

The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

June 24, 2018



Grant, we pray, almighty God, that your family may walk in the way of salvation and, attentive to what Saint John the Precursor urged, may come safely to the One he foretold, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	9:00 AM
Tuesday	9:00 AM
Wednesday	6:00 PM
Thursday	9:00 AM
Friday	Adoration (please sign up)
Saturday	5:30 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM 11:00 AM

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday	4:30-5:15 PM
Mon., Tues & Thursday	8:30-8:50 AM
Wednesday	5:30-5:50 PM

ALSO BY APPOINTMENT

BAPTISMS:

Parents should be registered parishioners or active for 6 months prior to baptism. Please call the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Anytime by Appointment

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Thursday by noon

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:30am—4:30pm

RESIDENT PRIEST & ADMINISTRATOR:

Father Richard Wise

SECRETARY: Temporary/Volunteer

Email: sgmsecretary3049@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Open

WEBSITE:

www.saintgerardmajella.net

**3049 LAFAYETTE ROAD FORT
OGLETHORPE, GEORGIA 30742**

Phone: 706-861-9410

Fax 706-866-0574

Sacramental Emergency:

706-897-2962

Saint John the Baptist's Story

Jesus called John the greatest of all those who had preceded him: "I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John..." But John would have agreed completely with what Jesus added: "[Y]et the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he" (Luke 7:28).

John spent his time in the desert, an ascetic. He began to announce the coming of the Kingdom, and to call everyone to a fundamental reformation of life. His purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism, he said, was for repentance. But one would come who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John was not worthy even to untie his sandals. His attitude toward Jesus was: "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30).

John was humbled to find among the crowd of sinners who came to be baptized the one whom he already knew to be the Messiah. "I need to be baptized by you" (Matthew 3:14b). But Jesus insisted, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15b). Jesus, true and humble human as well as eternal God, was eager to do what was required of any good Jew. Jesus thus publicly entered the community of those awaiting the Messiah. But making himself part of that community, he made it truly messianic.

The greatness of John, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is seen in the great emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself—both made prominently parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus. John attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. But he constantly deferred to Jesus, even to sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.

Perhaps John's idea of the coming of the Kingdom of God was not being perfectly fulfilled in the public ministry of Jesus. For whatever reason, when he was in prison he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the Messiah. Jesus' answer showed that the Messiah was to be a figure like that of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. John himself would share in the pattern of messianic suffering, losing his life to the revenge of Herodias.



All are encouraged to participate in Mass during the week. Daily Masses are **Monday & Tuesday 9 am, Wednesday 6 pm and Thursday 9 am**. This is a part of the ancient Catholic tradition to participate in week day Masses. Many have jobs and cannot participate, however, if you are available it would be a good way to give Him glory and honor. Especially, daily Holy Communion is the best way for you to participate in divine life.



Weekly Offerings

6/16 – 6/17 Offertory Received

\$3085.21

Weekly Offertory Goal

\$4,000

Mission Coop Program

\$65.00

Mass Intentions

Sat., 6/23 5:30 pm Pray for Parishioners

Sun., 6/24 9:00 am Pray for Parishioners

11:00 am Pray for Parishioners

Ministry Meetings & Events

Sundays: *Prison Ministry* 6:30-7:30PM

Saint Vincent de Paul meets every other Monday. **The next meeting is June 25th.**

Pray for Our Sick Parishioners

Please keep in your personal prayers the following members of our parish who are in need of healing: Jude Bendzel, Linda Black, Virginia Black, Faye Blevins, Carol Bonito, Martha Bourne, Candance Carne, Lisa DePrima, Cynthia Devine, Janice Fortune, Matthew Gaudet, Jean Hawkins, Gerald Hoffman, Pamela Kantor, Leslie Kell, Richard Klingler, Virginia Koch, Sara Mason, Georgina Matich, Linda Meeks, Ralph Medders, Bill Medford, Jane Mercier, Jane Osterling, John Pitner, Landon Ryan, Kathy Samilo, Frances Spataro, Dolores Sutton, Jeremiah Word.

Knights of Columbus:

Officers Meeting Wednesday June 27 at 6:30 pm.

If anyone is interested in joining the **Knights of Columbus** please contact **Grand Knight, Bob Watson at 423-290-5112.**

Ladies Guild

There will be no more meetings planned until August.

However, we will be planning a **Church Picnic on Sunday, July 15th**, after 11:00 am Mass.

Linen Guild: June 24 Irene

Seniors

There will be no more meetings in June, July or August. The next meeting will be in September.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers from St. Gerard from the Ladies of Charity

Greater Good Thrift Shop.

The help from these kind men and women help us in our mission to help those in need.

Please visit us at
2821 Rossville Blvd to donate, volunteer and shop.



St. Vincent DePaul

Thanks from SVdP to **the Seniors** for their donation to help those in need!

We are currently looking for someone to take over our Treasurer position. Anyone interested should have good computer skills and be capable of keeping accurate financial records. Our Treasurer is not responsible for interviewing or interacting with clients, but does need to be available to write checks as needed and to attend meetings. Our Treasurer is at the heart of our society and is greatly needed and appreciated.

We are often asked for food assistance by our clients. If you would like to help in this regard, please drop off donations in the designated receptacle bin in the lobby of the parish hall or the front of the church. **Most needed items: peanut butter, soup, tuna or canned meat, rice, beans or other canned vegetables and pasta.**

Any questions about becoming a member please call **Donna Shipley** at **423-718-6951** and leave a message.

Our helpline number is: 678-892-6163

Prayer for Generosity

Lord, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labor and not to ask for reward,
save that of knowing that I do your will.

St. Ignatius of Loyola

The **June Word Among Us** books are still available. They are located in the entry of the church. Please take your copy and leave a dollar in the envelope to cover the cost of the magazine.

Thank you!

Women In Prayer

If you have any prayer requests, please contact **Irene Staub** at 706-375-4934 (Home), 423-902-6630(Cell), or istaub1014@aol.com or **Linda Swope** at 706-861-9762 (Home) or rlswope374@comcast.net.

We have **prayer shawls** available for anyone who needs one.

Please contact Irene or Linda.

Adoration

Adoration is a time to receive God's grace while we are giving Him our praise and worship. Jesus said, "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." During this time, all the stress related to our daily activities is released. Further, by His grace, we leave better prepared to cope with these daily activities. We have received His peace.

Please be sure to sign up for extended adoration on the **1st and 3rd Friday** of **each month**. There are many slots still needing to be filled. Two people are needed for each time slot.

Fr John's father passed away. I am sure he would love to hear from you:

Fr. John Pham
Basilica of Sacred Heart of Jesus
353 Peachtree St., NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

