



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. 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

Aletha Pullen, Secretary, 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

Lawrence Bechel, 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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSARY'S

*Gianna Holmstadt's Birthday: 10/2

*Annie Bauer's Birthday: 10/2

*Herb & Julie Tschumperlin's 59th Anniversary: 10/4

*Dianne Lecheler's Birthday: 10/7

*Darla Pittman's Birthday: 10/7

*Nick Hartung's Birthday: 10/7

*Robert & Mary Helmueller's 65th Anniversary: 10/7

Bob Larson's Birthday: 10/13

Jack Luebker's Birthday: 10/15

Dave Anibas's Birthday: 10/19

Savannah Caturia's Birthday: 10/28

Dwight Caturia's Birthday: 10/31

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

OCTOBER 6, 2019



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

212 Church Road, Plum City, 54761

11stjohn@centurylink.net

Office: 715-647-2901 | Rectory: 715-647-2301

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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saintjoseph@nelson-tel.net

Bulletin Announcements

bulletin-editor@centurylink.net

Bulletin Deadline: Monday Noon

HIS DELAYS ARE NOT DISAPPOINTMENTS

In the early hours of my ministry, I encountered a family that was very kind to me. I had been freshly ordained and life at my first assignment was quite an uphill battle. My first weekend at St. Anthony's Church was also the time for the town's annual festival. Many visitors had come to town, and as was the custom, many who had relocated would visit the Rectory to interact with the priests and to acquaint themselves with developments in the Parish. It was when one such family paid my pastor a visit that I got acquainted with a lady who took me for aid in the Rectory. Having returned from the city, and not knowing who I was, she stood on a pedestal as she dealt with me. Patiently I answered all her questions, some of which were overbearing, to say the least. We parted company after her showdown and I continued with my familiarization stroll. It was a Saturday afternoon.

Sunday morning, the Church was packed. It was my first Mass at my first assignment. As the procession entered, my eyes and those of the overbearing lady caught. It dawned on her immediately that she could have been nicer to the unassuming young man she met the day before than she actually did. On my part, all I did was to smile, which smile infected her to smile as well. When Mass was done, she came up to apologize profusely for her conduct and threw me an invitation to visit her home before she parted for the city. It was this invitation that introduced me to her home and her entire family.

She hailed from a staunch Catholic home. Every one of her siblings was not just enthusiastic about their faith, they also loved their faith and practiced it with fever. Among the people I met was this young niece of hers, now a single mother of two boys. At the time, she was a sophomore in college. Her love for God and her zeal about matters of God was amazing. She eventually completed college with high honors, obtained a very good job, married a promising young man and settled down to live her life. For a while, life was good. She got promoted rapidly and in a matter of a few years, she became the manager of the western, central and eastern African desks for her company.

As fate would have it, one of her two sons turned out to be autistic. Soon after the son was diagnosed with autism, her husband took French leave, never to return home again. Did he run away from his paternal responsibilities? Only God knows. Unexpectedly, her mother who had moved in to stay with her to give a hand with the care and upbringing of the boys died of cardiac arrest. In the meantime, she could afford to hire a nanny to take care of her boys so she could work and make ends meet. Then she got promoted again to the international headquarters of her job in Geneva. Strangely enough, the only condition she was given was not to relocate to Geneva with the autistic son. Though this promotion was good, the attached condition was rather difficult. Thinking she could leave her autistic son with the nanny and venture for greener opportunities, she accepted the offer and left. It took her no time to realize that leaving her son in Ghana wouldn't work. She quickly arranged to bring her son to join her and the other son in Geneva. She then hired a nanny there to take care of the autistic boy as she worked. Her bosses got wind of it and sent her back to Ghana for a breach of contract. Though she was not dismissed, feeling her job had discriminated against her son gave her no peace on the job. She eventually resigned and took up another job, as good as the one before. Yet, this new job would only last but for a short while. Without any warning, her bosses called her one day and gave her the sack. Her immediate boss felt she was outshining her and so wanted her out without any tangible reason. Life from that point became a pain in the neck. Her days from then on were filled with misery and pain. One misfortune followed another and life for her was no longer worth living. For a year and more, she searched for a new job, but to no avail. Her friends forsook her and relatives barely ventured to help. Her tears became her bread as, day in and day out, people mocked her hopes and others encouraged her to leave her Catholic faith and try some of the present-day fancy churches.

For months, I vowed to be her support. My constant calls were something the boys looked forward to. My prayers for them were certain. She herself took a special interest in the Divine Mercy Chaplet and would pray it every day at 3:00 pm. There were times she lost hope and felt like giving up. God seemed to have forgotten her. Faith sometimes made little meaning, but she fought on. In one of my telephone conversations with her, I needed no one to tell the desperation in her voice. All I could say was, "Please don't give up the fight." That very night as I lay in bed, a voice came to me saying: "It might seem slow, but wait." I jumped out of bed to google the statement which brought me to the Prophet Habakkuk. Reading that whole book and realizing that aspects of it reiterated the just ended conversation I had with her, all I could think of was to underline the following verses for her:

"How long, O Lord? I cry for help but you do not listen! I cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not intervene. Why do you let me see ruin; why must I look at misery? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and clamorous discord. Then the LORD answered me and said: Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late. The rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of his faith, shall live." (Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4)

With these words of encouragement, I asked her to look for a perpetual adoration chapel and visit as often as she could. I told her that even if she had nothing to tell Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, she should just present herself and ask what Jesus intended to do with her.

Friends, it was not quite a month later that I received the following text message from her: "Please Father, I was just signed up to work with KPMG and I am supposed to start work on September 9, 2019. God is always good."

Indeed, God is good all the time. His delays are not meant to be disappointments. He may pass us through the mill but if we carry on in faith, His plans and purposes shall come to pass. All we need is the spirit of patient endurance. We pray this week, asking Him to increase our faith and give us the stamina to embrace the difficult moments we encounter in life, believing that His love never ceases and His mercies never come to an end in spite of ourselves. May we never give up the fight. May we constantly fan our faith into flames.

Have a good week
Fr. Joseph Okine-Quartey

MASS SCHEDULE & DAILY READINGS

Monday: October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary

- **No Mass**
- Readings: Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Jn 13:34/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: October 8

- Mass: 10:30 a.m., † Michael Pittman
- Readings: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/Lk 11:28/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: October 9 - St. Denis & Companions and St. John Leonardi

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. Joseph, † JoAnn Kraft
- Readings: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:28/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: October 10

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - Living & Deceased Members of the Virginia White Family
- Followed by Communion for the sick and homebound
- Adoration: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., St. John the Baptist
- Readings: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/See Acts 16:14b/Lk 11:5-13

Friday: October 11 - St. John XXIII

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - Carol Kern
- Readings: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/Jn 12:31b-32/Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: October 12 - Blessed Virgin Mary

- Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Arvilla Caturia
- Mass: 4:00 p.m., St. Joseph - † John Caturia
- Readings: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:28/Lk 11:27-28

Sunday: October 13 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Mass: 8:00 a.m., St. John the Baptist - † Marie Glaus
- Mass: 10:15 a.m., St. John the Baptist - St. John the Baptist & St. Joseph Parishioners
- Readings: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4/2 Tm 2:8-13/1 Thes 5:18/Lk 17:11-19

The Rosary is prayed before all Masses

Part-time Secretary Wanted for St. John the Baptist and St. Joseph's Parishes

St. John the Baptist and St. Joseph's Parishes are currently accepting applications to fill the role of Secretary in our central office. The successful candidate will perform skilled clerical work and provide general secretarial support. The Secretary will be responsible for maintaining sacramental & parishioner records, ordering Church & office supplies, scheduling liturgical roles, and facilitating communication within our Parishes. Candidates must have strong office, computer, and communication skills. An understanding of the Catholic Church and its mission is important. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

If you are interested, please, email (11stjohn@centurylink.net) or send your resume to the central office (St. John the Baptist & St. Joseph Parishes, 212 Church Road, Plum City, WI, 54761).

THAT MAN IS YOU

"That Man Is You" program meets on Friday, October 11th 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 five is Abiding Presence. All men are welcomed to join. If you have any questions please contact Dan Wieser at (715) 279-2152 or Tom Pullen at (607) 244-3010. Thanks!



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISHIONERS

PCCW Baby Bottle Campaign



October is Respect for Life Month. St John the Baptist's PCCW is holding a baby bottle campaign. This campaign will run the entire month of October. There are baby bottles at all the entrances of the Church. Please pick up a baby bottle, fill it with your loose change or any donation you would like. We will collect the bottles at the end of the month. Proceeds will benefit Options for Women.

Electronic Giving Option - Coming Soon!

Please see a Finance Council Member for Details!

LITURGICAL ROLES: ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Money Counting

Monday, October 7, 9:30 a.m.
Denise Pelzel, Carol Bechel,
& Suzanne Gilles

Announcements

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Dianne Lecheler
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Ann Bechel

Extraordinary Minister

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Pat or Kevin Coulson
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Ann Bechel

Gift Bearers

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
John & Monica Krings
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Tom & Aletha Pullen Family

Lector

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Pat or Kevin Coulson
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Ryan Trannel

Music

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Organ: Tracy Biederman
Cantor: Gwen Glaus & Chris Bechel
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Organ: Arleen Ebensperger
Cantor: Steve Carlson

Rosary Leader

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Peggy Gilles
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Holy Name Society

Sacristan

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Gwen Glaus
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Aletha Pullen

Servers

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Allyson Fleishauer & Brooke Biederman
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Olivia & Lilly Pullen

Usher

Sunday, October 13, 8:00 a.m.
Chad Steele & Mel Pittman
Sunday, October 13, 10:15 a.m.
Tom Pullen & Ethan Holmstadt



FRUITS OF YOUR GENEROSITY - ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST Sunday, September 29th, 2019

Adult Envelopes (35).....	\$	2100.00
Capital Improvements (1).....	\$	50.00
Utility Fund (1).....	\$	50.00
Offertory.....	\$	182.75
Total Income.....	\$	2382.75

ROSARY RALLY

Please join us in praying the Rosary for the **protection and preservation of innocence** on Saturday, October 12th at noon in the vacant lot across the street from the old Plum City theater on the corner of County Road U and County Road S. If it is raining, we will pray in the St. John the Baptist Church.



POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY INTENTION

October: A Missionary "Spring" in the Church

That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender a new missionary "spring" in the Church.



St John the Baptist Capital Funds Projects

As Father mentioned last weekend at Mass, we have many projects we are planning to accomplish.

Church Windows:

The current windows have not been replaced or fixed in many years. We feel we should not replace them, but fix them to last many more years. Windows would be re-leaded and new storm windows would be installed where needed. To repair each window, it will cost \$9,000 - \$10,000. We have estimated the total cost to be: \$120,000. To completely replace the large round window above the altar to match existing windows: \$7,500

Steeple:

The Steeple is leaking. It needed to be repaired and painted. The spires will be repaired on the north side of the Church and structurally rebuilt on the inside. All rotten wood will be replaced to replicate the existing wood. Screens inside the bell tower and louvers will be replaced. We need to do this to help take care of the dampness in the Church. The cost to fix interior and paint exterior steeple is \$41,000.

Painting of Interior of the Church:

We are currently collecting bids. So far, we have received 3 bids that range from \$95,000 to 150,000. The differences of these bids are things like having St. John the Baptist providing manpower to take down all statues, help with putting up and moving scaffolding, remove and replace pews, furnishing dumpsters and electricity, rather than having the contractor taking care of everything. For the low bid, trying to find parish men to be here every day to help may be a bit of a challenge. These bids are for painting only. No new carpet or refinishing of the pews has been estimated. Estimated cost: \$150,000.

Upgrade of Church heating vent/thermostat system:

Our heating vents have not been fixed or replaced in quite some time. The one in the main entrance of the Church is broken. We are going to fix this one and upgrade the system, and install new thermostats. Estimated cost: \$2,500.

Church organ repair:

Our organ is not working to its capacity. Estimated cost: \$25,000.

Miscellaneous items:

We have many smaller projects that also need to be worked on, such as landscaping, new church sign with electricity, new roof for BBQ pit and possible re-purpose of this area into picnic area. Estimated cost: \$4,000.

The total cost for all projects is \$350,000. Currently, we have \$18,500 remaining in window fund, and about \$139,000 in restoration and other savings accounts. **This means we have to raise about \$192,500 to complete all of these projects.** We have already completed many needed projects such as the Church Roof, Church Tuck Point, new Church Doors, concrete work/sidewalks on West side of church and in front of Rectory, as well as seal coat of the parking lot.

Yes, this does sound overwhelming and a large amount. All of it is needed to keep our Church going. It would really help us if we could get families to get together and donate towards one or more of the windows in honor of the ancestors that first put them there. Any funds that you can donate towards our restoration projects would be greatly appreciated and accepted. Fund raising projects will need to be held for the balance of funds needed.

May God bless you for all you do to keep our Parish vibrant; especially as we move towards our 150-year anniversary and beyond.

Sincerely,

Father Joseph, Buildings and Grounds Committee, Parish Finance Council, and Parish Pastoral Council.

ST. JOSEPH PARISHIONERS

Father Joe's Birthday and Priesthood Sunday

We will be celebrating Father Joe's Birthday and Priesthood Sunday on Saturday, October 19th after Mass in the Church Basement. All are welcome.

LITURGICAL ROLES: ST. JOSEPH

Money Counting

Monday, October 7, 8:30 a.m.
Bud Bauer, Jerry Lieffring,
& Elaine Brunner

Announcements

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m.
Rose Brunner

Extraordinary Minister

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m.
Mary Berger

Gift Bearers

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m.
Dan & Sue Caturia

Lector

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m.
Jeff Brunner

Music

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m.
Musicians: Paul & Char Fetzter

Rosary

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m.
Howard & Mary Martin



FRUITS OF YOUR GENEROSITY - ST. JOSEPH Sunday, September 28th 2019

Adult Envelopes (21).....	\$	638.00
Memorial (Larry Steller).....	\$	25.00
Offertory.....	\$	174.00
Total Income.....	\$	837.00

ABOUT THE GOSPEL

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the Parable of the Mustard Seed. When his Apostles ask for an increase of faith, Jesus encourages them to trust that the faith they have is strong and pleasing to God.

IN CHURCH

One way we live out our faith is by helping the people around us. Find a way to help a person sitting near you.

FAMILY PRAYER

Lord, help our family to love You more each day. May we live like You. Amen.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Who has encouraged your faith to grow?



Plum City Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast

The Plum City Lion's Club will host their annual Fall Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 13th from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Net proceeds will be used for Community Needs.

