



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Rev. Rafael Lavilla,
Pastor

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Parish Office Staff

Samantha Matthews

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(SAMatthews.StJohn@outlook.com)

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(sjccbookkeeper@gmail.com)

Monica Trinidad

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Mass Schedule

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 7am, 9am & 11am

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 kingdom of God

is like a mustard seed that is the smallest of all the seeds. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants.

Mark 4:31-32

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



June 13, 2021

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The Big Picture

We hear about the Kingdom of God in many of Jesus' parables. In today's passage, he uses parables to describe how the kingdom will spread. What is interesting is that they are not so much about our actions as they are about how God builds his kingdom.

Let's start with the second parable: Jesus exaggerates a little, with the mustard seed being the smallest seed and the bush being the largest plant. Like the birds on the branches, Jesus implies that the growing kingdom will attract outsiders to be members. His point is that the kingdom may look small at first, but it will keep growing. We need not be discouraged when it seems the kingdom is not growing: We might be limiting it to people who think and act just like ourselves. We might see attendance at church in our parish declining. So Jesus is reminding us to think of the bigger picture.

In the first parable about the man who scattered seeds, Jesus says that those seeds produce a harvest, even though the farmer doesn't know how or why those seeds can grow. We too can be doing things that help the Kingdom to grow, without knowing how we are helping. But God is making the kingdom grow in his own way and in his own time. Like the farmer, we can help it grow by loving each other, teaching our children about Jesus, caring for the poor and the sick.

But we can also hinder the kingdom by being stingy with our love, or hurting people with our anger. So let us ask God to trust him as we do our part to help the kingdom to grow.

Readings for the Week

Mon: 2 Cor 6:1-10; Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4; Mt 5:38-42
Tues: 2 Cor 8:1-9; Ps 146:2, 5-9a; Mt 5:43-48
Wed: 2 Cor 9:6-11; Ps 112:1bc-4, 9;
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thur: 2 Cor 11:1-11; Ps 111:1b-4, 7-8; Mt 6:7-15
Fri: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30; Ps 34:2-7; Mt 6:19-23
Sat: 2 Cor 12:1-10; Ps 34:8-13; Mt 6:24-34
Sun: Jb 38:1, 8-11; Ps 107:23-26, 28-31;
2 Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41

Today's Readings

First Reading Ez17:22-24— I have lifted high the lowly tree.

Psalm 92— Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading 2 Cor 5:6-10— Whether we are at home or away, we aspire to please the Lord.

Gospel Mark 4:26-34— It is the smallest of all seeds, and becomes the largest of plants.

GOD'S TIME

We either pay attention to or ignore "clock time" as we play in the summer sun and note the earth's tilt and the lengthening days. We live by time. We reckon time in seconds and minutes and hours, or we use broader chunks like supertime and summertime.

God keeps another sort of time. God speaks to us of "saving time," that is, the time of salvation. This sense of time is called *kairos*, and this time is always now, always present and available, always revealing, often surprising.

This Sunday's readings alert us to the reality and the import of God's time. Ezekiel and the Gospel of Mark remind us that our labor and our plotting and our planning rest in God. For God takes our smallest efforts and makes of them great works. Paul points us to the "harvest" time, urges us to be watchful for its coming, and calls us to recognize that we must spend our time pleasing God.

"LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD . . ."

The Gospel of Mark is nothing if not a testament to the power of parables to illustrate the Good News through story. Jesus was a master storyteller, who understood the importance of using images and concepts to which his listeners could relate. A seed, a mustard plant, would symbolize one of Mark's signature focuses: the Kingdom of God.

Centuries earlier, the prophet Ezekiel proclaimed most poetically to the Israelites, recently liberated from Babylonian captivity, that their God was still their hope, their comfort, their rescue, and their shelter. Those refugees would understand the image of the towering cedar as a symbol of their kingdom, cut down, fallen, captured. By restoring their kingdom, their God was giving them a new creation (the replanted shoot) and a new covenant.

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THY KINGDOM COME . . .

Ezekiel said that God would tear off "a tender shoot" (17:22) for this replanting. What does this sound like? Why, Advent, of course, and specifically the words of the prophet Isaiah: "A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom" (Isaiah 11:1); and again in Isaiah's Messianic texts we hear: "He grew up before us like a tender shoot" (53:2). Jesse was the father of the great king David and, as we know, Jesus came to be that tender shoot, that blossom, the new Davidic King whose throne, the cross, was once a tree.

God's incarnation in Jesus, born fully human, is the fulfillment of the promise to Ezekiel of the renewed and restored cedar, the new Kingdom. That new creation and covenant exists for us in the Church, through the Holy Spirit making the seed planted within us grow, flourish, and spread. Thus we have the faith and courage to be that visible sign of the Kingdom bringing hope and renewal to the world. We must live Kingdom lives before we can convince others to do so

We walk
by faith
not by
sight
2 Corinthians

FEAST OF FAITH:

The Preparation of the Altar

The altar is the focal point of our churches. It is a sign of Christ in our midst; indeed, it has been said that "the altar is Christ" (Dedication of an Altar, 4). The altar is a table "on which the sacrifice of the cross is perpetuated in mystery throughout the ages until Christ comes"; but it is also the place for a festive meal: "a table at which the Church's children assemble to give thanks to God and receive the body and blood of Christ" (Dedication of an Altar, 4).

Both these functions of the altar are clear in the rites for the preparation of the altar that follow the general intercessions, which remind us of the preparations we make at home for a festive meal. The deacon or altar servers come forward and, bowing, place a cloth known as a corporal (from the Latin for "body") over the altar cloth. They place the chalice, the cup to be used in the celebration of the Eucharist, and the Sacramentary or Roman Missal, which contains the prayers of the Mass, on the altar. These reverent preparations help us to focus on what is about to happen: the sharing of a holy meal, a solemn sacrifice.

MINISTERS SCHEDULE

June 12th & 13th

EUCCHARISTIC:

5pm

Dorothy Schechterle*
Karen Rossetti
David Grimes

9am

Tessie Schell*
Dwayne Schell
Amy Crane

11am

Eileen Erikson*
Jane Hart
Nenita Romero

LECTORS

5pm

1 Mike McPherson
2 Tita Agustín

7am

1 Valencia Kidwell
2 Carol Neville

9am

1 Tom Crowder
2 Ann Crowder

11am

1 Isabel Masinsin
2 Jon Masinsin

HOSPITALITY

5pm

Mary Ann Carroll
John Riendeau
Armand Riendeau
Jan Riendeau

7am

Corinne Hundley
Fred Hidalgo

9am

Dan Mechenbier
Marilyn Heberling
Mike Crowder
Gwen Crowder

11am

Yolanda Ebuén
Dina Walker
Luz Reyes
Nora Suyat

ALTAR SERVER

5pm

Brynn VonSeggern

7am

Kayla Nellum

9am

James Lingerfelt
Caleb Pastrana

11am

Joshua Manuel
Gian Suyat

Ministries



MASS SCHEDULE, SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<p>Sat June 12 Parishioners of St John</p>	<p>Sun June 13 7am: † Dora Hidalgo By Hidalgo Family 9am † Florance Williams By LaPointe Family 11am † Thomas Gaffney By Claire Gaffney</p>	<p>Tues June 15 † Evelyn Weeks By Gordon Family</p>	<p>Wed June 16 † Dora Hidalgo By Tom & Ann Crowder</p>
<p>Thu June 17 † Ernesto Powell By Patricia Hinds</p>	<p>Fri June 18 † Francois & Sofia Vasey By Tom & Ann Crowder <i>Altar Flowers are in Memory of † Kathleen "Kay" M. Johnson By Pat Collier</i></p>	<p>Sat June 19 † Jack Mahoney By Barbara & Frank Binghi <i>St. Romuald; Blessed Virgin Mary</i></p>	<p>Sun June 20 7am: Parishioners of St John 9am † Richard "Dick" Oullette By Jim & Corinne Hundley 11am † Fortunata N. Antonio By Ezelle Family</p>

*Joe & Mai Ramirez
will be
Celebrating their
51st Wedding Anniversary,
Sun. June 13th*

♡~♡~♡~♡~♡~♡~♡~♡~♡~♡

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

† June 13 Rina Hopkins
† June 15 Artemo Mallari



FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

† Sixto Díaz, JR
† Leonor Bedía
† Orlando Manuzon, SR
† Robert Niemczyk

*Please keep their loved ones in
your prayers as they mourn the
loss of their loved ones.*



Offering: 16,212.70
BF: 660.00
EAM: + 1,429.00
Total: **18,301.70**

*Matthew
25:35-40*

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's scriptures connect the towering cedars of Lebanon from the prophet Ezekiel to the mustard plant of the famous parable of Jesus. Both plants represent the Kingdom of God. Both are also to be understood as symbols of the Church, where "birds of every kind shall dwell" (Ezekiel 17:23) and shelter in the cedar's branches, and the shade of the mustard plant's large branches provide dwelling for the "birds of the sky." Even today's psalm tells of the just one who is like a cedar flourishing in the house of the Lord. Now, the Church is not the Kingdom, but rather a sacrament, a visible sign of it. They co-exist in the here-and-now but also in the "not yet." As Paul reminds us, we must constantly work to continue building and growing the Kingdom by everyday good works of "the just one." So we are all birds and just ones.

COVID-19 Safety Note.

Given Bishop Estévez's recent decision to lift the mask requirement for fully vaccinated persons attending Mass begs the question concerning persons who are unvaccinated. Persons who have hesitated in obtaining the vaccination are strongly encouraged to do so. Until such time, unvaccinated persons older than age two should wear a mask.

DO NOT put masks on children younger than 2 years old.

Additional CDC guidance may be obtained at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

What's Going on at St John's



Religious Education

Registration for 2021-2022 Religious Education is now open! Forms are available in the office or St John's website.

Vacation Bible School will be held July 19-23. To register call the office so we can email you the registration form.

Samantha Matthews:
(904) 246-6014
SaMatthews.stjohn@outlook.com

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.

For more info Contact
Paul Trinidad
@ (904) 923-8250
or call the parish office
@ (904) 246-6014.

THE LADIES' GUILD:

Members meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall. New members are always welcome! Ladies president is Barb Knauss, please call Parish office for more info.

Ladies meetings
@ 6:30PM July 6th

Craft Fair Sep. 25th
Registration open June 1-15th for St John Parishioners only.

Save the date:
June 27th Ice Cream Social

The mission of the St. John's Ladies Guild is to render spiritual and social services within our parish and community and to lovingly nurture a spiritual and social life among our members.

THE MEN'S CLUB:

The Men's Club meets every 3rd Thursday of the month in the Parish Hall. New members are always welcome! Men's Club president is Jeff Marquardt.

Men's Club meetings
@ 7PM June 17th

WEEKLY ROSARY:

The Knights of Columbus Rosary Program encourages to promote devotion to Mary the patroness of our Order, and emphasizes the importance of prayer in our parishes, community and families.

We would like to invite you by joining us in solidarity at St. John's Marian Chapel every Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm praying the Rosary and Divine Mercy.

If we need to spread out more, we will move to the main Sanctuary.

Let us show our love for Christ through love of Mary and grow closer to Our Lady, Our Spiritual Mother.

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 Mon-Fri. Any Monetary Donations are greatly appreciated as well.

St John's EAM:

Are dedicated to helping the poor of Atlantic Beach & surrounding area. New members are always needed and welcomed, call office for more info.

Food distributions:

Every Tue. 3-4pm (setup starts about 2pm in Parish Hall)

1st Sat. of the month 8-10am

3rd Sat. of the month 6-about 9am

This is our big, outside drive-thru distribution. Please call the parish office to sign up to volunteer.

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.

Knights of Columbus

#14866

KofC Meetings Tuesdays
@ 7PM
June 22nd



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 even 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.

RESPECT LIFE NEWS

"We are aware that the Adopt-a-Day Program maybe challenging but considering that taxpayer (us) funded abortions are now law, we must step up our efforts and offer our sacrifices in prayer and petition for forgiveness and for an end to abortion."

... Office of Human Life and Dignity

Included in the mission of the Diocesan Office of Human Life and Dignity is its Adopt-a-Day Program (ADD). The purpose of this life advocacy ministry is to witness Christ's love, hope and peace through a prayerful presence at the various abortion facilities in Jacksonville. St. John's has responded through our commitment to stand vigil in prayer every Thursday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at the abortion facility, A Woman's Choice of Jacksonville.

The Office of Human Life and Dignity is offering an Adopt-a-Day Training: **Saturday, June 19 @10:00 - 1:00**
Prince of Peace Catholic Church
YOU ARE INVITED!

Topics covered will include the value and need for praying at abortion facilities, healing after abortion, and how to be a sidewalk advocate for Life.

Please text, call, or email Debbie or Mark Bunting @ (904) 294-4041 or praises-the-lord@comcast.net



PRAYER REQUEST

Donna Cappock
 Novalee Sanchez
 Lily Rodriguez
 Delores Fox
 Albert Wagner
 Loretta Wagner
 John Weitort
 Nanette Franzuela
 Bob Pote
 Eleanor Guzman
 Glenn Young
 Jim Driscoll

Ron Keese
 Mario Amayo
 Don Cozine
 Ernesto Budang
 Aurea Silang
 Bernadette Maron
 Denise Jones
 Daniel Lerin
 Christie Lerin
 Sandy Barata
 Sarah Faith Collins
 Jane Mezsa
 Bell Masinsin
 Jim Burton
 Linda Lizotte
 Cory Cox

The Knights of Columbus are conducting a Consecration to the Holy Family the week of June 14-20.

The Formal Consecration will occur at all Masses Sunday, June 20th. The Knights of Columbus will distribute Consecration to the Holy Family prayer cards the week before the Masses.

There are four suggested steps before the Consecration to the Holy Family, which are posted on the church bulletin board in the narthex.

All are invited to pray the Rosary and the Consecration to the Holy Family prayer June 16 at 7 pm in the Main Chapel.

For further information contact:
 Jim Hundley @ 904-247-8901

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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bulletin announcements must be received a week prior to the bulletin date. You may call **Monica** at 246-6014 with your announcement, or email to mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Interested in exploring ways to get closer to the Lord through prayer, scripture and contemplation? Contact Dennis Stone (dennisistone@comcast.net) or Kathleen Patneau (kpatneau@comcast.net) both are certified by Our Lady of Divine Providence School of Spiritual Direction in Clearwater, Florida. During the pandemic, sessions are conducted in person or virtually.

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

Hallow

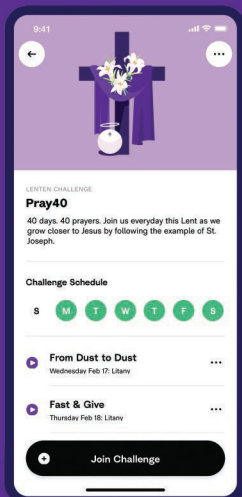
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