
St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish

680 Mill Street, Excelsior, MN 55331

September 12, 2021 | Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Ministry Training Month

Have you ever heard of “small ‘v’ vocation”? Most often, we think of religious life versus marriage when we hear the word vocation, but it’s actually so much more than that! Vocation is simply our calling to a particular state in life. It can be a calling to a career, to getting homework done, or taking our turn to do the dishes after family dinner on a Tuesday night. The list is endless!

Put simply, our vocation is our way in which we love the Lord, often by loving those around us!

It is unique to each person on this planet, though there are also shared elements of our vocations. We call these the *Precepts of the Church*. (Attend Mass, go to confession, etc.) You can read them all in the Catechism 2041-2043. Here’s a brief excerpt of the fifth precept:

“You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church, [which] means that the faithful are obligated to assist with the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability.”

Yes, this might mean the money or goods we bring forward during our offertory procession, but it also means service! One of the best ways to serve the Church is by serving *in* the church itself! Whether it’s cantoring or ushering at Mass, teaching faith formation, maintaining the prayer candle rack, serving on an advisory board, or any other ministry (we have many!), this feeds our faith and spiritual life

in a very real way. **The church doesn’t tell us to do these things just to boss us around, but because it’s a necessary vessel which draws us closer to Jesus Christ.** It teaches us to mirror the love and mutual self-gift of the Trinity, to whom we hope to be united for eternity!

As we read, this service is in accordance with our ability. This might adapt as we move through life (depending upon the age of our children, for example), but we are never exempt. I have many childhood memories of following my dad around as he ushered or seeing my mom play the flute with the choir, and their example was undoubtedly a massive influence on my five siblings and I in our adult commitment and service to the church.

Yes, life gets busy. That’s unavoidable! **But when it comes down to it, we spend time according to what or whom we prioritize in life.** And so I ask you - *are you willing to prioritize the Lord?* Take some extra time this Ministry Training Month to pray and consider stepping up in service here at St. John the Baptist.

Check out our September Ministry Training schedule to get involved: <https://stjohns-excelsior.org/ministry-training/>

Exultemus Domino,
Kari Hoeft ~ Director of Music, Liturgy and Parish Engagement



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

Parish Picnic & Corn Roast

Join us for fun and fellowship on the back lawn at St. John's after the 10am Mass for our annual Parish Picnic!

Event includes:

- *Pulled Pork Sandwiches
- *Brats and hot dogs
- *Roasted corn
- *Potluck sides and desserts
- *Music
- *Bouncy house

Please sign up to bring a potluck side or dessert.
There is a sign up in the Gathering Place or you can go online here: <https://tinyurl.com/parishpicnic2021>



We need your help to make this a successful event! We need help with tent set up & tear down, moving tables & chairs, grilling, food runners, bouncy slide monitors and clean up. **Please sign up for a volunteer shift here: <https://tinyurl.com/parishpicnic2021>**

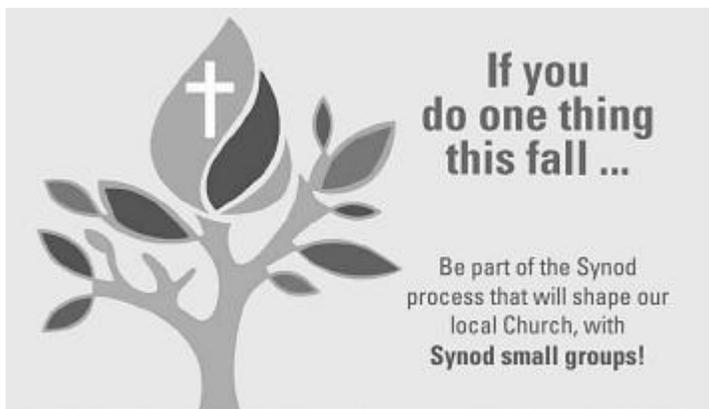
In case of bad weather, we will move the event inside to the Gathering Place. Rain or shine, we hope you will join in the festivities!

Synod Small Groups

What does the future hold for the Archdiocese?

If you do one thing this fall!

Let your voice be heard



Stop by the table in the Gathering Place this weekend to find out more. You can also go online here to register <https://tinyurl.com/sjbsmallgroup2021>. These small groups are free and open to all!

How can you share your feedback? Through Synod small groups. For six weeks, you will gather in a small group with other parishioners to:

1. **Pray** for God's guidance on how we can more vigorously proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ!
2. **Learn** the Church's wisdom on the Synod focus area topics.
3. **Discuss** your perspective and ideas with other parishioners.
4. **Respond** with your feedback on Archdiocesan priorities to proclaim the Good News in our culture today.

Join us this fall to help shape the future of our local Church through the ongoing Archdiocesan Synod process. Options for this study at St. John's are:

- * Mondays, beginning October 4th from 6:30-8:30pm
- * Tuesdays, beginning October 5th from 9:15-11:15am

Financial Support

eGiving is a great stewardship habit – it streamlines your giving and lets you do even more to help St. John the Baptist grow our ministries that share the Good News of God’s love. Why not make the switch today? You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Recurring gifts were a lifeline during COVID-19 and sustained our parish throughout the year. They provide 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.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/MN855, or text ‘Enroll’ to 952-209-7722

KC’s Raffle Drawing

All are welcome on Saturday, September 25th from 6-9:30pm! We will have a drawing every 5 minutes in the Gathering Place with **fellowship and live music throughout the evening.**

(You need not be present to win). We have burgers and brats for sale for \$5 plus free hors d’oeuvres. Help support our Catholic education scholarship fund by getting your tickets today! 50+ chances to win.



Banns of Marriage

Please pray for these couples as they prepare to receive the wonderful Sacrament of Marriage!

September 18th: Alexandria Munger & Christopher Langseth

October 2nd: Kasey Penk & Joseph Rosensteel

Altar & Rosary Society

Greetings St. John’s Community!

We have an ongoing need for regular cleaning of our beautiful church.

About three years ago, a new ministry was created at St. John’s, the “Altar and Rosary Society.” The mission is as follows:

“As parishioners of St. John the Baptist, we are dedicated to volunteering our time to both pray for our parish and offer our time to clean areas of the church, as a way of serving the Body of Christ and Christ Himself.”

We are in need of 5-6 parishioners who can commit 2 hours per month for a one-year commitment to help with cleaning the church, as well as praying for Fr. Carlson and the community of St. John the Baptist.

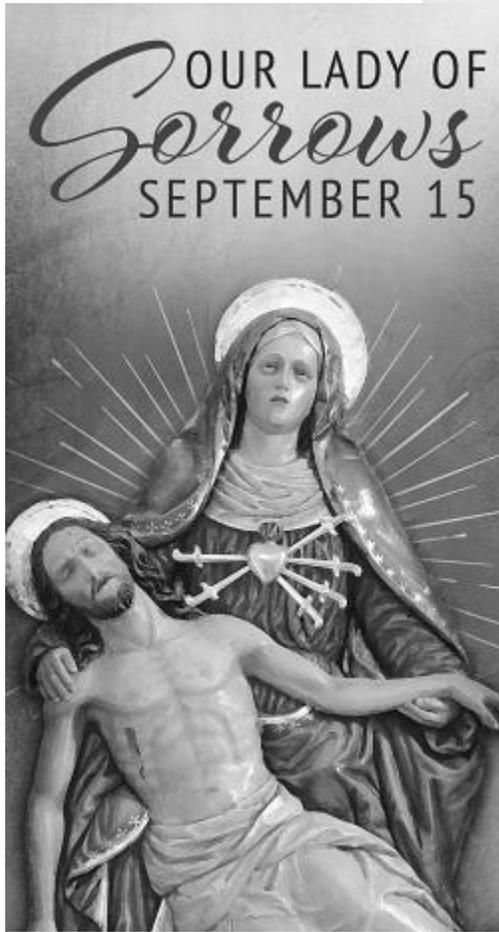
This is a beautiful and rewarding ministry, which can be done at any time that works in your schedule, so long as it is not during Mass times, funerals, etc. Those who have been a part of this ministry have found it to be a very peaceful and fruitful time of prayer and service.

Training will be provided for volunteers, detailing where cleaning supplies are located, specific cleaning tools to be used for sanctuary only, and cleaning methods.

Thank you for considering this ministry. Everyone’s time is precious and schedules are full.

Give some time to prayerfully consider if God is calling you to participate in this ministry.

Contact Frances Phillips (edfranc3@gmail.com) or Kari Hoeft (khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org) with questions and to get involved!



Weekly Prayer

Readings for the Week of September 12, 2021

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-6,8-9/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

Monday: 1Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-10,17/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2,34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Wednesday: 1Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-6/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Thursday: 1Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-10/Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-10,17-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Wis 2:12,17-20/Ps 54:3-8/Jas 3:16-4:3/Mk 9:30-37

Questions of the Week

First Reading:

Despite his suffering, the prophet Isaiah insisted “the Lord God is my help.” In what way do you need the Lord’s help today?

Second Reading:

James sees faith alone as insufficient for Christians. He even asserts: “I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.” Could you do the same?

Gospel:

We hear today Jesus’ definition of discipleship: “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” How well do you measure up to this definition of discipleship?

©LPi

Mass Intentions

Mon.	September 13	No Mass	
Tues.	September 14	5:30pm	† Audrey Conkey
Wed.	September 15	8:00am	Sue O’Donoghue
Thurs.	September 16	8:00am	† Dolores Nelson
Fri.	September 17	9:00am	Alexandria Munger & Tipper Langseth
Sat.	September 18	8:00am 5:00pm	† Michael Fritts For the Parish
Sun.	September 19	8:00am 10:00am	For the Parish Staff † Delbert Hennessey

Pray for the Sick

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
- Ruth Colnar
- David Streeter
- Roger “Pete” Hansen
- Tom Bartholomew
- Mike Salzer
- Joyce Koch
- Art Rosenberg
- Caroline Garanich

St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School

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



A New School Year!

Greetings! As we begin a new school year, I would be remiss to not add a huge THANK YOU to all who have supported our school through prayers and most recently, through the renovation. Thanks to the generosity of so many, we have a beautifully renovated lower level! What a great way to begin the school year!!

Education of children 16 months through the 8th grade is based on two simple truths: That children must be **respected** and that **children spontaneously love learning**. These principles and careful observation form a child-centered method that Montessori calls an “**education for life**.” Its goal is the finest development of the whole human being – emotionally, physically, intellectually, and spiritually – toward the nurturing of peaceful, caring citizens.

Education at St. John’s goes far beyond academics – it instills in students skills that are critical for success later in life. St. John’s teaches children to:

- Work cooperatively
- Delay gratification
- Set goals
- Be self-directed
- Organize their time
- Persevere
- See a project or goal through to its completion
- Resolve conflicts peacefully
- Appreciate and value differences among individuals
- Imagine a role for themselves within an interdependent community

Research shows that brain development and intelligence are dependent upon experience in the environment and purposeful movement. Children who are in Montessori environments are encouraged to move and to use the educational materials that build coordination, a sense of order,

and problem-solving skills as they gain a love of learning while deepening their faith.

It has been an exciting summer with not only the renovation but enrolling and creating a waitlist for toddlers and preschool. Lower elementary is at capacity. We have a total of 105 students enrolled for the 2021–2022 school year.

Below are a couple photos of upper elementary and adolescent community practicing for school Masses and getting started on the periodic table of elements.

Here’s to a wonderful school year!
Angela Wroblewski, Principal



News & Announcements

Check out the latest happenings at
St. John's and around the community

ICA FoodShelf Thank You

Dear Friends at St. John's,

As we wrap up our 50th Anniversary celebration and head into fall, we want to send a special and very heartfelt thank you for all the support you have provided to ICA and our neighbors over the years. We are incredibly grateful and look forward to another 50 years together! ~ ICA FoodShelf

Faith Formation

Registration is STILL OPEN and we have room in our classes!

If you have not yet registered for our Wednesday night classes for the 2021/2022 school year, please go online and register today! We have classes for Pre-K through 10th grade. You can find out more and register here: <https://stjohns-excelsior.org/faith-formation/>

Our Faith Formation Kickoff & Mass will be on September 29th at 6:30 pm, so please mark your calendars!

Announcement from Fr. Carlson

I would like to inform you that Sarah Reid has submitted her letter of resignation effective on September 24th. Please see her note below:

It's been an honor to serve alongside the parishioners and staff of St. John's for the past 3 1/2 years in my role as Communications Coordinator. I have accepted a new position that offers me an opportunity to advance my career. I will continue to remain involved in this beautiful community as my daughter is enrolled at St. John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School.

Thank you to Sarah for her service here over the years. We will be posting the communications coordinator position on the Archdiocese website and other places as well, so let's please pray for those who God is calling to serve our parish in this role.

Stewardship Update

*We have increased our Offertory Budget for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year. 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.

Collections as of: 9/7/2021 Year-to-Date Information as of: 9/7/2021

	Actual	YTD Budget	\$171,317
Sunday	\$8,842.38	YTD Actual	\$143,670
Plate	\$517.10	Amount Over/ (Under)	(\$27,647)
Total	\$9,359.48		

Year-to-Date Information as of: 9/7/2021

Prior YTD Actual	\$162,307
Current YTD Actual	\$143,670
Amount Over/(Under) Prior Year	(\$18,637)

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	5:00pm
Sunday	8:00 & 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)

Sacrament of Confession

Tuesdays	5:00pm
Wednesdays, Thursdays	7:30am
Fridays	8:30pm
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

Parish Offices

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

PASTOR: FATHER CARLSON

Ext. 216 | fr.carlson@stjohns-excelsior.org

DEACON: DCN GARY HOFFMAN

deacongary@stjohns-excelsior.org

ACCOUNTING: CHRISTA VASSALLO

Ext. 203 | cvassallo@stjohns-excelsior.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, LITURGY & PARISH ENGAGEMENT: KARI HOEFT

Ext. 206 | khoeft@stjohns-excelsior.org

PARISH ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: SARAH REID

Ext. 208 | sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org

OFFICE & CEMETERY MANAGER: MEGAN ADAM

Ext. 200 | madam@stjohns-excelsior.org

LEAD MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN: MIKE PYLKA

Ext. 205 | mpylka@stjohns-excelsior.org

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

PRINCIPAL: ANGELA WROBLEWSKI

Ext. 301 | awroblewski@stjohns-excelsior.org

SCHOOL OPERATIONS MANAGER: MONICA BENDA

Ext. 300 | mbenda@stjohns-excelsior.org

PARISH TRUSTEES: BARB THOMAS, MARK SPANIOL

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR: PAT JOHNSON

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR: CHARLIE KANAN

Building Hours— Open for Prayer:

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am-12:00pm

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