One way to enter into a particular passage from the Bible is to put ourselves in the place of one of the characters. Try doing that today with the character of the rich young man in today's Gospel. We have all asked the kind of ultimate question posed by the young man: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mark 10:17). So often we focus on other kinds of questions that have to do with our lives here on earth, questions like "What percentage of my salary should I dedicate to my 401(k) plan in order to retire comfortably?" While considerations such as these are important to ensure a comfortable future, today's Gospel challenges us to ask the question that matters so much more.

FORETASTE OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Jesus' response to the rich young man reveals an understanding of what God's kingdom is all about. What we do here on earth is simply a rehearsal for the life to come. In God's kingdom, there is no suffering, no poverty, no injustice. What we do with the gift of our earthly lives must focus on doing our part to establish that kind of kingdom here on earth. We do not have to look far to realize that this world is in need of change. Like the rich young man, we all strive to keep the commandments. Like him, we, too, are asked to do much more, most of the time in small ways, in our families, neighborhoods, schools, and workplace. The first step is to live a life of awareness—we need to attune ourselves to opportunities for doing our part to alleviate suffering and injustice. We live in hope that when we arrive at heaven's door, what awaits us there will not be something completely surprising. What we hope to find is a kingdom of which we had a foretaste while we were here on earth.
DISCIPLESHIP AND WEALTH

Sometimes we get the idea that having material wealth is a bad thing. We may convince ourselves that it is the poor who are favored. In today’s readings, we discover that material wealth alone does not keep us from discipleship. We will see that there are other gifts more important than material wealth, but even so, it is how we use our gifts that matters most.

Today’s scriptures point to the value of the gifts of wisdom, trusting in God, and letting our actions reflect the love of God from within. It is not gold that causes us to fall, but rather the desire for gold above all other things. From the readings in Wisdom and Hebrews, we find the source of God’s gifts in our lives. Wisdom is more valuable than worldly possessions. In Hebrews, we are challenged to look at our own values and admit honestly what controls our lives.

Welcome to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church!

If you are new to the parish and have not yet registered, please call 864-2272.


May God Bless them with many more Happy Birthdays!

Congratulations to Bryan & Linda Hebert and to Robert & Linda Carruth on the anniversaries of their weddings! Bryan & Linda Hebert celebrate their 25th anniversary on Oct. 13. Robert & Linda Carruth celebrate their 66th anniversary on Oct. 15. May God bless them with many more happy years together!

The Annual Parish Drawdown and Silent Auction is Saturday, November 7, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in Presentation Hall.

This drawdown is to assist our parish with the rising cost of insurance and maintenance of our buildings and other parish projects. The success of the drawdown and silent auction depends on everyone’s participation. Tickets are $100 for a chance to win $10,000. If you are unable to purchase a whole ticket, you may share with someone for $50 or three people for $25. We encourage every adult parishioner to actively participate by purchasing a drawdown ticket and donating items for the silent auction. Silent auction items can be dropped off at the parish office. Tickets are available after Mass and also in the Parish office Monday-Friday from 10am-5pm.

Our 10th Annual Ministry Appreciation Dinner is next week on Wednesday, October 14 at 6:00 pm in Presentation Hall. There is a sign up sheet on the center table in the back of church. Please sign up this weekend so we can prepare enough food for everyone!

Altar Serving Training!!

Training classes for new Altar Servers will be in Saturday, Nov. 7 & 14 from 9am-3pm. Lunch will be provided. I currently have received (6) applications...if you are interested please fill out an application and return it to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Applications are on the tables in the back of the church.

A Memorial Mass for St. John Parishioners and Friends who died during the year will be celebrated on Monday, November 2 at 6:00pm. We invite all parishioners who lost a loved one to join in this celebration. A slide presentation featuring the deceased will be given. Please send a picture of your loved one for the slide presentation. This picture will be returned to you after the celebration. Please call the parish office by October 16 and let us know how many family members will attend. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

The second collection at all Masses this weekend is for the Church Maintenance. The second collection at all Masses next weekend is for World Mission Sunday.
The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions, and one of the most popular devotions in Christendom, and the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7. **We will recite the Rosary 30 minutes before each Mass during the month of October.**

The XIV General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops is taking place in Rome from October 4-25. Pope Francis asks families to join with the whole Church in praying for the success of this important meeting.

**Pope Francis’ Prayer for the Synod**

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection, and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God’s plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

**Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk**

Make strides to finish the fight against breast cancer. Join your local American Cancer Society on Saturday, October 17 at the Biloxi Town Green for the 10th annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk. Registration opens at 7:00 am and the walk begins at 8:00 am. Dollars raised help fund breast cancer research, provide free information and support to those touched by this disease and help people reduce their risk of breast cancer or detect it early. For more information to form a team, register to walk, or make a donation, visit MakingStrides-Walk.org/msgulfcoast or call 228-896-8936.

**Nativity Pageant**

Registration is now occurring for the Nativity Pageant that will be held at the 4:00 Children’s Mass on Christmas Eve. All parish children in grades K-6 (whether enrolled in a Catholic school or in our CCD Program) are invited to participate in the pageant and all parish children in grades K-12 are invited to participate in the Children’s Choir that will provide music for the Mass. Registration forms can be found in the back of the church. Please return them by October 25th, so that roles can be assigned. Practices will begin in November. Any questions can be directed to Linda Hebert at 832-7551.

The beautiful flowers on the altar were donated by Gee Gee Grandis in loving memory of Anthony Grandis to commemorate his birthday on October 12. Thank You!

We extend our deepest sympathy to Charlie Underwood and family in the loss of his sister Irene Bosarge. May God reward Irene with Eternal Rest, Light and Peace and may He comfort Her family in their sorrow.

If you or anyone in your family is ill at home or in the hospital and would like us to visit you-please call the parish office at 864-2272.

St. John High School Class of 1958 will be here to celebrate Mass on October 25th at the 10:30 am. The Mass intentions for this Mass will be for their deceased classmates- Marvin Jones, Carl Ecles, Barbara Cucurullo Combs, Lois White Dubuisson, Brenda Hardtner Cantrell and for those unknown. The will all gather for lunch after Mass. For more information call Mary Ann at 863-3250 or 596-3250.

Magnificat of Diamondhead announces their next breakfast on Saturday, October 24th, at the Diamondhead Country Club from 9:00—Noon. Mary Romano is the featured speaker. Please send a check for $15.00 per person made out to Magnificat of Diamondhead to: Sandy Brensike, 19001 Magnolia Ridge Drive, Kiln, MS 39556 by October 19th. Info: Cindy at 228.255.8490.

**GOD’S WORD TODAY**

The journey of faith is not easy. Like the young man in today’s Gospel, we often ask, “What more must I do?” And the answer, of course, is that there is always more that we can do. Sometimes we get discouraged because we think that “more” means doing things that are extraordinary, like becoming missionaries, or emptying our savings accounts in order to give it all to the poor. The “more” that is asked of us is often very ordinary. Are we being asked simply to pay more attention to our spouse or our kids? Are we being asked to take stewardship more seriously? Are we being asked to strengthen our friendship with the Lord by taking more seriously the obligation to celebrate Mass each Sunday? Let us keep the “more” that is being asked of us in the realm of possibility.

From Saint Margaret Sunday Missal, copyright © J. S. Paluch Company
Prayer is the door through which all God’s Graces come to us. —St. Theresa of Avila

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

How did the church deal with “daily sins” in the first five centuries? As devout and observant as they were, our early fathers and mothers in faith could not have been all that different from us. Maybe they looked the other way when the grocer threw an extra fig in the shopping basket, or had a wandering eye for the widow next door, or had a taste for too much ale, or didn’t let the truth get in the way of a good story. First of all, there was the Eucharist. The words are familiar: “This is the cup of my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sin.” Especially by participating in Communion from the cup, forgiveness was achieved. Eucharist was, and remains, the sacrament of a sign and source of unity with Christ.

There were other helps along the way: “fraternal” correction, or the course corrections we offer one another in love, prayer, fasting, works of mercy. St. Augustine listed endurance of suffering, forgiveness of insults, and added the praying of the Lord’s Prayer in the liturgy. He felt that the public praying of the Our Father on Sunday and its daily use in private prayer was an essential remedy and the reason why everyone was not a candidate for canonical penance. Inherited from Augustine’s practice, the Lord’s Prayer in our Communion Rite still has the same purpose, preparing us for receiving and becoming the Body of Christ.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch
2016 European Shrines Tour with Father Joseph Uko
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**Trip Insurance:** Available for $209.00 per person

**For More Information, please contact:**
Cynthia Dominguez at 228 896-4905 or email Cynthia.d1973@yahoo.com

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**Calendar of Events**

**Oct 14** Ministry Appreciation Dinner, 6pm

**22** Young at Heart, Presentation Hall at Noon

**31** Vigil Mass 6pm—All Saints

**Nov 1** All Saints Masses 7am, Noon

**2** All Souls Commemoration of all the Faithful departed Mass 7am

**2** Mass for Deceased Parishioners, 6pm

**7** Drawdown, 6:30pm, Presentation Hall

**17** Anointing of the Sick Mass, 11:15am

**26** Thanksgiving Day Mass 7am

**Dec 7** Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Vigil Mass 6pm

**8** Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Mass 7am & Noon

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**Hurricane Prayer**

O Heavenly Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear into praise of your goodness. Protect us from hurricanes and disasters of nature. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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