

MISSION STATEMENT

We The people of the Whiting/Robertsdale Cluster, are a Catholic Faith Community, ethnically rich, culturally diverse, and one in Faith. Inspired by the unity of the Holy Trinity, we endeavor to share our Faith as disciples of Jesus.



Preparing for the Fifth Bishop of Gary

Diocesan faithful are encouraged to view the ordination and installation of Most Reverend Robert J. McClory as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Gary.

Events will be broadcast LIVE. Broadcast details are available on the diocesan website: dcgary.org.

Evening Prayer
with bishop-elect as homilist
7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 10



Ordination Mass
2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 11

Due to extremely limited seating, access to events is only open to invited guests with tickets.

Mass Schedules:

St. Adalbert:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Anticipated Mass

Confessions Saturday:

3:30 — 4:00 p.m.

St. John the Baptist

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Monday—Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Confessions: Weekdays:

Following the 7:00 a.m. Mass

Confessions

The Thursday before 1st. Friday of each Month
SJB 4:00 — 4:30 p.m.

Sacraments: Please Call St. John Church Office

**Whiting /Robertsdale
Faith Community**

**St. John the Baptist
&**

St. Adalbert

February 2, 2020

A PRAYER FOR OUR NEW BISHOP

O Lord, who for the feeding of your flock have chosen your servant Monsignor Robert McClory as a successor to the Apostles, grant him, we pray, that as he is ordained to the Order Of Bishops he may manifest a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety, so that, by faithfully governing the people entrusted to him, he may build up in the world the sacrament of the Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Saint John the Baptist Church ~ 1849 Lincoln Ave.**MAIN RECTORY NUMBER.....(219) 659-0023****RECTORY FAX NUMBER.....(219) 473-7551****E-Mail: Churchparishoffice@yahoo.com****Website: www.mysjb.org****Secretary, Becky Flores..... General Information
bflores@stjohnbap.org**

PASTOR.....Rev. Mark Peres, C.P.P.S. Ext. 116
DEACONS.....Leo Barron & Joseph Manchak
HISPANIC MINISTRY/BULLETIN.....Nora Perez Ext. 105
FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY.....Jamie Sandona Ext. 106
ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT.....Margaret Saliga (219) 659-4138
MARRIAGE PREPARATION.....(219) 659-0023

ST. JOHN SCHOOL ~ Main Number..... (219) 659-3042
Principal.....Jessica Gonzalez Ext. 304
School Secretary , Jeanine JonesGeneral Information
Banquet and Hall Rental.....Cathy Bryan 659-3041
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.....(219) 659-1073

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mon., Feb. 3: 3:05 p.m. SJB ~ Bricks 4 kidz/Cafeteria
 7:00 p.m. SJB ~ RCIA
Tues., Feb. 4: 9-3:00 p.m. Senior Center
 6:00 p.m. SJB ~ Reconciliation Retreat/Cafeteria
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Bible Study/Bishop Barron Series
Wed., Feb. 5: 11:00 a.m. Lunch with Friends
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Liturgy Meeting/Founders Room
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ HSA Meeting /Mural Room
Thurs., Feb. 6: 9-3:00 p.m. Senior Center
 3:00 p.m. SJB ~ RCIC /Reconciliation/Cafeteria
 3:05 p.m. SJB ~ Young Rembrandts/Cafeteria
 4:00 p.m. SJB ~ FIRST FRIDAY CONFESSIONS
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Choir Practice
Fri., Feb. 7: 3:30-6:00 p.m. SJB ~ 1st. Friday Adoration
Sat., Feb. 8: 9:00 a.m. SJB ~ Virtus Session/Founder Room
 3:30 p.m. ST. AL'S ~ CONFESSIONS
Sun., Feb. 9: 9:00 a.m. SJB ~ Faith Formation Classes
 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ C.P.P.S. Companions Mtg.

**New Policy for Bulletin articles.....All bulletin articles
 should be sent no later than Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
 Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.**

BIBLE STUDY ~ CALL OUT

You are invited to join the conversation with the **2020 Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group, 6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the **St. John the Baptist Catholic School Founders Room.** Using Bishop Robert Barron's **Pivotal Players** series, which highlights the work of both modern and past evangelists, we will come to a deeper appreciation for God's presence in our daily lives. Questions, phone Margaret Saliga, facilitator, 219-659-4138.

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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come away to a peaceful place apart from the hustle bustle and noise of daily life.

**Friday, February 7, 3:30—6:00 pm
 St. John Church**

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**February 3: Monday ~ St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr,
 St. Ansgar, Bishop**

7:00 a.m. † Margaret Abildua by Matt & Mary Bukovac

February 4: Tuesday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. † Stanley Dostatni by Ron & Jean Novak

February 5: Wednesday ~ St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

7:00 a.m. † Ralph & Emma McCampbell & Dolores McCampbell
 by Family

February 6: Thursday ~ St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

7:00 a.m. † Ruth Barany by Family & Friends

8:30 a.m. † Phyllis Poradzisz by Sister & Brothers

February 7: Friday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. † Martha Petrus by Sister Anne Kovach

**February 8: Saturday ~ St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine
 Bakhita, Virgin**

(SA) 4:30 p.m. † Artie Bakos by Ray Gajewski

February 9: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 a.m. † W/R Catholic Community

10:30 a.m. † Marjorie M. Strbjak by Susan & Andrew Dybel

01/26/2020**St. John**

Regular Collection.....\$ 7,704.16

Grade School.....87.80

High School.....4.00

Total.....\$7,795.96

St. Adalbert

\$ 1,360.00

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2019

	GOAL	PLEDGES	PAID	Balance Due
SA	\$ 8,183.00	\$ 3,495.00	\$3,495.00	\$4,688.00
SJB	\$ 60,573.00	\$54,752.00	\$54,052.00	\$6,521.00

THANK YOU to the following for their donations to the Immaculate Conception Grotto Fund. **Joann Skvarek Banvich and the Knights of Columbus Council 1696**

**ENCOURAGEMENT from Pope Francis**

"Mothers, tell your child a happy story about your pregnancy. It was a blessed time for both of you! So often I find mothers in the square who are expecting a baby and ask me for a blessing...these babies are loved before coming into the world...like the love of God who always love us first. They are loved before having done anything to deserve it, before knowing how to talk or think, even before coming into the world!"

(from Pope Francis: **Wisdom on Love, Practical Advice for Families**)

**INSPIRATION from****St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta**

"We shall not waste our time in looking for extraordinary experiences in our life of prayer but live by pure faith, ever watchful and ready for his coming by doing our day-to-day ordinary duties with extraordinary love and devotion."

W/R CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Presentation of Our Lord

Today we celebrate the Christ-child being taken to the temple to be presented to God. The irony is that in giving their child to God, God is actually giving the child to us.

Do we recognize the Messiah in our midst?

Do we share the good news of mercy and salvation?

Although the Holy Family is central to the story, the prophetic figures, Simeon and Anna, quickly recognize the significance of Jesus and boldly proclaim him to all. Simeon taking the babe from his mother Mary, lifts him on high and prophesies that he will be "a light to the Gentiles and glory for Israel". He then predicts the sorrow that Mary will bear.

Jesus, the Savior of the World will be a contradiction to many. Like his mother, we too will be called to share his cross.

What enters your mind when you realize that accepting Jesus as the Messiah also means accepting the cross?

Like Simeon and Anna, we are the community of believers, mandated to declare to the world Jesus...the Glory of God and the Gift of Salvation.

What cross are you carrying right now that you can offer to Jesus?

MY PRAYER

*Please, Lord, be with me as I ponder Luke 2:22-40.
Help me to share your light wherever I go.*

BLESSED CANDLES

It has been a centuries old tradition of the Catholic Church to celebrate the **Feast of the Presentation of the Infant Jesus, 40 days after his birth** (Lk 2:22). The February 2nd Feast has been referred to as *Candlemas*, and candles to be used in the homes of the faithful throughout the year are blessed on that day.

Like the tradition of Blessing Homes, the tradition of burning blessed candles provides an opportunity for all the faithful to enter more fully into the universal prayer of the Church, as we **rededicate our homes and our families to living in the "light of Christ"**.

Candles will be blest at the Feb. 1st /2nd weekend liturgies. Every family is encouraged to take a blest candle home and use it in times of storm, strife, and calamity. With the Church's blessing the votive candle is meant to remind us of Christ's ever-present light, a beacon of hope whenever trouble lurks. An appropriate prayer, which may be prayed when the candle is lit, is included with the candle. Each is available near the baptismal font.

THROAT BLESSING

Monday, February 3rd is the **Feast of St. Blaise**, a 4th century martyred bishop, who while in prison was credited with miraculously healing a young boy who was choking from a fish bone, lodged in his throat. Some say that Blaise was a physician before becoming a bishop. During the Middle Ages devotion to St. Blaise grew in popularity as individuals asked for his intercession for ailments of the throat. Thus the tradition of blessing throats with blest candles has endured through the ages.

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may the Lord free you from evils of the throat and from any other evil."



ROSARY SOCIETY

A staple of the Winter Festival, the Rosary Society can be found in the Panel Room throughout the three days of the festival with numerous raffles. Take your chance with an arm's length of raffle tickets nightly for their 50/50 raffle. Throughout the festival, they will have numerous basket raffles. Stop by their booth and take your chance! Reach out to Joyce Wagner if you're interested in helping with the Rosary Society joyce6333@att.net 219-922- 8413.

Early Bird Raffle Ticket Winners

The second early bird raffle drawing took place on January 21st. The winners were: Richard Bobos & Doug Jones. Congratulations to both!

The grand prize drawing will take place at 9:00pm on Sunday, February 23rd. Be sure to purchase your ticket now!

Dueling Pianos with Mr. David Boban

NEW This year to the Winter Fest is a night of Dueling Pianos on Sunday, February 23rd 7:00-10:00pm. St. John's music teacher, Mr. David Boban & his father will take requests and duel out today's top hits! This is sure to be a highlight of this year's fest!

Wish List

As you noticed in today's bulletin, we have inserted the festival flier & wish list. In order for the festival to be a success, we depend on the school & parish to help with donations. The wish list is just a small portion of perishable needs that are needed.

Donations can be dropped off at church, rectory, or at the school office. Please reach out to Festival Chairpersons – Kirsten Lund, keh1478@hotmail.com, 773-206-2412, Candi Gard candi.gard@gmail.com, 219-201-6287 or the school office, 659-3042.

St. ADALBERT NEWS

BE A VALENTINE!



This Valentine's Day (Friday, February 14th) be a Valentine to someone who can truly use one. St. Adalbert's Church will be open from 9:30am to 5pm collecting items for the Haven House. **Items may also be dropped at the available boxes at SJB parking lot entrance. The contents will then be delivered to SA's on Feb. 15th.**

Haven House Inc., a 501(c)3 agency founded in 1983 and located in Hammond, Indiana, is a 24-hour emergency shelter for domestic violence victims and their dependents. Haven House provides services to Hammond, East Chicago, Whiting, Munster, Griffith, and Highland, which comprises a significant geographic area of Northwest Indiana. The facility is a three-story six bedroom house which can comfortably accommodate 21 people.

The purpose of Haven House is to provide safe housing, the essentials for everyday living, and support services to female adults and their children who are victims of domestic/sexual assault and to assist them in breaking the cycle of violence through education, counseling, advocacy, referral, and skill building techniques.

If you are unable to give something physical, you are always welcome to give the gift of prayer. The church will be open to collect donated items or for you to stop by and say a prayer or light a candle for those who suffer from domestic violence.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

The Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord is a feast that is some sixteen centuries old. It occurs forty days after Christmas and is the last echo of the Christmas season as the Church year moves forward.

The Presentation is about a great deal more than Jesus' being brought to the Temple one afternoon to comply with Jewish Law. It is about Jesus coming to us as fulfillment, as hope and as truth. Jesus is the glory of Israel and a light to the Gentiles, the illumination for every culture and era. He is the way to the Father, the path to a fulfilled life in God's sight, the road to living in the image of the God that we were created to be. Jesus embodies the hope of eternal life embedded in every human being.

Hundreds of people came to the Temple that day and noticed the Baby. Simeon alone embraced the Child and saw in Him fulfillment, hope and truth. Lots of people will come to church today, give a nod to Christ and then move on with their lives unchanged. This last echo of Christmas, this Church year, teaches us that we can be like Simeon. We can embrace Christ more fully as He comes to the "temple" of our lives and see in Him our fulfillment, our hope and our truth.

(Taken from a Homily by S. Joseph Krempa)

ONE CAN – MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Next weekend, February 8th & 9th, will be the monthly collection for the Whiting Food Pantry. Your donations of canned and boxed food products, paper products, and personal hygiene products, help our Whiting/Robertsdale neighbors who are struggling with food insecurity. Your donations can be placed on the pews at the center of Church.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

THE ST. JOHN ADULT CHOIR

Like to sing? The St. John Adult Choir is looking for members. The Choir **rehearses on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:00pm weekly and most often sing the 10:30am Sunday Mass.** We do sing mostly 4 part arrangements (soprano, alto, tenor, bass). Now would be a great time to join as we will be going into the Lent/Easter season. **For further information, contact Brian Marciniak, director at (312) 810-0400.**

**FOREVER BLUE and GOLD**

PLEASE consider helping us... **Forever Blue and Gold is collecting Coke Products Rebates.** The rebates are found in twist off caps of Coke Products and on the inside of 12 and 24 count cases. The rebates in the cartons are found near the opening perforation. There is a rectangle with a keyed number on it. That rectangle is what we need. Money redeemed goes directly to St. John School for various student projects. Drop them off in the back of church in the BOX TOP containers or send them to school. FB & G thanks you for your help with this simple project.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Catholic Schools Week has just ended and we all had a blast! We began our week with our Open House last Sunday where we had the chance to welcome new families to our school and also invited our current families to see all of the great things we are doing at St. John the Baptist. Six of our students, ranging from 4th-7th grade, served as student ambassadors for the open house and led tours for new families and were able to share with them the many things they love about SJB. Our student ambassadors also debuted our new uniforms. We will be doing a soft roll out with the uniform and it will not go into full effect until the 2021-2022 school year. We will purchase the school uniform exclusively through Dennis Uniform and our plaids will be in our school colors, blue and gold, and all of the polos and sweaters will have our school logo. Monday was pajama day along with a movie in the afternoon. Our students were invited to purchase snacks from our "concession stand" and all the money raised was donated to the Carmelite Home in East Chicago. Tuesday we dressed up like our favorite superheroes and enjoyed an ice cream social in the afternoon. Our students were also encouraged to bring in toiletries for the Whiting/Robertsdale Care Center and each grade took turns creating cards and filling goody bags for the residents. It is so important for us at St. John the Baptist to teach our students to give back to those who are less fortunate. Wednesday students in 1st-8th grade attended Mass at Bishop Noll Institute along with all of the other local elementary schools. This is such a powerful experience for our students because they are able to see all of the other Catholic elementary schools and high school come together to celebrate the Eucharist and come together in prayer. Thursday we dressed like our favorite Disney character and enjoyed a game show in the afternoon. We concluded our festivities on Friday with a spirit wear day and a volleyball/game teachers vs./students in the afternoon. This week was so much fun and the students and teachers all participated in all of the events. They also had the opportunity to give back to the community. Jesus Christ is the reason for our school, and this week we were all reminded that our Catholic identity is what sets us apart from other schools and makes us great.



Shop at Strack & Van Til
Send your store receipts to SJB!

By submitting your Strack's receipts, you can help our students to earn valuable educational materials & equipment. It's easy. Submit your receipts at the rectory drop box or in the weekly collection soon. **(ends March 2020)**

**GRATEFUL SENIORS ENJOY FEBRUARY FUN**

Offset the winter blahs with the Tues. & Thurs. 10:00 a.m. chair exercise. Meet some happy hearts, who like to converse; play cards & bunco each Tues. & Thurs. at noon; learn new techniques with "Simply Stitching" every Thurs. from 1:00-3:00, and/or "Simply Planning" on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The on-going puzzle construction always presents a challenge. Each activity seems to ignite sparks of joy and enthusiasm among the participants.

February Birthdays are celebrated on Tues., Feb. 11 along with Birthday Bingo and Bunco-Pinochle. **On Thurs., Feb. 13, 11:00** we will enjoy **St. Michael's speaker, Kathryn Jablonski**; and on **Tuesday, Feb. 18, 11:00, Mr. Frank Vargo will speak about the Whiting-Robertsdale Historical Society.** You are invited and always most welcome to come and experience the friends and fun at the Senior Center at Pulaski Park.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

B: Eleanor Biel, Steve B., Al & Dot Baker, Joseph Bibat, Betty Bonchik, Noel Bubala

C: Ben C., Jim Campbell, Abigail Coates, Rebecca Coates, Dorothy Chovan, Nancy Coleman, Olivia Crinion, Lavonne Curington, Jeannine Cusson, Sharon Cusson

D: Gloria Demeter

F: Jeanine Faulkner, Thomas Federenko, Judy Fernald, Audrey Filipek, George Fitzak, Malia Fortunak, Joseph Fortunak

G: Andrea Gaynor

H: H. Haas, Debra Henderson, Kingston M. Hensley, Dennis and Peggy Hyde

J:

K: Gloria A. Kaminsky, Leonard Kaminsky, Gerry Kasarda, Ryan Keelan, Anne M. Kovach, Barbara J. Korba, Corky Kuipers

L: Lenore Lazur, Anita Le Claire, Les Le Claire, Donna Lewandowski, Helen Marie Lucasek

M: Adeline Matalik, Edward Matalik, Kristi Matalik, Mary Madejewski, Frank Matlon, Ginny McHale, Jerilyn Miller, Larry Milkowski, Toni Milkowski, Mary Murzyn, Mimi Murzyn

N: Ann Novotney

O: Bob Oliver

P: Willie Parlor, Joan Peters, Virginia Piljak, Mary Pupilava

Q: Leonardo Quiroz

R: Kathleen Radloff, Joel Rivera, Ed. Roszkowski, Kay Rosinski, Linda Rokosz, Joyce Rybicki

S: Robert & Phyllis Samano, Collette Santay, Aaron Smith, Deanna Stolarz, K. Smith, R. Smith, Jack Strisko

T: Nancy Teles, Sean Tennant, James Toth, Geraldine Tumidalsky

V:

W: Terry W., Phil Wetnight, Marjorie Wohlrle

Z:

SHOW SUPPORT FOR CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS
THROUGH THE NORTHWEST INDIANA
CATHOLIC SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE

We want to thank our annual subscribers — you are the foundational supporters of Catholic communication in our diocese. We believe you will continue to find your subscription to the Northwest Indiana Catholic a great value and great way to support diocesan communications. We are excited to continue to partner with you to share the “good news” of the Diocese of Gary. **Your one-year subscription comes at the low-cost of \$26, with the e-edition available at \$13, or you can receive both the online and print versions for the reduced rate of \$30.** You can subscribe now through **March 18** using the envelope in your collection packet, making your check out to your parish. You may also renew or begin a new subscription online (nwcatholic.com).

WE THANK YOU for your ongoing support of Catholic communications and invite you to join us in our evangelizing mission. If you are inspired to do so, any extra gift received with your subscription will support Catholic communications. You may also donate a subscription to a friend, business, to your parish to have on hand for general distribution. **Contact Erin by phone (219)769-9292 ext. 251 or email (eciszczon@dcdgary.org)** to set up a gift subscription today.

FOOTBALL PARTY ~ The Knights of Columbus will host a Football Party on Super Sunday, February 2, 2020 at the Council Hall located at 1120-119th Street in Hammond. The doors will open at 4:30 PM. Buffet dinner — including chicken, beef, sausage, mostaccioli, meatballs, beer, wine and pop. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Open to the public. No reservation required. The party will end 30 minutes after the game ends.

MARIAN THEATRE GUILD

Marian Theatre Guild announces auditions for its spring comedy, "Southern Fried Funeral" directed by Jayma Kay Emerson. Auditions will be held on **Sunday, February 16 at 2:00pm and Monday, February 17 at 7:30pm in Marian Memorial Auditorium. (either 119th St. entrance or the stage door off of the school parking lot).** Needed are six adult women and 5 adult men of varying ages. We are always in need of stage people (carpenters, painters, seamstresses, box office, ushers etc.) , stop in and say hello during auditions so we can contact you when needed. **Production dates are April, 18, 19, 25 & 26. For further information or questions contact Marty Dybel at (219) 659-2782.**

WORLD DAY PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

Today is World day Prayer for Consecrated Life. We are asked to offer prayers for all the men and women around the world who have committed themselves to the service of the Church in the consecrated life. Please be sure to pray for them in a special way today. And if you should cross paths with one, don't forget to thank them for their gift of self to the Church.

NEWS ALERT ~ Our leaders in the U.S. Congress will once again have an opportunity to vote for a "Born Alive" bill, which would require that babies who survive an abortion be provided with life-saving treatment. We pray for the passing of this bill meant to insure the safety of the unwanted infant.

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, published an article on the importance of the Born Alive bill. Please read the article at the following site:

<https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2020/01/18/father-pavone-born-alive-act-is-compassion-bill/>



B: Matt Barbetta, Sean Bowman, **C:** Christina Campra, Sean Coleman, **E:** Victoria Franco, **G:** Larry Gazafy, Matthew Geffert, John Gervais, Gerardo Gonzalez, James Grunhard Jr., **H:** Alex Gonzalo Hernandez, Elliot Hlavaty, Matthew Hlavaty, **J:** Justin Jansky, **K:** Thomas M. Kaminsky, Keith Kennedy, Jeff Klobucar, Jason Koscielski, Jeffery Koval, Mark Koval, **M:** Walter Malenki, Randall McAllister, Mike McCay, Hugh A. McNinch, Philip Mlynarski, Derek Monks, **N:** David Novotney, **O:** Zack O'Drobina, Nicholas Okamura, Justus Oliver, Mark Opachan, **P:** Kenneth Petkunas, Thomas Pupilava Jr., **R:** Robert Rodriguez, **S:** Antonio Salas, Eric Schaufele, Elliott Schultz, Natalie Serna, John Starzyk Jr, Alex Supergan, Jason Sutton, Szewczyk, **T:** Stephen Taylor, Jeffrey Thormeyer, Christopher Trojnar, **V:** Samuel Valdyke, **W:** Ray Walsh.

REST IN PEACE

Katherine A. Wiening



Rest In Peace