

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

June 23-24, 2018
Solemnity of the Nativity of
St. John the Baptist

Mass times:

Saturday at 5:30pm & Sunday at
10:45am

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Confession:

Saturday at 4:30 pm or by
appointment.

Message from our Pastor:

There are many reasons to have a good prayer life. In fact, there is not an area of life that will not get better if a person takes seriously the importance of implementing a daily prayer discipline into their lives. Relationships will get better for the person who prays every day. Work will get better for the person who prays every day. Health will get better for a person who prays every day.

Even financial struggles will get better for a person who prays every day.

One of the most urgent reasons today for the necessity of a prayer life is how it keeps a Christian sharp and aware of the many creeping subtleties that can contaminate a Christian's way of thinking. Christians swim in the contaminated waters of moral laxity, hopelessness, exaggerated self-importance, over-indulgence, and relativism. And if they are not careful, they may take in a big gulp of it. They may even drown in it.

But there is possibly of no better example of someone who demonstrates how to stay sharp and free from those un-Christian mentalities than the man whose birthday the Church celebrates today.

Today we celebrate the birthday of St John the Baptist. St John was chosen of all the human race to be the one who would get people ready for who was going to come next. In order to accomplish this huge responsibility, he had to be someone who had the mind of God. He also had to be someone who was willing to push those godly mentalities despite rejection.

And push he did. He gave everything he had for it. He even gave up his life.

Why was he so zealous?

John the Baptist had the same temptation that everyone else faces every day. He swam in the un-Christian mentalities of his day similar to Christians living today. But he was

so intent on his mission to prepare for Christ, that he was determined to remain sharp.

How did he remain zealous?

He prayed. All day. Every day.

John the Baptists lived in the wilderness and prayed all day long. And ate locusts and honey. The solitude of the wilderness is a perfect place for quiet thought. What do you think he did all day out there? He prayed. He thought.

For most of us, we cannot hide in the woods all day to pray. And we are unlikely to fast to the extent that we are hungry enough to eat locusts. But we can be serious about having a consistent and disciplined prayer life. We can retreat to our bedroom and close the door. We can get up before anyone else wakes up. And we can have our mind sharpened by God so that as we go through the day we see things as God sees them, which is the way they really are, without drinking in the mentalities of the world. The only way to be in the water but not drink the water is to each and every day strive to consistently commune with God through prayer. From that quiet time with God a person draws their strength to be godly amidst the pressures to act just the same as everyone else. This may make them seem a little weird at times, like John the Baptist.

-Fr Rossi

News & Announcements:

Second Collection on 6/24 masses: On Sunday June 3rd Volcan de Fuego erupted burying one whole community in ash & blocking roads with a deadly flow of rocks, ash, and hot gas. Roads, bridges, and houses have been destroyed. Families have evacuated the area. Catholic Relief Services local partner Caritas Excuintla is already providing lifesaving assistance within emergency shelters. Your help is needed. Your gift helps provide emergency food, water, and other essential living supplies.

Sharing Sunday: Remember Sharing Sunday is next weekend **July 1st**. Remember your non-perishable food items. A Sharing Sunday table will be in the basement for collection.

Saint Patrick Social Ministry: For the month of June we have been collecting personal hygiene items for the residents of St. Francis Home. **Next weekend is the last weekend to bring in those items.** Razors, body wash, toothpaste and tooth brushes are among the things that are most needed. There is a collection area in the social hall.

Song Sheets: We have a supplement for the next three months that has lyrics for any songs we'll be singing that aren't in our hymnals. Please leave those behind at the end of mass so that they can be used for future masses.

Deacon Cassidy Bible Study: This six-part series (started 6/21) but please join for the next session which is 6/28 at 6pm at St. Pats. It is a study of St. John's First Letter.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): An RCIA class will be starting at SPC. Anyone interested is welcome to join the class. Adults wishing to learn more should contact Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton

Baptisms - Baptisms are held during the Mass on the first Sunday of each month. Baptism class is required prior to baptizing your first child. **Two more classes will be held during 2018.** The dates are as follows: July 1 and October 7. If you are interested in attending a class and scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner. Please note you may attend class prior to the birth of your baby.



Church Support as of 6/17/18

Weekly

<i>Actual</i>	\$2,098.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$4,221.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	-\$2,123.00

Year to Date

<i>Actual</i>	\$190,204.32
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$215,271.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	(\$25,066.68)

**Attendance for
6/16/18 = 34 and 6/17/18 = 151**

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SPC Emergency #: 804-402-1221 - If someone is dying or has died & you would like to talk with a priest, please call the emergency number at any time.

Visitation to the sick and homebound - If you or someone you know would like a visit and Holy Communion at their home. Please call the office at 737- 8028. Office staff will ensure the information will be relayed to Visitation Ministry individuals.