

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 9, 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.stjohnbap.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****Sun., Feb. 9: 6:30 p.m. SJB ~ C.P.P.S. Companions Mtg.****Mon., Feb. 10: 3:05 p.m. SJB ~ Bricks 4 kidz/Cafeteria****7:00 p.m. SJB ~ RCIA****Tues., Feb. 11: 11:00 a.m. Senior Center, Feb. B-Days Celebrated****3:00 p.m. SJB ~ Girls Scouts/Mural & Found. Rm.****6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Bible Study/Bishop Barron Series****Wed., Feb. 12: 11:00 a.m. Lunch with Friends****10:00 a.m. SJB ~ FCSLA meeting/Founders Room****3:00 p.m. SJB ~ PHYRE MINISTRY/Youth Room****Thurs., Feb. 13: 9-3:00 p.m. Senior Cent., guest speaker (Planning)****3:00 p.m. SJB ~ RCIC /Reconciliation/Cafeteria****3:05 p.m. SJB ~ Young Rembrandts/Cafeteria****6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Pastoral Council/Founders Room****6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Choir Practice****Fri., Feb. 14: HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!****Sat., Feb. 15: 3:30 p.m. ST. AL'S ~ CONFESSIONS****Sun., Feb. 16: 9:00 a.m. SJB ~ NO Faith Formation Classes****PASTORAL COUNCIL****(Meets 2nd. Thursday of the Month)****Fr. Mark Peres, John Blasko, Tom Chocholek, Dan Hyslop,
Gus Lopez, Angela Matushek, Carey Olds, Betty Ortiz****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.

**WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY****IN LOVING MEMORY****February 10: Monday ~ St. Scholastica, Virgin****7:00 a.m. † Ted & Helene Pasyk by Bank family****February 11: Tuesday ~ Our Lady of Lourdes****7:00 a.m. † Robert James by Loraine Meyers****February 12: Wednesday ~ in Ordinary Time****7:00 a.m. † Deceased members of the Geffert Family by Dolores Decker****February 13: Thursday ~ in Ordinary Time****7:00 a.m. † Mary Lattak by Frank & Betty Delink****8:30 a.m. † Catherine Smutniak by Husband Ed Smutniak****February 14: Friday ~ St. Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop****7:00 a.m. † Michael J. Spebar, M.D. by Magdalene Spebar & Family****February 15: Saturday in Ordinary Time****(SA) 4:30 p.m. † Al & Millie Cusson by Gil & Bernadine Cusson****February 16: SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****8:00 a.m. † Helen Danko by Joseph Danko****10:30 a.m. † W/R Catholic Community****02/02/2020****St. John****Regular Collection.....\$ 6, 871.25****Grade School.....59.00****High School.....1.00****Total.....\$6,931.25****St. Adalbert****\$ 1,596.00****W/R Catholic Community****FOOD PANTRY SECOND COLLECTION \$ 895.15****CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2019**

	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>PLEDGES</u>	<u>PAID</u>	<u>Balance Due</u>
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

ENCOURAGEMENT from Pope Francis

"Parents, teach your children to pray to Jesus. Begin with simple, heartfelt prayers and remember to thank him. Jesus is the inexhaustible font of that love which overcomes every occasion of self-absorption, solitude, and sadness."

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

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

"Our first responsibility is to be a family. We are to reveal first, to one another, something of God's own love and concern and tenderness. When others see us, they should say, 'See how they love one another.'"

HOMEBOUND NOTICE

If you can no longer attend church on Sundays, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion from a Eucharistic Minister to the Homebound each Sunday morning. Call the St. John rectory during business hours M-F 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to give your request along with your name, phone #, and address. We look forward to accommodating your request.

W/R CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Baptized into God's family we have a double responsibility: to be **SALT** for the earth and **LIGHT** for the world. Salt melts ice, heals wounds, flavors food, preserves meat.

- ♦ How can I be the salt that brings God's healing and helps to preserve our world from corruption? May I not gossip or speak ill of others.
- ♦ How can I enhance the flavor of daily life with God's goodness, kindness and mercy, melting cold hearts with Jesus' love? May I live each day with JOY.

When we **draw close to Jesus in prayer**, asking him to melt our stony hearts and replace within us a portion of his sacred heart, we will **gain the wisdom and courage to be his true disciples**.

We are called to be **LIGHT**, which dispels darkness, enabling all to see.

- ♦ Lord, please show me how I can bring your light into my home, school, neighborhood, workplace. I will decide on a day and time that I can go out of my way to be a blessing to someone.
- ♦ Lord, please give me the courage to speak openly of your love and mercy, so that God's glory may be revealed. I will allow the Holy Spirit to speak of God's goodness through me.

It's not enough to just go to Mass each Sunday and then hide out the rest of the week under the barrel of daily life. We have to learn how to take our faith out of the box of the church and bring it into the world. We have to live every moment of our lives as true witnesses to the Faith we have received. This is more than just a good idea. It's one of Jesus's basic instructions on how we are to live as children of God.

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.**



Indiana State Representative Matt Pierce (D) introduced House Bill 1020 Jan. 7, which aims to legalize assisted suicide. Assisted suicide is currently legal in nine U.S. states and in the District of Columbia.

Saturday February 29, 12 p.m.-4 p.m. St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Parish has orga-

nized an afternoon luncheon with public educator and lobbyist Alex Schadenberg, founder and executive director of the **Euthanasia Prevention Coalition**, to educate our community about euthanasia and assisted suicide. He will also raise awareness about the strategies used by pro-euthanasia lobbyists to grow a support base and legalize this form of murder in the medical profession and the ways in which pro-life supporters can counter these tactics. The price for the luncheon is \$10 and includes a screening of the documentary "Fatal Flaws." To register for the luncheon, please go to stmarywhiting.org/saturdayseries.



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.

All are welcome!

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**SALT AND LIGHT – PART ONE**

The Lord says that we are supposed to be the “salt of the earth” and “the light of the world.” In fact, it’s a compliment we use today when we say that someone is the “salt of the earth.” Yet, we know there is nothing so inedible, so unhealthy, as salt all by itself. During a famine, you can’t eat it. In a drought, you don’t even dare come near salt. Salt is useful only as an additive. Salt can bring out flavor and be a preservative when mixed with something else to prevent deterioration. We are the salt of the earth when we are an active part of our community, serving as a preservative.

The same is true with being the “light of the world.” Light by itself can blind us. Staring at the sun or a light bulb can harm us. Light is useful when it enables us to see other things better. So we are the light of the world. We should light up consciences, minds and hearts.

How are we salt and light? Isaiah points out some ways that we have come to call the corporal works of mercy: feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, giving drink to the thirsty, visiting the sick and those in prison, burying the dead. These are the classical works of mercy. The early Church did them and the Church does them today. They are tangible ways of being salt and light. These are things that we can do personally, or that we can support through the parish poor box, the St. Vincent de Paul Society or Catholic Charities.

**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.**

**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

The excitement of Catholic Schools Week has come to an end, and we are back to a normal schedule refocusing on our studies and making sure we are learning all we can. Hard to believe we are almost half way through the 3rd quarter and the days keep flying on by. We will soon start to prepare for IREAD-3 in 3rd grade and ILEARN for grades 3rd-8th beginning in March and April. Things are so fast paced at St. John the Baptist and there are so many wonderful things that are happening daily. The joy the students exude can make any bad day turn into a great day. I cannot express how blessed I feel to come to work everyday surrounded by pure happiness. Just the other day a photographer from the diocese came to take photos of our students for the diocesan website and our own website. I guided him around the building, directing him to our classrooms; he was amazed with our students. He turned, looked at me, and said, "This is the first school I have been to where all of the children are so happy; are they always like this?" "Yes," I replied! "They are always so happy and make my job so much easier. I always look forward to coming into work." I pray that my students never lose their excitement for school and that their joyous attitude follows them the rest of their lives.

**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)

**SENIORS GET-TOGETHER****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.

DISCOVER MASS

If you would like to receive the weekly parish bulletin for our Whiting-Robertsdale Catholic Community via your emails, simply put discovermass@diocesan.com into your browser, click and follow the prompts and enter **St. John the Baptist Whiting, IN 46394.** Then, by entering your name and email address you should be able to receive a weekly email of the current bulletin and also the previous four weeks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

C: Ben Cassoday, 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 Kaminski, Gerry Kasarda, Ryan Keelan, Anne M. Kovach, Barbara J. Korba, Corky Kuipers

L: Lenore Lazur, Anita Le Claire, Les Le Claire, Donna Lewandowski

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, Tim Ripee, Ed. Roszkowski, Kay Rosinski, Linda Rokosz, Joyce Rybicki

S: S. Scivinsky, Robert & Phyllis Samano, Collette Santay, Aaron Smith, Deanna Stolarz, K. Smith, R. Smith, S. Stimac, Jack Strisko, Michael J. Swentko, Suzanne M. Swentko

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

V:

W: Terry W., Phil Wetnight, Marjorie Wohrl

Z:

"Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, we may be defended always by your protection. Amen."

(from the Collect for the 5th Sun. in Ordinary Time)



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.



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**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 (nwicatholic.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@dcgary.org)** to set up a gift subscription today.

Marriage Date Night, February 28, 2020

Couples wishing to deepen their relationship and have great evening together are invited to attend the Marriage Date Night.

Included is a superb meal, great speakers, and time to socialize with other Catholic married couples.

When: Friday, February 28, 2020

Location: Don Quijote Restaurant

119 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso, IN.

Time: 5:45 pm – Cash bar ~ **Dinner:** 630 pm.

7:30 pm – Turning Water into Wine

"With joy you will draw water" (Isaiah 12:3)

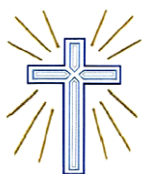
Sean and Stacy will share some thoughts on the wedding feast at Cana, and real life lessons for our marriages and families"

Cost: \$65.00 per couple.

For more information contact: Rosanne Kouris at 219-769-9292 or rkouris@dcgary.org

**Northwest Indiana Rachel's Vineyard Retreats
March 6-8 and October 23-25, 2020**

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential, and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express and reconcile painful post-abortion emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal, and healing. To register call 219-552-2944 or email nwinrv@outlook.com. All inquiries are completely confidential.



Rest In Peace

REST IN PEACE

James "Jim" M. Verville