

Mass Intentions for week of November 23

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24** -St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions

6:30 a.m. Wm. Cordell Hickman +

12:05 p.m. Josephine Kubin +

6:30 p.m. Johnny Vrana +

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25**—St. Catherine of Alexandria

6:30 a.m. Jerry Dolezal + & Dolezal Family

12:05 p.m. Harry Schubrick +

6:30 p.m. Belen Medina +

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

6:30 a.m. Joe A. & Annie Martinek ++

12:05 p.m. Tom Valek +

6:30 p.m. John Paul Hajek +

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27** -Thanksgiving- Parish Office Closed

9:00 a.m. Frankie Joe Patak +

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28** - Parish Office Closed

**NO 6:30 a.m. Mass today**

12:05 p.m. Mark Henry Valek +

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

3:30 p.m. Confessions

5:00 p.m. Andy R. Blazek +

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

7:00 a.m. Evelyn J. Dlabaj +

11:00 a.m. Mariana & Arturo Casanova ++

1:00 p.m. Sebastian Cerda +

5:00 p.m. **Life Teen Mass** For the Parish Community

**MASSES FOR EPIPHANY CHURCH**

Sun. November 23, 9 am Juan Calderon +

Sun. November 30, 9 am Magdalena, Juan, Ramo Partida +++

**COLLECTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 15 & 16**  
Totals include Church Collection & Faith Direct

St. John Church Support Collection \$16,923.19

Epiphany Church Support Collection \$725.00

**HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, November 23**

**Entrance:** To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King - 492

**Offertory:** Alleluia to the Risen Lord! - 462

**Communion:** You Satisfy the Hungry Heart - 816

**Recessional:** Rejoice the Lord is King! - 493

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK:** Adam G. Arredondo, M.D.

**Letter from the Pastor**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
+ 2014

Dear Saint John and Epiphany Parishioners,

We have arrived at the end! We have finished! In our lives those words can be both exclamations of joy and sorrow. Many times they can also be bittersweet, carrying both emotions of joy and sorrow, a little of each, sometimes. I do believe the one constant is an emotion of relief, it is finished. Whether the finish line brings joy, sorrow or bittersweet-ness, there is a sense of relief, of freedom, of finality, I am done.

All of these emotions accompanied me as I boarded my flight back to Dallas and touched down at DFW airport! I enjoyed an amazing vacation in Rome that was now ending, but was also excited about returning home to St. John Parish, to all of you. My vacation was without any problems, complications or disappointments. It was awesome for spirit and body.

I began, what was now finished, when I boarded the plane on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and began my vacation. So there was a sense of relief that it was completed and all was good. So now, I am able to enjoy the fruits of that accomplishment, the rested and renewed body and soul!

As we close another Liturgical Year today with the celebration of the last Sunday of Ordinary Time, Mother Church asks us to reflect on the reality that one day our time in this worldly life will end. As we hear St. Paul talk about it, there is a bittersweet emotion. Above all, our God wants us to end this life, taking with us all the grace and treasure that will enable us to enjoy the new life in His Kingdom to the full!

See you in Church, where we shop, obtain and pack all that we will need for the vacation that will never end!

Love & Prayers,  
Fr. John

**ALTAR SOCIETY CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Prizes:

1. 12" Nativity Set
2. Rosary
3. \$50 Gift Certificate to the Religious Store

Tickets are available at the Religious counter after Mass.

**\$1 each or 6 for \$5**

Drawing—December 7, 2014 after 11:00 am Mass.  
Display is in the cabinet at the front entrance to the church.

**IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK**

Second Collection: Catholic Campaign for Human Development

**Sunday, November 23**

**8:30-10:30 am** Religious Education Classes

**9:00 am** RCIA / Room 101

**3:00—5:00 pm** Christmas Play practice / KJT

**6:30 pm** Life Night

**7:00 pm** ADORE (Praise & Adoration) / Church

**Monday, November 24**

**6:00 pm** Confessions/ Church (No Confessions after Mass)

**Tuesday, November 25**

**12:30 pm** Food for the Soul Lunch

**5:30-6:30 pm** Confessions/ Church (No Confessions after Mass)

**NO** EDGE/ Cafeteria

**Wednesday, November 26**

**NO** Life Teen “Into the Deep”

**NO** Religious Education Classes

**NO** Grief Recovery/ Library

**6:30 pm** KC #1353 Members & Family Social / KC

**7:30 pm** Adult Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, November 27** - Thanksgiving—Parish office Closed

**NO** RCIA / Room 101

**Friday, November 28**

Parish Office Closed

**Saturday, November 29**

**3:30 pm** Confessions/Church

**Sunday, November 30**

**NO** Religious Education Classes

**NO** RCIA

**NO** Life Night

**ADORERS STILL NEEDED!**

**Saturday 10 AM · Sunday 8 AM · Sunday 10 AM ·  
Sunday 11 AM · Tuesday 3 PM**

**NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY****SHARING OUR BLESSINGS**

We accept clean clothes and shoes in the gym every Sunday after 7:00 am Mass until 1 pm. During this time anyone is welcome to take what they need free of charge.

**\* We are in BIG need of children’s clothes—ALL SIZES! \***

**RELIGIOUS ED NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

Sunday classes are in need of: 4th grade teacher  
2nd grade teacher and Adult Pre-K aid

**LIBRARY HOURS**

Our Church Library is in room 106 in the compound

Sundays—8:15 am —10:45 am

Tuesdays—6:30 pm—7:00 pm

Wednesdays—11:15 am—11:45 am

**DON'T FORGET!!****THANKSGIVING FOOD BLESSING**

Fr. John will be blessing items brought to the 9:00 AM Mass on Thursday, November 26th Thanksgiving Mass to be Blessed for your Thanksgiving table.

**NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY****DIVINE PROVIDENCE CHAPEL CANDLES & FLOWERS**

The 4 candles surrounding the Monstrance and the 2 altar flower arrangements in the Divine Providence Chapel are available for your intentions or for a loved one, living or deceased. Please call Evelyn Zmolik at 214-549-6885.

**ALTAR CANDLES**

If you would like to reserve the 6 candles around the main altar in the sanctuary for your intentions or a loved one, living or deceased for 1 week in 2015, stop by the religious counter after Mass to sign up. \$40 for 1 week. Thank You, St. John Altar Society.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING**

Thursday, Nov. 26th & Friday, Nov. 27th  
Office will reopen Monday, December 1st.

**BAKE SALE****CDA THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE**

On Nov. 22 at the 5:00 Mass & on Nov. 23 after the 7:00 & 11:00 Masses CDA will hosts a Thanksgiving Bake Sale. Please stop by and buy your delicious

dessert for your Thanksgiving Day feast. Proceeds from this bake sales will be used to support our monthly monetary gift to the seminarians of our parish. Thank you in advance for your support.

**CDA and K of C Sheltered Workshop Christmas Party**  
Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at the K of C Hall. All CDA and K of C members and their immediate families are invited to come and enjoy fellowship and the true Christmas spirit shown by the consumers of the Workshop. All CDA and K of C members are asked to bring a dish for the Christmas buffet. CDA members who are Santa’s helpers, please bring your gift wrapped, name tag showing consumer’s name & that the gift is from Santa. Also, please bring your cookies for the Cookie Walk to the hall at 5:00.

**ST. JOHN CHURCH**

**Sanctuary Light : November 22—November 28**

In Memory: Frank & Carrie Gelnar and Joe & Julie Zmolik  
By: Benny & Evelyn Zmolik

**Altar Candles : November 22—November 28**

In Memory: Martiniano & Siverlea Rodriguez, Escamilla & Rodriguez Families  
By: Raul & Stella Rodriguez

**DIVINE PROVIDENCE HALL CHAPEL**

**Altar Candles: November 21—November 27**

For: Parish Community

By: Parish

**Flower Arrangements: November 21—November 27**

In Memory: Parish Community

By: Parish

**SAVE THE DATE**

*You're Invited*

*December 31, 2014*

*To celebrate  
a New Year and our  
Holy Mother Mary*



**XLT Sunday 11/23**  
**Food for the Soul - Noon 11/25**  
**No Life Night Sunday 11/30**  
**Special Concert Sunday 12/7**



**There is NO EDGE Tuesday 11/25,  
we'll resume 12/2.**

# Happy Thanksgiving

Loving God,  
who created and sustains the universe,  
who loved us all into being,  
and who gives us every good thing,  
we thank you for the blessings  
that you bring into our lives.  
We thank you for the gift of life itself,  
which you gave us in our mothers' wombs.  
We thank you for the fresh start of each new day,  
which is a sign of your renewing and creative love.  
And we thank you for our friends, our families,  
our neighbors and our coworkers,  
whose human love is an image  
of your divine care.  
Increase our gratitude this Thanksgiving Day,  
and help us to recognize all the good things  
that we have, both large and small.  
And magnify our desire to share  
what we have with others,  
so that they too may be  
grateful to you,  
Loving God. Amen.



# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY



Cookies  
& punch  
afterwards!

Come celebrate the birth  
of our Lord with our  
children as they present  
their special gift to the  
baby Jesus!

Wednesday, December 3rd  
6:30 PM, KJT Hall

# **BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS**



Breakfast:  
\$5 per person  
\$25 for families of 6 or more

Photos:  
\$7 per picture— 5X7 will be printed same day

**Saturday, December 6th  
8-11 AM, Cafeteria**

## Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Schedule

**Thursday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm Rosary

**Friday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm Rosary

**Saturday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 am – Procession in Dallas from Our  
Lady of Lourdes to St. Cecilia  
7:00 pm – Rosary (St. John)

**Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**

12:30 pm Rosary  
1:00 pm Mass

**Monday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm Rosary

**Tuesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm Rosary

**Wednesday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm Rosary

**Thursday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Mass  
7:00 pm Rosary  
Continued with Special Program &  
12 midnight Mañanitas

**Friday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>**

5:30 pm Procession from church  
6:30 pm Mass



**A Mother  
intercedes for her  
children in their  
hour of need.**

### The Battle of Lepanto

In the year 1571, Christianity was under threat of being overrun by the Islamic

Ottoman Empire. The Catholic nations of Venice, Spain, the Papal States, Genoa, Savoy, and Malta gathered together a fleet to face the Ottoman threat. The pope, St. Pius V, called on all of Christian Europe to pray the rosary that the fleet of this Holy League would be able to prevent the Ottoman Turks from carrying out their expansion into Europe. One of the commanders of the Catholic fleet, Andrea Doria, carried a **copy of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe** into battle with him. The Christians were victorious, with 210 of the 286 Ottoman ships being either sunk or captured. The Christian fleet lost only 50 of their 212 ships. The pope, hundreds of miles away at the time, is said to have gotten up in the middle of a meeting and said, “The Christian fleet is victorious!” shedding tears of gratitude. The date of the battle, October 7, became the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary as the victory and the salvation of Christian Europe was due to her intercession.



# Waiting, longing, hoping for the Lord

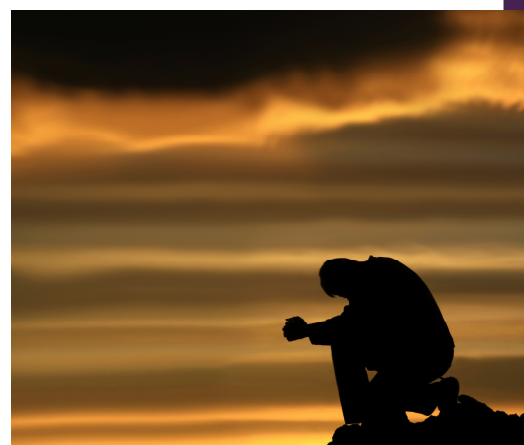
*Advent*

39. Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.

42. ... The liturgical color for Advent is purple, just like Lent—as both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Also Advent (like Lent) includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. ...

*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*

**Advent is a time of hopeful expectation but also a time of penance as we prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus.**



"Advent, this powerful liturgical season that we are beginning, invites us to pause in silence to understand a presence. It is an invitation to understand that the individual events of the day are hints that God is giving us, signs of the attention he has for each one of us."

---Pope Benedict XVI, *Homily at First Vespers of Advent, November 28, 2009*

**Some things you could do alone or as a family to prepare for the Coming of Jesus:**

- Pray the rosary together
- Spend time longing for Jesus
- Do small mortifications
- Eat simpler meals
- Drink water instead of other beverages



*Advent*



## BLESSING OF AN ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is made of four candles and a circle of branches. Before the first candle is lighted, the household gathers for this blessing.

*All make the sign of the cross. The leader begins:*

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

*All respond:*

Who made heaven and earth.

*The leader may use these or similar words to introduce the blessing.*

In the short days and long nights of Advent, we realize how we are always waiting for deliverance, always needing salvation by our God. Around this wreath, we shall remember God's promise.

*Then the Scripture is read:*

Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing.

Isaiah 9:1-2

*(The family's Bible may be used for an alternate reading, such as Isaiah 63:16-17 or Isaiah 64:2-7.)*

*The reader concludes:*

The Word of the Lord.

*All respond:*

Thanks be to God.

*After a time of silence, all join in prayers of intercession and the Lord's Prayer.*

*Then the leader invites:*

Let us now pray for God's blessings upon us and upon this wreath.

*After a short silence, the leader prays:*

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

*The first candle is then lighted.*

*The leader says:*

Let us bless the Lord.

*All respond, making the sign of the cross:*

Thanks be to God.

*The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":*

O come, desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of humankind;  
Bid ev'ry sad divisions cease  
And by thyself our Prince of peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Each day in Advent, perhaps at the evening meal the candles are lighted: one candle the first week, two the second, and so forth.*



## Prayers for Each Week

**FIRST WEEK** The following prayer should be repeated each day during the first week.

**Leader:** O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come, That by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*The first purple candle is lit and allowed to burn during evening meals for the first week.*

**SECOND WEEK** The prayer that follows is to be repeated each day of the second week.

**Leader:** O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*Two purple candles are lit and allowed to burn during the evening meals of the second week.*

**THIRD WEEK** The joyful Sunday in Advent (known as *Gaudete*) is represented by rose (or pink) instead of the penitential purple color. Each night during the third week the pink, as well as the two previously burned purple candles, are lit after the following prayer has been said.

**Leader:** O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*The three candles are allowed to burn during the evening meals of the third week.*

**FOURTH WEEK** The prayer that follows is to be repeated each day of the fourth week.

**Leader:** O Lord, stir up Thy power, we pray Thee, and come; and with great might help us, that with the help of Thy Grace, Thy merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins impede. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*All four candles are lit and allowed to burn during the evening meals of the fourth week.*

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

*If you have a loved one who is sick or in need of special prayers (not deceased) please contact the parish office by phone or email joannag@stjohncc.net. Your loved one's name will appear on this prayer list for 4 consecutive Sundays. If a longer period of time is needed, please call the parish office to renew your request 2 weeks before the printed date to the right of your loved one's name.*

Jo Ann Dolezalik—11/30/14	Annie Fira Garcia—11/30/14	Leo Rejcek—11/ 23/14	Wesley Krajca—12/28/14
Helen / Bob Zmolek—12/7/14	Janie & Richard Mraz-11/30/14	Joe Gobeia—11/23/14	Pete Gutierrez—12/28/14
Georgie Ann Nekuza—12/7/14	Barbara Sample—11/30/14	Craig Sellars—11/23/14	Ginger Morales—12/28/14
Nathan Gunn—1/4/15	Ella Patak—11/23/14	Mildred Trojacek—12/28/14	Patti Youngblood—12/28/14
Sr. Genevieve Prochaska-11/30	Angie Fira Garza—11/30/14	Leo Rejcek—11/23/14	Lillian Bacak—12/28/14
Frank Prochaska—11/30	Bill Hejny—11/30/14	June & Dick Moody—12/28/14	Rachel Zmolik—12/28/15
Sr. Redempta Bradley—11/30	Locadio Pesina—11/30/14	Angie Garza—11/30/14	Paula Prokop—12/28/14
Nancy Blackburn—12/28/14	Sr. Edna Gonzalez—11/30/14	Annie Garcia—11/30/14	Mary Ludwig—12/28/14
Stephen Dolezalik—11/30/14	Louann Redick—12/28/14	Jill Liska—11/30/14	Rosa Sanchez—12/28/14
Betty Jo Culpepper—12/28/14	Maria Socorro Herrera—11/2	Tammy LaScala Koch-11/30/14	Carol Rejcek—12/28/14
Alfred Martinez—11/9/14	Bob Henderson—12/28/14	John Sosa—11/30/14	
Betty Rogala—11/9/14	Ginger Monreal—11/9/14	Henry Vrana—12/7/14	
Ivan & Margaret Bohuslav— 11/30	Stanley J. Liska—11/16/14	Ben Eric Fira—12/7/14	
Margie Dvorak—12/7/14	Johnny/ Mary Ann Hajek-12/28	Mary Alice (Beva) Garza-12/7	
Mary Hejny—12/7/14	Edwin/Dorothy Langer-11/16	Domingo De Los Santos Jr -12/7	
Analiase Mahaley—12/28/14	Jean Nelson—11/16/14	Eleanora Pelzel—12/7/14	
Anna Galetka—12/28/14	Catherine Augusto—11/16/14	Patsy Zabochnik—12/28/14	
	Elaine Smith—11/16/14	Nancy Valek—12/28/14	