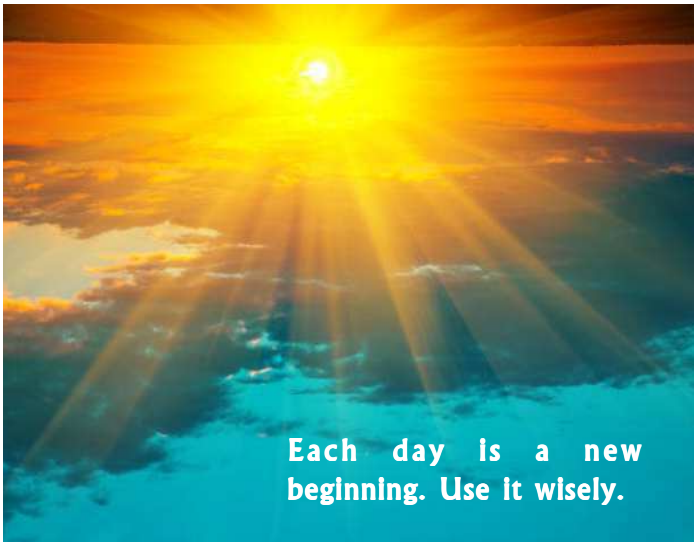


St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Father Bill Fisher, Pastor
Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 9, 2021



Each day is a new beginning. Use It wisely.

Weekly Collections May 2, 2021

Envelopes:	\$ 3,465
Maintenance:	\$ 705
Poor:	\$ 20
Candles:	\$ 52
Food Kitchen:	\$ 20
Ascension	\$ 75
Catholic Communication	\$ 25
Mother's Day	\$ 110
Mass Intentions	\$ 10

St. John the Baptist Church
708 N. 4th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101
(913) 371-0627 FAX: (913) 342-3324

Email: OurCroatianParish@gmail.com

Web: stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com

Facebook: St. John the Baptist Croatian Parish

Instagram: OurCroatianParish

St. John's Catholic Club

(913) 371-9690 (Messages only) **Email:**
stjohnsmensclub@sbcglobal.net

Prayer Line: (913) 281-4448

Our Parish News

Archbishop to end Mass dispensation

The Archbishop's dispensation for Mass attendance will end the weekend of June 5-6. All Catholics in the archdiocese will again be obligated to participate in Holy Mass in person.

Dispensation was originally granted in March 2020 to keep parishioners safe because of the public health crisis due to the COVID virus.

In his column in The Leaven newspaper, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann said with the widespread availability of an effective vaccine, the rising rate of immunity, and reduction of hospitalization and death, it is time to end the dispensation.

Meanwhile, local parishes will prepare to host more parishioners at weekend Masses. At St. John the Baptist, you will see more space available in the pews and the eventual addition of a Saturday Mass.

If you have not received your COVID vaccine, please do so to protect yourself and others from the virus and the variants that have emerged.

Labels help Altar Society

Thanks to our fabulous parishioners saving Best Choice labels, St. John's Altar Society received a check for \$60 from Associated Grocers.

Please continue to trim, cut and snip those Best Choice labels! You only need the UPC code. Then drop your handiwork in the collection basket or in the back door slot of St. John's rectory. Keep them coming so our Altar Society can continue its mission to support our church!

Calendar

Wednesday, May 12

1 p.m. - St. John's Senior Meeting

Church basement

Bingo, no lunch - Please wear a mask!

Mass Intentions

Thursday, May 13 - (No 8 a.m. Mass)

Sunday, May 16

9 a.m. Mass - Parish of St. John the Baptist

May is the Month of Mary



For centuries, the Catholic Church has emphasized the month of May to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.

During this month, there are several feast days honoring Mary -

Our Lady of Fatima, May 13; Mary, Queen of Apostles, May 14; Mary Help of Christians, May 24; and the Visitation, May 31.

Many of us remember the annual "May Crowning" at St. John the Baptist School.

In 1965, Pope Paul VI promoted devotions to Mary during May. He said "the person who encounters Mary cannot help but encounter Christ likewise."

Today, the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception are a congregation of some 500 priests and brothers who seek to lead souls to Jesus through Mary.

Mary has and continues to be prevalent in the Catholic religion. We

build churches, say prayers, compose music, create paintings dedicated to the Mother of God. In Catholic theology, Mariology is a study that centers on Mary in all things, beginning with ancient Christianity.

It is little wonder that we - and those who came before us - offer prayers through the Blessed Virgin Mary whom the Angel Gabriel greeted as "full of grace." (Lk 1:28)

We trust Our Blessed and Immaculate Mother to intercede for us as she guides us to her Son.

Sources:

CatholicApostolateCenter.org; Marian.org; and Wikipedia - History of Catholic Mariology

On May 9, we honor our mother and those who are like our mothers.

For Catholics, May is the month of Mary, the Mother of God. We recognize the Blessed Virgin for her important role in our lives.

Mother's Day is a secular holiday created in 1908 by Anna Jarvis. It was conceived as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families.

Instead, the day became commercialized by florists, card companies and merchants. Jarvis would spend the rest of her life trying to erase the day from our calendar.

But moms were celebrated long before the U.S formally embraced it. The ancient Greeks and Romans held festivals to honor mother goddesses.

There was an early Christian precedent called Mothering Sunday. This day fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent when the faithful would return



to their "mother church" and leave an offering.

Mary is always at the heart of motherhood, providing us with a physical and spiritual role model of the nurturing and watchful hands of a mother.

However you spend the day, think about mom and other women who were influential in your life. Practice these great qualities and mirror them

for others.

While flowers, gifts and candy are the norm, include prayer for mom as part of your offering.

Sources: History.com and Diocese of Little Rock.

A Sweet Memory

Those of us who attended kindergarten with Sister Mary Praxeda at St. John the Baptist may remember the sweet gift we gave to our mothers.

We first participated in the May Crowning to honor Mary, the Mother of God.

Then we crafted a handmade token of love to our moms.

Taking the Play-Doh we used during the year, we stuffed it into a baby food jar and inserted a plastic rose. It was covered with shiny foil.

How proud we were!