

**LENT IV SUNDAY**

**Sunday bulletin- March 11, 2018**

**Office bearers of St. John the Baptist Church**

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| St. John the Baptist Catholic Church   | Phone: 251-865-6902  |
| P. O. Box 417, Grand Bay, AL 3641  | Fax: 251-865-1412  |
| Email: <a href="mailto:StJohnGrandBay@gmail.com">StJohnGrandBay@gmail.com</a>    | Parish website: <a href="http://www.StJohnGrandBay.org">www.StJohnGrandBay.org</a> |
| <b>Pastor:</b>   |  |
| <a href="mailto:akadavil@gmail.com">Fr. Anthony Kadavil (akadavil@gmail.com)</a> |  |
| <b>Secretary:</b>  |  |
| <a href="#">Rev. Deacon Billy Graham</a>   |  |
| <b>Parish Council Chair Person:</b>  |  |
| <a href="#">Mr. Bill Schaffer</a>  |  |
| <b>Finance Council President:</b>  |  |
| <a href="#">Mrs. Paula Dyess</a>   |  |
|  |  |

**Second Collection** this Sunday, March 11, is for Catholic Relief Services.

**Parish and Finance Councils** will meet on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm. This is a very important meeting. All members are urged to be present.

**Televised Mass for the Homebound and Shut-Ins:** We will be filming Masses for the shut-ins on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am in the church. We ask anyone that is available at that time to come join us in celebrating the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent and “Palm Sunday” with the homebound of the Archdiocese of Mobile.

**Sunday School and Youth Program** begins at 8:45 am. Please send all your children regularly and on time.

**Invitation for our Lenten programs: Way of the Cross & Confession:** Every Friday of the Lent we have the “Way of the Cross” devotion at 5-30 pm. Since St. John’s participate in the Light of Christ program, Fr. Tony will be available for administering the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) every Friday from 5 pm to 6-30 pm.

**Fish Fry by Knight of Columbus:** The Knight of Columbus is serving fish fry dinner every Friday of the Lent from 5- 7 pm. Please participate in it.

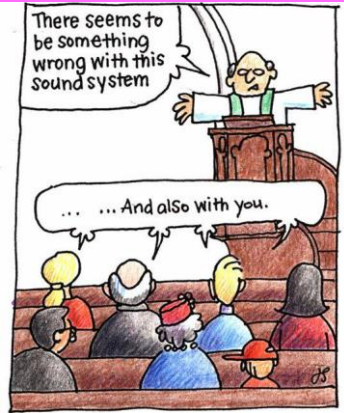
**Holy Week parish mission** will be preached by Fr. Dan Good (the new pastor of Philip Neri & Heron Bay parishes) on Monday to Wednesday of the Holy Week from 7 to 8 pm. Please mark your calendar and make yourselves free to participate in this short Lenten renewal program.

**Quilt for Golden Group:** Mrs. Martha Delmas donated a beautiful quilt (8 into 7 feet) to the Golden Group. Please try your luck by taking chances.

**CRS Rice Bowls:** A few more bowls are on the table in the church hall. Please take one and put your coins in it and bring it back no later than Easter Sunday.



**Special thanks to Mr. Scotty Bowden** for donating and fixing a new ceiling fan with light unit to the rectory guest room and **Mr Carey Olsen** for replacing old sensor and bulb holder outside the rectory kitchen door with a new one and **Mr. Jack Wright** for supervising the installation of the new sound system in the church and **Mr Avis Garret** for digging holes for cluster roses in the church garden and trimming grape vines and **Mr. Robert Brown** for downsizing roofing steel sheets to protect the surroundings of the tractor shed from weeds.



### **Donations from generous parishioners**

requested for installing a new Sound System in our church, replacing our 42-year-old speakers and mikes and amplifier. The estimated cost is \$13, 164.



### **Pray for the eternal repose of the deceased members of the parish:**

James Cauley, Werner Bidlingmaier, Joe Penton, Richard Boswell, Mickey Poirier, Louis Poiroux, Louise Marchand, 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, Rick Marchand, Steve Sema, Sr., Mary Marchand and Sis Marchand.



**Remember in your prayers:** Addie Thompson, Patrick Marchand, Joe Ecker, Bill Schaffer, Keith Tippit, Jimmy Marchand, Joe Gable, Virginia Gable, Barbara Lepre, Willie Thompson, Barbara Lepre, Isabel Rel, Cindy Smith, Holly Raymond, Bo Roderick, Glenn Boney, Charlena Hetrick, Chris Brown, Aubreigh Nichols, Stacy Moore, Ann Vick, Catherine Kostyk, Wayne Seymour, Frances Walley, H. Sanders, Cora Grigsby, Patricia Davis, Maurine Habley, Phillip Scott, Ray Thornton, Alice Skutack, Joe Whitson, Cory Moncrief, Carolyn Collier, Joe Gable, Vicenta Obsenares, Rachel Vallas, Rick Joseph, Harrand Broussard, Edgar Gunter, Victoria Porter, Betty Cauley, Jonathan Cruz, Gennie Garret, Becky Thompson, Bob Echement, Pat Bourne, Lilly Breaux, James Wink, Mike Wilson, Johnnie Tate, Carol Tate, Roger Young, Leyah White.



**Birthdays this week:** Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>: Olivia Schmierer, 14<sup>th</sup>: Mary Martin, 15<sup>th</sup>: Mike Stringfellow, Theresa Bridges, Destry Murray, **Known Wedding Anniversaries this week:** 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Father Tony's Priestly Ordination

**Don't give up Chocolate for "Lent."** Instead, take a 40-day journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself. Join our parish for Best Lent Ever, a free email program designed to help you have a life-changing Lent. Everyday you'll get inspirational videos, practical tips and encouraging stories. So, are you ready to have your Best Lent Ever? Sign up at [DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp](http://DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp)

**Prayer for speedy healing requested:** Your fervent prayers are requested for the healing of Jimmy Marchand, Joe Gable, Sara Thornton, Terry Roberts, Virginia Gable, Tiffany Fontenot, and Dr. Reggie Stewart. Both Jimmy & Joe are admitted in the Grand Bay Convalescent Home for physical therapy.



**March 10-16**

- 10<sup>th</sup>: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of deceased parishioners
- 11<sup>th</sup>: ----- For the intentions of all members of the parish
- 12<sup>th</sup>: ----- For the eternal repose of the soul of Muriel Tate by Carol & Johnny Tate
- 13<sup>th</sup>: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of Houston & Alberta Dials by Carol & Johnnie Tate
- 14<sup>th</sup>: ----- For the eternal repose of the soul of Joyce Pettway by Carol & Johnnie Tate
- 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>: ----- For the eternal repose of the soul of Joe Penton by Cheryl Penton

## **STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTION**

**March 4: \$3,583.00 / Bldg. Fund \$389.00**

### **ALTAR CARE- MARCH**

**Lynda & Louis Jones**

### **CHURCH CLEANING – MARCH 17TH**

**Maria Switzer & Pat Potter**



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.

| <b><u>Extraordinary Minister Schedule for March 17 &amp; 18, 2018</u></b> |  |  |   |                      |
|---|--|--|---|----------------------|
| <b><u>Mass</u></b>  | <b><u>Altar Servers</u></b><br><b>(White Cincture)</b> | <b><u>EMCH</u></b>                     | <b><u>Lectors</u></b>                     | <b><u>Ushers</u></b> |
| Saturday<br>Mar. 17,<br>2018, 5:00<br>pm                                  | Volunteers   | Jay<br>Graham<br><br>Andrea<br>Graham  | Ann<br>Jacks<br>on<br><br>Colleen<br>Gray | Volunteers           |
| Sunday<br>Mar. 18,<br>2018, 10:00<br>am                                   | Volunteers   | Elsa<br>McBride<br><br>John<br>McBride | Aaron<br>Poiroux<br><br>Michelle<br>Cook  | Volunteers           |

**Pray for the deceased dear on es of the parish:** **Close relatives of our parishioners:** John Stein, Judy Courtney, Regina La Force, Ronnie Moran. Russell Gray, Gerald John Brannan, Emilee Voss, **Former pastors:** Rev. Monsignor Hugh Maguire and Fr. Strejeski. **Other priests and deacons and Sisters:** Rev. Msg. Joseph Jennings, Rev. Andrew J. Stauter, Rev. Walter Menig, Rev. William Gorman, Deacon John Cretaro, Deacon Holscomb Pryor, Deacon Marvin Johns, Sr. Maria Bernarda Kadavil and other deceased relatives and friends. **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.



**Pray for the special intentions of those serving in the Armed Forces:**

Brent Smith, Travis Wilson, SPC Jackson Triston, Jr., Captain Will Hurd, Bryant Bailey & Zachery Bailey.

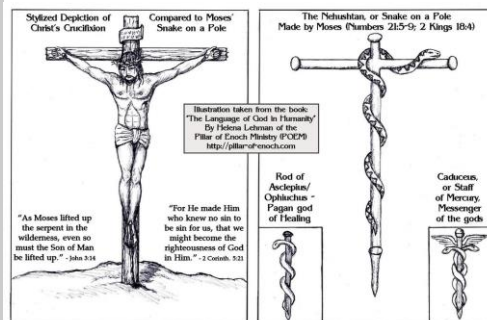
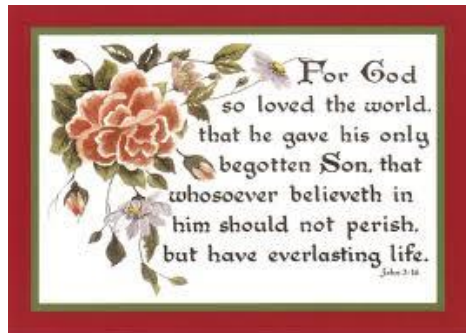
**To schedule a meeting or event using parish facilities** you must check the calendar or contact the office to be sure the date and room is available. You must have approval from the office for any scheduled events.

**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.



## Lent IV Sunday video homilies:

- 1) **Bishop Barron:** <https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/hesed-all-the-way-through/4687/>
- 2) **Fr. Bill Grimm:** <https://youtu.be/TtBfgrKJACo>
- 3) **St. Paul Media:** <https://youtu.be/KkqPADRbXik>

## SYNOPSIS OF LENT IV (B) (March 11) HOMILY on John 3. 14-21

**Introduction:** The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called *Lætare* (Rejoice) Sunday, from the first words of today's liturgy. As on *Gaudete* Sunday in Advent, rose-colored vestments may replace violet and flowers may

grace the altar, symbolizing the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of Our Lord. The central theme of today's readings is that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God, given to us sinners through Jesus, His Son. The readings stress God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ.

**The Scripture lessons:** In the first reading, taken from the Second Book of Chronicles, we learn the compassion and patience of God. God allowed Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become the instrument of His mercy and salvation to His chosen people who were in exile in Babylon. In the second reading, Paul tells us that God is so rich in mercy that He has granted us eternal salvation and eternal life as a free gift through Christ Jesus. Today's Gospel has a parallel theme, but on a much higher level. Jesus, the Son of God, became the agent of God's salvation, not just for one sinful nation but for the sinfulness of the whole world. Through John 3:16, the Gospel teaches us that God expressed His love, mercy and compassion for us by giving His only Son for our salvation. Nicodemus, the wealthy Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin, meets Jesus by night and begins a long religious discussion. Jesus explains to him that he must believe Jesus' words because he is the Son of God. He further explains to Nicodemus God's plan of salvation by referring to the story of Moses and the bronze serpent (Nm 21:1-9). Just as God saved the victims of serpent bite through the bronze serpent, He is going to save mankind from its sins by permitting the crucifixion and death of His Son Jesus because the love of God for mankind is that great.

**Life messages:** 1) We need to love the cross, the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love: As a forceful reminder not only of God's love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation, the crucifix

invites us to more than generosity and compassion. It inspires us to remove the suffering of other people's misery. It encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow for another's suffering but also to try our best to remove that suffering. Hence, let us love the cross, wear its image and carry our own daily cross with joy, while helping other to carry their heavier crosses. 2) We need to reciprocate God's love by loving others. God's love is unconditional, universal, forgiving and merciful. Let us try to make an earnest attempt to include these qualities in sharing our love with others during Lent. 3) Our rebirth by water and the Spirit must be an ongoing process. That is, we must lead a life of repentance and conversion bringing us to renewal of life, with the help of the Holy Spirit living within us, through prayer, Bible reading, frequenting the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist and doing corporal and spiritual works of mercy.



**Question of the week: Why do we have a parish mission in Lent?** Every parish deserves and needs a parish mission once in a while. Lent is primarily the time of intense spiritual preparation for conquering our temptations using the means Jesus used. It is also the time for renewing our lives for the celebration of Easter with our Risen Lord who conquered sin and death by his suffering, death and resurrection. A fruitful parish mission during Lent will increase bonding among parishioners. The renewal, enthusiasm and shot in the arm from this type of event invigorate even the best of communities. It renews their faith, commitment and

attachment to the Body of Christ present in their faith community. By its very nature, a parish mission has in its DNA a conversion mode. The mission is a preaching event. God's Word is proclaimed through the Bible and Catholic doctrine. In times past parish missions were often seen as a time to "scare the hell" out of people, putting the fear of the Lord into them. Its main emphasis is centered upon how much the loving Lord desires to encounter and save each one of us. A parish mission is also a time of grace, a time for repentance, for change, for becoming a renewed person. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an essential part of a good mission. St. Alphonsus used to say that the thermometer for a successful mission was judged by how many people used the confessional.

**Pope Francis tweets:** "In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we find our way back to the Lord and rediscover the meaning of life. With so much to do, we often neglect what is really important: our spiritual lives, and our relationship with God. So, let's stop and take time to pray! I thank all women who every day strive to build more humane and welcoming societies. If sometimes the flame of charity seems to die in our hearts, it never dies in the heart of God! Let us learn to recognize that which leaves a good and lasting mark on our hearts, knowing that it comes from God. God, who cannot be outdone in generosity, still uses you and me to help our brothers and sisters. When you meet other people in the Lord, you can be sure God's surprises will follow. Almsgiving helps us to recognize our neighbor as our brother or sister, and to acknowledge that what we possess is never our's alone. Fasting makes us more alert and attentive to God and our neighbor and reminds us that He alone can satisfy our hunger. God in His providence

offers us the season of Lent each year as a chance to return to Him with all our hearts and in every aspect of our lives. We can support one another and face every kind of challenge with courage and hope, when we draw our strength from Jesus. We are all called to live the joy that comes from the encounter with Jesus, to overcome our selfishness, and to move beyond our comfort zone. If we want a future of prosperity for all, we need to keep our compass pointing toward "true North", in the direction of authentic values. Let us invoke the gift of peace for the whole world, especially for those people who are suffering most because of ongoing conflicts. We offer a gift pleasing to Jesus when we spend time with a person who has difficulties, or we help someone for the sake of helping. Our Heavenly Father always listens to His children when they cry out to Him in their pain. Today let us offer the Lord a Day of prayer and fasting for peace. I wish you all a fruitful Lenten journey, and I ask you to pray for me and my collaborators as we begin our week of Spiritual Exercises. Only those able to acknowledge their mistakes and ask pardon receive understanding and forgiveness from others. The message of Jesus is troubling and disturbs us because it challenges worldly religious power and stirs consciences. In our daily lives we experience the tenderness of God who lovingly saves us from our sins, fears and anxieties. When we confess our sins with humility and sincerity, we receive forgiveness and are reunited with God and our brothers and sisters. We need the Holy Spirit to transmit the faith. We cannot do it alone. I feel deep pain for the many children torn from their families and forced to become child soldiers. This is a tragedy!

## **Pope's March prayer intention: Formation in Spiritual Discernment**

That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

Visit Our  
Website

<http://stjohngrandbay.org/> for [Sunday Homilies, 195](#) -

[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.



*to St. John's with open hearts, open minds and open doors.*

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 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*

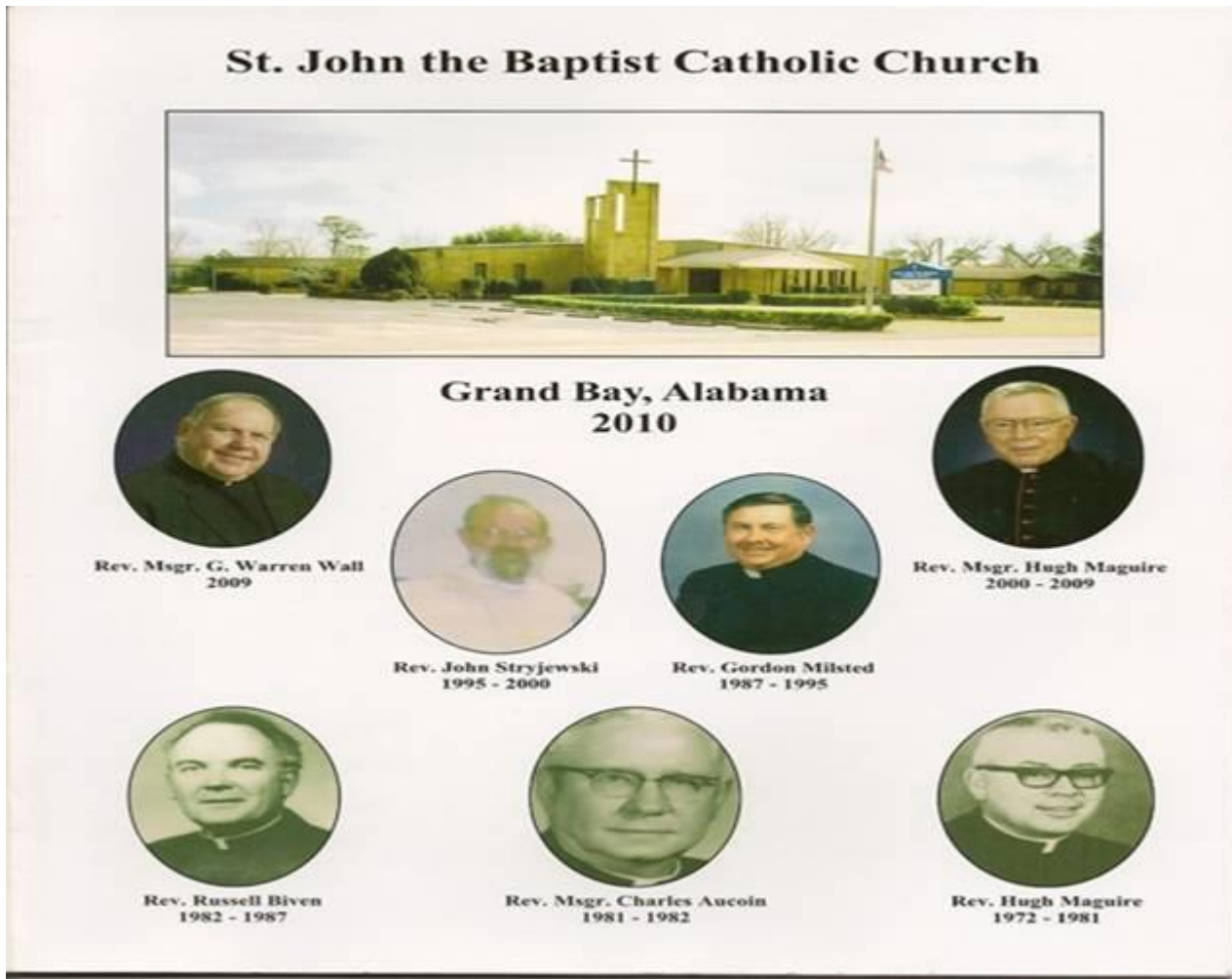


Consecration of the first St. John the Baptist Catholic church in Grand Bay on November 16, 1924

By Bishop Allen

*Photos of the great pastors who guided the destiny of our parish*

*are given below*



Please visit St. John the Baptist Catholic parish website:

<http://stjohngrandbay.org/> for the full text of the

[Sunday homilies](#), [Sunday bulletin](#), [56 Adult Faith Formation Lessons](#) & [introduction to all books of the Bible](#) and [195 Question & Answer of the Week](#).