



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

680 MILL STREET, EXCELSIOR, MN 55331



APRIL 18, 2021
{THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER}

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

First Sacraments at Easter Vigil Mass

My recent baptism, confirmation and Communion at St. John the Baptist was amazing. It was the culmination of a very personal journey of understanding, which occurred through RCIA, along with my husband Alfredo and son Alfred. Many things came together to make it a such meaningful experience. The rituals, music and readings truly resonated. And most impactful of course, was being fully immersed in the beautiful baptismal font, in front of a welcoming congregation and members of my family.

I am so thankful to Father Carlson, and those who have supported us throughout our faith formation. This educational and spiritual experience has greatly surpassed my expectations. I am happy to be on the other side of a truly transformative Easter Vigil, the memories of which I will cherish for a long time!

~ Joanna Anderson



**On the left of Fr. Carlson is Joanna and her family. On the right is Kalie.
Taken at Easter Vigil Mass 2021**

RCIA has been such an amazing experience for me these past several months. It's an amazing opportunity to not only learn more about the Catholic faith, and history of the Catholic Church, but also has been a time to build and strengthen my own relationship with Christ. Through teachings with Father Carlson, and dedicated time spent in prayer, I was able to form my own personal relationship with Christ throughout the RCIA process. I look forward to continuing to grow and strengthen this relationship for the rest of my life.

Baptism is already such a special and sacred moment, but it really was a surreal experience doing a full-immersion baptism. There is a moment when you realize that you are completely surrounded by holy water, which is enough to take your breath away in and of itself... but then you rise out of the water and are looking straight at the stained-glass window of the Holy Spirit above the altar... I'm not sure there are enough words to recognize truly how special that experience was.

I am so thankful to have such a great support system, and be part of such a wonderful parish. Thank you all for your prayers during this time.

~ Kalie Christensen

Make a Joyful Noise

At last, the weekend has arrived! The hymnals are in the pews! After a year of minimal singing, what a joy it is to hear the church full of song once again! When many of us think of singing at Mass, our minds jump to the entrance, offertory, communion, and recessional songs, also known as “the four-hymn sandwich.” But did you know that this sandwich hasn’t even been around for a full century?

As usual, let’s start back at the beginning. Hymn comes from the Greek word “hymnos,” which means “a song of praise,” originally for various Greek gods. Hymn singing was adopted by Christianity very early on, the first significant hymn-writers being St. Ambrose of Milan and St. Hilary of Potiers in the 300s A.D. These hymns weren’t sung at Mass, however, but within the Liturgy of the Hours (which we’ll talk more about next week).

The first time the likeness of a hymn was sung at Mass was with the introduction of the sequence, which we talked about in the Easter bulletin! These continued to grow until the mid-sixteenth century when the Church limited the number of sequences. And what else was happening during that time? The Protestant Reformation!

The main character of the Reformation is a man by the name of Martin Luther, from whom Lutherans derive their name. Among his various ideas and theologies, some skewed and others not, was to have the congregation sing hymns within the liturgy. The decrease in sequences in the Church, which happened shortly after this time, was likely also a counter-response to this aspect of the Reformation.

After the split, hymn composition continued by both Catholic and Protestants, though Catholics stuck to hymn singing during Liturgy of the Hours or other occasions outside of the Mass. Hymn singing also continued to be an effective tool for education, unification, and praise, as it had been from the beginning. And so, around the 1950s, Catholics slowly began to adapt congregational hymn singing into the liturgy as well, which then became a commonplace practice after Vatican II.

Now that we have the broad brushstrokes of the history of hymnody in place, we can dig even deeper in the coming weeks!

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

Pre-Gala Paint & Sip

Please join us for our Pre-Gala Paint & Sip on Wednesday, May 19th from 6-8 pm! We will paint outside by the school playground. Canvas, paints, instruction, heavy appetizers and wine are all provided.

Cost: bring in a basket or item for the Gala silent auction (valued at \$25 or higher).

Parishioner and local artist, Ali Benda, will lead our Paint & Sip! Feel free to bring your own painting apron if you'd like; we will provide plastic disposable aprons. Please invite your friends to join the fun!

Pre-registration is required as space is limited

<https://tinyurl.com/galapaintsip2021>

*To volunteer at the Paint & Sip, please email sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org



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!

Adoration

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed two days per week at St. John’s in the main church. We need parishioners to sign up to ensure that Our Lord is accompanied during these hours. Even if slots are filled, anyone is welcome to come and adore.



You can use this link to sign up or click on the link on the front page of our website:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0444a9ad2ca5fe3-eucharistic1

SouthWest Options for Women is Hiring

We have moved into our New Center Location in Eden Prairie, sharing a parking lot with Planned Parenthood. We need your help fulfilling our Life Affirming Mission. With so many abortion-minded women coming in and out of PP we need to add to our staff.

We are seeking to hire the following positions:

- Nurse Sonographer
- RDMS-Sonographer

Full-Time and Part-Time Positions available. Flexible Hours, Paid Holidays and PTO. Hiring Immediately.

Please Contact Kim Bennecke at kim@myswow.org or at 952-938-4496 for more information.

First Saturday Devotions

Join us on Saturday, May 1st 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 APRIL 18, 2020

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

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24,26-27,29-30/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a/Ps 31:3-4,6-8,17,21/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-7/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9,16-17,20/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1-2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-17/Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29/1Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Questions of the Week

First Reading:

In publicly bearing witness to Jesus' resurrection, Peter urged the people to repent of their sin of ignorance and their denial of Jesus. How does Jesus' resurrection from the dead inspire you to repentance?

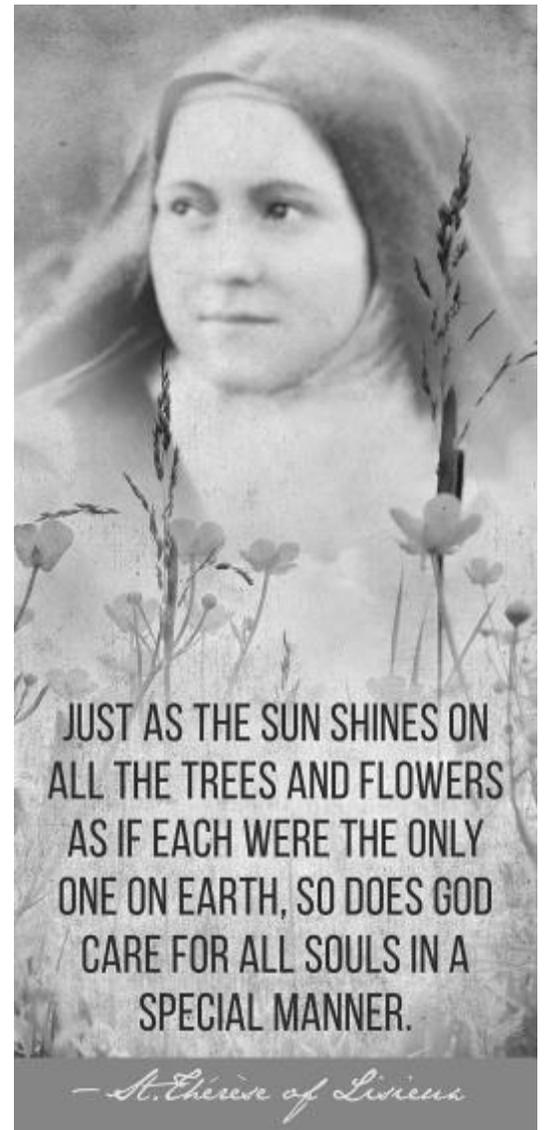
Second Reading:

John teaches his community that the key to avoiding sin is to follow Jesus' commandments. What do you find challenging in this seemingly simple and clear instruction?

Gospel Question:

Luke tells us that the resurrected Jesus opened the minds of the disciples "to understand the Scriptures" and see how his suffering, death, and resurrection was connected to repentance and forgiveness of sins. What tools do you use to better understand our faith?

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Mass Intentions

Sat.	April 17	8:00am	Rod Vacek
		5:00pm	For the Parish
Sun.	April 18	8:00am	Sue Seifert
		10:00am	Caroline Lunger
Mon.	April 19		No Mass
Tue.	April 20	5:30pm	The Colnar Family
Wed.	April 21	8:00am	† Michael Renard
Thurs	April 22	8:00am	Bill & Judy Ashenbach
Fri.	April 23	9:00am	† Elizabeth Murphy
Sat.	April 24	8:00am	† Helene Hutmaker
		5:00pm	Therese Kane
Sun.	April 25	8:00am	For the Parish
		10:00am	† Don Rogers

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

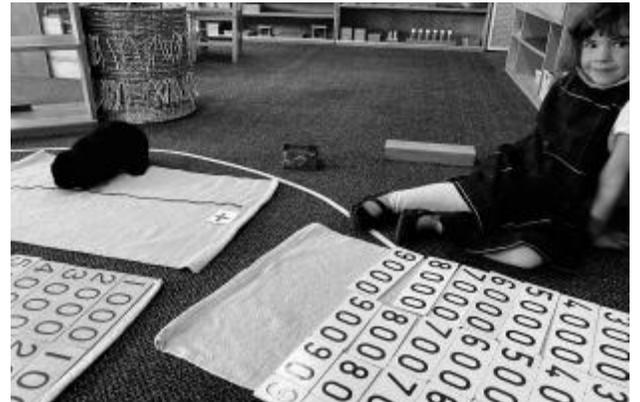
St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School



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.

New Classroom Pet

One of our preschool Children's House classrooms has a new pet! Welcome Petal the bunny. The students are learning how to care for an animal and growing in responsibility.



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 20th 4pm: Faith Formation CGS Levels 1 & 2

Wednesday, April 21st 6:30pm: Faith Formation, Confirmation Year 1

Saturday, April 24th 10am and 11am: First Communion and Confirmation walk through

Tuesday, April 27th 4pm: Faith Formation CGS Levels 1 & 2

Wednesday, April 28th 6:30pm: Faith Formation, Confirmation Year 2

Live the Liturgy

When the greeting “Peace be with you” is sincerely offered to a person, it can resonate very deep within, bringing comfort and reassurance. When someone possesses the power to bring peace, it brings us to a place of safety and fills us with joy.

The resurrected Christ has this power. God can open our minds so that we can more fully understand the meaning of Sacred Scripture and God’s compassionate, loving, tender, and untiring embrace constantly present and offered to people throughout history.

Without the anchor of truth that only God can provide, we can easily become startled and terrified at the sight of what life brings us. Being open to God’s offer of peace, we can turn away from old habits and short-sighted vision and experience the gladness and joy of God’s gift. Only then can what is wounded and broken be mended and reconciliation achieved. We are the resurrection witnesses called to proclaim the Good News.

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Save the Date

Saturday, May 1st and Sunday, May 2nd First Communion

Saturday, May 15th and Sunday, May 16th Confirmation at St. John’s

Please pray for all the candidates preparing to receive sacraments!

*Please note that the 10am Masses will likely be outdoor Masses to allow for more people in attendance.



Vacation Bible School

Register today as space is limited!

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 fun night 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: 4/12/2021

	Actual
Sunday	\$7,578.53
Plate	\$484.25
	\$8,062.78

Year-to-Date Information as of: 4/12/2021

YTD Budget	\$ 594,571
YTD Actual	\$ 734,648
Amount Over/(Under)	\$140,077

Year-to-Date Comparison to Prior Year as of: 4/12/2021

Prior YTD Actual	\$ 652,258
Current YTD Actual	\$ 734,648
Amount Over/(Under) Prior Year	\$82,390

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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