



ADVENT I SUNDAY

Sunday bulletin- November 27, 2016

Office bearers of St. John the Baptist Church

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church	Phone: 251-865-6902
P. O. Box 417, Grand Bay, AL 3641	Fax: 251-865-1412
Email: StJohnGrandBay@gmail.com	Parish website: www.StJohnGrandBay.org
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

Sunday school classes (CRE) and Youth program: Children's Religious Education (CRE) & Youth classes are from 8-45 to 9-45 am in the Education building. Please send your children to the Sunday school and the youth to the Youth program regularly every Sunday.

A big thank you from Sunday school staff, youth group and students: The staff and students of our Sunday school and Youth program thank all our parishioners for participating in their "Thanks for Giving Lunch" and for the generous donations given for the Christmas gift fund.

Special thanks to the Ladies Altar Society for arranging and paying for the professional cleaning and waxing of the church lobby floor by "Sunshine cleaners" after the November bazaar, as they do every year.

Congratulations for raffle winners & thanks to donors: The Iron Bowl Raffle winners are Mr. Charles and Gloria Krause and the Ladies Sodality raffle winners are Mr. James & Mary Ann Albritton, Miss Colleen Gray & Miss Sylvia Gray. We thank all our parishioners and well-wishers for contributing more than \$ 4000 for the Ladies Altar Sodality c/o November bazaar, \$ 2120 for the church maintenance fund c/o Iron Bowl ticket raffle, and \$ 433 for the Sunday School Christmas Gift Fund c/o Thanks for Giving Lunch.

November the month to remember our departed dear ones: November is observed as a month to remember and pray for our departed relatives. You may bring the All Souls Day envelope enclosed in the bulletin, writing the names of your departed dear ones on it.

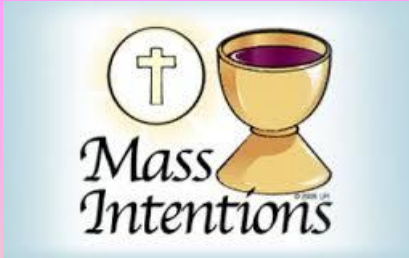
St. Margaret's Parish in the Bayou is having a "Parish Mission" November 27th Sunday thru the 29th. Come join the famous Deacons Eddie Ensley and Robert Herrmann on a contemplative journey in preparation for Christmas. The mission will start each night at 7:00 pm. See the flyers on table in the church hall for more information.



Birthdays this week: Nov. 27th: Lyman Ramsay, 30th: Glenda Poiroux, Dec. 1st: Eugene Poiroux. **No known Wedding Anniversaries this week**

Prayer for speedy healing requested: Your fervent prayers are requested

for the post-surgery 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, and Richard Boswell.



October November 26-Dec 2

26th: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of deceased members of the parish

27th: ----- For the intentions of all members of the parish

28th: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of the relatives of Linda & Deacon Graham

29th & 30th: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of relatives/friends of James & MarryAnn Albritton

1st & 2nd: ----- For the eternal repose of the souls of relatives/friends of Ann & James Jackson

Rite of Christian Initiation: Our RCIA classes for 2016-17 batch began on Sept 19th Monday at 7 pm in the parish hall. We cordially welcome the participants: Mr. Kenny Smith, five members of Rials family, Mrs. Susie Smeriglio and her son Parker.

Ministries of the Mass Schedules are out for December and on the table. If you are on the schedule, please take one so you will know when you are scheduled.

Volunteers

ALTAR CARE- DECEMBER

Ruth Pigorsch

CHURCH CLEANING - DECEMBER 3

Doris Sema, Kathie Sema & Cathy Scott



Extraordinary Minister Schedule for December 3 & 4, 2016


<u>Mass</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u> <u>(Green Cincture)</u>	<u>EMCH</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Saturday Dec. 3, 2016 5:00 pm	Jay Graham James Graham	Rhonda Cauley Linda Graham	Jackie Price Andrea Graham	Chuck Pierce, James Price Steve Cauley, Kevin Cauley

Sunday Dec 4, 2016 10:00 am	Kassi Reynolds, Landon Teofilo, Jay Ramsay	Wesey Dixon Billy Dixon	Peggy Delmas Autumn Bowden	Mike Marchand, Avis Garrett Reggie Stewart, Mike Courtney
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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.



Remember the sick brothers and sisters in

your prayers:  Joe Whitson, Joe Penton, Tiffany Fontenot, Tom Thornton, Terry Roberts, Mary Thornton, Gennie Garret, Ida Clarke, Cory Moncrief, Carolyn Collier, Terry Roberts, Bruce Dyess, Nancy Burden, Joe Gable, Vicenta Obsenares, Rachel Vallas, Amanda Young, Richard Boswell, Willie Thompson, Sister Stephanie Sema, Mark Voss, Rick Joseph, Ernest Johnson, Virginia Gable, Isabel Rel, Victoria Porter, Betty Cauley, Jonathan Cruz, Carol Sevier, Richard Boswell, Gennie Garret, Becky Thompson, Bob Echement, Pat Bourne, Deacon Jim Bullock, Lilly Breaux, John Stein, Billy Dixon, James Wink, Sarah Thornton, Mike Wilson, Johnnie Tate, Carol Tate, Roger Young, Mickey Poirier, Leyah White, Joe Smith, Brennan Griffin, , James Cauley, Susas Halliday, Peggy Hock, Coraif Brasell, Addie Thompson, Carolyn Willard, Wendi Guidry, Gabby DeGeer, Dana Ferrell, Nonie

Crow Reed, Charlee May Knowles, Linda Graham, James Albritton, Gloria White, Kayla Perry, Victoria Fontenot, Tiffany Fontenot.

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 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.

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.



Video homily by Fr. Bill Grimm: <https://youtu.be/G6KYkeCPoXk>



Synopsis: Advent I Sunday (Mt 24: 37-44)

One-page synopsis: Advent I (A) (Nov 27) Homily on Mt 24:37-44:
Introduction: Today we begin our yearly pilgrimage through the

events of our history of salvation starting with the preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus and ending with the reflection on his glorious “second coming” as judge at the end of the world. We are entering the Advent season. Advent means coming. We are invited to meditate on Jesus’ first coming in history as a baby in Bethlehem, his daily coming into our lives in mystery through the Sacraments, through the Bible and through the worshipping community and finally his Second Coming at the end of the world to reward the just and to punish the wicked. We see the traditional signs of Advent in our Church: violet vestments and hangings, dried flowers on the altar, and the Advent wreath. These signs remind us that we have to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives, enabling him to radiate his love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness around us.

Scripture lessons: In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah describes his vision of all nations making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, affirming their Faith in the one true God. Today’s Responsorial Psalm (Ps 122), is a joyous hymn originally sung as pilgrims journeyed to the Temple in Jerusalem. They prepare us for our yearly pilgrimage.

In the second reading Paul exhorts the Roman Christian community to get ready to meet Jesus in his Second Coming by discharging their duties properly and by freeing themselves from their former pagan tendencies toward excessive drinking, sexual promiscuity, jealousy and rivalry. We, too, are challenged to make spiritual preparations for Christ’s birth in our lives.

In today’s Gospel Jesus warns us of the urgency of vigilant preparation on our part that we may meet him as the judge both at the end of our lives on earth and on the day of the Last Judgment when he

comes in his glory. Jesus reminds us of how the unrepentant and ill-prepared evil people were destroyed by the flood in the time of Noah and how a thief would break in and plunder the precious belongings of an ill-prepared house owner. Using the additional examples later, Jesus repeats his warning for us to be vigilant and well-prepared all the time, doing the will of God by loving others.

Life message: We need to be alert and watchful while spiritually preparing for Christmas by offering our daily work to God for His glory, by practicing more self-control in resisting our evil habits and inclinations, by seeking reconciliation daily with God and our fellow-humans, and by asking God's pardon and forgiveness and extending our unconditional forgiveness to those who have hurt us. Let us begin each day by praying for the strength and power of the Holy Spirit to prepare ourselves for Jesus' rebirth in our hearts and lives.



What is Advent and why do we observe it? The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin words, ad-venio or adventus, which both signify a coming. We believe in three advents of Jesus. The first coming as a baby in Bethlehem, the daily coming through the Holy Bible, sacraments and in praying community and the third coming (known also as Second Coming) in glory to judge the world. We prepare for the celebration of birth of Jesus (Christmas) joyfully by renewing our lives during the four weeks of the Advent season so that Jesus may be reborn in our lives. We do so by repenting of our sins and renouncing our wrong choices. We empty ourselves of the clutter of daily idolatry and renounce the self-love that can so easily squeeze God's grace out of our lives. The Advent wreaths in the church with three purple candles and one rose candle and purple vestments of the priest during the Holy Mass invite us for the renewal of lives. Jesus, reborn in the Christians during Christmas, will

radiate his love, mercy, compassion and spirit of forgiveness and service to the world through his Christian followers. Thus, Advent prepares us, the Christians, for better witnessing of Christ through our lives during the Christmas season.



Pope Francis tweets: “So many women are overwhelmed with the burdens of life and the drama of violence! The Lord wants them to be free and their dignity respected. We have to break out of ourselves to encounter others. If we don’t, even we Christians can suffer from division. May the Holy Spirit help us to be patient when enduring, and to be humble and simple when advising. How much I desire that the years to come will be full of mercy, so that every person can experience the goodness and tenderness of God! We entrust the life of the Church, all humanity, and the entire cosmos to the Lord, asking him to pour out his mercy upon us. If you want a heart full of love, be merciful! It is not enough to experience God’s mercy in one’s life; whoever receives it must also become a sign and instrument for others. It is not enough to experience God’s mercy in one’s life; whoever receives it must also become a sign and instrument for others. We don’t have to go far or come up with grand projects to be charitable. Often the people closest to us could use our help. We don’t have to go far or come up with grand projects to be charitable. Often the people closest to us could use our help. If every one of us, every day, does a work of mercy, there will be a revolution in the world! If every one of us, every day, does a work of mercy, there will be a revolution in the world! In a world which has been damaged by the virus of indifference, the works of mercy are the best antidote. We should never forget about beauty, which humanity needs so much! May we make God’s merciful love ever more evident in our world through dialogue, mutual acceptance and fraternal cooperation. May we make God’s merciful love ever more evident in our world through

dialogue, mutual acceptance and fraternal cooperation. Prophecy is saying that there is something truer, more beautiful, greater, of greater good to which we are all called. Prophecy is saying that there is something truer, more beautiful, greater, of greater good to which we are all called. No cell is so isolated that it is shut to the Lord. His love reaches everywhere. I pray that each one may open his heart to this love. Let us be moved by God's watchful gaze. The one thing he desires is for us to abide like living branches in his Son Jesus. Forgiveness is the essence of the love which can understand mistakes and mend them. Christian life is a journey, but not a sorrowful journey; it is joyful.

Visit Our
Website

: <http://stjohngrandbay.org/> for [Sunday Homilies, 187](#) -

[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.

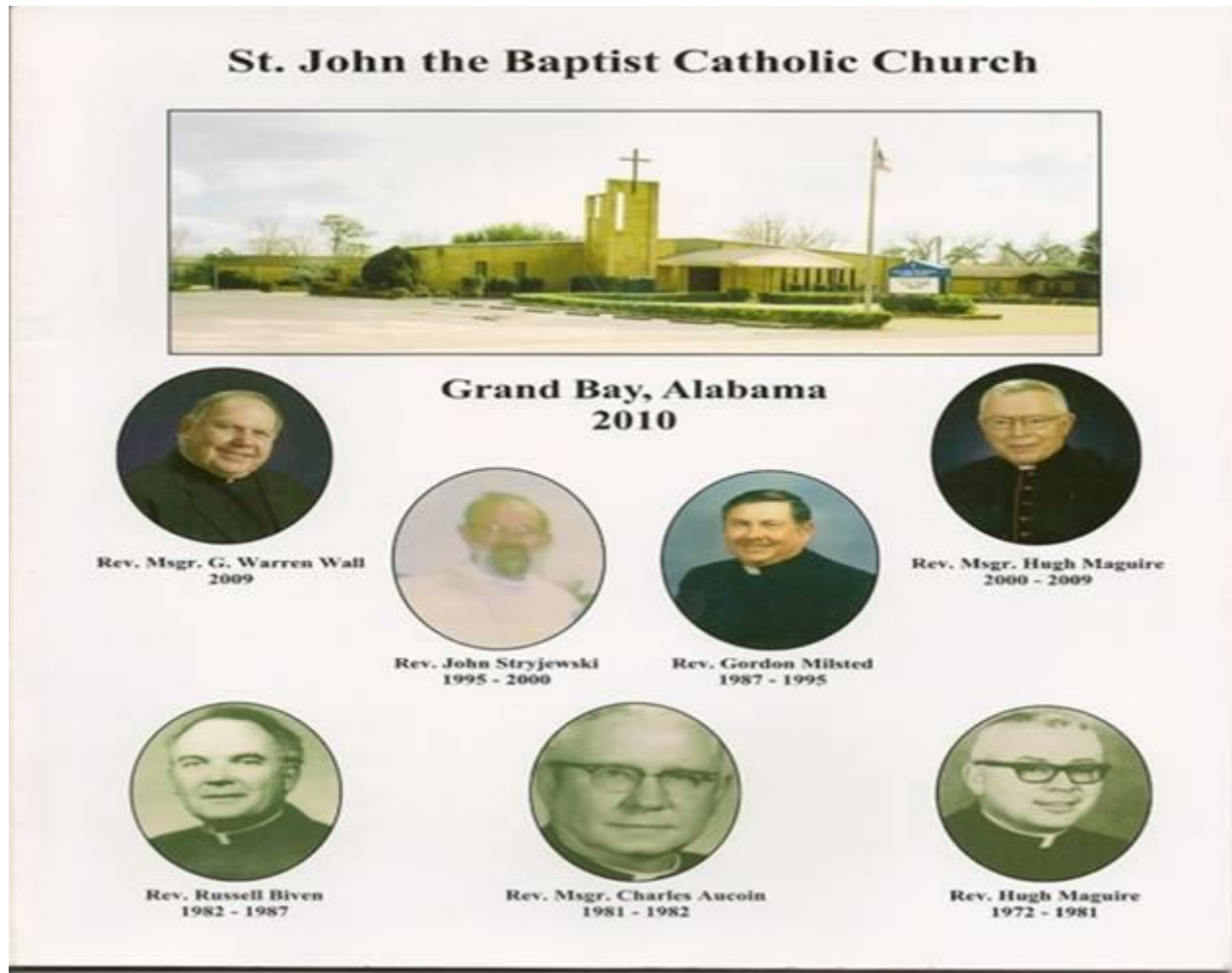
As believers we participate fully, consciously and actively in the liturgy of the Church and seek to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action.

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.



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



Please visit [St. John the Baptist Catholic parish website](http://stjohngrandbay.org/):

<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 [187 Question & Answer of the Week](#).