

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

2400 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233
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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

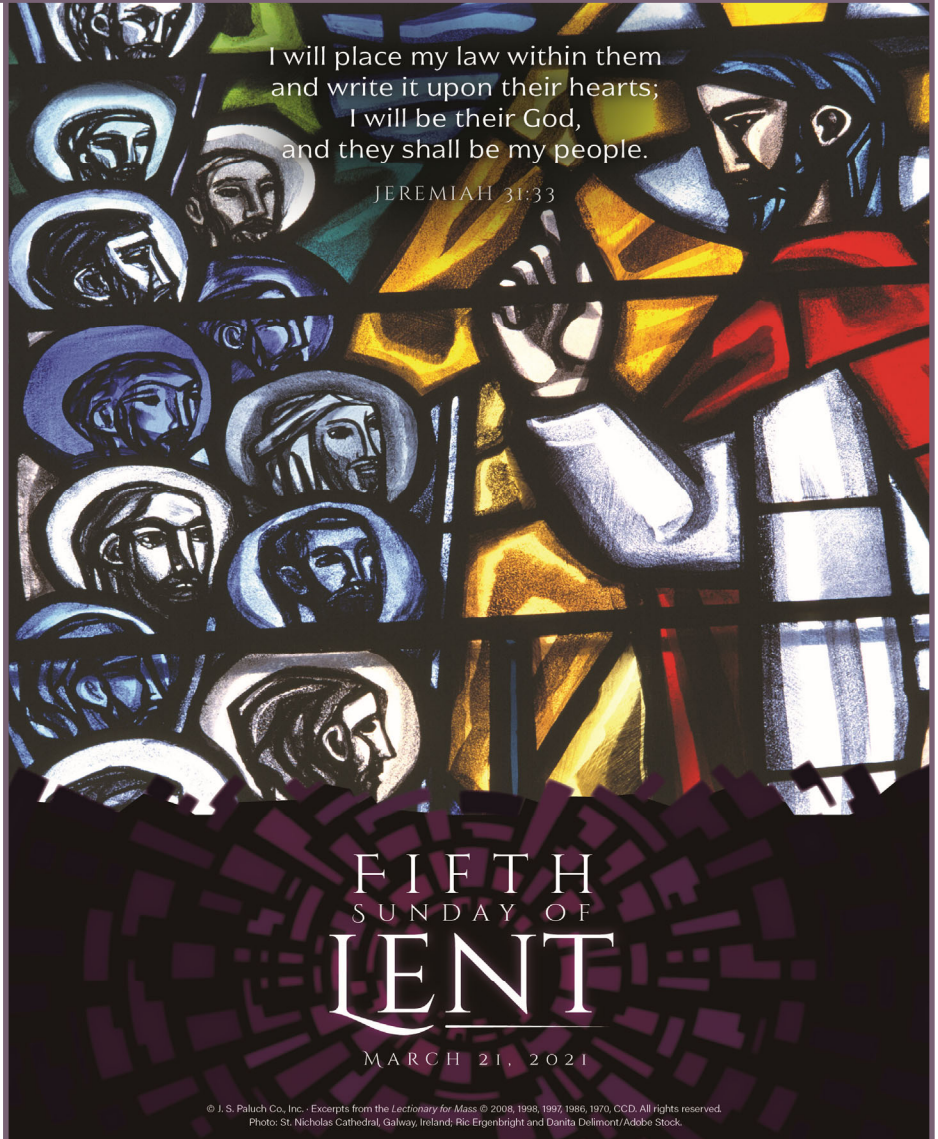
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Instagram



I will place my law within them
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:33

FIFTH
SUNDAY OF
LENT

MARCH 21, 2021

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Photo: St. Nicholas Cathedral, Galway, Ireland; Ric Ergenbright and Danita Dellmont/Adobe Stock.

Father, Forgive Them

The promise made by the LORD in the first reading is very bold. He says that all people shall know him, without having to be taught by others. He doesn't restrict the promise to only the holiest people: He says that the way people will know Him is through forgiveness of their sins. Remember, he is speaking to the Israelites, who had so many laws and commandments, they needed scribes and Pharisees to keep track of them. When they broke a commandment or law, they were isolated from the community. So the promise that God would place his law in their hearts meant they would be free to do God's will because they want to, not because they were feared punishment or rejection.

Jesus says something similar in today's gospel. He tells the disciples that his crucifixion would draw everyone to him. Now, Jesus' death showed that he took on the punishment for sins in place of us, who deserve it. In Luke's gospel he even prays for those who crucified him, asking God's forgiveness. (Lk 23:34) By dying on the cross, Jesus shows how much God loves us. By rising from the dead, he shows that we can rise from sin to a new life of faith and love.

Getting back to the first reading, we experience that promise when we bring our sins to God. When we forgive people who have hurt us, we also help them to experience that love. After all, if I can forgive someone, surely God will forgive them. We also help others to know God when we share or experience of being forgiven. Still not sure if God has forgiven you? The sacrament of Reconciliation gives us the assurance of God's forgiveness, as well as the experience. Along with the other sacraments, it helps us keep God's love in our hearts.

Today's Readings

First Reading Jer 31:31-34~ I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts

Psalms 51~ Create a clean heart in me, O God

Second Reading Heb 5:7-9~ Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Jn 12:20-33~ If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit or John 11:1-45

Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession);

Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;

Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

FEAST OF FAITH

The First Reading

Each Sunday, we listen to three scripture readings. The first reading usually comes from the Old Testament. "The New Testament lies hidden in the Old; the Old Testament comes fully to light in the New," we read in the Introduction to the Lectionary. "Christ himself is the center and fullness of the whole of Scripture" (5). On Sundays, these readings usually have a close connection to the Gospel. In this season of Lent, for example, the Exodus account of the thirst of the Israelites in the desert is paired with the Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus at the well. Ezekiel's vision of the Lord raising people from their graves is paired with the narrative of Christ raising Lazarus from the dead.

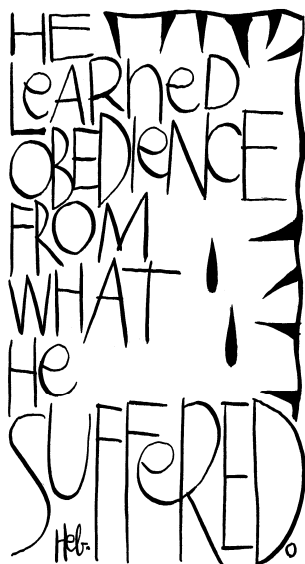
The readings are taken from many sources—historical books like Judges, Kings, and the Acts of the Apostles, prophets like Isaiah and Ezekiel, wisdom literature like Proverbs or Ecclesiastes. But no matter its genre, the first reading always ends with the same acclamation: "The word of the Lord." The scriptures are written by human authors who wrote in widely different cultural and historical contexts, but these human authors are also divine instruments through whom God speaks to us. And so we say, "Thanks be to God."

Please keep

The Edmonds family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved one

† *Peter Edmonds*

May his soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



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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.

THE NEW COVENANT

Today's first reading is an enormously important passage, not only in the history of the Jewish people, but also for us as disciples of Jesus, who see in it a foreshadowing of the Christian dispensation. The prophet announces that God has chosen to forgive the people, and that as a sign of divine forgiveness a new covenant will be established.

Contrasting the new covenant with the one made with Moses on Mount Sinai, Jeremiah says that the new covenant will be written on the people's hearts rather than on tablets of stone. No longer will the community's tradition be the sole bearer of the covenant; henceforth, God will speak directly and personally to each individual, forgiving sin and calling for a return to God in faithfulness. No longer will mere outward compliance with the dictates of the Law suffice; henceforth, God asks for an obedience that springs from the depths of one's heart.

Precisely that kind of obedience is highlighted in today's second reading, where the author of the Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant whose obedience has made him the source of salvation for all who, in turn, obey him.

LOOKING FOR JESUS, FINDING THE CROSS

In the Gospel reading, friends of Philip come to him and ask about meeting Jesus. When Philip and Andrew take the request to Jesus, he begins a cryptic discourse on discipleship, transformation, and divine judgment. We never hear whether Philip's friends got to personally meet Jesus. Perhaps they simply blended in with the crowd.

Jesus says, "[W]hen I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." The narrator says that Jesus' words indicate how he will die; the readers already know Jesus will be crucified. Jesus also speaks of divine judgment driving out the world's rulers and of the need to be transformed, like a seed growing into a productive plant. He warns about loving our life and losing it. Unlike Jeremiah's detailed vision, Jesus only hints at what kind of transformed life his death will bring.

What if we, like Philip's friends, want to get close to Jesus? Does that mean that the discourse on death and judgment is addressed to us? If Jesus will draw everyone to himself as he is "lifted up," does being closer to him mean joining him on his cross? (Do we want to be that close to Jesus?) Do we want to be transformed? If we say "yes," the liturgy these next two weeks can show us the only way the Church knows to get closer to Jesus: to be willing to be "lifted up" with him in his suffering—and in our own.



**MINISTERS
SCHEDULE
March 27 & 28**

EUCCHARISTIC

5PM
James Johnson*
Kathy Oehler
9AM
11AM
Aida Masinsin
Erlinda Loubier

LECTORS

5PM
1 Mike McPherson
2 Stephen Pachuta
Narrator- David Costa
Speaker- Tita Agustin
7AM
1 Jeanne Dias
2 Michelle Pastrana
Narrator- Tony Searl
Speaker- Valencia Kidwell
9AM
1 Ellen Wiley
2 Patty Pendleton
Narrator- Tom Crowder
Speaker- Ann Crowder
11AM
1 Claire Rosapa
2 Elle Harder
Narrator- Dan Emnas
Speaker- Jane Hart



HOSPITALITY

5PM
Mary Ann Carroll
Maryann Speckman
Armand & Jan Riendeau
7AM
Jim & Corinne Hundley
9AM
Francois & Josiane Beuse
Corinne Hundley
Fred Hidalgo
11AM
Yolanda Ebuena
Dina Walker
Celina Austin
Nora Suyat

ALTAR SERVER

5PM
Brynn Von Seggern
7am
Kayla Nellum
Caleb Pastrana
9AM
Aiden Overland
Miranda Sanchez
11AM
Joshua Manuel
Talia Samoeun

MASS SCHEDULE SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES


<p>Sat Mar 20 † Helen C. Ward By Martin & Betty Trask</p>	<p>Sun Mar 21 7am: Parishioners of St John 9am † Robert Kues, Jr By Jim my & Corinne Hundley 11am † Francis Ingram By Rios/Ingram Family</p>	<p>Tues Mar 23 † Ann Joyner By Marilyn Ormond</p>	<p>Wed Mar 24 † Lucille Costantino By Marilyn Ormond</p>
<p>Thu Mar 25 Noalee Sanchez Happy 1st Birthday! By Mark & Debbie Bunting</p> 	<p>Fri Mar 26 † Philip Lowe By Bill & Jeanne Dias</p>  <p>Day of Abstinence</p>	<p>Sat Mar 27 † Barry Morrow By Brian & Deb Brozak</p>	<p>Sun Mar 28 7am: Parishioners of St John 9am † Eileen Clark By 9am Choir 11am † Alberto R. Antonio By Ezelle Family Don't Forget to wear red for Palm Sunday!!</p>

HOLY THURSDAY 7PM

LECTORS: 1- Dan Mechenbier, 2- Claire Rosapa
HOSPITALITY: Celina Austin, Corinne Hundley, Jim & Bonnie Feazel

FOOD FRIDAY 3PM VENERATION OF THE CROSS


LECTORS: 1-Tony Searl, 2-Grace Dancel, **Narrator-**Bill Corley, **Speaker-** Allyson Lingerfelt
HOSPITALITY: Jim & Bonnie Feazel, Reggie & Cindy Dubay



Offering: 13,100.15
BF: 194.00
EAM: + 994.00
Total: **14,288.15**


Matthew 25:35-40

Text to Give



Text to Give
All you have to do is text the word "Give" to (904) 441-8646. You will then be sent a link by text where you can sign in to your online giving account and donate or give a one time gift. You can pick where you want your donation to go regular offertory, building fund, EAM or any other offering on the list.

PRAYER REQUEST



<p>Donna Cappock Novalee Sanchez Lily Rodriguez Delores Fox Albert Wagner Loretta Wagner John Weitort</p>	<p>Nanette Franzuela Bob Pote Amor Guzman Rina Hopkins Glenn Young Jim Driscoll Ron Keese</p>	<p>Mario Amayo Don Cozine Ernesto Budang Aurea Silang 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 ones. \$10 Donation.

What's Going on at St John's



Religious Education

Wednesday Kinder-5th 6:15-7:30pm

March 24
April 14, 21 **Mass** 28th

Sunday 6th-Confirmation 6:15-7:30pm

April 11 & 18 **Mass** 25th

Sunday Sacramental prep 10-11am

March 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
April 15th

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

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.

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Tuesdays 6:30-8:30pm

March 21

Third Scrutiny

Arrive by 10:45am @ St John's

March 23

The meaning of Holy Week E7

James Ezele

March 27

RCIA Retreat @ St John's 8am-6pm includes Mass

If you are a parishioner interested in attending a RCIA meeting to refresh your faith please call the office for more information.

James Ezele (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

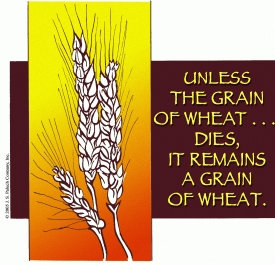
The Church's laws for fasting and abstinence during Lent:

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.



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

JEREMIAH: LOOKING BEYOND EXILE AND SUFFERING

The readings today remind us how close we are to Easter—only two weeks from now. They also remind us that the path to resurrection and Easter always includes suffering and death. The prophet Jeremiah spent his whole life proclaiming the word of God to kings who would not listen. As an old man, he saw Jerusalem defeated and the inhabitants taken into exile. Jeremiah himself suffered in being left behind, but in today's reading, he is looking beyond those sufferings to a time when the previously disobedient people would be transformed and live in harmony with God's law.

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

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.

Hallow

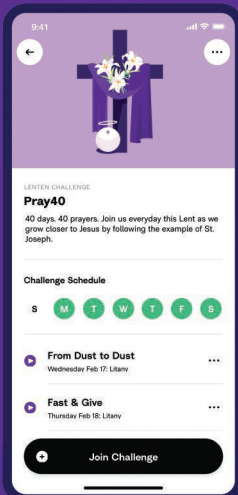
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