St. John the Apostle Catholic Church

515-981-4855 720 Orchard Hills Dr, Norwalk, Iowa 50211 stjohnsnorwalk.org

November 22, 2026 - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

- ***The Way*** **Bible Study - Thursdays at 9:00 AM (youth room)**
- **Knights of Columbus Breakfast - November 22, 8:00 to 10:30**
- **Thanksgiving Mass (Assumption Shrine, Churchville) Wednesday, November 25 - 5:30 PM**
- **Thanksgiving Mass (St. John the Apostle) Thursday, November 26 - 9:00 AM**
- **November 27 - NO Mass/Office Closed**



BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you are expecting or have a first child to be baptized, please contact the parish office to register.

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

2nd Sunday of the month - 10:15 AM
New Members Welcome!
Next Meeting: December 13 (youth room)
All women of the parish are invited. New Members Welcome!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

1st Monday of the month - 7:00 PM
Next Meeting: December 7
All male parishioners 18 and over are always invited to attend our monthly meetings.

CONNECTION CAFE

Meal Prep - December 7, 2:00 PM
Final Prep & Meal Service - December 8, 9:00 AM
If you would like to help with this ministry please contact the office.

If you would like a pastoral visit from Fr. Dan or one of our deacons, please contact the parish office and we'll be happy to schedule for you.

Stewardship - November 14/15

Amounts not available at time of printing.
Amount Needed: $16,600

We are so deeply grateful for everyone who walks alongside our parish with a generous heart.

Are you tithing online or through automatic payments? Please let the office know so we can cancel your envelope mailings.

Today's Mass - Breaking Bread page 221
"Gloria" 894 "Holy, Holy, Holy" #897
"We Proclaim Your Death" #898
"Amen" #901 "Lamb of God" #902
Saturday: Bill and Sean
Sunday: Jason

Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass
Saturday Vigil | 5:00 pm
Sunday | 7:30 am & 9:00 am*

Weekday Mass
Monday | No Mass
Tuesday | 8:15 am
Wednesday | 8:15 am
Thursday | 6:00 pm
Friday | 8:15 am

Holland Farms Senior Living
3rd Wednesday of the Month
10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday | 4:00 - 4:45 pm
or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration
Thursday | 3:00 to 6:00 pm

Rosary
Sunday | 8:40 am
Thursday | 5:00 pm

Morning Prayer
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
7:30 am (chapel)

**The 9:00 AM Mass is livestreamed on YouTube @SaintJohnsNorwalk*

Weekday Mass, Morning Prayer & Holy Hour will be canceled if Norwalk Schools cancel due to inclement weather.

Thank you to the parish for your participation in the InnerVisions Baby Bottle Campaign! The final tally is in and we raised over $5,268 for InnerVisions HealthCare! This will go a long way in helping the women and babies who are served by the compassionate medical staff at InnerVisions HealthCare on a daily basis. If you still have a baby bottle, feel free to deliver it straight to the West or South clinics. God bless you and your generosity!

Red Worship Books

We will be removing the Worship books located in the pews at the beginning of the new liturgical year, November 29. Please feel free to take one for your own personal use.

Our Staff

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chelem_50@yahoo.com

Altar & Rosary Society
Shelli Sherer

Knights of Columbus
Dave Campbell

St. John's Cemetery & Columbarium - Cumming
515-981-4855

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday Summer Hours:
8:00 am to 1:00 PM

Notary service is available during office hours.

Welcome!

My dear people,

This coming Saturday, November 21st, is the memorial of the Presentation of Mary. This feast dates to the sixth century in the East and the fifteenth century in the West. It is based on the ancient tradition that says Mary was taken to the temple in Jerusalem when she was three years old and dedicated to God.

What we spiritually celebrate on this day is the fact that God chose to dwell in Mary in a very special way. We, too, are invited to be open to God, as dedicated to God, as Mary was. Let us turn to her often and ask that she help us remain close to God all our lives.

As a student at Conception Seminary, I spent many hours in Abbey Basilica. One of the murals in the naïve of the basilica is a depiction of Mary's Presentation. This depiction of the presentation reminded me to present myself every day to our loving God, so that I can be transformed to be more like God.

O Mary, continue to help us present ourselves to God so that we can be an extension of the Father's love to others! Amen!

Yours in Christ,
Very Rev. Dan Kirby

Pilgrimage to France & Spiritual Lourdes Retreat - October 11 to 24, 2027

Join Fr. Dan Kirby on a transformative journey through France! A brochure is located on the table in the gathering area or at: TravelTymePilgrimages.com.

An informational meeting will be held here on November 30 at 6:30 PM.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 21
5:00 PM ***Billie Bell †***
Sunday, November 22
7:30 AM ***Mary Beth Goeser †***
9:00 AM ***For the Parishioners***

Tuesday, November 24
8:15 AM ***Mark Burke †***
Wednesday, November 25
8:15 AM ***Donna Henkels & Diana Wenndt †***
Thanksgiving, November 26
9:00 AM ***Frances Ulrich †***
Friday, November 27
8:15 AM ***NO MASS***

Saturday, November 28
5:00 PM ***Kevin Doyle †***
Sunday, November 29
7:30 AM ***For the Parishioners***
9:00 AM ***Judie Palmer †***

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Ellen Celsi; Dan Klein; Pat Civitate, mother of Mary Northway; Jim Bell; Jordan Miover; Jeanetta Bonney, Greg Harkin, and Greg Kasper, cousins of Anna Cimino; Lynn Ritchhart; Marcia Lozada, friend of Julie/Rodney Martinez; Jaimie Palmolea, friend of Katera Nowasell & Emily Arndt; Marlene Kean; Cathy McLaughlin, friend of Claudia Leo; Anna Cimino; Austin Pappan, friend of Jeff/Joanie Phillips; Betty and Karen Forbes, friends of Janet Mapel; Helen Glenn, sister of Irene Glade; Kendra Crall; Norm Dare; Brandon Larimer; Deacon Dave Miller;

Please remember those who have died:

Tammy Mapel Underwood, cousin of Kimberly Mapel; Dr. Brian Kirkland, brother of Mark (Michelle) Kirkland; Joseph Sikora, father of Lori (Teri) Formanek, grandfather & great grandfather to the Matthew (Stacia) Formanek family; Teresa Bussanmas; Carol Knoblauch; Jessica & Joseph Rubes, daugher & son-in-law of Irene Glade; Joanna Ewing, mother of Mary Lynn Biggins & Kristi Tripp; Josh Linn, cousin of Anna Cimino; Robin Leaper; Kay Loughran, mother of Mike (JoAnn) Loughran; Carol Miller, mother of Stacie Wright; Tom Smolen;

This Sunday's Readings

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31
The virtues of a good wife are extolled.

Psalm 128:1-2,3,4-5
Blessed are those who walk in God's ways.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Paul warns the Thessalonians to stay alert because the day of the Lord cannot be predicted.

Matthew 25:14-30
Jesus tells the parable of the talents, in which he teaches about the importance of using the gifts that God has given to us in service to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Celebrate the Season with Music and Reflections

Umeri, the Drake University alumni choir, conducted by Aimee Beckmann-Collier, invites you to attend The Lessons, Carols, and Reflections of Christmas on Friday, December 4, 7:30 pm, at St. Ambrose Cathedral, 607 High Street in downtown Des Moines. This concert, a combination of music and the spoken word, will offer a wondrous variety of seasonal music and reflections guaranteed to provide inspiration for your holiday season. Umeri will collaborate with a brass quintet, oboist, cellist, and percussionist, as well as notable readers. Musical preludes will begin at 7:15.

No tickets are required, but we encourage you to RSVP using this link:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2003996802382?aff=oddtdtcreator

The Spirit of St. Nicholas a Celebration of Giving!

Bring the whole family for a heartwarming holiday visit with St. Nicholas! Children can meet him, learn about him, and take home a sweet little treat. Let's also "Give like St. Nicholas" by bringing a personal care item or cash donation to support the Catholic Charities Food Pantry — together, we can spread kindness and holiday cheer. PLUS! Meet Iowa Author, Fr. Ray Atwood, and learn about his new book Fulton J. Sheen the Life and Legacy of an American Bishop. Saturday, December 5, 2026 from 10AM - 12PM at Divine Treasures, 5701 Hickman Road, Des Moines.

Hello everyone!

Happy Thanksgiving Week! I hope you are preparing for a wonderful holiday celebrating with family and friends. Holidays are beautiful times to come together. In my family, the grandkids all receive new matching pajamas and they hang up their stockings in our house. But, they can also be very different and difficult due to our own individual circumstances. Sometimes families do not get along, money might be tight, or it is the first holiday without a loved one. Sometimes it's all of those things together. But there is no circumstance that takes away the grace and love we receive from God every single day. It has taken me my entire life to continue to trust His love and care for me, my family, my friends, and my church family. But God shows me he does every single moment when I have the eyes of my soul open to Him. During this holiday season, as you count down days or participate in an Advent study, move your thinking about what you know about God into your mind to your heart and see how he touches your soul.

During this Advent, Fr. Dan will offer extra time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you haven't been for awhile, consider going. Grace might be the gift your soul is longing for today.

During this last week of our liturgical year, **Called & Gifted** finishes with its fifth introductory session. If you have been considering Called & Gifted, keep watching for new dates and signup after the new year. Also, if you have been through Called & Gifted, you can always come again. Those who have participated a second time are finding it profitable and helpful in discernment. Just let me know you are coming!

In Christ,
Monica



Advent Reconciliation 2026

November 28 – 4:00 to 4:30 PM

December 1 – 5:00 to 7:00 PM
Assumption Shrine, Churchville

December 4 – 7:00 to 8:00 AM

December 5 – 4:00 to 4:30 PM

December 11 – 7:00 to 8:00 AM

December 12 – 9:00 AM
Children's First Reconciliation

December 12 – 4:00 to 4:30 PM

December 13 – 10:00 to 11:30 AM

December 18 – 7:00 to 8:00 AM

December 19 – 7:00 to 9:00 AM
Assumption Shrine, Churchville

December 19 – 4:00 to 4:30 PM

December 20 – 10:00 to 11:00 AM

December 22 – 6:30 to 8:00 PM

December 24 – 7:00 to 9:00 AM



St. John's Giving Tree 2026

St. John's has stepped up to help 24 families this year, partnering with the Norwalk Area Ministerial Association (NAMA) for the community wide "Joyful Giving" program. There are some changes this year. Thanks to your past generosity, we have already been able purchase gifts for parents (gas and grocery gift cards or credit to the school lunch account). All our tags this year are gifts for the 48 children in our families.

We have three ways you can participate.

(1) Take a gift tag from the gathering area; please write your name and phone number on the tear off portion and leave that with us.

(2) Use our "Sign-Up Genius" online list for individual items:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BAEAC2BA3FFC52-67367242-ar

(3) Donations: Checks can be made to the Norwalk Area Ministerial Association or St. John's. We use your donations to cover any shopping to fill out any items needed and will forward checks to NAMA for their use for others.

Please return gifts unwrapped, with the gift tag or the Sign-up Genius ID number attached. Items can be dropped off at church or have items shipped directly to St. John's, by Sunday, **November 29th** (First Sunday of Advent). We'd love to get things earlier, but please don't bring anything after this date. If there is a shipping issue and an item will arrive late, call the office or email. We can pass that information along to NAMA and the families.

Our six team leads have returned this year: Kelly Altes, Carrie Harrington, Sara Heim, Melissa Lipovac, Julie Martinez, Staci Shipley, and Patty Smolen. We will be taking inventory after November 29th, purchasing any needed items, and delivering everything to NAMA. We will reach out if you took a tag and we don't have the item yet (to check on status). Let us know if you have questions.

Thanks for all your help this year!

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