

# 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

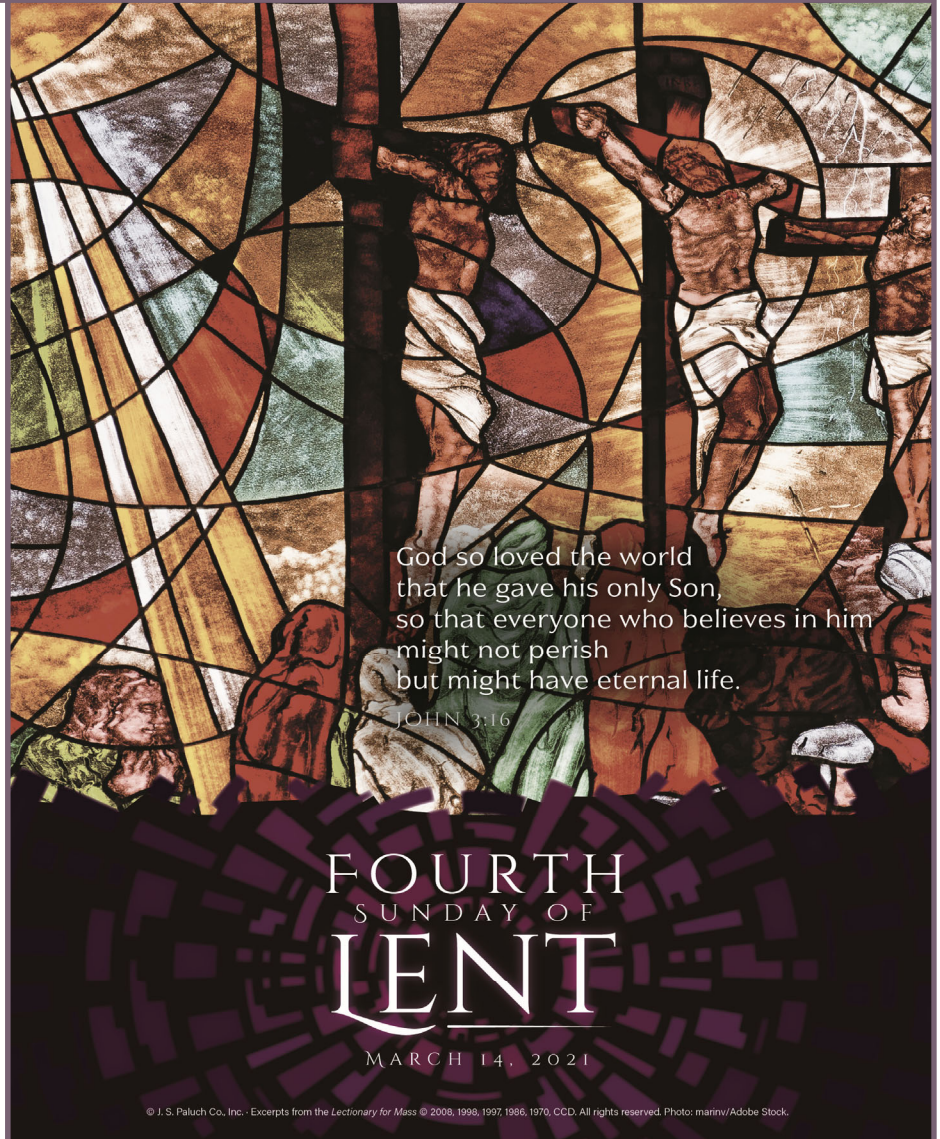
## Confession

30 Minutes prior to each Mass or by appointment.



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God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him  
might not perish  
but might have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

FOURTH  
SUNDAY OF  
LENT

MARCH 14, 2021

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## Saying, Doing or Being?

*St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians that we are saved through grace: God's actions of sending his Son to die for us, and raising Jesus from the dead show the love God has for us. It comes entirely from God. When Paul says that no one can boast about being saved, he means that we can't add up our good deeds like reward points for heaven. He also means that we can't brag about our faith because we can recite the creed or answer an altar call. So if being saved is not a matter of saying the right things, or doing good deeds, what is it?*

*The answer comes from the gospel. Jesus tells us that he will be lifted up, or crucified, so that we can believe in him and have eternal life. When we "believe in" someone, we put our love and trust in that person. We know that we are loved and so respond by giving love. Our response of love inspires us to stop being selfish and start noticing that others need our help. Jesus describes it as living in the light: we are not ashamed to help someone, forgive someone, or comfort someone.*

*That brings us back to the question about salvation: it is not something we do or say. It is what God does for us. Our response of faith is also his gift. So when we recognize all that God has done for us and believe in his Son Jesus, the Spirit will guide us to live that faith and share it with others.*

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of the chosen people. or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

**Psalms 23**— The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Second Reading** Eph 2:4-10; By grace you have been saved

**Gospel** Jn 3:14-21; The Son was sent by God so that the world might be saved through him

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Saturday:** Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

**Sunday:** Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

**Alternate readings (Year A):**

Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

## FEAST OF FAITH

## Lent, a Season of the Word

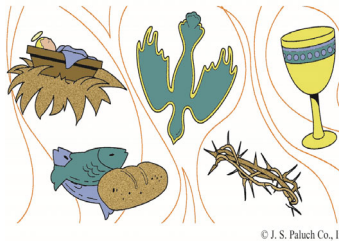
Each year on the First Sunday of Lent we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus. In Luke's account, the devil cites the scriptures repeatedly, urging Jesus to interpret them in a false, self-serving way—if God sends angels to protect those whom God loves (as it says in Psalm 91), then prove it! But Jesus resists this insidious temptation by turning to scripture passages that tell of right relationship with God—living by God's word, trusting in God, and worshiping God alone.

Jesus himself listened to the inspired word of God and let it shape and form him. Through the liturgy, we do the same. The readings we hear at Mass can teach us, but that is not their primary function. Rather, the scriptures are meant to reveal the Lord to us, to let us experience his presence, and to form us in our Christian identity. Christ's presence is realized by his spoken word, "since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 7). In the readings proclaimed at Mass, we hear the voice of Christ himself.

## From the Office of Bishop Estevez

**Take Action Now** – Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. The Equality Act, in many ways, does the opposite and needs to be opposed. Tell your elected officials in the Senate to oppose it.

More information and resources related to the USCCB's stance on the Equality Act may be found at <https://www.usccb.org/equality-act>. Check website for more info.



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## Save the Date

It's time to mark your calendar for the **Florida Eucharistic Congress** on June 4-5.

This year the Eucharistic Congress will kick-off at Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Gainesville on Friday, June 4, beginning at 5 p.m.

On Saturday, June 5, participants will move to St. Joseph Catholic Church in Jacksonville, where the day begins at 8 a.m. with a Eucharistic Procession.

For details, visit [FloridaEucharist.org](http://FloridaEucharist.org).

## HUMAN HISTORY . . .

Today's reading from 2 Chronicles is the conclusion of these two volumes, a brief summary of Judah's infidelity under a sequence of kings and the subsequent seventy years of exile in Babylon. This abbreviated sequence recaps the events treated in earlier chapters, concluding with Jerusalem being conquered and its inhabitants deported to Babylon.

After the Babylonians were conquered by Cyrus and the Persians, Cyrus built the great Persian Empire that covered almost the entire ancient Near East. Unlike the earlier Assyrians and Babylonians, Cyrus did not rule by deporting and enslaving peoples he defeated. Instead, he organized his empire into regional governments and funded their construction projects, ruling over all with the title King of Kings (among others). In this spirit, Cyrus urged the exiles to return to Jerusalem to rebuild their temple and their native culture. In Jewish terms, Cyrus was a "messiah" (Hebrew), or a christos (Greek), someone anointed by God to carry out this divine mission.



By  
Grace  
of You Have  
Been  
Saved  
THROUGH  
Faith

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## GOD'S MERCY

Today's reading from the second book of Chronicles contains a sort of "mini-history" of Israel. It highlights God's mercies in choosing Cyrus the Persian to be an instrument of deliverance when the people were in captivity in Babylon. Despite their sinfulness and the deserved punishment they were undergoing, God's mercy was lavished on the people in the form of a miraculous act of liberation.

The Letter to the Ephesians, in much more theological terms, gives a similar account of a God "who brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved." The author stresses that it was when we were "dead in our transgressions" that God saved us, an act of pure grace. He emphasizes that it is not our own efforts that freed us from sin ("this is not from you"); rather, "it is the gift of God." This, of course, is the heart of the entire Pauline corpus, that salvation comes to us by faith in God's mercy, revealed in the death of Jesus.



## MINISTERS SCHEDULE March 20 & 21

### EUCCHARISTIC

**5PM**  
Larry McKay\*  
Bill Pray  
Karen Rossetti  
**9AM**  
Tessie Schell\*  
Kelly Ayler  
Valerie Matta  
**11AM**  
Grace Dancel\*  
Alicia Cartagena  
Eileen Erikson

### LECTORS

**5PM**  
1 David Costa  
2 Mike McPherson  
**7AM**  
1 Denny Foster  
2 Marilyn Ormond  
**9AM**  
1 Gwen Crowder  
2 Mike Crowder  
**11AM**  
1 Art Corsano  
2 Debbie Corsano

### HOSPITALITY

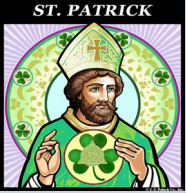
**5PM**  
Fred Hidalgo  
John Riendeau  
Reggie & Cindy Dubay  
**7AM**  
Jim & Corinne Hundley  
**9AM**  
Mike & Barbara Schuman  
Jim & Bonnie Feazel  
**11AM**  
Ramon & Suzie Reyes  
Aletta Santos  
Cristina Suyat

### ALTAR SERVER

**5PM**  
Brynn Von Seggern  
**7am**  
Kayla Nellum  
**9AM**  
Ryan Feazel  
Jillian Mendoza  
**11AM**  
Abigayl Santos  
Gabe Santos

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

## MASS SCHEDULE SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<p><b>Sat Mar 13</b> † <b>Marry Morrow</b> By Rick &amp; Denny Foster</p>	<p><b>Sun Mar 14</b> <b>7am:</b> † <b>Oscar Sabater</b> By Anna Kuhlman <b>9am</b> <b>Parishioners Of St John</b> <b>11am</b> † <b>Patricia Doyle</b> By Claire Gaffney <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i></p>	<p><b>Tues Mar 16</b> † <b>Edyce Young</b> By Young Family</p>	<p><b>Wed Mar 17</b> † <b>Tom Geiman</b> By Anna Kuhlman</p> 
<p><b>Thu Mar 18</b> † <b>Dora Hidalgo</b> By Madeline &amp; Arthur Osiecki</p>	<p><b>Fri Mar 19</b> † <b>Joseph O'Conor</b> By Ann O'Conor</p>  <p><i>Day of Abstinence</i></p>	<p><b>Sat Mar 20</b> † <b>Helen C. Ward</b> By Martin &amp; Betty Trask</p>	<p><b>Sun Mar 21</b> <b>7am:</b> <b>Parishioners of St John</b> <b>9am</b> † <b>Robert Kues, Jr</b> By Jim my &amp; Corinne Hundley <b>11am</b> † <b>Francis</b> By</p>

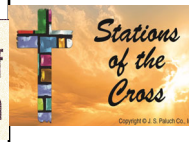
Please keep  
The Adams family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved one  
† *Lucille Adams.*  
May her soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Friday March 19th

6pm  
Confession



7pm




7:30pm Rice Bowl Supper




**Offering:** 13,390.40  
**BF:** 348.00  
**Others:** 577.40  
**EAM:** + 1,911.00  
**Total:** **16,226.80**

*Matthew 25:35-40*

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**PRAYER REQUEST**

<p>Donna Cappock Novalee Sanchez Lily Rodriguez Delores Fox Albert Wagner Loretta Wagner John Weitort Nanette Franzuela Bob Pote</p>	<p>Amor Guzman Rina Hopkins Glenn Young Jim Driscoll Ron Keese Mario Amayo Don Cozine Ernesto Budang Aurea Silang</p>	<p>Bernadette Maron Denise Jones Daniel Lerin Christie Lerin Sandy Barata</p>
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**Easter Lilies**

If you would like to offer Easter Lilies for a loved one, please call the parish office to give us the names of your loved one/s.  
\$10 Donation.

# What's Going on at St John's



## Religious Education

**Wednesday Kinder-5th**  
6:15-7:30pm  
March 17 & 24  
April 14, 21 **Mass** 28th

**Sunday 6th-Confirmation**  
6:15-7:30pm  
March classes 14 & 21  
April 11 & 18 **Mass** 25th

**Sunday Sacramental prep**  
10-11am  
March 14 & 21  
**Retreat April 10** 10am-2pm  
w/parents

We offer classes for Kinder- High School. If you would like to sponsor a child or family donations are always welcome.  
Religious Education Director:  
**Samantha Matthews** 246-6014

## 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 meetings Tuesdays**  
@6:30PM  
April 6th

## THE MEN'S CLUB:

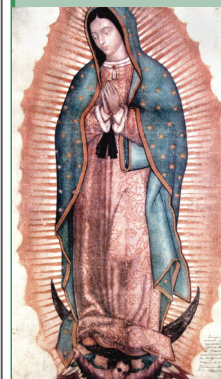
The Men's Club meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7PM in the Parish Hall. New members are always welcome!

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

**Men's Club meetings**  
@ 7PM  
March 18th  
April 15th

## Knights of Columbus #14866

**KofC Meetings Tuesdays**  
@7PM  
March 23rd  
April 13th & 27th



## 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.

## 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.

## WEEKLY ROSARY:

A weekly rosary is held each Wednesday night at 6:00pm in the Marian Chapel (If we need to spread out more we move to the main Sanctuary).

This is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

## CHOIRS:

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

There will be no Penance Service this year. For confession please call the Parish office to make an appointment or Confession is 30 mins. prior to each Mass as well as 1 hour prior to each Stations of the Cross

## RCIA

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

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

**March 14**

**Second Scrutiny**

@ St John's arrive by 8:45am

**March 16**

**The Mass/Bishop Barron Pt 3**

Greg Streeter

**March 21**

**Third Scrutiny**

Arrive by 10:45am @ St John's

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.

## RESPECT LIFE

respect · love · protect

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

## 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.

## 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.

**Fasting & Abstinence During Lent**  
**The Church's laws for fasting and abstinence during Lent:**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting.

Catholics between the ages between 18-59 are permitted one full meal and two lesser meals (which together should not equal one full meal) per day, with no eating between meals.

Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. Catholics who are 14 years or older should abstain from meat entirely. Soups and gravies made from meat are permitted.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
 The end of 2 Chronicles claims that "all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people" were continuously unfaithful to their covenant with God. This infidelity ultimately led to seventy years of exile in Babylon, after which Cyrus, the Persian ruler who conquered Babylon, allows the people of Israel to return home and rebuild their temple; the Psalmist reflects on the bitterness of those seventy years. Paul is lyrical in praising God "who is rich in mercy" and who "brought us to life" with Christ, while the evangelist recounts preaching by Jesus on this same theme. This is the section of John that includes the oft-memorized John 3:16: "For God so loved the world . . ." All three readings emphasize God's desire to rescue—or redeem—humanity from pain and suffering.

Visit the diocesan web calendar at [www.dosafl.com/calendar](http://www.dosafl.com/calendar) for a listing of Parish Lenten Missions.

*Continued - What's Going on at St John's*

**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.

**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 prior to the bulletin date. You may call **Monica** at 246-6014 with your announcement, or email to [mtrinidad.stjohn@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:dennisistone@comcast.net)) or Kathleen Patneau ([kpatneau@comcast.net](mailto: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.

**Hallow**

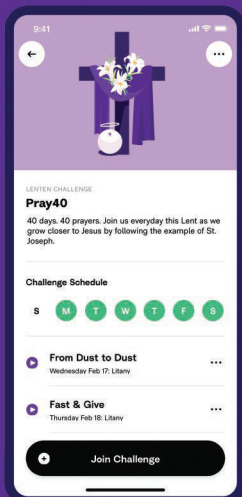
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