



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

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Andi Peck, Maintenance apeck@stjosephfort.org

MASS & PRAYER SCHEDULE

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

TUES. Jan. 19 5:15 PM Mass †Robert "Buzz" Janes

WED. Jan. 20 8:15 AM Mass †Arlene & Glen Sheldon

THUR. Jan. 21 8:15 AM Mass †Leonard Nelson
12:00-7:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

FRI. Jan. 22 8:15 AM Mass †Eileen Kanters

SAT. Jan. 23 5:00 PM Mass †Joan Dorgan

SUN. Jan. 24 8:00 AM Mass †Jeff Leemans
10:00 AM Mass For the Parish

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*



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher—"where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." - Jn 1:38-39a

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass, ©2011, 1988, 1970 CCC

JANUARY 17, 2021

January 17, 2021

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our faith is not just about ideas. It's really about having an encounter with God and, in particular, the Risen Christ! Once we give ourselves over to the notion of God's presence, we have to train ourselves to listen for God's voice and be attentive to God's call. Having companions on our faith journeys is so incredibly important as they can help us fine-tune our listening skills and discern God's voice from others we may be hearing. Faith is all about having these profound encounters not only with God but with our brothers and sisters, and creation itself. Anyone or anything that is alive with God's presence becomes an occasion for God to speak and call us to deeper graces and experiences. "Come, and you will see."



The example and teaching of Jesus, the lives of the saints, those living among us and those glorified in heaven, and the wonder and beauty of creation can all serve to help us listen more clearly and assist in positioning ourselves for this profound God meeting. It is an encounter that can quickly and easily lead to a friendship and intimate intertwining of our souls to their Maker, making a claim on us like no other. Then, the Word of God moves from being just a body of ideas to something we simply accept and do. The person of Jesus Christ swiftly moves from being just a good prophet in word and deed to the incarnate presence of God Himself, the Lamb of God. The voice leads us to the Person behind it.

The Gospel is hard to follow. We can intellectually debate whether what Jesus said is really what we are asked to do. The Gospel ideas do not always make sense in our practical, secular world. The person of God always does. We can debate the practicality and sense of ideas and doing so often keeps the more difficult ones at a safe distance away from us. Jesus said to love our enemy, but we really don't need to do that, our minds try to convince us. It just doesn't make sense. Yet, if we are truly in love with the God who is behind the voice of those words, they make perfect sense. Our deep and intimate love of this God would even find us laying down our lives for Him if necessary. Speak Lord, your servant is listening.

We need to find God, and He cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the fiend of silence. See how nature-trees, flowers, grass-grow in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence . . . We need silence to be able to touch souls.

St. Teresa of Calcutta



Please pray for the intentions on our St. Joseph Prayer Chain.



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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Be a light to those living in poverty & in a world of darkness! St Vincent DePaul needs volunteers of all kinds, especially cashiers to work in the store. The hours are open and flexible. Please consider sharing your time and talents to help those in need.

Contact Bill Roberts at (920) 563-5343.

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.ⁱⁱ 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 abortio-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.

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St Joseph School

News 'n Notes

On Saturday, January 30th, our St. Joseph Catholic School Home and School Association will hold its annual Heart Gala.....Pandemic Style. Raffle Tickets are being purchased for the Yeti-o-Fun and curbside dinner tickets are

being sold online at www.stjosephfort.org/gala. Please support our Home and School as they directly support our amazing school from our 3K to our 8th grade students, our staff, our building structure and everything in between. Enclosed are some grade level pictures sharing our love for our Home and School Association!

Blessings,

Kari R. Homb, Principal



January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

The CCW would like to encourage all parish members to pray for the end of this horrific injustice against human life.

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has also designated February 8 as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8 is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a Saint in 2000. St. Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of human trafficking survivors.

Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita

St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us.

Amen

More information and resources about the prevention of slavery and human trafficking are available on the usccb.org website.



“The Holy Spirit is an inexhaustible well of the life of God in us”

~Pope Francis

Knights News



What a successful week we had: pancake breakfast for Special Olympics and Second Harvest for those in need... thanks to all that helped and contributed.

St. Joe's students, the knowledge contest will be carried out in the next month or so...keep your eyes open. We will be holding the free throw contest, just delayed this year due to... covid once again. We will be meeting soon to discuss time - most likely between February and April. We will keep all posted. Looking ahead...February 19th will be the first **fish dinner carry out** for this Lent.

"Faced with problems and disappointments, many people will try to escape from their responsibility: escape in selfishness, escape in sexual pleasure, escape in drugs, escape in violence, escape in indifference and cynical attitudes. But today, I propose to you the option of love, which is the opposite of escape. If you really accept that love from Christ, it will lead you to God." St. Pope John Paul II – From a homily given in Boston (October, 1979).

Continuation of suggestions for receiving and indulgence during the year of St. Joseph:

- Pray the rosary together with your family in order that "all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love, and prayer that was in the Holy Family."
- Engaged couples can also receive an indulgence from praying the rosary together.
- Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, because St. Joseph "invites us to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God's will."

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