



Archdiocese of Galveston — Houston

625 Nottingham Oaks Trail  
Houston, TX 77079

**Tel.: 281-497-1500**

**Fax: 281-584-2024**

[www.stjohnvianney.org](http://www.stjohnvianney.org)

#### PARISH CLERGY

**Rev. R. Troy Gately**

Pastor

**Rev. Richard Hinkley**

Parochial Vicar

**Rev. Charles J. Talar**

In Residence

#### Deacons

Fred Kossegi

Dale Steffes

Greg Stokes

Al Vacek

Jeff Willard

#### PASTORAL STAFF

##### Adult Formation

Yvonne Gill

##### Pastoral Care and

##### Spiritual Life

Jeff Willard

##### Music Ministry

Michael Madrid

##### Parish Life/ Activity Center

Richard Fairly

##### Social Service Ministries

Deborah Alvarenga

##### Youth Formation

Carolina Sayago

##### Business Office

C.J. Pete Prados

#### ✠ St. John Paul II

#### Catholic School

1400 Parkway Plaza Dr.

Houston, TX 77077

281.496.1500

Pre K-8th Grade

### *Living Faith*

### *Changing Lives*

### *Making a Difference*

Dear Friends,

I would like to give you an update on a few things around the parish. First and foremost, we were blessed with a most beautiful Advent and Christmas! Words cannot adequately describe how truly wonderful everything has been. From the tremendous outpouring of love on Gift Giving Sunday, to the number of confessions, to the crowds at Mass on Christmas, to the hundreds of parishioners who worked to make our liturgies so beautiful for Christmas by their selfless ministry, we were truly blessed. It was all wonderful and fantastic! On behalf of Fathers Richard, Chuck and myself, I would like to express a word of thanks for the wonderful remembrances of the priests at Christmas. Your cards, gifts, baked goodies and other expressions of love and support are greatly appreciated and mean the world to us. Thank you one and all.

In December, we began working on the renovations to the Activity Center. The building is now more than 40 years old and even with our TLC, some major items needed to be addressed. These repairs and updates will take several months to complete. Some of the most significant (and expensive) items will be hidden from the casual observer. One of the first things that we are tackling is the replacement of the air conditioning system. This alone is costing hundreds of thousands of dollars. Next, we will be addressing the exterior cladding of the building. This will be the most visible repair. The current cedar planks will be removed and replaced. We will take advantage of this to upgrade the insulation of the building which will help make the building more energy efficient. This will be followed by updating the kitchen, the court and finally the interior, concentrating on the Youth Lounge. We will be working on the building for most of 2020. If this project is like any other project, there will most likely be some surprises along the way. Hopefully, they will not be too expensive! The majority of the work we are undertaking is not very glamorous, but it is important to maintain the value of our investment. Most parishes are not as blessed as we are with such facilities.

The funding for this major project is provided in large part by the IGNITE Capital Campaign. Thank you to all who pledged to IGNITE! The parish receives 1/3 of all the completed pledges to the archdiocesan campaign. Because we did not meet our goal for the IGNITE campaign, we will have to go to our savings to pay for the other projects on our list. The shortfall will also delay the other items for budgeting and cash flow reasons. We still hope to complete all of them, but not as fast as originally planned. After we tackle the Activity Center and the Youth Lounge, we will evaluate and prioritize the other projects (Library/Den, Music Lecture Hall, south & west parking lots and the BBQ hut). We will address them as funds are available. If you would like to contribute to the IGNITE Campaign it is not too late and/or if you would like to contribute directly to any of our parish projects, it is certainly needed and greatly appreciated.

### **OUTREACH – ENGAGEMENT- DISCIPLESHIP – LEADERSHIP**

These are our parish priorities. To that end, in early December we had discernment for new members of the Pastoral Council. It was a great day! We are blessed with fantastic parishioners who are willing to step up and serve. My only regret was that that not all of them could serve on the council! New to our pastoral Council are: Kathy Archer, Henry Egan, David Le, Charlie Moger and Vivian Ramos. They join our current members: Catherine Crochet, Mollie Delouche, Will Haley, Keith O'Connor, Leigh Schuelke, Trey Wakefield and Jim Wanja. A deep debt of gratitude is owed and sincere appreciation is given to those who have now completed their terms on the council: Angel Pozo, John Kill, Blanca Perez, Donna Grimm, Helder Eloy, Ginny Lee, Kyle Stanzel and Mary Toland. The outgoing members of the council played an important role during their term in helping guide the parish through our *Continuing the Vision Capital Campaign*, the church renovations, our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and handling the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

Next week we will be hosting John Poitevent of Parish Catalyst. John is a nationally known speaker who is one of the key members of the Parish Catalyst team in Los Angeles. A Texas native, John helps parishes and churches around the country to grow and become better and more dynamic faith communities. He will be here with us on Friday to lead a Day of Enrichment for parish staffs from SJV and a dozen other parishes. On Saturday, John will lead a workshop for our own ministry and organization leaders and those engaged in parish ministry. We are excited and pleased to have John with us at St. John Vianney. There are more great things to come, so stay tuned!!!

In Pace Christi,



**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, January 13, 2020**

9:00 a.m. † Maria Gimenez

**Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

9:00 a.m. Emily Kathleen Ensley  
7:00 p.m. † Emil Helmcamp

**Wednesday, January 15, 2020**

9:00 a.m. † Lillian Baros

**Thursday, January 16, 2020**

9:00 a.m. † Narciso Macia  
7:00 p.m. † Louis Earl Watkins III

**Friday, January 17, 2020**

9:00 a.m. Emily LeBouef

**Saturday, January 18, 2020**

5:30 p.m. † Christian Brogan

**Sunday, January 20, 2020**

8:00 a.m. Chiara Le  
9:30 a.m. Missa Pro Populo  
11:00 a.m. † Karl Kiker  
12:30 p.m. † Vidal Rodriguez and  
Mama Rodriguez  
2:00 p.m. † Sauli Romero  
5:30 p.m. † Denis Cotter  
7:00 p.m. † Ivan Dautant

**Other Remembrances**

S. Bockholt, † Ursuline Smith

**Mass Readings**

**Monday** 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19; Mk 1:14-20  
**Tuesday** 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Mk 1:21-28  
**Wednesday** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mk 1:29-39  
**Thursday** 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45  
**Friday** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19; Mk 2:1-12  
**Saturday** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mk 2:13-17  
**Sunday** Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**New Parishioners**

**Welcome to our St. John Vianney Family**

William and Emma Jane Cheesman, Gerald and Sylviline Ezugwu, Jude and Chibuzor Okpala, Manuel Silvio and Sara Lopez, Jose and Elizabeth Diaz, Timothy Palmer and MaryClaire Dangel-Palmer, Sylvia Douglas, Patrick Pederson, Ruben Guerrero Ugalde and Enory Sanchez, Betsy Zapalac, Jennifer Linhardt, Erwin Natareno, David Duong and Megan Trainor, Hilmer and Maite Castillo, Nery Samayoa Cardenas an Elena Lopez, Alejandro and Lorena Lopez, Henry and Helen Feste, Genaro Vasquez Herrerias and Jesica Perez Salgado, Timothy and Kristy Kowaleski, Brian and Rachel Collins

Let us Pray

For the souls of the recently deceased, Janet Lee, Noel Rando, Mary Lou Gaudin, Jeanne Turala. May Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.



**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday Vigil**  
5:30 p.m.

**Sunday**  
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
11:00 a.m.,  
12:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.  
Spanish: 2:00 p.m.,  
7:00 p.m.

**Weekdays**

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m.  
Tuesday & Thursday  
7:00 p.m.

**LITURGY OF THE HOURS**

Monday - Friday  
6:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

**NOVENA & ROSARY**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.  
Novena of the Sacred Heart  
1st Fridays following  
9:00 a.m. Mass  
Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary after 9:00 a.m.  
daily Mass

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday  
10:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

**BAPTISMS**

Classes offered monthly.  
Please contact the Parish Office

**MARRIAGE**

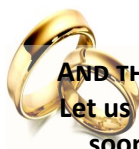
Please contact the Parish Office at least eight months prior to desired date

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK/COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND**

Please contact the Parish Office

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday  
8:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.



**AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE**  
Let us Rejoice and Pray for these soon-to-be married couples:

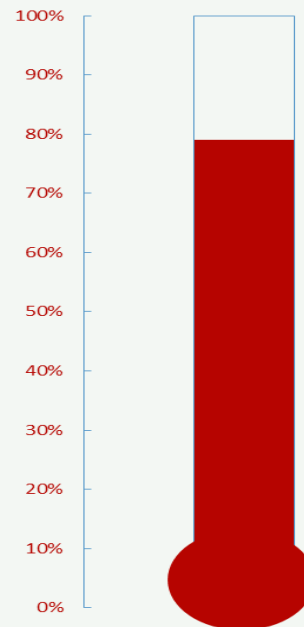
Shirley Nurdin and Mark Huberty  
Stephanie Rios and Francisco Hernandez  
Allison Campos and Moises Orozco



## Thank you for your generous support

We are at 79% of our goal.

<b>Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$4,370,000</b>
<b>Pledge Total</b>	<b>\$3,471,868</b>
<b>Achieved %</b>	<b>79%</b>



Our parish will receive **33%** of all pledges made and completed. We plan to refurbish the activity center and youth lounge, re-model the library/den and music lecture hall, and resurface the south and west parking lots.

It is not too late, your help is needed for us to reach our goal. To make a pledge or for more information please contact Belinda LeBouef at 281-752-2400 or email at [blebouef@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:blebouef@stjohnvianney.org)

***Thank you again for your ongoing support!***

### The Two Shall Become One: Getting Married in the Church

Salvation history was changed forever through a family, the Holy Family. In the Church a family begins with the Sacrament of Marriage. Young couples shouldn't wait until everything is perfect to get married. That day will never come. Trust in God to bless you in your life together and get married in the Catholic Church. St. John Vianney wants to help you prepare not only for the wedding day but for marriage, a lifetime experience of hope and joy in which you will love and honor each other all the days of your lives. For more information on how to get started: [stjohnvianney.org/marriage](http://stjohnvianney.org/marriage)

### The Gift of Faith: Getting your Child Baptized

The best gift a parent can give their child is Baptism. Our baptism is the key to our ultimate happiness and truest identity. If you have not had your child baptized yet, call the Parish Office to start the process. Baptism is an opportunity to welcome our little ones into our faith and support parents and godparents in raising their children in that faith. We look forward to growing in faith with you and your family.

### Welcome Home!

*Welcoming Back Catholics who have been Away*

**Re-Membering Church** is a ministry that welcomes back Catholics who have been away from the Church. A series of five sessions designed to catch you up on what's been happening while you've been

away. The sessions also offer a wonderful opportunity to ask questions, have your voice heard and heal wounds. Major topics of discussion include Early Church History, the Commandments, the Sacraments, Discipleship and Evangelization.

**New Sessions on Monday evenings will be offered this spring.**

If you, a relative, friend, or co-worker is interested, please contact the Director of Adult Formation, Yvonne Gill, 281.584.2022, for an appointment.

[stjohnvianney.org/returning-catholics](http://stjohnvianney.org/returning-catholics)



PARISH LIFE



**Parish Breakfast**  
Next Sunday, January 19

Following the  
Morning Masses  
Activity Center

*Waffles, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon  
Orange Juice & Coffee*

**\$5 per person & kids 7 under are Free**

**Catholic Schools Fair**

January 26

During Coffee & Donuts

Activity Center

*We Transform the World!*

**CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS**

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON



**Summer Job Opportunity!**

St. John Vianney Summer Camp  
is now accepting application requests for paid staff.



Are you a College Student or  
High School Junior/Senior who is  
available to work the  
summer, likes to have fun,  
and is a great role model for kids?

[sjvcamp@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:sjvcamp@stjohnvianney.org)

**ANNUAL WINE TASTING  
& AUCTION**

*Presented by Knights of Columbus*



**Saturday January 25, 2020**

*6:30pm • Activity Center*

**Award Winning Wines  
from Around the World**

Limited number of tickets available now

**\$75** per person

**Online Orders:** [stjohnvianney.org/wine](http://stjohnvianney.org/wine)

**\$525** table of 8

**Phone Orders:** (281) 497-1555

Complimentary Babysitting Available

Proceeds Benefit The Gabriel Project



**Join our Parish Life  
Hospitality Team!**

For information contact Julie: 281-497-1555 or  
[jgriffy@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:jgriffy@stjohnvianney.org)



**SJV Night at the Rockets Game!!**

Friday, January 31, 7:00 pm

Toyota Center

*Houston Rockets vs. Dallas Mavericks*

**Group Pricing \$50 per ticket (includes fees)**

*Sections 405 & 406 Only 40 tickets available*

To reserve your tickets

[sjvrsvp@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:sjvrsvp@stjohnvianney.org) or 281-497-1555

## PARISH LIFE

### Annual Card & Games Party

*Open to both Men & Women*

Wednesday, January 29

10 am - 2 pm

Activity Center

\$15 per person

*All proceeds benefit the  
Women's Club Charities*

Includes Lunch,  
Door Prizes and More!

Reservations are needed,  
please contact  
Judy Kurka at 281-345-8477



Welcoming all mothers  
of school aged children

Wed., Jan. 22nd

11:30-1:00

Complimentary lunch

St. Jude Hall

Speaker:

Nick Lopez,

Catholic Licensed

Professional Counselor

### Parish Super Party

**JOIN THE FUN!!**

Sunday, February 2

3:30pm

Activity Center

**2 GIANT SCREENS, FOOD BUFFET,  
DRINKS, FOOTBALL SQUARES & MORE!**

**Cash Bar available**

**FREE CHILDCARE FOR AGES 1-9**

**By reservation only**

**Advance Reservations by January 28**

*\$20 per adult*

Reservations after Jan. 28 - \$25 each

Reserve and pay online at  
[www.stjohnvianney.org](http://www.stjohnvianney.org) You can also reserve by  
calling 281-497-1555 or email  
[sjvrsvp@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:sjvrsvp@stjohnvianney.org)



RSVP on Member Planet or email  
[stmonicassociety@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicassociety@gmail.com)  
for more info

For free childcare, email  
[sms.childcare@gmail.com](mailto:sms.childcare@gmail.com) by 1/15

### FRIDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

**Third Friday of the Month**

Activity Center

6:30 - 9:30 pm

Couples and  
Singles Welcome!

Our next bridge night is  
this Friday, January 17

For information contact  
Marie or Walt, 281-497-0349



There is a danger that threatens everyone in the  
church, all of us. The danger of worldliness. It leads  
us to vanity, arrogance and pride.

[Pope Francis](#)

## ADULT FORMATION



**The newest study in The Great Adventure Series!**

### Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans

Often called Paul's masterpiece!

Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning. *Romans: The Gospel of Salvation* provides a comprehensive, and simple way to understand the overarching theme of Romans—salvation.

**8 week Study**

**Wednesday evening, 7pm - 9 pm**

**St. Jude Hall**

**beginning January 8, 2020**

**(Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29; Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26)**

**\$26.00 for study materials.**

**Register on the parish website or in the  
Adult Formation Office.**



## Walking with Jesus

...through the Holy Land

.....through Sacred Scripture

A new study beginning on January 20,

7-8:30pm

Audio/Visual Room

No fee for the six session course; all materials will be provided.

Register on the parish website or in the Adult Formation Office.

*View the sites in the landscape of Scripture*

*The Word makes the land Holy!*

## ADULT FORMATION



### The Legacy Series

A Continuing Christian Education  
Program for Baptized Catholic Adults

#### The Sacraments:

### The History, Development, and Celebration

Sunday mornings 9:30am—10:30am

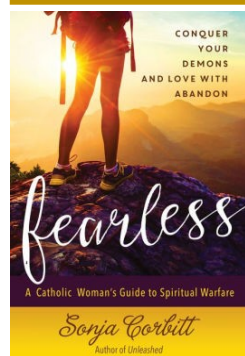
A/V Room

January 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15

=====

No fee for the course; all materials provided

Register on-line or in the Adult Formation Office



### Fearless... Conquer Your Demons and Love with Abandon

Author and popular speaker Sonja Corbitt leads you deep into scripture and the spiritual practices of the Church to show how we can resist the avalanche of temptations that can challenge and lead to paralyzing anxiety and fear.

A Women's Bible Study Group beginning January 6,  
9:45am—11:45am; babysitting is available

Register for the 14 week series on the parish website or in  
the Adult Formation Office



### The JoyFull Women's Guild

Joy....from Jesus's words in scripture;  
Full....of inspiration from encyclicals, lives  
of the saints, guest speaker  
presentations!

January meetings: 9 & 23

9: 45am-11:45am, Room C-25

The Guild is a wonderful way to meet new friends.

Women of all ages are welcome!

For more information contact Denise:

denise.joyfull.guild@gmail.com

### Whole Life

### Confession: An Ignatian Path to Christ... ..is an



introspective journey which will lead you to experience  
God's love and mercy through guided reflections and  
spiritual exercises. Join this transforming opportunity!

Monday evenings, 7-8:30pm

Room E 5/6 Begins January 13

\$20 —includes books, journal, and all other materials

Register on the parish website on the Adult Formation  
page or in the Adult Formation Office



### THEOLOGY IN COLOR

An iconography workshop for beginner  
and intermediate level

Wed. Morning & Thurs. Evening  
Begins January 8/9

Learn the theology and technique of  
iconography. Students will write an icon in oil paints  
on wood.

No prior experience or drawing ability required.

Cost: \$135 For more information and to register  
contact Caroline Allbee: 281-610-0911 or  
pintusgang@yahoo.com.



### The Great Adventure

continues with a  
walk through the book of  
**1 Corinthians**

The 11 week study begins February 4,

9:45am—11:45am

\$26.00 for study materials

Pre-registration is required;

deadline is January 15.

Register on the parish website or in the  
Adult Formation Office.

## SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRY



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

*"For I was a stranger, and you welcomed me"* (Mt 25:35)

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE:**

The next semester of ESL will begin on **January 21**. Give someone the opportunity to thrive through the gift of communication. To volunteer as a teacher or substitute teacher, contact Glorivel at 281.497.4434 or [grivas@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:grivas@stjohnvianney.org). No experience is necessary, and training will be provided.

Evening classes on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.  
Introductory to advanced level classes offered.

Registration for new students begins on Tuesday, January 14, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Social Service Ministries Office. Limited spots available.

**JOB FAIR**

**HOSTED BY EPIPHANY JOB SEEKERS NETWORK**

**Thursday, January 23, 2020, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church  
1530 Norwalk Drive, Katy, 77450

This is a FREE event geared toward degreed, career-minded, professional job candidates.

**We ask that candidates bring plenty of résumés!**  
or more information, contact 832.772.0306 or  
[outreach@epiphanycatholic.org](mailto:outreach@epiphanycatholic.org)

**BLESSING OF THE CROSSES  
& ROSARY FOR LIFE**

January 22, 2020 marks the 47th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion throughout all months of pregnancy in the United States. In the wake of *Roe*, legal abortion in our nation has claimed the lives of more than 58 million unborn children.



On January 17 Respect Life volunteers will erect white crosses outside the entrance to SJV to commemorate the lives of the children lost since abortion was legalized in 1973. The crosses remind us to pray for the end of abortion and for a greater respect for all human life. Join us as the crosses are blessed and we pray for a full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life.

**Blessing of the Crosses & Rosary for Life**  
**Sunday, 1/19/2020 at 5:00 pm**  
**on the Lawn near the Front Entrance Driveway**

*(Please do not park along the driveway, as this blocks the flow of traffic. Ample parking is available in the North parking lot.)*



**JANUARY 25, 2020**

Join thousands of Texans to march in support of the dignity of each human life.

**Archdiocesan send-off Mass at 8:30 am**

**St. Bartholomew the Apostle Catholic Church**

5356 Eleventh Street, Katy, TX 77493  
Buses depart for Austin following Mass.

**March and Rally for Life begins at 1:00 p.m.**

Fee: \$25.00/person (lunch is not provided).

Buses will depart from multiple parish locations.

Call the Office of Pro-Life Activities at 713.741.8728 for the location nearest you.

Save  
the  
date!

**SJV's Spring Service Missions  
to Eagle Pass, Texas**  
**March 15 - 21 &  
March 31 - April 5**

Work with fellow SJV parishioners providing much needed services to the poor and sharing your Catholic faith with others!

Be part of a team that is helping to change the lives of people who are in need. For additional information, contact Clay at  
[cdfryer@gmail.com](mailto:cdfryer@gmail.com)

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you"* (Jn 20:21).



# SAINT JOHN VIANNEY YOUNG ADULTS

In your 20s or 30s?  
Check out SJV'S Young Adult Ministry!

Email: [TCooper@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:TCooper@stjohnvianney.org)  
Website: [www.stjohnvianney.org/youngadults](http://www.stjohnvianney.org/youngadults)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SJVYoungAdults>  
Instagram: SJVYA

*It's never too late...*

*Get your questions answered...*

## DEFENDING YOUR FAITH

*with Reason*



January 13th Topic:  
What is Truth? Exploring Relativism

Discussions lead by Fr. Richard Hinkley

Monday's 7-8:30pm ◊ St. Jude Hall

Register at the Door \$25 for 8 Week Series

Join the conversation and learn how to  
effectively and gracefully share your faith with  
everyone you encounter.

*You can still join, just show up and register at the door.*

## Young Couples Night Out

Thurs, January 23rd 7-8:30pm  
Bowl & Barrel, 797 Sorella CT

The lane fees are our treat, just  
pay for your shoes and order  
some delicious food while  
enjoying some great company  
with other couples.

RSVP Required by Monday, January 20th to [tcooper@stjohnvianney.org](mailto:tcooper@stjohnvianney.org)

YOUTH FORMATION

Parents' Night Out

Friday, January 24, 2020

You plan a date night, we provide the childcare.

Children 1-10 Years Old Welcome

\$25 for one child, \$10 for second, \$5 for any additional

Registration Available in Youth Formation Office  
Deadline to Register is Tuesday, January 21



JANUARY 24  
5-9PM

\$10

RSVP ONLINE / FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL SEAN STRASMA AT SSTRASMA@STJOHNVIANNEY.ORG



Bible Story Time

Bible stories, crafts, prayers and fun for children 5 years old & younger. Join us

Wednesday, January 22  
Room E-8 at 10:30 am.

No registration required, just come!

The I ❤️ Revolution  
FEBRUARY 14TH-16TH

A RETREAT FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS  
COST: \$200 / NONREFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: \$100

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
JANUARY 20TH / ONLINE

LOCATION: FOREST GLEN CAMPGROUND

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT AS THIS YEAR WE DIVE INTO WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF IN THIS FALLEN AND BROKEN WORLD. OUR PURPOSE IS TO CHALLENGE THE YOUNG CHURCH TO GO OUT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR WORLD.

EMAIL SEAN STRASMA FOR ANY QUESTIONS:  
SSTRASMA@STJOHNVIANNEY.ORG



Reconciliation

We will have 240 sacrament preparation students celebrating their First Reconciliation  
On-going thru February 29

All Catholics are encouraged to make a frequent and regular confession. Here at St. John Vianney we are blessed to offer the sacrament three times every weekend Saturdays at 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. From January through the end of February we have confession times on Saturday morning for the 240 children preparing for their First Holy Communion. If you come during the morning confession period and there are a number of children there, please allow them to go first and remember to thank God for them and their families. Our parish is blessed with so many wonderful parishioners, nearly 15,000. We are not quite as blessed with the number of priests. We only have 2 assigned priests and one priest in residence who volunteers his own free time and without compensation to help us as his schedule permits.

Please remember patience, understanding and to pray for more priestly vocations.

## PASTORAL CARE AND SPIRITUAL LIFE



### *Walking Through Grief*

#### **A New Session Begins**

**This Tuesday, January 14**

**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**C26**

**No sign-up necessary**

## Eucharistic Adoration

*Can you not spend one hour with me?*

**Adoration and Prayer**

**24 hours a day**

**7 days a week in the  
Adoration Chapel**

For more information  
or to sign up please contact Jeff Willard  
281-752-2423 or email:  
jwillard@stjohnvianney.org



### **Ministry to the Sick**

Do you know someone that is ill, homebound, in the hospital, or in an assisted living center in need of pastoral care?

For those in need of prayer, Holy Communion, and a pastoral visit, please contact

the **Parish Office at  
281.497.1500**

Interested in visiting those in need of prayer in care centers, hospitals and homebound?

Call to volunteer: **281.752.2470**

## YOUNG CHILDREN PROGRAM



YCP Registration 2020 will begin soon!  
Registration opens up to SJV parishioners  
(of a least 6 months)

February 4, 2020 at 9:30am.

We will open registration to the public on  
February 18, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

## SJV TRIPS

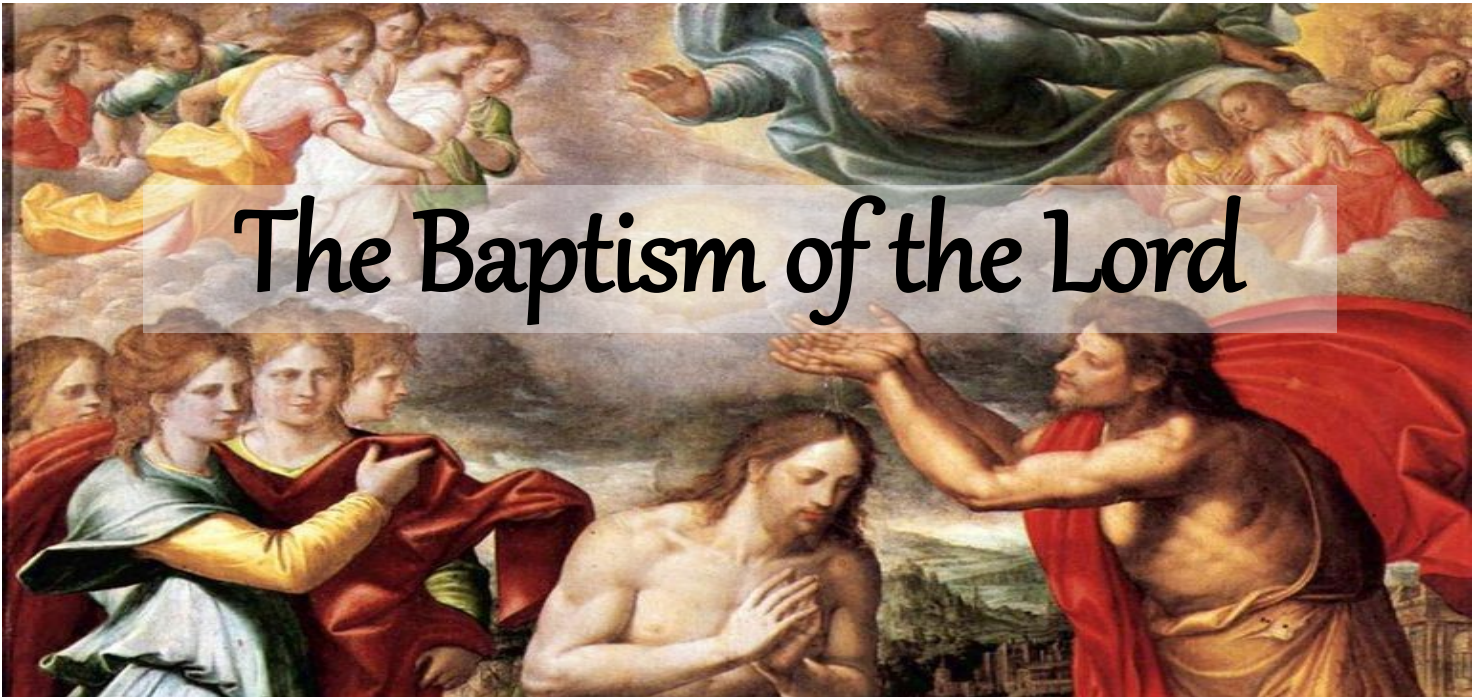
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SJV Group Contact: Carolyn Greene  
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# The Baptism of the Lord

The mystery of Christ's baptism in the Jordan by St John, the Precursor, proposes the contemplation of an already adult Jesus. This mystery is infinitely linked to the Solemnities of the Lord's birth and the Epiphany that we have just celebrated, as in some ways it takes up and represents their significance to us.

At Christmas we have contemplated the human birth of the Word incarnate by the Virgin Mary. In the 4th century, the Fathers of the Church deepened the understanding of the faith with regard to the Christmas mystery in the light of Jesus' Humanity. They spoke of the Incarnation of the Word already working like the 'Christification' of that humanity that he had assumed from His mother. Or put in simpler terms: Jesus is the Christ from the first instant of conception in Mary's spotless womb because He Himself, with His Divine Power, consecrated, anointed and 'Christified' that human nature with which He became incarnate.

In the mystery of the Epiphany, we then meditated on Christ's manifestation to all nations that was represented by the Magi, the wise men from the East, who came to adore the Child.

Now, in the mystery of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan River, we again encounter and represent the truth of the Lord's incarnation and His manifestation as the Christ. Jesus' Baptism is in fact His definitive manifestation as the Messiah or Christ to Israel, and as the Son of the Father to the entire world. Here we find the dimension of the Epiphany which was His manifestation to all nations. The Father's voice from heaven shows that Jesus of Nazareth is the eternal Son and the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove shows the Trinitarian nature of the Christian God. The true and unique God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, shows Himself in Christ, through Him, with Him and in Him.

The Baptism in the Jordan returns to the great Christmas theme of 'Christification,' Jesus of Nazareth's spiritual anointing, His presentation as the Anointed One par excellence, the Messiah or the One sent by the Father for the salvation of mankind. The Spirit that descended on Jesus shows and seals in an incontrovertible way the 'Christification' of Jesus' humanity that the Word had already fulfilled from the first moment of His miraculous conception by Mary. Jesus, from the very beginning, was always the Lord's Christ, He was always God. Yet, His one, true humanity, that which is perfect in every way, as the Gospel records, constantly grew in natural and supernatural perfection. *'And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and with men'* (Lk2:52). In Israel at 30 years of age, one reached full maturity and therefore could become a master. Jesus came of age and the Spirit, descending and remaining on Him, definitively consecrated His whole being as the Christ.

The same Spirit, that descended on the water of the River Jordan wafted over the waters during the first creation (Gen 1:2). Therefore, the Baptism in the Jordan presents yet another truth: that Jesus has started a new creation. He is the second man (1 Cor 15:47) or the last Adam (1 Cor 15:45), that comes to repair the first Adam's guilt. He does this as the Lamb of God that takes away our sins. *'Looking at the events in light of the Cross and Resurrection, the Christian people realised what happened: Jesus loaded the burden of all mankind's guilt upon His shoulders; he bore it down into the depths of the Jordan. He inaugurated his public activity by stepping into the place of sinners'* (Joseph Ratzinger, *Jesus of Nazareth*, Bloomsbury 2007, p 18).

Excerpted from the [Congregation for the Clergy](#)