

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Sunday, March 3, 2024



Physical Address: 3055 El Mirage Way

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31230

Laughlin, Nevada 89028.1230

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

Office closed on Fridays

Telephone: 702.298.0440

F a x : 702.298.0279

E-Mail: SJBloughlin@gmail.com

Website: LaughlinCatholic.com

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

6:00 p.m. — Saturday

8:00 a.m. — Sunday

RIVERSIDE RESORT & CASINO

DON'S CELEBRITY THEATRE

4:00 p.m. — Saturday

10:00 a.m. — Sunday

12:00 noon — Sunday

WEEKDAY MASSES

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

8:00 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday and Friday

REV. CHARLES B. URNICK, ADMINISTRATOR

Deacon Richard Lambert - Pastoral Support - Deacon Dan McHugh

MISSION STATEMENT: To serve the needs of the growing faith community in this part of Southern Nevada, composed of residents, weekend visitors and snowbirds who pray together, work together so as to build up the body of Christ; to be witnesses likewise, to the historical legacy of the first recorded Catholic Mass in Nevada celebrated in Laughlin in 1776 by Father Francisco Garces, a Franciscan missionary.

Confessions: 15 minutes before each Mass

Baptisms: Baptisms are normally celebrated on Saturdays at 11:00 a. m. **Registered and active parishioners** should contact the priest one month in advance to make the arrangements.

Holy Day Masses: Please refer to St. John's Bulletin

Weddings: Weddings are normally celebrated on Saturdays at 11:00 a. m. **Registered and active parishioners** should contact the priest at least six months in advance to make the arrangements.

Directions to St. John the Baptist Church: From Casino Dr. go west on Bruce Woodbury Drive (across from the Edgewater Hotel). Continue approximately 3 miles to Needles Highway, turn left. At El Mirage Way (the first traffic light), turn right. Drive approximately 2 blocks, St. John's is on the corner of El Mirage Way and Banyon Drive.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| BUSINESS MANAGER | BRETT DENNIS 702.298.0440 |
| GIFT SHOP COORDINATOR | MAUREEN MULLIN 702.298.1048 |
| GUILD COORDINATOR | TRISH NEVIUS 702.298.0440 |
| HIV/AIDS OUTREACH | REV. JOSEPH O'BRIEN 702.564.4224 |
| DIR. OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION | MARY RIVARD 702.298.0440 |
| RITE OF CHRISTIAN INIT. (RCIA) | FR. CHARLIE 702.580.4988 |
| TROOP OUTREACH COORDINATOR | |
| KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT | GABE NUNEZ 760.217.0454 |
| DIRECTOR OF MUSIC | LUANN KRUIZ 928.754.2650 |
| PRAYER CHAIN | ETHEL NEUENS 702-298-0440 |
| SECRETARY/SAFE ENVIRONMENT | SHEILA PATTON 702.298.0440 |

Third Sunday of Lent

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - God gives the law through Moses (Exodus 20:1-17)

Psalms - Lord, you have the words of everlasting life (Psalm 19)

Second Reading - We proclaim Christ crucified (1 Corinthians 1:22-25)

Gospel - Many began to believe in Jesus' name when they saw the signs he was doing (John 2:13-25)

KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH

There's no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten Commandments. The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath.

If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper (poor baby)?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims "the law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul;" (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.

| Second Collection Schedule | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| March 2-3 | .CSA |
| March 9-10 | Catholic Relief Services |

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all practicing Catholic gentlemen 18 years or older. For information, please call Grand Knight Gabe Nunez (760-217-0454) or visit www.facebook.com/Kofc12690.

**MEETINGS ARE THE THIRD MONDAY OF
EVERY MONTH AT 5:00 PM (NV TIME)**

LENTEN PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

God, heavenly Father, look upon me and hear my prayer during this holy Season of Lent. By the works You inspire, help me to discipline my body and to be renewed in spirit.

Without You I can do nothing. By Your Spirit help me to know what is right and to be eager in doing Your will. Teach me to find new life through penance. Keep me from sin, and help me live by Your commandment of love. God of love, bring me back to You. Send Your Spirit to make me strong in faith and active in good works. May my acts of penance bring me Your forgiveness, open my heart to Your love, and prepare me for the coming feast of the Resurrection of Jesus.

Lord, during this Lenten Season, nourish me with Your Word of life and make me one with You in love and prayer.

Fill my heart with Your love and keep me faithful to the Gospel of Christ. Give me the grace to rise above my human weakness. Give me new life by Your Sacraments, especially the Mass.

Father, our source of life, I reach out with joy to grasp Your hand, let me walk more readily in Your ways. Guide me in Your gentle mercy, for left to myself I cannot do Your Will.

Father of love, source of all blessings, help me to pass from my old life of sin to the new life of grace. Prepare me for the glory of Your Kingdom. I ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

Amen.

CHRISM MASS

Archbishop George Leo Thomas Ph.D. welcomes all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Las Vegas to join in the celebration of the Chrism Mass.

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM (the Thursday before Holy Thursday) at Our Lady of Las Vegas Parish, 3050 Alta Drive. The guest homilist for the Chrism Mass this year is Very Rev. Mark Francis, CSV, Provincial Superior of the Clerics of Saint Viator (The Viatorians).

At the concelebrated Chrism Mass Liturgy, the holy oils used in all parishes of the Archdiocese throughout the year for the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders will be blessed and consecrated by Archbishop Thomas. In this Liturgy, the annual Renewal of Priestly Promises will be made by our priests. Deacons, religious, and faithful will also be invited to renew their baptismal commitment to Christ.

Assisting in the celebration of the Chrism Mass is a sign of our oneness as a Catholic community of believers around our Archbishop and our priests.

WORLDWIDE SYNOD LISTENING SESSIONS

This three-year process is now in its final stages and the Holy Father has asked that we provide one more opportunity to listen to the Church-the people of God.

Southern Deanery Session:
March 11, 2024 6:30 PM
Holy Spirit CC

Northern Deanery Session:
March 14, 2024 9:30 AM
St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton CC

RURAL DEANERY SESSION:
MARCH 16, 2024 NOON
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CC

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council 12690 is planning to offer a special event to venerate the Relic of St. Faustina and the Relic of the True Cross here at St. John the Baptist in April. We encourage you to join us to take advantage of this special opportunity to venerate these holy relics and participate in a program that allows you to engage in a unique series of meditations on Divine Mercy. This program features the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, accompanying music, meditations from St. Faustina's Diary and veneration of the holy relics that are sure to touch your heart and connect you with the defining essence of Divine Mercy.

More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

FATHER FRANCISCO GARCES

Sunday, March 3, 2024 marks the arrival of Father Francisco Garces in Laughlin 248 years ago in 1776. Father Charlie offers this quick introduction to Father Francisco Garces.

Francisco Hermenegildo Tomas Garces was born in a small village in Spain on April 12, 1738. He was baptized in the parish church the very next day. Over the years, his family had given many priests to the Church.

Francisco joined the Franciscans while still a teenager and was ordained as a priest in 1763. He became known locally as "the children's priest" because he seemed to be able to speak at their level.

When the Franciscans were looking for volunteers for the missions in New Spain (Mexico, etc.), Father Garces volunteered and was sent to Santa Cruz College in Querataro.

He was assigned to San Xavier del Bac in Sonora, which is in present-day Tucson, Arizona. It was from there that he traveled among the tribes on the Gila and the Colorado Rivers.

He was a younger contemporary and friend of Father Junipero Serra, famous for the California missions, and they met for several days in March of 1776 at the San Gabriel Mission.

During his explorations, he was searching for a northern route to connect the missions in Sonora with the missions on the California coast. He worked closely with the Spaniards but his priority was always sharing the Catholic Faith with the native population. In fact, he was criticized by other Franciscans for "being almost an Indian" himself because he spent so much time with them and even enjoyed their foods.

Father Francisco Garces was the first European and the first Catholic priest to enter what is now Nevada, and he entered what is now Laughlin 245 years ago this year. He crossed the Colorado River on March 3, 1776, and was still here writing in his diary on March 4. There is a beautiful Nevada State Marker on Needles Highway near Big Bend State Park celebrating this event. And this event really gives Laughlin the right to be called the "birthplace and heart of the Catholic Faith in Nevada"! Yet another reason why we call this place "PARADISE".

By the way, Father Garces is credited with naming the Colorado River. He noticed the red silt in the water and he called it RIO COLORADO or RIVER COLORED RED. The name still stands!

But, I have to admit that Father Garces was wrong about one thing. According to his diary, he looked up from the river to the mesas above it and wrote something like: "There shall be a church there and it shall be named St. Peter's." What he really meant to say was: "There shall be a church there and it shall be named St. John the Baptist, and they shall also worship in a casino named Riverside right along this beautiful river." No worries, I know he really meant to say that!

Real excerpts from Father Garces' Diary:

"I proceeded three leagues of the course northwest with some turns to the west-northwest. I observed this locality and named it San Pedro de los Jamajabes, below are good mesas for the foundation of missions, and though they are near the river, they are free from inundation."

(March 3, 1776)

"I departed, accompanied by three Jamajab Indians and by Sevastian on a course southwest and at two leagues and a half arrived at some wells which I named Posos de San Casimiro. There is some grass." (March 4, 1776)

Father Garces' favorite greeting was "Viva Jesus!" which means "Jesus lives"!

The Garces Center in Laughlin, Nevada, is the first building in the Archdiocese of Las Vegas to be dedicated in his honor. We look forward to his canonization as a SAINT someday.

THE SEASON OF LENT 2024
at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church,
Laughlin, Nevada.

BASIC FAST & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday & All Fridays in Lent
(NO MEAT, LIMIT FOODS EATEN)

TIGER MASSES - You need to be "tough as a tiger" to attend Mass at 6:00 AM on the Fridays of Lent, but you collect "real" tiger tails! There are 6 Tiger Masses beginning on Friday, February 16, at the church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Pray and follow Jesus' journey to the cross at 6:00 PM each Friday of Lent at the church beginning on Friday, February 16.

CONFESSIONS are heard 20 minutes before every Mass at the church and at the Riverside. Please don't wait until the last minute to make a good confession.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY is on Sunday, March 17. We will honor him at all the weekend Masses. Wearing something green to church might be an idea.

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY is Tuesday, March 19. We will honor St. Joseph at our 8:00 a.m. Mass at the church. He is the Patron of the Universal Church.

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND is the weekend of March 23-24. We will bless and distribute palms at all the Masses.

WEEKDAY MASSES-Please join us at the church for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 8:00 AM every Monday, Tuesday, and Friday. Or stop by the church for a visit with Jesus during the day. The church is open from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Monday to Thursday.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA begins on Good Friday, March 29, and continues each day at 3:00 PM until **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**, April 7.

MITE BOXES - Please take home one of our green & gold mite boxes and donate your coins during Lent to help pay the mortgage on the Garces Center. Every penny, nickel, dime, quarter, half dollar, etc. helps!

**HAVE A GOOD LENT,
HAVE A BLESSED LENT.**

WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR LENT?

It really doesn't matter **WHAT** you choose to do during the 40 days of Lent. God gives us this season of penance every year to help us on our journey through life. Please take advantage of it.

Some people observe Lent by **GIVING UP** some things like certain foods, candy, smoking, movies, TV time, alcohol, social media time. Etc. Some try to break bad habits like swearing, foul language, gambling too much, eating too much.

Some people observe Lent by **ADDING ON** some things like spending more time in prayer, reading the Bible, going to an extra weekday Mass, praying the Rosary, etc.

It really doesn't matter **WHAT** you do for Lent, but it does matter **THAT** you do something for Lent. Take advantage of this grace-filled opportunity offered to you by God.

Have a good and blessed Lent in 2024.

COLORADO RIVER HOLY WATER

In honor of Fr. Francisco Garces, for whom our Garces Center is named, we have blessed & packaged special containers of holy water using water from the Colorado River, the very same source of water that Fr. Garces used for blessings & baptisms almost 250 years ago. Each bottle also contains chips of real turquoise which was revered by the local tribes as a sign of peace, health & life.

We cannot sell the holy water because it is blessed, and a blessed item cannot be sold. But if you would like one, a donation of \$3.00 will cover the cost of the bottle & turquoise chips. Anything extra will be given to the Garces Center.

If you would prefer to bring your own water in your own containers, Fr. Charlie will be happy to bless the water at no charge. Not a bad idea to keep some holy water in our homes during these tumultuous times.



TIME CHANGES MARCH 10TH

It's that time again when Laughlin residents "Spring Forward" and change their clocks at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 10th.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH

ST. JOHN'S LADIES GUILD

Meetings are held in the Garces Center on the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM. This great group of ladies help with a variety of projects for our church and community. For more information please contact Trish 702-298-0440.

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JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Would you like to grow more deeply in your faith? Do you have the desire to learn more about scripture? Would you like to meet other members of our parish family? Come and read the Scriptures and discuss how we can apply them to our daily lives. Everyone is invited! We meet every Tuesday after 8AM Mass (8:30AM if no Mass) in the Garces Center. For more information please contact Karen 702-298-0440.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection against
the wickedness and snares
of the devil; may God
rebuke him, we humbly pray;
and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan and all
the evil spirits who prowl
about the world seeking
the ruin of souls.
Amen.

CONFESSIONS are heard by Fr. Charlie 20 minutes before each Mass or by appointment.

**March 2, 2024
Through
March 11, 2024**

Mass Intentions For The Week



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PRAY FOR THE HEALTH OF

PLEASE CALL SJB OFFICE TO INSERT NAMES ON THIS PAGE OF THE BULLETIN!

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| Saturday | 4:00 PM | †Mike Engroff |
| March 2 | 6:00 PM | †Kenneth Marvic |
| Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | Juan Pereira |
| March 3 | 10:00 a.m. | All Parishioners of St. John the Baptist |
| | 12 Noon | Ada Ruiz |
| Monday | 8:00 a.m. | |
| March 4 | | |
| Tuesday | 8:00 a.m. | |
| March 5 | | |
| Friday | 6:00 a.m. | †William Miller |
| March 8 | 8:00 a.m. | Chris & Weng Bansil |
| Saturday | 4:00 p.m. | †Lucille Wenstrup |
| March 9 | 6:00 p.m. | †Matt Snyder |
| Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | †Stephen & †Brian Johnson |
| March 10 | 10:00 a.m. | †Richard Hamelin |
| | 12 Noon | All Parishioners of SJB |

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Monday | 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42; Lk 4:24-30 |
| Tuesday | Dn 3:25,34-43; Ps 25; Mt 5:17-19 |
| Wednesday | Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147; Mt 5:17-19 |
| Thursday | Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95; Lk 11:14-23 |
| Friday | Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81; Mk 12:28-34 |
| Saturday | Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51; Lk 18:9-14 |
| Sunday | 2 Chr 36:14-16; 19-23; Ps 137; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21 |

St. John's online Masses and social media locations

Website: Laughlin Catholic
<https://www.laughlincatholic.com>

YouTube: SJB Catholic Church
<https://www.youtube.com/@sjbcatholicchurch7616>

Facebook: Laughlin Catholic
<https://www.facebook.com/laughlincatholic>

Janet Eliason - Patrick Kitto - JoAnn Ponzi - Marty and Angie Gray - Val Petersen- RuthAnn Petersen - Ed Wilmes - Shari Simms - Charles Sperando - Larry Walden -Bernie Thompson - June Daneck - Jan Finnegan - The Sedat Family - Frances Sneed - Tammy Fortner - Terry Sheehan - Jerri Misenheimer -Jerry Bowen - Cat Greer - Bill Marquardt - Natalie Hesser - Kathy Reifsteck - Agatha O'Shea - Rebecca Helm - Carlos Valdez - Kathleen Sperando - Merle & Marianne Mathews - Edna Burtraw - Frank Cabatungan - Carol Kubernach - Robert Lock - Richard Helge - Bonnie Blais - Ramiro Ozuna - Dee Schneider - Ski Piaczynski - Leslie Seaton - Brittney Stone - Allison Trask - Samuel Pierce - Shaun Valdez-Barb Survillas -Allison Tucker - Christopher Siefken - Rebecca Holub - Colleen Ross - Gerry Hartman - Mike Duccini - Barb Saxe - Brian Klaum - Heather Applegate - Marian Barlow - Jane Vignoni - Joyce Young - Roy and Dora Dominguez - Judy Lippelt - Sallie Reddoch - Tyson Mercer - Vince Crowell - Fred Wells - Mike Kramer - Myra Speir - Marilyn Tolone - Mary Lou Kramer - Heather Eggert - Lisa Kleszcz - Jim Lachermeier - Julie Stibal - Alissa Wagner - Alexis Lathrop - Carol Lynn May - Gabe Nunez

Names remain on our list 2 months and then are removed. Call the office 702-298-0440 when the health of you or your loved one has improved or if a name needs to be removed.

For many years we have listed the names of relatives and friends for whom prayers have been requested. While we try to keep that list updated, some of the names have remained there for years and occasionally we learn that one or several have died years ago. The list is really designed for those in immediate and serious need of the prayers of our parishioners and visitors.

Also, in view of the current privacy laws in our nation, individuals may not wish to have their names published at all. We have tried to be careful about this and respect their privacy. We must continue to do so.

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CHAIN

If you want a particular petition prayed for, please call
ETHEL NEUENS 702.298.0440



2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

End of year 2023 contribution statements are now available. Please contact the church office to request one.

MASS BOOK 2024 OPENS

Mass intentions may be reserved for the year 2024 at the church office.

The stipend is given at the time the Mass is requested.