



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

680 MILL STREET, EXCELSIOR, MN 55331



APRIL 11, 2021
{SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER}

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

Divine Mercy



The explosion of devotion to Divine Mercy is one of the most under-explored phenomena in recent history. It's one of our most beautiful celebrations and few people know the extremely interesting story of how it came about. For your own spiritual growth, and even for your entertainment, spend some time today diving into this story, either on Formed.org or uscbb.org, or with one of the many related books on the topic.

History buffs: explore all the intricacies of how a Polish nun in the 1930's died during World War 2 and changed the course of Polish history, sparking a global devotion recognized by the Pope just a few decades later. Amateur theologians: look up the relationship between mercy and redemption, indulgences and culpability, and how Divine Mercy Sunday is often wildly misunderstood. Psychology lovers will love her impact on our understanding of mercy, empathy, and compassion, guiding a radical new age of psychological understanding and acceptance of the

field by the scientific community. There's so much more to learn, involving church politics, governmental politics, literary comparisons, drama, war, love, and mercy. Again, I encourage you to delve into this.

Beyond that research, I encourage you to reflect on the significance of this feast's placement at the end of the Easter Octave, as the conclusion of the Week of Redemption. Receiving God's mercy perfects our celebration of Joy incarnate. It is the perfection of the sacrifice of the Lamb. It is the great spark of Christ's Great Commission to "Go out." We are called to beg for mercy and to accept it when offered. We're called to be merciful, to forgive our debtors, and thereby to relieve each other and ourselves of the burden of an indebted community. What better way to close the most joyful week of the year?!

During the Easter Vigil, Deacon Gary sang the Exultet. The prayer is one of the greatest in our faith, commanding us to exult, to be joyful, to celebrate, and to be grateful for all God does for us. He chanted the line "Let This Holy Building Shake With Joy!" This is a command and a request from Deacon, from the Church, and from God Himself, to celebrate, to sing, and to enter into the excitement and zeal and explosive love that God has given us. So exult! Rejoice! Be glad! The God of Mercy has forgiven your debt and commanded you to celebrate accordingly.

Join us on Sunday, April 11th at 3:00pm for the Feast of Divine Mercy service here at St. John's. Learn about the Image of the Merciful Jesus, St. Faustina, the hour of Divine Mercy, the chaplet of Divine Mercy, and a plenary indulgence associated with Divine Mercy Sunday. *Please note that confession will not be offered on this afternoon.*

Peace and joy,
Will Beardmore
Director of Faith Formation

Make a Joyful Noise

Big news! Next week, the Third Sunday of Easter, we will return to congregational singing. Permission has been granted both by the CDC and the Archdiocese, so long as masking and social distancing guidelines continue.

Let me tell you, I am SO excited to have a Mass with full congregational singing throughout for the *first time* since I began my position here last summer! Now that this day is finally arriving, I want to share with you one of my favorite little tropes:

Exultemus Domino!

You've likely heard this from me already – it's part of my usual signature, and I even named our praise and worship nights after this little phrase! It means "let us sing to the Lord," and comes from Psalm 95. Here's the entirety of verse 1:

*Come, let us sing to the Lord;
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

The way I see it, this verse is at the core of my job here – everything I do comes back to making music to our Lord! But I wasn't hired to be a solo performer; this verse isn't just for me. Sure, I'll get us started and lead the accompaniment, but **we're ALL called to sing to the Lord!**

I especially like the line: "*make a joyful noise.*" Note how the Psalm doesn't say "make a joyful noise IF you have a beautiful voice, always sing in tune, and never sing a wrong note." It simply says "make a joyful noise." No prerequisites, no requirements, no evaluations. **Just sing with the voice the Lord gave you!**

So whatever your voice may sound like, no matter how well you may or may not know a song, I encourage you to sing with all your heart. **God doesn't want just the parts of us that we feel are worthy of sharing; he wants ALL of us, our voices included.**

I look forward to making a joyful noise with you next week, at last!

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

Gala Silent & Live Auction Donations

We are currently accepting donations for our summer gala silent and live auctions! **Donations can be as simple as a gift card to a local restaurant or as lavish as a trip, donated airline tickets or tickets to a sporting event.** You can create a complete basket or just bring in an item! **Thank you so much for your support as this is such a fun part of our St. John's Gala!**

You may drop off your donation in the church office. Donation forms may be found in the Gathering Place or online <https://sjexcels.ejoinme.org/westernroundup2021>

Sign up now for our Pre-Gala Paint & Sip with artist Ali Benda on our back lawn Wednesday, May 19th 6-8pm. Bring in an auction donation item for admittance. <https://tinyurl.com/galapaintsip2021>

Spring Clean Up at Resurrection Cemetery

We are thankful that the snow has melting already which gives us plenty of time to spruce up our beautiful cemetery for the spring and summer. We have started working on our regular spring cleanup.

Please remember that after May 1st you are welcome to put a single shepherd's hook or plant stand at each grave. Please refrain from adding loose items on the ground or staked artificial flowers or mementos, as we cannot guarantee that they won't be harmed during regular cemetery mowing and maintenance. If the marker has a cement area designed for a vase or pot, that is allowed instead of a shepherd's hook or plant stand. Please see our website at stjohns-excelsior.org/resurrectioncemetery if you have further questions.



Financial Support

Spring is in full bloom – God’s glory is all around us! You can help St. John the Baptist flourish by making the switch to eGiving. It’s a great way to grow our ministries that share the Good News of God’s love. You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Recurring gifts sustain our parish through the brightest days and the darkest storms. You’ll provide us with consistent support that helps us always be at the ready with programs, services, and ministries for our church families and for those in need throughout the community.

With eGiving, you can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. 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!

Easter Flower Donations

Thank you to all those who donated for our Easter Flowers! We remember those in whose memory a donation was made for our Easter flowers this year.



In memory of:

Del Hennessey
Dr. Jeff & Helen Dupont
Our Parents
Charles Osterfeld
George Koehnen
Laura Kapsner
Mary Behun
Mabel Vacek
Ed & Monica Fasching
Mary Fasching Peterson
Leo and Toby Karels
Jerome & Millie Artmann
Alois Stumpfl
Bob Osha
Joe Oberuc

From:

Florence Hennessey
John Dupont
James & Mary Frerich
Jane Osterfeld
Eileen Koehnen
John & Vanessa Behun
John & Vanessa Behun
John & Vanessa Behun
Paul Fasching
Paul Fasching
Paul Fasching
Paul Fasching
Mary Stumpfl
Marge Osha
Theresa Oberuc

In honor of:

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Skortz Family
Jack Davis Family
Dell & Madely Family

From:

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Tom & Jeanine Renard
Margaret Davis
Margaret Davis

Donations from:

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Noreen Andrews
Chris & Katie Simmer
Mary Stumpfl
Kent & Mary Braun
Don & Lori Mullenbach
Delores Kohman
James & Constance Quast



Weekly Prayer

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 11, 2020

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4,13-15,22-24/1Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-9/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1-2,5/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-9/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2,9,17-20/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1,4,13-14/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19/Jn 6:16-21

Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15,17-19/Ps 4:2,4,7-9/1Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

New Roof

Beginning on Monday, April 12, we will begin a two-week project to replace the roof of the church, Gathering Place and parish offices. Thanks to the hail storm in September 2020, this project is 85% covered by our property insurance.

Mass Intentions

Sat.	April 10	8:00am	† Laura Kapsner
		5:00pm	Carrie Knowlen
Sun.	April 11	8:00am	Anna Louise Fulks
		10:00am	For the Parish
Mon.	April 12		No Mass
Tue.	April 13	5:30pm	Nick Shipman
Wed.	April 14	8:00am	† Frank Laken
Thurs	April 15	8:00am	Tony Totty
Fri.	April 16	9:00am	† Bob Peterson
Sat.	April 17	8:00am	Rod Vacek
		5:00pm	For the Parish
Sun.	April 18	8:00am	Sue Seifert
		10:00am	Caroline Lunger



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
- Steve Olson
- Kon Wurm
- Ruth Colnar
- David Streeter
- Roger "Pete" Hansen
- Tom Bartholomew
- Mike Salzer
- Joyce Koch

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.

Field Trip to Baker Outdoor Wilderness

Elementary students loved being outdoors at Baker Outdoor Wilderness where they enjoyed two interactive programs centering around birds and mammals. The children had plenty of opportunities to explore, hike and participate in various activities and discussions about the qualities and habits of birds and mammals.



Summer Program Registration Open

Contact us with questions at school@stjohns-excelsior.org or 952-474-5812.
Register online at www.stjohns-excelsior.org/school/Our-Programs/Summer-Program



St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School

Summer Program

JUNE 7 - SEPTEMBER 3

Monday - Friday

8:45 am - 3:30 pm

Ages 16 months - 12 years old

Toddler Program (ages 16-33 months)

Children's House Program (ages 3-6)

Elementary Program (ages 6-12)



Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Tuesday, April 13th 4pm: Faith Formation CGS Levels 1 & 2
Wednesday, April 14th 6:30pm: Faith Formation, Confirmation Year 2
Tuesday, April 20th 4pm: Faith Formation CGS Levels 1 & 2
Wednesday, April 21st 6:30pm: Faith Formation, Confirmation Year 1

Everyday Stewardship

They say seeing is believing. But if you've ever ordered a pair of pants online, you know that's not always the case. Whatever the photos promise us, what looked like a perfectly nice shade of navy blue on our computer screens comes in the mail as an unusual shade of blue green that only appears in the giant box of Crayola crayons.

The Apostle Thomas, who couldn't bring himself to accept that Jesus had risen from the dead without seeing him, is such an utterly relatable figure in the Gospels. Thomas is still reeling from a loss — not only of his good friend but his Lord, who was taken prisoner and crucified before his eyes. Thomas is guarding himself. He's not believing the hype. He's going to be the only judge of what is real and what is fiction.

Would any of us be any different? We've all had those thoughts. Can we believe it all — Jesus, salvation history, the Eucharist — when we haven't seen it with our own two eyes?

That's when we need to remember that those two eyes were absolutely positive they had ordered a pair of navy blue pants.

It's easy for us to sit back stroking our chins in judgment at Thomas, "you didn't believe the testimony of your friends!" But do we accept the testimony of our friends? The saints, the popes, the Church fathers themselves?

Sometimes the things that are most worthy of believing can't be seen with the naked eye.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi



Vacation Bible School

All kids aged 4-11 are invited to Vacation Bible School! Our theme goes along with the St. John's upcoming Western Roundup as we are going on a Rocky Railway adventure! Gear up for a fun week. Each lesson is paired with a Bible verse, virtue of the day, and Saint of the day!

Vacation Bible School at St. John's will be **June 21-25 from 8:45 am - 12:00 pm** with a family picnic on **Thursday, June 24th from 5:00-6:00 pm** with live music by the Teddy Bear Band.

Cost is just \$50/child, up to a maximum of \$125/family. Scholarships are available.

Register online at:
<https://permission.click/6q8GA/us>



Extreme Faith Camp

Extreme Faith Camp is the best week of the summer for middle school students (high schoolers can sign up to help)!

Save the date for July 25-30!
Email khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org if you want to register (spots limited).



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. Carlsson fr.carlson@stjohns-excelsior.org

Deacon

Dcn Gary Hoffman deacongary@stjohns-excelsior.org

Parish Administrator Ext. 204

Andrea McMerty-Brummer
amcmerty-brummer@stjohns-excelsior.org

Accounting Ext. 203

Christa Vassallo cvassallo@stjohns-excelsior.org

Director of Faith Formation Ext. 207

Will Beardmore wbeardmore@stjohns-excelsior.org

Director of Music, Liturgy & Youth Ministry Ext. 206

Kari Hoeft khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org

Communications Coordinator Ext. 208

Sarah Reid sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org

Office & Cemetery Manager Ext. 200

Megan Adam madam@stjohns-excelsior.org

Lead Maintenance Technician Ext. 205

Mike Pylka mpylka@stjohns-excelsior.org

School: (952) 474-5812 Fax: (952) 444-3474

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: 4/6/2021	
	Actual
Sunday	\$8,486.00
Easter	\$7,316.00
Holy Thursday	\$980.00
Plate	\$2,004.53
	\$18,786.53

Year-to-Date Information as of : 4/6/2021	
YTD Budget	\$ 580,571
YTD Actual	\$ 726,587
Amount Over/(Under)	\$146,014

Year-to-Date Comparison to Prior Year as of: 4/6/2021	
Prior YTD Actual	\$ 640,468
Current YTD Actual	\$ 726,587
Amount Over/(Under) Prior Year	\$86,117

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.....7:30am
 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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