The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist "Tiny fingers and toes. A little yawn. A loud cry. An infant wrapped in swaddling clothes. "What will this child be?" It is a question every parent asks time and time again. As first steps are taken, as personalities emerge, as a child shows interest in reading or drawing or climbing, the question is on our lips. "What will this child be?" This question is asked as John the Baptist is born. Will he be a priest like his father? Does his strange, unexpected name signal a departure from that inheritance? Could Elizabeth and Zechariah ever have predicted what would be? Under the tutelage of his priestly father, John "became strong in spirit." As an adult, John would retreat into the desert to preach repentance. He would attract a large following and eventually attract the attention of the rulers of the day. He would point out the adulterous ways of King Herod and would find himself in prison. Eventually, he would be beheaded. But today, he is a child, an infant newly born. On this special feast, we're reminded of the great humility required of parents. The character formation, the discipline and encouragement, the violin lessons and soccer practices? Every parental effort is subjected to the decisions of the child them self. Even children on a sure track by high school graduation transform under life's circumstances. Entrusting our children to God can be incredibly intimidating. "What will this child be," especially when that transformation lies outside of my control? John the Baptist's story might not have ended as his parents imagined. But he is celebrated as the greatest of the prophets, as the one who prepared the way for the Messiah. Here is the hope of all Christian parents -- that our children would be raised in such a way that when people meet them, they meet Jesus Christ.

#### Readings for the Week of June 24th, 2018

Sunday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15 [14a]/Acts

13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13

[7b]/Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab,

3cd-4, 10-11 [cf. 9d]/Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34, 35, 36,

37, 40 [33a]/Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Mt

7:21-29

Friday: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm

4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-

21 [19b]/Mt 8:5-17

Next Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12,

13 [2a]/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or

5:21-24, 35b-43

Prayers for the Sick: Merciful Jesus, onto your Compassionate Heart we recommend Charlene Bonnet, Laverne St. Julien, Jaiden Gardner, Mark Domingue, Sylvania Cormier, David Bernard Sr., Mary Jane Jacquet, Mercedes St. Julien, Gustavia Thibeaux, Reginald Brown, Betty Broussard, Bessie Jones, Florena Landry, Daffoney Anderson, John Albert Ledet, Marie Lopez, Emery Joe, Andre' Serio, Mayola Williams, Shavwana Flugence, Roy Brown, Lisa Trahan, Charles Lee, Joel Rivera, Wilfred Flugence, Mayola Williams, Salasha Lee, Lorena & Lester Mouton and those in the following nursing homes:

**Landmark of Acadiana:** Elise Jean-Baptiste **Maison de Lafayette:** Dorothy Lavan #217

and all of the sick of our parish.

**NEXT BAPTISM:** Baptismal class for the parents and God parents will be held on Monday, **Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>**, **2018** at 7pm in the Bishop Perry Learning Center. The actual baptism date will be Saturday, **Sept 8<sup>th</sup>** following 5pm mass. Parents are required to bring a copy of the baby's birth certificate to the church office by noon on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>,

2018 and register for the class. The registration fee is \$25.00 per child.

## \$30 Mass Intentions

**Sat. 5:00pm:** Hilda Johnson, Alexson Mathieu, Audrey Mathieu, the deceased members of the Mathieu & Mouton families, Wilbert & Thelma Jeanlouis, Christopher J. Anderson, Harold Anderson, Sr., & Ethel Mae Decuir, Walter Smith (*1Year Anniversary*), John L. Smith Sr, Mayo Thibeaux, Calvin Thibeaux, Caffery Thibeaux and Rodney Thibeaux. Special Intentions for all of the church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

**Sun. 8:00am:** Special Intentions all of the church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

**Sun. 10:00am:** Joseph Leo Sias III, Gloria Decuir, deceased members of the Decuir & Anderson families. Special Intentions for all of the church Benefactors and Donors and for the wellbeing and intentions of our church members.

## **God's Housekeepers:**

**St. Joseph:** Thanks to all of the ladies in <u>Group A</u> that cleaned the church on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. The next group is <u>Group B:</u> Barbara Thomas, Carolyn Domingue and Laura Williams – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**St. Anthony-July, 2018** <u>Group A:</u> Loucinda George, Mary Alice Cormier and Jeanette Mitchell.

The hard work and time you dedicate is greatly appreciated!

PSR (Parish School of Religion) Corner:

Classes are on Saturdays from 9am - 12 Noon



2018 – 2019 classes TBA

# <u>UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR 2018</u>

➤ ST. JOSEPH FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION: Saturday and Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Honoring the founder of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Broussard, LA, (1952) Bishop Harold Perry and his family.

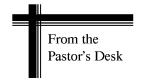


TO EVERYONE WHO CELEBRATED A BIRTHDAY IN JUNE

Parish Masses	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Ushers
SATURDAY	Alma Thibeaux	Dianne Foster		Harold Anderson
June 30, 2018	Carolyn Chretien	Dan Foster		Harold Johnson
5:00pm		Barbara Thomas		Michael Rabon
_		Helen Ledet		Russell Flugence
SUNDAY	Dianna Darby		Jarvis Berard	Loucinda George
July 1, 2018 8:00AM	Tonya Darby			-
SUNDAY July 1, 2018 10:00AM				

**ATTENTION:** Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Altar Servers and Ushers are required to call in a replacement when you are unable to serve when you are unable to do so. Your commitment to doing this will help to insure that there are no interruptions for the mass. Thank You!

~ Rev Thomas James, SVD~



PASTOR'S CORNER:

Today in the Liturgy we celebrate the  $12^{TH}$  Sunday in Ordinary Time and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. TODAY IN THE LITURGY WE CELEBRATE THE 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. AS I BEGIN I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MR. ERWIN FLUENGE, THE CHAIR OF OUR MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST, THOSE WHO WORKED AND SHARE SUGGESTIONS, HIS FAMILY, THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE, MAE MAE'S FOOD CATERING SERVICE AND ALL THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE BREAKFAST. HEARTFELTHANKS ALSO GOES OUT TO OUR SEPAKERS, FR. PATRICK BROUSSARD AND OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER COUNCILMAN KENNETH BOUDREAUX FOR A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE AS THEY CHALLENDED US TO MOVE FORWARD. FINALLY, CHRISTINE DECUIR FOR HER EXCELLENT PHOTOGRAPHY WORK. I WILL ASK HER TO DO A SMALL PICTURE COLLAGE FOR OUR WEBSITE.

ON JULY 14TH AND 15TH, WE WILL CELEBRATE WITH GRATITUDE THE CENTENNIAL OF OUR DIOCESE, THE FOUNDING OF ST. JOSEPHY AND THE ELEVATION OF BISHOP HAROLD PERRY TO THE EPISCOPACY. WE CELEBRATE THIS OCCASION IN GRATITUDE AS WE LOOK AHEAD TO A FUTURE THAT CONTINUES TO BRING GOD'S BLESSINGS ON ALL OF US. PLEASE KEEP THIS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS AS WE APPROACH OUR ACTUAL DAYS OF CELEBRATION

FOR OUR MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST OUR THEME WAS THE "SPIRITUALLITY OF THE FATHERHOOD"! AS WE CELEBRATED FATHER'S DAY, WE REMEMBERED OUR FATHERS WHO ARE DECEASED, ASKING OUR HEAVENLY FATHER TO GRANT THEM REST AND PEACE. FOR OUR FATHERS WITH WHOM WE CELEBRATED AND SHARED THEIR PRESENCE, A TEXT OR PHONE CALL WE PRAY THAT GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AND KEEP THEM WELL. TO ANYONE WHO EXPERIENCED SOME ESTRAGEMENT WE PRAY THAT AS LIFE GOES ON, ALL MAY DRAW A LITTLE CLOSER WITH A LITTLE RESOLVE NO MATEER HOW SMALL, A BABY STEP WOULD BE BETTER THAN NOTHING. MAYBE WE COULD MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION NO MATTER HOW SLOWLY IT MAY HAPPEN.

IT'S NOT HOW LONG YOU'VE BEEN PART OF MY LIFE THAT COUNTS... IT'S WHAT A BIG DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE IN IT AND HOW IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL YOU ARE TO ME I HOEP ONE DAY WE ALL HAVE EXPERIENCED THIS EXPERIENCE IN OUR LIFE

## **Inspiration for Your Week** To Parents and Guardians of our **Graduates**

TO RAISE A CHILD WHO IS COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO LEAVE YOU. MEANS YOU'VE DONE YOUR JOB. THEY ARE NOT OURS TO KEEP BUT TO TEACH HOW TO SOAR ON THEIR OWN.

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The Web Site for St. Joseph/St. Anthony is: stjostant.org

### **Our Giving** June 16th & 17th, 2018

**St. Joseph** (115 Envelopes came in out of 213) \$1,930.00 **St. Anthony** ( 30 Envelopes came in out of 84) 483.00 Total \$2,413,00

"No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you" -Deuteronomy 16: 16c, 17