



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Very Reverend Joseph Okine-Quartey

Suzanne Brunner, Housekeeping, St. John the Baptist Rectory

Dave Drier, Maintenance Director, St. Joseph

Gwen Glaus, Housekeeping, St. John the Baptist Church

Vickie Hartung, Housekeeping, St. Joseph

Pete Helmueller, Maintenance Director, St. John the Baptist

Dorothy Kopp, Bookkeeper

Denise Pelzel, Secretary

Aletha Pullen, Bulletin Editor

Robyn Trannel, Director of Religions Education

PARISH COUNCILS

St. John the Baptist

Parish Pastoral Council

Connie Ahlers, Kevin Coulson, Peggy Gilles, Gwen Glaus, Sarah Hinrichs, Steve King, Dianne Lecheler, Terry Pelzel, Mike Rhiel, Audrey Ryan, Jacqui Steele, and *Dan Wieser (Chair)

Parish Finance Council

Marie Berger, Jeff Bergmann (Chair), *Todd Glaus, and Deb Radle

St. Joseph

Parish Pastoral Council

Dave Anibas, Brad Bauer, Bud Bauer,

David Drier (Chair), Gerald Leiffring,

Linda Leiffring, Howard Martin, and Dennis Milliren

Parish Finance Council

*Jeff Brunner, *Dale Klein (Chair), and Sue Milliren

*Corporate Board Members

ORGANIZATIONS

Holy Name Society Parish Council of Catholic Women

Knights of Columbus St. Ann's Altar Society

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Donald Brunner's Birthday: 4/18

Mario Gonzalez's Birthday: 4/19

Denise Pelzel's Birthday: 4/19

Jon & Tanya Bechel's Anniversary: 4/22

Sue Milliren's Birthday: 4/24

If you would like have your birthday or anniversary included in the bulletin, please call the Parish Office or send an email to our Bulletin Editor. Thank you!

St. John the Baptist Parish, Plum City, WI
St. Joseph Parish, Arkansaw, WI

APRIL 18, 2021



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled ... You are witnesses of these things." - Lk 24:44, 48

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Bulletin Announcements

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Bulletin Deadline: Monday Noon



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(The Parishes of St. John the Baptist & St. Joseph)

PEACE BE WITH YOU

Dear friends, peace seems to be one of the biggest gifts that the Risen Christ sought to bring his apostles. His first gift to them in the resurrection appearances was peace. He gave them peace because he knew they needed it most. Having betrayed, denied, and abandoned him, they must have been at war within and peace must have eluded them. They were at war in their hearts, minds, and souls. Besides, fear of the Jews had so taken away their peace that they locked themselves up. They were troubled, they had doubts in their hearts, they failed to recognize him and took him for a ghost. Thus, in their stressful moments, when guilt from their betrayal, the fear of the Jews, and the dread of a haunt from a ghost depressed them and clouded their peace, Jesus brought them his own peace.

The Church knows right that today's Christian needs peace as much as the apostles did at the time of Jesus. She is fully aware that in a world beset with secularism, individualism, and relativism, one of the easiest things that can elude us is peace. It is thus not out of place that throughout the Easter season and beyond, the Paschal candle makes a prominent presence in our liturgies. Just as Jesus challenged his troubled disciples to take a peek at his hands and feet, to touch him and see that he was no ghost but a man, the Paschal candle loudly invites us to do the same. The incense bullets in the Paschal candle invite us to see the pierced hands and feet of Jesus, to appreciate his wounds; recall the marks of the nails, and set our feet on the way of his peace. The peace of Christ is the antidote for the stress, anxiety, and depression, which are very endemic in our secular environment of today. Through the Paschal candle, therefore, the Church invites us to grow deeper in our friendship with the resurrected Lord and so be gradually healed as he brings peace to our minds hearts, and souls.

As we behold his wounds, which he still bears in his glorified body, we are reassured of his everlasting forgiveness. Once he forgives our sins, we are truly forgiven and our conscience can be at rest. As we reflect on the spike marks in his hands and feet, we are certain that we are loved with an undying, unconditional, personal, determined love. This love of Christ, reigning in our hearts, kills the restlessness of our hearts and brings peace into our hearts. The Paschal candle also reminds us that Christ is alive, his light shines through the darkness of our souls and as he continues to rule and expand his everlasting Kingdom, he invites each one of us to join hands with him by witnessing to his resurrection and building up the Church. This invitation calls us to a task that really matters; a worthwhile task; a task that will satisfy our thirst for meaning. The peace of the resurrected Christ is what we really need. Without it, we feel troubled and alone, we are assailed by doubts and fears, sleep eludes us and there is no sense of security in our dwelling. Such, I believe, was the state of the disciples when Jesus made an appearance to them and uttered the words, "Peace be with you."

When Jesus brings us peace, his peace does not only heal our infirmities, it also liberates us and makes us instruments of peace. Thus, when we have peace from above, that peace has to flow through us like a river and spread into the deserts of people's lives, to set captives free. However, quite often, there exists a gap between Christ's peace with its attendant freedom and the natural flow of the same peace through us into the deserts of other people's lives. When St. Paul noticed this kind of gap in the Galatians, he told them, "Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants of one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, take heed that you are not consumed by one another (Galatians 5: 13-15)." In the "biting and devouring" mentioned above, Pope emeritus Benedict XVI saw a clear expression of a poorly understood freedom. Thus, the Galatians failed in understanding the proper use of the freedom peace brings. They failed in their freedom to make love their supreme priority. By the unkind and improper use of words, they bit and devoured one another. They thereby broke the commandment of love with their words.

Dear friends, we are no better than them. Whenever we have been careless with what we say to others - whether face to face, via cell phones, or through email, texting, and tweeting; whenever we have judged and criticized people harshly without any objectivity; whenever we have gone around talking carelessly about other people's struggles, failings, faults, and sins; if we have slandered others or have unnecessarily disclosed people's weaknesses or sins; if we, in effect, have fallen into the habit of using our words to hurt instead of help, we have widened the gap between Christ's peace-filled freedom and its deserving flow from us to into the lives of others. Whenever we spew our words to bite and devour others, we punch holes in our souls and a leak in our souls causes Christ's peace to spill out with no benefit to the other. The peace of Christ sets us free. The freedom of his peace makes us dispensers of peace. May our ill use of the freedom gained from his peace not deprive anyone of an equal peace. May our use of words this week then bring peace to those who receive them, and may our words build, rather than bite and devour others. May we speak peace into our own lives and the lives of others.

Have a peaceful week
Fr. Joseph Okine-Quartey

COVID FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On Thursday, April 22nd there will be a free food distribution from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the East entrance of the Pierce County Fairgrounds (364 N Maple St, Ellsworth, WI). Each household will receive 1 large box of assorted food items. Please feel free to participate in this Covid Food Assistance Program.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Tootsie Roll Drive

Next weekend, April 24th & 25th, members of the Knights of Columbus will be at the entrances of St. Joseph's on Saturday afternoon and St. John the Baptist's on Sunday morning conducting their annual "Tootsie Roll Drive" to benefit the medically challenged.



MASS SCHEDULE & DAILY READINGS

Monday: April 19

• No Mass

Readings: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: April 20

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Robert Beaver
- Readings: Acts 7:51-8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 7b & 8a, 17 & 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: April 21 - St. Anselm

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Marcella Bechel
- Readings: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: April 22

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Dale Gilles
- Readings: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: April 23 - St. George & St. Adalbert

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - Clarence & Clara Bauer
- Readings: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: April 24 - St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - A Special Intention
- Mass: 4:00 p.m., St. Joseph - † John Caturia
- Readings: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69

Sunday: April 25 - 4th Sunday of Easter

- Mass: 8:00 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Kenny Holmstadt
- Mass: 10:15 a.m., St. John the Baptist - St. John the Baptist & St. Joseph Parishioners
- Readings: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

The Rosary is prayed before Mass

THAT MAN IS YOU

"That Man Is You" program meets this Friday, April 23rd 6:00 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. on the first floor of St. John the Baptist's School Building. The topic for week thirteen is Insurmountable Battle Wounds. Please wear a mask. All men are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Wieser at (715) 279-2152 or Tom Pullen at (607) 244-3010.



PCCW NEWS

Annual Dues

At the PCCW meeting in January 2020, our council decided to discontinue our Mother's Day Bake Sale due to concerns over poor profitability. Other fundraising options were discussed, however in March the COVID-19 pandemic shut down all activities. At this time, the only source of our income is dues. We would greatly appreciate it, if all ladies of the Parish could pay their 2021 dues of \$15. Thank you and God Bless.

Officers Needed

The PCCW is looking for a new president and vice president. Our current president, Suzie Brunner, has been president for 2 terms, for a total of 8 years, and is ready to step down. If you are interested in volunteering for these positions, please contact Suzie Brunner (715-495-2699, suzie_brunner@hotmail.com). Thank you!!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISHIONERS

Liturgical Ministers Needed

St John the Baptist Church is always looking for people to fill Ministry duties. If you would like to be part of the group of Rosary Leaders, Sacristans, Lectors, Announcers, Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers, Servers, Musicians, or Gift Bearers, please contact the Parish Office.

Pastoral Council Meeting

Pastoral Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 21st. This will be a virtual meeting.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting

The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet Tuesday, April 27th at the Rectory at 6:00 p.m..

LITURGICAL ROLES: ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Money Counting

Wed., April 21, 9:00 a.m.
Pat Pittman, Teresa Fedie,
& Verna Weiss

Announcements & Lector

Sun., April 25, 8:00 a.m.
Pat or Kevin Coulson
Sun., April 25, 10:15 a.m.
Ryan Trannel

Extraordinary Minister

Sun., April 25, 8:00 a.m.
Pat or Kevin Coulson
Sun., April 25, 10:15 a.m.
Denise Pelzel

Music

Sun., April 25, 8:00 a.m.
Sara & Annie Hansen
Sun., April 25, 10:15 a.m.
Bob & JoAnn Larson

Rosary

Sun., April 25, 8:00 a.m.
Volunteer Needed
Sun., April 25, 10:15 a.m.
Teresa Fedie

Servers

Sun., April 25, 8:00 a.m.
Peyton Brunner & Grace Hinrichs
Sun., April 25, 10:15 a.m.
Gavin & Carolyn Trannel

Usher

Sun., April 25, 8:00 a.m.
Lonnie Harmon & Roger Gilles
Sun., April 25, 10:15 a.m.
Dan Wieser & Steve King



FRUITS OF OUR GENEROSITY - ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST March 26th through April 9th, 2021

Adult Envelopes (31).....	\$	3,957.00
Offertory.....	\$	462.00
Building Repair (2).....	\$	150.00
Utilities (1).....	\$	50.00
Easter (34).....	\$	4,396.00
Easter Flowers (1).....	\$	20.00
Tabernacle Restoration (2).....	\$	7,500.00
Total Income.....	\$	16,535.00

POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY INTENTION

April: Fundamental Rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

LITURGICAL ROLES: ST. JOSEPH

Announcements & Lector

Sat., April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Don Peterson

Extraordinary Minister

Sat., April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Jeff Brunner

Music

Sat., April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Beth Pattison

Rosary

Sat., April 24, 4:00 p.m.
Madalyn Fleishauer or
Joyce Haigh

FRUITS OF OUR GENEROSITY - ST. JOSEPH

March 26th through April 9th, 2021

Adult Envelopes (24).....	\$	1,360.00
Offertory.....	\$	113.00
Fuel (2).....	\$	75.00
Building Repair (1).....	\$	20.00
Easter (19).....	\$	1,165.00
Easter Flowers (1).....	\$	40.00
Total Income.....	\$	2,773.00

RCIA - RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Have you been worshipping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?

Have you been away from the Church....and have now returned, but want to know more?

Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, & Confirmation)?

Have you joined us from a different faith background and would like to find out more about the Catholic Church?

Do you know of anyone who has lapsed from the practice of their faith and would respond to an initiation to return to the Father's House?

If any of the above questions apply to you or someone you know, we would love to help you on your journey of faith! Please join us at an informational meeting on **Sunday, May 2nd at 11:30 am or 7:00 pm at St. John the Baptist Parish.**

For more information, please contact:
Father Joe (715-647-2301) or Robyn Trannel (608-790-2177)

PARENTS: WALK WITH YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER

Today's middle school and high school students face new pressure. Social networking and the whole gamut of virtual reality present new horizons of connectivity yet often without real engagement, adding to the hard task of adolescents finding their identity. We need a message of hope that is more powerful than the glitter of society's offerings. This is what Pope St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body provides, for it resonates with the deepest desires of the heart. Parents, join us virtually on Saturday, June 5th to hear an overview of the Theology of the Body so that you can "walk with" your son or daughter as they receive this formation in middle school and high school. Visit diolc.org/tob for further details and to register (cost: \$10).

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES

ABOUT THE GOSPEL



Jesus meets His followers. He shows them His wounds and has dinner with His friends. Jesus is risen and still has His human body. His body is glorified, but He is still able to eat and talk with His friends. Jesus is fully human and fully divine.

IN CHURCH

As you receive Communion or a blessing, think about this: we are having a meal with Jesus and our friends. Jesus is the Living Bread.

FAMILY PRAYER

Jesus, help us to remember you are a real friend to



If you had Jesus over for dinner, what would you talk about?



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST KARNIVAL RAFFLE TICKETS Now on Sale!!

The biggest part of our Karnival proceeds is the Main Raffle. All of the proceeds will be going towards the renovation of St. John the Baptist's heating system. The drawing will be at a date to be determined.



We only have 350 tickets at \$50.00 each. You can purchase tickets from:

Ann Bechel 715-279-1237	Joyce Berger 715-647-3150
Paul & Char Fetzner 715-495-3315	Sarah Hinrichs 715-495-3123
Gary Lecheler 715-279-4444	Jeff & Margaret Hartung 715-495-8901
Pete & Jackie Unser 715-495-6291	Suzie Brunner 715-495-2699
Linda & Larry Chilson 715-647-4733	Peggy Gilles 715-495-3199
Nadine Kannel 715-495-9161	Pete & Irene Helmueller 715-781-4466

We will also be selling them after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Masses on Sundays. The prizes are:

1 st Place \$1000.00	8 th - 11 th Place \$200.00
2 nd Place \$800.00	12 th - 13 th Place \$150.00
3 rd - 5 th Place \$500.00	14 th & 15 th Place \$100.00
6 th - 7 th Place \$250.00	

Please support this renovation project with the purchase of one or two Karnival Raffle Tickets.

Thank you, St. John the Baptist's Karnival Committee

St. John's Karnival Drive thru Barbecue Chicken Dinner



June 6th, 2021, 11:30 a.m. until gone
American Legion Park
1/2 BBQ Chicken Dinner - \$10
(includes chips & baked beans)

PRAYER WARRIORS

If you would like to offer prayers for those who are in need or are aware of someone who needs prayers please contact the Parish Office or send an email to prayer.warrior.st.john@gmail.com.