

# 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



A VOICE CAME  
FROM THE  
HEAVENS,  
"YOU ARE MY  
BELOVED SON;  
WITH YOU  
I AM  
WELL PLEASED."

Mark 1:11

**THE  
BAPTISM  
OF  
THE  
LORD**

*January*  
**10**  
**2021**



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## THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this "knits" the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he "knit" himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary's womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** - Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations - Isaiah 55:1-11.

**Psalm** - We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully; we shall draw water joyfully from the wellsprings of salvation

**Second Reading** - God anointed him with the Holy Spirit - 1 John 5:1-9.

**Gospel** - You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased - Mark 1:7-11.

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

**Sunday:** 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

*All you who are thirsty, come to the water!*

- Isaiah 55:1

### **BEING THE MESSENGER**

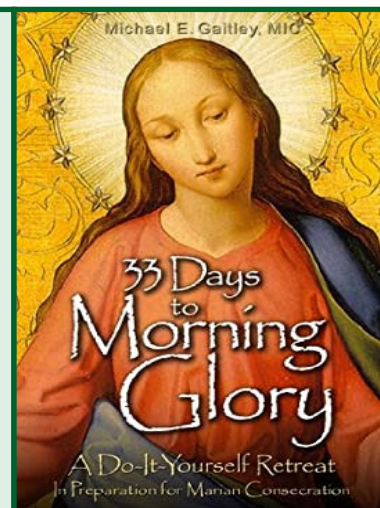
When we go to a pop music concert, there is often an opening act. Usually they are a young group on their way up, or older musicians who are past their prime and still hanging on in the business. This is indeed a hard job. In the comedy world it is the same thing. You have to warm up the crowd. You are not who they are coming to see, and audiences may be unresponsive, come in late, or not pay a lot of attention. Yet John had no problem being the opening act, the messenger, the harbinger of faith for Jesus. He was very devout in his faith and knew what his role was. Many Jews were actively seeking a messiah, and he was quick to let them know that he was not the one for whom they were waiting. "I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Yet he conducted his ministry with faith and hope.

### **Registration for Ladies Guild's 6 week retreat**

**Sign-ups begin this month!!**

Small groups will meet for an hour each Monday starting Feb. 15th-Mar25th at 10am or 7pm.

Please contact:  
**Barbara Knauss**  
@ (904) 223-1243  
or the Parish office.



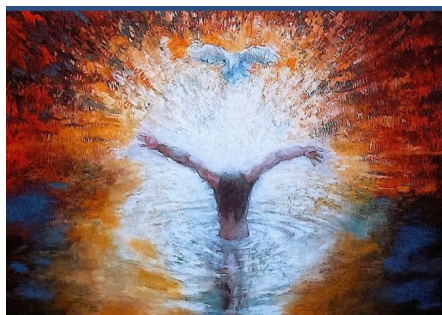
## *Dear Fellow Disciples,*

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In our Gospel for today, our Patron Saint John the Baptist said, "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." After a year of serving you as Pastor, every day, I'm always reminded of my unworthiness and limitations like St. John the Baptist. Your understanding and patience give me strength and inspiration to do more and serve you more.

This year, I'm so excited with our battle cry - *We are a Church of Disciples making Disciples.*

Kindly bear in mind important upcoming dates. April 17, 2021, is Ash Wednesday. We will schedule masses and ash services that will be available for everyone, especially those who are working. March 28, 2021, will be the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, and April 4, 2021, will be the Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection.

Father Rafael Lavilla,  
Pastor



### **ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Schedules for January through March are available at Ministry Scheduler Pro. If you do not have internet access, please sign the yellow sheet in the sacristy.

Thanks, Ellen

### **FEAST OF FAITH**

The Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say "in the names," but "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"—three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our Amen, is our yes to all this, our first profession of faith.

# MINISTERS SCHEDULE January 16 & 17

## Eucharistic Minister

**5PM**  
David Costa\*  
Karen Rossetti  
David Grimes  
**9AM**  
Linda Trinidad\*  
Dwayne & Tessie Schell  
**11AM**  
Nenita Romero\*  
Jane Hart  
Aida Masinsin

## Lectors

**5PM**  
**1** Stephen Pachuta  
**2** Tita Agustin  
**7AM**  
**1** Michelle Pastrana  
**2** Valencia Kidwell  
**9AM**  
**1** Ellen Wiley  
**2** Maura Wilburn  
**11AM**  
**1** Claire Rosopa  
**2** Edna Silang

## Ministers of Hospitality

**5PM**  
Jan, Armand &  
John Riendeau  
Mary Ann Carroll  
**9AM**  
Fred Hidalgo  
Corinne Hundley  
Mike & Gwen Crowder  
**11AM**  
Nelia Flores  
Ana Rios  
Aletta Santos  
Crisina Suyat

## Altar Server

**5PM**  
Brynn Von Seggern  
**9AM**  
Miranda Sanchez  
Jillian Mendoza  
**11AM**  
Joshua Manuel  
Gian Suyat

# MASS SCHEDULE SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<p><b>Sat Jan 9</b></p> <p>† <b>Steve Hardin</b> By Mary McCoid</p>	<p><b>Sun Jan 10</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>Sheeran Buchanan</b> By Claire Gaffney</p> <p>† <b>Janet Mathew</b> Jan. 10th 2020 By Rios Family</p>	<p><b>Tues Jan 12</b></p> <p>† <b>Pat Hiers</b> By Kathleen Patneau</p>	<p><b>Wed Jan 13</b></p> <p>† <b>Clyde Norton</b> By Meryl &amp; Fran Belto</p> 
<p><b>Thu Jan 14</b></p> <p>† <b>Lee Hope</b> By Vita Hope</p>	<p><b>Fri Jan 15</b></p> <p><b>In Thanksgiving for Lincoln &amp; Melanie Carimar</b> By Manny &amp; Sony Silverio</p>	<p><b>Sat Jan 16</b></p> <p>† <b>Patricia Igoe Hannan</b> By Diane StLaurent</p>	<p><b>Sun Jan 17</b></p> <p><b>7am:</b> <b>Parishioners of St John</b> <b>9am</b> † <b>Maurice Dietrich</b> By Barbara Knauss <b>11am</b> † <b>Sheerin Buchanan</b> By Claire Gaffney</p>



*Altar Flowers*

*In Thanksgiving*  
By  
*Manny & Sony*  
*Silverio*

**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. Donation is \$40.00



**Offering:** 19,929.99  
**Others:** 1,272.00  
**BF:** 585.50  
**EAM:** + 3,424.00  
**Total:** 25,210.49

*Matthew 25:35-40*



**Christmas Offerings**

**Offering:** 23,674.88  
**BF:** 8,065.00  
**Others:** 693.00  
**EAM:** + 2,613.00  
**Total:** 35,045.88

*He saw the Spirit descending upon him*



## BEING THE MESSAGE

As John humbly carried out his mission and Jesus accepted this simple baptism by John, the Holy Spirit indeed came down upon Jesus, and God proclaimed for the first time, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Thus Jesus began his formal ministry. There must have been much that he already knew, but also much that he uncovered each day in his encounters with the disciples and the crowds. As he responded "yes" to the Father over and over, his thirst was quenched and his spirit strengthened. How many times do we witness baptisms in the parish? The priest ministers with simple elements of water and oil, but the Spirit is called down each time. Every time we participate, we are experiencing the message, experiencing the call again. How many times have we blessed ourselves with holy water, or participated in a sprinkling rite? Yet in these days, when church fonts are empty due to safety precautions, we need to remember those other times, trust in God, and sing the prayer of Isaiah in our hearts about drawing the water joyfully. We must trust in the message. We must become the message of God's saving action through our baptism and our lives.

# 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**

**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.

**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.

### **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

**Ladies Fat Tuesday Pancake**

**Fundraiser will be Feb. 16th.**

**Details will be posted soon!!**

### **~ MARCH FOR LIFE ~**

JOIN US AS WE PRAYERFULLY WITNESS FOR THE UNBORN CHILDREN ...

Friday, JANUARY 22, 2021

12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM

U.S. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

300 NORTH HOGAN STREET

DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE

Across from Hemming Park

Abortion kills 5,800 babies annually in Jacksonville 3,000 daily in our nation and has killed Over 60 million infants since Jan 22, 1973.

#### **SIGNS ARE PROVIDED**

For more information please call 904-318-3517 or visit [www.jacksonvilleforlife.org](http://www.jacksonvilleforlife.org)

This is a legal and peaceful witness to the sanctity of life.

## **RESPECT LIFE**

*respect · love · protect*

Join us in restoring the culture of life, one heart at a time, by supporting the 2021 Respect Life Collection, Jan. 16 & 17. Proceeds directly benefit your parish Respect Life ministry, 32 Pregnancy Resource Centers, 4 Maternity Homes, 2 Post-Abortion Programs Rachel's Vineyard and Project Rachel, and 3 College Campus Ministry programs. To Donate, use the envelope in your church Narthex. Thank you for changing "crisis to caring". Your donation is vital to save precious lives.

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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

## **Knights of Columbus**

#14866

KofC Meetings Tuesdays @7PM

**Fish Fry will be Jan 17th 2021**  
**Don't forget to get your tickets!**

### **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.

### **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

**The Men's Spaghetti Dinner has been rescheduled.**  
**Details to come soon!**



Donna Cappock, Karl Klein, Novalee Sanchez, Lily Rodriguez, Delores Fox, Albert Wagner, Loretta Wagner, John Weitort, Nanette Franzuela, Bob Pote, Amor Guzman, Rina Hopkins, Glenn Young, Jim Driscoll, Ron Keese, Mario Amayo, Richard Oulette, Don Cozine

## The Baptism of the Lord

It may seem obvious that the theme for the Baptism of the Lord is "water," but when one spends time with the readings today, one can see many different connotations for that water and its power. Isaiah calls the poor who are thirsty and tired to come to the water and take the spiritual food and drink that will be provided if we but seek the Lord. Here, God is both destination and consolation. The responsorial psalm follows suit with the image of drawing water from the springs of salvation. 1 John takes us to the reality of Christ as eucharist: not only Jesus' birth and baptism, but his death, as we hear that Jesus came "by water and by blood." The Gospel depicts John baptizing Jesus with water, and the Spirit baptizing Jesus. We experience both the humanity and the divinity of Christ. Indeed, water has much power to save us.

### **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.