

**June 24, 2018**  
**Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

**From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:**

We don't know the exact date of the birth of Jesus nor of the birth of John the Baptist. Someone came up with a brilliant teaching idea of setting these dates (in the Northern Hemisphere) near the summer solstice (June 21) and the winter solstice (December 21). The gospel of John has John the Baptist (3:30) saying "he must increase; I must decrease". The summer solstice occurs at the time of the year when there is the most daylight (called the "longest day" but it is not literally true because the day is still twenty four hours long). On the next day the daylight begins to lessen until the shortest day of the year on December 21 at which time the daylight begins to increase. The lesson is that Christ, the light of the world, now comes into the darkness and begins to banish it. This teaching moment is not only to honor John the Baptist but to also emphasize that John was not the Messiah. Isn't this obvious? Not to some followers of John. After the Resurrection when the first apostles went out into the world to preach about the risen Messiah, they encountered people who still believed that John was the Messiah.

During the lifetime of Jesus and John, John looked more like the Messiah that people expected. He was born of a Jewish priest and a renowned mother. News of the circumstances surrounding Elizabeth's pregnancy and birth put all the attention on this baby. Contrast that to the anonymity of Joseph and Mary. When John and Jesus become adults and began their ministries, John, not Jesus, looked like the Messiah that they were all expecting. It was not programmed by God that John had to step down in deference to Jesus. Suppose John sincerely believed that he was the Messiah? How would world history be different? But he didn't. for that we honor him today.

**Collection:** The collection for last Sunday, June 17, 2018 was \$3,379.00

**Food Collection:** Next Sunday we will once again be collecting nutritious food for the needy in our community, we ask that you be mindful of this when shopping this week. Thank you for your generosity.

**The Nativity of St. John the Baptist:** We take a short break from Sundays in Ordinary Time this weekend for a solemnity that is celebrated on June 24th every year, no matter the day of the week: the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. Before he was born, John was chosen by God to prepare the world for the Son of God. Today, as we remember the birth of St. John the Baptist, let us recall our own baptism and our initiation into the Christian faith.

**First Reading:** *Isaiah 49:1-6:* I will make you a light to the nations.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 139:* "I praise you for I am wonderfully made."

**Second Reading:** *Acts 13:22-26:* John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

**Gospel:** *Luke 1:57-66:* John is his name.

**Registration for next year's** Religious Education Program will begin on June 11th and run until August 10th -new parents to the program need to bring their child's birth certificate and a copy of the baptismal certificate. There will be a fee of \$25.00 per child at the time of registration for both returning parents and new parents to the program which is non-refundable. Registration Fees are as follows:

Registration for one child is \$100.00

Registration for two children is \$ 175.00

Registration for three or four children is \$ 200.00

If your child will be receiving one of the following Sacraments the fees are as follows:

Holy Communion fee is \$80.00 per child .

Confirmation fee is \$100.00 per child.

**Mass Schedule for the week of**  
**June 24, 2018 to July 1, 2018**

**Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00pm**

**Below are the Special Intentions for this week**

**Sunday June 24, 2018:**

7:30am for the Parishioners

9:00 am Luis Marquez

Maria Marquez

11:00 am Father's Day Novena

**Monday June 25, 2018:**

8:15 am Father's Day Novena

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**Saturday June 30, 2018:**

12:05 pm Rafaela Diaz

Carmen Navarro

5:00 pm George Russ

Jenny Brown

7:30pm Ezequiel Ledesma

Mateo Ledesma & Family

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**Sunday July 1, 2018:**

7:30am For the Parishioners

9:00 am Efren Garcia Aguilar

Wife and Children

11:00 am Rachel Garcia

Family