St John the Evangelist Catholic Church

2085 St. Mary Highway (Louisiana 1), Thibodaux

St. John the Evangelist Church, located on the banks of Bayou Lafourche, west of Thibodaux, originated in 1876 as the chapel for a school founded by the priest at St. Joseph Church, in Thibodaux. In 1919 it became a separate parish, and this classic New Englandstyle building dates to 1930. The interior has a simple wood facing.

In 1955 the church was cut in two and expanded to add two center sections of pews, and the following year the Stations of the Cross arrived from the chapel at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. A grotto honoring Our Lady of Lourdes followed in 1960; outdoor Stations of the Cross in 1989.

Not until 19841985 were the original windows replaced with brilliantly colored faceted glass, or *dalle de verre.* These were designed by Stan Gall, Jr., of Crowley, Louisiana, who was only 22 years old at the time. The windows illustrate many traditional concepts of Christian theology: the Seven Sacraments, the Theological Virtues, and the Cardinal Virtues. The Biblical passages were suggested by Father Emile Fossier, then pastor of the church.

Unique to these windows are depictions of local culture: a shrimp boat, sugar cane, and an oil derrick. Uniting the windows is the depiction of water, which represents the Living Water of faith as well as the physical water that runs through and around the community.

 **Windows**

 Altar

. . . but on every word that comes from the mouth of God Come, Blessed of my Father . . .

Man does not live on bread alone . . . . . . and possess the kingdom.

. . . the evidence of things unseen *Si tu savais le don de Dieu.*

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for. . . . [If you but knew the gift of God]

 Love one another . .

. . . hope extends beyond the flesh. . . . as I have loved you.

Like a sure and firm anchor . . .

 Where your treasure lies . . .

 I have not come to be served but to serve. . . . there lies your heart

 The manger Phoenix

Entrance

 Dove of peace

 Second floor

 Lilies Flowers

Sacristy:

Justice, Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude,

St. John Vianney, St. John Berchmans

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