



A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION  
The Feast of the  
*Immaculate Conception*  
**December 8**

December 7 Vigil Mass at 7pm

December 8 Mass at 8:30am

**Mass Obligation: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

In 2018, the Patronal Feast of the United States of America – the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – and the Second Sunday of Advent occur on back-to-back days, and both days remain obligatory this year. The faithful must attend Mass at 4pm or after on Friday, December 7 or at any time on Saturday, December 8 to fulfill their obligation for the Immaculate Conception. The faithful must attend another Mass at 4 pm or after on Saturday, December 8 or at any time on Sunday, December 9 for the Second Sunday of Advent. Attending only one Mass Saturday evening, December 8 does not satisfy both obligations.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;  
Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;  
Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14;  
Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;  
Lk 3:1-6

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins  
Monday: St. Francis Xavier  
Tuesday: St. John Damascene  
Thursday: St. Nicholas  
Friday: St. Ambrose; First Friday  
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
Saturday: The Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary

**“Remember the past with gratitude.  
Live the present with enthusiasm.  
Look forward to the future with confidence.”**  
St. John Paul II

## PARISH STAFF

### PASTORAL MINISTRY

Fr. Michael Skluzáček, Pastor ext. 1213  
Fr. Paul Shovelain, Parochial Vicar ext. 1214  
Deacon Peter D'Heilly  
Deacon Rod Palmer VM 1298  
Deacon Gary Schneider VM 1288  
Susan Amos Palmer, Befriender Coordinator VM 1298  
Mary Hartz, Parish Nurse ext. 1229

### WORSHIP

Jay Hunstiger, Director of Worship ext. 1212  
Carrie Kram, Director of Choristers cramk@stjohnnyb.org  
Lori Vosejka, Director of Contemporary Ensemble

### OFFICE OF DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

Jessica Balzarini, Director ext. 1228  
Mary Kohlhaas, Family Formation Coordinator ext. 1234  
Jen Livermont, Sunday School Coordinator ext. 1233  
Jodie Wolla, Administrative Assistant ext. 1211

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Adam Rooble - cell 651-529-0526 ok to txt ext. 1218

### SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL (PreK - 8)

Ann Laird, Principal ext. 1117  
Joy Thienes, Administrative Assistant ext. 1118  
Michelle Barsness, Marketing/Enrollment ext. 1114

### ADMINISTRATION

Mark Dittman, Business Administrator ext. 1215  
Bret Sutton, Director of Stewardship ext. 1217  
Teri Shea, Facilities Coordinator ext. 1237  
Michelle Chock, Accountant ext. 1224  
Rita Arndorfer, Volunteer Coordinator ext. 1220  
Bonnie Haik, Communications Coordinator ext. 1210  
Steven Fierro, Hospitality Coordinator ext. 1227  
Jean Robson, Administrative Assistant ext. 1219  
Patrick Hinnenkamp, Director of Maintenance ext. 1203

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon.- Thurs. 8:00am - 8:00 pm  
Friday 8:00am - 7:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00am - 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8:00am - 5:30 pm

### PARISH LIBRARY HOURS

Sat. 5:30 PM; Sun. 9:30 & 11:30 AM

**Church Nursery:** We offer year-round nursery during both the 8:30am and 10:30am Sunday Masses for children ages 1-3. Children play with caring staff while you are able to fully participate in Mass. The nursery is closed on holidays.

## NEW PARISHIONERS

### Welcome to St. John's!

### The Next New Parishioner Meeting: December 8/9

The new parishioner meeting will be held after each Mass the weekend of December 8/9. The meeting will start 15 minutes after Mass in St. Joseph Hall.

*All are welcome to attend.*

*The bulletin deadline is 12:00 noon on Thursday, 10 days before the Sunday publication date. All submissions will be edited for length and content and are subject to final approval. Space is very limited. Thank you for your cooperation. Send requests to: [stjohnsnb@pclink.com](mailto:stjohnsnb@pclink.com)*

*All announcements are due by 12 noon on Friday for inclusion in the weekend pulpit announcements.*

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Monday, December 03, 2018

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels  
8:00 AM Confessions ~ Church  
8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek (Katharine Schaefer+)  
7:00 PM Baptism Class ~ 208  
7:00 PM Library Committee Meeting ~ Library  
7:00 PM RCIA ~ 210

### Tuesday, December 04, 2018

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels  
8:00 AM Confessions ~ Church  
8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek (Vernon Kackman+)  
9:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks ~ St. Therese  
9:00 AM Sunday Scripture ~ 204  
1:00 PM Caregivers Support Group ~ 204  
7:00 PM Arts and Environment Committee ~ 211  
7:00 PM Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting ~ 210

### Wednesday, December 05, 2018

8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek  
(Deceased Members of the Vu Family)  
9:15 AM Faithfully Fit ~ LL106  
9:30 AM Legion of Mary ~ 211  
9:30 AM Scripture w/ Sr. Clarinda ~ 210  
5:00 PM Confessions ~ Church  
5:30 PM Mass ~ Fr. Paul (Charlie Melloy+)  
6:00 PM Family Formation ~ St. Joseph Hall  
6:30 PM Middle School Family Formation Night ~ LL106  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal ~ LL101

### Thursday, December 06, 2018

6:30 AM Men's Fellowship ~ St. Joseph Hall  
8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels  
8:00 AM Confessions ~ Church  
8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Paul (Raymond Dulski+)  
9:15 AM Circle of Women Brunch ~ SJHW  
9:00 AM Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Chapel  
7:00 PM Bible Study w/ Sr. Clarinda ~ 210  
7:00 PM Living the Divine Will Prayer Group ~ 211  
7:00 PM Young Adult Bible Study ~ 204  
7:00 PM School Band Concert ~ Church

### Friday, December 07, 2018

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels  
8:00 AM Confessions ~ Church  
8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek (Darwin Larson+)  
7:00 PM Mass - Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Fr. Skluzacek (Rich and Nancy Kos)

### Saturday, December 08, 2018

Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek  
3:30 PM Confessions ~ Church  
4:30 PM Mass ~ Fr. Paul (Betty Lou Wilcox+)

### Sunday, December 09, 2018 Advent II

Retirement Fund for Religious  
8:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek (Pro Populo)  
8:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms  
10:30 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word ~ Chapel  
10:30 AM Mass ~ Fr. Paul (John Mezzenga+)  
10:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms  
11:30 AM Expectant Parent Blessing ~  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel  
2:00 PM First Reconciliation Retreat ~ St. Joseph Hall  
5:30 PM Mass ~ Fr. Skluzacek (Janet Specht+)  
5:30 PM Senior High and Confirmation 2 ~ SJH



## *From the Parochial Vicar: Father Paul Shovelain*

**December 2**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

Last year at our All Saint's Day Mass, I asked our students from St. John the Baptist Catholic School, "How does one become a saint?" One of our 4<sup>th</sup> graders responded, "You go to saint's school!" Not quite the answer I was looking for, but close! In order to become a saint, one has to **learn** how to be a saint! Our mission at St. John the Baptist Catholic School is to form saints, as we want every one of them to get to heaven one day! We educate our students in the Catholic faith. We teach religion not just as a subject but as a way life. We want to help each student become the best version of himself or herself. As Pope Benedict says, "Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed. Each of us is loved. Each of us is necessary." Each of us is necessary to build up a better world. We appreciate each student that attends St. John's and want them to know they are loved by God. We learn many things here at St. John's, including religion, math, social studies, English, reading, music, art, and Spanish. All of these subjects are taught in such a way that the student grows into the person that God desires them to be.

We partner with our school parents to form the children in the faith and grow in their love of Jesus. We strive to witness Jesus to them by the love and kindness we share. We celebrate a weekly school Mass, which has confession available beforehand for the students. We celebrate the Sacrament of Confession twice a year as a school. We host a Middle School Retreat in November and an All School Retreat over Holy Week. These retreats are meant to strengthen the student's faith, and help their faith move from the head to the heart.

The past three years we have been teaching the *Virtues in Practice Curriculum* from Dominican Sisters of St. Cecelia Congregation in Nashville Tennessee. In the program, we teach a different virtue each month to our students. We teach them what the virtue is and give them opportunities to use it. They often go along with the time of year it is or the season of the Church. For example, last year we studied diligence (which means doing your best and working hard until you are finished) at the end of the school year. So far this year we have studied the virtues of charity, friendship, courtesy, and purity. It has been inspiring to see the students use these virtues in their life and in following the example of Jesus Christ more perfectly.

Fr. Skluzacek has asked me be more focused in the school this year in order to help form our students to love Jesus Christ. I am teaching the virtues curriculum to our students. I teach in the Middle School twice a month and the other grades once a month. I also coached Cross Country and will coach Track and Field. I eat lunch with our students regularly as well. It is truly a joy to minister to our students and bring them Jesus' love. One very memorable moment for me was our last Cross Country meet of the season. I ran with our Junior Varsity boys and encouraged them along the way. One of our 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys, Brady, took the lead right away. I ran with him giving him tips and encouraging him the whole way. At one point during the race he said, "Thank you!" and showed the virtue of courtesy! I was surprised as I just wanted him to stay focused on his form and keeping his stride going! However, he has developed the virtue of courtesy in school and in his home. In this way Christ shined right through him! He ended up winning the race and I was very happy for him! The joy I felt in his success is like the joy that God our Father has when he sees us succeed in holiness!

Our school helps our students not only exceed in academics and athletics, but ultimately and most importantly, in holiness. This weekend we are asking you to partner with our school and support the work of forming saints here at St. John the Baptist Catholic School. You should have received a letter in the mail about donating to our school. Donations can be returned in the Sunday collection or mailed. Please use the envelope provided or indicate on your check that your donation is for school tuition assistance. If you are unable to give now, please pray for the success of our school and consider giving later using the assist a student envelope in your parish giving envelopes that you will receive later. Thank you for partnering with us.

*Fr. Paul Shovelain*



### One Spirit ~ Many Gifts Renewal

Pledge response forms continue to come in - thank you! If you have not yet turned in your pledge response, it is not too late!

Please turn in your form via the collection at any Mass or to the parish office, by mail or dropping it off. May God bless you for your generosity!

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### Support the Retirement Fund for Religious.

A donor writes, "Your flyer touched my heart—seeing the retired religious, such memories surfaced." Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give to next week's second collection. You can use the envelope in your packet or donate online by visiting our website [www.stjohnnb.com](http://www.stjohnnb.com)



### Expectant Parents Blessing December 9 after the 10:30am Mass

A special blessing for expectant mothers and their families will be held at the Garden of Life Chapel. This blessing is sponsored by St. John's Respect Life Committee



*Pick up an angel and make  
Christmas brighter for someone  
else! DUE BACK ON DEC. 16*

### PERPETUAL ADORATION

As we begin advent consider becoming a scheduled adorer. An hour a week to pray in anticipation and preparation of our Lord's birth.

These are the open hours that need to be filled: Tuesday 3am; Wednesday 9am; Thursday 1am, 3am; Friday midnight, 1am, 2am, 3am, 10pm, 11pm; Saturday 2am, 7am, 3pm.

Prayer partners are requested for these hours: Tuesday 5am; Wednesday 4am; Thursday 2am, 5am; Friday midnight, 1am, 2am, 7am, 10pm; Saturday 4am. Substitute adorers are needed, especially for midnight to 6am.

Call Kathy 763-464-3985 or Mark 651-481-0939 for more information and to sign up for your hour.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

#### Those who have entered eternal life:

Bernita Cooke, Marie Stepaniak, Regina Bisch, mother of Rose Ann

**Those who are ill:** Barb Gregerson, Lloyd Mans, Lucy Gebhardt, Mary Spitzka, Mark Hammer, Elaine Loscheider, Bev Stampfle, John Demont, Michael Ferdelman, Shirley Hill, Jon Clark, Jim Montury, Lucas Kramer, Bill Ivory, Jim Greve, Cassie Cramer, Georgianna Warden, Donna Yenish, Mary Wegerson, Stephen Sandquist, John Leibrich, Scott Lemke, Mark Nelson, Nella Pitzen, Joan Roemer, Mary Lou Long, Donna Reinkober, Helen Sullivan, Victoria Stratton, Alfred Duku -Celestino, Ellie Warchol, Fulton Francis Dobbs, Virginia Hudoba, Carl Stampfle, Marcy Eder, Jeff Drew, Daniel Welter, Doug Brekke, Jack & Marcella Longnecker, Joe Szeplieniec, Stanley Kruta, Philip Jarosz, Joni Grieman, Sara Groehler, Zach Boryczka, Tom Miller, Jean Schaaf, Greta Stefanich, Jean Lancel, Deloris Wolcyn, Evelyn Arneson, Vic Spaulding, Madi Rippy, Sydney Rippy, Sarah Lumaya, Richard and Patricia Gigrich, Marianne Brekke, Patricia Beaubien, Delores Demont, Sally Norgren, Gerry Kuglin, Norma Stanisha, Steve Lauinger, Michael Warchol, Nancy Kiuii, Catheryn Klukas, David Martin, Mary Brunner, Kathy Brownrigg, Loretta Witkowski, Jessie Johnson, James Wehr, Carol Ruff, Juanita Zamor, Anne Saylor, Richard Pellow, Mary Puffer, Janet Doud, Gay Jacobsen, Carol Johnson, Anita Leibrich, Charlotte Thrun, Rose Maciaszek, Fred & Deana Irish, Connie Pearson, Mike Fritz, Rita Kochevar, Catherine Schonhardt, Barb Cant, Linda Puffer, Mark Puffer, Jenny Reicks, Robert & Annette Kirwan, Thomas Daley, May Gariepy

**PRAYER LINE** 651-633-1618 /651-633-5845 Call with your prayer requests. Requests are confidential.

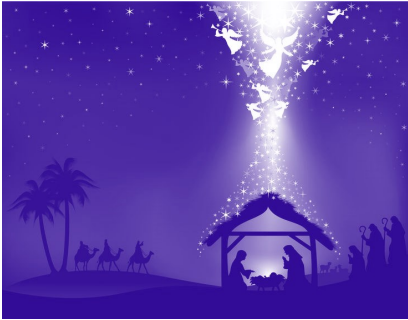
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**Please Remember St. John's Food Shelf**

## FROM THE OFFICE OF DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

Join Sister Clarinda for Sunday Morning Scripture, Tuesdays at 9AM

**Men's Fellowship - Thursday Morning 6:30-8:00am** - Now - December 27, 2018. Knowing Jesus and His Church – Fr Larry Richards DVD Presentation. Looking for a clearer understanding of what we believe? Presented as only Fr Larry Richards can, this series of talks will give you a deeper look into the teachings of the Catholic Church. Come for the donuts, stay for the truth!! Questions, call Dave @ 612-616-4013



### SJB Family Retreat

## Welcoming the Lord!

December 2, 2017

**11:30am Taco Bar Lunch** - Families are asked to bring a side dish to share

**12:15pm Opening Session** - Introductions and Activity

**12:45pm Welcoming the Lord** - Presentation given by Fr. Paul and break out session for younger children and teens.

**1-2:00pm Family Activities** - Stations for the families to do together.

The event is **FREE** but please complete a registration form. Registration forms can be found in the kiosks. Questions? Contact Father Paul at [frshovelain@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:frshovelain@stjohnnyb.org)

### Family Formation is coming up on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 PM in St. Joseph Hall.

The topic is "Cross My Heart" (God Keeps His Promises) – People are created with a capacity for God and God has, from the beginning, revealed Himself to us. Come and hear more about how He has done that and discover more in your relationship to Him. All parish adults are invited to join the Family Formation parents in the adult session in SJH.

Before it starts, attend 5:30 PM Mass in the chapel and have dinner with us (just let us know how many are coming: 651.633.1540) Make Family Formation presentations a regular monthly appointment! Join us on the the first Wednesday of the month and learn something new. We'd love to see you there!

### Future Topics and Dates – put them on your calendar and plan to join us!

January 2, 2019: "A Match Made In Heaven (Matrimony)

February 6: "The Trinity"

March 13: "A Clean Sweep" (Reconciliation)

April 3: "O Most Holy Week"

May 1: "On This Rock"

**CIRCLE OF WOMEN, Thursday, December 6 from 9:15-11:30AM** We invite women of all ages to join us for our **Christmas Brunch on Thursday, December 6** in St. Joseph Hall. Ann Marie Cosgrove, will be sharing her journey of mercy and redemption following an encounter with the Holy Spirit. Come hear her speak about the miraculous re-birth of her heart, soul, mind, and body after undergoing an abortion. Childcare is available. Any questions, please don't hesitate to call Michelle at (763)442-4936 or Carrie at (612)275-2236, our brochures are available in the kiosks by the information desk. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday!



**Calling all Catholic Men!** The next St. John's parish Catholic Watchmen Night is Thursday, December 13th from 6:30-9:00pm in St. Joseph Hall. Join other St. John's men for fellowship, food, beverage, and a new presentation by Father Skluzacek about keeping Sunday Holy. Questions? Contact Fr. Paul [frshovelain@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:frshovelain@stjohnnyb.org)



### Save the Date for an All Parish Family Event Journey to the Inn with the Wise Men on Epiphany, Saturday, January 5

- 4:30pm - Mass
- 5:30pm - Dinner
- 6:15pm - Join us for an indoor program and outdoor candlelight procession as we "Journey to the Inn with the Wise Men".
- Cookies and cocoa will end the night.

## Library News

### SJB PARISH LIBRARY ANNUAL BOOK FAIR GIVEAWAY THIS WEEKEND

The Book Fair will be after the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses and before the Sunday evening Mass. We are giving away books, DVDs, CDs and religious items. All items are FREE!

This is the first weekend in Advent and your parish library offers a great selection of Advent/Christmas books, DVDs, and CDs and will be open during the Book Fair. Stop on by.



**Senior Christmas Potluck**  
**December 13 from 11am-2:30pm**  
**in St. Joseph Hall**

- Bring a dish to share - call Mary Hartz with what you'll be bringing 651-633-8333 ext. 1229
- Wear red or your favorite Christmas sweater.
- Bring a White Elephant gift.
- Just added - Sister Clarinda will give a talk about Advent from 1:30-2:30pm.

**All Seniors are Welcome!**



### Care Crew Preschool Teacher

St. John's Preschool is looking to hire an enthusiastic, creative, dedicated person who loves children. The Care Crew Teacher must be 18 years old and would provide quality care for our 3-5 year old students in an after School Program. This position would include planning creative and fun activities, maintaining a safe and clean environment, and most importantly, engaging with the children. The hours are 2:30-5pm Monday-Friday.

For more information or to apply contact Andrea Schroeder [schroedera@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:schroedera@stjohnnyb.org)



## DID YOU KNOW...

St. John's, like other churches in the early years, followed the practice of collecting pew rent. This was customarily paid at Easter time. St. John's Financial Statement of 1936 shows an entry of Pew Rent \$983.85.

### HEARTFELT

*Remember that God prefers the poverty of our hearts  
to the most sublime thoughts borrowed from others.*

~ St. Peter Julian Eymard



### Good "Worship" Question

Why do we celebrate the season of Advent?

The four-week season of Advent prepares us for the Solemnity of Christmas. "Advent" comes from the Latin and means "arrival". Advent focuses on the historical arrival of Jesus and also symbolizes the Second Coming of Christ at the end of the world. Advent is characterized by preparation, reflection, hope, and anticipation.

From "Catholic Mass for Dummies"

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

If you would like to remember those who have died, or honor someone special, we invite you to donate in their name(s) to the Christmas Plant, Wreath & Tree Fund. Please complete the form below and send it with \$20 (suggested amount) to the Parish Center. You can also donate online by visiting our website [www.stjohnnb.com](http://www.stjohnnb.com), go to online donations, fill in the information for FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR or use the envelope provided in your packet.

Donations will be accepted through Christmas.

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

In Memory of / In Honor of: **(circle one)**

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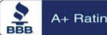
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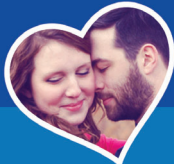


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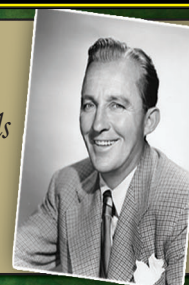
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