St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish

Parish Office920-833Religious Education920-833Cemetery and920-833Building & Grounds920-833

920-833-6140 920-833-6140 #3 920-833-6140 #4

Parish Ministry

 Rev. Sengole Dass
 920-833-6140 #1

 Pastor
 920-833-2294

 Deacon
 920-609-5292

 920-833-6140 #5

Missionary Discipleship

John Steltz Coordinator

Music Ministry Samantha Goeben

John Steltz **Parish Administration** Paula Van Dyn Hoven Office Manager

920-833-6140 #2

920-833-6140 #3

Building and Grounds

Kim Van Handel Staff Assistant

Lee Rynish 920-833-6140 #4 Building & Maintenance Manager Jim Palubicki Grounds Keeper

St. John the Baptist Cemetery Lee Rynish, Sexton

Trustees & Council Representatives Dan Van Boxtel, Secretary Trustee Anna Schadrie, Treasure Trustee John Mahlik, Finance Council Chairman Jill Ullmer, Parish Pastoral Council Chairman

Ministry BeFrienders Ministry Jim Wurl

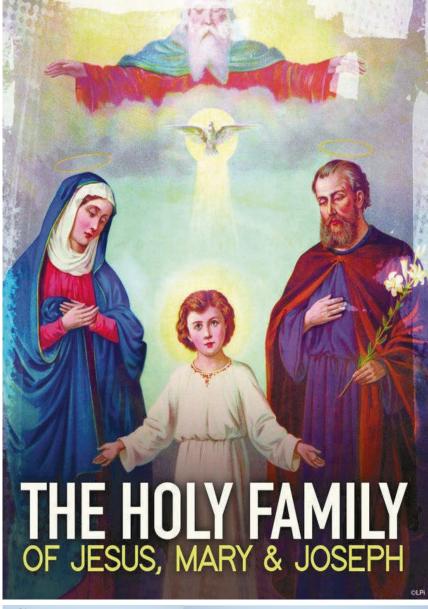
920-833-7734

St. Vincent DePaul Mary/Mike Blohm Jo/Ed Machacek

920-639-0669 920-833-2065

Website www.stjohnseymour.com

Facebook St John Parish, Seymour Wisconsin



Sunday Masses Saturday: 4:00pm Sunday: 10:00am

MassesWeekday Masses4:00pmTuesday, Wednesday &10:00amThursday8:15amEucharistic Holy Hour

Confessions Saturday 3:00-3:30pm

1st Wednesday of the Month 6:15-7:15 pm Next Holy Hour: March 2, 2022

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph · December 26, 2021

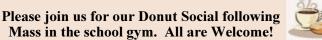


Father Sengole will be gone Jan 3rd-Feb 18th. He is heading home to visit his family. While gone, we have priests to cover Masses. Some normal Masses will be Communion Services instead. A complete schedule will be posted next week. Enjoy your time Father!

RE Classes:

Wednesday, January 5th Gr 1-8 from 6:15-7:15 pm

Sunday, January 9th Children of God during the 10:00 am Mass



Sunday, January 16th HS Classes (9-11) 8:30-9:45 am

Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

Ouestion: I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

Answer: If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

Living the Liturgy

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



Paula Van Dyn Hoven, the parish secretary, will be on vacation from Wednesday, January 5th -Wednesday, January 19th. Kim Van Handel will be answering any voicemails left on the phone daily and will be in the office on Wednesdays.

Lee will be around in the mornings to assist if needed.



Everyday Stewardship - All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

December 26, 2021 Season of Christmas

The story of amazing love. Yes, that is what the birth of our Savior is, the story of amazing love. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Christmas is not just one day in the Catholic church. The joy of the Christmas season continues until we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord which, this year, happens to be January 9, 2022.

The light of the world has been given for us. Let's not squander this annual opportunity to let that sink in and transform our hearts. Let's remember that baby Jesus was born in a humble setting to humble, hardworking, faithful parents who raised him in the faith. He grew into a man, a king in fact, who reigns in us today.

Jesus is "the way and the truth and the life" (John 14:6). Our hearts are filled with joy during this season of our church. We spend time with family and friends, laughing and crying, embracing and sharing. Then we slowly go back to the way life was before December, the joy of Christmas slowly fades.

Let's keep the party going for as long as we can. When our families head home and our vacations end and the leftovers are all eaten and the decorations come down. let's encourage each other right here at church. Let's smile a little more often, let's ask people how they are doing a little more often, and let's remind each other that our lives are included in the story of amazing love.

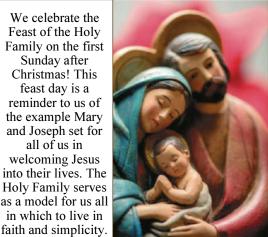
Merry Christmas!

John Steltz, Missionary Discipleship Coordinator The Lord bless and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you; And be gracious to you. Numbers: 6, 24-25



Friday, Dec 31st-New Year's Eve OPEN MIC! 7pm. Wanna play? Signup at jano@cupojoy.com

We celebrate the Feast of the Holv Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in



"Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan." Amoris Lastitia 325

Saint of the Week - Examples of our Faith

St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

> A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.~ Pope Francis





The Holy Family Prayer

Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.



Mary, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

Joseph, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

Sunday, Dec 26, 2021

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Bless the children

Holy families aren't necessarily picture-perfect. But they are faithful and consistent in their values and goals. Like Mary and Joseph and biblical parents before them, holy families consecrate their children early and often to the care of God. They do this by baptizing them and seeing to their sacramental preparation. They do this by praying for and with their little ones. They provide them a religious education and share faith-filled practices of compassion and charity. All the children in our lives look to us for love and acceptance, guidance and Christian example. Teach the children well.

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52 (17A); or 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52 (17C). "Once the child is weared, I will take him to appear before the LORD and to remain there forever."

Monday, Dec 27, 2021

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

He lived to tell the tale

John the Apostle is credited with being the author of the Gospel of John. He is also believed to have been the "Beloved Disciple" of Jesus mentioned in that gospel and is presumed to have outlived the other apostles, perhaps being the only one to die of natural causes rather than martyrdom. Imagine being the last survivor, and the heartache he endured on losing his peers to violent deaths for their faith. Perhaps it was John's job to live to tell the story—"that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name"—as he says in his final line. Take John's mission to heart and embrace his good word today.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). "Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed."

Tuesday, Dec 28, 2021

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

Children deserve protection

Nowadays when we think of Christmas pageants, we envision adorable children in bathrobes dressed as shepherds. But in the Middle Ages, religious pageants were a serious business. The whole community gathered to enact mystery plays that told the stories of birth, death, resurrection, and the lives of the saints. It's from such a mystery play that we get the haunting words and melody of "The Coventry Carol"—a song about King Herod's slaughter of the Holy Innocents that asks plaintively, "What may we do to preserve ... this poor youngling for whom we sing?" Pray today for children who continue to suffer and face certain death without our help.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18 (698). "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children."

Wednesday, Dec 29, 2021

FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD; MEMORIAL OF THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP, MARTYR

Choose God

Everyone must at times make the choice of serving God or something less. Today we remember Saint Thomas Becket, bishop of Canterbury. Thomas was faced with such a dilemma when his friend the king, Henry II, continuously tried to interfere with church matters. Allowing the king to interfere with the church would have allowed Thomas to be in the king's good graces. Instead, Thomas chose to serve God above anything and anyone else, even at the cost of martyrdom. "When is constancy required," Thomas writes, "except under persecution. Are not friends then proved? If they always yield, how can they ever succeed? They must, one time or other, make a stand."

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35 (202). "And you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Thursday, Dec 30, 2021

SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Take your time to absorb Christmas

Today we continue as a church to honor the feast of our Savior's birth. It is day six in the octave of Christmas—the eight-day liturgical focus on the birth of Christ. The entrance of the Christ into human history is such a significant event that the church notes its magnitude by keeping our gaze on it through the specified readings, psalms, and prayers during these eight days. Take a moment today to allow the wonder of God-among-us to continue to sink in.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40 (203). "She gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem."

Friday, Dec 31, 2021

SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Out with the new, in with the old

The end of the year gives us pause to reflect on the past and change for the future. Typically, we find something new to embrace or resolve to do. But if it's true that there's really nothing new under the sun, then perhaps we should look to the old! This is exactly what the church does, as it moves into the new year, not with any newfound epiphany, but instead with a commitment to the very old-school value of peace. As we anticipate the World Day of Peace tomorrow, January 1, what are some deeply held and longstanding values that you would like to deepen during the coming year? How might you go old school?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18 (204). "In the beginning was the Word."

Saturday, Jan 01, 2022

OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD; WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Rocking with Mother Mary

People in every age have their particular way to celebrate the new year. These days we might change old eating habits to be healthier; get on track financially; spend more time with family. But maybe this year it could be about what young Catholics refer to as "rocking with Mary," that is, getting to know the mother of Jesus on a deeper level. Understanding her courage, strength, and faithfulness can help us realize our own potential as bearers of the Good News. On her feast day and in the days ahead, reflect on Mary and strive to imitate her in bringing Good News to the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21 (18). "And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."

God never tires of waiting for us. When we turn away, He comes to look for us; when we fall, He picks us up; when we return to Him after losing our way, He waits for us with open arms. His love is always gives us the courage to start anew. \sim Pope Francis

Worship Services DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 2

Friday, December 24 - 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass



† Joel Cartier 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Sebastian † Joseph & LaVerne Vande Corput

Saturday, December 25 - 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass

† Lawrence, Libby & Harlen Blumreich

Sunday, December 26 - 8:00 am Mass at St Sebastian

[†] Pat Taylor 10:00 am Mass

† Bob Coonen



Monday, December 27 - No Services

Tuesday, December 28 - 8:15 am Mass

Living & Deceased Members of the **Coonen & Kline Families**

Wednesday, December 29 - 8:15 Mass

† Joe & Alice Daul NO RE CLASSES - Christmas Break

Thursday, December 30 - 8:15 am Mass

[†] Henry & Florence Van Dyn Hoven

Friday, December 31 - 8:15 am New Year's Eve Mass **†** Richard Bluma

Saturday, January 1 - 4:00 pm Mass

† Esther Liesch

10:00 am Mass

† Helen Leisgang

Sunday, January 2 - 8:00 am Mass at St Sebastian

† Bill & Mary Matuszak



† Denotes deceased person(s)



WESHARE DONOR MATCH PROGRAM

The holiday season is one of the largest giving seasons for our church. Our online giving provider WeShare is generously providing a donor match program to help us increase recurring giving. Online gifts help reduce costs and our time spent handling other forms of payment.

For every first gift from a new recurring donor that is added between November 1 and December 31, 2021, WeShare will match that first gift, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000 for our church. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and the first recurring gift must be transacted by December 31, 2021.

We appreciate your generosity and your support of our church. We prayerfully ask that you consider helping us meet this goal by creating your recurring online gift today.

Visit our WeShare site or reach out to the WeShare Customer Support team at 877-316-0260 https://stjohnseymour.weshareonline.org

Liturgical Ministers

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

4:00 PM

Lector	John Cumicek 🗧 🗸	
Cantor	Breanna Patz	
Musician	Sam Goeben	
Distributors	Helen Wachtendonk	
Servers	Kendall Katch, Parker Finn	
Ushers	Jennie Huettl, Marilyn Menor,	
	Steve Green	
Greeters	Marilyn Menor	

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

10:00 AM

Lector	Lilah & Melanie Mursau	
Cantor	Lance Mursau	
Musician	Sam Goeben	
Distributors	Cathy Krull	
Servers	Lincoln Mursau, Elsie Reese	
Ushers	Pat Schadrie, Glenn Dunville	
	Volunteer	
Greeters	Cathy Krull	

Stewardship

Sacrificial Giving for the Week Other Income	\$ 4,207.32 2,782.00
Expenses	
Bills pd.	5,249.66



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Readings

Week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1 -2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2 -8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18 Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

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





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St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish, Seymour, WI

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