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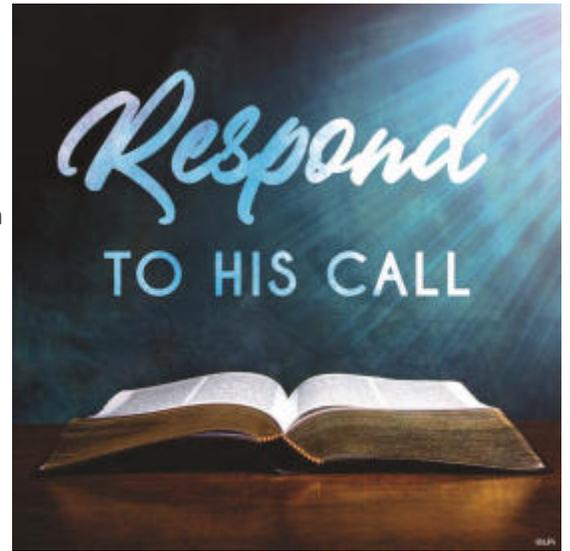
JANUARY 24, 2021
{THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME}

To know, love, serve and share Christ through worship, teaching, stewardship and witness.

Called to Greatness

Hall of Fame football coach Vince Lombardi won five NFL championships, including the first two Super Bowls. He was the first head coach to fully integrate a pro football team. He was very nearly Nixon's running mate as Vice President. And he was a fourth degree Knight of Columbus who went to Mass and received Communion daily. The man was never canonized, beatified, or anything close, but he remains venerated by football fans both Catholic and otherwise as one of the greatest football coaches of all time, and one of the most motivational Catholics in recent memory.

This all-time great football coach said on a number of occasions that the hardest players to coach were the champions, the season after becoming champions. The reason? Complacency. **The absolute hardest part of staying great, says Lombardi, is fighting complacency.** Cambridge Dictionary defines Complacency as "a feeling of calm satisfaction with your own abilities or situation that prevents you from trying harder." In other words, thinking "I'm better than them, so I can quit trying so hard." While there's nothing wrong with satisfaction, there's plenty wrong, even dangerously so, with the sort of satisfaction that prevents you from striving for greatness. As John Paul the Great says, "We aren't made for comfort, but for greatness!"



So, for those of us who can't fill a hand with Super Bowl rings, how does this apply to us? Easy. Just apply it to each and every facet of our life. Do I pray as intently as possible? Or have I let myself plateau? Do I express love for my family and friends and community as well and as often as I ought? Or do I assume they know? Do I give a full effort at work, at home, or in my community? Or do I settle for the minimum expected of me?

These questions are an important examination to go through regularly, and meticulously. They aren't meant to discourage; No one is able to give 100% of their time and energy to everything at once. But, to the point that effort is sustainable, am I doing as much as I can at this moment and on this day? **How can I get better today? What changes, however small, can I make today, to be more loving, to be healthier, to be smarter, to be greater, to be holier?**

Maybe it means listening to Fr. Mike's *Bible in a Year* podcast instead of listening to classic rock. Maybe it means saying "I love you" with a more loving gaze. Maybe it means doing one extra squat at the gym, or backing out of social media for a few minutes, or scrubbing the pot an extra few seconds, or reflecting on how to best spend your day. **Whatever it means for you, you are called to be great.** You were made for greatness. You're a child of God, which is greater than any championship you could ever win. Thank God for the gifts He's given you, but don't just accept them complacently. Hone them in today better than you did yesterday. And if you're stuck for how to start, google "Lombardi Quotes" and take them to church for a few minutes.

God Bless,
Will Beardmore
Director of Faith Formation

Fr. Carlson on Vacation; No Daily Mass or Confessions Through January 27

Fr. Carlson is on vacation from through January 27th. There will be no daily Mass or confessions during the time he is away.

We will have a visiting priest this weekend, January 23rd and 24th. Confessions will be available on Saturday, January 23rd from 3:30-4:30pm.

Confessions and daily Mass will resume on Thursday, January 28th.

Make a Joyful Noise

Last week we only just touched on a foundational concept of the Second Vatican Council – *full and active participation*. Before we begin to unpack the details, let's make sure we're all on the same page about where all these ideas are coming from! In the Gospels this week and last, Jesus is calling his disciples, who became the first leaders of the new Christian Church. As followers of the faith continued to multiply, having this clear leadership was crucial for the sake of unity, which is still true today! This is partially why we have a hierarchical structure of the pope, cardinals, bishops, priests, deacons, and laypeople – it helps keep us all on the same page, as diverse as we are across the globe!

At various points in history, it has been necessary for the Universal Church to come together to make big theological decisions, often in response to heresy (beliefs that contradict the faith). These 'councils' don't happen often (there have only been 21 in 2,000 years!), but when they do, they're a big deal! One of the earlier councils, for example, was when the Nicene Creed was developed. We profess this creed each week at Mass, and it dates all the way back to this *Council of Nicea* in 325!

The most recent of these councils was the previously mentioned Second Vatican Council, or "Vatican II." Why the second, you may ask? Well, the *First* Vatican Council took place from 1869-1870. For any history buffs, you may remember that there was a war that took place in 1870, uncreatively called "The War of 1870" (or the *Franco-Prussian War*). Thanks to this war, Vatican I was left incomplete. That is, until . . . you guessed it! The Second Vatican Council, called by Pope John XXIII, now a canonized Saint!

Exultemus Domino,
Kari Hoeft ~ Director of Music, Liturgy and Youth Ministry

Vocation of Marriage

Each week we will be introducing one of the couples preparing for marriage at St. John's this year. Please keep them in your prayers and introduce yourselves when you see them!

**Teresa Gorecki and Danny Masica
May 2021**

Teresa was born and raised in Saint Cloud, and Danny moved to Minnesota from California to be with family and attend college. They met volunteering for college extra credit at the annual craft fair in Hutchinson helping out the artisans set up their stations. Together they attended Ridgewater College and graduated with AAS degrees in Multimedia Design Technology. Teresa is a custom t-shirt designer, and Danny has a career in print production, with side jobs in photography and video editing. They both share a love of photography, film, art, designing, humorous wit, and cartoons!



Financial Support

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2021 that reflect the promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us.

With eGiving, you can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. We appreciate all parishioners using this means to support our parish. You may Enroll electronically online at faith.direct/MN855

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

Community Needs

THANK YOU for your continued support of ICA Foodshelf and SouthWest Options for Women! Please continue to place your donations in the bins labeled ICA and SWOW outside the Gathering Place entrance. Please continue to give generously!



Mass Intentions

The new year is off to a great start, and a lot of “normal” activities are still going strong at St. John’s, including our faithful parish family offering Mass intentions for loved ones and those in need of prayer. We publicly celebrate approximately 365 Masses each year, of which around 60-65 are offered For The Parish as required (one Mass each weekend and Solemnities). We are currently scheduled into April and many Masses through the rest of 2021.

Because we have a limited number of Masses each year, please remember that in order to have Masses available for all our parish family and for those who are ill and those who have recently passed away, we will limit the number of Masses available to 15 per year for each requestor. This allows us to keep some Masses open when someone is in more urgent need of prayer.

If you are looking for other opportunities to have Mass offered for your family members, please consider contacting a monastery or Religious order – they are always in need of your support and are great resources for offering prayer!

Homilies on Podcast

You can listen to Fr. Carlson's homilies via podcast! Find [sjbexcelsior](#) on Apple Podcast or Podbean and subscribe.

We will continue to expand and add parent enrichment talks and faith formation content!



First Saturday Devotions

Join us on Saturday, February 6th for First Saturday Devotions at St. John’s! We will pray the rosary at 7:10am before the 8am Mass every first Saturday.

Weekly Prayer

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 24, 2020

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5,10/Ps 25:4-9/1Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Monday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1-2/Mk 16:15-18

Tuesday: 2Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-3,7-8,10/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1-4/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-6/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-6,23-24,39-40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2,8-19/Lk 1:69-75/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2,6-9/1Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Questions of the Week

First Reading:

Although initially reluctant to be one of God's prophets, Jonah was ultimately successful in getting the Ninevites to repent of their sins. When do you find yourself resisting God's will?

Second Reading:

In trying to awaken a sense of spiritual urgency, Paul taught the Corinthians that Christ's return was imminent and that, "time is running out." How can a sense of urgency aid one's spiritual life?

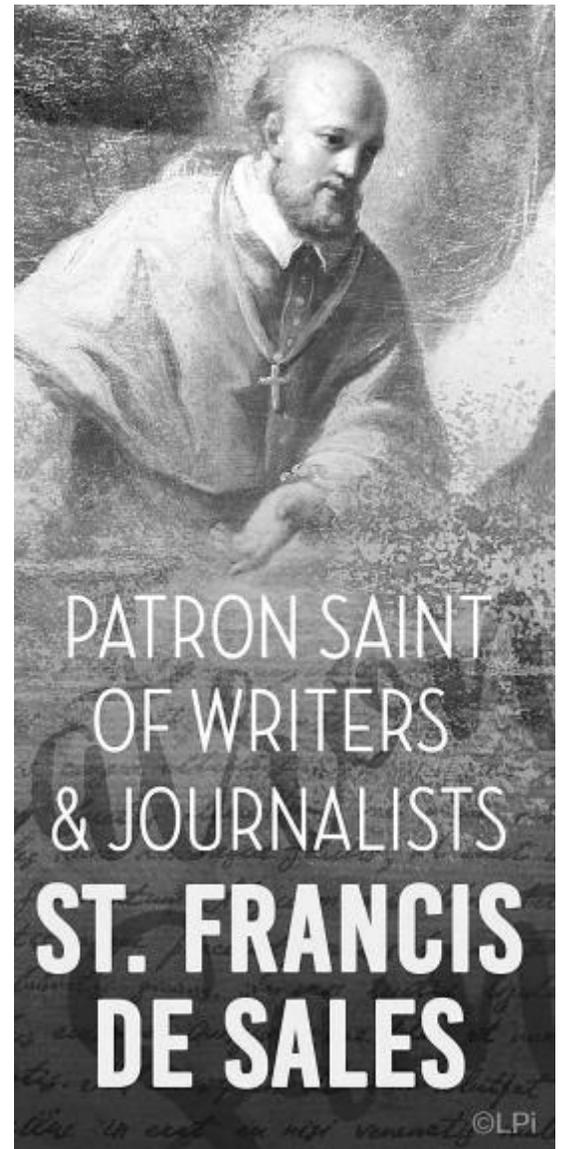
Gospel:

In Mark's account of the call of the first disciples, Simon (Peter), Andrew, James, and John immediately answer Jesus' call to follow him. How would you describe your response to Jesus' call in your life?

© LPi

Mass Intentions

Sat.	January 23	8:00am 5:00pm	No Mass—Father on Vacation † Robert Petersen
Sun.	January 24	8:00am 10:00am	† Laura Kapsner For the Parish
Mon.	January 25		No Mass
Tue.	January 26		No Mass—Father on Vacation
Wed.	January 27		No Mass—Father on Vacation
Thurs	January 28	8:00am	† Ed Van Pelt Sr.
Fri.	January 29	9:00am	SJB Montessori School Staff
Sat.	January 30	8:00am 5:00pm	Joe Garaghty For the Parish
Sun.	January 31	8:00am 10:00am	Sheila Halbmaier Eric Sweigard



Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

We invite you to keep in your daily prayers the sick and confined of our parish who seek God's joy in their infirmity, in particular:

- Elvera Hoops
- Mary Rosati
- Viviana Wright
- Margaret Davis
- Joe Garaghty
- Kon Wurm
- Ruth Colnar
- David Streeter
- Roger "Pete" Hansen
- Tom Bartholomew

St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School



Guided by our Roman Catholic faith, St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School prepares students to live our the Gospel message, achieve academic excellence, and joyfully lead by faith, virtue and reason.

Catholic Schools Week Jan 31-Feb 7

Cinnamon Roll Sale

In place of the Pancake Breakfast for Catholic Schools Week, we are pre-selling cinnamon rolls. We have two pick up options:
Friday, January 29th 3:00-4:00pm in the parking lot
Sunday, January 31st 9:00-11:30am in the Gathering Place
Cost \$10 per tray for this fundraiser.

Pre-order your tray of 6 delicious frosted cinnamon rolls here www.sjbmarket.com



Magician Brian Richards

Magician Brian Richards will perform again this year! His lively and entertaining presentation will be livestreamed on **Friday, February 5th at 10:45am.**

Here is a photo of his presentation at SJB school last year.



We congratulate Bernadette, an Upper Elementary student here at St. John's. She is a finalist in the Shine On Performing Arts Contest held by the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence. The final performances will be on March 7, 2021. Way to go Bernadette!! Thank you for sharing your given talent with so many!



Financial Aid Opportunities

Aim Higher

Enrolled families may apply for an Aim High Scholarship by February 18th! Visit <https://aimhigherfoundation.org/scholarships/> for details.

Schultz Family Foundation

Is your child in the last year of preschool? The Schulze Family Foundation has created the Schulze Early Learning Scholarship Program to assist middle-income families in gaining access to excellent preschool programs for their children.

Kindergarten Enrollment Initiative

Receive \$150 tuition discount on your 2021-2022 kindergarten tuition when you enroll by January 31st.

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Saturday, January 23rd 10:30am: Middle School Sledding at St. John's. Permission form online.

Monday, January 25th 7pm: High School Women's Group Zoom

Tuesday, January 26th 4pm: Faith Formation CGS Levels 1 & 2

Wednesday, January 27th 6:30pm: Faith Formation, Confirmation Year 1

Saturday, January 30th 10:30am: High School Sledding at St. John's. Permission form online.



Dress warm and bring your sled!

Spring Adult Bible Study on Prayer

Though prayer is one of the essentials of a thriving faith, we often feel as if we're talking to ourselves—or, worse, as if we're talking to no one at all. How can something so vital to the Faith be so elusive?

Join us for this Lectio video series led by Bible scholar Dr. Tim Gray on Monday evening at 6:30pm OR Tuesday mornings at 9:15am for six sessions to dive deeper into the subject of prayer. We will meet all throughout Lent February 15-March 23.

We will have both Zoom and in-person options. Registration forms can be found online or in the Gathering Place. More information may be found at:

www.stjohns-excelsior.org/parish/Faith-Formation/Adult-Formation



Stewardship Update

*We have significantly lowered our Offertory Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. As such, our Over/(Under) may seem artificially positive, as actuals are compared to a significantly reduced budget number from the prior year. For this reason, we have additionally included this year's actuals compared to last year's actuals for a more accurate reflection of our offertory growth/(decline).

*Please note that fluctuation in weekly giving is often due to variable timing of annual stewardship gifts.



Parish Offices

CHURCH: (952) 474-8868 Fax: (952) 444-3474

Pastor Ext. 216

Fr. Carl Carlson fr.carlson@stjohns-excelsior.org

Deacon

Dcn Gary Hoffman deacongary@stjohns-excelsior.org

Parish Administrator Ext. 204

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Office & Cemetery Manager Ext. 200

Megan Adam madam@stjohns-excelsior.org

Lead Maintenance Technician Ext. 205

Mike Pylka mpylka@stjohns-excelsior.org

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Principal Ext. 301

Angela Wroblewski awroblewski@stjohns-excelsior.org

Administrative Assistant Ext. 300

Monica Benda mbenda@stjohns-excelsior.org

Parish Trustees: Barb Thomas, Mark Spaniol

Finance Council Chair: Pat Johnson

Parish Council Chair: Charlie Kanan

The church office is open to the public, but we ask that you make an appointment. All church office visitors will ring the bell and wait for assistance as we will not staff the front desk. Unscheduled visitors are not allowed into the school buildings at this time, but the office is open.

Building Hours—Open for Prayer:

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm

Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am-12:00pm

Collection(s) as of: 1/19/2021	
	Actual
Sunday	\$29,720.00
EFT	\$8,240.67
Plate	\$594.75
	\$38,555.42

Year-to-Date Information as of : 1/19/2021	
YTD Budget	\$ 424,726
YTD Actual	\$ 534,431
Amount Over/(Under)	\$109,705

Year-to-Date Comparison to Prior Year as of: 1/19/2021	
Prior YTD Actual	\$ 469,575
Current YTD Actual	\$ 534,431
Amount Over/(Under) Prior Year	\$64,856

Tune in to our Livestream of Masses

<https://tinyurl.com/sjbyoutube>

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil.....5:00pm
 Sunday.....8:00am
10:00am
 Tuesdays.....5:30pm
 Wednesdays, Thursdays.....8:00am
 Friday (School Mass).....9:00am
 Saturdays.....8:00am
 (Holy Days and Holidays—see bulletin
 Or call Parish Office)

Resurrection Cemetery

5555 Covington Rd, Shorewood, MN 55331

Sacrament of Confession

Tuesdays.....5:00pm
 Wednesdays, Thursdays.....7:30am
 Fridays.....8:30am
 Saturdays.....8:30-9:30am
3:30-4:30pm

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples must call Fr. Carlson 6 months in advance

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office 2 months prior to child's birth. Required classes held regularly.

*A local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church.
 Victim Assistance Hotline: (651)291-4497*

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