

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



57805 Main Street • Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764
 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
 stjohchurchplaq.org • (225) 687-2402 • Fax (225) 687-1587
 stjohchurchplaq@coxbusiness.net • 24 Hour Prayer Line: (225) 687-1554

Pastoral Team

Fr. Martin Lawrence.....Pastor
 Alfred J. Ricard II.....Deacon
 Laurie Barbier.....Director of Religious
 Education
 Wanda Ashley.....PSR/Confirmation
 Jennifer Adams..PSR Coordinator 1-6
 Donna Carville.....OCIA

Parish Office Staff

Medric Smith, Jr....Business Manager
 Marsha Dupont..... Secretary
 Susan Landry Secretary
 Lily Skidmore Secretary
 Gary Perrault Maintenance

Masses

Saturday Vigil.....4:00 pm
 Sunday...7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am
 Tuesday6:00 pm
 Wednesday.....7:00 am
 Thursday7:00 am
 Friday7:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 5:30-5:45 pm
 Saturday..... 3:00-3:30 pm



**Become
rich in
what
matters
to God**

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 3, 2025

Robbing a Bank

The second reading from the Letter to the Colossians goes well with the first reading and the Gospel. Those passages warn how useless material wealth will be when we die. St. Paul continues this warning by reminding us that we have already died with Christ in baptism and risen to new life. To live this new life we must put to death whatever tendencies keep us from Christ. Wealth can be a gift from God. The abuse is not necessarily in the possession of wealth. More likely, we abuse wealth in the way we attain it. How does that happen? I can give an obvious answer such as robbing a bank. Instead, do I work a full day for my pay, or do I spend a lot of time visiting with other employees or texting my friends? Am I honest with my customers, charging only for work I have done?

As for using our wealth, we usually think of family first. Do we spoil our kids, so they can “have the things I couldn’t afford when I was young”? Or do we teach them to work for what they get? Do we teach our children to be generous to others?

Notice that Paul goes deeper, pointing out the thoughts and desires that lead to a life centered in wealth. In baptism we put to death passion and greed, tendencies that push us to own more or to control another person. Paul uses the image of taking off these vices as if they were clothing and putting on a new self that shows Christ in us. We begin to see Christ in others, for as Paul says, “Christ is all and in all” (Colossians 3:11). Tom Schmidt

This weekend we welcome our new shepherd to our St. John Parish and School Family, Fr. Martin Lawrence. Fr. Martin brings with him a true love for the Catholic Church and a wealth of knowledge and leadership.

“Welcome, Fr. Martin!”



St. John School

Back to School Rosary

The St. John School Family would like to welcome everyone back to school with their traditional “Back to School Rosary” Monday, August 4, 2025. Join us at St. Clement Church at 6:30pm.



Baptisms & Baptism Seminars

Baptism Seminars — 7pm

Church Office Conference Room

Monday, August 4, 2025

Monday, September 8, 2025

Monday, October 6, 2025

Baptisms — Following 4pm Mass

Saturday, August 23, 2025

Saturday, September 27, 2025

Saturday, October 25, 2025

During the early stages of pregnancy, please register online at www.stjohnchurchplaq.org under FORMATION or call the church office at 225.687.2402. Baptism preparation may be done at a seminar or online. For online information, email wandaashley681@gmail.com. Confirm with Lily Skidmore at the office, 225.687.2402, as dates are subject to change.

PSR Registration

PSR registration is open for grades 1 through 11.

Please visit the church website,

www.stjohnchurchplaq.org to enroll your child. Catholic School students must register to receive Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation through the Church Parish. Being a student in a Catholic School does not insure your registration. A separate registration form has to be completed with your church parish.

Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” —Matthew 19:14

Ritualsong

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time #1247

Entrance: We Walk by Faith #783

Preparation: **Instrumental**

Communion: One Bread, One Body #1027

Sending Forth: Abundant Life #683



Eucharistic Adoration

Come and Adore. Jesus is Waiting for YOU.

“Each time you approach the Blessed Sacrament remember that Jesus has been waiting for you for twenty centuries for this personal visit from You,”

—St. Josemaria Escriva

The Adoration Chapel is open from 4am-10pm. To schedule an hour as a committed adorer or a substitute, contact Susan at 225.687.2402, susanblandry@sj.brcoxmail.com.

In Loving Memory...

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the following persons who donated a memorial gift to St. John the Evangelist Church 100 Year Capital Campaign Sound System in loving memory of:

Fr. Greg

Donated by:

**Ragusa, Mancuso, Collins,
Morales & Bezet/Cazes Families**

Angels for Angels

The Angels for Angels program has been able to help children in our local schools with much needed items. Teachers contact the Angels for Angels with a specific need for a specific child in their classroom. Items needed are underwear, socks, and elastic waist athletic shorts (black, maroon and khaki) sizes 4T-8 and small hygiene articles such as feminine products, toothbrushes, combs.

Volunteers are needed to relieve the burden some teachers face who use their own monies to purchase these items. Please place your purchased items in the baskets near the doors of the church.

For more information, call Dr. Katie Berthelot at 225.776.2809 or the church office at 225.687.2402.

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, August 15, 2025

On the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will honor Our Heavenly Mother.

Masses are as follows:

7am Mass at St. John

8:30am SJS Mass at St. Clement

6pm Mass at St. John

9am Mass at the Madonna Chapel in Bayou Goula

Mother Mary, Assumed into Heaven, Pray for Us.



The Pope's Prayer Intention for August For Mutual Coexistence

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

In Loving Memory...

A grateful acknowledgement is made to the following persons who donated a memorial gift to St. John the Evangelist Church 100 Year Capital Campaign in loving memory of:

Benny Joe Carringone

Donated by:

Terry Achee & Jeanne Panepinto

St. John Altar Society



Altar Society members cleaned all of the pews recently before Stanley Steemer cleaned, deodorized and installed the cushions. Helping with the deep cleaning were, l to r, Christina Cedotal, Audrey Martinez, Derryl Ourso, Trish Ramirez, Betty Aucoin, Audrey Schexnayder, Sandra Bizette, Ann Joffrion and Janet Bryant. Also helping but not shown was Addie Pellerin, The Altar Society paid for this restoration from dues and candle sales.

Annual dues of \$25 are due in August. Dues are the main source of income for the Altar Society to serve both St. John's and St. Clement's needs. Just drop an envelope marked "St. John Altar Society" in the church collection. Please make checks out to St. John Altar Society.

The St. John Altar Society cleans the church, assists the sacristans and provides assistance as needed for parish receptions. The monthly meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month in the church office conference room. Contact Donna Carville at the church office, 225.687.2402, to join and assist the Altar Society in its ministries.

Team 1 will be cleaning the church Wednesday, August 6 at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.

Thank you for supporting the St. John Altar Society.

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW THINKING OF

Becoming Catholic

AN INVITATION TO COME AND SEE



Scan Me

REGISTER NOW
225-687-2402

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

OCIA is a faith journey open to all unbaptized or baptized Christians who wish to explore more about the Catholic faith and the possibility of becoming Catholic. Current Catholics who may be looking for a refresher about their faith may also attend the inquiry classes in the Fall of 2025.

A "Come and See" session will be held on **Wednesday, August 27** from 6 to 7:30pm in the church office conference room. Please encourage others to come who may be inquiring about the Catholic faith. OCIA inquiry classes about our Catholic faith will be held every

Wednesday from 6-7:30pm in the church office conference room starting on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 then every Wednesday until December 10, 2025. After the Christmas season, OCIA catechumenate classes will resume until Easter Vigil Mass. Some of the classes will be held after 4pm Mass on Saturday for topics like church history, Holy Orders and a church tour by outside speakers. To register or for more information, please call Donna Carville at 225.687.2402.



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

August 2025

St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Gregory J. Daigle

One Minute Meditations

St. Clare of Assisi

Born to a noble family in Assisi, St. Clare was eighteen when St. Francis was invited to preach at the church of San Giorgio. She was so inspired, she renounced everything to serve God in poverty, penance, and simplicity. Others joined, forming the first Order of Poor Ladies (Poor Clares). St. Clare is most famous for protecting Assisi from invasion by displaying the Blessed Sacrament on the fortress walls, causing the enemy to flee in terror.

The promise of the Assumption

This month, we celebrate Mary's Assumption, body and soul, into Heaven. What is often thought of as a "privilege" unique to Mary is actually a "preview" of what we are made for: endless joy, dwelling in the life and love of the Trinity, souls and bodies. It's another reminder that Catholicism isn't just about spiritual truths but concrete, physical, and tangible realities.

"I want to stress what I think that we...need more; the joy and delight in God which meet us in the Psalms...[The Jews] did not know that He offered them eternal joy; still less that He would die to win it for them. Yet they express a longing for Him, for His mere presence, which comes only to the best Christians" C.S. Lewis.

The Saints and the secret to true happiness

The saints understood that real happiness is about knowing where to find peace, perspective, and joy—no matter what life brings. This month, we look at four saints who show us what it takes to live with true happiness.

Simplicity – St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis gave up wealth and comfort to follow Christ completely. In doing so, he made space in his heart to receive everything from God with peace and joy. While most of us aren't called to material poverty, we can imitate his spiritual poverty—letting go of sin and distractions to focus more fully on our relationship with God.

Trust and Love – St. Thérèse of Lisieux. St. Thérèse's "Little Way" was built on doing small things with great love. Her "humble confidence" in God's mercy gave her strength through illness, loss, and interior suffering. Her path invites us to respond to life's challenges not with fear or striving, but with trust and consistent, simple acts of love.

Holy Humor – St. Philip Neri. St.

Philip Neri understood the spiritual power of joy. Known for his deep prayer life and playful spirit, he used humor to lift others out of gloom, deflate pride, and open hearts to God. He once shaved half his beard just to make

"Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fulness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures evermore."
Psalm 16:11

people laugh. His life reminds us that holiness isn't dour—joy, laughter, and reverence can all go hand-in-hand.

Faithful Friendship – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Blessed Pier Giorgio balanced an active social life with a deep love for the poor and for Christ. He surrounded himself with friends who shared his love for the faith, frequently inviting them to Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. Whether hiking mountains or visiting the sick, he lived with joy rooted in friendship—with others, and above all, with Jesus.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe in miracles?

The Gospels contain many well-attested accounts of miracles, often witnessed by large crowds. It makes sense that the Creator of the natural order would occasionally suspend it to reveal His power. At the heart of our faith stands the greatest miracle of all—the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul wrote, "If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain, and your faith has been in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:14). God continues to work miracles today to bless those who experience them directly and to strengthen our trust in His providence, love, and divine presence.

The Queen who leads us home

When Jesus entrusted Mary to St. John at the foot of the Cross (John 19:27), He gave us one of His greatest gifts: His own mother. In that moment, we were welcomed into His family. As Queen of Heaven, Mary blesses us in many ways. We look to her as:

As Mother: Jesus gave us the person closest to Him on earth to help draw us even closer to Him. He was not content simply to be our Savior—He wanted to be our Brother. Mary is not a barrier to Christ but a window into His heart. Through her, we come to know Him more intimately.

As model: Mary is also a model of faithful discipleship.

Though sinless, she had no supernatural powers or hidden knowledge. She rejoiced and suffered, worked and traveled, just as we do. Her life shows us how to remain faithful in the face of sorrow, uncertainty, and loss—and that perseverance in faith is always rewarded.

As intercessor: God does not need Mary's prayers or assistance to act on our behalf, yet He chooses to involve her in His work. Her intercession—like ours—finds its power in Christ's perfect prayer to the Father. As Queen, Mary is not passive in heaven; she actively cares for us, her children, with a mother's love.

from **S**cripture

Luke 14:1, 7-14, Humility is holy "self-forgetfulness"

Fewer things are more awkward than accepting an honor publicly—only to discover it wasn't meant for you. In this Gospel passage, Jesus offers a clear lesson: the safest way to "move up" in God's Kingdom is through humility.

In Jesus' time, a person's status at a banquet was reflected in how close they sat to the host. Like today, not everyone knew who had been invited. If you mistakenly sat too close, you could be asked—publicly—to move down. It was wiser to take a lower seat and be invited higher, if appropriate.

Humility is often misunderstood. It's

not weakness, self-doubt, or putting yourself down.

True humility is honest self-awareness—recognizing your flaws and limitations, but also your gifts, strengths, and constant need for God's grace. The humble person doesn't seek to be the center of attention. Instead, they reflect God's goodness and elevate others.

Jesus isn't giving us etiquette tips. He's showing us the posture of the heart that honors God, protects our soul, and prepares us for the only banquet that matters—the eternal one.

Q & A What is a "rule of life" and why should I make one?

A rule of life is simply a structured way to integrate regular prayer into your day. It's a long-standing practice among priests, monks, and nuns—but it's not just for the consecrated. Everyone needs time each day to be with the One who loves us most. Your personal rule can be as simple or as detailed as you need; what matters is remaining faithful to the time you commit.

At first, the idea of a rule of life might seem intimidating. But in reality, most of us already follow one. Maybe we always wake up at the same time or never skip a morning jog. Prayer can—and should—become part of that rhythm. It's not just a duty; it's an investment that transforms us and blesses those around us.

In the *Introduction to the Devout Life*, St. Francis de Sales encourages us to "begin all prayers... in the presence of God." He emphasized the value of consistency—staying faithful to a few well-chosen prayers is more effective than rushing through many. If, during prayer, you feel God inviting you simply to rest in His love, don't worry about finishing every word. The goal is not to check boxes, but to draw close to Him.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 8 – St. Dominic de Guzman (1221). Born to a noble family in Spain, St. Dominic studied to become an Augustinian canon regular, but left to preach against the widely popular but dangerous Albigensian heresy. He founded the Order of Preachers, or "Dominicans," who successfully defeated this heresy. He's also credited with receiving the Rosary from Our Lady and teaching it to others.

August 15 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1950). Declared a dogma of our faith by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary being taken up into Heaven body and soul at

the end of her life. It is a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

August 27 – St. Monica of Hippo (387). St. Monica is best known for converting her wayward son and pagan husband by her patience, piety, and prayers. Her son, St. Augustine, became a great saint and Doctor of the Church.

August 29 – The Beheading of St. John the Baptist (1st Century). Today we recall the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, whose mission was to prepare the Jews for Jesus' coming by calling them to repentance. He was arrested and executed for preaching the truth to powerful enemies. Caving into the pressure of his courtiers, King Herod permitted his niece's request – the head of John the Baptist on a platter.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 9-4pm Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Fr. Greg Daigle, Sister Catherine Labouré, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Charales Champagne, Jr.; Elmire Caffarel; J. W. & Sue Bryant, Bill Bryant; Stag Gomez, Catherine Gomez, Brice Gomez, Les Gomez; Amelia, Wheel & Gayle Badeaux; Pat Messina; Berthelot, Schlatre, Cavet & Guillot Families; Micah Theriot; Ty Dupont; Millard, Emily, Millaine & Allaina Allain; A Special Intention, Nick Mancuso Family, Tarek Smart; Brenda Lapeze

Sunday, August 10-7:30am Mass

St. John Parishioners

Sunday, August 10-9am Mass

Msgr. Leonard Robin, Msgr. George Barbier, Fr. Eugene Engels, Fr. Jerome Dugas, Fr. Greg Daigle, Sister Catherine Labouré, Sister Mary Rita McSorley, Sister Cecile Poitras; Tina Rinaudo; Jason Guidry; Anthony & Margie Vitale, Lloyd & Lillian Bouchereau; Earle, Debbie & Cathie Blanchard; Paul & Emily Bourgeois; V. J. & Carolyn Vicknair; Delia Ann Hymel; Earl J. Settoon; Sisse Reinhardt; Benny & Annie Vaughn, Jessel & Eula Ourso; Mitchell Dufour, Boudreaux & Dufour Families; Victor Joseph Canella; Allen, Flo & Paco Ourso; Ida Gaudet Family, Ruel Seneca, Sr., Leah Diamond, Linda Raffle; The Currier Families

Sunday, August 10-11 am Mass

Cindy Dickerson; Michael Shepherd, Ruth "Se Se" Bechel, Ruth Keller; O. J., Buster & Pearl Hidalgo Songy & Families, Marshall & Virginia Peavy, Cleo & Ella Dupont; Isaac Vaughn, Jr., Brent Vaughn, Margaret Landry, Sidney Hedges, Jr.; May & David Currier; Rachel & Dom Engolio; A. W. "Bill" Ostergren; Randy Normand

Tuesday, August 12-6pm Mass

Case, Gum & Schuler Families; JoAnn Roth Daigle

Wednesday, August 13-7am Mass

Ed Bahry

Thursday, August 14-7am Mass

Mary & Chuchie Flatau, Anthony & Camella Orcino, Orcino & Flatau Families

Friday, August 15-7am Mass

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Roland "Dougie" Rivet, Hebert & Rivet Families; Anthony F. Canella, Delia & Aaron LeRay, Nora Vitale; Richard, Brenda & Theresa Businelle, Don Stockman

Have You Been Wanting to Visit Greece?

Space is available for 1 traveler, possibly 2 sharing a room, for Greece Sept 19, 2025. If interested, please contact Donna Kirkland at 225.803.6013 asap. It won't last long.

Growing in Faith

Fall Bible Study Begins in September

We will contemplate the 12-part series on the Holy Spirit called "The Wild Goose" by Fr. Dave Pivonka, President of Franciscan University in Steubenville this fall. Bible Study begins on Thursday, September 4 (1:30-3pm or 6:15-7:45pm sessions) and Monday, September 8 (1-2:30pm session). Given Fr Greg's reliance on the Holy Spirit, this study is excellent in guiding us all. Please call 225.687.2402 to sign up.



Sanctuary Candle

August 3, 2025

St. John the Evangelist

Elmire Caffarel

St. Clement of Rome

Wayne Gomez

Coffee & Donuts

August 10, 2025

Derryl Comeaux, Bobbie Cavalier & Janis Rockforte

7:30am Mass

Bobby Blanchard, Susie Burns & Michelle Sharon

9am Mass



Kids Corner

SUNDAY KIDZ

Across

- Used for writing; and has an eraser.
- Used for sticking things together, usually in art class.
- Playtime on the playground.
- What you read and learn with.
- Painting, drawing, coloring
- The bag students use to carry belongings to and from school.

Down

- Popular fruit given to a teacher as a gift.
- Large green area on the wall of a classroom.
- The school room where all the books are.
- The adult who helps you learn throughout the year.
- The yellow vehicle used to take children to and from school.

Answers: Across (2 pencil) (6 glue) (7 recess) (9 books) (10 art) (11 backpacks) Down (1 apple) (3 chalkboard) (4 library) (5 teacher) (6 schoolbus)

Scripture Readings

Week of August 3, 2025

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21

Monday
 Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-17; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday
 Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-7, 12-13, Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday
 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36

Thursday
 Nm 20: 1-13; Ps 95: 1-2, 6-9, Mt 16:13-23

Friday
 Dt 4:32-40; Ps 77:12-16, 21; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday
 Dt 6: 4-13; Ps 18: 2-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Wis 18:6-9; Ps 33:1, 12, 18-22; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or Heb 11:1-2, 8-12; Lk 12:32-48 or Lk 12:35-40

The Diocesan Office of Life, Peace and Justice and the Theology Department of Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University (FranU) will host:

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PASTORAL MINISTRY AND TEACHING ABOUT SAME SEX ATTRACTION

"With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Ephesians 4:2-6)



Michaelangelo - The Creation of Adam



DR. JENNIFER MOREL, STD
 Assistant Professor of Theology, FranU, Baton Rouge

Registration is REQUIRED.

THURSDAY
8-7-25
 FROM 6-8 P.M.
 ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH - KLEINPETER ACTIVITY CENTER
 7808 St. George Dr. Baton Rouge



Find more information & register
<https://diobr.org/rjc-event>
 Registration is REQUIRED.

Contact us
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Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will

For further information, please call the parish office.

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