



# ST. JOSEPH

## CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

1660 Endl Blvd. • Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Phone: (920) 563-3029 www.stjosephfort.org

OFFICE HOURS: Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8:00-12:00  
Tues. 11:00-3:00

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Welcome! Thank you for worshiping with us.

If you are not already a member,  
consider joining our parish.

We seek to know, love, and serve God  
and His children. Join us!

**Fr. Tim Renz, Pastor** (920) 563-3029 Ext.1101  
frtim@stjosephfort.org

**Pat Bries, Parish Secretary** (920) 563-3029 Ext. 1100  
parish@stjosephfort.org

**Dea Shimpach, Accounting** dshimpach@stjosephfort.org

**Gina McDonald, Youth Ministry (Gr. 6 & up)**  
youthministry@stjosephfort.org

**Norma Mayans, Religious Ed (Gr 1 through 5)**  
nmayans@stjosephfort.org

**Kari Homb, School Principal** (920) 563-3029 Ext.1201  
khomb@stjosephfort.org

**Paula Hess & Kristal Lewis, School Secretaries**  
(920) 563-3029  
sjssecretary@stjosephfort.org

**Andi Peck, Maintenance** apeck@stjosephfort.org

### MASS & PRAYER SCHEDULE

**SAT. Jan. 9** 5:00 PM Mass †Frank & Mary Weiss

**SUN. Jan. 10** 8:00 AM Mass For the Parish  
10:00 AM Mass †Frank & Mary Weiss

**TUES. Jan. 12** No Mass

**WED. Jan. 13** No Mass

**THUR. Jan. 14** No Mass  
12:00-7:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

**FRI. Jan. 15** No Mass

**SAT. Jan. 16** 5:00 PM Mass †Mary Grahler

**SUN. Jan. 17** 8:00 AM Mass For the Parish  
10:00 AM Mass †Joan Dorgan

### HOLY ROSARY

Please join us in praying the Holy Rosary half an hour before every Mass, weekends and weekdays.

### CONFESSION

**Saturdays** 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

**Sundays.....**7:30 - 7:45 AM & 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

**Appointment .....**Call Fr. Tim anytime

### MEMBERSHIP & SACRAMENTS

Please call the Parish Office to register as a member. Contact Fr. Tim to inquire about baptism or marriage. Call or email Father Tim for the Anointing of the Sick. Active parishioners may inquire about a *quinceañera*



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC.

# JANUARY 10, 2021

January 10, 2021

### The Baptism of the Lord

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.



People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?

We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved, and uncared for is the greatest poverty. We must start in our own homes to remedy this kind of poverty.

St. Teresa of Calcutta



The CCW of St. Joseph Parish would like to wish all parishioners a Blessed 2021. We will not be holding our annual St.Valentine's Day Bake Sale this year due to COVID restrictions. We will not be hosting our Souper Suppers this Lenten season for the same reason. CCW will still be promoting our Lenten Service Project. Details about the project will be shared in the near future.

Blessings,  
Michele Simonson, CCW  
President



### Stewardship Report

Offertory Collection December 2020: \$49,490.22.  
December EFTs: \$ 6,980.00  
December On-Line Giving: \$23,463.00  
Budget needed per week: \$9,577.00  
Budget needed per month: \$41,500.00  
Budget needed per year: \$498,00.00.

Thank you for your support. Fr. Tim



## COVID-19 VACCINES: MORAL EVALUATION



# COVID-19

Although there are many factors to consider, the main concern of the Church with any vaccine is that it is developed, tested, and produced in such a manner that is morally licit. In evaluating the morality of a vaccine, the primary concern is the use of cell lines derived from elective abortions. *Dignitas personae*, specifically no. 34-35, is the most important and authoritative magisterial teaching on this topic.

The Charlotte Lozier Institute has tracked COVID-19 vaccine candidates, allowing them to be divided into three groups based on their use of abortion-derived cells: (1) those that do not use abortion-derived cell lines whatsoever; (2) those that do not use abortion-derived cell lines in production, but use them in another point in the process; and (3) those that use abortion-derived cells in the production of the vaccine.<sup>ii</sup> Those vaccines in group 1 are the best ethical choice, while those in group 2 are preferable to those in group 3. If no viable option exists from group 1, consideration must be given to using vaccines from groups 2 or 3. As a 2005 reflection from the Pontifical Academy for Life explained, according to the principle of cooperation, if no effective alternative exists, serious reasons may permit individuals to use vaccines which utilize abortifacient-derived cells to protect their own lives and those of others.

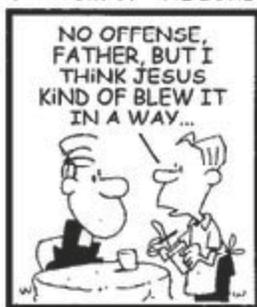
As of December 2020, there are three promising vaccines that have been developed by Moderna, Pfizer, and AstraZeneca respectively to combat COVID-19. AstraZeneca's vaccine was developed and is being produced using abortion-derived cell lines and falls into group 3. While not developed or produced using abortion-derived cell lines, the vaccines developed by Moderna and Pfizer have used HEK293, a cell line from an abortion in 1972, for confirmatory testing and would fall into group 2. Without considering the safety, efficacy, and availability among options, using the logic of choosing the lesser evil, the vaccines developed in group 2 should be preferred to AstraZeneca's. Regarding the vaccines from Moderna and Pfizer, a November 20th, 2020 memo from the USCCB states that "it is morally permissible to accept vaccination when there are no alternatives and there is a serious risk to health."

This same memo clarifies that, although Moderna and Pfizer make use of a "tainted" cell lines, their connection with abortion-derived cell lines is relatively remote. Evaluating the current situation, a recent document from USCCB concludes that: "In view of the gravity of the current pandemic and the lack of availability of alternative vaccines, the reasons to accept the new COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna are sufficiently serious to justify their use, despite their remote connection to morally compromised cell lines."

Therefore, despite grave concern about the use of abortion-derived cell lines, there is, in principle, nothing morally prohibitive about using these two vaccines. Until an equivalently safe and effective alternative from group 1 exists, individuals, especially those whose health is at risk and those who are responsible for the health of others, may make use of the vaccines from Moderna or Pfizer "under protest" without incurring moral guilt.

Normally, in light of a proper Christian concern for personal health, the health of others who are vulnerable, public health, and the common good, there must be serious reasons for refusing immunization against dangerous contagious diseases. At present, particularly because these vaccines are so new, because so much is unknown about their consequences, and because they all use abortion-derived cell lines, some people may still be led to refuse vaccination in good faith. As the National Catholic Bioethics Center points out in their assessment, besides the moral evaluation of the vaccine itself, there are many other significant factors that must be considered in deciding whether to use a vaccine.

### BAPTISM OF THE LORD



# St Joseph School

## News 'n Notes

The St. Joseph Catholic School students, staff and parents are so excited to wish everyone a Happy New Year! May 2021 continue your faith journey and your safety and health. May you discover many holy moments and opportunities to count your blessings. Our students are excited to be back at school. Each classroom is filled with fun activities, learning challenges, and wonderful physically distant friendships.

As early enrollment begins soon, please contact us for more information including our welcome packet. St. Joseph Catholic School is *Where Faith and Knowledge Meet*. Classroom rosters are filling up for 2021-22. Please contact our website at [www.stjosephfort.org](http://www.stjosephfort.org); our school office at (920) 563-3029 ext 2 or my email at [khomb@stjosephfort.org](mailto:khomb@stjosephfort.org) for any questions or for assistance.

Blessings,

Mrs. Kari Homb, Principal



### Flower Donations for Christmas 2020

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Kurt C. & Gladys Hofmeister

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Jack Morgan

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Oscar Mayer, Sigmund, Brody

John & Charlotte Roberts, John & Nina Deal, James E.

Mark Deal

Ralph & Doris Dudzek, Robert Braman, Marjorie Dudzek

Pattie Niedfelt



# Knights News



Pope Francis has declared that 2021 is the **Year of St. Joseph**. Here are 15 ways in which one can receive a plenary indulgence, and, given that the parish is named after St. Joseph, it would be especially wonderful if parishioners acted upon this opportunity.

Until December 2021, Catholics can receive an indulgence, including entrusting their daily work to the protection of St. Joseph the Worker or reciting the rosary with their families. These acts must be accompanied by sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the pope's intentions, the usual conditions to obtain any plenary indulgence. Plenary indulgences remit all temporal punishment due to sin and must be accompanied by full detachment from sin. According to the decree issued by the Apostolic Penitentiary on Dec. 8, there are 15 ways to receive an indulgence in the Year of St. Joseph:

- 1) Participate in a spiritual retreat for at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph.
- 2) Pray for St. Joseph's intercession for the unemployed that they might find dignifying work.
- 3) Recite the [Litany of St. Joseph](#) for persecuted Christians. Byzantine Catholics have the option of an Akathist to St. Joseph.
- 4) Entrust one's daily work and activity to the protection of St. Joseph the Worker.
- 5) Follow St. Joseph's example in performing a corporal work of mercy. These include feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the imprisoned, visiting the sick, and burying the dead. (Watch future bulletins for more ideas.)

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