

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

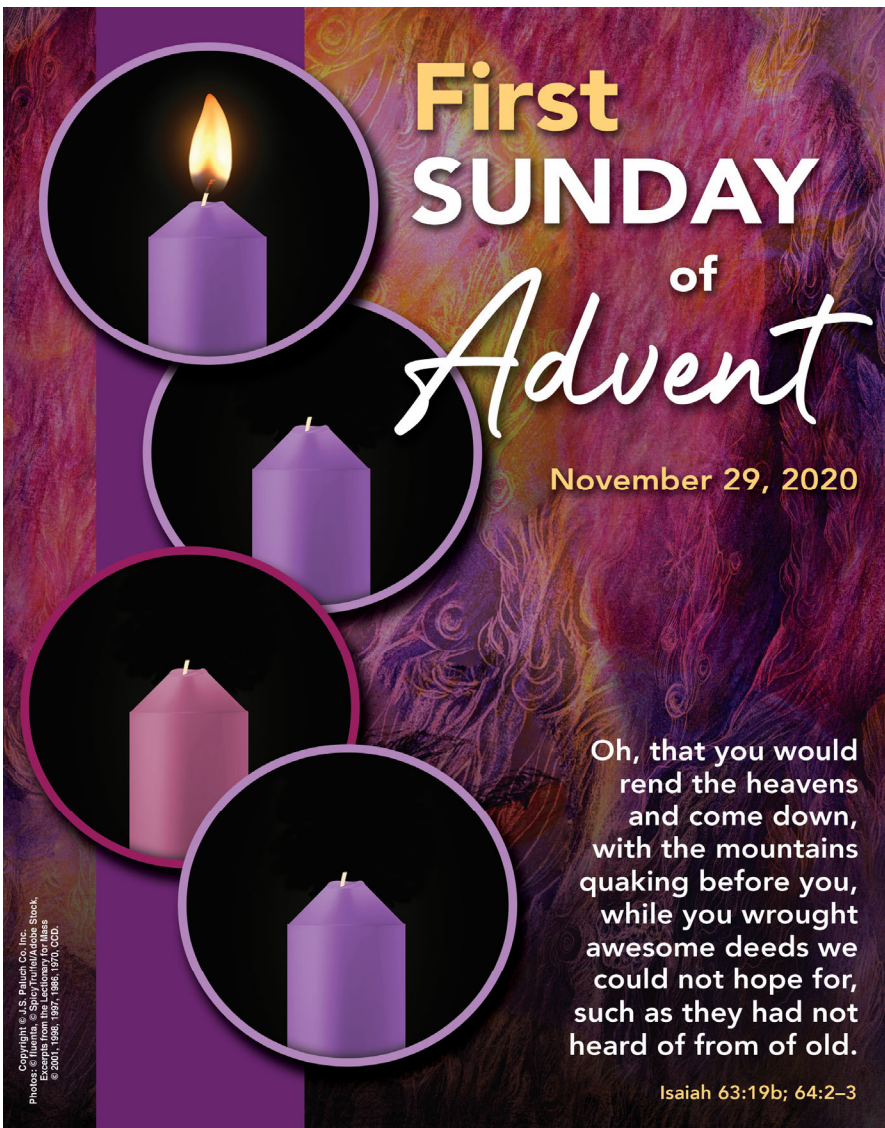


Facebook
@ stJohn.atlanticbeach

Instagram
@StJohns_atlanticbeach



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Oh, that you would
rend the heavens
and come down,
with the mountains
quaking before you,
while you wrought
awesome deeds we
could not hope for,
such as they had not
heard of from of old.

Isaiah 63:19b; 64:2-3

In Advent, we celebrate our hope that the Lord might come more fully into our lives. The first reading from Isaiah voices the hope of sinners for a redeemer. Unlike Isaiah, we know that God has come to bring us back, when the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to save us. Our faith in Jesus leads us to a new way of looking at the world. We can see what God is doing as well as remembering what God has done.

Like the gatekeepers in Jesus' Gospel parable, we need to keep our eyes open for him. When we only look out for ourselves, we may miss the signs of God's presence around us. Instead of looking at the difficulties of life as obstacles, we can watch for them as opportunities to stretch our faith, to rely on God, or to show God's love to a friend.

The recent re-translation of the prayers of the Mass can be an opportunity to stretch our faith and our understanding of the Eucharist.

The Corinthians were also watching for the Lord to come. They were thinking of Jesus as coming in glory. Though we don't see the full glory of the Lord, part of that glory is his presence in the sacraments. In them we celebrate not just the coming of the Lord, but his working in the world. He shares his life with us in baptism, gives us his Spirit in confirmation and himself in the Eucharist, heals us in reconciliation and the anointing of the sick, and calls us to make him present to others in holy orders and matrimony. You could almost say his second coming is taking place now. Watch for it.

Today's Readings

First Reading- *We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).*

Psalms- *Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).*

Second Reading- *God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son 1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

Gospel- *Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37).*

MARK'S JESUS

Mark's Gospel is the shortest and tersest of all four. The discourses of Jesus tend to be terser as well.

Mark's portrayal of Jesus has none of the poetry of the Sermon on the Mount or the Sermon on the Plain as in Matthew or Luke, nor the extensive, reflective "I Am" discourses as in John. Mark's Jesus "cuts to the chase," we would say today. This is reflected quite well in today's passage.

It is no accident that the dialogue of Jesus at this point in the Gospel according to Mark—the concluding words about the end of the world—immediately before his passion, is riddled with exclamation points and an overall sense of urgency.

We would do well to re-tool our own way of living this Advent, for we live in a world urgently in need of hearing the message of Jesus proclaimed. It's time for us to "wake up!" and get out into the world to do it.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Christmas Flowers, Nov 22nd & Christmas Offertory, Dec 25th go to the St John's Building fund, as stated on the envelopes. If you do not have St John envelopes you can send names of loved ones along with donation that you would like to offer

Christmas Flowers for.

Donations on these two will reflect as Christmas offering in years end tax statements.

FEAST OF FAITH

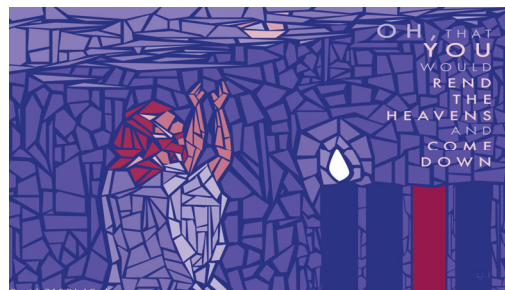
What is the Mass? There is no simple answer to that question. The Church uses many different images and terms to describe our most important prayer. The Mass is the celebration of the Eucharist, a Greek word that means "thanksgiving." It is the Lord's Supper. It is the Breaking of the Bread. It is the memorial of the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. It is the Holy Sacrifice, in which the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is perpetuated. It is the holy and divine liturgy, the sacred mysteries. It is the source and summit of our Christian lives, the new covenant, the work of the Holy Spirit, the paschal mystery. The many different words and images that we use when we speak of the Mass are not signs of confusion, but of wonder at what the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1328) calls the "inexhaustible richness" of the Eucharist. The Mass, our greatest prayer and our deepest mystery, is celebrated every day, many times a day, the world over. The Eucharist is both "bread from heaven" and "daily bread." The Mass is our everyday miracle.

WATCH!

This author was very aware of the language of "master/servant" in the Gospel today and is reading it and praying it in light of discussions on racism in recent months. Perhaps this goes with the last imperative at the end of the parable to "Watch!" This year has taught us to be alert in our actions such as social distancing, masks, and sanitizing, as well as in our language and even our thoughts. Now how do we apply that to our spirituality, to our faith? For many, due to restrictions on numbers in church, singing, and choirs, this has meant learning to pray in a whole different way. The celebration of liturgy is the same as ever, with its focus always on the Word and the Eucharist, but for those in the pew, or still watching on livestream, the sense of active participation has taken on a very different meaning from how most of us have experienced liturgy in our lifetime. It feels like we have become spectators rather than participants. Perhaps this challenge can move us from complacency in our faith, to rediscover and relate to God in new ways, and call us to be even stronger in our personal faith. We must remain diligent. We must "watch." We must hope. We must love. We must pray.

One who aspires to the grace of God must be pure, with a heart as innocent as a child's.

—St. Nicholas



First Sunday of Advent

With Advent we begin a new church year as we renew our preparations for the coming of Christ. The scriptures show a profound movement from despair in the first reading, as we feel the wrath of God's anger and a sense of being abandoned, to the responsorial psalm, which begs us to turn toward God, and the second reading where we see a glimmer of hope. Brimstone returns in the Gospel. This sense of unease and pain is much like what we have endured throughout 2020 with COVID-19, racial struggles, and political campaigns. Frankly, everyone is ready for a restart, for a do-over, for a better year. We can understand the heartfelt prayer of the prophet Isaiah: "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down." Hide not your face from us, O God, but during these days of Advent may you reveal yourself to each of us once again.

MINISTERS SCHEDULE December 5 & 6

Eucharistic Minister

5PM
James Johnson*
Bill Pray

9AM
Ann* & Tom
Crowder,
Kathy Pundt

11AM
Vicky Mondares*
Aida Masinsin
Manny Silverio



Lectors

5PM
1 Debbie Corsano
2 ArtCorsano

7AM
1 Carol Neville
2 Valencia Kidwell

9AM
1 Patty Pendleton
2 Allyson Lingerfelt

11AM
1 Isabel Masinsin
2 Jon Masinsin



Ministers of Hospitality

5PM
Mary Ann Carroll,
Mayann Speckman
Armand & Jan Riendeau

9AM
Jum & Bonnie Feazel
Mike & Gwen Crowder

11AM
Cristina Suyat
Aletta Santos
Yolanda Ebuon
Nelia Flores



Altar Server

5PM
Brynn Von Seggern

9AM
James Lingerfelt
Aiden Overland
11AM
Abigayl & Gabe
Santos

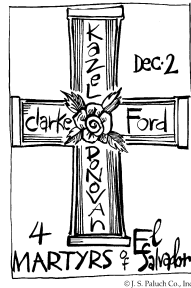


MASS SCHEDULE SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tue Dec 1	Wed Dec 2	Thu Dec 3	Fri Dec 4	Sat Dec 5	Sun Dec 6
45th Anniversary of Ramon & Suzie Reyes By Their Children	Minda Mamansag By Terry McMurtry	† Ricky Martin By The Family	† Antonio Vecchione By His Family	† Pat Carr By Armand & Janis Riendeau	Zam Children of St John 9am Parish-ioner of St John 11am †Jesus Mondares By The Family
<i>World AIDS Awareness Day</i>		<i>St. Francis Xavier</i>	<i>St. John Damascene</i>		

In Memoriam

*Flowers in Remembrance for
† Bianita Broad*



First Friday Adoration & Rosary

Please join FR Rafael and the Respect for Life Committee on Friday, December 4th after the 8AM Mass to pray for the culture of life. We will begin with Benediction followed by the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

For further information, please contact
Debbie Bunting @ (904) 642-2323

The Knights of Columbus is hosting a contest for all of the children of St John's!

This contest is a poster making contest where children are asked to draw what "Keep Christ in Christmas" means to them. Jimmy Hundley will have registration forms after Mass in the narthex. Posters must be on an 11x17 sheet of paper, which is provided when registering.

If you would like a registration form emailed to you, please email
Monica Trinidad.

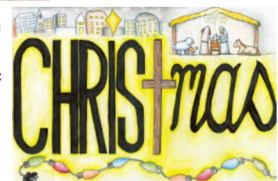
*The Knights of Columbus
Keep Christ in Christmas
Poster Contest*



Examples of some
Keep Christ in Christmas
Posters



Keep Christ in Christmas
Poster contest
hosted by the
Knights of
Columbus



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

*This weeks Weekly Offering will be posted next week. The distributor has a short week and Bulletins needed to be sent in early.
Matthew 25:35-40*

What's Going on at St John's



Religious Education

If you have not submitted a registration form yet, please contact Samantha Matthews, DRE @ SAMatthews.StJohn@outlook.com

Wednesday Kinder-5th
Dec classes 2, 9, 16

Sunday 6th-Confirmation
Dec classes 6 & 13

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### Sacramental Prep meetings:

#### **First Reconciliation:**

Sunday November 29th @ 1pm  
In the Church

#### **RCIA**

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

If you or someone you know are interested in joining the Catholic Church or if you have questions about the Catholic faith contact James Ezelle or the Parish office.

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

**Dec 1st**

**Mary**

Fr Rafael

**Dec 6th**

Rite of Welcome 11pm mass

**Dec 8th**

**The Saints**

Emory Coppedge

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 Dec 1st

- 1) **The Giving Tree is located in the Narthex. Wrapped gifts are due back at church by Dec. 6th. Gift card donations are to be placed in envelopes and put in the drop box.**
- 2) **The Christmas Shoppe will be held on the weekend of Nov. 28/29. Items for sale include: Advent calendars and wreaths, as well as Christmas and religious items.**
- 3) **The St Nicholas Festival will be held on Dec. 6th from 2-4pm. Please call the Parish Office to reserve a table.**

#### **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 2021 Mass Intentions Book is now open**

We would like all parishioners to have the opportunity to honor their loved ones.

† Each Family may request up to 2 masses within a given month, meaning one weekend and one weekday or 2 weekday Masses.

† In order to guarantee Mass date, donation (\$10) must be received within one week of reservation.

**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.**

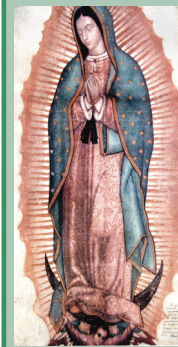
**Any Monetary Donations are greatly appreciated as well.**

## Knights of Columbus

#14866

**KofC Meetings Tuesdays @7PM**

The Knights of Columbus Council is asking for your help in donating new blankets to be provided to the homeless this winter. A container will be sitting in the narthex for your donations. We are asking for all new blankets to be given out during the third Saturday food Distribution



#### **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.

#### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Because of the coronavirus, many of our Ministers of Hospitality have not been able to attend Mass in person, so we are asking for anyone comfortable to help us out.

Please call the Parish at (904) 246-6014 ASAP and we will show you how important Ministry helps support our Masses. This is super important especially right now as the Holiday season is approaching and we have many added Masses coming up!





Mary Uraco, Evelyn Weeks, Rina Hopkins, Faye Carr, Karen Holden, Kim Carr, Bill Pray, Marizel Manalo, Donna Cappock, Karl Klein, Novalee Sanchez, Lily Rodriguez, Delores Fox, Albert Wagner, Loretta Wagner, John Weitort, Nanette Francuela

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.

**ROSARY:** A weekly rosary is held each Wednesday night at 7:00 in the Marian Chapel. This is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

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