

Dear Friends,

I am using this week's letter to introduce to you a brand new logo for our parish! From now on, you will see this logo printed on parish stationary, newsletters, and various other church publications. I am sure that you will become very familiar with the logo and that it will help solidify our identity as a parish under the patronage of St. John the Baptist.

Since the logo incorporates several images, I thought it would be good to give you an explanation of it so that you would understand the different elements. All of them relate to St. John the Baptist and his mission as the "Precursor" of Jesus Christ.

Beginning with the upper right-hand quadrant, we have used the image of the lamb, which is the symbol of Jesus Christ, the "Lamb of God". One of the earliest depictions for Christ was that of the lamb, because he offered himself as an innocent sacrifice for the redemption of our sins.

You may recall that, in the Book of Exodus, the final act of God that led to the deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt was the death of the first-born Egyptian males. The Hebrew People were instructed by God to take the blood of sacrificed lambs and apply it to their doorposts so that the Angel of Death, seeing the blood, would "pass over" the homes of the Hebrews, thus sparing their first-born male children from the same fate.

In the Gospel of John, St. John the Baptist identifies Jesus and points the way to him by saying, "Look! There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29)!" Like the sacrificial lambs whose blood saved the Israelites from slavery, Jesus is the Lamb of God whose blood was shed so that we might be liberated from sin and death.

In the lower right quadrant of the logo is a shell, which is symbolic of baptism and thus, a symbol of John the Baptist himself. When John baptized Jesus in the Jordan, Jesus made holy all the waters of baptism. In baptism we are cleansed from sin, we receive the gift of new life in Christ, and we become children of God. Therefore, John the Baptist is always represented using the image of a shell.

On the left two quadrants is the cross. For Christians, the cross is a sign of victory. While on the cross, Jesus was pierced by a lance and blood and water poured forth from his side. The water represents the waters of the Sacrament of Baptism through which we are saved and in which we receive new life in Christ. The two flowing lines that emanate from the cross and flow into the baptismal shell depict this baptismal water that is poured forth for our salvation. They are the Springs of Eternal Life.

As you can see, the new logo has deep symbolism. In some ways it is a dynamic image for a parish that is new and growing, but is grounded in centuries of tradition. We are grateful to Morehead, Dotts & Associates for their work in designing our new graphic. Let us pray that we will all emulate our patron saint, St. John the Baptist, by leading the way to Christ! God bless!

Fr. Paul



St. John the Baptist
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Saturday, May 16, 2009

8:00 AM Mother's Day Novena
4:30 PM In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart
for Broke Tarrer
by Gene & Pam Gonzalez

Sunday, May 17, 2009

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM Mother's Day Novena
11:00AM Living & Deceased Members of
Women's Council
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors

Monday, May 18, 2009

8:00 AM Mother's Day Novena

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

8:00 AM +Jose G. Mendez 2nd Anniversary
by Mr & Mrs Manuel Rosales

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

8:00 AM +Brandon Angel Castillo
by Josie & Ramon Castillo

Thursday, May 21, 2009

8:00 AM +Robert Marion Black
by Randy & Jeraldina Sykora

Friday, May 22, 2009

8:00 AM +Jose & Tomasita Rodriguez
by Dora Muñoz

Next Saturday, May 23, 2009

8:00 AM +Gordon R. Griffin
by Choir
4:30 PM In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
by Alicia Salinas

Next Sunday, May 24, 2009

Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM +Janet McCampbell
by Jarlath Hoffman
11:00 AM +Consuelo Chiapoco
by Family
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors

Readings for the Week of May 17, 2009

Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98;
1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

Monday Saint John I, pope, martyr
Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149; Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday Saint Bernardine of Siena, priest
Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Ps 148; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday The Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23 or 4:1-13
or 4:1-7, 11-13; Mk 16:15-20

Friday Saint Rita of Cascia, religious
Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; Ps 103; 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 17:11b-19

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH ...



Paul Koehler, Elizabeth Eicher, Chris Perez, Marlin McMorro, Beatrice Ferrell, Joseph A. Eicher, Agnes Parker, Bernie Broyles, Elida Salas, Edward Neme, Elodina M. Flores, Sgt. William McAbee, Erica Bush, Oscar Soliz, Gus Blomquist, Jimmy Alvarez, Jesse Buentello, Florence Fuertez, John Kelly, Sharon Reeves, Phyllis Stubbs, Susan Bletz, Nicole Roberts, Cameron Marshall, Elena Marshall, Patty Cash, Felicita Moreno, Alyssa Smith.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Please Pray For Our Troops



Sgt. Roger Elkins, Glen Turner Jr., Sgt Matt Maufin, Aaron Philipchuck, Dwayne Solis, Charles Krohn Jr., Oscar Rossi Billy Swatzell, James O'Donnell, Paul Adame, Brandon Felton, Zicorian Coleman, Wendy Hand, D'Aldo Alaniz, Paul Walton, Joseph Yglesias, Jaime Robles, Rudy Hoyt, Roseann Guerrero, Sr. Airman Charlie Stevens, Sr. Airman Patrick Scheuter, Matt Hettinger, Mike Brown, Erik Garza, Damian Saldivar, Maj. Chuck Taylor, Alex Saucedo, Jay Alvarez, John Rodriguez, Jr., Jimmy Karjian, Orlando Rodriguez, Ken Demick, Yvette T. Demick, Scott Nielsen, Timothy Johnson, Mr. Rogers, Lt. Jg John Dolby III, Michael Nelson, Michael A. Berry, Gabriel Reza, Mike Llamas, Manny Olvalle, Luis Martinez, Lt. Hector Jude Garcia, Lt. Jg Kristopher McAbee, Capt. John A. Malley, Chris Hesse, Natalie Manzano, Capt. Cristian Alejandro Pinzon, David D. Ruiz.

Ministry Schedules

This Week's Lectors:	Next Week' Lectors
4:30 pm Anita Joya	4:30 pm Melinda Gomez
8:30am Mark Cheesman	8:30am Brenda Garcia
11:00am Delia Carroll	11:00am Children's Mass

This Week's EM's:	Next Week's EM's:
4:30 pm Mary Ann Broyles, Patty & Richard Dolan, Judy & Gerald Beckman, Luz Bernardo, Samantha Mora	4:30pm Mike & Noemi Lazo, Sally Escobar, Crystal Hite, Maricela Spencer, Michael & Linda Hite
8:30am Jane Cheesman, Kathy Jo & Lee Overstreet, Connie Salas, Imelda Ramirez	8:30am Mary Carrillo, Mary Jones, Mary De La Garza, Mark & Mary Jo Cheesman
11:00am Bonner Dorsey, Julio Dimas, Maribel Muñoz, Beto & Minnie Peña, Marlene King	11:00 am Richard & Catalina Longoria, Rene & Janie Esquivel, Norma Huerta, Cynthia & Gabriel Gatica

This Week's Ushers:	Next Week's Ushers:
4:30pm James Coburn, Virginia Haasl, Don Fettig, Gene Gonzalez	4:30pm James Coburn, Don Fettig, George Fegan, Gene Gonzalez
8:30am Lawrence Balderas, Allen Rasmussen, Bill Cheesman, Rhonda Balderas	8:30am Al Medina, Lou Medina, Leila Longoria, Roland Longoria
11:00am David Garcia, Albert Lichtenberger, Mike O'Flynn, Robert Moreno	11:00am David Garcia, Henry Lamb, Mike Nevada, Eddie Cruz

Sunday Collection



Gifts for God

Envelope & Loose	May 10, 2009
Vines & Branches	\$ 7,516.45
Retired Priest	25.00
	267.50

St. John's Parish Dates to Remember

May 19 – 7:00 pm – Knights of Columbus Officers
 May 25 – 6:30 pm – Catholic Daughter's Meeting
 May 26 – 7:00 pm – Knights of Columbus Regular Meeting-Election of Officers
 May 31 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Blood Drive

Catholic Daughters News

We are proud to announce to our church community that our court, St. John, Baptizer of Jesus, placed second place in the scrapbook competition at our recent CDA State Convention. It was our first time to enter the contest, and it was a good learning experience!

Vacation Bible School 2009

Vacation Bible School will be held June 15-19 from 9 to 12 for the registered youth of the parish who have **completed** Kindergarten through 5th grade. Currently, we are seeking volunteers to assist with various duties. Please contact the office if available to help. Registration information will be coming soon.

Seniors Graduation Mass



St. John's would like to honor our High School Seniors and College Graduates with a special Mass on **Sunday, May 31st at 11:00 AM**. If you would like to be recognized please call our parish office and give us your name.

A Loss in our Parish Family



Our parish family would like to extend our deepest condolences to Cipriano Peña on the loss of his wife **Maria Peña** who passed away May 2. Also, please remember **Alex Dowley** who passed away May 5. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Pro-Life Corner

THANK YOU!

Mother's Day has been made a little more special for new moms and their babies thanks to you! Your generous contribution of baby items have been delivered to the Hope House and those involved are very grateful. Many "thank you's" go out to all those that donated.

LEGISLATION UNDER WAY

The TX Senate has approved the Ultrasound Bill and it now moves to the House. This bill would be a huge victory for women and unborn children in that it would require abortionists to offer ultrasounds to all women considering abortions. Please call **Todd Hunter at (512)463-0672** ASAP and urge him to support the Ultrasound Bill (SB182) along with the Mandatory Reporting Bill (SB2571) would require the abortion industry to be held just as accountable as all other areas of medicine.

Youth Ministry Announcements

HIGH SCHOOL: Our final youth nights are on Sunday, May 17 and May 24. Don't miss out! 7pm - 8:30pm.

Teen Bible Study: This Wednesday, 7:30pm - 8:30pm is our last Bible Study! Stay posted for summer youth events.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Stay posted for summer events!