O. T. IV SUNDAY

Sunday bulletin - January 29, 2017

Office bearers of St. John the Baptist Church

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<th>St. John the Baptist Catholic Church</th>
<th>Phone: 251-865-6902</th>
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<td>P. O. Box 417, Grand Bay, AL 3641</td>
<td>Fax: 251-865-1412</td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:StJohnGrandBay@gmail.com">StJohnGrandBay@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Parish website: <a href="http://www.StJohnGrandBay.org">www.StJohnGrandBay.org</a></td>
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**Pastor:**
Fr. Anthony Kadavil (akadavil@gmail.com)

**Secretary:**
Rev. Deacon Billy Graham

**Parish Council Chair Person:**
Mr. Bill Schaffer

**Finance Council President:**
Mrs. Paula Dyess

**Sunday School Coordinator:** Mrs. Tiffany Teofilo

**Youth Director:** Mrs. Karen Day
Pray for the eternal repose of the soul of Louise Marchand who was called to her heavenly home for her eternal reward Friday morning, January 27th. Visitation at St. John the Baptist church by family members begin at 9 am and the parishioners from 10 am. The funeral Mass will be at 11 am. The pastor, Deacon and the fellow parishioners offer their heartfelt condolences and prayers to Mr. Patrick Marchand and his daughter at their great loss.

Catholic Charities: Please continue to turn in your contribution to Catholic Charities with the envelopes received from the Archdiocese or parish. The Second Collection next week will be for the “Building Maintenance Fund.”

Sunday school classes (CRE) and Youth program begin at 8-45 am. Please be regular in sending your children for these programs.
**Valentine Sweetheart luncheon:** The Golden Group will be hosting a Valentine Sweetheart luncheon, February 12th after the 10:00 Mass, for all the young at heart over 50. There is a reservation signup sheet located in the church hall, for all those who would like join in the food, fun and fellowship. We look forward to a "sweet time" together.

**Televised celebration of the Sunday Mass** for the Home-bound will be on **Tuesday, January 31st, at 9:00 am.** in our church. The Masses that we will celebrate are for the 5th & 6th Sunday of O. T. Please participate in this program that caters to our home bound the shut-in brothers and sisters of our Archdiocese.

**Prayer for speedy healing requested:** Your fervent prayers are requested for the healing of Joe Penton, Micky Porier, Tiffany Fonteot, Terry Roberts, Gennie Garrett, Bill Dixon, Tom Thornton, Ron Cauley, Mark Voss, Willie Thompson, Virginia Gable, Joe Gable, Louis Poiroux, Andrea Graham and Richard Boswell.
The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary is hosting an afternoon of fun and friendship for all ladies of the community. On Sunday, February 5, at 1 pm in the Church Hall we will be playing Bunco. This is a non-gambling game played with dice. It is very easy to learn and we will teach you if you do not know how to play. The afternoon will begin with lunch and in addition to playing Bunco, it will include a silent auction and door prizes for only $15. Reservations are required. Please call Carol at 262 902-4709 or email cavoss99@gmail.com for questions and to make reservations. If parish members have card tables we can borrow for this event, please bring to the church hall and be sure your name is on it. Or call Carol and we will pick it up. Thank you!

**Birthdays this week:**
- 28th: Dana Olsen
- 30th: James Graham
- 31st: Betty Gunter, Evelyn Schmierer
- Feb. 1st: Landon Teofilo
- 2nd: Chuck Pierce
- 3rd: Shirley Ray

**Known Wedding Anniversaries this week:** Nil
Jan 28 - Feb 3

28th: ------------------------- For the eternal repose of the souls of deceased members of the parish

29th: ------------------------- For the intentions of all members of the parish

30th, 31st, 1st, 2nd & 3rd: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of relatives/friends of Kathie & Steve Sema, Jr.

Volunteers

ALTAR CARE - FEBRUARY

Wesey Dixon & Maria Switzer

CHURCH CLEANING – FEBRUARY 4

Ruth Pigorsch
Please take your responsibility seriously. If you are interested in serving as an Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister, and Lector or as an Usher, please let Fr. Tony or the Office know of your willingness to serve. We especially need Usher/Greeters for the Saturday Mass.

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<th>Extraordinary Minister Schedule for February 4 &amp; 5, 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Altar Servers</strong> (Green Cincture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Graham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daryl Kirchoff</td>
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<td>Paul Delmas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Ramsay</td>
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<td>Kyle McBride</td>
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Pray for the deceased dear ones of the parish: Pray for the eternal repose of the deceased members of the parish: Carolyn Bidlingmaer, Kenny Kirchoff, Voncille Hulcher, Mary Nicholas Rambo, Paul Delmas, Cody Driskell, Evelyn Robison, Jean Mitchell, Veretta Tulos, Jim Kimble, Lynn Poirier, Phillip Marchand, Sue Kirchoff, Mary Sanders, Margaret Jackson, Catherine Schnadelbach, Darlene Alexander, Patrick Marchand, Steve Sema, Sr., Mary Marchand and Sis Marchand. Close relatives of our parishioners: Judy Courtney, Regina La Force, Ronnie Moran. Russell Gray, Gerald John Brannan, Emilee
**Former pastors:** Rev. Monsignor Hugh Maguire and Fr. Strejeski.


**Pray for our former parishioners serving in the Armed Forces:** Travis Wilson, SPC Jackson Triston, Jr., Captain Will Hurd, Bryant Bailey & Zachery Bailey, Khaila Graham, and Athena Ladnier who undergoing training in the U. S. Navy.

**Pro-life Mass at St. Mary’s Home:** Please join us for Mass at St. Mary's Home, 4350 Moffett Road, Mobile, AL 36618, at 10 am every Friday, beginning Friday, September 25th, to pray for our pro-life activities, to pray for our children at St. Mary's Home, and to pray in thanksgiving for St. Mary's Home in our Mobile Archdiocese. After Mass, approximately at 11am, at the abortion mill, Planned Parenthood, 717 Downtowner Loop West, the Holy Rosary will be prayed together for an end to abortion and for the increased awareness of the dignity of every human life. For more info: Mae and Chris Rehm, 251-554-2032. The Holy Rosary is also prayed together at Planned Parenthood on Saturdays at 9am for an end to abortion and for the increased awareness of the dignity of every human life. Please join us.

**To schedule a meeting or event using parish facilities** you must check the calendar or contact the office to be sure the date and room is available. You must have approval from the office for any scheduled events.

**Items for Soldiers’ needs:** Please don’t forget to bring items for soldiers’ needs: Shaving cream, disposable razors, solid deodorant,
bars of soap/body wash, anti-bacteria cleaner, shampoo, tooth paste, dental floss, personal handy-wipes, personal hygiene items for women, foot powder, insect repellent, flea collars (they put them around their ankles), chopstick, athlete’s foot powder/spray, sun block lotion, sun shades, protective safety dust masks, socks, sweat headbands, batteries (AAA, AA, C), DVD movies, cards, writing tablets, paper, pens, envelopes, reading materials, snacks: cookies, gum, crest, life-savers, mints, pudding, crackers, sardines, chicken, tuna, salmon, jerky, peppermints, kool-aid, gatorade, tea/coffee. Put items in the designated box in the Parish Hall

Help us to keep flowers at the altar: The slotted wooden box on the glass table in the Parish Hall will receive donations for flowers. If you wish to give flowers for a specific remembrance or thanksgiving, there is a sign-up flower chart on the wall to the left of the front doors.

Bishop Barron’s Sunday homily for O. T. IV Sunday

https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/history-is-going-somewhere-and-it-rhymes/5350/
Synopsis: OT IV [A] Sunday (Jan 29) Homily on Mt 5:1-12:

Introduction: Today’s readings define our Christian goal of eternal happiness and explain the attitudes and actions necessary to reach it. They form the outline for Christ-like living, giving the personal qualities expected of a disciple of Jesus and pointing out the way of life to be lived by a disciple. They show us the values that Christ cares about. In essence, the Beatitudes both fulfill and complete the Ten Commandments which stress the “Thou shalt nots.” But Jesus presents the Beatitudes in a positive sense, as the virtues in life which will ultimately lead to the rewards of salvation - not in this world, but in the next.

Scripture lessons: Zephaniah, in the first reading, calls the “moral minority” of the Jews of his time blessed because they seek justice, humility, truth and righteousness, thus making a declaration of dependence on God. In the second reading, Paul advises his Corinthian Christians to use their gifts and Heaven-sent blessings for the good of the community because God has chosen to give them life in Jesus, by whom He justified, sanctified and redeemed them. In today’s Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples in the paradoxical blessedness of poverty, hunger, sorrow and persecution. In poverty, we recognize God’s reign; in hunger, His providence; in sorrow, true
happiness; and in persecution, true joy. In other words, the blessed in Jesus’ list are poor in spirit, compassionate, meek, merciful, clean of heart and peacemakers and those who are willing even to be insulted and persecuted for their lived Faith in him. Each of the inspired authors of today’s readings, Zephaniah, Paul and Matthew, “makes a motion,” that each of us should consider making a Declaration of Dependence on God and then work with His grace to lead holier and happier lives.

**Life messages: 1)** We need to respond to the challenge of the Beatitudes in daily life. The Beatitudes propose to us a way of life, inviting us to identify with the poor, those who mourn, the meek, and those who hunger and thirst after justice. They challenge us to be compassionate people, to be men and women who are pure in heart, and to become the peacemakers in our dealings with one another, in our families and in the society at large, even when this approach to things exposes us to ridicule and persecution. Let us remember that each time we reach out to help the needy, the sick and the oppressed, we share with them a foretaste of the promises of the Beatitudes here and now.  

**2)** We need to choose the way wisely. "There are two Ways, one of Life and one of Death, and there is a great difference between the two Ways." These are the opening lines of the "Didache," a first century Christian catechism used to teach new Christians the essence of the Christian faith. The way of life is the way of Jesus that leads to eternal life. The challenge of the beatitudes is: “Are you going to be happy in the world’s way or in Christ’s way?” God wants us to live as brothers and sisters who care for one another.

**Who are Jehovah’s Witnesses:** The sect known today as Jehovah’s Witnesses is as American as hot dogs and baseball. Objective historians
trace their origin to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, about the year 1872. Its beliefs are based on Studies in the Scriptures written by a layman Charles Taze Russell. Russell was raised a Presbyterian, then joined the Congregational church, and was finally influenced by Adventist teachings. The new sect was his response to “corruption in mainstream Christianity.” The Watchtower is their official publication. The second coming of Jesus, general resurrection and final judgment and Jesus’ rule for a millennium are some of their doctrines. The original legal name of Russell’s followers was Zion’s Watchtower Tract Society. The name “Jehovah’s Witnesses” was adopted in 1931 at the suggestion of Russell’s successor, “Judge” J.F. Rutherford. Instead of churches they have "Kingdom Halls." Most Witnesses used to be Catholics or Protestants. According to Jehovah witnesses there is no Trinity or hell. Only Father or Jehova is God. Holy Spirit is not a person but only the force of Yahweh and Jesus was not God, but rather a holy witness to God, and our souls are not immortal. Jehovah’s Witnesses will not serve in the military, salute the flag, say the Pledge of Allegiance, vote, run for office, or serve as officials of labor unions. Here is a plan of action when you encounter Jehovah Witnesses: Don't slam the door in their faces. Instead kill them with kindness and tell them you are not interested in their religion. Don't argue or debate specific doctrines with the Witnesses because they are prepared and you are not. Don't let the Witness get through his rehearsed presentation. Don't allow the Witnesses to bring up multiple issues and get you sidetracked. Don't go by the Witnesses' version of the Bible, the New World Translation.
Pope Francis tweets: “Today I want to remember in my heart all the victims of the Holocaust. May their sufferings and their tears never be forgotten. Hope lets new life blossom, like a plant that grows from the seed fallen on the earth. I love to repeat that Christian unity is achieved by walking together, by encounter, prayer and preaching the Gospel. Let us offer the men and women of our time stories marked by the logic of the “good news”. “Be not afraid, for I am with you”. Let us communicate hope and trust in our time! The unity of love is realized when we announce together the wonders God has done for us. With St Dominic “we go forward with joy, thinking of our Savior”. Christian unity is not the fruit of our human efforts but a gift that comes from above. We invoke Christian unity because we invoke Christ. We want to live unity: we want to follow Christ and to live in His love. As we end this year, let us remember the days, weeks and months we have lived in order to give thanks and offer everything to the Lord. Holy Family of Nazareth, help us all to recognize the sacred nature of the family and its beauty in God’s plan for humanity. Let us be touched by the tenderness that saves. Let us draw close to God who draws close to us. Let us pause to gaze upon the crib. Christmas has above all a taste of hope because, for all the darkness in our lives, God’s light shines forth. Christ is born for us, let us rejoice in the day of our salvation! The birthday of Jesus, who took on the burden of our human weakness, is drawing closer. Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, may we too, with eyes full of amazement and wonder, gaze upon the Child Jesus, the Son of God. I thank you all for your kindness. Please do not forget to pray for me. Forgiveness is the most visible sign of the Father’s love, which Jesus sought to reveal by his entire life.
Questions & Answers and 56 - Faith Formation Lessons, introduction to all Bible books.

As parishioners at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, we are committed to **know Christ better and make Him better known**.

To **k-n-o-w**, we are **committed to**

- **Keep connected to our parish community**
- **Nurture the development of faith and knowledge of Christ**
- **Offer to share the Holy Spirit’s gifts of time, talent and treasure**
- **Worship through prayer, Mass and the Sacraments**

In carrying out this mission, we will demonstrate the love that we have for God, by the community we create with each other and our response to the needs of our neighbor.

**Parish prayer:** Almighty Father, the Body of Christ, the Church, is made up of people who believe in your Son, Jesus Christ, and saved through His suffering, death and resurrection. Enable us to grow in faith, hope, love and service that we may build a welcoming, friendly faith community. A community that witnesses your Son’s life and mission after the life example of Mary, the Mother of God, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Grand Bay celebrates God’s presence, grows in God’s grace, welcomes all people and reaches out with God’s love. We try to be to be a vibrant community of faith where all people feel they belong.

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, No matter what your current family or marital situation, No matter what your past or present religious situation, No matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc., No matter what your own self-image or esteem, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Grand Bay!

We come together as a parish family to draw our life from the Eucharist and other sacraments.

As believers, we participate fully, consciously and actively in the liturgy of the Church and seek to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action.

We commit ourselves to worship, education, stewardship and service as we extend our hand to others in need and to those who wish to join the church.

By the grace of God, after the example of Jesus Christ, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate ourselves to accomplish our mission within and beyond our community.
The New Church blessed and consecrated by Bishop May on June 18, 1972

Consecration of the first St. John the Baptist Catholic church in Grand Bay on November 16, 1924

By Bishop Allen
Photos of the great pastors who guided the destiny of our parish are given below.
