



# St. John Bosco

7113 COLUMBIA AVENUE • HAMMOND, IN 46324

## Ministry Team

**Parish Administrator** - Rev. Jeffrey Burton

**E-mail**.....frjeff@st-johnbosco.org

**Pastoral Associate/DRE**.....

.....Vickie Blackwood

**Religious Ed.** .... sjbreligion@comcast.net

**School Principal**.....Nancy Repay

**School**..... nrepay@st-johnbosco.org

## Offices

**Parish Office**..... (219) 844-9027

**Hours:** Monday-Friday 8 am-3 pm

**Parish Fax**..... 989-7947

**Office**.....sjboffice@comcast.net

**Bulletin**.....sjbulletin@comcast.net

**Website** ..... www.sjbhammond.org

**St. Vincent de Paul** ..... 844-2975

**School Office**..... 845-6226

**School Fax**..... 989-7946

**Website** ..... www.stjohnboscoschool.org

## Mass Schedule

### Weekend:

Saturday: Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am

10:30 am

**Weekday:** See page 4 of bulletin.

**Holyday:** See bulletin.

## Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** Tuesday 4-5 pm

Saturday 7-8 am

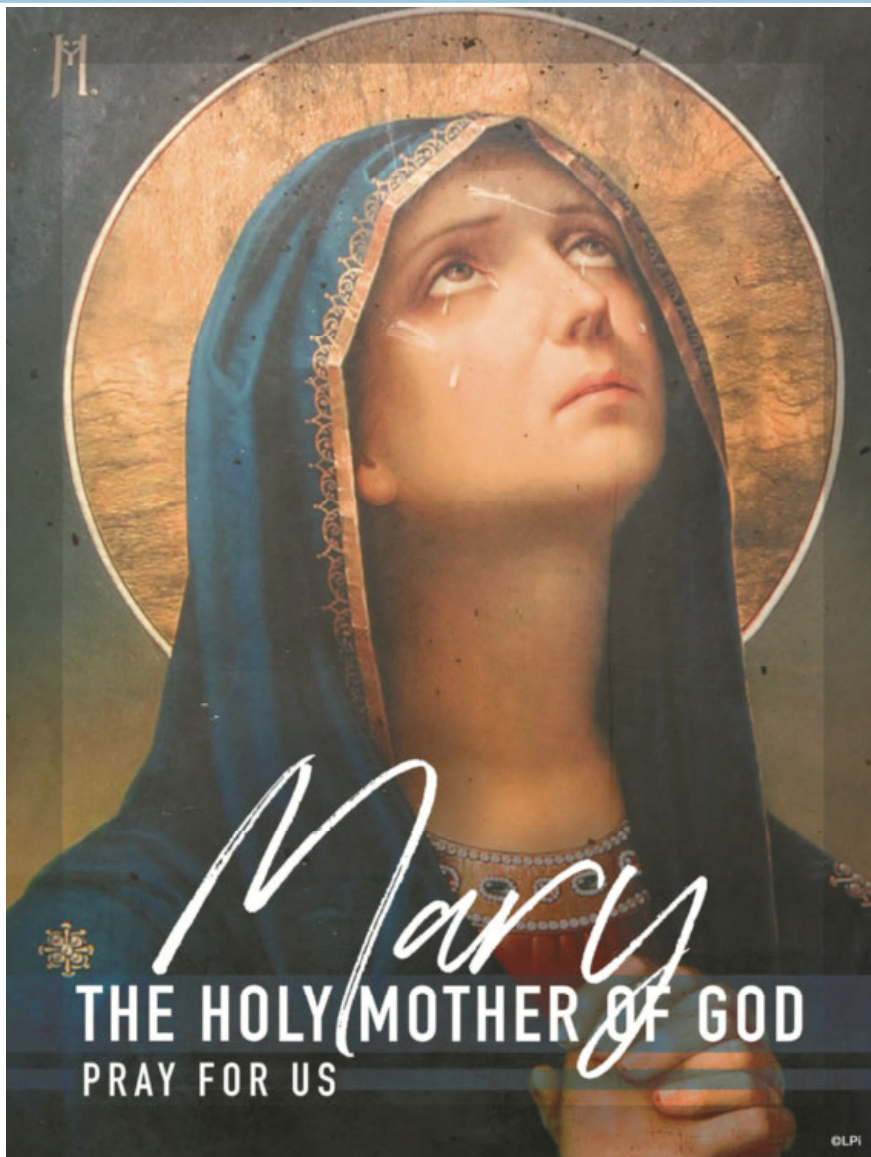
**Baptism:** Call the Parish Office.

**Marriage:** Arrangements to be made six months in advance. Call Parish Office.

## Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday each month at the 8:15 am Mass.

**Emergency:** Call the Parish Office (844-9027)



## PARISH VISION STATEMENT

As a parish, we the community of St. John Bosco, are called to:

- Create a welcoming atmosphere in which we hear the word and live the word in the world;
    - Share Christ with others;
  - Embrace God in the community celebration of sacraments;
  - Encourage and embrace the full and active participation of our members;
- So that we may individually and collectively continue to grow in faith and to be transformed.

Acknowledging that we have a shared responsibility to improve the environment, both physical and spiritual, we act collectively to heal that which undermines our Faith values and weakens our people, in prayerful reflection through the inspiration of the spirit of God.

## NEWS & NOTES

Friends,

As we head toward the light of the Christmas star, allow me an opportunity to thank you for your kindness and support over the last six months.

Transitions are never easy - for members of a parish family, the parish and school faculty and staff and for the priests involved - but so many of you rolled up your sleeves to make me feel at home and your generosity literally warmed the rectory this winter.

We have many bright spots to be grateful for this season: Weekend Mass attendance is up from a year ago, our financial situation is beginning to stabilize and we continue to be a source of His light to our community through our many outreach efforts.

Yet, we need to keep moving the ball down the field and grow the St. John Bosco family. In the next six months, I'll be asking for your help in restructuring our parish with a finance council, a visionary pastoral council and a council of ministries. We'll also be expanding upon our efforts to welcome people into the Bosco family and make some things a little more user-friendly.

At the same time, we need to continue to make Christ visible in our community. To that extent, I've requested some liturgical items and outdoor statuary from the former St. Catherine of Siena campus so that we might create some outdoor prayer spaces for our neighbors.

I mention all of this because it can't happen without your help. Your time, talent and, yes, your financial generosity is what brings all these ideas to life. And, if you're returning to St. John Bosco for the first time in a long time, welcome home! May all know this family as one where all can belong.

God's Blessings at Christmas and always,  
Fr. Jeff



## PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Bible Study...Please Note...**both sessions will take place on the same day, this week. Bible Study will be held on Thursday, December 30th at 12 Noon AND 6:00 p.m. Pick one to attend. The regular schedule will resume next week and will be posted in next week's bulletin. For more information, please call (219) 844-9027. START THE NEW YEAR OFF IN A GREAT WAY...JOIN BIBLE STUDY! GIVE IT A TRY - EXPERIENCE A WARM AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT.

**Please Note:** the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 27th. Monday volunteers are asked to come on Tuesday, December 28th.

**Home Blessing Kits...**for the Epiphany will be distributed to parishioners, who wish to take one home, on the weekend of January 1st/2nd after all Masses.

**Cursillo Reunions...**(brief gathering) Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All Cursillistas - those who have made their Cursillo, are invited to attend.



**Remember in your prayers those who are ill...**Monica Allen, Jennifer Biro, Raul Carillo, Raul Ceja, Mary Ceja, Mike Ceko, Alex Dabrowski, Mark Denys, Mike Elliott, Al Fetzko, Gloria Garcia, Rafael Gomez, Ethel Hall, Christopher Hlista, David Johnsen, John Lopez, Ralph Lopez, Jerry Mitchell, Marjorie Mitchell, Romana Muratori, Martha Nejak, Dolores Nicoloff, Vicki Pastore, Ronald Redenbaugh, Sr. Joan Marie Romaniak, Peter Romaniak, Fran Stessl, Theresa Stewart & Stacy Ziebarthow.

If you see a name above that should be removed or have a name to add, please call 844-9027.



## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.



**Save Your Stracks Receipts...**and drop them off at Church or at the Parish Office. Our school will earn sporting goods and educational equipment.

**Religious Ed. Classes...**(ongoing faith formation and preparation for the Sacraments for students who do not attend a Catholic school) are held each Sunday from 9:00-10:15 a.m. Mass attendance is required as part of the faith formation program. (Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m., Sunday at 7:30 a.m. or Sunday at 10:30 a.m.). Upcoming schedule:

- .....TODAY.....December 26th.....**NO R.E.**
- .....Sunday.....January 2nd.....**NO R.E.**
- .....Sunday.....January 9th.....K-CF II
- .....Sunday.....January 16th.....K-CF II
- .....Sunday.....January 23rd.....K-CF II

For more information, call Vickie Blackwood at 844-9027, ext. 310.

**Youth Group Gathering...**for youth in middle school & up. Fr. Jeff has asked us to assemble "Epiphany Home Blessing Kits". Epiphany is January 2, 2022. We will meet Wednesday, December 22nd at 4:00 p.m. at the Parish Office. We will get all the bags ready, have food and snacks, and then we will go to the Vespers at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Your ride can pick you up at the Church. For any questions, please call Sandee at (219) 545-5144 or call or email Vickie at (219) 844-9027/sjbreigion@comcast.net.

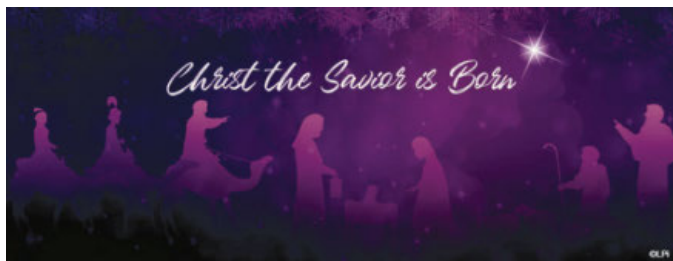
**Where is Baby Jesus...**the blessing of our Baby Jesus statues from our home nativity sets last Sunday was beautiful. In addition to the statues, there were a few baby dolls, wrapped in "swaddling cloth" for those who were in need of a Baby Jesus. However, two small boxes: ONE pink in color, containing 2 small Baby Jesus statues...one about 1 1/2 inches and one attached to a manger; and the second one a very small box, with one of the statues white (almost round) porcelain and the other Baby Jesus small, about 1 1/2 inches went missing. If by chance you saw these or somehow picked them up by mistake, please call us at (219) 844-9027 or just return them. Thank you.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26TH AT ST. JOHN BOSCO

<b>Sunday</b>	NO R.E. (Dec. 26th)
<b>Tuesday</b>	NO MASS
<b>Thursday</b>	NO MASS
<b>Saturday</b>	NO VIGIL MASS
<b>Sunday</b>	NO R.E. (Jan. 2nd)

Please Note Change in Mass Schedule...for this week. Mass will not be celebrated at St. John Bosco on December 28th or on December 30th and there will be no Saturday Vigil Mass on January 1st. **ALSO...**Daily Mass will not be celebrated Monday, January 3rd through the morning Mass on Saturday, January 8th.



### AT ST. JOHN BOSCO

**Eucharistic Adoration...**Tuesdays from 4:00-5:15 p.m. & on Saturdays from 7:00-8:15 a.m.

**Confessions...**Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7:00-8:00 a.m.

**Anointing of the Sick...**is offered on the first Saturday of each month at the 8:15 a.m. Mass.

**Mass Intentions...**are always needed for during the week. If you would like to have a Mass Intention said for a loved one or a friend, please call the Parish Office at 844-9027. Mass stipends are \$10.00 each.





# SAINT JOHN BOSCO CHURCH

7113 Columbia Avenue  
Hammond, IN 46324  
Parish Office (219) 844-9027

## SJB Mass Intentions for December 26th

### Sunday, December 26 • The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 7:30 a.m. Mary Lou Segneri by Family and also  
Walter Homrich by Michael Prendergast
- 10:30 a.m. Barbara Homrich by Mary & Edward Quigley  
and also Health & Blessings for  
Sister Joan Marie Romaniak (birthday)  
by St. John Bosco Church Family

### Monday, December 27 • St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

- 8:15 am St. John Bosco Family of God

### Tuesday, December 28 • NO MASS

### Wednesday, December 29 • 5th Day Within the Octave of Christmas

- 8:15 am All Souls by the Osborn Family

### Thursday, December 30 • NO MASS

### Friday, December 31 • 7th Day Within the Octave of Christmas

- 8:15 am St. John Bosco Family of God

### Saturday, January 1 • The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 8:15 am Ananias & Teresa Jimenez by Family and also  
Karen Broholm by Jerry Scheive

### NO SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

### Sunday, January 2 • Epiphany of the Lord

- 7:30 a.m. Theresa Sens by Bill Orr
- 10:30 a.m. Ann Crook by Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Simmons and  
also Susie B. Smith by the Kennedy Family

### Readings for the 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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