

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Okine-Quartey

Suzanne Brunner, Housekeeping, St. John the Baptist Rectory

Robyn Trannel, Director of Religions Education

Gwen Glaus, Housekeeping, St. John the Baptist Church

Vickie Hartung, Housekeeping, St. Joseph

Dorothy Kopp, Bookkeeper

Aletha Pullen, Secretary, Bulletin Editor

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

Lawrence Bechel, 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

APRIL BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSARY'S

Pete Helmueller's Birthday: 4/1

Sue Caturia's Birthday: 4/1

Ruth Luebker's Birthday: 4/2

Marie Berger's Birthday: 4/3

*John Inabnit's Birthday: 4/12

*Mary Therese Helmueller's Birthday: 4/12

*Susan Sanders's Birthday: 4/13

Donald Brunner's Birthday: 4/18

Denise Pelzel's Birthday: 4/19

Sue Milliren's Birthday: 4/24

Pete Unser's Birthday: 4/25

Bob & Tonja Binkowski's Anniversary: 4/26

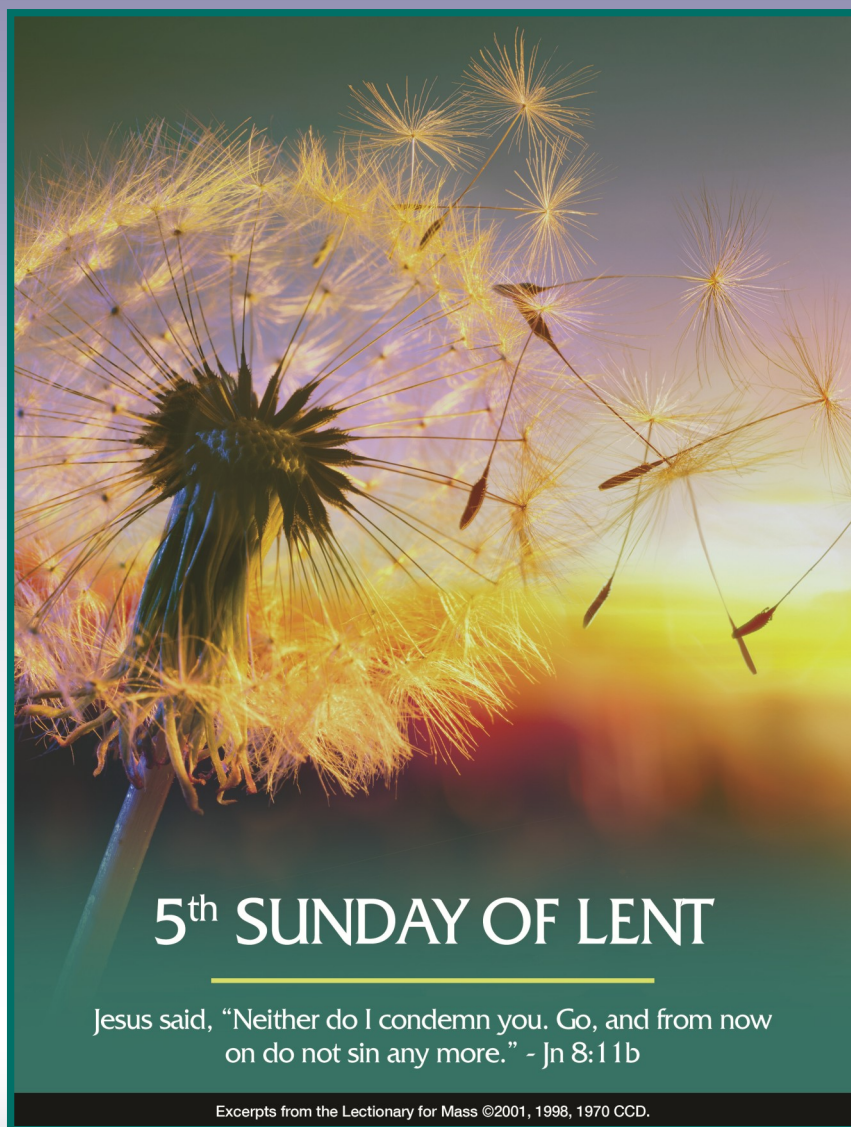
Brad Bauer's Birthday: 4/26

Darrell & Sarah Hinrichs' 24th Anniversary: 4/29

Dan & Mary Wieser's 30th Anniversary: 4/29

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

April 7, 2019



**Central Office, CCD, Rectory, and
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**

212 Church Road, Plum City, 54761

11stjohn@centurylink.net

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

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Bulletin Announcements

bulletin-editor@centurylink.net

Bulletin Deadline: Monday Noon

SILENCE AND SELF-INTROSPECTION

It was a hot sunny day on the streets of Accra. A young man traveled from the village to the city to seek greener pastures. After a long bus ride they finally made it through some heavy vehicular traffic to the city center where all the passengers alighted. John alighted too and excitedly brought out his map to figure out where next he could go. His distant relatives were all ready waiting for his arrival. They had asked him to wait for them around the White Chapel Supermarket.

As he walked toward his cousins, he stopped by a food vender to buy something to eat as he felt rather hungry. Just as he was served the meal, the food vender raised an alarm - her mobile phone had just been stolen. She pointed at John and accused him of stealing the phone. Nothing John would say could convince the food vender that he was innocent. In no time, her cry brought passers by around and in a twinkling of an eye a mob had gathered. Poor John had no means of defense and no one would hear his story. The more he tried to state his innocence, the louder the lady cried foul. The assembled mob soon lost their patience too, taking John for a thief and believing him to be wanting to go away with the stolen property which they hadn't found on him. Before anyone could come to John's rescue, the mob pounced on him, took the law into their hands and meted out instant justice to the innocent John.

As he swam in the pool of blood from the severe beatings he received from the mob action, a little girl came rushing in and shouting out "Mom, Mom, you have a phone call, here is your phone. You left it at home and it has been ringing since." She was the daughter of the food vender. This is how poor John, suffered a brain damage and became the vegetable he had been till his demise few years later. The food vender took him for a thief, publicly stated his sin to the mob who in turn declared him guilty and sentenced him to a severe beating and a near lynch. How quick they all were in condemning the innocent and sentencing him to die in exchange for a mobile phone. Had all the culprits exercised restraint, had they taken time to think and consider the circumstances, had they put themselves in John's shoes, had they given time a chance, they could have found the supposedly lost phone and John's life would have been saved.

This story of John to some extent ties in with the story of the adulterous Woman in John's Gospel. An angry mob publicly brought a woman to Jesus in the Temple, stated her sin, determined her punishment and suggested that it was time for her to be executed. They thought they knew her sin and by virtue of that sin, she had to die. Unlike the mob in John's story, this mob did not take the law into their own hands. They needed the teacher's endorsement so they could stone her to death. Though the latter mob had wanted to act in the confines of the law, they, like John's mob had not waited long enough.

As I reflect on the story, I wonder why Jesus took time to give them an answer. We are told that when they asked Jesus of his opinion in order to test him, Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he bent down and wrote on the ground. And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders. So he was left alone with the woman before him. Did Jesus hesitate? If he did, why? I do not suppose that Jesus was just buying time in order to find the appropriate answer for them. Neither was he trying to figure out what to do in the horns of the dilemma they had constructed for him, when someone's life was at stake. Perhaps he was trying to send across the message regarding the need to take time to think and reflect before impulsively casting a stone at another. Time and again our emotions must be allowed ample time to cool down before our anger, fears or prejudices rob us of our human dignity. Whenever we have failed to consider the details, the variables and the circumstances of a given situation before giving vent to our emotions, we end up being the worst versions of our selves. Times are when we need to take time to count our own shortcomings, mistakes and sins in order to empathize and sympathize with the brother or the sister who has sinned (See R. S. Hurd).

Sometimes, the limitations of others are mirrors through which we visualize our own limitations. The weaknesses in others which anger us most are quite often weaknesses which feature prominently in our own selves. Matthew Henry drives this home clearly when he opines that it is common for those that are indulgent to their sin to be severe against the sins of others. Individuals in the angry mob had promised themselves secrecy in sin. What they failed to realize was that in doing so, they deceived themselves. They picked up stones to pelt the adulterous woman, forgetting their own sins. Thus the time Jesus took to silently write on the ground and topping it up with the challenge to the sinless in the mob to be the first to cast the stone, became an occasion for the angry mob to silently depart one at a time. Jesus' initial silence then was therefore an opportunity for them to take time to listen to themselves, consider their own shortcomings, get real about their own fallenness and see the abounding divine mercy which they themselves had received and enjoyed.

Today, it is not uncommon to find people who ravenously devour others for the sins they see in them. From the Mass media, through social media to private conversations, it has become the order of the day that our world easily assembles mobs of angry masses who are fond of putting others in the public eye, stating their sins, suggesting their possible punishments and wielding stones ready to pelt at the sinner. Should we ever be tempted to join in the mob action, let the silence of Jesus, the message of his writings in the sand and his bold challenge to the sinless to be the first to cast a stone, give us ample time for self examination. Perhaps a little self-reflection will make it clear to us that we are only better off than the so-called sinner just because we have not been caught. As we continue our Lenten observances, may our self awareness and the realization of our own limitations lead us to be a little more charitable to others in their own struggles with sin.

Have a pleasant week
Fr. Joseph Okine-Quartey

THAT MAN IS YOU

"That Man Is You" program meets again this Friday, April 12th from 5:30 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. in the St. John the Baptist School Building in Plum City. The topic for week ten is 8th Day – The Passion. 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.

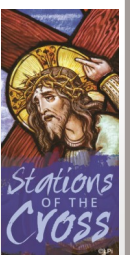


St. John the Baptist

Adoration, Stations of the Cross, and Benediction will be offered every Thursday at St. John the Baptist during Lent. Adoration will begin at 4:45 p.m., followed by the Stations of the Cross at 5:45 p.m., and conclude with Benediction.

St. Joseph

Stations of the Cross will be offered every Wednesday at St. Joseph's at 7:00 p.m. during Lent.



MASS SCHEDULE & DAILY READINGS

Monday: April 8

• No Mass

- Readings: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Ez 33:11/Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday: April 9

- Mass: 10:00 a.m., Plum City Care Center - † Irma J. Helmueller
- Readings: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: April 10

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. Joseph - † Harold Kannel
- Stations of the Cross: 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph
- Readings: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/See Lk 8:15/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: April 11 - St. Stanislaus

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - All of the Souls in Purgatory, Especially Deceased Members of the Friends of the Suffering Souls
- Followed by Communion for the sick and homebound
- Adoration & Stations of the Cross: 4:45 p.m., St. John the Baptist
- Readings: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Ps 95:8/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: April 12

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - Lorin & Sally Anibas
- Readings: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/See Jn 6:63c, 68c/
Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: April 13 - St. Martin I

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist
- Mass: 4:00 p.m., St. Joseph - Father Joseph Okine-Quartey
- Readings: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Ez 18:31/Jn 11:45-56

Sunday: April 14 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- Mass: 8:00 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Bill Newcomb
- Mass: 10:15 a.m., St. John the Baptist - St. John the Baptist & St. Joseph Parishioners
- Readings: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/
Phil 2:6-11/Phil 2:8-9/Lk 22:14--23:56 or 23:1-49

The Rosary is prayed before all Masses

POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY INTENTION

April: For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.



SACRAMENTS

Confessions (anytime by appointment)

- Saturdays at 3:15 p.m.: St. Joseph, Arkansasaw
- Friday after 8:30 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m.: St. John the Baptist, Plum City
- Sunday at 7:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.: St. John the Baptist, Plum City

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Parish Office when needed.

Rite for the Blessing of a Child in the Womb

Please contact the Parish Office if you would like this special blessing.

Baptism

Please call the Parish Office for an appointment at least one month in advance.

Marriage

Please call the Parish Office for arrangements at least six months prior to the intended date.

Hospitalized / Homebound

Holy Communion to the sick and homebound is on Thursdays & Saturday evenings and Sundays after Masses. Please contact the Parish Office for arrangements to be made.

Funerals

Please contact the Parish Office before making arrangements.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISHIONERS

Easter Decorating

We will be decorating the Church for Easter on Saturday, April 20th at 9:00 a.m.. Please join us!

Karnival Korner

Raffle tickets are available after each Mass. Again, the tickets are \$50 each with only 350 tickets being sold. There will be 15 winners. Proceeds from the 2019 Karnival will go towards the restoration and repair of our Church. More information will follow in next week's bulletin. Thank you!

OUR WEEK: ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Money Counting

Monday, April 8, 9:30 a.m.
Monica Krings, Julie Tschumperlin,
& Teresa Fedie

Announcements

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Dianne Lecheler
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Peggy Gilles

Extraordinary Minister

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Dianne Lecheler
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Linda Chilson

Gift Bearers

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Rod & Deb Radle
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Dorothy Kopp & Family

Lector

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Monica Krings
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Linda Chilson

Music

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Organist: Arleen Ebensperger
Cantor: Gwen Glaus
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Organist: Annie Hansen
Cantor: Sara Hansen

Rosary Leader

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Bernadine Bechel
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Connie Ahlers

Sacristan

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Laurie Heit
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Teresa Fedie

Servers

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Grace Hinrichs & Allyson Fleishauer
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
The Pullen Family

Usher

Sunday, April 14, 8:00 a.m.
Pete Helmueller & John Krings
Sunday, April 14, 10:15 a.m.
Ethan Holmstadt & Steve King



FRUITS OF YOUR GENEROSITY - ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sunday, March 31st, 2019

Adult Envelopes (36).....	\$	1627.00
Offertory.....	\$	193.00
Works of Charity.....	\$	945.00
Total Income.....	\$	2765.00

PCCW NEWS



We deeply thank Teresa Fedie, Verna Weiss, Marie Berger, Suzie Brunner, and Mary Wieser for cleaning the School Kitchen. May the Good Lord bless you for the time and energy devoted to our Parish.

Care Center Birthdays

Care Center Birthdays will be celebrated with cake and ice cream by St. Elizabeth's group on Tuesday, April 9th at 3:15 p.m..

ST. FRANCIS LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Ellsworth will have a Lenten Reconciliation Service on Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. There will be three priests present to hear confessions.

OUR WEEK: ST. JOSEPH

Money Counting

Monday, April 8, 8:30 a.m.
Betty Lauer, Midge Steller,
& Denny Hutter

Announcements

Saturday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.
Rose Brunner

Extraordinary Minister

Saturday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.
Jeff Brunner

Gift Bearers

Saturday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.
Brian & Teresa Brunner

Lector

Saturday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.
Jeff & Rose Brunner

Music

Saturday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.
Musicians: Paul & Char Fetzer

Rosary

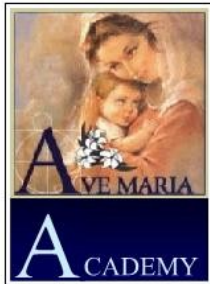
Saturday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.
Madalyn Fleishauer



FRUITS OF YOUR GENEROSITY - ST. JOSEPH

Saturday, March 30th, 2019

Adult Envelopes (26).....	\$	790.00
Offertory.....	\$	125.00
Works of Charity.....	\$	215.00
Total Income.....	\$	1130.00



OPEN HOUSE
Ave Maria Academy
&
Little Lamb Preschool
208 Church Rd. Plum City

Tuesday, April 16th
9:00am - 11:00am

Come meet the staff. See the class sizes

Experience what makes us unique:

Family Involvement
Field Trips
Community Service
Piano Lessons Onsite
Considering after School Child Care

Obtain fall 2019 registration information
3 & 4yr Preschool
Kindergarten
1st - 8th grades

For more information or to schedule an
alternate date to come visit, please call
(715) 647-4630

avemariaacademy@centurytel.net

Visit our Website ~ avemariaacademyPC.org

Find us on Facebook

Welcomes
Children of all
Denominations

Faith & Awareness

Academic Success

Self-Discipline

**SPECIAL
EVENTS**

Plum City Lion's Pancake Breakfast

Plum City's Lions Club will be hosting

a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Palm Sunday,
April 14th at the Plum City American Legion Hall from
8:00 a.m. to noon. Net proceeds will be used for community needs
and scholarships for Plum City students.



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.

ABOUT THE GOSPEL

A woman is caught in a serious sin, and
people want to punish her. Jesus stops the
crowd from hurting her. He reminds them that they are also sinners.
He tells the woman that she should not sin anymore. His message
also applies to us.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

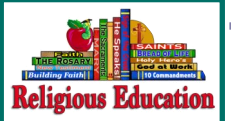
Have you felt alone with no
friends? How can remembering
that Jesus loves you help you
during those times?

IN CHURCH

During the Sign of Peace at
Mass, extend not only your
hand but also your heart and
forgiveness to others.

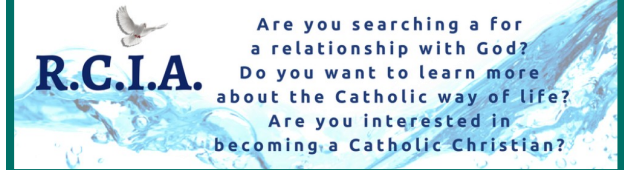
FAMILY PRAYER

Help us to see our faults, Lord, before looking at the faults of others.



ATTENTION CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

All Confirmation students will be participating in the
Rite of Enrollment ceremony on Sunday, April 7th,
during the 10:15 Mass. Following the Mass, there will
be a celebratory reception in the school basement. All are invited to
come and show their support for the youth of our parishes.



St. John the Baptist and St. Joseph welcomes interest in our Catholic
faith. RCIA classes are designed for those interested in entering into
the fullness of the Catholic faith through a spiritual journey of
formation that brings their conversion and faith to maturity. If you are
interested in receiving your Baptism, Communion, and/or
Confirmation, please call for more information.

Robyn Trannel (DRE): 608-790-2177

Ave Maria Academy
students reading with
their Book Buddies at
the Plum City Care
Center.

