

*St. John the Apostle  
Catholic Church*



**Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 52: Anamnesis, Mystery of Faith**

Blessings to you all! As we continue through the Mass, here comes another big word: Anamnesis (commonly pronounced: Ann-amm-nee-siss), also known as the Memorial Acclamation. Now that Jesus is truly present on the altar and we have adored him quietly, what else should we do but raise our voices and proclaim our joy out loud? After the elevation of the chalice, the priest genuflects in adoration. When he rises, he says, “The mystery of faith.” These words invite one of three responses: “We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again”; or “When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again”; or “Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.”

A Charles Belmonte writes, “The Anamnesis is a prayer of remembrance in which the Church calls to mind the Lord’s passion, resurrection, and ascension into heaven... We have just been asked to ‘proclaim the mystery of faith.’ And what is this mystery? Precisely the redeeming sacrifice of Christ celebrated in these rites” (Understanding the Mass, p. 145).

**Christ’s Sacrifice: A Past Event Made Present**

The Diocese of Peoria points out, “As the Second Vatican Council teaches, the Mass perpetuates the Sacrifice of the Cross throughout the ages until Jesus Christ comes again in glory. The Mystery of Faith

announces three main points: past, present, future. It recalls the event of the Cross [We proclaim your Death, O Lord], a present reality [and profess your Resurrection] and a future anticipation [until you come again]. The redemptive sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross is of infinite and eternal value. Therefore, redemption isn’t an

historical event—it is a present reality! At the celebration of the Mass, then, the Cross is remembered in such a way that it is rendered present. We are not spectators of a theatrical re-enactment, but of a sacramental re-presentation” (“A Study of the Mass,” pp. 15–16).

This teaching highlights for us that having Christ truly present in the Mass really stretches us beyond our limits of space and time. At a point in history, we know that Jesus carried the

Cross and offered himself in sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. Yet, the Mass allows us to touch that offering, not just as something that happened in the past but as truly present—the one perfect sacrifice of Jesus there before us.

**A Memorial That Leads Us into the Mystery**

Continuing with the Diocese of Peoria, “How does this happen? On the altar of the Cross, Jesus Christ offered himself to the Father ‘for you and for [many for the forgiveness of sins].’ At the Last Supper, when Jesus instituted the way in which we would celebrate this redemptive sacrifice, he said,

*(Continued on Page 2)*



***In the hope of heaven, St. John the Apostle is a family focused parish where disciples seek union with Christ and his Church by knowing God’s love through sacraments, prayer, faith education, fellowship and service.***

‘Do this in memory of me.’ The anamnesis (memorial) of the Eucharistic prayer calls to mind the Paschal Mystery—the passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of the Lord. As the catechism teaches, ‘the memorial is not merely the recollection of past events but the proclamation of the mighty works wrought by God’ (CCC 1363). Thus, the sacred events are made present and real at the Mass. As the Paschal Mystery is made present to the Father, the Church, through the Holy Spirit, is united with Christ in his perfect sacrificial offering” (“A Study of the Mass,” p. 16).

Perhaps this helps us more clearly understand what we mean when we say “Memorial.” The Biblical understanding of memorial is much more than remembering. For us, we might look at an old photo album and recall from the pictures the joy of a certain day. The beauty of the Mass as sacrificial memorial is that it brings us into that certain day. This reality leads us into the meaning of “Mystery.”

### Mystery: An Invitation to Grow Deeper

I think the word mystery is one we don’t always fully grasp. Through the years, I have heard people say, “It is a mystery,” as a reason to leave one of our teachings at a distance. Maybe for them, saying a certain truth is a mystery is a way of saying, “This is beyond my understanding, so I’m not going to worry about it.” Certainly, one meaning of the word mystery is that something is difficult to explain or understand. But from our faith perspective, it really is an invitation to grow deeper. We know that God is infinite and we are not. We know that the truths of God can sometimes feel beyond our daily lived observation and experience. We also

know that God has revealed himself to us in love and that Jesus has given himself in sacrifice out of love. The Mystery of Faith really invites us to meditate with joy on the realization that God loves us and brings many truths and realities together at once to show the abundant generosity of that love.

A quote from Mother Teresa might help us meditate on how the Last Supper, the Cross, and the Mass are together the one perfect and loving sacrifice of Jesus: “If Jesus had not established the Eucharist we would have forgotten the crucifixion. It would have faded into the past and we would have forgotten that Jesus loved us. There is a saying that to be far away from the eyes is to be far away from the heart. To make sure that we do not forget, Jesus gave us the Eucharist as a memorial of His love... When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then; when you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now.”

### For Reflection:

1. Next time you participate in Mass, arrive early enough to take time to reflect on the crucifix in the church. Be attentive to the crucifix while the Mass unfolds as you deepen your awareness of the relationship between Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross and his Eucharistic Presence.
2. How do you memorialize significant events in your life? Consider participating in Mass on those important anniversaries and reflecting on how the Liturgy of the Word and the prayers of the Mass relate to your history.

-FR LUKE SPANNAGEL

### Prayer Partner Sunday

This weekend is Prayer Partner Sunday.

1. Take a 'double' label (like the one pictured)
2. Write your name on both sections.
3. Put both labels on.
4. **After Mass**, exchange the blue section labelled ‘Please Pray for Me’ with someone.
5. Pray for that person during the week.
6. Try to meet up with your prayer partner the next week and see how they are doing.

Hello! My Name is:

Please Pray for Me:



**Pope Francis'**  
MONTHLY  
PRAYER  
INTENTIONS

## JANUARY 2024 - FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Church.

### Church Open



#### During The Week

The church is open Monday - Friday after 8:00am Mass to 4:00pm for personal prayer and reflection. Bring your family and come spend some time with Jesus.



#### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

During this year of our parish family Eucharistic Revival, I urge you to come with your spouse and children and spend time in Adoration and prayer during our time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays 8:30am to 4:00pm and second Mondays from 8:30am to 8:00pm.



#### Holy Rosary

We pray the holy rosary devotion after morning Holy Mass Monday through Thursday. Please join us!



### St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Our needs for the week include  
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### Wichita Feed & Hardware

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### ST. JOHN'S MEN

Mondays - 6:30 - 7:30pm in Youth Room

#### Coming Up

January 8- 6:30pm St. John's Men's Group, YR

Contact: Ryan Mainard [r.mainard@sja-catholicchurch.com](mailto:r.mainard@sja-catholicchurch.com)



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**Daily Mass Time:** Monday - Friday 8:00am

**Sunday Mass Times:** Sat. 5:00pm | Sun. 8:30am, 10:30am, 1:30pm (Spanish)

**Confessions:** Saturday 3:30-4:30pm or by appointment

For Prayer Requests; email: [sjachurch.prayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:sjachurch.prayerchain@gmail.com)





## Parish & School Staff

### Pastor:

Fr. Maxy D'Costa | 503-742-8200  
pastor@sjc-catholicchurch.com

### Deacons:

Rev. Mr. José Gutiérrez  
| 503-803-0329 | jg.dynamis@gmail.com  
Rev. Mr. James Ladd | james.ladd@mtangel.edu

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Lisandra Mathews | 503-742-8210

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### Spanish Ministry Assistant:

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### Youth Ministry:

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m.holmes@sjc-catholicchurch.com

### Sunday Child Care:

Mary Carroll  
503-757-6675 | mfcarrall23@gmail.com

### Website Editor:

Felix Barba  
f.barba@sjc-catholicchurch.com

### Admin Council Chair:

Barry Brenneke  
503-819-7179 | barry\_tbb@yahoo.com

### Pastoral Council Chair:

Contact parish office  
503-742-8200 |

### School Principal:

Mary Haluska  
mary.haluska@sjc-eagles.com

### SJA Cemetery:

Gary Avery | 503-655-7148

## Calendar and Mass Intentions

### Sat Jan 6

10:00am CDA Monthly Mtg, PC  
3:30-4:30pm Confessions  
5:00pm *Anticipated Holy Mass - Albert Lou*  
†

### Sun Jan 7 Solemnity of the Epiphany

8:30am *Holy Mass - All Parishioners*  
9:15am Children's Choir Rehearsal, School  
Music Rm  
10:15am Little Lambs Catechesis & Childcare,  
Pre-School Rm  
10:30am *Holy Mass*  
11:45am Baptism Formation, YR  
12:15pm Spanish 1st Sacraments Class, PC  
1:30pm *Holy Mass (Spanish)*  
6:15pm Bible Study, PC

### Mon Jan 8

8:00am *Holy Mass - Residents of the Ridge*  
*INT*  
8:45am-8:00pm Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament  
6:30pm St. John's Men's Group, YR

### Tues Jan 9

8:00am *Holy Mass*  
6:30pm RCIA Catechumenate, YR

### Wed Jan 10

8:00am *Holy Mass - Pat & Rose McDevitt*  
*INT*  
6:15pm Bible Study, PC  
6:30pm Youth Group/ Confirmation, Library

### Thurs Jan 11

8:00am *Holy Mass (School) - Giselle Guerra*  
*& Alejandro Carrillo INT*  
9:15am Bible Study, PC  
6:30pm Pastoral Council Mtg, Padre Pio Rm  
101  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (10:30 Choir)

### Fri Jan 12

8:00am *Holy Mass - Kathy Schmitt* †  
8:45am-4:00pm Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament

### Sat Jan 13

3:00pm K of C Monthly Director's Mtg, YR  
3:30-4:30pm Confessions  
5:00pm *Anticipated Holy Mass - Doris*  
*Gallagher INT*

### Sun Jan 14

8:30am *Holy Mass - All Parishioners*  
9:30am K of C Parish Breakfast, PC  
10:15am Little Lambs Catechesis & Childcare,  
Pre-School Rm  
10:30am *Holy Mass*  
11:45am Family of Faith Parent Mtg, PC  
1:30pm *Holy Mass (Spanish)*  
6:15pm Bible Study, PC

## Sacraments and Services



For Baptism, First Communion/Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Holy Matrimony, our process begins with filling out our Sacramental Inquiry Form. Fr. Maxy will contact you for next steps. You can find the link to the form at: [www.sjc-catholicchurch.com/sacraments](http://www.sjc-catholicchurch.com/sacraments)

### Funeral Mass / Service:

Please first contact Rev. Maxy D'Costa at 503-742-8200 to plan a funeral service at St. John the Apostle for your loved one at your earliest convenience. If you would like your loved one buried in the St. John the Apostle cemetery, please contact Gary Avery at 503-655-7148 to make those arrangements

**Family Member that has moved to assisted living/care facility/hospice:** If you have a family member that has moved to a care facility, please inform the parish office so we can arrange for pastoral care and we will note the address in our records.

**Assisted Hearing System:** We have an assisted listening system to help facilitate better hearing for all of our members. Contact the office.

**FORMED! Connect Now** Online Faith Formation Content

Visit [sjc-catholicchurch.formed.org](http://sjc-catholicchurch.formed.org) to register.

### Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin Announcements due on the Friday, nine days before the Bulletin publication date. [office@sjc-catholicchurch.com](mailto:office@sjc-catholicchurch.com)



FaithDirect Website

## Weekly Offertory

Week of December 3rd	\$10,846.71
Week of December 10th	\$ 33,640.13
Week of December 17th	\$11,049.67
Week of December 25th	\$ 6,201.00



# lectio divina 2024 challenge

EACH WEEK CHECK THE BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKLY VERSES TO MEDITATE UPON.

JOIN THE SJA PARISH COMMUNITY AS WE READ AND PRAY THE GOSPEL OF MARK TOGETHER!

**THIS WEEK: MARK 1:1-11**

**Read (Lectio)  
Reflect (Meditatio)  
Respond (Oratio)  
Rest (Contemplatio)**

*Journey Through Scripture*

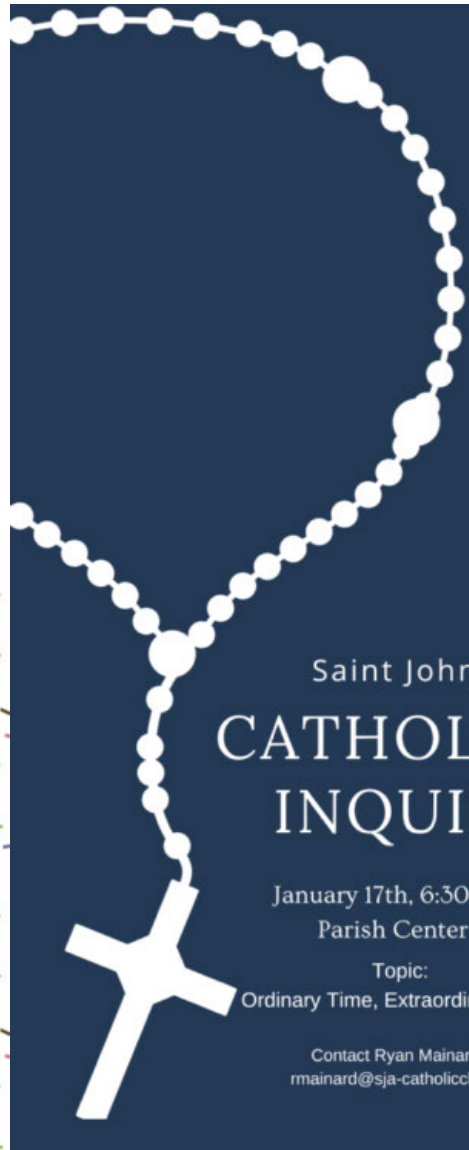
## PAROUSIA

THE BIBLE AND THE MASS

### BIBLE STUDY RESUMES IN JANUARY

Sunday 1/7 at 6:15 pm  
Wednesday 1/10 at 6:15 pm  
Thursday 1/11 at 9:15 am

**Want to join us?**  
Call Parish Office at (503) 742-8210 for details on how to jump in to the bible study!



Saint John's  
**CATHOLIC INQUIRY**

January 17th, 6:30-7:30  
Parish Center

Topic:  
Ordinary Time, Extraordinary Faith

Contact Ryan Mainard  
rmainard@sja-catholicchurch



## *Eat Out* FOR EDUCATION

A big thank you to The Wild Hare Saloon for supporting SJA with Eat Out For Education! SJA will receive a portion of the event's sales.

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