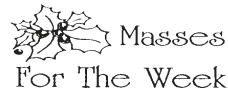


MASSES THIS WEEK



MON., JANUARY 2—Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
Special Intention celebrated in NY by Fr. John

No 6:30 am Mass today

12:05 pm Christmas Novena

6:30pm Kenneth Langley +

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3—Most Holy Name of Jesus

6:30 am Fr. John Special Intention

12:05 pm Louis A. & Lillian Slovak ++

Confessions before and after 6:30 pm Mass

6:30 pm(Spanish) For the Souls in Purgatory +

WED., JANUARY 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

6:30 am Fr. John Special Intention

12:05 pm Brodwynne Patak +

6:30 pm Vlasta Knize +

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5—St. John Neumann, Bishop

6:30 am Geraldine & Edwin Haskovec ++

12:05 pm Frank R. Kriska +

6:30 pm Spanish Fr. John Special Intention

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6—Blessed Andre Bessette, Religious

6:30 am Fr. John Special Intention

First Friday Devotions after the 12:05 pm Mass

12:05 pm Joseph & Josephine Dolezal Deceased Family ++

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7—St. Raymond of Penafort

First Saturday Devotions will follow the 8:00 am Mass

8:00 am Fr. John Special Intention

5:00 pm Gertrude Griffith + and

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8—EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:00 am Nolen Dockery + and

Fr. John Special Intention

11:00 am Bill/Mary/Jo Ellen Vitovsky +++

1:00 pm Eulogia Rodriguez + and

For Our Parish Community

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass

Duane Dolezalik +

MASS INTENTIONS FOR EPIPHANY CHURCH

Sun., January 1, 2012 For Epiphany Mission Parishioners

Now taking Intentions for 2012 at Epiphany Church

FIRST FRIDAY AND SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Benediction will follow the 12:05 pm Mass on Friday, January 6.

Devotions to Our Lady of Fatima, the Rosary and Benediction will follow the 8:00 am Mass on Saturday, January 7.

SPONSOR OF WEEK: ENNIS CHIROPRACTIC

Pastor's Notes

Dear Saint John and Epiphany Parishioners,

I am writing this message on the Fourth Day within the Octave of Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Innocents. The Holy Innocents were the male children, two years of age or younger, that were slaughtered by the order of King Herod in an attempt to kill the Baby Jesus.

We most often think of Christmas as a time of happiness with our families, children and grandchildren. We delight in the excited and happy faces of children at Christmas. But the First Christmas came with the slaughter of innocent children in their homes and in the arms of their mothers. Soldiers were rushing in and killing the young boys. The homes were filled with the sound of screams and crying; blood was covering the floors and ground. Does this sound like Christmas? This was the First Christmas.

What kind of God would bring this hurt and suffering to little children and their families? With the coming of Jesus into our world also came horrible killing and suffering. St. Paul spoke to this and other suffering as he wrote: "I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us."

Why do we willingly and gladly take our children to the doctor to receive medical treatment that makes them suffer and cry? Sometimes you can hear them screaming all over the doctor's office and waiting room. We do it because we know the "good" far outweighs the momentary suffering. It is the same reason you and I are willing to undergo a "root canal" for an abscessed tooth.

How amazing and glorious must Heaven be if it is gained by such suffering, allowed by an all-loving and perfect God? This alone should convince us of the glory of Christmas. Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, taking on our humanity, suffering and dying so that we might have an opportunity to go to Heaven, after the suffering of this life comes to an end.

What an amazing gift Christmas is to our world! The gift is Jesus and His saving grace! Heaven is worth every sacrifice and suffering living our Catholic Faith asks of us.

A Blessed Christmas to Everyone!

Love and Prayer,

Father John

CHILD CARE NEEDED

We need some people to watch children while their parents grow in their faith. You would be compensated for your time. If you would be interested in helping to provide childcare during parish events and studies, please contact Seth Wright at the Parish Office, 972-875-2834.

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 1, 2012

No Religious Education Classes today

No RCIA Classes today

8:30-10:45 am St. John Library Open/Rm106 Compound

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass and Open Gym

Monday, January 2

7:00 pm CDA Meeting/KC

Tuesday, January 3

5:00-7:00 pm St. John Library open/Compound

6:00-7:00 pm Winter Walkers in St. John Gym

7:00 pm Baptism Class/Room 101 Compound

Wednesday, January 4

6:30 am Life Teen *Food for the Soul* & Breakfast

6:00-7:00 pm Winter Walkers in St. John Gym

6:30-8:30 pm Religious Education Classes

D-NITE in the Cafeteria

Thursday, January 5

7:00-8:15 pm EDGE Night

Saturday, January 7

3:30 pm Confessions/Church

Czech Choir sings before and during the 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 8

8:45 am RCIA Session

8:30-10:30 am Religious Education Classes

8:30-10:45 am St. John Library Open/Rm 106 Compound

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass and Life Night

OFFERTORY GIFTS DURING MASS IN 2012

If a family or (3 or 4) individuals would like to take up the gifts at the Offertory during weekend Masses, please tell one of the ushers at your Mass. This is a tiny ministry but important, as the bearers represent the congregation during Mass.

THANK YOU FROM AGNES HORAK FAMILY

"The family of Agnes Horak would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, food, flowers and Masses. Special thanks to Fr. John, the Requiem Choir and Boze Mitchell McKibbin Funeral Home for the beautiful service.

We thank Fr. John for administering the Anointing of the Sick. Thank you to Debbie Vitovsky for leading the Rosary, to Chris Mummert for serving the Mass and Ellene Stout for assisting. May God bless each of you."

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS FOR PRIESTS

During the holidays, in the event of a real emergency, you can call Fr. John, 903-624-6114, or Fr. Antonio, 469-831-0607.

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

COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER 25

St. John Church Support Collection	\$ 19,694.97
Christmas Collection	4,900.38
Epiphany Mission Collection	818.80
Christmas Collection	135.06

CZECH CHOIR AT 5:00 PM MASS ON 01/07/12

The St. John Czech Choir will sing at the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass next Saturday, January 7, 2012. For your enjoyment, the Choir will begin by singing Czech carols before the Mass.

BAPTISM CLASS ON TUESDAY

Baptism Class for parents and Godparents who haven't attended a class in the past year will be on Tuesday, January 3, at 7:00 pm in Room 101 in the compound. Baptisms will be January 8 & 22.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS THIS WEEK

Sanctuary light, south side, is in memory of Cathryn Hoefler donated by Ronnie & Susan Zmolek for week of December 31-January 6.

Sanctuary light, north side, is in memory of Frank & Mary Dick.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BAPTISM CERTIFICATES

Parents of children planning to receive their sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist this school year need to turn in a copy of their Baptismal certificate to the Religious Education office (in the parish office). Also, please continue to make payments if you have a balance. **Balances and Baptism certificates are due by January 31, 2012, for all children who plan to receive their sacraments.** Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Stacy Gallegos, 972-875-9650, or email stacyg@stjohncc.net

SISTERS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE PRAYER SERVICE

The Sisters of Divine Providence invite you to attend a Prayer Service celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of the Congregation of Divine Providence.

The Service will be Sunday, January 15, 2:00 pm at Our Lady of the Lake Convent Center, Sacred Heart Conventual Chapel, 515 SW 24th St., San Antonio, TX 75207

ST. JOHN LIBRARY HOURS

St. John Library, compound area, is now re-opened on Tuesdays from 5-7 pm. Library is also open on Sundays from 8:30-10:45 am.

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

778 Sing of Mary	380 Once in Royal David's City
377 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	373 What Child Is This

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please pray for: Emily Holland, Joshua Meachum, Betty Schlottman, Helen Barak, Betty Coker, Stanley J. Liska, Bob Scancellia, Jerry Holland, Ninfa Carrillo, Maria Manriquez, Louise Francis, Raul Monjarez Sr., Lori Hearn, Mildred Wickcliffe, Jane Parker, Joe W. Spaniel, Wilma Mach, Juanita Levay, Patsy Odlozil, Nathan Gunn, Orlando Lopez, Greg Loftis, Gil Escobar, Tony Guerrero, Gertrude Langley, Gloria J. Haba, Johnny Garcia, Danita Canty, Betty Cloonen, Hannah Rejcek, Rosie Mach, Ruphine Patak, Inez Fira, Louisa Tovar, Edwin & Dorothy Langer, Ashton Weaver, Martina Ortiz, Lisa Marklund, Anna Rosales, Lauren Moran, Senaida Arreola, Christian Marente, Helen Matous, James Pustejovsky, Robert Martinez Sr., Olga Patak, Alfred Martinez, Catherine McClelland, Thelma Collinsworth, Rosa Sanchez, Patsy Blazek, Betty Rogala, Graciela & Ruben Monreal, Helen Zmolek, Gary Kidder, Domingo Galban, Jerry Dolezal, Tony Alvarez, Josie, Ray & Cynthia Castillo, Steve Betik, Earlene Slovak, Raul Partida

MASS OFFERINGS AND INTENTIONS in 2012

Canon # 948 of the Code of Canon Law, 1983:

“Separate Masses are to be applied for the intentions for which an individual offering, even if small, has been made and accepted.”

In order to be in compliance with the above Canon Law, beginning January 1st, 2012, the following guidelines will be followed:

1. Only one intention will be allowed per Mass.
2. Intentions can be for the living or dead.
3. The immediate family of a deceased will be given seven Mass Intention Envelopes for their use.
4. The parish will offer a Novena of Masses for the recently deceased as a group, approximately every three months, depending on the number of deaths in the parish. Parishioners will have an unlimited number of offering envelopes available for the Novena of Masses. The names of the deceased will be listed in the bulletin (from the Novena) .
5. We will attempt to space the Masses so there will be an opportunity for Mass Intentions during the year for the living and dead.

PRIEST STOLE FEES FOR SACRAMENTS

Beginning January 1st, 2012, there will be no established Stole Fees for the Priest celebrating the Sacraments of Baptism, Marriage or Funerals. There is no fee for the Priest; any offering is completely voluntary. Any fees already paid for upcoming Sacraments will be considered a donation to the Parish.

For sale by St. John Church
1999 Winnebago Brave Class A Motor home

For Information and Viewing—Fr. John
903.624.6114

ADULT CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES

Certificates for the participants of the Adult Confirmation that took place on June 12, 2011 are ready for pickup at the parish business office.

RCIA Sponsors Needed

We need people to help to guide those who are interested in becoming Catholic to know and understand the Church. If you love the Church and want to share that love with those who wish to join Her, become an RCIA sponsor.

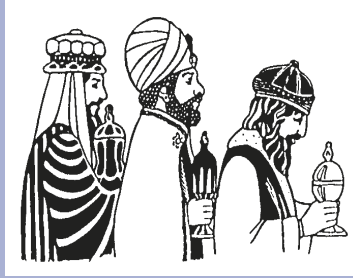
Qualifications:

- Must have received Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation
- If married, must be married in the Catholic Church
- Practicing your Faith

Contact Seth Wright at 972-878-2834.

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

EPIPHANY BLESSING FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2012



On Epiphany, Sunday, January 8, 2012, you can bless your own house.

Take blessed chalk of any color and mark on the lintel (upper door frame) of your front door (or door used most often to enter the home) **20 + C + M + B + 12**.

Say this prayer or one below: The three Wise Men, C for Caspar, M for Melchior, and B for Balthasar, followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twelve years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen

Other possible prayers you can add or substitute:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.

Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with good health, goodness of heart, gentleness and abiding in your will. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

WINTER WALKERS PROGRAM

Winter Walkers Program has begun on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the St. John Gym.

Catholic Family Fraternal—KJZT #16 is sponsoring this program to provide a safe, warm place to keep heart healthy during the winter months.

Join them each week from now until March. (Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian.)

Call Joan Johnson for info: 214-728-6160

KIDS AND GOD: STARTING FROM SCRATCH

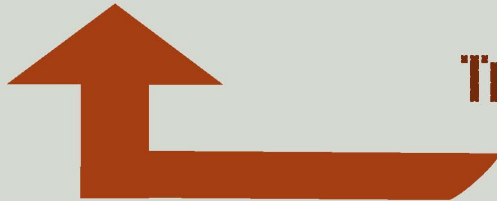
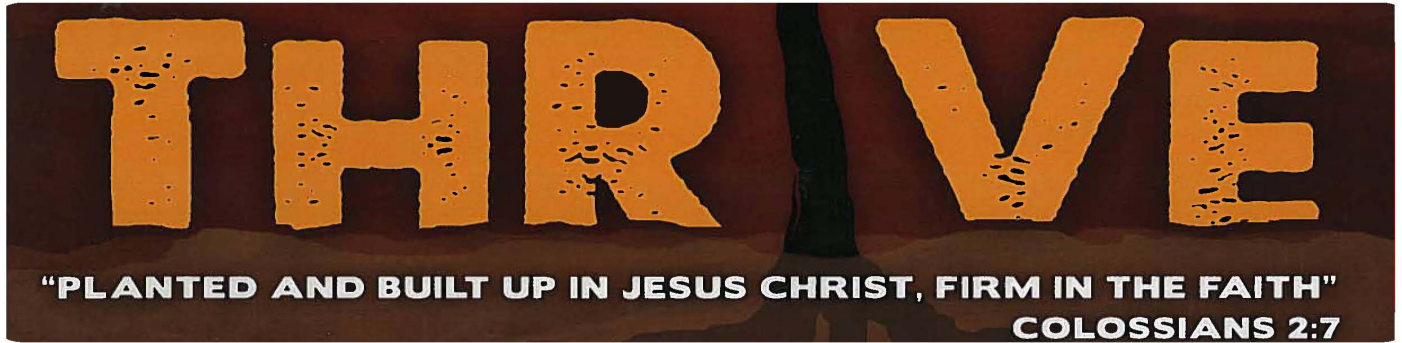
If you're doing yard work on Sunday instead of going to Mass, and if most dinners in your house begin without saying "Grace", here are four basic items to begin in the new year:

Go to Mass each Sunday: get yourself to Mass and see what God has to say to you. Just show up.

Pray with your kids before dinner and bed: Whether you use traditional prayers or make up your own, your kids will know it's important when you do it twice a day.

Hang up a cross: If your house has lots of artwork and photos on the walls but is lacking a cross, that sends a message to kids about the family's priorities. Get a crucifix or at least a cross. There are thousands of styles.

Get your kids to religious education: if your kids are enrolled in Religious Education, please commit to it. Take them regularly and encourage them in their studies.



THIS YEARS RETREAT THEME IS.....

SIGN UP BEFORE IT'S TO LATE!

LIFE TEEN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN 1- THERE WILL BE LIFE TEEN MASS & OPEN GYM

JAN 4- FOOD FOR THE SOUL & D-NITE

JAN 8- MASS & LIFE NIGHT

DON'T FORGET TO SIGNUP FOR OUR LIFE TEEN

RETREAT JAN 13-15 CONTACT JOEY FOR MORE INFO

EDGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN 5- EDGE NIGHT

JAN 12- EDGE NIGHT

QUESTIONS? CALL JOEY 972-878-8336 OR JOEYS@STJOHNCC.NET

MASS TIME AT EPIPHANY MISSION on JANUARY 8

Next weekend, January 8, the Mass time at Epiphany Mission, Italy, will be at **10:00 am** instead of 9am.

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

EPIPHANY TREAT BAGS

On the Feast of Epiphany, next Sunday, January 8, children at Epiphany Church in Italy will be given treat bags to celebrate their feast.

Parishioners are asked to donate bags of candy and packaged cookies and other wrapped treats to make up the goody bags. If you have any questions, please contact Father Antonio Ormaza.



HOME BIBLE STUDY TEST

For those participants in the Home Bible Study Course who plan to take the final test on March 3, 2012, you must sign up for the test by February 10 in order to be eligible to take the test. The signup sheet will be in the parish office. Please remember: no signup—no test!

SEPARATE CHECKS FOR SEPARATE DEPARTMENTS

When making your checks to St. John Church, or Life Teen, or the Cemetery, etc., please make separate checks to simplify the accounting in the business office. This applies to funeral memorials also.

NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR RELIGIOUS ED

Is God calling you? We still need more volunteers for the Religious Education program for the Spring semester. We need teachers, aides to assist the teachers, and substitutes. This is a wonderful way to give back to your parish. If you are interested, please contact Stacy Gallegos at 972-875-9650, or 972-875-2834, ext. 214. We are still in need of catechists for PK, 5th and 4th grades on Wednesday nights. Please pray on this, let your light shine; share your talents with our children in Religious Ed.

ALTAR SERVERS FOR WEEKEND LITURGIES

Saturday, January 7

5:00 pm Dylan Fisher/Tyler Novy

Sunday, January 8

7:00 am Aaron Rejcek/Zachary Matous/Josh Zapletal

11:00 am Chris Trojacek/Tyler Gilmore/David Janousek

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass

Joseph Baird/Tyler Dennie

ALTAR CARE FOR JANUARY 7 & 14

Margaret Bouska

Susan Zmolek

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING

CDA Meeting will be Monday, January 2, at 7:00 pm in the KC hall dining room. All members urged to attend. Plans will be made for spring activities. Bring a friend with you!