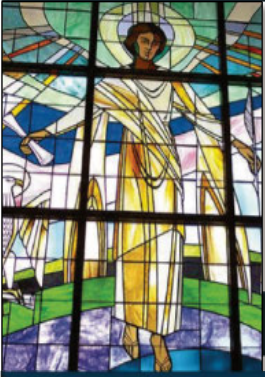


The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph | December 26, 2021



SAINT JOHN the EVANGELIST

CATHOLIC PARISH

8500 West Cold Spring Road | Greenfield, WI 53228 | 414-321-1965 | www.stjohns-grfd.org

Pastor: Very Rev. Michael F. Merkt - Deacon: Steven F. Pemper



THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

From the Pastor's Desk



Fr. Michael

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

On behalf of myself and the entire staff here at St. John's Parish & School, a big thank you for the many Christmas wishes, blessings, cards, gifts, and delicious pastries and candy.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache, or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!



Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered, focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find Him and do His will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

©LPi

24-HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

"Through Adoration, the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world and to the sowing of the Gospel. Anyone who prays to the Savior draws the whole world with him and raises it to God. Those who stand before the Lord are therefore fulfilling an eminent service. They are presenting to Christ all those who do not know Him or are far from Him; they keep watch in His presence on their behalf."

—Pope John Paul II, Letter, June 26, 1996

"Yes, dear brothers and sisters, our Christian communities must become genuine 'schools' of prayer, where the meeting with Christ is expressed not just in imploring help but also in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, contemplation, listening and ardent devotion, until the heart truly 'falls in love.' Intense prayer, yes, but it does not distract us from our commitment to history: by opening our heart to the love of God, it also opens it to the love of our brothers and sisters, and makes us capable of shaping history according to God's plan."

—Pope John Paul II, "Novo Millennio Ineunte" #33)

St. John's is fortunate to have 24-hour Perpetual Adoration. Please take advantage of this beautiful opportunity to stay close to God. **There is currently one open hour on Sunday from 3:00 to 4:00am.** If you would like to volunteer, please call Kay Shomperlen at (414) 763-1250.



Would you pray for a priest each day? "Be close to your priests with your affection and with your prayers that they may always be shepherds according to God's heart." - Pope Francis

Dec. 26	Dec. 27	Dec. 28	Dec. 29	Dec. 30	Dec. 31	Jan. 1
Rev. Aurelio Perez	Rev. Michael Petersen	Rev. Michael Petrie	Rev. Eugene Pocerlich	Rev. Arulananthan Ponnaiyan	Rev. Glenn Powers	Pope Francis (Solemnity of Mary)



Ben Oberdorf

We had our Christmas concert on Wednesday, December 15. It was awesome! The students had two outstanding performances, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. The students had been practicing the songs for quite a while and as with any performance, the last week was extremely busy trying to perfect the performance and work out the logistics of the show.

It was even more challenging because our music teacher, Mrs. Weyer, was quarantined at home. She was ill and still had virtual rehearsals with all of the classes the final week. Mrs. Weyer put together a wonderful show and really allowed our students to share their amazing voices and talents.

Also, a second big shout out and a huge thank you to our retired SJE music teacher, Mrs. Skalecki, for helping us through our final week of preparation. I reached out to her for assistance and she gave our school two days worth of her time to make sure the show would still go on. A huge thank you goes out as well to the school staff for their flexibility and hard work in putting the show together.

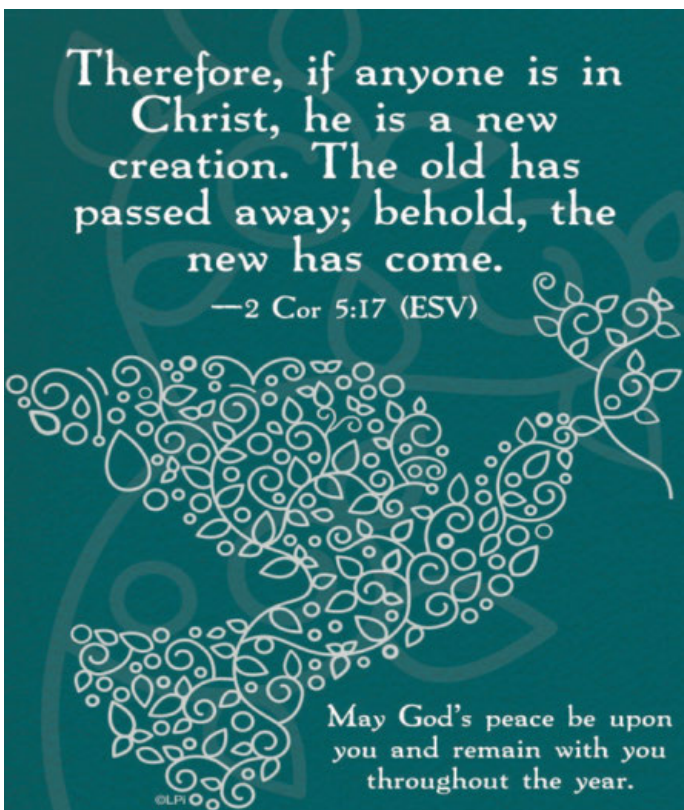
Due to the parish power outage, pictures of the concert will be provided next week. Merry Christmas!

"Stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong."

— 1 Corinthians 16:13

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER AT PORTILLO'S

Please mark your calendars for a fundraiser for the school on January 19, 2022 from 5:00 to 8:00pm at Portillo's, 8705 West Sura Lane in Greenfield. A flyer will be in the bulletin early next year. You can either take a photo of it with your phone or bring it with you and show it to the cashier. Twenty percent of the proceeds raised will benefit the school.



Holiday Office Hours:

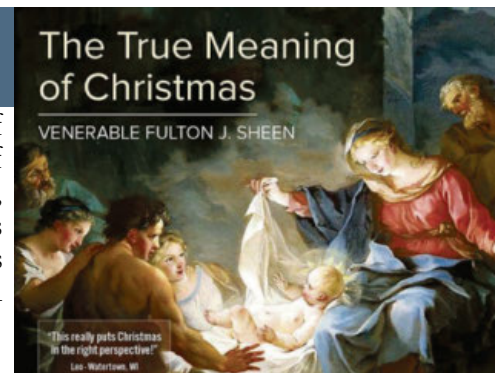
Monday, December 27, the Parish Office will be closed.



CD of the Week: The True Meaning of Christmas

If you look back and see that you were caught up in the commercial aspects of Christmas this year, this presentation will remind you about the true meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the Christmas season, mixed with Gregorian Chants and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite.

Pick up a copy of this CD in the Narthex. Suggested donation is \$4.

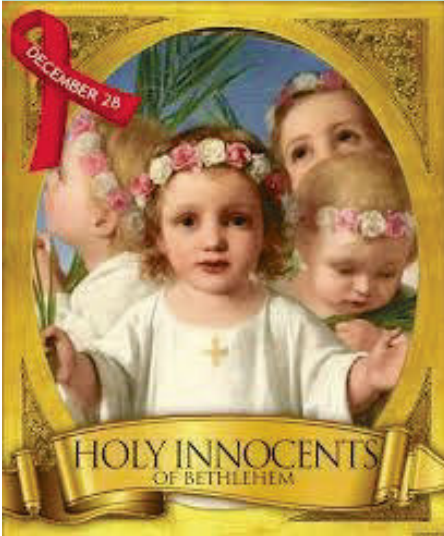


The Parish Financial Stewardship Summary for the week ending December 24, 2021 and the Raffle Calendar Winners for the week of December 13 through 19, 2021 will be in an upcoming bulletin.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. John the Evangelist is a Roman Catholic Eucharistic community faithful to the values and traditions of the Church. We strive to live our faith every day, to embrace stewardship, and to be nurtured by continuous Christian Formation.

Parishioner News



FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

December 28 is the Feast of the Holy Innocents in which St. Matthew in 2:1-18 tells us the story of King Herod's desire to murder Jesus, the newborn King. When his plans were foiled, he was enraged and commanded the slaughter of every male child up to the age of two years in Bethlehem and the surrounding countryside.

These little children were the Church's very first martyrs for Christ, infants who died in place of the baby Jesus. The shedding of their blood was an anticipation of the adult Jesus dying for us in our place.

As Christ came to us as a small, defenseless baby, His life threatened by Herod, so too, our tiny, defenseless preborn brothers and sisters, were in the womb, and through no fault of their own, were killed by chemical and physical abortion. A mother's womb is no longer a safe place to be for a preborn child. All of the babies who were not given a chance at life have this feast day to let them know they are not forgotten. They are all totally His and God loves them with intense, unconditional love just as He loves each one of us who are alive today.

On Wednesday, December 28, the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the 8:00am Mass will be said for the millions and millions of preborn children who never had a chance to even take one breath of life.



When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

“A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted,
Because they are no more.”

- Matthew 2:16-18



JANUARY EUCHARISTIC ALL-NIGHT VIGIL

The January Eucharistic All-Night Vigil of Reparation and Prayer will be held on Friday night, December 31, 2021 at Old St. Anthony Church located at 1711 S. 9th Street. Confessions will be available from 7:00 to 8:00pm and again, after each Priest Speaker. The Vigil Opening Mass begins at 8:00pm followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all evening, talks on the Vigil theme, Rosaries, and other devotions. The Vigil is open to the public. Come spend one hour or stay all night if you can.



These All-Night Vigils began in September of 1965 to answer our lady's call at Fatima - to pray and do penance for world peace and for the conversion of sinners. The Vigil concludes with Mass at 5:00am on Saturday, January 1, 2022. If you have any questions, please call 414-254-2790.



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“FOR TODAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN FOR YOU WHO IS MESSIAH AND LORD.”
LUKE 2:11

Bulletin Deadline is Noon on Monday.
Please send your announcements to:
rectory@stjohns-grfd.org.

In Prayer: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 (St. John, Apostle & Evangelist)

8:00am †Frank & Harold Wendler - Marian Wendler

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28 (The Holy Innocents, Martyrs)

8:00am †Don Charlier - Sura Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29 (St. Thomas Becket, Bishop)

8:00am †Alex & Bernice Pavletich - Daughter
Thanksgiving Mass - Agatha & Gerard Mathews
†Donna Marszalkowski - Nancy A. Pearson
†Karen - Ann Toth
Int. of Mike & Phyllis Gaggioli - Ida Crivello

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00am †David Baumann - Brian Baumann

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:00am Special Intention - Anna
4:00pm †Donna Marszalkowski - Nancy A. Pearson

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

8:00am All Souls in Purgatory - Family
4:30pm Int. of Gary Mannes - Joan Fifarek
Int. of Dirk Wichgers - Grandchildren
†Michael Keim - Joan Jurkowski
†Joseph & Eileen Nettesheim -
Therese Nettesheim
Spec. Int. of Susan Fisher, OSF, on her
Retirement - Judy & Ken Netzel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 (Epiphany of the Lord)

8:00am For the Members of St. John's Parish
9:30am †Elizabeth Wartner - Joan Fifarek
11:00am †Nicole Janich Sebastian - Janich Family

This week's Sanctuary & Tabernacle Candles are lit for the
†Don Walczak & †Sophie Musial. To reserve candles, please
call or visit the parish office. The cost is \$3 each.

Parish and School Staff Directory

Parish Office: 414-321-1965 Parish Hall: 414-321-5940

Parish Gym: 414-321-0079

Website: www.stjohns-grfd.org

Live Stream: www.youtube.com/c/SJEGreenfield

Pastor: Very Rev. Michael F. Merkt
mmerkt@stjohns-grfd.org

Deacon: Steven F. Pemper 414-737-5023 spemper@aol.com

Director of Administrative Services: Denise Kasulke
dkasulke@stjohns-grfd.org

Director of Liturgy and Music: Karen Schulteis
kschulteis@stjohns-grfd.org

Director of Religious Education: Austin Rahill
414-530-5770 Austin_rahill@yahoo.com

Bookkeeper and Building & Grounds: George Pitman, Jr.
gpitman@stjohns-grfd.org

Parish Secretary: Jan Sadlon rectory@stjohns-grfd.org

School Office: 414-321-8540 School Website: sje.k12.wi.us

Principal: Ben Oberdorf boberdorf@sje.school

Secretary: Mary Jo Kaminski mkaminski@sje.school

This Week at St. John the Evangelist

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00am Mass followed by Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
5:30pm Basketball Practice - Gym (until 7:00pm)
Parish Office & School Closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:00am Mass followed by St. Anthony Devotion, Rosary
& Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00pm Basketball Practice - Gym (until 7:00pm)
School Closed

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:00am Mass followed by Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
6:30pm Gym Unavailable
School Closed

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00am Mass followed by Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00pm Basketball Practice - Gym (until 8:30pm)
School Closed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 (New Year's Eve)

8:00am Mass followed by Confessions during Rosary
& Divine Mercy Chaplet
School Closed

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 (New Year's Day)

8:00am Mass followed by Confessions during Mother of
Perpetual Help Devotion, Rosary & Divine
Mercy Chaplet
SCRIP Sales after 4:30pm Mass

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

SCRIP Sales After all Masses

St. John the Evangelist Parish

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:00am - 12:00pm
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and
Holidays

Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30pm; Sunday, 8:00am,
9:30am and 11:00am

Weekday Masses: Monday through Saturday at 8:00am

Confessions: Friday and Saturday: 8:30am

Anointing of the Sick: First Saturday of the Month after the
4:30pm Mass

Baptism: Third Sunday at 11:45am. Please call
the parish office to schedule.
Pre-Baptismal Class is required for
parents with their first child.

Marriage: Contact the parish office at least six
months before intended date of marriage.

**Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults:
(RCIA)** Adults interested in Communion,
Baptism, and/or Confirmation are asked
to contact the Religious Education office.

Parish Membership: Families and single adults (over 18) are
asked to register in the parish office.

**Perpetual Adoration of
the Blessed Sacrament** Use the entrance along the south side
of the church.

Sick & Shut-Ins: Call the parish office to arrange for
Confession and Communion.

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