

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

††† Masses  
For The Week

**MONDAY, MARCH 19—St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary**

No 6:30 am Mass today

12:05 pm Cecilia Blazek +

Confessions before and after 6:30 pm Mass

6:30 pm Tony & Nacha Zapata ++

**TUESDAY, MARCH 20**

6:30 am Robin Cervantes +

12:05 pm Mary Ann Kubin +

Confessions before and after 6:30 pm Mass

6:30 pm (Spanish) Julin Martinez +

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21**

6:30 am For the Poor Souls in Purgatory +

12:05 pm Anton F. Galetka +

2:30 pm Mass at Legend Oaks Nursing Home for Residents

6:30 pm Jose Santos Lopez +

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22**

6:30 am Rose Ann & George Vrana ++

12:05 pm Tony Prachyl +

6:30 pm(Spanish) Jenny Granado +

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23—St. Turibius de Mogrovejo, Bishop**

6:30 am George W. Zhanel +

12:05 pm Rudy/Emily/Gary Valek +++

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross (English)

7:45 pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24**

5:00 pm Wesley J. Gerich +

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25**

7:00 am William Vavra +

11:00 am Mariana & Arturo Casanova ++

1:00 pm Felipe Cortez +

5:00 pm Life Teen Mass Frank and Jay Felcman ++

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR EPIPHANY CHURCH**

Sunday, March 18, 9:00 am Gregoria Luna Roman R. Bueno +

Sunday, March 25, 9:00 am Catherine Elfrink +

**STAFF ATTENDS ADORATION ON WEDNESDAYS**

The St. John parish staff attends an hour of adoration from 3:00-4:00 pm every Wednesday; therefore, the office is closed during that time frame. Sometimes they pray a rosary or the Divine Chaplet or other prayers. You are very welcome to join them.

**RACHEL'S CORNER**

Abortion AfterCare-Healing  
214.544.CARE healing@racheldallas.org

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: SALIK PLUMBING**



**Pastor's Notes**

Dear Saint John and Epiphany Parishioners,

“Rejoice, Jerusalem. . . Be joyful, all who were in mourning;”

These are the words from the Introit for this Sunday’s Mass! These words express a unique Christian Truth: Joy In The Cross. In many ways, this is the key to truly understanding the earthly, everyday, importance of what Jesus has done for the human race.

From the commission of the original sin, by Adam and Eve, until the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus, all peoples of the earth were in mourning. They mourned their own misfortunes, illness, death, hatred, envy, the list of the consequences of sin, goes on and on. There was even a “mourning” over the hardship and struggle of doing good and often times failing.

But today, and every day of our Christian lives, we can “Rejoice!” This we can do, because even the crosses of our daily lives have a victory, an Easter, at their completion. Thus, even during a suffering or hardship, we not only know the final victory of heaven but that the suffering actually helps us on our way and improves the total quality of our life here on earth! This is the amazing gift that Jesus won for each of us, who choose it, by His suffering, death and resurrection!

This is the thought that we want to have on our mind as we wake up each morning. Whatever the day brings, we can have within it, a joy/happiness. Our world today “has succeeded in multiplying the occasions of pleasure, but finds great difficulty in giving birth to happiness,” wrote Pope Paul VI in his Exhortation, *Gaudete in Domino.*”

Rejoice! Easter is coming!

Fr. John

**RELIGIOUS COUNTER OPEN ON WEEKENDS**

The Religious Counter in the annex is open after all Masses on weekends.

They are stocked with many **First Communion** items, so shop early for the best selection.

First Communions will be in April and May.

## LAETARE SUNDAY

### IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

#### Sunday, March 18

Second collection for Catholic Relief Services  
**8:30-10:30 am** Religious Education Classes  
St. John Library Closed today because of CRHP  
**11:00 am Mass** Second Scrutiny for RCIA  
**5:00 pm** Life Teen Mass and Open Gym

#### Monday, March 19

**7:15 pm** Theology of the Body/Cafeteria

#### Tuesday, March 20

**5:00-7:00 pm** St. John Library open/Compound  
**7:00-8:30 pm** Apologetics Class/Rm 301 High School Bldg.

#### Wednesday, March 21

**6:30 am** Life Teen *Food for the Soul* after Mass  
**6:30-8:30 pm** Religious Education Classes  
**7:00 pm** Seven Steps to Financial Freedom/Room 101  
**7:00 pm** D-Nite/Cafeteria

Women's Endow Study has been cancelled

#### Thursday, March 22

**7-8:15 pm** EDGE/Cafeteria  
**7:00 pm** Baptism Class/Room 102 Compound  
**7:00 pm** *That Man Is You*/Room 103 compound  
**7:30 pm** Safe Environment Renewal Training/Rm 201

#### Friday, March 23

Lenten Abstinence from meat today (14 years & older)  
**7:00 pm** Stations of the Cross (English) in Church  
**7:45 pm** Stations of the Cross (Spanish) in Church  
**7:30 pm** RCIA—Presentation of the Creed/Room 104

#### Saturday, March 24

**Women's CRHP Retreat today and Sunday**  
**7:00 am** *That Man Is You*/Room 103 compound  
**3:30 pm** Confessions/Church

#### Sunday, March 25

Second collection for Easter Flowers  
**8:30-10:30 am** Religious Education Classes  
St. John Library closed today because of CRHP  
**11:00 am Mass** Third Scrutiny for RCIA  
**5:00 pm** Life Teen Mass and Life Night

#### SANCTUARY LIGHT THIS WEEK

Sanctuary light in memory of Mary Ann Kubin & deceased members of Kubin and Koubek families donated by Leslie Kubin family for the week of March 17-23.

#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT RENEWAL TRAINING

There will be a Safe Environment Renewal Training session on Thursday, March 22, at 7:30 pm, in Room 201 in the elementary school, for all volunteers who need to renew their training at this time. Also, ID pictures will be taken of those wishing to update their photos.

#### COLLECTIONS FOR MARCH 10 & 11

St. John Church Support Collection	\$ 18,559.45
Epiphany Mission Collection	519.50

#### CONGRATS ON FIRST RECONCILIATION

On March 10 we had over 100 Religious Education students who received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. We congratulate these students and their teachers for their hard work and preparation as they now get ready to receive their First Communion in April and May. May God bless them on their faith journey.



#### SPEAKER ON CATHOLIC HUMAN RIGHTS

Austin Ruse, President of Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute in New York and Washington, D.C. will speak in Dallas on April 12 from noon to 1 pm. Event is co-sponsored by St. Thomas More Society (Catholic Lawyers' Guild) of Dallas and St. Rita Dallas Physicians Guild. Event is free and open to public, but reservations required by April 9. For more details, go to [www.stmsdallas.org](http://www.stmsdallas.org)

#### LIBRARY CLOSED ON MARCH 18 & 25

Due to the CRHP Retreats, the St. John Library will be closed on the Sundays of March 18 & 25.

#### EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION

Next weekend the second collection will be for Easter flowers. Envelopes were provided in your home packets, but you can also use blank envelopes or cash. Thank you for helping the Altar Society to make the church beautiful for the Easter season.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS

Knights of Columbus Council 1353 Scholarship Applications are now available at the St. John Church business office and at the KC hall.

Eligibility requirements include: you must be a current high school senior; a member of St. John Catholic Church; must have an immediate family member active in KC Council 1353 (father, grandfather, brother, uncle, only). Mail it to the address on application. Application must be received by April 15, 2012.

#### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please pray for: Bessie Cody, Stewart Hill, Lillie Mahdak, Rene Monreal, Leon Kubin, Adele Krajca, Bernard Betik, Hilda Botello, Martina Ortiz, Nancy Svehlak, Millie & Leslie Trojacek, Dawn Ashley, Logan Bastor, David Trojacek, Patsy Odlozil, Nathan Gunn, Coye Ferguson, Rick Sparkman, Shelly Keilers, Don Tubbs, Janie Langley, Hannah Rejcek, Wanda Slovak, Stanley J. Liska, Helen Patak, Betty Rogala, Wilma Zhanel, Betty and Brandi Schlottman, Leo Rejcek, Frances Maliska, Diana Chapman, Inez Fira, Heather Hadash, Patsy Blazek, Frankie Joe Patak, Helen Blackerby, Helen Barak, Lori Hearn, Bob Scancellia, Ninfa Carrillo, Maria Manriquez, Mildred Wickliffe, Rosie Mach, Ruphine Patak, Edwin & Dorothy Langer, Lauren Moran, Senaida Arreola, Christian Marente, Helen Matous, James Pustejovsky, Robert Martinez Sr., Alfred Martinez, Rosa Sanchez, Helen Zmolek, Gary Kidder, Jerry Dolezal, Tony Alvarez, Josie, Ray & Cynthia Castillo, Steve Betik, Raul Partida

## ST. JOHN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The St. John Alumni Association will award ten college scholarships this year. Five will be awarded to 2012 high school graduates who are sons/daughters or grandchildren of previous St. John High School graduates. The other five scholarships will be awarded to adults who have been out of high school for at least one year and have not previously received a St. John Alumni Scholarship. Each adult must also meet the requirements above, and is entering or returning to college or vocational school for additional education. Each scholarship is worth \$1,000.

Applications can be picked up at Ennis Main Street Hardware, 201 S.W. Main St., 972-875-2721, from Gladys Zapletal, or an electronic copy can be obtained by emailing [stjohnalumni@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnalumni@hotmail.com)

Please indicate your full name in the email, year of graduation from St. John or parent/grandparent upon whom you are establishing your eligibility, and for which scholarship you are applying. Applications must be postmarked and sent to: P. O. Box 516, Ennis, TX 75120 by Friday, April 20, 2012.

### BEGINNING APOLOGETICS CLASS

Attention those who are committed to learning more about explaining our faith to others: a Beginning Apologetics Class is being held on Tuesday nights. Attendance every week is not mandatory. This is an introductory level class, so you can attend whatever your level of knowledge of the faith. Classes are held in room 301 in the high school building from 7:00-8:30 pm.

### RCIA

“Because they are asking for the three sacraments of initiation, the elect must have the intention of achieving an intimate knowledge of Christ and his Church, and they are expected particularly to progress in genuine self-knowledge through serious examination of their lives and true repentance” (RCIA, 142). For this reason, we will celebrate the Second and Third **Scrutinies** at Masses over the next two weeks. The Second Scrutiny is being held at the 5 PM Mass on this Saturday, March 17. The Third Scrutiny will be held at the 7 AM Mass on Sunday, March 25. Please pray for the elect and for our candidates.

Picture:  
El Greco, *Christ Healing the Blind*



## LAETARE SUNDAY

### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI FOR LENT 2012

**“Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works” (Heb 10:24)**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

The Lenten season offers us once again an opportunity to reflect upon the very heart of Christian life: charity. This is a favourable time to renew our journey of faith, both as individuals and as a community, with the help of the word of God and the sacraments. This journey is one marked by prayer and sharing, silence and fasting, in anticipation of the joy of Easter.

This year I would like to propose a few thoughts in the light of a brief biblical passage drawn from the *Letter to the Hebrews*: “Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good works”. ...

#### **1. “Let us be concerned for each other”: responsibility towards our brothers and sisters.**

This first aspect is an invitation to be “concerned”: the Greek verb used here is *katanoein*, which means to scrutinize, to be attentive, to observe carefully and take stock of something. We come across this word in the Gospel when Jesus invites the disciples to “think of” the ravens that, without striving, are at the centre of the solicitous and caring Divine Providence (cf. Lk 12:24), and to “observe” the plank in our own eye before looking at the splinter in that of our brother (cf. Lk 6:41). In another verse of the *Letter to the Hebrews*, we find the encouragement to “turn your minds to Jesus” (3:1), the Apostle and High Priest of our faith. So the verb which introduces our exhortation tells us to look at others, first of all at Jesus, to be concerned for one another, and not to remain isolated and indifferent to the fate of our brothers and sisters. All too often, however, our attitude is just the opposite: an indifference and disinterest born of selfishness and masked as a respect for “privacy”. Today too, the Lord’s voice summons all of us to be concerned for one another. Even today God asks us to be “guardians” of our brothers and sisters (Gen 4:9), to establish relationships based on mutual consideration and attentiveness to the *well-being*, the *inte-*

*gral* well-being of others. The great commandment of love for one another demands that we acknowledge our responsibility towards those who, like ourselves, are creatures and children of God. Being brothers and sisters in humanity and, in many cases, also in the faith, should help us to recognize in others a true *alter ego*, infinitely loved by the Lord. If we cultivate this way of seeing others as our brothers and sisters, solidarity, justice, mercy and compassion will naturally well up in our hearts. The Servant of God Pope Paul VI stated that the world today is suffering above all from a lack of brotherhood: “Human society is sorely ill. The cause is not so much the depletion of natural resources, nor their monopolistic control by a privileged few; it is rather the weakening of brotherly ties between individuals and nations” (*Populorum Progressio*, 66).

Concern for others entails desiring what is good for them from every point of view: physical, moral and spiritual. Contemporary culture seems to have lost the sense of good and evil, yet there is a real need to reaffirm that good does exist and will prevail, because God is “generous and acts generously” (Ps 119:68). The good is whatever gives, protects and promotes life, brotherhood and communion. Responsibility towards others thus means desiring and working for the good of others, in the hope that they too will become receptive to goodness and its demands. Concern for others means being aware of their needs. Sacred Scripture warns us of the danger that our hearts can become hardened by a sort of “spiritual anaesthesia” which numbs us to the suffering of others. ... Reaching out to others and opening our hearts to their needs can become an opportunity for salvation and blessedness.

“Being concerned for each other” also entails being concerned for their spiritual well-being. Here I would like to mention an aspect of the Christian life, which I believe has been quite forgotten: *fraternal correction in view of eternal salvation*. Today, in general, we are very sensitive to the idea of charity and caring about the physical and material well-being of others, but almost completely silent about our spiritual responsibility towards our brothers and sisters. This was not the case in the early Church or in those communities that are truly mature in faith, those which are concerned not only for the physical health of their brothers and sisters, but also for their spiritual health and ultimate destiny. The Scriptures tell us: “Rebuke the

wise and he will love you for it. Be open with the wise, he grows wiser still, teach the upright, he will gain yet more” (Prov 9:8ff). Christ himself commands us to admonish a brother who is committing a sin (cf. Mt 18:15). The verb used to express fraternal correction - *elenchein* - is the same used to indicate the prophetic mission of Christians to speak out against a generation indulging in evil (cf. Eph 5:11). The Church’s tradition has included “admonishing sinners” among the spiritual works of mercy. It is important to recover this dimension of Christian charity. We must not remain silent before evil. I am thinking of all those Christians who, out of human regard or purely personal convenience, adapt to the prevailing mentality, rather than warning their brothers and sisters against ways of thinking and acting that are contrary to the truth and that do not follow the path of goodness. Christian admonishment, for its part, is never motivated by a spirit of accusation or recrimination. It is always moved by love and mercy, and springs from genuine concern for the good of the other. As the Apostle Paul says: “If one of you is caught doing something wrong, those of you who are spiritual should set that person right in a spirit of gentleness; and watch yourselves that you are not put to the test in the same way” (Gal 6:1). In a world pervaded by individualism, it is essential to rediscover the importance of fraternal correction, so that together we may journey towards holiness. Scripture tells us that even “the upright falls seven times” (Prov 24:16); all of us are weak and imperfect (cf. 1 Jn 1:8). It is a great service, then, to help others and allow them to help us, so that we can be open to the whole truth about ourselves, improve our lives and walk more uprightly in the Lord’s ways. There will always be a need for a gaze which loves and admonishes, which knows and understands, which discerns and forgives (cf. Lk 22:61), as God has done and continues to do with each of us.

...

BENEDICTUS PP. XVI

For the full text of the Holy Father’s message, go to:

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/messages/lent/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_mes\\_20111103\\_lent-2012\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/lent/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20111103_lent-2012_en.html).

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

# LIFE TEEN



Last Years Steubenville South Trip

**Spots still  
available for  
this years  
Steubenville  
South Trip! Dont  
miss out,  
contact Joey to  
sign up**

## LIFE TEEN EVENTS

March 18- LIFE TEEN Mass & Open Gym

March 24- LIFE TEEN Mass & LIFE NIGHT

March 21 & 28- Food for the soul at 6:30am & D-Nite 7pm



THE EDGE!

### EDGE SCHEDULE

**March 22-EDGE  
March 29-EDGE**

**7pm-8:15pm on  
Thursdays in the  
Cafeteria**

**Questions about LIFE TEEN  
or EDGE?**

**Contact Joey for Questions  
972-878-8336 or  
joey@stjohncc.net**

## LAETARE SUNDAY

### RESPECT IN CHURCH

Confirmation, Weddings, Baptisms, etc. will start up again after Easter. We remind everyone that the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament should receive our utmost reverence.

Reverence can be shown by our respect for property, modest dress, no unnecessary or loud talking, no food, drink or gum, and by our actions.

At rehearsals, weddings, quinceaneras, baptisms and funerals, our example to others, including non-Catholic visitors, is important in order to demonstrate reverence for sacred space.

### FLOWERS IN SANCTUARY

Sanctuary flower arrangements for weekends with no weddings (but not in Advent) are being taken in honor or memory of someone. Call Evelyn Zmolik to schedule at 972-875-2791.

### RECONCILIATION DUTY

Catholics guilty of a grave sin are obliged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance) at least once a year. (cf. Canon 989) Of course, you are encouraged to receive Reconciliation much more often even if you don't have a grave sin, simply to receive the graces of Confession.

### THAT MAN IS YOU

*That Man Is You* men's program sessions are at 7:00 pm on Thursdays and at 7:00 am on Saturdays. Both in Room 103. More information about the program can be found on our parish website or at: [www.thatmanisyou.org](http://www.thatmanisyou.org)

### TAX STATEMENT LETTERS

You are very welcome to call the office if you want a Tax Statement of your donations for income tax purposes, 972-875-2834.

### ALTAR SERVERS FOR WEEKEND LITURGIES

#### Saturday, March 24

**5:00 pm** Nate Allen/Tyler Novy

#### Sunday, March 25

**7:00 am** Aaron Rejcek/Zachary Matous/Dylan Fisher

**11:00 am** Joseph Baird/Chris Trojacek/David Janousek

**5:00 pm Life Teen Mass** Austin Spaniel/Alex Fry

### LEVELING HEADSTONES IN CEMETERY

If you own a headstone in St. Joseph Cemetery or the headstone belongs to a family member, and it needs leveling, and you would like to pay to get it leveled, please contact Helen Yarbrough at the parish business office, 972-878-2834.

Helen will refer the location to the proper authority who will determine a leveling estimate. No work will be done until estimate is given to you and cost is paid up front.