

SJTW  *be vigilant!*

ADVENT 2021

"I AM BAPTIZING YOU WITH WATER,
BUT ONE MIGHTIER THAN I IS COMING."

LUKE 3:16

You are the Church. Be the Change. Be Christ.

MISSION STATEMENT

"Our faith family is striving to be a welcoming, spiritually vibrant community,
celebrating the challenge to live the mission of Jesus Christ."

PARISH LIFE

F R . M I K E ' S R E F L E C T I O N



We have been having more funerals than usual lately. Many of them are for parents or relatives of parishioners. The funeral homes are amazed that we still do not charge the families for funerals. Not for musicians, lunch or even the parish. We simply ask the families that if they want to make a contribution then they are free to give what they feel is right. At the end of the year we always end up in the black. What is also amazing is the number of people who come to funerals of those they do not know. And the number of people who will step up to do various things within the funeral Mass to assist the family in need. I see in this the real grasp by the parish as being one family. When one person or family is in need, the whole family rallies around the one that is in immediate need. It is so well embraced by this parish that people don't even see it as "volunteering". It is simply what must be done when one family is in need. Thank you for being a living example of the Body of Christ in so many ways.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

be vigilant!

Sunday School Program – The Nativity Story – December 12 – 2:00 pm

Reconciliation Service – December 19 – 3:00 pm* & 7:00 pm

*Broadcast to the parking lot at 106.7FM. Reconciliation offered in parking lot following 3:00 pm service.

Christmas Eve Masses – December 24 – 2:00 pm; 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm & 10:00 pm

Christmas Day Mass – December 25 – 9:30 am

(All Masses will broadcast to the parking lot via radio at 106.7FM)

Advent Reconciliation Service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
3:00 PM* & 7:00 PM

* BROADCAST TO THE PARKING LOT AT 106.7FM.
RECONCILIATION OFFERED IN PARKING LOT
FOLLOWING 3:00 PM SERVICE.

Weekday Mass

Monday – Thursday at 11:00 am – In person. Friday Morning at 6:30 am

Weekend Mass

Saturday Evenings at 5:00 pm (In person, parking lot and live-streamed)

Recorded Mass will be available following Live Stream.

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 and 10:30 am

Hospitality following Masses.

Masks are not longer required. We encourage continuation of face coverings for those that are at-risk or feel uncomfortable.

Reconciliation:

4:00 pm Saturdays or by appointment.

We will broadcast weekend Masses via FM transmitter for those that don't feel comfortable coming indoors but would like to participate from the parking lot and receive Holy Communion. Communion ministers will be located outside Door 2 (faith Formation doors).

Tune in your FM radio to 106.7. A worship aid can be downloaded at <https://www.sjtw.net/mass-schedule>



FR. MIKE

We are coming to the end of the calendar year. It is the time of giving and I would ask you to reflect upon God's work in your life. Look and see how God has been with you these past two years. Our Commitment to Parish Life is about supporting the whole family in all of the many needs of each person. You have done an outstanding job doing that during our adventures with covid. I would ask that you continue to support us in the months ahead. God has blest us and giving back to God in the form of supporting the parish is one way to say "Thank you!" I pray for you all as I reflect how good God has been to me in allowing me to minister to His people at St. Joseph the Worker.



COMMITMENT TO PARISH LIFE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021 CONTRIBUTIONS

		# of Donors
Sunday CPL	\$11,122.00	104
Electronic	\$27,947.17	242
Child Envelopes	\$-	0
Plate	\$590.00	
Total	\$39,659.17	346

Thank You for your Generosity and Continued Support!

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED & APPRECIATED!

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE:

ONLINE



Visit www.sjtw.net
Click **DONATE**

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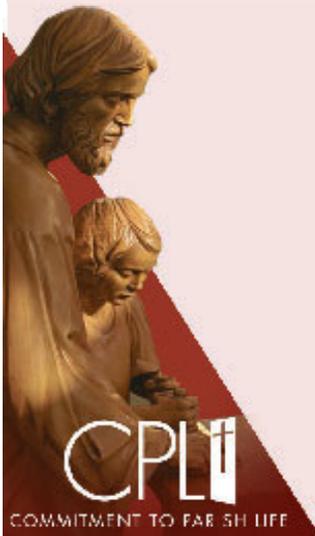


Text
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Send envelopes:
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Year-End Giving

Many of our parish members and supporters choose to make a special year-end gift to St. Joseph the Worker to honor family and friends, remember loved ones who have passed, support special funds, and to be able to help more through the benefits of income tax deductions. This generosity enables SJTW to meet its financial obligations and to carry out our mission.

As you consider your charitable giving, we hope you will consider making a year-end contribution to St. Joseph the Worker by cash, stock, IRA, or through a Donor Advised Fund. If you would like to make a donation by credit card, please do so through the link on our website at <http://www.sjtw.net/online-giving>.

If you have appreciated stock this year, you may realize a tax break through a donation to SJTW. Consult your tax advisor for your situation. Stock donation instructions can be found at the same link on our web site. If you are 70 ½ or older and have a Required Minimum Distribution from your retirement plan, you may benefit from a directed gift to SJTW. Talk to your tax advisor or plan administrator and let them know if you are interested in the possible tax benefit.

Thanks for your continued support of St. Joseph the Worker and our many ministries.

Please contact Ann Bergmann, Bookkeeper at 763.360.2339 or by email at ann@sjtw.net if you have questions.



Have a Green Christmas.

Everyone loves the peace and joy of the Advent season but the Christmas holidays are also a time of year when we create more waste and use more energy than almost any other time. Help reduce waste and save energy this holiday season in the following simple ways:

- Buy a real tree! An artificial Christmas tree must last 20 years to be as sustainable as using a real tree every year. Even better, plant some trees and grow your own future trees.
- Use LED energy efficient lights and a timer – you can cut your electricity bills by 50% or more! Recycle old lights at local electronics recyclers like Green Lights in Blaine.
- Use electronic greeting cards, recycled cards or cards made from recycled content.
- Throw a zero waste Holiday party! Use real plates, silverware, etc. or compostable dinnerware. Compost all scraps and recycle all paper items. Strive for zero garbage.
- Use newspaper or recycled paper for wrapping presents. Look for plastic-free packaging and buy in bulk to avoid unnecessary plastic material.
- Give kids battery-free toys or buy rechargeable batteries and use them. 40% of all batteries are purchased and used around Christmas.
- Give of your time or talent – Give people coupons for your time or for a baked item or craft item that you are known for that you can give them later. The memories you help create will last far longer than any material items you might give. Enjoy the Holidays and keep the joy alive and God’s Earth green!



Reaching our to our young adults this holiday season

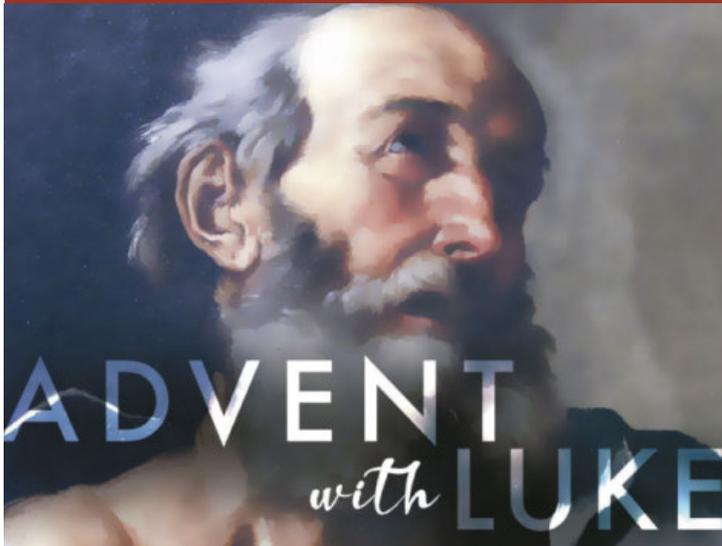
At St. Joseph the Worker we stress our parish as a faith family. That is where the concept of Commitment to Parish Life comes from. Just as parents take care of infants, sick children, and even youth who are off to school or college activities, so we attempt to take care of our large family. I would like to be able to send a form letter to all of your children who are away attending school, active in the workforce, serving in the military, or traveling, I want them to know we are thinking and praying for them. I want to invite them to come back to your home for Christmas and then to come to our home, the church, for Christmas. You may receive a form in the mail I am asking you to fill out and return. You can also access that form on our web page. We would need your child’s mailing address. They may not get a lot of mail at school so this could be a real experience for them. One I am glad to do. Thank you. Fr. Mike

Visit www.sjtw.net to provide your children’s address using our easy online form.



COVID-19 Update

Due to the rapid spread of the Delta variant, in cooperation with CDC recommendations, and for the safety of all, SJTW strongly encourages all our members and visitors to wear masks while at church. Hand sanitizers are available for your use as you enter and exit. As well, we have two sections of pews reserved for those with masks that desire social distancing.



Begin a new Christmas tradition this year, beginning December 1 read one chapter of the book of Luke each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!



We need you at Mobile Hope!

Do you want to share your gifts with others? We have several volunteer opportunities that we would love to fill with our wonderful Parish Family members!

~Volunteers needed for Mobile Hope. Mobile Hope's mission is to build relationships, hope, and culture of achievement within mobile communities through education, healthy activities, resource connections and faith development.

Mobile Hope is in need of those who could offer "homework help". We would like to build a team of volunteers for this commitment on Mondays from 3:30-5:30pm in the Dayton Mobile Hope community. Adults and teens are welcome to help and come together. This would be great experience for those with teaching interest! If you are interested in any of these wonderful opportunities or have questions before you want to commit, please call Theresa in the parish office at 763 425-6505 or email at theresa@sjtw.net. Thank you for blessing our community!

Be careful online this Christmas Season

SJTW parishioners have received emails and sometimes texts pretending to be Fr. Mike asking for Amazon gift cards. Fr. Mike will never send texts or emails asking for gift cards. When a person responds, they are then asked to purchase gift cards, and often just send the codes from the back of them. Unfortunately once this happens, the whole transaction is untraceable and there is no way to get your money back. Please, do not respond to these messages.

Advent for Families

Families, are you looking for simple ways to bring Advent into your homes this season for your children? We have Advent calendars, an Advent wreath craft and prayers available. Resources can be found on the table outside of the Faith Formation office.

Faith Formation Update 2021-22

To inquire about which class times are still available, please contact the Faith Formation department to register for classes.

For our Sunday School program, please contact Jeanne Smith, jeanne@sjtw.net

For our Elementary and Junior High program and the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, please contact Monica Liebl, monical@sjtw.net.

For our High School, OneWith program and Confirmation, please contact Brady Tynen, btynen@sjtw.net



The Need Is NOW!

After starting the fleece blanket drive about a month ago, the Lady Knights are at 20% of our goal of 300 blankets! Thank you! The number of beautiful blanket donations from the parish is amazing. SIXTY blankets have already been distributed. Allan Law, the Sandwich Guy was able to give the majority of these blankets directly to those in need.

The Lady Knights are collecting blankets through the end of January. The biggest need is for twin size blankets (65 x 90 inches). Other sizes: standard kit size (72 x 60 inches) and stroller blankets (30 x 35 inches) are also welcome. Fleece tie blankets are easy to make—no sewing experience required. This would be a great option for Confirmation hours or a family project.

If you don't have time to tie a blanket, buy two lengths of fleece or a kit and drop it off when coming to Mass. New, store-bought blankets are also appreciated. Join us in spreading some love and giving a little warmth to those in need. Think we can get over 300 blankets this year? With your help, absolutely!

COMMUNITY



FAMILY FRIENDLY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



This Christmas season, start a new tradition.

Looking for a safe, fun way to instill generosity in your kids and serve the community as a family? Bring the family to volunteer as bell ringers at one of The Salvation Army's 300 locations across the Twin Cities.

Donations raised at the Red Kettle provide food, shelter, and care to local families in need.

Sign up today at SalvationArmyNorth.org/bell-ringing
Family Friendly Volunteer Opportunity



6th Annual NW Metro Mobilepack for FMSC

Great News! The Feed My Starving Children NW Metro Mobilepack is back for the 6th annual event this coming February. The location for the Mobilepack will be at our very own St. Joseph the Worker in St Joe's Hall on February 23-26, 2022. We will be having our annual fundraiser for FMSC the weekend of January 22nd and 23rd after all the Masses. If you wish to donate before year end, the safest and most convenient way is to go to: sjtw.net, click on donate and use the drop down to get to FMSC.

Giving HOPE. Health, Opportunity, Prosperity, Education
Thank you for your support.

PARISH LIFE



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE GATHERING SPACE
OR DONATE ONLINE AT WWW.SJTW.NET

Please consider a donation in Memory of Loved Ones

Place donations in envelopes provided and return to Parish office, drop in safe in St. Joseph Hall or place into collection basket. Donations can also be made online at www.sjtw.net



Advent is a gift.

In a world that is increasingly uncertain, Advent is a gift. The Church calls out this short 4-week season to take a step back, look around, and prepare to recognize and encounter Immanuel - "God with us".

The first gift of Advent is hope. This hope is expectant. This hope is built on a foundation of God's faithfulness, on God's mercy, on God's justice, on God's love. The gift of hope offers us strength to endure our pain, heartbreak, and despair. This hope gives us a resilience that is only possible in Christ. For all who long for a more just world, or who find themselves at the margins of our society; this gift of hope is, indeed, gospel. For the God of all creation has taken on human form and come to live among us; taking up our burdens in his own body and setting right the world.

During this Advent, let us step back and remember the story of our faith... our story. Not simply in the sense of recollection, but in a way that we are actively part of the narrative, an agent of hope, peace, joy and love in this world. Let us develop an imagination saturated in the story of Jesus and the Kingdom of God so that we can know that our waiting and hoping is not in vain, for we have seen the one in whom all things are made new again.

Barry Shay

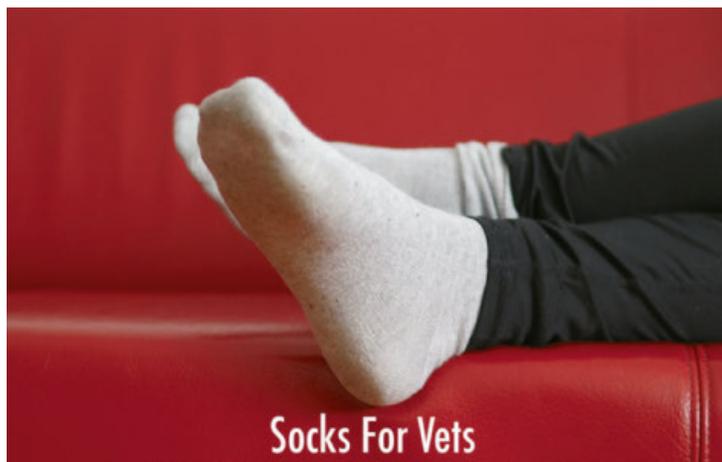


Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

The SJTW council is again holding our annual Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest this year. Three age groups (5-7; 8-10; & 11-14) will be judged with the first-place winner for each age range receiving a cash prize. The contest will start Nov 14th and all entries must be turned in by Sunday December 18th. Entry forms and drawing paper (as well as the box to drop off finished posters) are available by the Faith Formation doors. Winners will be contacted in early January and announced in the bulletin.

Socks For Vets

Knights of Columbus are once again collecting white or black, mens or ladies crew socks to be donated to Veterans in need. Donations may be placed in the basket outside of Saint Joe's Hall until December 31. No tube socks, please. Socks are donated to the local veteran's administration and other local agencies directly serving veterans. Your continuing generosity is greatly appreciated! Last year Knights in our Assembly were able to collect and donate over 2,000 pair of socks and we are hoping to meet or beat that number by December 31.



- FR. MIKE SULLIVAN, PASTOR
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- FR. RON KREUL, OP, PAROCHIAL VICAR
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- DEACON KEVIN O'CONNOR, HAITI
deaconkevin04@gmail.com 763-425-6505 x101
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- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR FAITH FORMATION,
NICHOLA SCHOENFELDER
nichola@sjtw.net 763-400-7210

Readings for the week of December 12, 2021

- Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
- Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30
- Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
- Saturday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
- Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-4

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