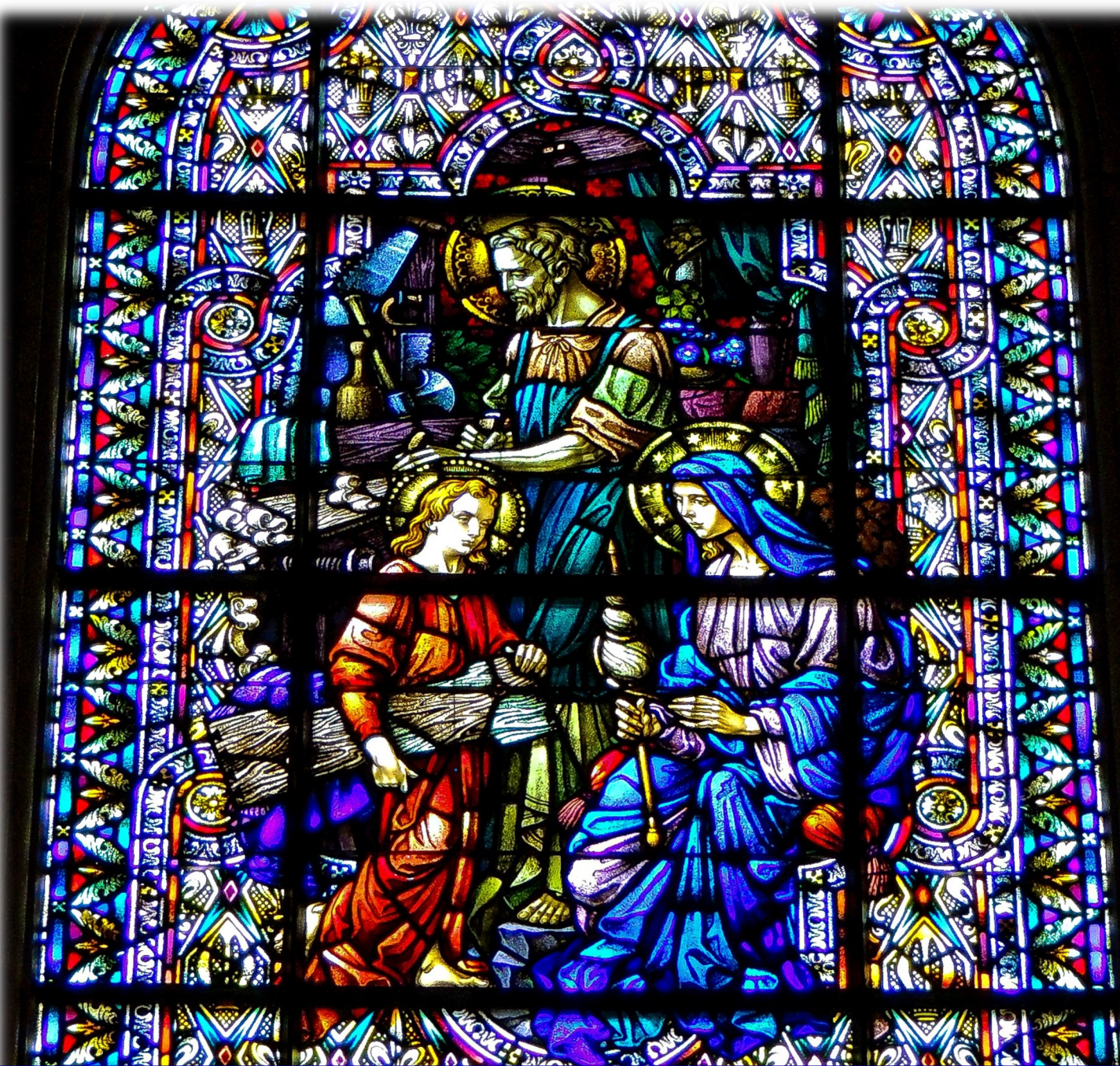


# December 31, 2023 Feast of the Holy Family

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



## In the Bulletin:

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## Parish Staff

**PASTORAL MINISTRY** 651-633-8333  
 Fr. Paul Shovelain, Pastor ext. 1214  
 Fr. Joseph Nguyễn, Parochial Vicar ext. 1213  
 Deacon Rod Palmer VM 1298  
 Deacon Gary Schneider VM 1288  
 Mary Kohlhaas, Pastoral Care Coordinator ext. 1229

**WORSHIP** 651-633-8333  
 Lee Trembl, Director of Worship ext. 1212  
 Lori Vosejka, Director of Contemporary Ensemble lav247@msn.com

Abe Gross, Director of Ignite abrahamjohnngross@gmail.com  
 Margaret Harmon, Liturgical Admin. Assistant ext. 1279

**OFFICE OF DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION** 651-633-1540  
 Jill Fink, Director of Discipleship ext. 1280  
 Jim Martin, Director of Community Life ext. 1228  
 Jen Livermont, Coordinator of Discipleship for Families ext. 1234  
 Deacon Michael Lane, Coordinator of Sacraments ext. 1219  
 Jodie Wolla, Administrative Assistant ext. 1211  
 Claire Brostrom, Coordinator of Evangelization ext. 1250

**YOUTH MINISTRY** 651-633-1540  
 Sarah Wilder, Middle School Youth Minister ext. 1254

**SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL (PreK - 8)** 651-633-1522  
 Ann Laird, Principal ext. 1117  
 Joy Thienes, Administrative Assistant ext. 1118  
 Michelle Barsness, Marketing/Enrollment ext. 1114

**ADMINISTRATION** 651-633-8333  
 Mark Dittman, Director of Business Operations ext. 1215  
 Patrick Hinnenkamp, Director of Maintenance ext. 1203  
 Mary May, Director of Development ext. 1253  
 Teri Shea, Office & Facilities Manager ext. 1237  
 Michelle Chock, Accountant ext. 1224  
 Rita Arndorfer, Volunteer Coordinator ext. 1220  
 Melissa Berg, Hospitality Coordinator ext. 1227  
 Joseph Huebl, Communications Coordinator ext. 1217  
 Trina Brinda, Parish Bookkeeper ext. 1255

### 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](mailto:sjb@stjohnnyb.org)

Visit our website: [www.stjohnnb.com](http://www.stjohnnb.com)

Archdiocese's Victim/Survivor Assistance Program

651-291-4497 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

## Schedule of Events

### Monday, January 1, 2024

*Campus closed after Mass*

9:30 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

10:00 AM Mass (The Living and deceased members of the Joseph Nguyen family) ~ Fr. Joseph

### Tuesday, January 2, 2024

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels

8:30 AM Mass (The Sisters of the Good Shepherd) Church ~ Fr. Paul

9:00 AM Kidz Closet ~ 203

9:30 AM Alive in the Word ~ 210

1:00 PM Caregivers Support Group ~ 204

2:30 PM Middle School D-Groups ~ LL 106

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

7:00 PM Intercessory Prayer Ministry ~ 211

7:00 PM Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting ~ 210

### Wednesday, January 3, 2024

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Matthew Kremer+ and Joyce Kremer) Church ~ Fr. Paul

9:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks ~ St. Therese

9:30 AM Faithfully Fit ~ 210

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals

5:30 PM Mass (Lois Douglas+) Chapel of the Angels ~ Fr. Joseph

8:00 PM High School D-Group ~ LL 106

### Thursday, January 4, 2024

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 (Cheryl Manthis+) Church ~ Fr. Paul

2:00 PM Young at Heart Senior Group ~ St. Joseph Hall

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

7:00 PM OCIA Class ~ 206/208

### Friday, January 5, 2024

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals

8:30 AM Mass (Teresa Thanh Nguyen+ and Maria Thuc Nguyen+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph

9:15 AM OCIA Friday Class ~ 206/208

9:30 AM Legion of Mary ~ 211

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

### Saturday, January 6, 2024

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

3:15 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals

4:30 PM Vigil Mass (Sharon Rasmussen+ and Mark Jaworski+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph

5:30 PM Journey to the Inn ~ Church/Parking Lot

### Sunday, January 7, 2024

8:30 AM Mass (Charles Gruzosky and Darwin Larson+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph

8:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery

10:30 AM Mass (Fusina Michael Langason+) Church ~ Fr. Paul

10:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery

11:30 AM SJB Chili Cook-Off ~ St. Joseph Hall

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook

4:00 PM Young Adult Men's Bible Study ~ 211

5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals

5:30 PM Mass (Pro Populo) ~ Fr. Paul

6:30 PM Confirmation Preparation ~ LL 106



*From the Pastor: Father Paul Shovelain*

## Happy New Year!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us here at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and School! It has been a blessed Christmas Season and I am looking forward to the Journey to the Inn next weekend as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Once again I will have calves from my sister's farm and we have another parishioner bringing a donkey and chickens. It will be truly a wonderful celebration.

This past Advent we had 22 of our parishioners who attended the Small Group Leader Training participate in a small group for the first time! We hope with that experience that they will be able to lead or co-lead small groups in Lent. With their leadership, we will be able to offer more small group ministry offerings and Gather to Witness Christ more clearly in our lives. I am grateful for their yes. I hosted a group of 8 men from the parish for 4 weeks to reflect and prepare for Christmas. It was truly edifying to see the men open up and grow together in relationship with each other and, most importantly, with the Lord. I look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will continue to bear fruit in our parish!

Looking ahead to the first half of 2024, we will celebrate our First Confession with over 50 students January 27th. We will have a waffle breakfast to kick off Catholic Schools week on January 28th. We plan to complete our Restore to Gather Campaign February 2nd. Thank you to all who have turned in their pledges. If you have not, please do so to help us reach our goal of having \$5 million pledged by February. In February we have our annual Wines to Wishes School Fundraiser, which is always a fun event. Ash Wednesday kicks off Lent on February 14th and we plan to launch several new small groups to journey together through that season. Holy Week is March 24-March 31st. We are planning an all parish retreat the weekend of April 12-14th on site. Watch for more information about that new opportunity. We hope to begin some of the work in the church in April and work in the school in May. The exact timeline is still be worked out and we will keep you updated as it progresses.

Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever! We look forward to 2024 knowing that the Lord goes with us and His love and mercy are unchanging!

*As the Father loves me, so I also love you!*

*Father Paul Shovelain*



*Journey to the Inn 2022*

*On the cover: Holy Family stained glass window at Basilica and National Shrine of Mary  
Help of Christians at Holy Hill, Wisconsin*

# Generous Spirit

## Consider a Year-End Gift

December is the time many people review their charitable year-end giving options. We would be so grateful if you would prayerfully consider including a gift to St. John the Baptist as part of your year-end giving.

There are many ways to contribute. Selecting a gift is a personal decision dependent upon each person's unique financial situation and philanthropic goals. As tax laws frequently change, you are encouraged to consult with a qualified financial advisor to determine which method of contributing is most beneficial. If you would like to designate your gift to a specific area such as the *Restore to Gather* campaign, please indicate that on the memo line of your check or include a note along with your gift intentions.

You can support St. John the Baptist through a variety of gift options:

### Cash/Check

Your year-end cash gift will be greatly appreciated to help maintain the financial health of our parish. Please note that all contributions for the tax year 2023 must be received in the collection or the parish office on or before Sunday, December 31 or postmarked in 2023, regardless of the date on the check or the date on the St. John the Baptist donation envelope.

Our Welcome Desk will be staffed on Saturday, December 30, from 9:00 AM to 5:45 PM and Sunday, December 31, from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. You may drop off 2023 contributions anytime during those hours or through Mass collections on December 30 and 31.

### Online Giving

You can simply and securely make a cash gift online by selecting "Donate" at [www.stjohnnb.com](http://www.stjohnnb.com), or by using the QR code on the right. Please note that you will need to select "One-time" or "Recurring" on the Donate page, then select a fund, such as Sunday Giving for general support or Restore to Gather – Capital Campaign. Many parishioners have found that signing up for recurring donations makes it easier to include St. John the Baptist in their family budget.



**Please note:** Online contributions received by midnight, December 31 will be credited as 2023 contributions.

### Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

If you are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, and you don't need all of the income, you can direct your IRA custodian to send funds directly to St. John's as a tax-free donation to charity. 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.

### Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

If you turned 70 ½ this year, and aren't required to take income from your IRA yet, you can still make a QCD and receive the same tax-saving benefits. Ask your IRA custodian to send funds to St. John the Baptist as mentioned above.

### 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 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 work closely with your tax and legal advisors to determine how any particular strategy will affect your overall tax situation.*

Questions? Contact Mary May in the parish office at 651-633-8333, x1253 or email [maym@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:maym@stjohnnyb.org).

*Thank you for all the ways you are supporting St. John the Baptist by your prayer, participation, and partnership in our mission.*



# JOURNEY TO THE INN

*with the Wise Men*

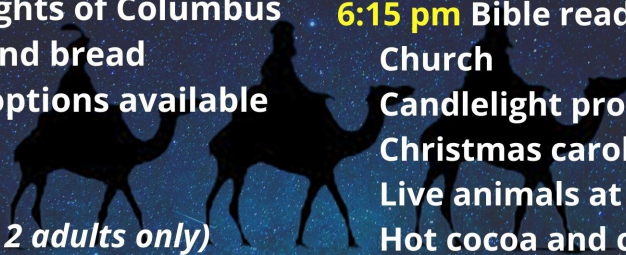
**Saturday, January 6, 2024**



**4:30 pm** Mass (*nursery available*)

**5:30 pm** Dinner by Knights of Columbus  
Mostaccioli, salad and bread  
GF and vegetarian options available  
Pay at the door  
\$7/person  
\$30/family (*kids plus 2 adults only*)

**6:15 pm** Bible reading and songs in the Church  
Candlelight procession  
Christmas carols following Wise Men  
Live animals at the stable  
Hot cocoa and cookies - St. Joseph Hall



**Young Adult Christmas Party**

**Saturday Dec. 30th**  
6:00 pm  
Dinner, Community, & Games

Optional Activities:  
Sweet Swap & White Elephant Game

**SWEET SWAP**  
Bring homemade Sweets of any kind, Cookies, Fudge, Candy, etc to swap and share with others

**White Elephant**  
Bring a wrapped gift, Less than \$10 to give away in a dice game. You will receive a gift from the game.

RSVP with QR Code  
Contact Sarah Wilder with questions  
wilders@stjohnnyb.org



**Sunday, January 7**

**Chili COOK OFF**

**Competition is limited to the first 20 people to register! \$25 entry fee**

Come taste the chili and vote for the best!  
\$10 presale tickets December 17 - January 5  
\$12 at the door on January 7  
All you can eat chili! Tasting starts at 11:30 am!

**Make the best chili to win cash prizes**  
Contact Melissa Berg for more info and to register!  
bergm@stjohnnyb.org or 651-633-8333 ext. 1227



## Catholic Watchmen

The next Watchmen meeting is at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 9 in St. Joseph Hall.

We will have food and drink followed by a presentation by Casey O'Brien (former MN Gopher Football player and six time cancer survivor), Adoration, and Confession.



## Men's Fellowship

**Thursday Mornings 6:30 am—8:00 am**  
in St. Joseph Hall

Come for the donuts, stay for the truth!  
Questions, call Dave at 612-616-4013

## Happening at St. John's

### 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 January 2, the 1st Tuesday of the month, from 1:00—2:30 pm in Room 204.

### Young at Heart Senior Group

Meeting next on January 4, the 1st Thursday of the month, from 2:00 pm—4:00 pm in St. Joseph Hall.

Contact Mary at 763.242.4229 or 651.633.8333 x1229 with comments or questions.

### Widows & Widowers

Calling all widows and widowers! Are you looking for a new social group or friend network? Come have lunch with us! Our next get together is Monday, January 8 at 11:30 am at the Perkins on County Rd. D.

Contact Mary Kohlhaas for more information at 651-633-8333 x1229, by cell phone 763-242-4229 or by email at [kohlhaasm@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:kohlhaasm@stjohnnyb.org).

### St. John's Youth Ministry

Want to get on our email list?. Reach out to Sarah Wilder at [wilders@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:wilders@stjohnnyb.org). We send out a weekly update on everything we have going on in St. John's Youth Ministry.

### Circle of Women

Thursday, January 18, upstairs in Room 206/208  
at 9:15 am-11:30 am

We welcome women of all ages to our gathering on Thursday, January 18, 2024. We welcome Janae Bower who will present "Witnesses of Love: The Second Holy Family." 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!

### New Year's Resolutions?

Consider some online Catholic communities:

Bible in a Year (<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>)

Catechism in a Year (<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>)

### Sister Clarinda's Winter 2024 Scripture

Classes are on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00 am

First Class is on January 17, 2024

Register early fee is \$30

Online registrations are open at [stjohnnyb.org](http://stjohnnyb.org) or scan the QR code:



### Alive in the Word

Sister Clarinda's "Sarah & Hagar"

Classes are on Tuesdays 9:30-11:00 am

First Class is on January 16, 2024

Register early fee is \$10.

Online registrations are open at [stjohnnyb.org](http://stjohnnyb.org) or scan the QR code:



### Wines to Wishes

Wines to Wishes is St. John the Baptist School's premiere event that funds critical needs and upgrades of the school as well as celebrates over 70 years of faith-filled excellence in education. Save the date for Saturday, February 3, 2024!

Contact Michelle Barsness at [barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org) with any questions.

# Save the Date

FEBRUARY 17, 2024

## Cana Dinner

Married and engaged couples, join us for a romantic evening to celebrate marriage. Enjoy a social hour, candlelit dinner with delicious food, a witness talk from a couple about marriage and recall your marriage vows.



### Devoted

Devoted is back for 2024! Bring your own mug for hot chocolate and treats on February 21. We will dive into the Season of Lent together and enjoy discussion and prayer time!



## 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.*

#### **Dominic Daniel**

Parents: Dan & Robyn Purkapile

#### **Azalea Rosie**

Parents: Stephen & Heidi Grundhauser

#### **Eleanor Marlene**

Parents: Richard & Therese Donovan

#### **Truman James**

Parents: Darin & Amy Stenglein

#### **Eleana Martine Balnig**

Parents: Nico Faraon & Ma. Victoria Faraon



### **Our Sincere Gratitude!**

Thank you to Tom and Mary Hoel who donated a beautiful pool table to the Youth Room. The youth have really been loving it!



### **SJB School Christmas Concert**

Our littlest students in preschool through 2nd grade performed their Christmas concert on December 15. You could hear the joy in each and every voice and song!





## 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, 9 am

Tuesday: 11 am, noon, 7 pm

Wednesday: 5 am, 1 pm

Thursday: 9 am, 10 pm

Friday: noon, 1 pm, 10 pm,

(10 am Adorer would like a prayer partner)

Email [sibadoration@gmail.com](mailto:sibadoration@gmail.com)  
with any questions



God is calling you;  
can you spend an  
hour with Him?



*"There is still time for endurance, time for patience, time for healing, time for change. Have you slipped? Rise up. Have you sinned? Cease. Do not stand among sinners, but leap aside."*

~ Saint Basil the Great  
Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
(Feast Day January 2)



## Readings For The Week

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12,  
17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/  
Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/  
Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/  
Jn 1:29-34

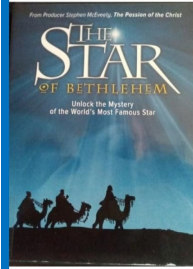
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/  
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

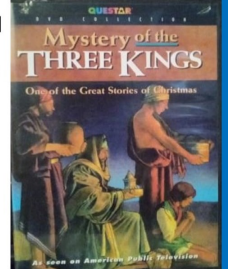
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## Parish Library News



What did the Wise Men discover when they followed the bright Christmas Star? Who were the Three Kings? Did the whole world see the Christmas Star?

**Follow the up ramp** and discover the answers to these questions **in your Parish Library**, and find other family and children's Christmas books, DVDs,



and CDs, as the church celebrates the 12 days of Christmas through the Epiphany on January 7.

**Books, DVDs, and CDs to enrich your faith.**

**St. John the Baptist Parish Library**

## Please Pray For...

**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 Winiiecki, 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 Favre, Larry Johnson, Shawn Oglesbee, Jaeden Nguyen, MaryAnne Marshik

*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





This was the best year for 40 Days for Life in the most important category - **results**.

Our beautiful mission is thriving in post-Roe America, as demand is at an all-time high. God has used over 1,100,000 volunteers to accomplish these victories:

- Saved the 24,000th baby;
- CLOSED the 148th abortion facility;
- Helped the 256th abortion worker convert to follow Jesus Christ;
- Trained a record number of local leaders in person;
- Expanded campaigns to a year-round vigil with 40 Days for Life 365 and trained over 1,000 volunteers in Sidewalk Outreach;
- Suing the DOJ and FBI to protect free speech and taking legal action against locations trying to ban and persecute 40 Days for Life.

These results are possible in a post-Roe America because we focus on hearts, minds, and souls. That is the only explanation for why the iconic abortion facility in the Bronx closed after five decades of doing abortions.

I wanted to share this beautiful picture of our amazing leader, Pearl, who believes that abortion can end anywhere - even New York - if we trust God.



I want this photo to give you hope as we celebrate Jesus Christ's coming into the world. Our world is full of hatred, but we will not be deterred from sharing His joy, mercy, and love. That is what makes these results possible - His love.

We have a busy year in 2024, but I pray it will be led by the King of kings who humbled Himself to become one of us, save us, and offer us eternal life with Him.

Merry Christmas and happy New Year,

*Shawn D. Carney*



### Gather to Witness for Life!

Members of SJB gathered at the west side of the 5th Avenue overpass on Friday, December 8, facing the eastbound traffic on I-694. From left to right are Jim M., Shelly P., Mary M., John K., Bill J., Jacquie S., Father Paul, and Becky S. with sons Abraham and Augustine. -Photo by G. Schmitz



### December 10 Expectant Parent Blessing Photo

Pictured from left to right: the Sharina and Matthew Meinholz family, the John and Sarah Coliton family, the Jill and George Komstantinides family, the Peter and Abby Tierney family, the Mark and Alyssa Larson family, the Ryan and Brigid Tully family, and Father Shovelain

### St. John's Respect Life

We are a group of men and women who have been faithfully meeting for over 40 years at St. John's. In a society that glorifies violence, we reject its solutions to problem pregnancies and terminal illness. In a humane, civilized society, we believe that caring for and helping expectant mothers is a non-violent option to abortion, as hospice is a caring option to euthanasia.

**Our Mission** - By our prayers and works, we strive to open hearts and minds to the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. Our particular focus is to work to eliminate abortion and euthanasia.

**Meetings** - We meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Please join us!

## Sunday Giving Summary November 2023

- For the month of November 2023 Sunday Giving was 1.5% below budget.
- For the fiscal year to date (July through November) Sunday Giving is right on budget!
- For comparison, last year Sunday Giving for November was 11.5% above budget, and July 2022 through November 2022 was 3.5% 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](mailto: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	Variance
November 2023	\$ 197,642	\$ 200,570	\$ (2,928)
July 2023 - November 2023	\$ 834,773	\$ 834,045	\$ 728

## Christmas Decoration Memorials

### From:

Lynne & George Swalchick  
Nancy Scovil  
Janet P Koss  
Marge Kackman  
Lois Herrington  
Gerry Kuglin  
Mary Andersohn  
Perisic & Parker Families

### From:

Jean Turcotte  
Jeanne Kratzer  
Jeanne Kratzer  
Bob Sitarz Family

***Thank you to all who gave  
to make our church so  
beautiful for Christmas!***

### In Memory

Frank & Dorothy Plocienik  
Dick Scovil  
Roger, Victoria, Deborah Perrin & Barbara Murray  
Vernon Kackman  
Deceased loved ones  
LeRoy Kuglin  
Andersohn, Adams & Cuddihy Families  
Paul Perisic

### In Memory/Honor of:

The Turcotte Family & Joanne Turcotte  
The deceased members of the Kratzer Family  
Ralph Kratzer, Tom Roback, Zelda Betz  
Jann & Joe Sitarz

*\*Please note: this list is current at the time of printing. Check future bulletins for additional memorials.*

## Driving & Parking in the East Lot

Many of our parishioners enjoy the convenience of our smaller parking lot on the east side of our church building when visiting the church or school. Please note that the lot has signs indicating a one-way direction for vehicle traffic, north to south. The entrance and exit are both on the east side of the lot off of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW, with the entrance on the north and the exit on the south.

Also, please note that of the 11 striped parking stalls in the church's east parking lot, two of them are accessible, permit-only parking every day of the week. There are eight additional parking spots that are accessible, permit-only parking spots on Saturday and Sunday. During the week, those spots are available for general parking, including the cross-hatch spaces between the weekend-only permit spaces. The two parking spots that are permit-only at all times are the two spots closest to the St. Paul Plaza door at the southwest corner of the lot (Door 13).

Please come to St. John's, and please use the east lot! Please also observe these parking and driving factors when accessing our campus via the east lot. Thank you!




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