

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

2400 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233  
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Drawer 330005 Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233  
Office: (904) 246-6014 Hall: (904) 246-8771 Fax: (904) 246-1219  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM



## Rev. Rafael Lavilla, Pastor

(paengosj@gmail.com)  
(904-496-2539)

### Parish Office

#### **Samantha Matthews**

Secretary and DRE  
(SAMatthews.StJohn@outlook.com)

#### **Kathryn LaPointe**

Bookkeeper, Records  
(sjccbookkeeper@gmail.com)

#### **Monica Trinidad**

Administrative Assistant  
Bulletin & Outreach  
(mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com)

### Mass Schedule

**Saturday** 5pm  
**Sunday** 7am, 9am & 11am

### Communion Service

Sunday 12:30PM

### Facebook Online Mass

Sunday: 10:00AM  
Tue-Fri: 6:00PM

### Parish Webpage

<https://saintjohnsatlanticbeach.org>

### Parish Email

StJohntheBaptistAB@gmail.com

### Confession

30 Minutes prior to each Mass or by appointment



#### **Facebook**

@ stJohn.atlanticbeach

#### **Instagram**

@StJohns\_atlanticbeach



THE CHILD GREW  
AND BECAME STRONG,  
FILLED WITH WISDOM;  
AND THE FAVOR OF GOD  
WAS UPON HIM.

LUKE 2:40



## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 27, 2020

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## *December 27, 2020 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*

### WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

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# THE HOLY FAMILY

OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 27, 2020

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** - Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins-Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.

**Psalms 105**- Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

**Second Reading** - Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.

**Gospel** - The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40].

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

**Friday:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



You are children of eternity. Your immortal crown awaits you, to reward your duty and love. You may indeed sow here in tears, but you may be sure there to reap in joy. —St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

## **Processions**

Why does the liturgy begin with a procession? It is not just a practical matter of getting the ministers of the liturgy from the sacristy to the sanctuary. The procession is a powerful sign of who we are as Christian people. We are not static, staying in one place. We are going somewhere. Our procession leads us to the altar, sign of Christ's presence in our midst. We move, we process, because we recognize our need for what Christ is preparing for us at that table. We go forward eagerly, because we are hungry for that heavenly food.

This procession is an orderly one: servers, deacon, priest presider. Each is set apart by distinctive vesture: albs for the altar servers, dalmatic for the deacon, chasuble for the priest. The procession is an image of the hierarchical structure of the Church. On a deeper level it is an image of unity in diversity. We are all on a journey to the heavenly city, but each of us is clothed with different gifts. We all receive the call to service, but not in the same way. Only by coming together in all our wonderful variety can we achieve the work of the kingdom

## **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

On this feast of the Holy Family, we want to offer all families blessings. "Family" may have a lot of different connotations these days. In the United States, the "father, mother, child" family is less common now, and large Catholic families are not as common as they once were. The concept of family is more fluid with many forms of blended families due to second marriages, multigenerational households, and other living arrangements. In a recent survey by the Pew research center, four in ten babies are born to single mothers. Other children are being raised by grandparents or foster parents. In today's Genesis story, Abraham was ready to concede to another form of family, making the child of one of his servants his heir. The reading from Hebrews reiterates the story of Genesis, and "your descendants will be more numerous than the stars." The Gospel relates the story of the presentation in the temple.

*My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples.*

- Luke 2:30-31



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## **POWER IN PRESCRIBED RITUALS**

Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the temple at eight days old, as was prescribed by Mosaic law. For many Catholic families, baptismal gowns were handed down through generations, and a baptism was a time of great celebration. Sadly, in our culture, baptisms continue to decline. There are many reasons for this: fewer practicing Catholics, more inter-faith marriages, more secular weddings, fewer weddings by clergy, and problems or misunderstandings that turn people away. Many have left the church altogether because of the way they were treated. For some the parish is not a welcoming place. For others baptism has become just a ritual they go through for the sake of the grandparents.

# MINISTERS SCHEDULE January 2 & 3

## Eucharistic Minister

**5PM**  
Marilyn Ormond\*  
Bill Pray  
Valerie Matta  
**9AM**  
Amy Crane \*  
Tom & Ann Crowder  
**11AM**  
Manny Silverio\*  
Dennis Stone  
Vicky Mondares



## Lectors

**5PM**  
**1** Bill Corley  
**2** Tita Agustin  
**7AM**  
**1** Carol Neville  
**2** Valencia Kidwell  
**9AM**  
**1** Patty Pendleton  
**2** Allyson Lingerfelt  
**11AM**  
**1** Art Corsano  
**2** Debbie Corsano



## Ministers of Hospitality

**5PM**  
Jan, Armand &  
John Riendeau  
Mary Ann Carroll  
**9AM**  
Miranda Sanchez  
Debbie Bunting  
Mike & Gwen Crowder  
**11AM**  
Dee Fox  
Aletta Santos  
Cristina Suyat  
Celina Austin



## Altar Server

**5PM**  
Brynn Von Seggern  
**9AM**  
James Lingerfelt  
Aidan Overland  
**11AM**  
Christie Cabrera  
Gian Suyat



## Altar Flowers:

If you would like to offer Altar Flowers for a special occasion or in memory of a loved one, please call the office. Cost is \$40.00

# MASS SCHEDULE SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<p><b>Sat Dec 26</b></p> <p>† <b>Lucanna Gomez</b> By Terry McMurtry</p>	<p><b>Sun Dec 27</b></p> <p><b>7am</b> † <b>Sandy Scarano</b> By Eby Stepka <b>9am</b> <b>Parishioners of St John</b> <b>11am</b> † <b>Catalina Alday, Alicia Cartagena &amp; Alma Ajeo</b> By Ajedo &amp; Cartagena Families <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</i></p>	<p><b>Tues Dec 29</b></p> <p>† <b>Gaudalupe Lizada</b> By Minda Mamansag</p> <p><i>Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket</i></p>	<p><b>Wed Dec 30</b></p> <p>† <b>Robert Knauss</b> By Barb Knauss</p> <p><i>Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</i></p>
<p><b>Thu Dec 31</b></p> <p><b>Luanne Malave</b> By Minda Mamansag</p> <p><i>Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve</i></p>	<p><b>Fri Jan 1</b></p> <p>† <b>Scott Gerdes, † David Benedict &amp; † Kurt Speckman</b> By Gerdes Family</p> <p><i>The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day;</i></p>	<p><b>Sat Jan 2</b></p> <p>† <b>Janet Dufraime</b> By Mary Ann Carroll</p>	<p><b>Sat Jan 3</b></p> <p><b>7am:</b> <b>Parishioners of St John</b> <b>9am</b> † <b>Maurice Dietrich</b> By Barb Knauss <b>11am</b> † <b>Sheerin Buchanan</b> By Claire Gaffney</p>



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## *In Memoriam*



## Notice Parishioners

Allegations have been raised against Father David Terrence Morgan, a retired priest of the Diocese of St. Augustine. The allegations have semblance of truth based on an initial review, but guilt has not been determined. This matter has been shared with the appropriate law enforcement authorities and is currently under canonical investigation.

If you or someone you know has been harmed by Father David Terrence Morgan or anyone representing the Catholic Church, call law enforcement or the Florida Department of Children and Families at 1-800-962-2873. You may also contact the Diocesan Victim Assistant Coordinator, Tina Nugent, by calling (904) 208-6979 or email [inquires@disafl.com](mailto:inquires@disafl.com)

## EXAMPLES IN OUR ELDER'S

When someone does present a child for baptism, it can become too easy for others to pass judgment because the parents don't know the rubrics well, or aren't dressed better, or "why is that single mother having her baby baptized during Mass?" Notice that the Gospel says nothing about the priests of the temple and how they received Jesus. Rather it talks about Simeon and Anna. They are worth a study in themselves. Simeon is a devout man who is there waiting for a particular sign, and it is fulfilled when he see the Christ Child. Anna is just in the temple praying, as is her custom. After the presentation of Jesus, she does what she does best—she goes back to praying in the temple. Perhaps these readings teach us how we as a faith community can see the sacredness in those families presenting their children for baptism, and welcome them as did Anna and Simeon. May we all learn from their wisdom!

# What's Going on at St John's



## Religious Education

### Wednesday Kinder-5th

Jan classes 13, 20, 27  
Feb classes 3, 10, 24

### Sunday 6th-Confirmation

Jan classes 10, 17, 24, 31  
Feb classes 7, 21, 28

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### **RCIA** **(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

**Tuesdays 6:30-8:30pm**

**Dec 29**

**Sacraments of Service**

FR Rafael

**Jan 5**

**The People of God**

Greg Streeter

**Jan 12**

**The Early Church**

Greg Streeter

**Jan 19**

**History of the Church**

Greg Streeter

**Jan 16**

**Christian Moral Living**

Greg Streeter

If you are a parishioner interested in attending a RCIA meeting to refresh your faith please call the office for more information. James Ezelle (904) 412-6548 Parish office (904) 246-6014.

### **St John's Young Church**

Membership is open to high school-aged youth, and new members are always welcome. The St. John's Young Church is dedicated to exploring their Christianity through service in their community. Contact **Paul Trinidad** (904) 923-8250 or call the parish office at (904) 246-6014.

### **TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE**

The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential and thorough manner. To report abuse call: Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (904) 262-3200 extension 129 or the Department of Children and Families at 1-800-96ABUSE.

### **THE LADIES' GUILD:**

Members meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. New members are always welcome!

Ladies president is Barb Knauss, please call Parish office for more info.

**Ladies Guild meetings**  
@6:30PM

**Save the Dates**  
**Feb 15th-Mar 25th**

Ladies Guild is sponsoring a 6 week retreat for women of our Parish, **33 Days to Morning Glory**

Small groups will meet for an hour each Monday at 10am or 7pm. Registration will be held in January

### **THE MEN'S CLUB:**

The Men's Club meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7PM in the Parish Hall. New members are always welcome!

Men's Club president is Jeff Marquardt, please call the Parish office for more info.

**Men's Club meetings**  
@ 7PM  
**Coming Soon**



Saturday  
January 2nd @6-8pm  
St John's Parish Hall

Donations raised will go to sheltering the homeless.

**St John's EAM** is collecting **UNEXPIRED** canned vegetables & fruit for our food Pantry. Please bring any items to the Parish, during office hours 9am-4pm Monday to Friday. Any Monetary Donations are greatly appreciated as well.

### **Knights of Columbus** #14866

KofC Meetings Tuesdays  
@7PM

**Fish Fry will be Jan 17th 2021**  
More info to come!

### **Mary, Queen of the Knights**

Our Lady Queen of the Knights, bless all the activities of our order keep us true to the pledge, to extend the Kingship of your Divine Son on earth; through your intercession win for us your grace eve to exemplify in our public and private lives, the virtues which should characterize those, specially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court. Make us always aware, that as



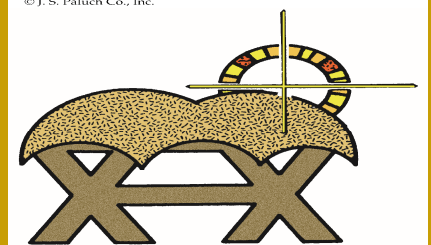
your Knights we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our order appreciated. Accept O Mary, this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion, of your servants the Knights of Columbus

### **THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

San Lorenzo Ruiz Council #14866 welcomes all Catholic men over 18 years of age to join our Brotherhood team. For further information about us, please call Grand Knight **Jimmy Hundley** at (904) 246-6014. Council Officers meet on the second Tuesday of each month. All members meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Both meetings are held at the Parish Hall Library at 7:00 PM.



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## PRAYER REQUEST

Donna Cappock,  
Karl Klein, Novalee Sanchez,  
Lily Rodriguez, Delores Fox,  
Albert Wagner, Loretta Wagner,  
John Weitort, Nanette Franzuela,  
Bob Pote, Amor Guzman,  
Glenn Young, Jim Driscoll,  
Ron Keese

If you want to add someone to the Prayer request for the sick please contact Monica @ [mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com](mailto:mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com) or call the Parish office. I update often so requested names will be posted for about 5-6 weeks. If you want prayer request added again you will need to contact me.  
Thank you Monica Trinidad

† Respect life †  
The Respect life Committee is looking for donations of **diapers**, sizes newborn-size 5 as well as **baby wipes**. We will be passing them out to families in need of baby items that come on Tuesdays for the food distributions, sponsored by the EAM. Please put any donations in the Respect for Life basket located in the Narthex.  
Thank you for your Support, The Respect for Life Committee

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES:**

Kindergarten through High School. If you want to sponsor a child or family donations always welcome.  
Religious Education Director: **Samantha Matthews** 246-6014

### **CHOIRS: There is no practice as of now due to Covid restrictions**

### **HALL RENTAL:**

The Parish Hall is available for rent to St. John's parishioners for their own use, such as wedding receptions, anniversaries or birthdays. It may not be rented by a parishioner for someone else. If strangers are found to be holding an event in the hall, they'll be asked to leave as they are not covered by our insurance, voiding the contract. Since the hall is used on Sunday mornings, our custodian must be hired to do the clean-up to the standard we require.

### **ST. JOHN'S EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE MINISTRY:**

Are dedicated to helping the poor of Atlantic Beach. New members are always needed and welcomed. Food is distributed on Tuesdays from 3-4PM and every 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month from 8-10AM . Call the Parish office for more information.

### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY:**

New members always welcome. You don't have to be a medical professional to join. Meetings correspond to the monthly Memory Café dates. (See announcement in bulletin.)

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Bulletin announcements must be received a week before the bulletin date, at 4:00 p.m. You may call **Monica** at 246-6014 with your announcement, or email to [mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com](mailto:mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com)

### **FIRST FRIDAY ROSARY—RESPECT LIFE:**

Join us each First Friday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass for the recitation of the Holy Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Please help us pray for the protection and safety of the unborn.

### **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:**

Contact **Dennis Stone** ([dennisstone@comcast.net](mailto:dennisstone@comcast.net)), certified by Our Lady of Divine Providence School of Spiritual Direction in Clearwater, Florida.