

December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent

Bearing witness to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life: GO. MAKE. TEACH. Our Core Values: a reliance on prayer, a willingness to grow, a generous spirit



Choose to be a sheep and follow the Good Shepherd. Do so by remembering the five finger Gospel "You did it to me."



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Parish Staff

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Deacon Michael Lane, Coordinator of Sacramer Jodie Wolla, Administrative Assistant Claire Brostrom, Coordinator of Evangelizatior	ext. 1211
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PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

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

Stay Connected: LIKE OR FOLLOW US on FACEBOOK

https://www.facebook.com/SJBNewBrighton/ Follow us on Instagram: @stjohnnyb_church Subscribe to our YouTube Channel https://bit.ly/3n9WnGQ EMAIL: sjb@stjohnnyb.org

Visit our website: www.stjohnnb.com

Archdiocese's Victim/Survivor Assistance Program 651-291-4497 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Schedule of Events

Monday, December 4, 2023 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Sharon Rasmussen+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 9:00 AM Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Church 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 7:00 PM Baptism Preparation Class ~ 206/208 Tuesday, December 5 2023 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Phero Tam Nguyen and Anna Tuyet Nguyen) Church ~ Fr. Paul 9:00 AM Kidz Closet ~ 203 9:30 AM Alive in the Word ~ 210 1:00 PM Library Committee Meeting ~ Library 1:00 PM Caregivers Support Group ~ 204 2:30 PM Middle School D-Groups ~ LL 106 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 5:30 PM Catholic Watchmen ~ St. Joseph Hall 7:00 PM Intercessory Prayer Ministry ~ 211 7:00 PM Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting ~ 210 Wednesday, December 6, 2023 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Segundino and Carmelinda Renacia+) Church ~ Fr. Paul 9:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks ~ St. Therese 9:30 AM Faithfully Fit ~ 210 9:30 AM Fall Scripture Study ~ 206/208 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals 5:30 PM Mass (Richard Brennen+ and Richard Adams+) Chapel of the Angels ~ Fr. Joseph 6:00 PM Family Formation ~ St. Joseph Hall 6:00 PM Middle School Faith Formation ~ LL 106 8:00 PM High School D-Groups ~ LL 106 Thursday, December 7, 2023 6:30 AM Men's Fellowship ~ St. Joseph Hall 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (Darwin Larson+ and Art Thompson+) Church ~ Fr. Paul 9:15 AM Circle of Women ~ 206/208 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook :30 PM Vigil Mass (Katrina Sparks+) Church ~ Fr. Paul 7:00 PM OCIA Class Friday, December 8, 2023 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation to attend Mass 6:30 AM Mass (The living and deceased members of the Legon of Mary) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels 8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals 8:30 AM Mass (The living and deceased members of the Heinks Family) Church ~ Fr. Paul 9:15 AM OCIA Friday Class ~ 206/208 9:30 AM Legion of Mary ~ 211 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook 7:00 PM Mass (Pro Populo) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 8:00 PM Altar Guild ~ Church Saturday, December 9, 2023 St. John's Library Book Fair Giveaway in the Plaza 8:30 AM GIFT Faith Study ~ 211 11:00 AM Young at Heart Advent Party ~ St. Joseph Hall 3:00 PM Gather to Witness Prayers ~ Facebook 3:15 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals 4:30 PM Vigil Mass (John Battmer+) Church ~ Fr. Paul 5:30 PM Hospitality ~ St. Joseph Hall 5:30 PM New Parishioner Orientation ~ St. Joseph Hall West Sunday, December 10, 2023 St. John's Library Book Fair Giveaway in the Plaza 8:30 AM Mass (Paul Jaworski) Church ~ Fr. Paul 8:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms 9:30 AM Hospitality ~ St. Joseph Hall 9:30 AM New Parishioner Orientation ~ St. Joseph Hall West 10:30 AM Mass (Fusina Michael Langason+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph 10:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery 10:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms 11:30 AM Hospitality ~ St. Joseph Hall 11:30 AM New Parishioner Orientation ~ St. Joseph Hall West 4:00 PM Young Adult Men's Bible Study~ 211 5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals 5:30 PM Mass (Pro Populo) Church ~ Fr. Paul 6:30 PM New Parishioner Orientation ~ St. Joseph Hall West

- 6:30 PM Confirmation Preparation ~ LL 106

ost of us are familiar with the Gospel passage when Jesus observes a poor widow putting two small coins into the temple treasury. He said: "I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood." (Luke 21: 3-4)

With Advent upon us, we can ask ourselves, "Can I be more like the poor widow, and grow in awareness that I belong to God, and that everything I have is a gift from Him?"

This is a special time of year when you and I are invited to give thanksgiving to God for the many gifts He has given us. We can offer thanksgiving in many ways, especially through prayer, but also by saying "yes" to serving others, and through almsgiving. Almsgiving is traditionally a Lenten practice, but it is also appropriate during Advent.

Advent coincides with the end of our calendar year, when many people review their charitable giving and decide if they will make additional contributions before year's end, sometimes to take advantage of tax benefits.

If you find that you are able to make a yearend gift to support the



mission of our parish, contributions to the *Restore to Gather* campaign are especially helpful as we seek to reach our *\$5 million goal*. Gifts designated for Sunday Giving, which support the daily operations of our parish, are also gratefully received, as a significant percentage of our yearly budget is typically contributed every year at this time.

If you have any questions regarding year-end giving, please don't hesitate to reach me at the parish office at 651.633.8333, ext. 1253, or by email at *maym@stjohnnyb.org*.

Joyfully Yours in Christ,

Mary May, Director of Development

TAX BENEFITS OF MAKING A GIFT BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR

For those who itemize deductions on their annual tax return, gifts made by December 31 can be claimed as a charitable tax deduction on vour 2023 income tax return. For a gift to count towards your 2023 income tax return, the parish must receive your donation or payment by December 31, or your mailed contribution must be postmarked by December 31, 2023.

Cash/Check/Online Giving

Your year-end cash gift can be made in person to the parish office, via US mail, or online. To simply and securely make a gift online, select "Donate" at *www.stjohnnb.com*. Please note that you can make a one-time gift to a particular fund, such as Sunday Giving or the *Restore to Gather* Capital Campaign. You can also sign-up for recurring donations that make it easier for you to include St. John's in your family budget.

IRA Charitable Distribution

This charitable giving tool allows donors to contribute directly from their IRA to St. John's. Some provisions include:

- Individuals must be age 70 ½ or older in order to make a Qualified Charitable Contribution (QCD) from their IRA.
- If you are required to take a minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA and don't need all of the income, you can direct your IRA custodian to send funds directly to our parish as a tax-free donation to charity.
- For QCDs and RMDs, simply request that funds be sent to St. John the Baptist at our parish address: St. John the Baptist, 835 2nd Ave NW, New Brighton, MN 55112.
- The distribution does not give the donor a charitable tax deduction, but it does lower the donor's adjusted gross income and may save in ordinary income taxes.

Gifts of Stock

A gift of appreciated stock helps you avoid paying tax on the gain in the stock's value (capital gains). For tax purposes, you claim the full value of the stock when it is donated to St. John the Baptist. Please contact Mark Dittman or Mary May in the parish office as soon as possible if you wish for your stock gift to be considered a 2023 gift. The Parish Office will coordinate with your financial advisor or broker to ensure the gift is properly received.

As always, please seek the assistance of a knowledgeable advisor such as an attorney, financial planner or CPA, to determine how any particular strategy will affect your overall tax situation.

Thank you for your prayers and generous spirit to support our mission!

Happening at St. John's

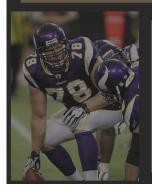
Men's Advent Night FAITH AND FOOTBALL: BEING ON GOD'S TEAM

For fathers and sons ages grade 5 and up

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Keynote speaker Matt Birk is a former MN Viking, Superbowl Champion, and Catholic author





5:30 pm: Dinner 6:05 pm: Game plan for Advent 7:45 pm: Adoration and Confession 8:15 pm: Closing prayer and opportunity for autographs and photos 8:30 pm: Depart

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, December 8

Holy Day of Obligation

Masses are at: 6:30 am, 8:30 am, and 7:00 pm Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm on December 7

Sung Lauds (Morning Prayer)

During the Season of Advent

Tuesdays at 9:00 am in the Chapel of the Angels

Mark your calendars: December 5, 12, 19

Caregiver's Group

For all those who are taking care of a loved one and are looking for a break, a support group, and/or a friend to lean on. We meet on December 5, the 1st Tuesday of the month, from 1:00—2:30 pm in Room 204.

Circle of Women

Thursday, December 7, upstairs in Room 206/208 at 9:15 am-11:30 am

We welcome women of all ages to our Advent Brunch on Thursday, December 7, 2023 (Please bring a dish to share). We welcome Mary Shaffer who will present *"Childlikeness as Healing"* Join us as we share our faith and time in prayer with one another. Childcare is available. Grab one of our brochures from the kiosks or watch your Flocknote for details.

Any questions? Call Michelle (763-442-4936) Hope to see you there!

Special thanks to our Advent Brunch sponsors: Lumberjack Electric, Paul Bunyan Plumbing and Drains, and Blue Ox Heating and Air.



Happening at St. John's

December Family Formation

Wednesday, December 6 6:00-7:30pm St. Joseph Hall

> Holy Spirit: Water and Fire



111:Baptist

Pat Millea is a national speaker who will present about how the Holy Spirit makes actual in us what Jesus made possible. The Holy Spirit bestows gifts we can tap into to lead a holy life.

Advent at St. John's

This Advent, encounter Jesus through the Scriptures. We have several ways for you to do this:

- Take the One% Challenge. Grab a card guide and your Bible and spend 1% of your day – about 15 minutes in His Word. The card gives the scripture verse for you to encounter Jesus.
- Word Among Us Scriptural Advent Guide gives the church's reading of the day along with a write up to help apply the Word to your life.

Contact Jill Fink, Director of Discipleship at 651.633.1540 ext. 1280 or by email at <u>finkj@stjohnnyb.org</u>.

Advent Items at the Book Rack

In collaboration with St. George Christian Books and Gifts, St. John's is bringing back religious and spiritual enrichment for purchase, bringing the convenience of obtaining quality books to our campus. Check out the Advent materials newly added: Advent wreath candles, devotional books and boxed Christmas cards. Do your Christmas shopping here! Here is how it works: The price of the item is marked on the front or inside cover. There are several ways to give your payment: You can scan the QR code and use a credit or debit card. The processing will be through St. George



Christian Books and Gifts. Or you can use the envelope in the item to place cash or a check and put envelope in the slot or weekend collection. Make checks out to St. John the Baptist. Contact Jill Fink, Director of Discipleship at finki@stjohnnyb.org.



Widows & Widowers

Our next get together is Monday, December 11 at 11:30 am at the Perkins on County Rd. D.

Journey to the Inn

Join us on Saturday, January 6, for Mass at 4:30 pm, followed by a pasta dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. After dinner, we will begin our journey in the church with a Bible



reading, singing and candlelight procession out of church to the living manger. We will sing Christmas carols as we fol-

low the Wise Men to the stable with live animals. Hot cocoa and cookies to follow in St. Joseph Hall.



6th-8th Grade Events and Programs

Wednesday Night Bible Study/Middle School Formation *Wednesdays from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm in the Youth Room* Over three years, students will develop a firm foundation of faith to carry with them into high school and beyond. 6th graders are studying the Old Testament. 7th and 8th graders are studying the life of Jesus through the gospels. The program features a weekly scripture study, prayer, and a competition for the kingdom cup.

Open Youth Room/Discipleship Groups

Tuesdays from 2:30 pm-4:00 pm in the Youth Room All students in 6th-8th grade are invited to gather for time as a community, prayer lessons, faith discussions, snacks, and games. Every other week we will have discipleship groups which focus on growing together as disciples of Christ.

Middle School Youth Group

3rd Fridays from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the Youth Room Once per month, our middle school community gathers for faith and fun. Our next MSYG is on Friday November 17. We will spend part of the evening playing a large group game and part of the evening in prayer. All 6th-8th graders are invited to come!

Want to get on our email list?. Reach out to Sarah Wilder at <u>wilders@stjohnnyb.org</u>. We send out a weekly update on everything we have going on in St. John's Youth Ministry.

Register for Youth Ministry

Our insurance company wants liability waivers for all of our events, so we made one that will cover the whole year! Please register your son or daughter for youth ministry programming so that we can cover all of our bases! Use the QR codes to register.





High school QR code

Middle school QR code

9th-12th Grade Events and Programs

High School Discipleship Groups

10th-12th graders are invited to join a discipleship group. D-groups are composed of 4-8 teens with 1-2 adult leaders. They commit to being a disciple of Jesus and to walking together in that journey. D-groups meet on Wednesday from 8:00 pm—9:30 pm.

High School Youth Events

Our last event of the semester will be an Advent Party on December 20 from 8:00 pm—9:30 pm. Please extend an invitation to your friends as well. They are more than welcome, and perhaps some of them would be interested in learning about/joining a D-Group!

Parish Library

CELEBRATE the beginning of **Advent!** Deepen your spiritual journey toward Christmas! Check out our great selection of Advent and Christmas books, DVD's and CD's. We also offer a great children's section for Advent and Christmas.

Parish Library ANNUAL BOOK FAIR giveaway is <u>next weekend, Dec. 9-10,</u> in Saint Paul Plaza after all the Masses, starting after the 4:30 pm Mass. Books, DVDs, CDs, and religious items that are duplicates or that the Library can't use will be given away FREE!!!!!



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Books, DVDs, and CDs to enrich your faith. St. John the Baptist Parish Library



Parish Life

St. John's Newly Baptized Through water and the word you have become a child of God and are sealed as Christ's own forever.

Maeven Irene Parents: Jeremy & Mackenzie Krzmarzick

Sawyer Flynn Parents: Kevin & Rebecca Zack

Sophia Rose Parents: Joseph & Jennifer Dubis **Maximus Erua** Parents: Frances & Rebecca Aurelious

Lazarus Aragorn Parents: Chad Breske & Marina Kaasovic



OCIA Rite of Acceptance and Welcome

Congratulations to our 1 Catechumen and 15 candidates this year who celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and Welcome and are in the catechumenate stage of the Becoming Catholic OCIA formation. Please keep our candidates and their sponsors in your prayers. Not pictured are 3 candidates with their sponsors who celebrated the Rite of Welcome on November 29.



A Note of Gratitude

Dear all at St. John's.

May God bless you all for your faithful support of Sharing and Caring Hands. Your generous support in all things such as food, gifts and gift cards, hygiene bags and blankets, has made a big difference in many poor lives. Thank you so much.

May God continue to bless you all with His grace.

I will keep you in my prayers.

Yours in Christ, through Mary.

Mary Jo Copeland



Angel Tree 2023

Thank you for your Generous Spirit! We are so grateful for your donations that will be sent to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf, St. Vincent de Paul and Sharing and Caring Hands to be distributed to the needy! Please bring your gifts back to St. John's by the weekend of December 10.

What are you Thankful for?

St. John's Parishioners share their Thoughts

"I am thankful for the life God has blessed me with, my family and this wonderful church community."

~ Jennifer Moline

"My family, friends, co-workers, and students."

~ Shelley Paige

"I am thankful for my church and my faith, thankful for my mother for making sure as children we received the Sacraments and private schooling. Best thing in my life!"

~ Mindv Schlien

The SIB Kidz Closet

Needs for the SJB Kidz Closet continue to increase and we rely on all the generous donations to meet these needs. We would greatly appreciate specific donations of the following new or gently used items:

Coats 4T—8 t

Boots for kids ages 4—8 t

Job Openings at St. John's

- Youth Ministry Intern— Temporary
- Receptionist/Executive Assistant
- Middle School ELA and Religion Teacher
- Assistant Preschool Teachers
- **Evening Custodian**

For more information on these jobs, or to apply, please see the Job Opportunities page on our parish website:https://stjohnnb.com/contact/jobopportunities/

Christmas Flower Memorials

2121212 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, go to online donations, fill in the information for FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR or use the envelope provided in your packet. Ñ

Donations will be accepted through Christmas. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

SISIS! In Memory of / In Honor of: (circle one)

12 From:

Amount Enclosed: Ck #____

date

Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel is open from 7:00 pm on Sunday, through 4:00 pm on Saturday. There are still open hours needing adorers. Please scan the QR to sign up or sign up in person at the Adoration Chapel check-in desk.

Open hours are: Monday 3 am Tuesday 11 am, noon, 7 pm Wednesday 7 am, 1 pm Thursday 9 am Friday noon, 1 pm, 10 pm Saturday 5 am, 9 am, 11 am, noon



Email sibadoration@gmail.com with any questions



Expectant Parents Blessing December 10

A Blessing ON THE WAY

Parents expecting a new baby or adopting one in the near future, are invited to join us for a special bless-

ing at the "Garden of Life" chapel after the 8:30 am Mass on December 10.

Sponsored by St. John's Respect Life group

Scripture Questions

First Reading: In prayer, the prophet Isaiah grieves over our sins that separates us from God. What sorrow or distress have you experienced over the past week?

Second Reading: Paul offers up a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the many gifts the believers have received because of their faith in Jesus. As we begin the season of Advent, for what are you thankful?

Gospel Reading: Each Advent, the Gospel reading begins with Jesus instructing his disciples to watch carefully for the end times. How often do you think about the Second Coming of Jesus and judgment day?

Readings For The Week

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37 Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/ 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 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/ Mt 15:29-37 Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25 - 27a/ Mt 7:21, 24-27 Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

"A good youth ought to have a fear of God, to be subject to his parents, to give honor to his elders, to preserve his purity; he ought not to despise humility, but should love forbearance and modesty."

> ~ Saint Ambrose (Feast Day December 7)



Please Pray For...

Those who have entered eternal life: Jen Messing, Lorraine Seitz

Those who are ill:

Sadlovsky Family, Sheehan Family, Cameron Santos, Patricia Roy, Madi Rippy, Sydney Jo Rippy, Jesse McDonough, Daryl Stevens, Geraldine and Gloria Hangartner, Emily Dahl, Theresa People, Josephine Schmidt, Chris Natheos, Randy Vogland, Don Lumby, Alex Pearson, Thomas Jones, Jean Isacson, Fulton Francis Dobbs, Susan Welsh, Robert Cuddigan, Jenny Bruening, Annette Foreman, Mary Clare Farrell, Sawyer Anderson, Betsy Brown, Jim Smith, Jerry Renk, Dale Phillips, Dennis Fox, Kathleen Schopf, Steve Lauinger, Charlotte Thrun, Poppy Craft, Annette Kirwan, Emma Lutsilili, Beverly Aplikowski, Mary Gormally, Georgianna Warden, Mary Spitzka, Michael Ferdelman, Cassie Cramer, Jon Clark, Donna Yenish, John Leibrich, Nella Pitzen, Philip Jarosz, Kay and Gary Mayer, Elaine Loscheider, Danielle Pratt, Claire Kriz, Carol Esterley-Ruff, Joe Brownrigg, Brigit Voss, Brandon Boss, The Viker Family, Robert Lauinger, Phyllis Norbeck, Jennifer Norbeck, Joseph Wutsch, John Wiggins, Mary Jo Beaudry, Greg Najbert, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Cele Winter, Paul Jacobs, Jeremy Mainello, Deacon Rod and Susan Amos Palmer, Dottie Searles, Sylvia Meagher, Mary Andersohn, Kris Mellstrom, Kay Hildreth, Stacey Miller, Mary Erickson, Steve Johnson, Audrey Geneva, Tim Steffl, Braxton Battaglia, Helen Heinks, JoAnn Cedarholm, Tom Goebel, Engracia Houle, Jon Latham, Marlene Nickel, Christa Jones, Sue Klinkner, Larry Tenold, Sam Schullo, Carri Buckanogwa, Joe Brennan, Irene Tschida, Nancy Winiecki, Jean Schullo, Doug Lausen, Margaret Wright, Rebecca Valverde, Suzanne Loscheider, Oswald Tschida, Dave Tucci, Trudy Nimis, Joe Miskowic, George Huard, Dustin, Katie and Harper Boor, Don Grant, Marge McCann, Fr. Michael Skluzacek, Keira Friedman, Joan Geiger, Greg Windsterger, Jeannette Wyatt, Cindy Skenderovic, Geoffrey Rurik, Mary Battmer, Marilyn Ward, John Klingler, Sarajo Groehler, Patty Mans, Joan Cossack, Scott Nugent, Margot Savre, Larry Johnson, Shawn Oglesbee

If your name has been removed from this list and you would like to be prayed for, please call the parish office.

Prayer Line 651-633-1618/651-247-4202 Call with your prayer requests. Requests are confidential.

Birthright Caring help for pregnant women. 651-646-7033 Saint Paul, 763-757-0715 Coon Rapids

Sunday Giving Summary October 2023

- For the month of October 2023 Sunday Giving was 14% below budget.
- For the fiscal year to date (July through October) Sunday Giving is just above budgeted.
- For comparison, last year Sunday Giving for October was 10% above budget, and July 2022 through October 2022 was 5% below budget.
- For the current fiscal year, 2023/24, we budgeted a 3.6% increase in Sunday Giving over actual 2022/23 giving.
- We are grateful for your many gifts! Thank you!

For more information or questions, please contact Mark Dittman, Director of Business Operations, at 651-633-8333, ext. 1215 or dittmanm@stjohnnyb.org.

Every gift you make promotes our core values and helps us Gather to Witness! Thank you all for your reliance on prayer, your willingness to grow, and your generous spirit!

	Actual	Budget	V	ariance
October 2023	\$ 167,461	\$ 195,332	\$	(27,871)
July 2023 - October 2023	\$ 637,131	\$ 633,475	\$	3,656

Find Father x2

Everyone, hidden somewhere in this bulletin there is a picture of not only Fr. Paul but also of Father Joseph! If you can find them; you win a prize! Ask about the prize at the welcome desk.

The pictures look like this:



Mass Intentions:

- Stipends per Mass intention are \$10.
- A Mass intention can be requested no more than three months out. For example, if you would like a Mass intention for April, the earliest you can request that date is the first open office day in January. Please keep in mind your preferred date may not be available.
- Only two Mass intentions per person, per month will be taken.
- We are now taking March intentions.

In the Area

Saint Nicholas: The Origin of Father Christmas

St. Nicholas returns to Open Window Theatre, December 1 - 31. This critically acclaimed Advent & Christmas play met with many sold-out shows and an extended run last December. This year, admission also includes a 4,000 SF indoor walkthrough Christmas display! Make NICHOLAS part of your Advent and Christmas celebrations. Tickets & info are available at openwindowtheatre.org or over the phone at 612-615-1515.

Partner or Servant?

We all know that computers are excellent tools. But recent advances in AI seem to promise more. Robots are being designed as caregivers and even as sexual partners. Programs such as ChatGPT and Mid-journey act as collaborators or relational partners. As Christians we are called to be in relationship with each other and with God. Are we now extending this call to computers? We will examine what it takes for a relationship to be fully authentic, with each other, with God, and with AI.

December 8, presentation from 9:00 am -1:00 pm, Emmaus Hall, Saint John's University, Collegeville. Free event. Registration is required: <u>www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday</u>, 320-363-3560 or <u>theologyday@csbsju.edu</u>.



IPi

St. John the Baptist Church, New Brighton, MN

B 4C 02-4009



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. John the Baptist Church, New Brighton, MN

A 4C 02-4009