



MONDAY, DECEMBER 13—St. Lucy

6:30 am Louis Slovacek + & Deacon Dean Darnall +

12:05 pm Julia Pochobradsky + and
Special Intention for Antonie Kubin

6:30 pm Linda Dlabaj +

TUESDAY, DEC. 14—St. John of the Cross

6:30 am Tom F. Valek +

12:05 pm Annie C. & Joe A. Martinek ++

6:30 pm (Spanish) Emilia & Joe Cervantes ++

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

6:30 am Brodwynne Patak +

12:05 p.m. Willie Mae Vavra +

Adoration after 12:05 pm Mass until 5:00 pm

6:30 pm Don Kryszinski + and
Frank & Janie Patak ++

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

6:30 am Lillian Trojacek +

12:05 pm Mary Ann Kubin + and
Cynthia Zapletal +

6:30 pm Spanish Enrique B. Gonzales +

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:30 am Charles J. Elleven Jr. +

12:05 pm Elizabeth Schleich + and
Eugene & Mary Lou Novy ++

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

5:00 pm Joe M. and Jodie Horak ++ and
Johnny Wickliffe +

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT, DECEMBER 19

7:30 am Clara/John/Elizabeth Schleich +++ and
Willie & Mary Kriska +

10:30 am Larry Dunkerley + and
Louise & Charles Houston ++

1:00 pm Salvador Espino +
and For the St. John Parish Community

5:00 pm **LIFE TEEN MASS and Life Night**
Rudy and Gary Valek ++ and
Agnes & Jerry Chudej ++

MASS INTENTIONS EPIPHANY MISSION, ITALY

Sunday, December 12, 9:30 am Deborah Castillo +

Sunday, December 19, 9:30 am

Sabino & Eugenia Marquez Castillo ++

SPONSOR OF WEEK: ALL ABOUT TIRES, INC.



Dear Saint John and Epiphany Parishioners,

“*Gaudete in Domino semper*” from the Latin Introit for today’s Mass on the Third Sunday of Advent, translated to English this reads, “Rejoice in the Lord always!” This Third Sunday of Advent is known as “Gaudete Sunday” and is easily recognized by the rose colored vestments worn by the priest and deacon. There are flowers at the altar which is normally bare during Advent.

St. Paul urges the Christians in Philippi to “Rejoice in the Lord always.” This is to be our condition as Christians, a joyful, rejoicing people. We are able to be filled with joy by the presence of the Christ Child who came to earth over two thousand years ago. He still brings joy into the hearts of His faithful people. This is why we celebrate His birthday! He has brought His joy and peace into a world filled with unhappiness and anxiety.

As our Holy Father Pope Benedict the XVI often reminds us, it is a joy and peace that dwells within us not in the world around us. Evil is still in the world and causes continual conflict and absence of external peace. But we as Catholic Christians can be “at peace” in the midst of the conflicted world. This peace does not mean an absence of conflict around us, but rather a peace that dwells within us.

This interior peace from Christ exists in the midst of difficulties. It is compatible with pain, disease, failures and disappointments. This is the great gift of Christmas which we must give thanks to God for bringing from Heaven to earth. This gift of Christ, used faithfully, enables us to have a joyful, peaceful interior road to eternal life.

This beautiful gift also enables us to attract others to Christ and His Church. Our peaceful, joyful life and be an effective advertisement for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. All around us, in our own families, workplaces and friends, people are searching for happiness. We have the answer!

See you in Church!

Love and prayers,

Father John

Pastor

RCIA RITE OF ACCEPTANCE

The RCIA group had its Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming this past Sunday at the 10:30 am Mass. They also had their first Dismissal to discuss the readings. They will continue Dismissals until the non-Catholic participants in RCIA can participate fully in the Mass at the Easter Vigil. Please keep our candidates and catechumens in your prayers.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Third Sunday of Advent, December 12, and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:45 am RCIA Session/Rm 102 Compound

No Religious Education Classes today

2:00-4:00 pm KC Christmas Party/KC

No Life Teen Mass and no Life Night

Monday, December 13

7:30 pm Safety Environment Training/Room 201

Tuesday, December 14

8:00 am Golden Crusaders Social/Lunch/Meeting

7:00 pm Grief Recovery Session

6:00-8:00 pm Winter Walkers in SJ Gym (see notice)

Wednesday, December 15

6:30 am Mass- Teens "Food for the Soul" —free Breakfast

6-8 pm Winter Walkers in SJ Gym (see notice)

7:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Life Teen D-Nite

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal/Church

Thursday, December 16

6:00 pm CDA & KC Sheltered Workshop Party/KC

7:00 pm *This Man is You* Session/Cafeteria

7:30 pm Safety Environment Re-Training/Room 201

Saturday, December 18

7:00 am *This Man is You* Session/Cafeteria

3:30 pm Confessions

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19

8:45 am RCIA Session/Rm 102 Compound

9:00 am Religious Education Classes and EDGE

9:00-1:00 St. John Library Open/Rm 106 Compound

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass and Life Night

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES

Christmas Novena cards are available at the back of church. Your intentions will be included in a special Christmas Novena of Masses. Nine consecutive Masses will be celebrated for intentions for the living or dead of those participating in the Novena. This Novena of Masses will begin on Christmas Day and go through January 2, 2011. This Novena offers greater benefit to the direct objects of this intention than is offered to all those Christian faithful whom the sacrifice always benefits in general. Please fill out the donation envelope, insert your offering (\$5.00 per name) and place the envelope in the collection basket or drop off at the business office by December 22. The beautiful greeting card is yours to send or keep.

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER 4 & 5

St. John Church Support Collection	\$ 22,935.13
Capital Improvements Fund Collection	2,923.91
Epiphany Church Support Collection	534.77
Epiphany Building Fund Collection	361.65

NO PASTORAL ADVISORY MEETING

There will not be a Pastoral Advisory Meeting in December. Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 18, 2011. Council members would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

GOLDEN CRUSADERS MEETING

The St. John Golden Crusaders will meet on Tuesday, December 14, in the cafeteria. This will be the soup and sandwich meal. A-N bring desserts and O-Z bring either soup or sandwiches, or sides to go with soup and sandwiches.

New members 55 years and older are always welcome! Games start at 8:30 am and meal at 11:30 am with the meeting following. Fellowship is enjoyed by all!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Knights of Columbus Children's Christmas Party for members and their families will be held from 2:00-4:00 pm today, Sunday, December 12, at the KC hall.

Snacks will be provided and Santa will visit the kids!

SAFETY ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Just a reminder that there are two remaining sessions for Safety Environment Training in 2010. Initial training will be Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 pm, Room 201 in the school. The Re-training session will be Thursday, Dec. 16, 7:30 pm, Room 201. If you still need one of these trainings, please plan to attend a session.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

These people need our prayers: Viola Dlabaj, Kathy Toth, Deanna Slovacek Richardson, Sandra and Marsela Montelongo, Bernard Betik, Olga Enriquez, Kelvin Blank, Ruben Monreal, Elida Alvarado, Moses Zapata, Roy Fira Jr., Nolen Dockery, Leslie & Millie Trojacek, Norma Martinez, Maria Manriquez, Pete Cruz, Wanda Slovak, Helene Valek, Mary A. Garza, Lillian Slovak, Olivia Widener, Helen Barak, Betty Zajic, Johnny Mensik, Josie, Elva, Henry and Ray Castillo, James Pustejovsky, Gary Kidder, Frankie Joe Patak, Sandra Horrell, Geri Melvin, Sr. Edna Gonzalez, Raul Partida, Steve Betik, Frances Kozlovsky, Betty Rogala, Tony Alvarez, Evelyn Dlabaj, Claudio Amador Jr. & Sr., Joe & Mary Patak, Ruphine Patak and Jerry Dolezal.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS THIS WEEK

Sanctuary light, south side of sanctuary, is in memory of Paul Carrillo, Julia Carrillo, Juanita, Robert Lopez donated by Adela & the Carrillo Family for the week of December 11-17. Sanctuary light, north side, is in memory of Frank & Mary T. Dick (Fr. John and Frank's parents).

ALTAR SERVERS FOR LITURGIES

December 18, Saturday

5:00 pm Grant Vrana/Joseph Baird

December 19, Sunday

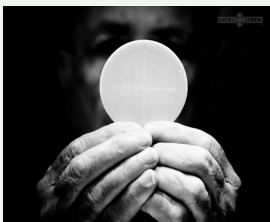
7:30 am Matthew Matous/Zachary Matous/Nate Allen

10:30 am Tyler Gilmore/Chris Trojacek/Cooper Gillespie

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass

Tyler Dennie/Dylan Honza/Hardy Walker

LIFE TEEN



Life Teen Calendar

DEC 12TH NO MASS & LIFE NIGHT

DEC 19TH— MASS & LIFE NIGHT

DEC 26-NO MASS & LIFE NIGHT

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

**ALL TEENS ARE WELCOMED TO COME TO
6:30AM MASS FOLLOWED BY A
FREE BREAKFAST!**

D-Nite

Wednesday nights 7pm-8:15 in the Cafeteria

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Our next D-Nite is Dec 15th

Questions? Contact Joey at 972-878-8336 or
joeys@stjohnncc.net

Life Teen Retreat

Hurry! Spots are almost gone!

Who: High School 9th-12th grades

Where: Sky Ranch , Van TX

When: Dec 31st-Jan 2

How Much: non Confirmation teens-\$100

(Includes transportation, meals, and lodging)

Contact Joey for a weekend of fun, faith, and food!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Let the Children come to me, do not hinder them for to such belongs the kingdom of God.”
Mark 10:14

Children's Christmas Play

Sponsored by Children's Religious Education

December 21, Tuesday
7PM in the Cafeteria

All are welcome

Is your child interested in participating?

Contact Annette Wright, (972) 875-9650

MUSIC

THE STORY OF
CHRIST'S BIRTH

CAROLS



Give a Birthday present to Jesus for His house this Christmas!

The three Kings brought gifts to Jesus, recognizing that the birth of the Savior outweighed their own wants. They gave of what they had for Him.

\$172 for a cushion to cover half a pew
\$344 for cushions to cover an entire pew

Ways to purchase pew cushions:

- Parish Office
- at Mass collection in the special envelopes (available in church),
- online at www.stjohncc.net



Donate the money for the purchase of cushions for the pews in our church.

Donate a pew cushion in memory of someone.

All donations and memorials will be listed
in the bulletin during the Christmas season.

BASSANO, Jacopo
Adoration of the Magi
1580-85

PREPARING BY CONFESSING OUR SINS

The days of Advent are marked by a heightened sense of prayer. Christmas Novenas, ancient ways of preparation, are prayed throughout the Catholic world. Advent resounds with the theme of reconciliation and the call to repentance. That call is not about dwelling on our sins and being even more burdened by them, but the opposite: bringing them to God in sorrow and hope for forgiveness.

More opportunities for individual Confessions will be offered in our parish the week before Christmas. It is a fitting time to approach Jesus in this sacrament—and to be able to approach Him in the Eucharist on Christmas with a renewed heart.



SHELTERED WORKSHOP PARTY

The annual KC and CDA Christmas Party honoring the clients of the Ennis Sheltered Workshop will be held on Thursday, December 16, at the KC Hall beginning at 6:00 pm. All KC and CDA members and their immediate families are urged to attend and to experience the true meaning of Christmas. CDA members are reminded to bring cookies before 5:30 pm for the cake walk. Also, if you are a CDA Santa's Elf, please bring your wrapped present for the client before 6:00 pm. Members of both societies are asked to bring a covered dish for the Christmas buffet. Come out for this Christmas celebration and enjoy brightening the lives of these special people from the Ennis Sheltered Workshop.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS FOR PRIESTS

In the event of a real emergency, call Fr. John Dick, 903-624-6114, or Fr. Antonio Ormaza, 469-831-0607.

For day to day questions or concerns, and to make appointments, please call the business office phone number, 972-878-2834 or 972-875-2834.

RELIGIOUS ITEMS COUNTER

The Religious Items Store/Counter has many nice items that would make great Christmas gifts. Please stop by in the annex after Mass and check it out.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR 2010

Just a reminder that all charitable end-of-the-year donations to St. John Church and the St. Joseph Cemetery must be dated and postmarked by December 31st to qualify for 2010 tax deductions.

Thank you, and may God especially bless those who supported our parish and cemetery in 2010. We greatly appreciate your support.

WINTER WALKERS

Come to the St. John gym each Tuesday and Wednesday night from 6-8 pm to walk. Keep healthy, keep warm. Any children **must** be accompanied by a parent and supervised. For more info, call Joan Johnson, 214-728-6160. Sponsored by KJZT Society #16.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests offered their lives in service to others. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious supports basic necessities such as prescriptions and nursing care. Please give generously to today's second collection. God bless you!

ADVENT GATHERING FOR YOUNG ADULTS

On break from college? Catholic young adults ages 18 to 25 are invited to an Advent gathering on Saturday, December 18 from 6:30-9:30 pm in the school cafeteria of St. Joseph Catholic School, 506 E. Marvin Ave., Waxahachie. Fellowship, music and refreshments will be provided. Bring a dessert to share, and a rosary. Open to young Catholic adults of any parish. Speaker Kevin Kukla will give an Advent Reflection about the Joyful Mysteries. For more information, email fiat-news@yahoo.com