

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



900 S. Littler
Edmond, OK 73034

405-340-0691
stjohn-catholic.org

PO Box 510
Edmond, OK 73083



DECEMBER 25, 2020 • THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Watercolor art created by Hannah Feuerborn
Text by Cara Feuerborn
2020 Christmas Card Contest—2nd Place winner

**MAY THE PEACE & JOY OF CHRIST
BE WITH YOU THIS CHRISTMAS
AND THROUGHOUT
THE NEW YEAR.**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth. (Jn 1:14)

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic Christian Community, called to be faithful, caring, enthusiastic disciples. We build up the Kingdom of God by worshiping and praising Him, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and witness, giving loving service to our neighbor and strengthening the parish community.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday – Friday 8:00 am–5:00 pm

MASS TIMES

Saturday	Vigil, 5:30 pm
Sunday	7:30 am, 9:00 am* 11:30 am*, 5:30 pm
	* child care available
Daily & Holy Days	See "Mass Intentions"

SACRAMENT SCHEDULE

Penance

Wednesday	5:00-6:00 pm
Saturday	4:00-5:00 pm

Anointing of the Sick

Please call 405-340-0691
Emergencies call 405-330-7509

Baptism Prep

Melissa Tisdell
mtisdell@stjohn-catholic.org

Matrimony

Contact priest at least six months in advance

READINGS ~ DECEMBER 24 & 25, 2020

Thurs., Christmas Eve

Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25.
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk
2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/
Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20.

Fri., The Nativity of the Lord (holy day of obligation)

Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/
Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14



Full of Joy

Last year we waited much too long to buy our Christmas trees. We usually have one in the living room and then one by the large window in our room that sits at the front of the house. Essentially, there is one for us to see and then one for all the neighbors walking their dogs in the December cold. If you wait too long to buy a fresh tree you might just not find a tree. But last year I found one tree lot I had not bought from in the past. Luckily, they had some great trees. The price was a little higher than I was used to, but a tree would be mine no matter what.

What I found interesting at the lot was a group of about nine young people sitting around a fire, laughing and drinking coffee. I wondered, “All of these people for a tree lot late at night and this late in the season?” What I found out was that these weren’t paid workers. These were recovering drug and

alcohol addicts. This was their rehab’s tree lot, and this was their service and group therapy. I spoke to a couple of them and found they were the nicest people around. They were full of joy for the new life they had found and thankful for the people who helped bring them through the trial of their lives. Suddenly, that tree they sold me seemed more beautiful and majestic than it had when I first drove up.

This Christmas may the Lord that slept in a manger provide for your rest. May the God that gives many gifts to all of us bless you abundantly. And may the Prince of Peace help you to find true gratitude for the gift of life. May you and yours feel the joy of the season, like a group of recovering addicts around a campfire on a cold December night.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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St. John’s has many ways for adults to grow in their faith. Visit stjohn-catholic.org/EventRegistration



Parish Website and Electronic Giving Help You Stay Connected

Christmas is a wonderful time for us. In addition to the very special meaning of the liturgical celebration, we are always happy to see so many parishioners whose schedules may not allow them to attend Mass at our parish on a regular basis. If you are one of those who cannot visit our parish as much as you like, you might want to check out our website at <https://stjohn-catholic.org>. There you will find upcoming events, our ministries, and a “How to” section for all of your sacramental questions. You will also find an [Online Giving](#) link. Our online giving program allows parishioners to continue to support the parish even when they are out-of-town, too busy to remember an envelope, working weekends, or attending Mass at another parish. If you would like to learn more about this easy, safe and secure way of giving, please contact our office at 405-340-0691 or follow the instructions found on our website.

Year end giving letters will be EMAILED late January 2021!!

Do you already have a Realm login? Great! You will receive your year end giving letter via email.

Do we have your current email in our Realm data base?

Please give the parish office a call, 405-340-0691, or send us an email realm@stjohn-catholic.org

Be sure to include your name in the SUBJECT line so we will update the correct family. This is a great time to also up your mailing address and any family changes.



Parish Office Holiday Hours

The parish office will close at noon on December 31, 2020 and will open on Monday, January 4, 2021. We hope you have a blessed New Year!!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 25, 2020

The Nativity of the Lord

If the salutation, “Merry Christmas,” is more than just the expected greeting we use today, then what is the “more” really all about? Today is a sacred day and the birth of Christ has changed not only history but how human beings perceive and relate with God. God has become one with humanity in the Person of Jesus Christ. All of these truths remain just pious sentiments unless they take flesh in the heart and soul of each one of us. We need to absorb and immerse ourselves in what is meant by these truths so that we can be changed by them. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord!

A woman once recounted her journey with poverty and how she went from “doing” for the poor to “being with” the poor. It’s transforming and life changing. It’s easy to simply give alms to those in need, and yet another thing to be with them in their poverty and become poor ourselves. A change of the axis from vertical to horizon puts a whole new twist on things. Our souls understand the experience in ways that our minds simply cannot. Christmas requires this same change of axis.

It is one thing to sing out the words, “Joy to the World,” and quite another to experience that joy ourselves. Many have not experienced the full impact of that first Holy Night because they choose to keep the manager at a distance rather than make a home with the Holy One who resides there. The birth of Christ levels the playing field of life and we have to allow ourselves to be leveled. There is no way to truly be human unless we understand that God is with us and blesses every fiber of the human experience. We cannot be truly human unless we listen to the words of the Word Made Flesh and work so that justice and peace can be realized by all, and God’s sacred earth cared for and nurtured.

The axis of Christmas begins to shift when we realize it’s not about, “I and me,” but, “we and us,” and there’s an order and purpose to how God fashions and sustains things. The world hasn’t really given Christ a full shot yet to understand that Truth has been born in our midst. We pick and choose what suits us in the message and leave the rest behind. What needs to change about you so that Christ can truly be born in you?

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Reflect

First Reading:

While still in captivity in Babylon, Isaiah announced to the Israelites the “good news” of God’s promise of salvation and redemption. How will you celebrate God’s promise to Israel fulfilled today in the birth of Jesus?

Second Reading:

The author of Hebrews opens his letter affirming Jesus’ identity as God’s Son and his superiority over all creation, even the angels. Who do you know needs to hear about the gift of the newborn Jesus?

Gospel:

The Gospel of John opens with this beautiful Christological hymn, defining Jesus as “the Word made flesh.” What does this image tell us about Jesus?



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School
Serving grades PreK3–8th

Learn more about St. John's Parochial school at
stelizabethedmond.org/prospective-families

To schedule a tour or to learn more call 405-348-5364 or visit stelizabethedmond.org or follow us on social media.



Keep In Touch

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Twitter
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SAMARITAN HOUSE

St. John's Outreach Program
January–November 2020 Highlights



1,625
Households
Includes 127 Senior Citizens & 537 children



241
Households Received
+\$60,000 for rent



373
Households Received
+\$59,000 for Utilities



20
Faithful, Caring & Dependable Volunteers—even during Covid!!!

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY
FRIDAY MEETINGS



COMPASS
Nurture Engage Serve World

When: Third Friday of every month

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Where: The Commons room at St. John's

[St. John's Young Adults Ministry](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsYoungAdultsMinistry/) youngadults@stjohn-catholic.org

<https://www.meetup.com/join/group/48267267/FFZKj-nW>

LIVE ON AIR

STREAMED MASSES: DAILY
7:30, SUNDAY 9:00 & 11:30

YouTube
[StJohn Edmond](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCStJohnEdmond)
Sun. 9:00 am

Facebook
[@StJohnEdmondCatholic](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnEdmondCatholic)
Daily 7:30 am, Sun. 11:30 am