, then our understanding of the Eucharist is growing and expanding within us, too.

It would be wonderful to have a Penance Revival, for I wonder if we truly understand the Sacrament of Penance as the Church teaches us to understand it now. I would say the same is also true of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. I do wonder if there is a clear Roman Catholic understanding of this Sacrament within us who are Roman Catholic. There has been much confusion with this Sacrament throughout the time I have been a priest. As the instruction for this Sacrament states, “the Catholic Church professes and teaches that the anointing of the sick is one of the seven sacraments of the New Testament, that it was instituted by Christ our Lord,” intimated by Mark (6:13) and through James, the apostle and brother of the Lord, recommended to the faithful and made known: ‘Is there anyone sick among you? Let him send for the presbyters (priests) of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick man and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, they will be forgiven him’ (James 5:14-15).”

Later, in the Instruction, there is an explanation given as to who receives worthily this Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: “This is why, through the Sacrament of anointing, Christ strengthens the faithful who are afflicted by illness, providing them with the strongest means of support” (#5) “...Thus the sick person is able not only to bear suffering bravely, but also to fight against it. A return to physical health may follow the reception of this sacrament if it will be beneficial to the sick person’s salvation. If necessary, the sacrament also provides the sick person with the forgiveness of sins and the completion of Christian penance” (#6).

The recipients of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick are as follows:

“8. The Letter of James states that the sick are to be anointed in order to raise them up and save them. Great care and concern should be taken to see that those of the faithful whose health is seriously (periculose) impaired by sickness or old age receive this sacrament. The Latin word, ‘periculose,’ was carefully studied and rendered into English as ‘seriously’ which serves to avoid restrictions upon the celebration of the sacrament. On the one hand, the sacrament may and should be given to anyone whose health is seriously impaired; on the other hand, it may not be given indiscriminately or to any person whose health is not seriously impaired.

9. The sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then again falls ill or if during the same illness the person’s condition becomes more serious.

10. A sick person may be anointed before surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery.

11. Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present.

12. Sick children are to be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament. In a case of doubt whether a child has reached the use of reason, the sacrament is to be conferred.

13. In public and private catechesis, the faithful should be educated to ask for the sacrament of anointing and, as soon as the right time comes, to receive it with full faith and devotion. They should not follow the wrongful practice of delaying the reception of the sacrament. All who care for the sick should be taught the meaning and purpose of the sacrament.”

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available at Corpus Christi Cathedral by keeping in mind the above and calling the parish office to request reception of this Sacrament. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will no longer be made available on the First Friday of the month following the celebration of the 7:00 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. Masses, again, keeping in mind the catechesis noted above.

May God help us all to understand the meaning and catechesis of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick following the mind of the Church to which we belong, the Roman Catholic Church. Also, to help us follow the mind of the Church in keeping with the celebration of the Eucharist, stay tuned...



Very Reverend James G. Stembler
Rector