

MEGA RAFFLE!

Our parish's MEGA Raffle will be taking place on Saturday, February 17th.

Did you get your ticket yet?

The Grand Prize is \$20,000 CASH!

Second Prize is \$4,000 CASH!

\$50 per ticket - 250 winners - odds are 1 in 10

In addition to these top prizes there will be 248 more
prizes ranging from \$1,500 to \$100 each.

Pick up tickets in the Gathering Area of Church,
School Office or the Parish Office.

*** IMPORTANT ***

Be sure that ticket stubs are filled out COMPLETELY with FULL NAME, PHONE NUMBER and ADDRESS including CITY and ZIP CODE! Only ONE name may be on a ticket. This information is very important, especially if that person wins a prize! Also, note that because of raffle laws, winners must be residents of the State of Wisconsin. (Absolutely no cross state line tickets will be accepted).

Join us for the MEGA Raffle celebration and drawing on Saturday, February 17th at 5:30pm. A dinner of a variety of hot sandwiches (pulled pork, Bacon Ranch Chicken Breast or smoked sausage) along with side dishes of mac & cheese, baked beans, German potato salad and veggies & dip will be available for purchase after the 4:00pm Mass. To help us plan, please let the Parish Office know whether you think you will order a dinner on the night of the event.

CALL: 262.662.2832 or parish@stjoesbb.com

Dates to Remember

Thursday, February 8th - No School / Teacher In-Service Day

Family Skate Night at Skateland Waukesha 5:30-8:00pm

Friday, February 9th - No School / Teacher In-Service Day / Athletic Fish Fry 4-7:00pm Dine In or Carryout

Monday-Friday, February 12th-16th - 4th Grade Sponsored Food Drive

Tuesday, February 13th - Mardi Gras / Wear purple, green & gold for Mardi Gras or red for Valentine's Day

Wednesday, February 14th - Ash Wednesday Holy Day of Obligation / Masses at 8:00am & 6:30pm

Friday, February 16th - Stations of the Cross at 1:45pm / Athletic Fish Fry 4-7:00pm Dine In or Carryout

Sunday, February 18th - 4th Grade Parent Mass at 10:30am

Congratulations:

At last Friday's Mass, Father Andy recognized some of our All-Star Altar Servers by giving them a thank you card and Culver's gift card. These students served over 20 times in 2023 at weekend Masses! The four students pictured are Lily V., Jackson V., Blake R. and Abe E. Servers who were not pictured but who also served over 20 times are Josh S. and alum Sam A. Congratulations!



Three servers are needed for each of the three weekend Masses. We have a small group of regular servers, along with a group who fills in when needed. We would love to have you join our Altar Server Team. We do fun things like attending a Brewer's game in the summer - free to servers who served at least five times at weekend Mass in the previous year. If you would like to join our team, you can talk to Father Andy after Mass or email Stacy Abraham

The Mukwonago Optimist

Club held their Oratorical Contest on January 25th. Contestants were asked to write a 4-5 minute speech on "How to Change the World with Optimism". Sara R. placed 3rd. Other participants were Sophia K., Julia R., Alexander B., and Norel S. Congratulations!



Last Friday Fr. Andy blessed our throats in honor of St. Blaise whose feast day is February 3rd.



90% of our students were Highly Proficient in Reading on our STAR Test.

88% of our students were Highly Proficient in Math on our STAR Test.



Annual Auction

Our annual auction is just over a month away on Saturday, March 9th. Make sure to mark it on your calendar and plan to come join us for the Spaghetti Dinner and Live Auction. Lots of items will be up for bid including PJ & Movie Day for your child's class and Lunch with Fr. Andy.



Food Drive

The 5th graders held a successful food drive last month. This month the 4th graders will be running the food drive and collecting **soup & crackers, hamburger helper and pasta sides**. Please put your donation in the Food Barrel in the hallway by 9:00am on Friday, February 16th. Thank you for your donation.



Welcome Christina!

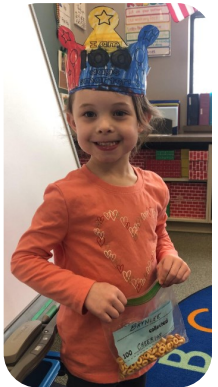
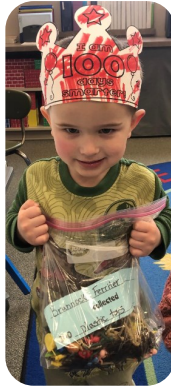
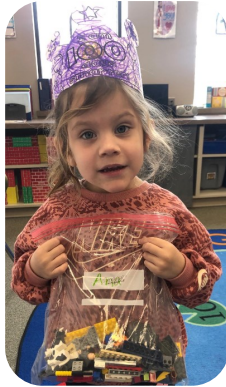
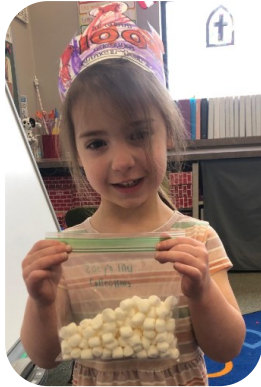


Weekend Parent Mass Schedule

February 18th	10:30am	4th	March 16th	4:00pm	3rd
April 14th	8:30am	1st/2nd	May 5th	10:30am	5K

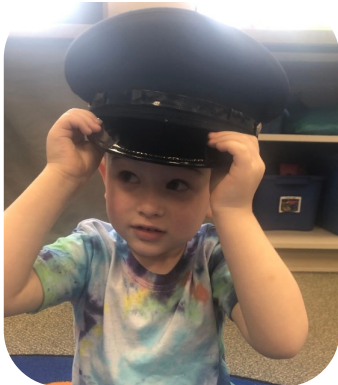
3K

The 3K students celebrated the 100th day of school by bringing in 100 items of their choice.



3K & 4K

Officer Malkowski visited to wrap up our community helper theme! The students were able to try on his vest and cap.



5K

The 5K students hard at work.



1st & 2nd Grade - Working on place value in Math class.

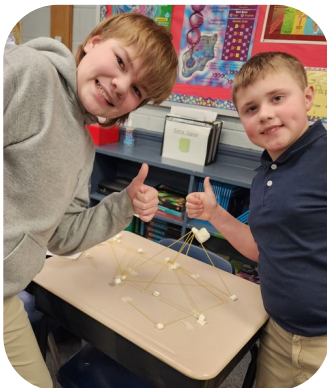


5th & 6th Grades

This week the 5th & 6th graders started the D.A.R.E. program offered by the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. This is a 12 week program taught by Deputy Kim Unger. The class teaches skills that youth need to be safe, healthy and responsible in leading drug-free lives.



5th-8th Grade - Were challenged to build a marshmallow tower as tall as they could using pasta and marshmallows. The tallest one was 35".



Campus Ministry

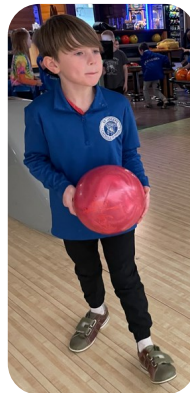
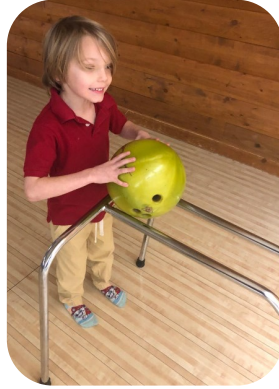
The Campus Ministry Team visited the Hope Center in Waukesha. They helped sort clothing donations and learned about all the ways the organization helps those in need in greater Waukesha. The team will share reflections on their visit to the Hope Center with the rest of the school over the coming weeks. The team is so grateful for Mrs. Richardson's support in organizing and leading the visit.

Team members are: 8th grade - Matthew B. and Sara R.; 7th grade - Tavin S. and Julia R.; 6th grade - Liam R. and Sydney Z.



Bowling During Catholic Schools Week





Athletic News



Fish Fry Volunteer Opportunity

Home and School Volunteer Event Schedule Fish Fry dates, if you can't make your grade level suggested date, feel free to sign up for any date that works for you. **NEW** - we will try offering beer/seltzer sales at fish fry along with soda and water. This only can be accomplished with a responsible adult signing up for beer handler/cafeeteria supervisor as children who normally hand out soda cannot hand out alcoholic beverages.

- ♦ Feb 9 - Grade 5
- ♦ Feb 16 - Grade 4
- ♦ Feb 23 - Grade 3
- ♦ Mar 1 - Grade 2
- ♦ Mar 8 - Grade 1
- ♦ Mar 15 - 5K
- ♦ Mar 22 - 3K, 4K

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094DABAF23ABFB6-44843333-fish>

Volunteer Descriptions Link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rN2NalvcxSGfNZCSWbogc9Hg9H41odrbFxRZ9outDvo/edit?usp=sharing>

Junior Knights

This past Saturday was the first weekend of games for our 1-4th grade Junior Knights basketball. Participants got to try out the new skills they learned the past few sessions in a game setting. Thanks to all of the parent volunteers that make this a great program.



2023-24 Middle School Basketball Season News

We will periodically post highlights and photos of the season here. Parents, please forward game pictures and notable highlights throughout the season to be featured here in the Knightly News to athletics@stjoesbb.com

Upcoming Basketball Schedule:

5th Grade Girls

Saturday, February 10th 10:00 at St. Charles Borromeo

Saturday, February 17th 9:00 at St. Marys Hales Corners

5th Grade Boys

Sunday February 11 1:00 at Holy Apostles

6th Grade Boys

Saturday February 10th 2:30 at Burlington Catholic

7th Grade Boys

Sunday February 11th 10:00 at St. John the Evangelist

8th Grade Boys

Saturday, February 10th 12:00 at St. Charles Borromeo



Attention 5th - 8th Graders!

2024 St. Leonard/St. Joseph Track & Field program sign ups are now ONLINE at <https://forms.gle/YjFhoAWYdLZES9Sf9>.

Registration Fee is found on the WeShare Page.

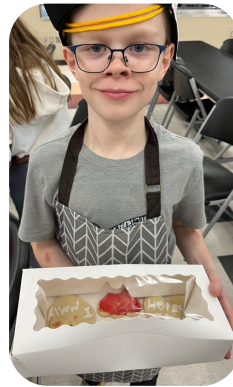
Once we receive your registration, an email will follow with more details.

The season starts March 18th and goes to Mid-May. Practices are twice a week, either at St. Leonard's or at Muskego High School Outdoor Track.

Registration fee includes a team t-shirt & entry to all the track meets for the season. Each participant must have had a Doctor's physical exam within the last two years to participate. Questions on whether your physical is current, contact Tracy Blair at 262-501-2647 or btblair@wi.rr.com. Forms and information can be found at <http://www.stleonards.org/Track-and-Field>.



Culinary Club



SAVE THE DATE!

July 8-12, 9am-noon*

This year's theme is "SCUBA: Diving into friendship with God"

Kids K5-5th grade are invited to an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. Kids will be immersed in the Sacred Scripture and discover what living water is really all about!

*Note that these dates are a change from what is listed on the Parish calendar - which will be updated shortly.





GET YOUR SKATES READY!

St. Joe's Skate Night

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
5:30 - 8:00 PM

COST: \$7 PER PERSON, CASH ONLY
1/2 THE PROCEEDS GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL

WHEN YOU ARRIVE, TELL THEM
YOU'RE WITH ST. JOE'S!

Skateland Waukesha
1931 E. Main St
Waukesha, WI 53186

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2024

St. Joseph Parish, Big Bend, WI
Fr. Andrew Kysely, Administrator

One Minute Meditations

St. Josephine Bakhita

Born in Darfur, Sudan around 1869, she was kidnapped and sold into slavery. Her captors gave her the name Bakhita, meaning "fortunate." After several years of serving under cruel masters, she was bought by Augusto Michieli. The Michielis sent Bakhita with their daughter to Italy, where Bakhita encountered Catholicism. Overjoyed, she was baptized and took the name Josephine. In 1893, instead of returning to Africa with the Michielis, she entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa.



The moment of truth

Conversion begins when we accept responsibility for our failures. Lent is an opportunity to stop and take a good look at our lives. Identify all the ways that sin keeps you from living the way Jesus taught us to live. Know that it may take courage to face your shortfalls.

"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven." St. Rose of Lima



Deepen the connection to Christ during Lent

The key to a fruitful Lent is not to perform miserable penances. A good Lent hinges on encountering Christ in a personal way and letting Him change our hearts and minds. In fact, an effective way to deepen our encounter with Him is through the Eucharist. Consider these suggestions:

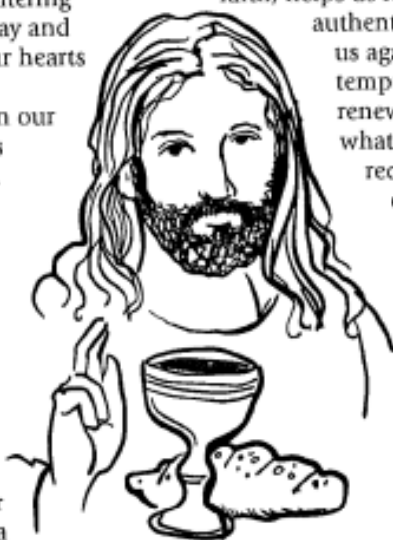
"Here I am, Lord. Love me!" Mother Teresa told her sisters to start their chapel time with this bold prayer, "Here I am, Lord. Love me!" No matter whether you are in His Presence for Mass, a holy hour, or a quick visit in front of the Blessed Sacrament, begin with, "Here I am, Lord. Love me!" It's a prayer of faith God delights to answer.

Live for the next Communion.

Every Communion deepens our union with God, strengthens our faith, helps us love more authentically, and immunizes us against future temptations. Each week, renew your resolve to do whatever is needed to receive Jesus well. For example, avoid activity or entertainment that tempts you away from God, and if you sin seriously, immediately go to Confession and start anew.

Invite others to the feast. Invite a friend, neighbor or colleague to Mass or Adoration

with you. Pray for priests to stay close to the Eucharist. Most importantly, pray that more people come to faithfully encounter Jesus in the tabernacle.

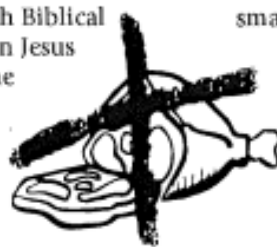


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have to fast on Ash Wednesday?

Fasting is a practice with Biblical roots, most notably, when Jesus fasted for forty days in the desert. Those in good health, aged 18-59, are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We're permitted one full meal and two

smaller meals that together don't equal the full meal. This includes abstaining from meat. Fasting expresses our recognition that we've sinned and desire to make amends. It purifies our hearts and frees them to love God and others well.



Pope Francis's three-point approach to Confession

Instead of dreading seeking the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession), Pope Francis suggested we look at it as "the Sacrament of the tenderness of God, His way of embracing us." Follow the pope's three-point approach to the Sacrament:

What's my intention? Rather than an obligation, consider the Sacrament a fresh start. Firmly resolve, from this moment forward, to give up the activities or behaviors that separate you from God. The firm resolution to change is key to receiving absolution effectively.

Are there loose ends? Unconfessed sin creates



distance between us and God. Make sure you have not withheld mortal sins in prior Confessions, either intentionally or accidentally. If you become aware that you have, confess them and leave the confessional a new man or woman.

Have I completed the assigned penance?

The Sacrament is meant to change us. Purposefully make amends and continue your resolutions to realign your life to the Gospel.

Seeking Reconciliation often and staying in a state of grace helps us become holier people of God.

from Scripture

Mark 9:2-10, Heavenly glory, not worldly power

In Jesus' time, Israel was occupied by the Romans. The Israelites already had a long history of being attacked and conquered by other nations. The Jews dreamed of the day when the Messiah would set them free and make them the victors.

God had set up Moses as liberator and lawgiver, and sent them Elijah, the first of the great prophets who foretold Christ's coming. So when Jesus was transfigured in glory with Moses and Elijah, the Apostles assumed that God was revealing Jesus as the Messiah.

Moses and Elijah spoke with Jesus about His death and Resurrection.

Jesus warned His disciples that He would suffer and die (Mark 8:31). While many Jews were expecting the Messiah to overthrow the Romans and make Himself king,

God revealed that the Messiah would save His people by His own death and Resurrection.

The Transfiguration was meant to strengthen the faith of the Apostles and prepare them for the Passion. The Transfiguration reminds us that however difficult this life may be there is unimaginable glory that awaits us in Heaven.



Q & A Why should we "offer it up"?

When tempted to complain about suffering, we may be encouraged to "offer it up" instead. This act of surrender carries incredible spiritual power.

A share in Christ's Cross. Because Jesus is God, His suffering and sacrifice have infinite value. When we unite even our

small sufferings to Jesus' suffering, it takes on an infinite value in helping Him to save souls.

Spiritual "strength training." When we offer our sufferings to God, He is able to work on our hearts. Suffering for others helps us to become less selfish and more compassionate, less hard-hearted and more patient, less self-indulgent and more generous. Our hearts emerge more Christ-like, and better able to love.

Prudence is needed. Under most circumstances, encouragement to "offer it up" works as a spiritual discipline for inconveniences or mild suffering. Sometimes, however, remediation or professional help may be needed. God sees the sincerity of our love so we can still offer our suffering to Him and yet take constructive action to remediate whatever is causing the suffering. Be prudent.



Feasts & Celebrations

February 3 – St. Blaise (316). A bishop in fourth-century Turkey, St. Blaise was arrested for being a Christian. On his way to jail, he healed a young boy choking on a fish bone. Refusing to deny his faith, the bishop was martyred.

February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858). A heavenly lady appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl from a French village, and a spring with miraculous, healing waters emerged from a nearby cave. The lady revealed herself as the "Immaculate

Conception," the Blessed Virgin Mary. February 14 – Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. Ashes of old palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. It's also a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two small meals that together don't equal a full meal.

February 22 – The Chair of St. Peter. Marking St. Peter's establishment of the Holy See, on this festival we thank God for His Church and pray for its holy preservation.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

St. Joseph Parish, Big Bend, WI
Fr. Andrew Kvsely, Administrator

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MEGA RAFFLE!

Grand Prize: \$20,000 | 2nd Prize: \$4,000

Drawing at St Joseph Catholic Church on Saturday February 17, 2024 at 5:30pm
S89 W22650 Milwaukee Ave., Big Bend, WI 53103

In addition to the GRAND Prize and the 2nd Prize, 248 people will win the following:

3rd\$1,500	8th\$600	23rd -25th\$200 (3)
4th\$1,000	9th-10th\$500 (2)	26th-50th\$150 (25)
5th\$900	11th-14th\$400 (4)	51st-250th\$100 (200)
6th\$800	15th-19th\$300 (5)	
7th\$700	20th-22nd\$250 (3)	

**Total Prizes \$58,700 – Only
2,500 tickets will be sold**

\$50 per ticket – 250 winners – odds are 1 in 10

Need not be present to win – winners responsible for all applicable taxes.
If break-even quota of \$58,700 is not achieved, money will be refunded in full.

(Please return all sold or unsold tickets to the Parish Office)

St. Joseph Catholic Church

S89 W22650 Milwaukee Ave., Big Bend, WI 53103

Phone 262-662-2832 License Number R0001505-A19450

Attention 5th thru 8th Graders

St. Leonard/ St. Joseph Track and Field Program



Registration is
PAPERLESS
You can register
online until
March 1st

TRACK INFO NIGHT: March 11th at 5:00 pm in the St. Leonard's Gym.

Dates: The 8 week track season starts Mid March and ends Mid May.

Practices: Twice a week, Practices are held at St. Leonard's & Muskego High School's Outdoor Track

Entry Fee: \$75.00 includes team t-shirt & entry to all the track meets for the season.

Each participant must have had a Doctors Physical Exam within the last two years to participate. You can scan and email your physical to stleonardsathletics@gmail.com or bring it at the parent meeting. Registration can be found at

<http://www.stleonards.org/Track-and-Field>

or go directly to <https://forms.gle/YjFhoAWYdLZES9Sf9>

If you have any questions regarding registration or whether your physical is current, contact Tracy Blair at btblair@wi.rr.com

Have more questions on our program? Contact the following:

Tracy Blair, Track Coordinator

262-501-2647

btblair@wi.rr.com

LENTEN

FAMILY ACTIVITY MORNING

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 18TH
9 – 10:15 AM
PARISH HALL

**FOR ALL FAMILIES WITH
CHILDREN AGES 3-12**

**USE QR CODE TO SIGN UP
OR EMAIL
EEVANS@STJOESBB.COM**

- **SPEND TIME AS A FAMILY!**
- **MAKE 2 PROJECTS**
- **GET LENT IDEAS**
- **CREATE A PLAN**
- **PLAY A GAME**



**\$5 DONATION PER
FAMILY REQUESTED**