

Saint John Gualbert
Cathedral
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Bishop
Most Rev Mark L Bartchak, DD

Rector & Pastor
Very Rev James F Crookston

Parochial Vicar
Father Clarence S Bridges

In Residence
Father Sean K Code

Deacon
Senior Deacon John J Concanon

SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday Evening

5:00 pm

Sundays

8:00 am

11:00 am

5:00 pm



Daily Mass

Monday through Friday

7:00 am

12:05 pm

Saturday

8:00 am

CONFESSION

Saturday

3:00 pm - Cathedral

Thursday before First Friday

3:00 pm - Cathedral

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.



Sunday, January 6, - The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6/ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Matthew 2:1-12

8:00 am: Charles Laslo (Deacon John, Monica Kendera, & Brigid Starchok)

11:00 am: *For the Intentions of the Television Ministry*

5:00 pm: *For the Intentions of the People of the Parish*

Monday, January 7, - Christmas Weekday, Saint Raymond of Peñafort, Priest

Readings: 1 John 3:22—4:6/ Mark 4:12:17, 23-25

7:00 am: Bob King (Bob & Carol Akers)

12:05 pm: Doreen Fisher, Birthday Remembrance (Husband, Bill)

Tuesday, January 8, - Christmas Weekday

Readings: 1 John 4:7-10/ Mark 6:34-44

7:00 am: Eric Blackner (Sharon Kurtz)

12:05 pm: George Najjar (Wife, Children, & Grandchildren)

Wednesday, January 9, - Christmas Weekday

Readings: 1 John 4:11-18/ Mark 6:45-52

7:00 am: Living & Deceased Members 1st Catholic Slovak Ladies

12:05 pm: Charles White (Slovenian Savings & Loan Employees)

Thursday, January 10, - Christmas Weekday

Readings: 1 John 4:19-5:4/ Luke 4:14-22

7:00 am: Joan Nagrant (Brother, Jim)

12:05 pm: William Antesberger, Sr., Birthday Remembrance (Family)

Friday, January 11, - Christmas Weekday

Readings: 1 John 5:5-13/ Luke 5:12-16

7:00 am: Saint Anne Society

12:05 pm: Walter Wegrzyn, 30th Anniversary (Son, John)

Saturday, January 12, - Christmas Weekday

Readings: 1 John 5:14-21/ John 3:22-30

8:00 am: Michelle Burnheimer Harcom (Mom & Dad)

5:00 pm: Rose & Quido Varrato (Nancy & Nunzio Johncola)

Sunday, January 13, - The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Timothy 2:11-14, 3:4-7/ Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

8:00 am: *For the Intentions of the People of the Parish*

11:00 am: Victor C. Heptner, Birthday Remembrance (Kevin Klug)

5:00 pm: Carole Vogel (Janet Kovach Sanders)

From Our Pastor . . .

Where are the good seats in church? My work took me away from home a lot last fall, and so I was at a different Catholic parish every weekend. All the same Catholic Mass—and, depressingly, the same experience of being the unwelcomed stranger in a strangely familiar land.

Many of the parishes had a greeter smiling at the front door with a bulletin in hand. There was often an invitation from the pulpit for all visitors to stand and be welcomed. At one parish, I even received a shiny little gift bag with a ballpoint pen and a coffee cup, both bearing the name of the parish. That was nice. I was being officially welcomed.

But it was not working. Why? I think it is because I had to climb over people to get into a pew. Seriously. This happened time and again and in churches that were empty except for the ends of the pews firmly held against all newcomers.

I was raised Catholic. I know the strategy. The first-class seats are at the end of the pew. To create a warm and inviting parish, it is apparently much easier to put a welcome blurb in the bulletin or even to station greeters at the front of the church than for parishioners to sit in the middle of an empty pew.

The more parishes I attended, the more people I had to crawl over, the more time I had to think: What scares us about sitting in the center? The wooden pew is just as hard, the view is much the same and we won't suddenly hear an improvement in the music by sitting on the aisle. Perhaps it is because we know we should be at Mass but are unwilling to really commit. We want to be close to an exit, so we can make a quick getaway. So, we sit with one foot in the pew and the other in the parking lot.

Do we forget that we are at Mass because it is here the community gathers? It is here that we become the people of God, drawn to each other by the work of the Spirit. And yet we try to sit where we can have as little contact with other people as possible—choosing our seats at Mass as we would on a cramped trans-Atlantic flight with unpleasant strangers.

We do this without thinking about it, on a level that remains hidden to us but is obvious to newcomers. We bemoan our empty churches and then act as though no one is expected to join us in our empty pew. But here is the deal: The end spots on a pew are for those who arrive after us.

Or do we think we are the last ones who will sit in these pews at all? That we are the final generation of faithful churchgoing Catholics? Thus, we don't need to worry about moving toward the middle because the pew will be largely empty anyway.

Every weekend, in every Catholic Church in the United States, new people arrive hungry for a community to call home. Is this parish for them? Is this pew for them? They come from other denominations, from other faiths and from other parishes. If they cannot find a place to sit, they will not be back. And we will never have a chance to speak the saving Word to them, because, despite the official welcome, they understood this was not going to be their church. It was already taken by the guardians at the end of the pew.

This is hard on the newcomers, but it is equally damaging to the old-timers, the invested, the parishioners. We can go to Mass weekend after weekend, and every weekend we get just a little bit less hopeful. We begin to see the empty pews as abandoned real estate rather than fresh new lots, ready for families to move into our neighborhood.

Now, this might not apply to families with kids. But if we singles and couples chose to scoot over and occupy the middle, we would not only create space for the newcomers but we could get into the habit of hope again in our church. We could hold a space open for all our friends and family who wander in lost and alone on a Sunday morning. And we would begin to rub elbows with the Sunday regulars from the other end of the pew as well.

Then, imagine if we all began to move toward the middle in the rest of our lives—in our choice of media, in our ideological camps. Can you imagine moving to the middle? Or is any movement toward the center seen as a betrayal? Are we selfish enough to continue the move apart when what we need desperately is to come together?

Can you imagine arriving at Mass and choosing to sit in the exact middle of a pew? If you sit there, you boldly state that you are expecting more people to join you. There is room on your right; there is room on your left. You sit in the middle because you are welcoming. You are ready to make that first offer to strangers, the offer of space, of community. You help them begin a first step toward a life with Christ where you are St. Paul, John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary rolled into one: an on-fire, evangelizing Catholic. Father Jack Bentz, S.J.

FROM OUR PARISH

Religious Education News:

- **Sunday, Jan. 6th** – regular class 9:00 to 10:15 am
- **Sunday, Jan. 13th** – ALL 2ND GRADERS WILL MEET AT RESURRECTION CHURCH FOR THEIR FIRST RECONCILIATION RETREAT 9:00-10:15 AM. Please note the change of location is ONLY FOR 2ND GRADERS. All other grades will have regular class at the Parish Center.
- **Saturday, Jan. 19th** – FIRST RECONCILIATION 9:00 AM AT RESURRECTION CHURCH.
- **Sunday, Jan. 20th** – No Class

2019 Envelopes are available for pick-up in the Rectory.

The Christian Life and Service Committee are conducting their **Annual Yellow Ribbon Campaign** in support of pro-life before and after all Masses this weekend January 5 & 6. The monetary donations received will get our fellow parishioners down to Washington, DC for the March for Life to be held on Friday, January 18th. Thank you for your many prayers and generosity in supporting this effort.

St. John Gualbert needs volunteers to take down Christmas decorations the evening of January 13th at 6:00pm. Many thanks for your hard work and support.

FROM OTHER PARISHES & THE COMMUNITY

St. Francis of Assisi will sponsor a **Fish Fry** on Friday, January 11 from 11am to 6:00pm at the Activity Center, corner of D Street and Barron Avenue. There will be a Gob and Bake sale in conjunction with the Fish Fry. We offer Fried and Baked Fish, Shrimp and a Combo dinner of Fish and Shrimp along with Sandwiches and a variety of sides. For a complete menu, visit our website at <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com> and click on the Fish Fry tab.

St. Francis of Assisi **MARDI GRAS** will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2019!. Tickets are \$20.00 and include Turkey Dinner, soda and eligibility for Grand Prizes. Music by Flood City Brass. You may also reserve at table for eight (8) for \$10.00. A Cash Bar will be available along with games of chance and chances on baskets. There will be a \$7.00 cover charge for beer if desired (21 years and older); NO OUTSIDE drinks permitted. For tickets please contact the Parish Office

at 539-1632. Monday thru Thursday from 9:00AM until 3:00PM.

Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, will host the ninth annual Faith and Reason summer program from Sunday, June 9, through Friday, June 14. Students age 15 and older are invited to apply for admission to the program, which introduces young minds to the rich intellectual tradition of the Roman Catholic faith and is designed to prepare students for college-level education. Housing in a college residence hall and three daily meals in the college dining hall are included in the cost (\$495). Limited scholarship funding is available. For further information, contact Dr. Michael Krom at 724-805-2844, or michael.krom@stvincent.edu. Students may register online at www.stvincent.edu/fairhandreason.

A Pro-Life Message

Many problems darken the horizon of our time. We need but think of the urgent need to work for peace, to base relationships between peoples on solid promises of justice and solidarity, and to defend human life from conception to its natural end. And what should we say of the thousand inconsistencies of a "globalized" world where the weakest, the most powerless and the poorest appear to have so little hope! It is in this world that Christian hope must shine forth! For this reason too, the Lord wished to remain with us in the Eucharist, making his presence in a meal and sacrifice the promise of a humanity renewed by his love.

-Pope John Paul II, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, no.20
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This Day's Greatest Gift

We can't change the past...But we can gather up
Its lessons and move on, Stronger and wiser,
We can't control the future...But we can send our dreams
Ahead of us To help prepare the way,
We can live each moment...Heart and soul,
And cherish this day's Greatest gift...The gift of now,
May peace with the past
And faith in the future,
Gently guide you through each
Precious moment of Today.

Reprinted with permission from:
"Apple Seeds", Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R.

COLLECTION: 12/30/2018 & New Year's

Collection – cash	\$ 1,420.35
Collection – envelopes	\$ 4,473.17
Second collection	\$ 316.40
Maintenance	\$ 31.00
Christmas	\$ 637.00
Christmas flowers	\$ 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 35.00
New Year's - envelopes	\$ 1,061.00
New Year's - cash	\$ 469.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 1.00
Candlemas	\$ 5.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 10.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 10.00
Good Friday	\$ 10.00
Ascension	\$ 10.00
Assumption	\$ 10.00
Easter	\$ 20.00
All Saints	\$ 10.00

Total \$8,523.92
Thank you for your Stewardship

**Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers,
CCA Gift Cards and Audio Operators, Jan 12-13**

Saturday, January 12, 5:00 PM

Reader: Larry Olek, Marcy Olek
Eucharistic Minister: Russ Gramlich, Betty King,
Elizabeth King, Patricia Loughlin,
Christine Russell
Server: Randy Russell, Rylee Russell
Audio Operator: Kevin Slonka

Sunday, January 13, 8:00 AM

Reader: Fred Oliveros, Brigid Starchok
Eucharistic Minister: Irene Ott, Rich Ott,
Gene Podratsky, Diane Thomas,
Valerie Wilson
Server: Nate Gates, Sam Grasso
Gift Card: Request a volunteer
Audio Operator: Dennis Thomas

Sunday, January 13, 11:00 AM

Reader: Geoffrey Stumpo, David Wilson
Eucharistic Minister: Esperanza Bair, Jodie Hall, Rachel Hall,
James Hollis, Justin Zierer
Server: Levi Giffin, Hannah Rietscha
Gift Card: Lisa Leckey
Audio Operator: Ray Ritter

Sunday, January 13, 5:00 PM

Reader: Christine Brothers, Dixie Lochrie
Eucharistic Minister: Charlotte Amenti, Vi Najjar,
Pat Roth, Request two ministers
Server: Eli Updyke, Mattie Updyke
Audio Operator: Matthew Updyke

Families and the Gospel: Mt. 2:1-12, After meeting Jesus, the Magi returned home by "another way." What in your family needs to be done "another way?" Do you need another way to resolve differences, to communicate or show affection? This is a new year. It's time to change what isn't working. Take a tip from some wise men, there's always "another way." - Reprinted with permission from: *A Family Perspective* by Bud Ozar

Liturgical Reflection ... Today we join the three men from the east who have come to acknowledge the presence of divinity on this earth. The infant child is indeed the Eternal Word of God. And this divine gift is just not for God's holy people Israel. The Savior has arrived on this earth for the redemption of all peoples. These foreign travelers stand for all of us who are not members of God's chosen people Israel. Nonetheless, God has sent his Savior Child for the redemption of all people. - 2019, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

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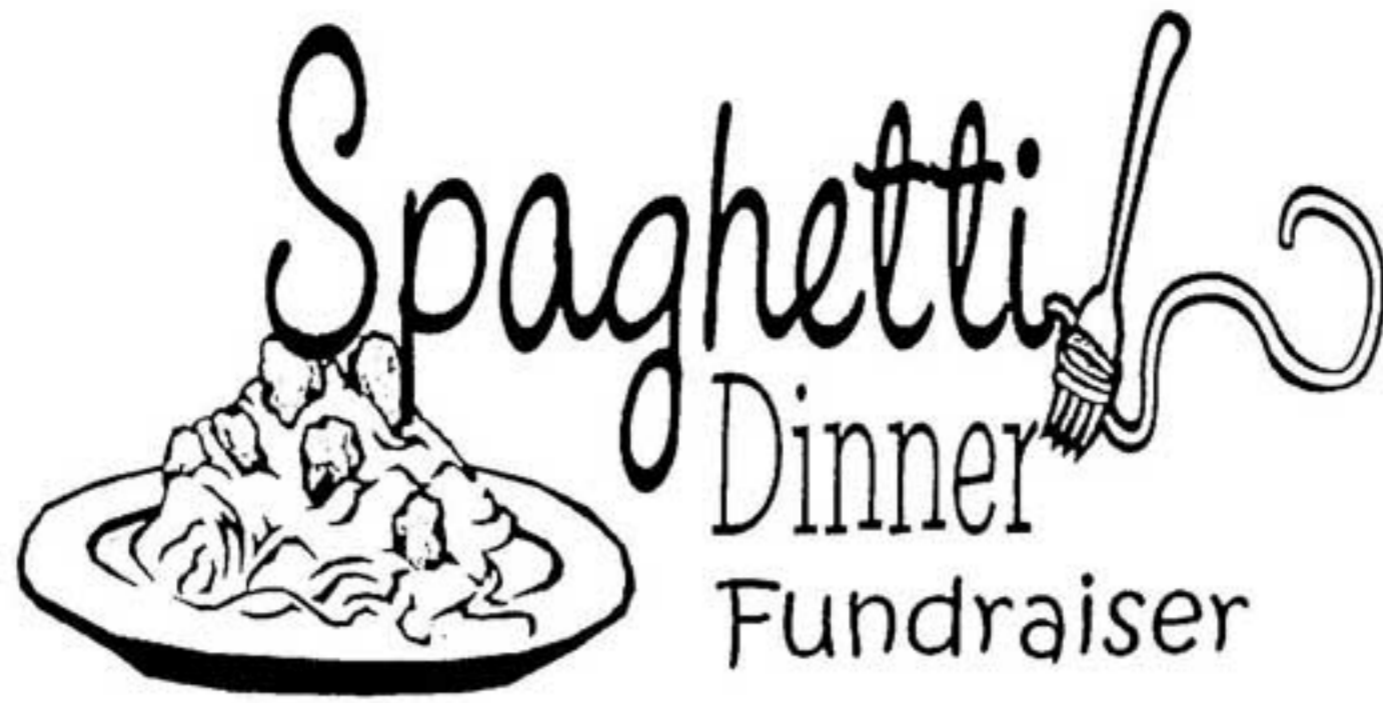
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Saint John Activity Center
Corner of Adams & Railroad Streets

SUNDAY, March 3
11:00 AM-2:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE!

**Proceeds benefit the mission volunteers
of our parish who are going to
our Sister Parish of Saint Croix,
Santa Cruz, Jamaica.**

Your support is greatly appreciated!