



St. John the Baptist Church

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Office Hours:
Monday - Closed
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm



Rev. Diego Restrepo, Parish Administrator

May 15, 2022

Mass Intentions	
Sunday	
6:00 am	(+) Eligio, Lourdes & Mamerto Machacon, Eugenio, Natividad & Enrique Cuaresma, Andres Cardenas, Casamira, Jose, Dominador, Elisa, Filomena, Benjamin & Patricio Patague, Andres Cardenas, Casamira, Jose, Dominador, Elisa, Filomeno, Benjamin & Eugonia Corrales, Quirino & Salvador Tejada, Marcelino & Baldomero Soria Healing: Hazel Marcos
8:00 am	(+) Vicenta Ramos Pascual, Juana Ramos, Anacleto Pascual, Paquito Ader, Paulina Ramos Agcaoili Thanksgiving: Ella Rae Columbres
10:00 am	(+) Loreto and Natividad Balmaceda, Petra and Eulalio Balmaceda Thanksgiving: Aurora Balmaceda
12:30 pm	
Monday	
No service	
Tuesday	
7:15 am	(+) Paulina Ramos Agcaoili
Wednesday	
7:15 am	(+) Paulina Ramos Agcaoili
Thursday	
7:15 am	(+) Paulina Ramos Agcaoili
Friday	
7:15 am	(+) Paulina Ramos Agcaoili
Saturday	
7:15 am	(+) Paulina Ramos Agcaoili

<u>Announcements</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Today our second collection is for the Debt Reduction. 2. The Religious Education Registration Link will be available starting May 15, 2022 3. PRAY FOR DOBBS: The Supreme Court is ready to make a major landmark decision on Dobbs v Jackson Women’s Health. Jackson Women’s Health Care is an abortion clinic in Mississippi challenging the Mississippi’s Gestational Age Act (2018) that limits abortion at 15 weeks. Science has proven that a fetus 15 weeks can feel pain and is fully formed. Let’s pray the intention of the Rosary for Life based on Pope John Paul, the Gospel of Life. 4. Let’s pray for our Diocesan Priest that from May 16 to 20, they will be in spiritual retreat. 5. Congratulations!! To all 2022 graduates from elementary school, middle school, high school, colleges and universities. May God bless you in your next goals.

STEWARDSHIP COLLECTION

Total Weekly Collection (05/08/2022)	\$ 3,625.86	
Other Offerings and donations	\$ 7,586.11	
Total Weekly Offering Collection	\$ 11,211.97	
Weekly offering Necessary to Cover Parish Operations	\$ 6,653.55	
Other Collections		
Second Collections – Diocesan Retired Priest	\$ 1,245.00	
Special Collections	\$ NONE	
Collections Not Retained by Parish	\$ 70.00	
School Debt Reduction Collection		
Debt Reduction Goal for 2021-2022	\$ 117,680.00	
Debt Reduction Collected Year to Date	\$ 36,004.33	
Balance Left to Reach 2021-2022 Goal	\$ 88,675.67	

Life of Stewardship Fifth Sunday of Easter



Today's readings on this fifth Sunday of Easter contain inspiring but challenging messages for us Christian stewards.

The Gospel from John includes this well-known verse: "My children...I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

What a succinct description of a stewardship way of life: "love one another as I have loved you." It sounds so simple. But simple does not necessarily mean easy.

We must look at the context in which Jesus makes this statement. It is the Last Supper. Judas has just stepped out discreetly to turn Jesus over to the authorities who will

have Him bound, tortured, and crucified.

Furthermore, exactly how does He call us to love? As He, Himself loved. Jesus loved (and loves) by serving us and by making a sacrifice of His very life for us. That is a tall order.

No wonder we find Paul and Barnabas "strengthening" and "exhorting" the early disciples in our First Reading by saying, "it is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God." Notice they don't say "one or two" hardships or even "the occasional hardship". They say "many" hardships. So, it should not surprise us when we encounter challenges as we embrace stewardship, as a way of life. If it's demanding, we should take heart because it means we are doing it right!

Why is this? Living a life of service and self-sacrifice is not easy because it requires us to continuously fight against our selfish inclinations. But the more we empty ourselves of "self" by serving others, the more room we make in our hearts for God to pour His grace into us. Amazingly, the more we give our lives away to others, the more He fills us up with Himself who is love itself.

And amid those inevitable challenging moments this kind of life entails, we can be assured that the Lord who loves us so much that He died for us and established the Eucharist to be our strength and nourishment, is right here with us every step of the way.

Consider these words from Revelation found in our Second Reading today. "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning or pain, for the old order has passed away... Behold, I make all things new."

As we face the hardships that come with living as Christian stewards, we can continue to rejoice in the wonder of the Resurrection this Easter season, finding great joy in following in our Lord's footsteps and in loving as He loves.