

ST. JOHN VIANNEY & HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH COMMUNITY

Sherman, IL

Athens, IL

December 13, 2020

PARISH INFORMATION

St. John Vianney & Holy Family Office

Address: 902 St. John Dr,
P.O. Box 229, Sherman, IL 62684

Phone: 217-523-3816

Fax: 217-523-3954

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30a-4:00p

Pastor: Fr. George Nellikunnel
frgeorge@sjv.dio.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Maurice Yonta
myonta@sjv.dio.org

Deacon: Ben Hoefler
bhoefler@dio.org

Office Manager: Stacy Saladino
ssaladino@sjv.dio.org

Bookkeeper: Lynda Cliburn
lcliburn@sjv.dio.org

MASS SCHEDULE

St. John Vianney

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 8:00am

Wednesday: 6:00pm

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00-4:45pm

Wednesday: 5:00-5:30pm
or by appointment

Holy Family

Sunday: 11:00am

Tuesday: 6:30pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday: 6:00-6:20pm
or by appointment

Holyday Masses As Announced

ST. JOHN VIANNEY
902 St. John Dr, Sherman



PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Music Ministry:
SJV: Lori Saathoff
lsaathoff@sjv.dio.org
HF: Deana Corbin

SJV Council Chair:
Victoria Kennedy 415-8308
victoriak4@zoho.com

HF Stewardship Committee:
Ken Tasset kwtasset11@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinators:
Stacie Henderson/Jennifer Grebner
psr@sjv.dio.org

SJV YG Coord: Molly Ishmael
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Women's Society President:
Barb Doud bdoudlinn@yahoo.com

Pro-Life Coordinator:
Valerie Henderson at tvh@casscomm.com

Tribunal Advocate:
Rita Friedewald
ritafriedewald@yahoo.com

RCIA:
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cliffcarol@yahoo.com

HF Parish Nurse:
Amy Baughman 636-7594

Council 14024 KC Grand Knight:
David Sweeney dsweeknee@gmail.com
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Council 5754 KC Grand Knight:
William Stone
Contact Financial Sec: Darrell Roll
darrell.roll@sbcglobal.net

Caregivers Ministry:
Cindy Bahner 741-0224 or
cbee355@aol.com

Prayer Line:
SJV: Terry Willis 725-2005 or
ter2will@aol.com
HF: Paulette Doellman at 636-7227

Please contact the parish office to register as a new parishioner, arrange for a baptism, schedule a wedding (6 months' notice is required) or request the Sacrament of the Sick.

Submission requests for the bulletin are due Tuesdays by noon.

Assisted hearing devices available at SJV upon request from ushers

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation
To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy, even if it is in the past, individuals are encouraged to call 217-321-1155. Individuals may also contact the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-25-ABUSE, or contact your local police authority.

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HOLY FAMILY
309 Springfield Rd, Athens



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

We continue our Advent Journey, which at times seems to be dark and uncertain. But on Gaudete Sunday we must rejoice, for our preparation and waiting time is ending. The prophet Isaiah, proclaiming God's word after the return from exile, it is time to rejoice. God will bring justice; God will bring liberty to captives and give release to prisoners. The light of faith was kept alive by the prophets, and so it is now time to rejoice as a bride and bridegroom celebrate their wedding day.

St. Paul knew that the Lord was near. He believed that Jesus would return soon, and so it was hard for the people to rejoice. God the light, would again soon be manifest.

We can rejoice for the light, Jesus the lord, is near. For the past two weeks in our Gospel we have been told of the need to prepare for the Lord. Today we hear that the light is near. Make a straight path for the Lord. It is time to rejoice. It is time to cast off deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Jesus the light comes to dispel the darkness and rejoice because the Lord is near.

All of us must pass through dark nights in our journey of life. As we experience these difficult challenges. We must constantly seek the light. But we know the light is found at the end of a tunnel. We must there-

fore persevere in order to find the light.

What dark night have you experienced? How have you feared and what is your position today? For some of us the dark night is loneliness. For others, the dark night in illness. Maybe it is separation. Maybe it our own family members or loved one. There are times we experience the darkness through the loss of a job or business. The dark night for a few of us is a loss of faith. We perceive the absence of God, and we wonder why God has abandoned us and does not answer our prayers as we think God should.

In order to navigate these dark nights, we must continually seek the light. Advent is a time when we take a journey from the darkness that is the absence of God to the birth of the light. Our reading suggest that whatever envelops us in darkness, whether It be loneliness, sickness, or death, loss of job or problems with faith, it can be dispelled by the coming of Jesus our Lord.

The dark night experienced in our life may be dispelled by deep faith in Jesus. As we continue our Advent Journey, let us cast off darkness and seek the light. It is time to rejoice because the Lord is near. God Bless you all.

Fr. George Nellikunnel

After considering the current COVID-19 situation in our area, **Masks are now required at ALL times while inside the church, except at the moment of receiving the Body of Christ.** There will also be NO congregational singing. This applies to all weekend and weekday Masses at both St. John Vianney & Holy Family Parishes.

Mark your Calendars with our Holiday Mass Schedule

St. John Vianney

Christmas Eve: 5:00pm 7:00pm & Midnight ♦ Christmas Day: 9:00am
Reservations required for all Christmas Masses at St. John Vianney.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass: 6:00 p.m. (New Year's Eve)
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass: 9:00 a.m. (New Year's Day)

Holy Family

Christmas Eve: 6:00pm ♦ Christmas Day: 9:00am

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass: 6:00 p.m. (New Year's Eve)
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass: 9:00 a.m. (New Year's Day)



PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

O Mary,
 you always brighten our path
 as a sign of salvation and of hope.
 We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
 who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
 while remaining steadfast in faith.
 O loving Mother,
 you know what we need,
 and we are confident you will provide for us as
 at Cana in Galilee.
 Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
 the Divine Physician,
 for those who have fallen ill,
 for those who are vulnerable,
 and for those who have died.
 Intercede also for those charged with
 protecting the health and safety of others
 and for those who are tending to the sick and
 seeking a cure.
 Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
 to conform to the will of the Father
 and to do as we are told by Jesus,
 who took upon himself our
 sufferings and carried our sorrows,
 so as to lead us, through the Cross,
 to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,
 O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our
 petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers,
 O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
 RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

~ Tracy Earl Welliver

©LPi

HOLY FAMILY
Bible Study



Due to the increase of Covid 19 cases,
 we are going to wait to start the study of
 Matthew's Gospel until after the holidays.

**The new tentative start date
 will be January 6, 2021.**

If you are interested in joining,
 please contact Kathy Clemens
 at 217-741-4660 by December 14th.

All are welcome, please come and join us!

Holy Family Jesse Tree



This is the final weekend of our Jesse Tree collection to help make Christmas a little brighter for others. We have tags for food baskets, Community Angels tags for clothing for children, and tags for the residents at Sunny Acres. **Gifts should be returned to the Jesse Tree no later than December 16, 2020.**

If you are currently staying safe at home and are unable to shop, but would like to participate, monetary donations are welcome and appreciated. Call Kathy below for details on how to get involved.

Questions? Contact:
 Kathy Clemens at 741-4660
 or Jodi Oller at 622-0564




Dive Deep - Podcast
The 11 Things Catholics Need to Stop Doing - No, this isn't a list to condemn you, but a friendly reminder to stop doing these 11 things and do the opposite because we want you to grow in your relationship with Christ!

Did We Come From Adam & Eve or Animals? What does the Catholic Church have to say about evolution? Is the Big Bang Theory compatible with our faith? How literal are we to take the creation story?

Go to dio.org/podcast to listen and while you are there, make sure subscribe so you never miss an episode.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Reflect on Scripture



Who Am I? As we long for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, let our Advent be perfectly holy. To help us, Saint Paul reminds us of these basic Christian attitudes: (1) rejoice always, (2) pray without ceasing, and (3) always give thanks.

- ◆ In whom or in what will I rejoice this week?
- ◆ How will I pray every day this week?
- ◆ For whom and for what am I thankful? What will I do because of this thanksgiving?

MASS INTENTIONS

(† indicates deceased)

Monday, December 14

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
8:00am— Leslie Birkmeier †

Tuesday, December 15

Advent Weekday
8:00am— Connie Camille †
HF 6:30pm— Sylvester Hoefler †

Wednesday, December 16

Advent Weekday
6:00pm— Deceased Members of the SJV Women's Society †

Thursday, December 17

Late Advent Weekday
8:00am— Sylvester Hoefler †

Friday, December 18

Late Advent Weekday
8:00am— All Souls †

Saturday, December 19

Vigil Mass
5:00pm— Sylvester Hoefler †

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:00am— David Johnson †
HF 11:00am— Vincent Hoefler †

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 19 — 5:00pm (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Adian Glasgow
Sacristan: Gina Rusciollelli

Sunday, December 20 — 9:00am (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Bev Hoffman
Sacristan: Cliff Shehorn

Sunday, December 20 — 11:00am (Holy Family)

Lectors: Sam Haycraft (L) Randra Church (P)

SUNDAY'S READINGS EXCERPTS

First Reading:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)

Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Lk 1:47)

Second Reading:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

Gospel:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)



Sunday, December 13

St. John Vianney: 7:30am Parish Council Meeting
2:00pm Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 15

Holy Family: 2:00-6:30pm Adoration
6:00pm Rosary

Wednesday, December 16

St. John Vianney: 7:00am - 6:00pm Adoration
5:30pm Rosary

This weekend, we will have a **Second Collection to support the Retirement Fund for Religious.** As you may know, senior religious were instrumental in establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable agencies. Often this progress came at great sacrifice, and many older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for



little to no pay. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more.

St. John Vianney WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING December 5 & 6, 2020

Sunday Envelopes	\$2,470.00
WeShare Donations	Not available at time of publication
Loose Collections	<u>\$5,169.00</u>
Total	\$7,639.00
Weekly Budget	\$4,788.46
Weekly Surplus / Shortfall	\$2,850.54
Capital Improvements	\$560.00
Christmas Flowers	\$30.00
Catholic Times	\$15.00
Justice & Hope Campaign	\$20.00
Immaculate Conception	\$50.00

Holy Family WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING December 6, 2020

Sunday Envelopes	\$1,487.00
WeShare Donations	\$5.00
Loose Donations	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total	\$1,592.00
Weekly Budget	\$1,377.69
Weekly Surplus / Shortfall	\$214.31
Building Fund	\$520.00
Religious Retirement	\$20.00
Childrens' Home	\$20.00
Christmas Offering	\$20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$145.00
Immaculate Conception	\$125.00

Baptism

We welcome into our faith community
Madison Paige Silkowski



Daughter of
 Matthew & Lauren
 Silkowski

Baptized at
 St. John Vianney
 Sunday, November 15th
 by Fr. George Nellikunnel

May God richly bless her
 in her Catholic Faith!

SJV Parish Library News



Looking for a book to read during the Advent Season? The SJV Lending Library has some great spiritual reading. Check out the book list online at the link below.

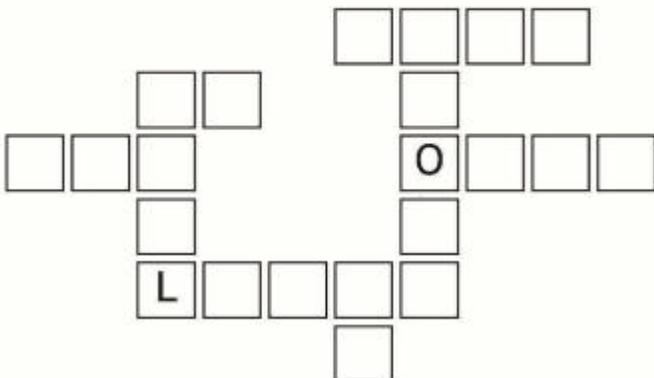
https://sjv.dio.org/uploads/files/SJV_Parish_Library_Catalog_Listings_Rev_06.16.2020.pdf

Please contact the Parish Office by phone at 217-523-3816 or by email at ssaladino@casscomm.com with the name of the item, your name & phone number, and how long you would like borrow the item.

The parish librarian will check the item out for you and place it in the Lobby of the Activity Center on a Silver Shelving Unit. You will be notified when the item is ready for pick up. When you are finished with an item you can return it to the Silver Shelving Unit.

GOSPEL People noticed John the Baptist. He loved God, and he used words honestly. He really wanted to help people change and grow closer to God. He stood out as someone really different and special. People came from all around to hear him and learn about him. When people asked him questions, he pointed them to Jesus.

PUZZLE
 Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:
He came only to tell about the light.



SIGN UP! CHRISTMAS MASSES SIGN UP!

The Christmas Mass Sign Up is available online for both parishes. Links to the sign ups can be found on each parish website.

St. John Vianney Sign Up
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a4ea9ad2ea1fb6-christmas>

Holy Family Sign Up
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4EA9AD2EA1FB6-christmas1>

The Holy Family sign up in can be found at hfa.dio.org on the Welcome Message Page under the About Tab.

Current restrictions limit attendees to 90 people for each church. If the Mass you wish to attend is full, you can sign up for open seats at any of the other Masses being offered or sign up for the overflow seating at the SJV Activity Center (SJV Masses at 5pm, 7pm and 9am) for the Mass livestream.

ADVENT Penance Service

St. John Vianney & Holy Family Communal Advent Penance Service:

Sunday, December 13th
 2:00pm at St John Vianney Church, Sherman

Come experience directly God's forgiveness, compassion and peace. What a beautiful Advent gift from the Lord to you.

Mask will need to be worn while in the church building.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Youth Group Calendar

December

20th: High School Youth Group 4-5:30 in the Activity Center
 28th: Combined YG Christmas party 6-8pm in the Activity Center

Contact Molly Ishmael with any questions at
 217.416.1246 or mnh82@hotmail.com.



Items for Pick Up in the SJV Activity Center Lobby:

2021 Missals - Breaking Bread Books - Our new Church Liturgical Year began with the First Sunday of Advent on November 29th.

Letter to a Suffering Church Books - by Bishop Robert Barron

There is also a supply of all these items at Holy Family for distribution in Athens.

The Biggest Lie in the History - by Matthew Kelly
 Holy Family parishioners are welcome to pick up this book from the SJV AC Lobby.

The SJV AC Lobby will be open during office hours and before & after weekend Mass times at SJV.

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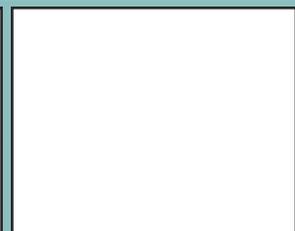
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