

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

**Sunday, December 21, 2025**



**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

**Fax:** 702.298.0279

**E-Mail:** SJBlaughlin@gmail.com

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### WEEKEND MASSES

**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 or by appointment.**

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

**Baptisms:** Registered and active parishioners should contact the priest at least one month in advance to make the arrangements.

**Weddings:** Weddings are normally celebrated on Saturdays. 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
GUILD COORDINATOR	TRISH NEVIUS	702.298.0440
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	MARY RIVARD	702.298.0440
BECOMING CATHOLIC	FR. CHARLIE	702.580.4988
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT	GABE NUNEZ	760.217.0454
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	LUANN KRUZ	928.754.2650
FUNERAL COORDINATOR	SHEILA PATTON	702.298.0440
SECRETARY/SAFE ENVIRONMENT	SHEILA PATTON	702.298.0440

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm - Let the Lord enter; he is king of Glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading - God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel - The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

### TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel.

Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Daviddic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to "tempt the Lord" in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord's enduring protection of God's chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew's reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.

## Second Collection Schedule

Dec. 20-21 . . . . .	Retired Priests
Dec. 27-28 . . . . .	Building Fund
Jan. 3-4 . . . . .	Building Fund

## **\*\*CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE\*\***

### CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24th - Wednesday

4:00 PM Mass

(Riverside Resort)

6:00 PM Mass

(St. John the Baptist Church)

### CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th - Thursday

8:00 AM Mass

(St. John the Baptist Church)

10:00 AM Mass

(Riverside Resort)

12:00 Noon Mass

(Riverside Resort)

**There will be NO Confessions heard on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day!**

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Christmas party for the Colorado River Food Bank last weekend in the Garces Center. A good time was had by all. It was very much appreciated.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

**God Bless You!**

**The Ladies Guild**

### **THE LEGEND OF THE CANDY CANE**

According to legend there was a candy maker who wanted to invent a candy that was a witness to Christ.

First of all, he used a hard candy because Christ is the rock of ages. This hard candy was shaped so that it would resemble a “j” for Jesus or, turned upside down, a shepherd’s staff. He made it white to represent the purity of Christ.

Finally a red stripe was added to represent the blood Christ shed for the sins of the world, and three thinner red stripes for the stripes He received on our behalf when the Roman soldiers whipped Him. Sometimes a green stripe is added as a reminder that Jesus is a gift from God.

The flavor of the cane is peppermint, which is similar to hyssop. Hyssop is in the mint family and was used in the Old Testament for purification and sacrifice. Jesus is the pure Lamb of God, come to be a sacrifice for the sins of the world.

So, every time you see a candy cane, remember the message of the candy maker:

**JESUS IS THE CHRIST!**

### **GIFT SHOP NEWS**

We have plenty of patriotic items in preparation for the 250th Anniversary of the USA in 2026. They would make great Christmas gifts.

250th Caps - \$10.00 Each  
250th Anniversary Coins - \$5.00 Each

We have a variety of metal signs (8"x12") with thoughtful or humorous sayings on them for \$5.00 Each.

We have beautiful and thoughtful religious gifts for friends and family.

Real Gemstone Rosaries - \$12.00 Each  
Rosaries in a Bottle - \$2.00 Each  
St. Christopher Visor Clips - \$5.00 Each  
Mt. Carmel Scapulars - \$4.00 Each  
Beautiful Cross pendants - \$5.00 Each

And for your gift-wrapping, we have sturdy gift bags for \$1.00 each in two styles:

**Jesus is the Reason for the Season  
Stunning Celebration**

And as a shameless self-promotion, but still a lot of fun, Father Charlie’s new book “IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING I ATE” comes with a pack of crayons for only \$10.00 and makes a great gift. Also, “TIMMY AND THE CHRISTMAS OWL” is available for \$7.00 each.

And, of course, Sheila and LuAnn have CD’s from our music ministry here in Laughlin “CHRISTMAS IN PARADISE” - for \$10.00 each.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all practicing Catholic gentlemen 18 years and older.

For information, please call Grand Knight Gabe Nunez (760-217-0454).

Meetings are the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:00 PM (AZ time).

Email: Knights12690@Gmail.com

Website:

<https://soloist.ai/kofc12690>

## LOST AND FOUND

Please stop by the office if you think you may have lost something while in the Church. We have a couple of bracelets, several lone earrings, prayer books, articles of clothing, toys, etc.

## WORD & SONG BOOKS

The new Word & Song Missal/Hymnals have arrived and may be purchased for \$5.00 each at the parish office or our gift shop at the Riverside Masses.

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>

## 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.



## Notes from the Music Ministry

### \*Selected Hymns for this weekend

\*(Subject to change)

**#418 Awake & Greet the New Morn**

**#416 O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

**#423 Proclaim the Joyful Message**



## Mass Settings

**Glory to God - Mass of St. Ann**

**Holy, Holy, Holy - Mass of Creation**

**Lamb of God - Agnus Dei**

**BASIC CATHOLIC PRAYERS****OUR FATHER**

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**HAIL MARY**

Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

**ACT OF CONTRITION**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven, and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

**GLORY BE TO THE FATHER**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**ADVENT PRAYER**

Dear Jesus,  
May the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us.

Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter.

Our hearts are open to you,  
Jesus.  
Amen.

*See You in Church*

**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.



# Growing Our Faith Through Generosity

## Last Weeks Mass Collection Week Ending December 14, 2025

1st: Offertory	\$ 5775.00
2nd: Ret fund For Religious*	\$ 780.00
Building / Operations Fund	\$ 835.00
Christmas	\$ 130.00
Poor Box	\$ 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 55.00
Gift Shop Sales	\$ 567.00
CSA*	\$ 73.00

\*Special Collection by the Archdiocese

## Last Weekend Mass Attendance Week Ending December 14, 2025

### Saturday

<u>4:00pm</u>	<u>130</u>
<u>6:00pm</u>	<u>92</u>

### Sunday

<u>8:00am</u>	<u>207</u>
<u>10:00am</u>	<u>129</u>
<u>12:00pm</u>	<u>75</u>

**Total Attendance 633 (-120)**

## Last Months Expenses

<u>Garces Center Mortgage</u>	\$12,000.00	<u>Remaining Balance</u>	\$1,165,777.17
<u>ADOLV Monthly Assessment</u>	\$3,697.00	<u>Assessment YTD</u>	\$21,182.00 +/-
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	\$33,370.00	<u>Expenses YTD</u>	\$129,807.00 +/-
<u>Utilities / Maintenance</u>	\$2,809.00	<u>Utilities YTD</u>	\$26,784.00 +/-

## Garces Center Mortgage Fund

**Monthly Goal = \$ 12,000.00**

**Funds Received \$ 5421.00**

**Goal Balance = \$ 6,579.00**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent is the final week of preparation before Christmas, focusing on love, Mary's visit to Elizabeth, and the culmination of prophecy, with themes of God's ultimate gift, hope, and recognizing Jesus as the Messiah, often represented by the "Angel's Candle" on the wreath, symbolizing peace and the angelic announcement. It emphasizes welcoming Christ into daily life and preparing for His second coming, using scriptures about Mary's faith and the promise of salvation

## CANDLES OF ADVENT

The candle for the first week of Advent is The Prophecy Candle. It is purple and represents HOPE. Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation. Are you ready to discover the hope Jesus is inviting you to experience this Advent?

The candle for the second week of Advent is The Bethlehem Candle. It is purple and represents PEACE & PREPARATION. During the second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and focus on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem. What has your journey toward Christmas been like so far?

The candle for the third week of Advent is The Shepherd's Candle. It is pink and represents JOY. This third candle symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherds felt at the birth of Jesus. How is Jesus inviting you to experience greater joy this Advent?

The candle for the fourth week of Advent is The Angel's Candle. It is purple and represents LOVE. During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. Are you ready?

-Dynamic Catholic

## Join me in Joyful Prayer of a 27/54 day Novena

My extended family has a 3 year old child that has spent his whole life to date, being kept alive without hope of ever living a full and normal life. I have been asked to pray for him. His name is ADDISON STRONG. I personally began the first nine day Novena of 6 continuous novenas commonly known as a 27/54 day rosary.

The first 27 days are for a petition that the medical professionals can find a cure for his condition to give him that chance for survival.

Days 29 through 54 are for Thanksgiving for that successful day that the hands of the medical professionals, through God's mercy in answer to our prayers, can give his parents a chance to experience the joy that a child brings to a family.

Thank you to all of you and bless you abundantly.

Deacon Dan McHugh  
(Pixie too!)



December 20, 2025  
through  
December 28, 2025

**Mass Intentions  
For The Week**

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Saturday Dec. 20	4:00 p.m.	Liv/Dec Willmes-Petersen Families
	6:00 p.m.	Tim Flatten
Sunday Dec. 21	8:00 a.m.	All Parishioners of St. John the Baptist
	10:00 a.m.	Matthew Snyder
	12:00 p.m.	Seigworth Family
Monday Dec. 22	8:00 a.m.	All Priests and Deacons in the Tri-State area
Tuesday Dec. 23	8:00 a.m.	All Priests and Deacons in the Archdiocese of Las Vegas

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

Wednesday Dec. 24	4:00 p.m.	All Parishioners of St. John the Baptist
	6:00 p.m.	tPixie McHugh

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Thursday Dec. 25	8:00 a.m.	All Parishioners of St. John the Baptist
	10:00 a.m.	tBetty DeGroat
	12:00 p.m.	tStephen & tBrian Johnson

Friday Dec. 26	8:00 a.m.	tSam Ugolini
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Saturday Dec. 27	4:00 p.m.	tTony Sedano
	6:00 p.m.	Dick Flatten

Sunday Dec. 28	8:00 a.m.	Erich Koetter & his sister
	10:00 a.m.	All Parishioners of SJB

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday 1 Sm 1:24-28; Ps 1 Sm 2:1,4-8abcd;  
Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Ps 25; Lk 1:57-66

Wed. 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Ps 89;  
Lk 1:67-79

Thurs. Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Friday Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31; Mt 10:17-22

Saturday 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97; Jn 20:1a,2-8

Sunday Sir 3:2-6,12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21;  
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**PRAY FOR THE HEALTH OF**

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

Bernie Thompson - Jim Lachermeier - Lawrence Cruz -  
Walter Wiegand - Pamela Benda - Deborah Collins -  
Alli Kvasnicka - Judy Moran - John Vertucci Jr - Tom  
Stoks - Sarah Graham - Adde Lemke - Judy Pratt -  
Susan Pfingstler - Paul Stevens - Jim Lynch - Mike  
Diaz - Victoria Rodriguez - Sharon & Brian Dooley -  
Holly Brennecke - James Watson - Joan Peterson -  
Larry Walden - Michael Kreeger - Ann Castillo - Wil-  
liam J. McNeill - Jimmy Jimenez - Ted Larkin - Vivian  
Pope - Kaylee Smith - Henry Olinger - Troy Fessler -  
Bill Corkey - Bryan Rivard - Angela Hoover - Kathleen  
Sperando - Nicole Hurner - Mary Baker - Valerie Boyd  
- Whitney Reimand - Edna Mananggit - Greg Feyen -  
Eric Hoss - Deborah Crook - William Bryan - Heather  
Marasco - Mike Atwell - Bob Hannahs - Pat Miller -  
Kristin Costello

Names remain on our list 1 month and then 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 added or removed. The list is really designed for those in immediate and serious need of the prayers of our parishioners and friends.

**JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE**

Do you have the desire to learn more about scripture? We meet in the Garces Center every Tuesday after 8AM Mass.  
Everyone is invited.

**ST. JOHN'S LADIES GUILD**

Our Ladies Guild is a great group of ladies that help with a variety of projects for our church and community. Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at **\*9:00AM in the Garces Center.**

**\*Please note the new time.**

**PROMISE TO PROTECT & PLEDGE TO HEAL**

Your local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church. We will listen to your needs and support you. We encourage you to come forward and speak out.

*Cindy Hensel (702-235-7723)  
Believe in the possibility of help and healing.*