

Saint John the Baptist Parish **Parroquia San Juan Bautista**

69 QUINCY AVE., PAWTUCKET, RI 02860

Rev. Mauricio Romero Viquez, Pastor

Vicente Caban, Deacon

Robert Giambo, Organist

Mrs. Cecilia Marín-Hoyt, Secretary

Email stjohnbaptist.org@gmail.com

www.churchofstjohnthebaptist.org

Office Hours

Horario de la Oficina

Monday – Thursday / Lunes a Jueves
9:00am - 2:00pm 401-722-9054

Weekend Masses

Misas de fin de semana

Saturday: 4:30pm English / Inglés
Sábado 6:00pm Español / Spanish
Sunday: 9:30am English / Inglés
Domingo 11:30am Español / Spanish

Daily Masses

Misas durante la semana

Wednesday 8:00am English / Inglés
Martes y Viernes 7:00pm Español / Spanish
Bilingual Mass Saturday / Sábado at 8:00am

Confessions (Chapel) / Confessions (Capilla)

Saturday / Sábado 3:30pm to 4:20pm
& 5:30pm to 5:50pm or by apt. / por cita

Baptism / Bautismo

Baptisms are celebrated on the second Sunday of every Month after the 11:30am Mass. Please call the rectory at least two months in advance.
Los Bautismos se celebran el segundo Domingo de cada mes después de la Misa de las 11:30am.
Llame a la rectoría con 2 meses de anticipación.

Anointing of the Sick

Unción de los enfermos

Please call the parish.
Por favor llamar a la parroquia.

Legión de María

Lunes a las 6:00pm en la Sacristía

Matrimony / Matrimonio

Call one year in advance to begin preparation.
Llamar con un año de anticipación.

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoración Eucarística

Every Friday / Todos los Viernes
9:00am to 6:45pm in the Church / en la Iglesia

Young Women's Faith Group

Ages / Edades 15 to 25
Meeting Place: Rectory
1st Sunday of the month from 6-8pm

Chiquitin Misionero

Wednesdays / Miércoles 6 – 7:30pm
5 to 7 years old / Niños de 5 a 7 años

Comunidad Evangelizadora (CERS)

Miércoles a las 7:30pm en el sótano

Food Bank / Banco de Comida

March / Marzo
Monday / Lunes 16 & 23
9:30am to 11:00am & 6:00pm to 7:00pm
Wednesday / Miércoles 18 & 25
9:30am to 11:00am

Hospitality House / Casa de Hospitalidad

Open every Tuesday / Martes at 10:30am
Hot lunch / Almuerzo caliente at 11:30 am

New Parishioners

Please call the Rectory to register. Llamar a la Rectoría para registrarse.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2026

Peace and all good! Dear brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Introduction

"Do you believe this?" This question, which Jesus poses to Martha of Bethany, holds within it a mysterious invitation to move beyond the formal plane of religious certainties and into the experience of living faith in the One who is the Resurrection and the Life.

If death causes pain to place a limit upon life, trust in Christ enables love to open itself to the horizon of hope. For only those capable of placing their hope in the Lord and in His Word will be able to behold the mercy and redemption of God.

Faith neither nullifies nor evades pain; rather, it imbues it with a meaning that allows us to journey through it with hope in that God who never disappoints those who believe in Him.

Reflection on the Word of God

The first reading from Ezekiel (37:12–14) forms part of the famous account of the Valley of Dry Bones, in which the prophet of the Exile receives a vision of how those bones gradually come back to life.

The theme of death has always loomed over every human situation and every religion. And from these words of Ezekiel, we can observe something significant: life resides in the Spirit. The mystery of death can find its resolution only through the experience of a new life—a life granted by the Spirit of God, who breathes it into those who have died (imparting to the human being that divine breath of life through His Spirit).

The second reading (Rom. 8:8–11) is part of the "Hymn to the Spirit" found in Chapter 8—a theological and spiritual response to Romans Chapter 7; that is, a response to the *"self"* that imprisons us within sin and radical egoism—the very *"self"*

against which the Law levels its accusations and relentless demands. It stands as the most beautiful defense ever written regarding the Spirit and His role in the Christian life.

Paul has achieved something that is impossible to express in just a few lines. Man is called to be a child of God; yet this experience is not attained simply by chance, but through the Spirit of God, whom Christ has given us. However, if man encloses himself within his own *"self"*—that is, within his flesh—he will then experience only death.

This marks the third week that we have been meditating upon the Gospel of Saint John (the Resurrection of Lazarus). We have reached what might be termed the "climax" of our Gospel narrative. We must remain keenly attentive—not merely to the events that transpired, but rather to the message or lesson that our account seeks to convey to us. Naturally, the Evangelist harbors not a shred of doubt that Jesus indeed restored his friend Lazarus to life; yet, how does he interpret this event, and what is its significance? It is not so much the resurrection of Lazarus that holds our interest, but rather the mystery of death and life—a mystery that finds its source in the very person of Jesus. It concerns that which humanity seeks, and that which God offers. We are now beginning to immerse ourselves in John's theological thought and to discern his distinctive spirit—a spirit which, though mysterious, serves as an invaluable guide in coming to know the Lord Jesus. For Jesus is not, for us, merely a historical figure who existed in a bygone era; rather, He continues to exist and remains present in our lives—even if, at times, our own spiritual mediocrity prevents us from fully experiencing that presence. We ought to view this chapter as a powerful teaching regarding the death and resurrection of Jesus—a reality that extends and continues within the lives of Christians.

Life is a true victory over death! "I am the resurrection and the life." *"Do you believe this?"* *"Yes, Lord: I believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God—the One who was to come into the*

world." The profound secret of this event lies in Jesus' revelation that the resurrection—like a first fruit—is to be anticipated within the present moment, even as it remains projected toward the future. The entire narrative converges to focus the reader's attention upon Jesus' solemn declaration—a declaration that constitutes the most magnificent offer ever extended to all of humanity, for it provides the answer to the most menacing question that grips the human heart: What lies beyond this life? The central focus of this entire passage is to strongly emphasize that Jesus is "*the resurrection and the life.*" Jesus is the resurrection and the life—a gift offered to all humanity. And all of this is grounded in a fact, in a specific event: Christ has conquered death—symbolically, as a "sign"—by raising Lazarus. This event serves as a "sign" of His Own Resurrection, which will be the definitive answer, for it is a resurrection that endures forever and a source of living hope for all believers.

Brothers and sisters, I wish to encourage each of you to prepare yourselves with joy to participate in this Holy Paschal Triduum (the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ). Let us celebrate with hope that Christ will pass through our lives—for this is the very meaning of the word *Pasch*—and let us pray for peace in the world, amidst a context of war, violence, and fear regarding the future. Yet, God is among us; He will bring enduring peace, and we shall all come to see one another as brothers and sisters in the Lord.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For the following parishioners:

In the Hospital: Hope Fernandes

At Home: Jovina De Barros

Jeanne Jugan Residence: Florence Corneau

Grandview: Alberto De Barros

Collection 3/15 \$6030.00

Second Collection

Rice Bowl	3/29
Easter	4/5
Fuel/Maintenance	4/19

<u>MASS INTENTIONS</u>	
<u>Saturday March 21</u>	<u>4:30pm</u>
+Henry & Jeanette Mailhot, by Richard & Suzanne Mailhot	
<u>Sunday March 22</u>	<u>9:30am</u>
+Bertrand Desrochers, by family	
<u>Monday March 23</u>	<u>8:00am</u>
<u>Wednesday March 25</u>	<u>8:00am</u>
+Raúl Rivera Bodon, by Margarita Zuleta	
+Rosaria Almeida y Lucilia Pinhero, by Fatima Leite	
<u>Saturday March 28 Bilingual</u>	<u>8:00am</u>
<u>Vigil Mass</u>	<u>4:30pm</u>
+Birthday remembrance of Janet LaValley , by family	
<u>Sunday March 29</u>	<u>9:30am</u>
+Clair Breault, by Denise Robin	


She Speaks Scripture
 CATHOLIC GIRLS GROUP

April 5, 2026
May 3, 2026
June 7, 2026

+ **5-7 PM** +

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
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Announcements

Masses on Wednesday and Saturday 8am will now be celebrated in the Chapel. The bishops of the ecclesiastical Province of Hartford have decreed that the amount of **\$15** shall be the stipend for weekday Masses and **\$25** for weekend Masses.

Faith Formation Class Schedule

March 25 – Class

Time 6:00 to 7:30pm

In the Church Hall, please enter thru Bullock St.

The Stations of the Holy Cross will be bilingual every Friday of Lent at **6:15pm** in the Church.

First Communions

First Communions will be held on **May 16th at 11:00 AM**, a change from May 2nd to May 16th.

Ecumenical Day of Prayer and Fasting Event

All are invited to join us in an Ecumenical Day of Prayer and Fasting Event on **Thursday, March 26 at 7 p.m.** in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence. More information forthcoming as the evening draws near. Contact: Jim Jahnz, Secretary for Catholic Charities and Social Ministry for the Diocese of Providence, 401-278-2504 / jjahnz@dpvd.org.

Annual Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass in the Cathedral with Bishop Bruce A. Lewandowski, C.Ss.R. on Monday, **March 30 at 6 p.m.** at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence. Join Bishop Bruce and the priests and deacons of the Diocese of Providence at this special annual Mass. The Bishop will be joined by dozens of concelebrating priests and many deacons from across the diocese. At this Mass, the priests of the diocese renew their priestly promises and the bishop consecrates and blesses holy oils used in the sacramental rites of the church for the coming year. All are welcome!

More – <https://dioceseofprovidence.org/news/save-the-date-the-annual-chrism-mass>

Anuncios

Las Misas de los **miércoles y sábados 8am** se celebrarán en la Capilla. Los obispos de la provincia eclesiástica de Hartford han decretado que la estipendio para las misas entre semana será de **\$15** y de **\$25** para las misas de fin de semana.

Horario de Clases de Formación de Fe

Marzo, 25 – Hay clase

De las 6:00 a las 7:30pm

En el sótano de la Iglesia, entrar por la calle Bullock.

Las estaciones de la Santa Cruz serán **bilingüe** todos los viernes de cuaresma a las **6:15pm** en la Iglesia.

Primeras Comuniones

Las primeras comuniones van a ser **el 16 de mayo a las 11 de la mañana**, un cambio del 2 de mayo para el 16 de mayo.

Día Ecuménico de Oración y Ayuno

Jueves, 26 de marzo a las 7 p.m. en la Catedral de San Pedro y San Pablo, Providence.

Más información se proporcionará al acercarse la fecha.

Contacto: Jim Jahnz, Secretario de Caridades y Ministerio Social, Diócesis de Providence 401-278-2504 / jjahnz@dpvd.org

Misa Crismal Anual

La Misa Crismal en la Catedral, con el Obispo Bruce A. Lewandowski, C.Ss.R., se celebrará el **lunes 30 de marzo a las 6:00pm** en la Catedral de los Santos Pedro y Pablo, Providencia. Acompañe al Obispo Bruce y a los sacerdotes y diáconos de la Diócesis de Providencia en esta Misa anual especial. El Obispo estará acompañado por decenas de sacerdotes concelebrantes y numerosos diáconos de toda la diócesis. En esta Misa, los sacerdotes de la diócesis renuevan sus promesas sacerdotales y el obispo consagra y bendice los santos óleos utilizados en los ritos sacramentales de la iglesia para el año entrante. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Quinto Domingo de Cuaresma

22 de Marzo, 2026

¡Paz y Bien! Hermanos y hermanas en nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Introducción

«¿Crees esto?» Esta pregunta que Jesús hace a Marta de Betania encierra una misteriosa invitación a pasar del plano formal de las certezas religiosas a la experiencia de la fe viva en Aquél que es la resurrección y la vida.

Si la muerte hace que el dolor ponga un límite a la vida, la confianza en Cristo hace que el amor pueda abrirse al horizonte de la esperanza. Y es que solo quien es capaz de esperar en el Señor y en su Palabra, será capaz de contemplar la misericordia y la redención de Dios.

La fe no anula ni evade el dolor, pero le da un sentido que permite transitarlo con esperanza en ese Dios que no defrauda a los que creen en él.

Reflexión de la Palabra de Dios

La primera lectura de Ezequiel (37,12-14) forma parte del famoso relato del valle de los huesos secos, en el que el profeta del destierro tiene una visión de cómo esos huesos van recobrando vida poco a poco.

El tema de la muerte siempre ha estado rondando en todas las situaciones humanas y en todas las religiones. Y de estas palabras de Ezequiel podemos observar... algo importante; la vida está en el Espíritu. El misterio de la muerte, solamente puede tener solución desde la experiencia de una nueva vida por el Espíritu de Dios que trasmite a los que han muerto (al soplo de vida de Dios que da al ser humano con su Espíritu).

La segunda lectura (Rom. 8,8-11), forma parte del canto del Espíritu del Cap. 8, que es la respuesta teológica y espiritual a Rom. Cap 7, es decir, al “yo” que nos encierra en el pecado y en el egoísmo radical, por lo que nos acusa y nos acosa la Ley. Es

la apología más hermosa que se haya escrito sobre el Espíritu y su papel en la vida cristiana.

Pablo ha logrado algo que no es posible expresar en pocas líneas. El hombre está llamado a ser hijo de Dios y esta experiencia no se logra simplemente porque sí, sino por el Espíritu de Dios, que Cristo nos ha dado. Pero si el hombre se encierra en su “yo”, es decir, en su carne, entonces vivirá su experiencia de muerte.

Esta es la tercera semana que meditamos el evangelio de San Juan (Resurrección de Lázaro). Estamos en lo que podemos llamar el «climax» de nuestro evangelio. Debemos estar muy atentos, no a lo sucedido, sino a lo que se nos quiere decir o enseñar en nuestro relato. Desde luego el evangelista no duda ni un instante de que Jesús ha devuelto a la vida a su amigo Lázaro; pero ¿cómo lo interpreta y qué significa eso? No es tanto la resurrección de Lázaro lo que interesa, sino el misterio de la muerte y de la vida que tiene su fuente en la misma persona de Jesús. Se trata de lo que los hombres buscan, y de lo que Dios ofrece. Ya nos vamos introduciendo en el pensamiento de Juan y vamos conociendo su talante, que, aunque misterioso nos sirve mucho para conocer al Señor Jesús. Y es que Jesús no es para nosotros una figura histórica que existió en un tiempo, sino que sigue existiendo y está presente en nuestras vidas, aunque nuestra mediocridad no lo experimente a veces. Este capítulo lo debemos ver como una enseñanza poderosa sobre la muerte y la resurrección de Jesús que se prolonga en los cristianos.

¡La Vida es una victoria real sobre la muerte! Yo soy la resurrección y la vida. “¿Crees esto? *Sí, Señor: yo creo que tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios, el que tenía que venir al mundo*”. El secreto de este acontecimiento es que Jesús revela que la resurrección se anticipará, como en primicia, al tiempo presente proyectada al futuro. Todo el conjunto centra la atención del lector en la declaración solemne de Jesús, que supone la oferta más grandiosa para la humanidad entera porque

responde al interrogante más amenazador que atena a los hombres: ¿después de esta vida qué?

El centro de interés de todo el conjunto es subrayar fuertemente que Jesús es *"la resurrección y la vida"*. Jesús es la resurrección y la vida como oferta para todos los hombres. Y todo esto se fundamenta en un hecho, en un acontecimiento: Cristo ha vencido a la muerte; simbólicamente, a nivel de "signo", resucitando a Lázaro. Este acontecimiento es un "signo" de su propia Resurrección, que será la respuesta definitiva, porque es una resurrección para siempre y fuente de esperanza viva para todos los creyentes.

Hermanos y hermanas, les deseo animar a cada uno de ustedes a prepararnos con alegría para participar de este santo triduo Pascual (pasión, muerte y resurrección de nuestro Señor Jesucristo), celebremos con esperanza que Cristo pasará por nuestras vidas (este es el significado de la palabra Pascua) y oremos por la paz en el mundo, en un contexto de guerra, violencia y temor hacia el futuro. Sin embargo, Dios está entre nosotros, traerá la paz duradera y todos nos veremos como hermanos y hermanas, en el Señor.

Colecta 3/22	\$6030.00
<u>Segunda Colecta</u>	
Plato de Arroz	3/29
Pascua de Resurrección	4/5
Gas y Mantenimiento	4/19

Cursillos de Cristiandad

Para Hombres: **del 16 al 19 de abril**

Si desea más información por favor contacte a: Cristina Méndez 401-575-7704.

El lugar: En la Casa de Retiro Nuestra Sra. de La Salette.

La Vela de San José

En acción de gracias a Dios por la intersección de San José por las bendiciones recibidas
Hermanas Correa Hernández

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS

Sábado 21 de Marzo **Vigilia** **6:00pm**

En acción de gracias a la Santísima Virgen por favores recibidos, intención de Gladys Giraldo
+Por el descanso eterno de Daniel Goncalves en su primer aniversario, Candida Semedo
+Por el descanso eterno de Manuel Cabral Semedo, intención de Candida Semedo

Domingo 22 de Marzo **11:30am**

En acción de gracias por la vida de Sonia González, intención de sus padres
En acción de gracias por Mateo Fernández en su cumpleaños, intención de sus padres
+Por el descanso eterno de Alicia Echeverry y Jordan Berson, intención de la familia Durango
+Por el descanso eterno de Gloria Lissette Lamba Verde en su tercer mes, intención de su familia
+Por el descanso eterno de Luis Moreno, intención de su familia

+Por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

Martes 24 de Marzo **7:00pm**

+Por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

Viernes 27 de Marzo **7:00pm**

+Por el descanso eterno de Miguel Moreno, intención de Cristina Cruz

+Por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

Sábado 28 de Marzo (Misa Bilingüe) **8:00am**

+Por el descanso eterno de Angélica Cadavid, intención de Margarita Zuleta

+Por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

Vigilia **6:00pm**

+Por el descanso eterno de Olga María Flores en su sexto mes, intención de su hija y nietos

+Por el descanso eterno de Luis Pedro Marroquín en su primer año, intención de su familia

Domingo 29 de Marzo **11:30am**

+Por el descanso eterno de Alicia Echeverry y Jordan Berson, intención de la familia Durango

+Por el descanso eterno de Aura Dilia Portillo de Archila en su primer año, intención de Maritza Archila

+Por las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

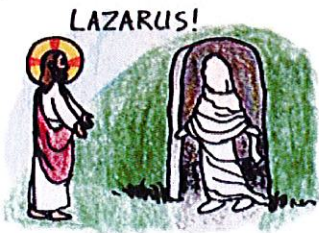
God Raises People from the Dead!



In today's Old Testament reading God promised His people that He would raise them from their graves. In the Gospel story Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from the dead. At the end of time God will raise everyone from the dead.

God does not like death. We all have to die because we are sinful, but God wants to raise us from the dead, like Lazarus.

Did you know that there is something worse than dying? Sinning is worse than dying, because when you commit a mortal sin you kill God's life in your soul. When you die you know that your body will rise again, but if you are not sorry for any serious sins then your soul will go to Hell because it doesn't have God's life in it. In Lent we should try to get rid of all the sin in our souls by going to Confession so that our souls will have God's life in them and be ready to celebrate Jesus' resurrection at Easter!

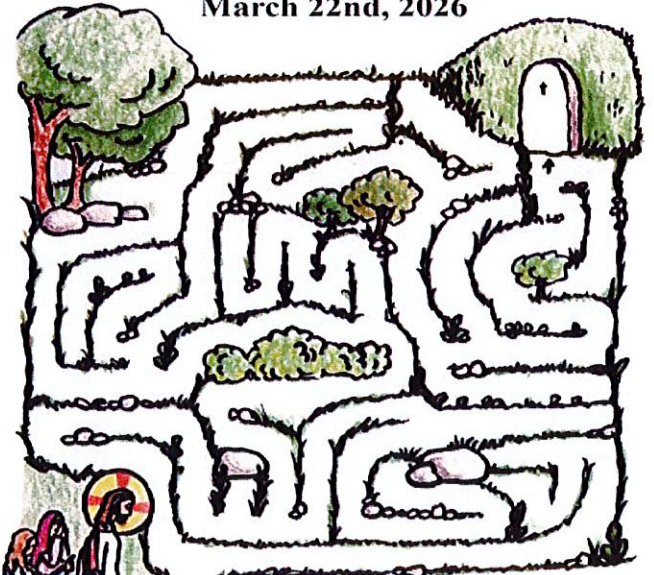


ANSWER TO Ezekiel Puzzle: I WILL OPEN YOUR GRAVES AND HAVE YOU RISE FROM THEM.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 22nd, 2026



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus finds out that his friend Lazarus has died. Can you find your way through the maze to the tomb where Jesus will raise him from the dead?

THE ANNUNCIATION MARCH 25

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS PEOPLE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR GOD TO SEND THEM A SAVIOUR. WHEN THE TIME WAS RIGHT HE SENT AN ANGEL TO A YOUNG WOMAN.

MARY WAS SHOCKED. WHO WAS THIS? WHAT WAS THE MEANING?

You shall conceive and bear a Son, and call Him Jesus...

How shall this be done, since I know not man?

The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you...

SHE ACCEPTED GOD'S PLAN EVEN THOUGH SHE KNEW IT WOULD NOT BE EASY.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord: be it done to me according to your word.

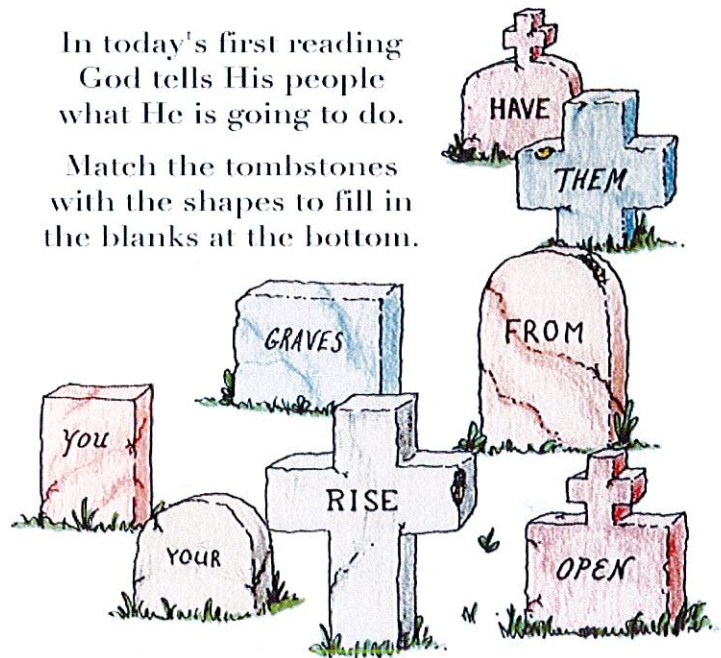
FROM THAT MOMENT THE BABY WHO WAS THE SON OF GOD BEGAN TO GROW INSIDE HER. JESUS HAD COME INTO THE WORLD HIDDEN INSIDE HIS MOTHER.

THE ANNUNCIATION IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DAYS OF THE YEAR BECAUSE IT IS WHEN JESUS FIRST CAME TO EARTH, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS STILL HIDDEN. GOD DEPENDED ON MARY TO SAY 'YES' TO HIS WILL EVEN THOUGH IT WAS VERY HARD. WE SHOULD BE ALWAYS READY TO DO GOD'S WILL TOO!

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

An Ezekiel Puzzle

In today's first reading God tells His people what He is going to do. Match the tombstones with the shapes to fill in the blanks at the bottom.



I will _____
and _____





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