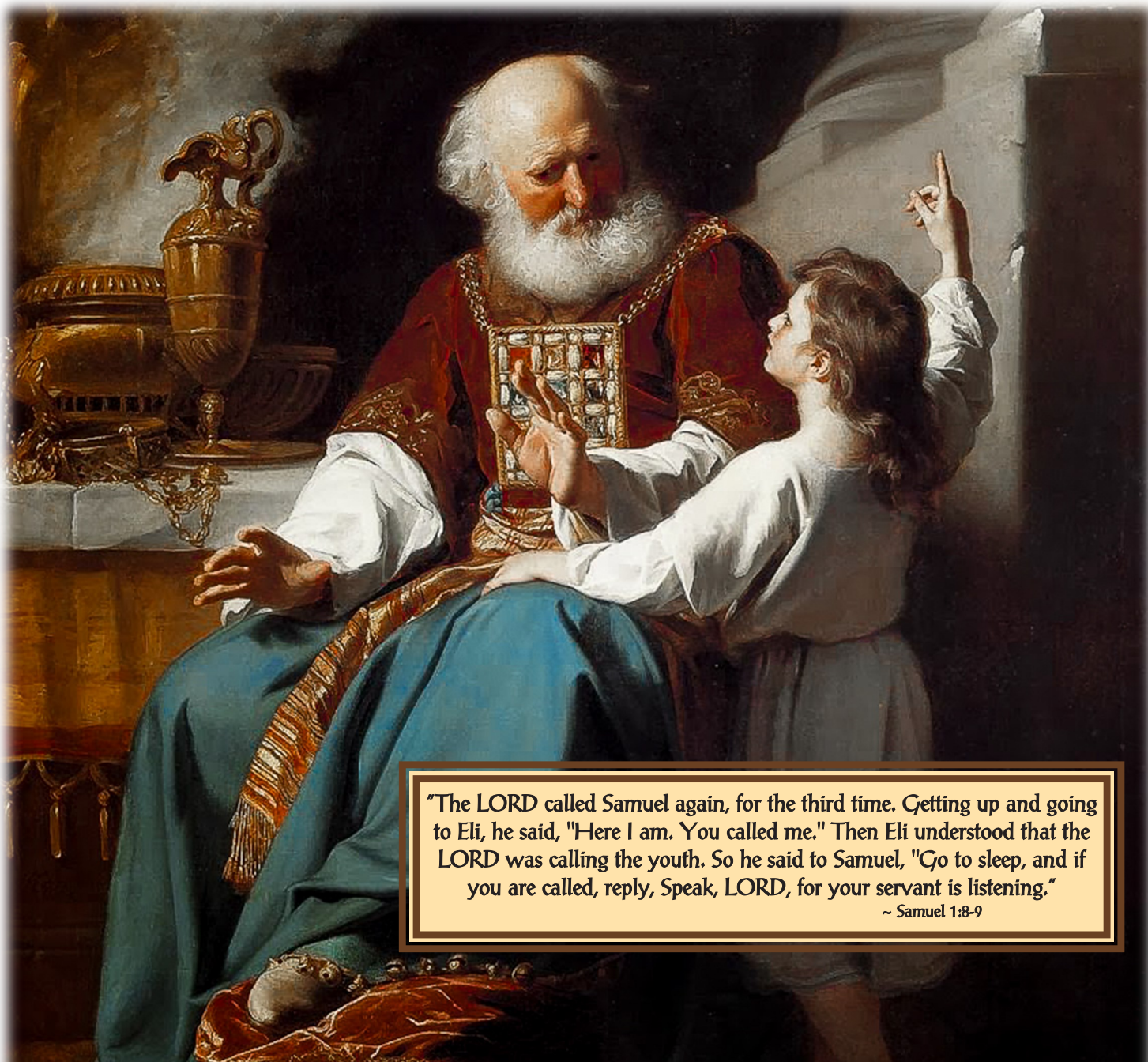


Bearing witness to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life: **GO. MAKE. TEACH.**
Our Core Values: a reliance on prayer, a willingness to grow, a generous spirit



"The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."

~ Samuel 1:8-9

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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.

St. John's Library Hours: Open after every weekend 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, January 15, 2024

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals
8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels
8:30 AM Mass (Lucia Hong Tran+ and Anthony Paul Tiem Vu+) ~ Fr. Joseph
9:00 AM Divine Mercy Chaplet ~ Church
3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook
6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal ~ LL 101

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals
8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels
8:30 AM Mass (Lee Forgy) Church ~ Fr. Paul
9:00 AM Kidz Closet ~ 203
9:30 AM Alive in the World ~ 210
1:00 PM Library Committee Meeting ~ Library
2:30 PM Middle School D-Groups ~ LL 106
3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook
5:30 PM PLC Meetings ~ St. Joseph Hall

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels
8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals
8:30 AM Mass (Cheryl La Douceur+) Church ~ Fr. Paul
9:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks ~ St. Therese
9:30 AM Faithfully Fit ~ 210
9:30 AM Winter Scripture Study ~ 206/208
3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook
5:00 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals
5:30 PM Mass (Joseph Modesette and Richard Brennen) Chapel of the Angels ~ Fr. Joseph
6:00 PM Middle School Faith Formation ~ LL 106
7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting ~ 211
8:00 PM High School Youth Group ~ LL 106

Thursday, January 18, 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 (Fr. Joseph, The Pham+ and Anthony Paul Tiem Vu+) Church ~ Fr. Paul
9:15 AM Circle of Women ~ 206/208
3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook
7:00 PM OCIA Class ~ 206/208

Friday, January 19, 2024

8:00 AM Rosary ~ Chapel of the Angels
8:00 AM Confessions ~ Confessionals
8:30 AM Mass (Larry Wasik+) 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

Saturday, January 20, 2024

3:00 PM Gather to Witness Devotion ~ Facebook
3:15 PM Confessions ~ Confessionals
4:30 PM Vigil Mass (Elaine Villafana+) Church ~ Fr. Paul
5:30 PM Hospitality ~ St. Joseph Hall

Sunday, January 21, 2024

8:30 AM Mass (Jeanene and William Otto+) Church ~ Fr. Joseph
8:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery
8:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms
10:30 AM Mass (Richard Weimar+ and Jim Verbrugge+) Church ~ Fr. Paul
10:30 AM Sunday Nursery ~ Nursery
10:30 AM Sunday School ~ School Classrooms
12:00 PM Baptism ~ Church
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 ~ St. Joseph Hall

On the cover: Samuel Reading to Eli the Judgments of God Upon Eli's House c. 1780 by John Singleton Copley



From the Parochial Vicar: Father Joseph Nguyễn

Reflections from Summer Faith Camp

Since the summer of 2021, I have been to summer camp with our parish three times. One thing that has impressed me about camp is how lively the kids are. They jump right into camp activities and bond well with one another. Whether that be rock climbing for the first time, fishing with Fr. Paul, or spending time together at the lake, they are full of life throughout the week.

What caught my attention the most was how well they entered into prayer. For many of the middle schoolers, it was their first time experiencing the Catholic faith away from their parents or school, and it was cool because they got to choose it for themselves. Even the more reserved ones or the ones “too cool” to pray would eventually enter in. Every morning after breakfast, they would learn about different ways to pray. Mass was celebrated every day, so the middle schoolers got to experience going to daily mass for a week. The evening program gave the kids an opportunity to enjoy time together and to learn about the truth of God’s love for them through testimonies and skits. Adoration is by far my favorite part, especially as I see the campers encounter our Lord and see Him coming to them. There is Jesus! Present in the Eucharist!

This year we are going to Extreme Faith Camp. This camp is similar to, but different from Catholic Youth Summer Camp, which we have gone to these past two years. However, our parish has a long history of attending Extreme Faith Camp beginning in the early 2000s! One of the strengths of the EFC model is that it calls high schoolers into leadership roles. As they had fun and encountered Jesus during their time at camp as middle schoolers, they now get to accompany the middle schoolers and help them to encounter Christ. We are excited that with Extreme Faith Camp, we can bring more high schoolers and adults along to help lead camp and create those encounter moments! Experiencing camp together as a larger community—middle schoolers, high schoolers, adults, youth ministers, and priests—can impact our whole parish community! See page 6 for information on how to register your middle schooler. Registration for high school and adult leaders will be coming soon!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Joseph Nguyễn



Happening at St. John's



Rally for Life!

What: Join thousands for the MN March for Life

When: January 22

Where: Bus from St. John's to the St. Paul Cathedral and then over to the MN State Capital (Bus leaves SJB at 9:15 am, returns at 1:30 pm)

Will you make a stand for Life?!

Sponsored by St. John's Respect Life group and St. John's Knights of Columbus.



Knights of Columbus
Council #14250

WAFFLE BREAKFAST

Join us on January 28
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

All you can eat: waffles, sausages, regular and sugar-free syrup, fruit for the waffles, orange juice, coffee, milk, and water. A gluten-free option is available on request. Come and enjoy some breakfast and some fellowship, and support the Knights!



SAVE THE DATE!

Ice Fishing with Father Tournament



When: February 17, 2024
11 am-2 pm

Where: Long Lake Beach

Who: 75 parishioners and friends of SJB!

Register by scanning the QR code or on our parish website: stjohnnb.com



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!

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!

Funds from this year's event will go towards middle school lockers as well as laptop upgrades for our teachers and staff. Money raised above and beyond our fund-a-need goal will go to our tuition endowment fund.



A big part of our event is our silent and live auction, and for these to be successful, we need donations! If you are able and interested in donating, we have a few different options, which can be found on the donations page of our Wines to Wishes website. We are also looking for donations of wine (valued at \$10 or more per bottle), which can be dropped off in the school office.

To learn more about our event, donations, and/or sponsorships or to register to attend, please visit our website: www.winestowishes.com. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Barsness at barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org.



Faithfully Fit

Come join us for Faithfully Fit, being held on Wednesdays at 9:30 am in Room 210. You are welcome to join us any Wednesday.

Happening at St. John's

Sister Clarinda's Winter 2024 Scripture *Priest, Prophet, King* by Bishop Barron

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 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 or scan the QR code:



Mass Activity Bags!

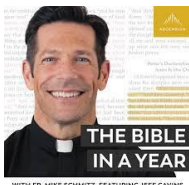
Please borrow an activity bag for
your child to use during Mass!



**PLEASE RETURN
TO THE DISPLAY
RACK AFTER
MASS!**

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>)



Looking to connect with others in our parish who may be involved in these year long endeavors? Come to hospitality on Sunday, January 14 after the morning Masses at the marked tables.

Men's Fellowship

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

*Lectio: Eucharist – Discovering the Mass in the Bible
DVD Series by Dr. Brant Pitre*

Acclaimed author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. "The Lamb of God," "The Bread of Life," "The Body and the Blood of Christ"... these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching? We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation.

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

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

We often need prayer for family, faith, health, work, relationships, and other challenges in life. St. John the Baptist's **Intercessory Prayer Ministry (IPM)** teams provide monthly individual prayer ministry one weekend a month after the scheduled Mass times below. It is all totally confidential.

Our next ***Intercessory Prayer Ministry*** will be:

Saturday, January 20, after the 4:30 Mass
Sunday, January 21, after the 8:30 Mass and
Sunday, January 21, after the 10:30 Mass.

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.



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Youth Ministry

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Extreme Faith Camp

When: July 29-August 2, 2024

Where: Trinity Woods Camps in Trego, Wisconsin (formerly Heartwood Resort)

Who: Our parish community! Current 5th-8th graders attend as campers. Current 9th-12th graders attend as leaders. Adults participate as leaders and chaperones.

What: High adventure activities, lake time, Mass, prayer experiences, messages of God's love and so much more!

Cost for Middle School Campers:

- Before Feb 1 - \$525
- Before Mar 1 - \$550
- Before April 1 - \$575
- Before May 1 - \$600
- Before July 1 - \$625



Register your Middle School camper online by scanning the QR or by going to <https://stjohnnb.com/faith-formation/registrations/>.

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.

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.



A Campaign for Saint John the Baptist
Catholic Church and School

Dear St. John the Baptist parishioners and friends,

We are just a few short weeks away from the end of the public appeal phase of the **Restore to Gather** campaign. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our campaign volunteers, we have raised nearly \$4 million, and our \$5 million goal is within sight! It is also notable that every single one of our volunteers has made a financial commitment to the campaign for a 100% participation rate. If you receive a call during this coming week, please respond with a generous spirit! Contributions of any amount are greatly appreciated, along with your prayers for this effort to improve and update our campus.

If you have already responded, please know of our heartfelt thanks! If you are still considering making a pledge, you have the opportunity to double your pledge with our matching gift challenge! As a reminder, a group of parishioners and friends are matching any pledge through the month of January up to \$200,000. This means that for every \$1 given to the campaign, the donors will give \$1, up to \$200,000. If you pledge a gift of \$3,000 (\$1,000 per year for three years), the donors will give a matching gift of \$3,000, making your total gift \$6,000!

At the end of Masses next weekend, everyone will be invited to pledge and/or share reasons why they have supported this campaign. If you haven't yet made a commitment, this will be your chance!

Scan the QR code below or visit our website (<https://stjohnnb.com/campaign/>) to learn more about our Restore to Gather campaign, our goals, our progress and how to make your pledge. If you have questions, I welcome your calls at 612-633-8333, ext. 1253, or email maym@stjohnnyb.org.

Joyfully Yours in Christ,

Mary May
Director of Development



All announcements are due by 12:00 pm (noon) on Thursday for inclusion in the weekend pulpit announcements. These are to be sent to our Liturgical Administrative Assistant, Margaret Harmon, at harmonm@stjohnnyb.org.

St. John's Music at Mass Schedule

Saturday, January 13, 2024

Contemporary Ensemble at 4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, January 14, 2024

Ignite Group at 8:30 am, 10:30 am, & 5:30 pm Masses

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Ignite Group at 8:30 am Mass

Saturday, January 20, 2024

Cantor and Organ at 4:30 pm Mass

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Men's Schola at 8:30 am Mass

Contemporary Ensemble at 10:30 am Mass

Christmas Decoration Memorials

From:

Bud Handzel

Dr. Ken & Jayne Speltz & Family

In Memory

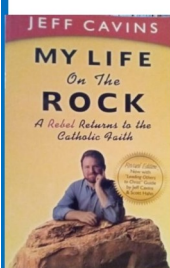
Barbara Handzel

Dr. Kenneth Speltz

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

Parish Library News

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION:



Explore the rich resource of your Parish Library. Walk up the ramp, enter in, check it out, bring it home, and deepen your relationship with God, Jesus, Mary, your Catholic faith, and your Spiritual Life through our **68 subject categories and 5,000 books, DVDs and CDs** available.



Books, DVDs, and CDs to enrich your faith.

St. John the Baptist Parish Library

Readings For The Week

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Questions of the Week

First Reading: In the Lord's call to Samuel, Eli teaches Samuel the importance of "listening" to God's voice. Can you name something you have heard from the Lord?

Second Reading: Paul saw our physical bodies as a temple of the Holy Spirit, destined to be raised after death just as Jesus was raised from the dead. What are some ways to treat your body with reverence and respect?

Gospel Reading: In John's account of the call of the first disciples, we hear the first words Jesus speaks in the Gospel of John: "What are you looking for?" How can you convince family or friends that Jesus is what we all should be looking for?

Please Pray For...

Those who have entered eternal life:

Irene Borys, Mike Jann, Elizabeth Lenz, Margaret Nelson

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, Joan Cossack, Scott Nugent, Margot Favre, Larry Johnson, Shawn Oglesbee, Jaeden Nguyen, MaryAnne Marshik, Ethan Smith, Steve Lauinger, Stephanie Pommier, Laurene McQueen, Lorene McLean

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

Journey to the Inn

Thanks to all who joined us last Saturday for Journey to the Inn! We enjoyed celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany with a candlelight procession, a real life Nativity, festive songs, live animals, and surprisingly nice weather! It was certainly wonderful to enjoy this special evening with so many of the St. John's faithful! Thank you also to all of our volunteers who helped make this event possible! To see more pictures from our 2024 Journey to the Inn Celebration please go to our website photo gallery page: <https://stjohnnb.com/home/photo-gallery/>



Chili Cook-Off

Thanks to our 17 Chili Cook-Off contestants, all those who came to enjoy the chili, and of course to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped set up and run the event! A big congratulations to the winners (*pictured at the top*)! To see more pictures from our 2024 Chili Cook-Off event please go to our website photo gallery page: <https://stjohnnb.com/home/photo-gallery/>



Gather to Witness in the Mission Fields

an update from Camryn Sulak, former SJB NET Missionary
and current FOCUS Missionary

Merry Christmas my dear friends and family!

I hope this finds you and your family resting in the peace and joy of the Christmas season. Christ is born and there is much reason to rejoice! The King of kings humbled Himself to be born in a manger, meets us right where we are, and desires to be in relationship with us. May we live in this state of gratitude and rejoicing as we enter into the new year!

Another semester at The University of Tulsa has come to a close and I am in awe of all The Lord continues to do through your prayers and support. I've been able to encounter students in friendship and invite them into a relationship with Christ through Sunday brunch after Mass, an Advent party at Newman, crafting and baking during finals, service projects and more. Students lives are being changed through a personal relationship with Christ, and I get a front row seat! Truly it is such a blessing to be a part of this mission with you.

I am thankful for your friendship and for being on mission with me! May The Lord continue to bless you and your family, especially in this Christmas season!

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for students as they are home for Christmas break, that they remain rooted in Christ.
- Pray for students attending SEEK, FOCUS' national conference, that they may have a personal encounter with The Lord.
- Pray for safe travels for students returning to campus in a couple of weeks for the start of the spring semester.
- Continued prayers for my teammates, Ignacio, Ellie, Natasha and Cody, and for our Pastor, Fr. Porter. May we have new-found zeal for mission going into the spring semester.

Bible studies

Another semester of Bible studies has come to a close! But they don't stop there and will be back to continue through spring semester! Some highlights from Bible studies this semester are:

- Continued opportunities for women to say "yes" to placing Christ at the center of their lives.
- Two student-led Bible studies by women I lead in discipleship.
- Two foreign exchange students in Bible studies.
- Fun events to build friendship with students like ending Bible study with Christian zumba.



Mission Trip Training

In the new year, FOCUS mission trip directors are heading to Mexico for a Leadership Summit. This trip will provide training for me to direct the spring break mission trip to New York City. At the end of training, we will have the opportunity to visit the Our Lady of Guadalupe shrine in Mexico City. The shrine is built on the site where the Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego in 1531. I would love to share more about Our Lady of Guadalupe with you if you are interested! Know I will be praying for you and your family while in Mexico City. And would love to bring your prayer intentions with me! Please text or email me at 817-929-8161 or camryn.sulak@focus.org.

God bless and thank you,

Camryn Sulak



Camryn.sulak@focus.org
Visit my Giving Page:
[Focus.org/missionaries/Camryn-sulak](https://focus.org/missionaries/Camryn-sulak)
817.929.8161

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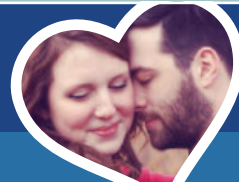
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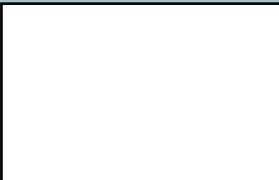
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