

Dear Friends,

When I was growing up, I had a fascination with the flag of the United States. There was something about the stars & stripes that intrigued me and made me proud of my country. There are some flags around the world that are more elaborately decorated with symbols appropriate for their history and heritage. The flag of the United States, on the other hand, is simply made up of 50 stars on a blue field and alternating red and white stripes. Despite its simplicity, it evokes strong feelings of patriotism, tremendous pride and a profound love for freedom. As we celebrate this Independence Day, I can't help but be reminded of the meaning that lies behind those stars and stripes.

I am reminded of the great price that has been paid by so many courageous men and women who have served our country throughout its brief history. I am reminded of the courage it took to lay down the guiding principles for a free republic, the likes of which had never been seen before. I am reminded of the benefits that I have inherited as a result of the vision of our forefathers.

While I am enthralled with the countries and cultures of my immigrant ancestry, I am exceedingly proud that I am American. I enjoy getting to know other cultures and learning other languages. I appreciate the diversity of foods from around the world and have even eaten things I cannot identify. I love to travel to foreign lands and I cannot imagine a world without the myriad of cultural experiences. But I have often considered how fortunate I am to have been born here in the USA. This weekend is a good time for us all to count our blessings of liberty and the opportunities we have to worship our God freely.

What a blessing it is that we can worship our God as Catholics. Just as we might consider how fortunate it is to share in the freedoms of this country, we should thank God for the even greater privilege that it is to be a Catholic. The fact that we can call ourselves Christian is due to the great courage, sacrifice, and perseverance of those who have gone before us in faith. Jesus sent the disciples out two by two to preach the Good News to neighboring towns and villages. Believers in Christ have done this ever since. Many died doing so.

As citizens of God's kingdom, let us pass on what we have received to our children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends. Just as our nation's freedoms are not automatically handed down, neither is our Faith. It has to be proclaimed, preserved and safeguarded by each individual and generation in much the same way that we strive to perpetuate our nation's independence. Let us not neglect our task. Let us each be diligent in passing on our Faith. There may be a cost, but the cost is worth it! God bless!

Fr. Paul



Saturday, July 3, 2010

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to our Lady of Guadalupe
by Paulita Barrera
4:30 PM +Wanda Mcwey
by Fred Mcwey

Sunday, July 4, 2010

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Our Lady of Refugio
by Rivera Family
11:00AM +Gordon R. Griffin
by Mimi Griffin
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors of St. John's

Monday, July 5, 2010

8:00 AM +Francisca G. & Elias V. Garcia
by Children

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

8:00 AM +Teresa Koehler
by Dolores F. Ramos

Wednesday, July 7, 2010

8:00 AM +Bill Snyder
by Edward & Lorraine Nemece

Thursday, July 8, 2010

8:00 AM +James Kline
by Ted & Heidi Meyer

Friday, July 9, 2010

8:00 AM +Marlin McMorrow
by Dolores McMorrow

Next Saturday, July 10, 2010

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving
by Blanca Salazar
4:30 PM +Agnes Parker
by Donna Parker

Next Sunday, July 11, 2010

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Lawrence & Ronnie Balderas
Happy 52nd Wedding Anniversary
by Family
11:00 AM +Elizabeth Ann Alvarado
by Deidra Ozuna
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors of St. John's

Readings for the Week of July 4, 2010

Sunday: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 66:10-14c; Ps 66; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9
Monday: Saint Anthony Mary Zaccaria, priest
Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Saint Maria Goretti, virgin, martyr
Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105; Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Ps 80; Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Saint Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, martyr;
his companions, martyrs
Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51; Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93; Mt 10:24-33
Sunday: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dt 30:10-14; Ps 69; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH ...



Beatrice Ferrell, Edward Nemece, Oscar Soliz, Florence Fuertez,
Mary Ann Broyles, Cameron Marshall, Cattia Longoria, Jane
Cheesman, Jerry Alvarez, Olivia Marshall, Elida Salas, Lisa Cash,
Mary Rose Yeager, Delia Almaraz, Irma Mugerza, William McAbee,
Ray Matta, Monica Ellison, Mary Rose Yeager, Tony Gilbert,
SaraLinda Martinez, Elodina M. Flores, Martha Neas, Mary Helen

Davies.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please Pray For Our Troops



Sgt. Roger Elkins, Glen Turner Jr., Sgt Matt Maufin, Aaron Philipchuck, Dwayne Solis, Charles Krohn Jr., Oscar Rossi Billy Swatzell, James O'Donnell, Paul Adame, Brandon Felton, Zicorian Coleman, Wendy Hand, D'Aldo Alaniz, Paul Walton, Joseph Yglesias, Jaime Robles, Rudy Hoyt, Roseann Guerrero, Sr. Airman Charlie Stevens, Sr. Airman Patrick Scheuter, Matt Hettinger, Mike Brown, Erik Garza, Damian Saldivar, Maj. Chuck Taylor, Alex Saucedo, Jay Alvarez, John Rodriguez, Jr., Jimmy Karjian, Orlando Rodriguez, Ken Demick, Yvette T. Demick, Scott Nielsen, Timothy Johnson, Mr. Rogers, Lt. Jg John Dolby III, Michael Nelson, Michael A. Berry, Gabriel Reza, Mike Llamas, Manny Olvalle, Luis Martinez, Lt. Hector Jude Garcia, Lt. Jg Kristopher McAbee, Chris Hesse, Natalie Manzano, Capt. Cristian Alejandro Pinzon, David D. Ruiz, Melissa Davila, Ramon Panganiban, Jr., Sgt. Carlos Torres, Jr., Michael D. Valdez, Lt. Norman Renfro, Ian Joseph Hoyt.

Ministry Schedules

This Week's Lectors:

Next Week' Lectors

4:30 pm Mary Jones	4:30 pm Anita Joya
8:30am Alonzo Rivera	8:30am Lillian Cardiel
11:00am Brenda Garcia	11:00am Karen McIntire

This Week's EM's:

Next Week's EM's:

4:30 pm Linda, Michael & Crystal Hite, Anita Joya, Luz Bernardo, Olaya Solis	4:30 pm Mary, Tracy & Samantha Mora, Ed & Janie Salinas, Richard & Patty Dolan
8:30am Maricela Spencer, Mary Carrillo, Bill Cheesman, Ronnie & Lawrence Balderas	8:30am Mary Carrillo, Judy & Gerald Beckman, Mark & Mary Jo Cheesman
11:00am Maribel Muñoz, Cynthia & Gabriel Gatica, Roland & Leila Longoria, Cindy Morin	11:00 am Judy Cruz, Norma Huerta, Bonner Dorsey, Cindy Morin, Beto & Minnie Peña

This Week's Ushers:

Next Week's Ushers:

4:30pm Richard Dolan, Don Fettig, James Coburn, Virginia Haasl	4:30pm James Coburn, Virginia Haasl
8:30am Steve Hansen, Monica Hansen, Bea Heenan, Allen Rasmussen	8:30am Al Medina, Lou Medina, Bea Heenan, Lawrence Balderas
11:00am Roberto Moreno, Kathy Deis, Eddie Cruz, Henry Lamb	11:00am Vanessa Bedoya, Victoria Bedoya, Henry Lamb, Eddie Cruz

Sunday Collection



Gifts for God

June 27, 2010

Envelope & Loose	\$8,180.53
Building Fund	\$ 25.00

Thank you for your being a good steward of God's gifts!

St. John's Parish Dates to Remember

Jul 04	12:15 PM	Baptism Class	Church
Jul 05		Parish Office Closed	
Jul 08	7:00 PM	Adoration	Church
Jul 09	8:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Adoration	Church
Jul 10	7:30 PM	Choral Artist Concert	Church

ACTS Retreats Coming Soon!

As Catholics, we must always look after our spiritual growth. Mindful of this need, we will soon be implementing ACTS Retreats at St. John the Baptist in the coming months. **ACTS** is an acronym that stands for "Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service." It is a weekend experience of immersion in the Catholic Faith and a time for spiritual renewal unlike anything you have seen before. We encourage you to start praying for this endeavor we are embarking upon! Get ready to be spiritually charged!

SJB on Facebook and Twitter

Stay informed! Become a member of our Group on Facebook! Visit our parish website at www.stjohnthebaptistcc.org and click on the link to our Facebook Group. On Twitter? Follow us at Twitter.com/SJBCC.

Fullness of Truth

Be fascinated by the last book in the Bible, the Book of Revelation, from some of the top Scripture Scholars in the U.S., including Dr. Scott Hahn. The Fullness of Truth Conference presents, "**The Mystery Unveiled: A Catholic approach to the Book of Revelation,**" on **Sat. & Sun. July 17th & 18th** at the American Bank Center. Youth and Spanish sessions are available, as well as child care. To buy a ticket call 877-218-7884 or visit www.fullnessoftruth.org.

Parish Office Closed for Holiday

The parish office, along with the Diocese of Corpus Christi, will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2010 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, July 6th. Have a safe holiday!

CDA Father's Day Raffle Winners

TV - Susan DeVaque	\$100 Gift Card – Raul Munoz
Smoker – Bob Brown	Wheelbarrow: Wm & Jane Cheesman
Fire Pit – Nicole Alvarez	Cooler w/drinks - Abel DeLeon
Throw – Virginia Haasl	Cutlery – Angie Windnagle

Congratulations to all winners! Thanks to all who participated!

Youth Ministry Announcements

On TWITTER or FACEBOOK? Follow St. John's Youth Ministry! Go to Twitter.com/stjohnym and Facebook page: **St. John the Baptist Life Teen.**

LIFETEEN: See you this **Wednesday, July 7th** from 7pm-8pm!!!

EDGE: We will meet again for First Friday Frenzy on **Friday, August 6th** from 6pm-7pm!

Go to www.stjohnyouth.com for more info on the youth program and events!