ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Leading Souls to Heaven

oS233 Church Street; Winfield, Illinois 60190 | stjohnwinfield.org | Ph: 630.668.0918 | Fax: 630.668.1074

Pastor: Very Rev. Christopher Lankford, KHS Parochial Vicar: Fr. John Abulag

MASS TIMES CHAPEL

Mondays, Wednesdays 5:30 pm

Tuesday, Thursday 8:15 am

Fridays 12:00 pm

Sundays 7:30 am

<u>CHURCH</u>

Saturdays 5:00 pm

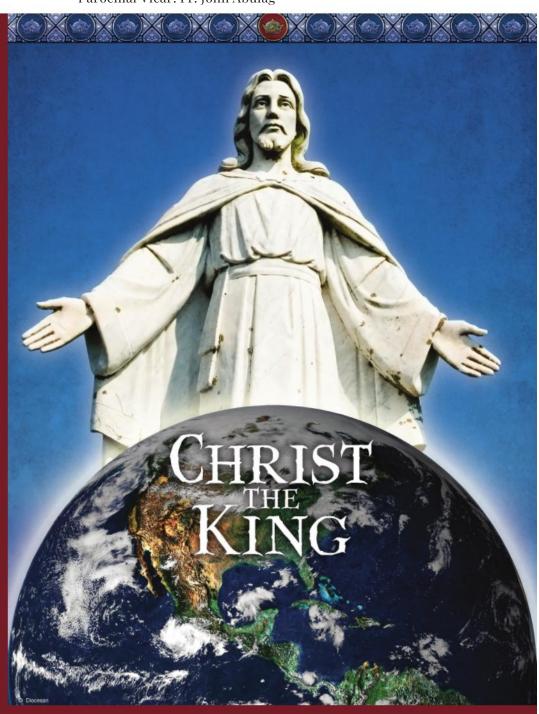
Sundays 9:30 am 11:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm (Church)

ADORATION

Thursdays 9:00 am to 8:00 pm (Chapel)



Solemnity of Christ the King, November 26, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP HICKS

Bishop Hicks' Column

November 2023

LAUNCHING OUR 75TH JUBILEE





A "JUBILEE" IS A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY, marking a certain time period. For example, a twenty-fifth anniversary is universally recognized as a silver jubilee, whereas the fiftieth is known as the golden jubilee. This month, we are officially launching the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese of

Joliet, or the celebration of our diamond jubilee.

As they say, "diamonds are forever." This celebration gives us the opportunity to honor our past, commemorate our present, and look forward to the future with hope. Our year-long celebration will officially begin in December 2023 and end in December 2024. However, we have a few things happening in November that I would like to share with you and encourage your participation.

On Monday, November 6, 2023, we launched the first episode of a 14-part podcast series produced specifically for our 75th anniversary. In our pilot episode, Fr. Tom Paul, the chair of the Jubilee planning committee, and I talked about different ways that you can participate in our anniversary celebration. If you are a podcast afficionado, just listen on your favorite app by searching "Faith Into Action." Or you may try watching it on the diocesan YouTube channel. Either way, the links can always be found in the 75th Anniversary section of our website, **diojoliet.org/75th**, which can be read in English, Spanish, and Polish.

As we celebrate with great faith, hope, and love, I want to make sure we have many opportunities to pray together. A nine-day novena will begin on November 25, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This Novena of Grace is based on the writings of the patron saint of our diocese, St. Francis Xavier. For daily prayers and devotions, visit the website or see your Sunday bulletin.

The novena concludes on December 3, 2023. On that same day we will host an event at the Blanchette Catholic Center at 1 p.m., where I will bless a new statue of St. Francis Xavier. He will beautifully welcome employees and visitors at the main entrance to our diocesan offices to remind us of our missionary call to share our faith with all people.

Then, for an entire year we will celebrate in ways that highlight my vision of catechesis, evangelization, and faith into action:

- We will promote catechesis through faith formation to help the next generations know about Jesus and the Church. Through novenas, prayer cards, and lesson plans, we will grow the knowledge of our faith for all ages. We are blessed that our celebration is occurring in harmony with the threeyear National Eucharistic Revival, which reminds us how the Eucharist is the source and summit of our lives.
- 2. We will also continue to **evangelize**, which is needed to truly know Jesus and *love* Him. True evangelization is realized when we believe in our minds, hearts, and souls that Jesus is real: He loves us, and we love Him. Through liturgies, prayers, media posts, podcasts, printed calendars, and commemorative books, we will actively **share** our faith and love of Jesus, who gives us eternal life through His life, suffering, death, and resurrection.
- 3. With catechesis and evangelization as our foundation, we will continue to put our **faith into action**. As Catholics, we **serve** the poor, the needy, and the marginalized. We speak for the unborn, the stranger, the abandoned, and those who are in most need of our care. As part of the 75th anniversary, I encourage all parishes to establish a day of service in the fall of 2024, responding to the various needs of each distinct community.

Jesus gave us such an incredible gift in the Church, and as baptized Christians, we are called to pass our faith on to the next generations. No one wants to belong to a Church that is merely surviving. Instead, we should have a burning desire to be a thriving Church that truly reflects God's light and God's love.

I encourage you to participate in some aspect of our 75th Jubilee during this next year. There is truly something for everyone, and I want each of you to know that YOU are a vital part of our celebration. So, together, rooted in Christ, let's live out the theme of our 75th anniversary: founded in faith, called to witness, and sent forth to serve!



From podcasts and youth events to service and prayer cards, scan the QR code or visit **diojoliet.org/75th** for the full list of events and activities surrounding the 75th anniversary.

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



The Book of Remembrance

In the month of November, the Book of Remembrance is on a stand in the church near the Holy Family statue. You may write down the names of the deceased whom you would like in our prayers throughout this month.



Sign Up to Give Online!

If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy!

Visit our church website at www.stjohnwinfield.org and click

Give Online

Select the collection or event of your choice. Set up your donation or payment. *That's it!*

Once you've added your account information, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!

Questions? Contact Jim Nolan, 630-668-0918, ext. 604.

AT HOME WITH THE WORD

Books will be available in the narthex of the church after all Masses on November 26th and December 3rd while supplies last.

The suggested donation is \$10.00.

Sacrificial Giving

Offertory collections for the weekend of **November 12, 2023**, were **\$22,925**. We thank you for your support and prayers in helping us meet our weekly goal of \$24,600.

Preschool Open House Wednesday, November 29 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Will your child be in preschool in 2024-25? If so, you are cordially invited to St. John the Baptist Catholic School's Open House for parents of preschool children new to our school on Wednesday,



November 29, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM to learn more about our school and find out why St. John the Baptist is the place for your child(ren).

Please enter Door 1, our main door, and you will be led to our Preschool classrooms.

For more information, please contact principal, Joanne Policht, at

Jpolicht@stjohnwinfield.org

To RSVP, click here: https://www.smore.com/vuxwr



Council of Catholic Women Christmas Luncheon Reservation Form Wednesday, December 6th

11:30am – 12pm - Social time Lunch served at NOON

Courtyard Banquets 3S200 IL 59 (Rt.59), Warrenville



Members and guests interested in joining us for our annual Christmas luncheon should complete the reservation form below. Courtyard Banquets delicious choices for lunch are:

Chicken Marsala—breast of chicken with mushrooms, Marsala wine & mashed potatoes

Roast Sirloin of Beef-tender slices of seasoned beef with mashed potatoes

Vegetarian - Vegetable Lasagna

All entrées include a Fresh Tossed Salad, Steamed Vegetables, Baked Breads with Butter, and Sherbert. Coffee and Tea will be served at the end of the meal.

Indicate your choice below. Cost is \$20. Turn reservation into the collection basket or the parish office *through mail slot in the door* by **Fri. Nov 24th**.

Contact Sheila at 630-234-3792 or Cecily at 630-408-2109 for further information.

Name		Phone#	
Chicken Marsala Enclosed is my check for \$	Roast Sirloin of Beef payable to St. John's CCW	Vegetable Lasagna \$20 per person	

ST. VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS GROCERY GIFT CARDS As we did last year, St. Vincent de Paul Society will be distributing Food Gift Cards to the needy in Winfield, West Chicago and Wheaton areas. Approximately 70 families are helped through your generosity each Christmas.

If you would like to contribute to a family for Christmas, please call the parish office, 630-668-0918, ext. 606. Please provide:

Your name, address, telephone number, and email address;

- If you want to donate a Christmas \$60 minimum Food Gift card for a family of three or less, or an \$80 minimum Food Gift Card for a family of 4 or more, please let us know.
- If you want to donate a \$20 children's Christmas Gift Card, please let us know.

You will then be contacted by a SVdP volunteer by email which will let you know when and where to drop off the Christmas Gift Food Card and perhaps money towards Children's Christmas Gift Cards.

Food Gift Cards should be from a local grocery store such as Aldi's, Jewel, Target, Mariano's, etc.

Children's Christmas Gift cards should be from local stores such as Target, Walmart, etc.

Thank you as always for your generous hearts. May God bless you and your families during Christmas and always.

~St. Vincent de Paul Society

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE BEGIN THIS HOLY ADVENT SEASON:

A Family Nativity Exhibit Friday thru Sunday Dec. 8, 9, & 10

After ALL Masses

In St. John's Sebahar Hall

All parishioners are invited to Sebahar Hall to see Nativity scenes.

Families are invited to bring their Nativity sets to display.

Set-up is Friday, Dec. 8: 1-3 pm And pick-up will be Sunday, Dec. 10 at 2:00 pm

The Nativity sets will be blessed by Fr. Chris.

Nativity Display Form if you want to bring your set for viewing by other parishioners:

Name:		
Contact Info:	 	<u> </u>

Please drop this form at the Welcome Desk in the Church Narthex, the parish office, or email sfuechsl@aol.com

Questions, please contact Linda Fuechsl at 630-290-9649 or sfuechsl@aol.com

KC Fish Fry...Fridays during Advent



"Dine In or Drive By"

5 pm to 7 pm Fridays... Dec. 1, 8, 15

Besides the Fish Dinners, menu will also include the following: Shrimp Dinners, Fish & Shrimp Combo, Fish Tacos, Spaghetti Dinners, Pizza, Enchiladas & Salads Includes all the sides, packaged, hot and ready for YOU!

Fish & Shrimp Prices: Adults \$12 Kids \$9 Seniors \$11

Spag. Tacos Enchilada Dinners \$14

YOU CAN ORDER ONLINE! PLACE ONLINE ORDERS BY 6:30 PM ON THE DAY OF THE FRY! www.stjohnwinfield.org

- ORDER BY PHONE-CALL SEBAHAR HALL, 630-668-0918, EXT 651, from 3 PM to 6:45 PM
- CALL SEAN P CONLEY DIRECTLY, 630-835-8225
- WALK-UP or DINE IN ORDERS welcomed
- PICK-UP LOCATION: COME INSIDE SEBAHAR HALL OR WE'LL DELIVER YOUR ORDER TO YOUR CAR





The Diocese of Joliet recognizes the importance of leaving a lasting legacy that resonates with your faith and values.

As a service to our parishioners, the Diocese has partnered with FreeWill to make planning your will easier than ever. It's 100% free to you, legally binding, and can be completed online in 20 minutes or less.

To begin, visit freewill/dioceseofjoliet or scan the QR code on the front of this card.

How will you legacy continue to bless your family, your parish, and the causes that matter to your for years to come?

For more information, contact Jane Lagger, Chief Development Officer, Diocese of Joliet at (815) 2221-6190 or jlagger@dioceseofjoliet.org



Scholarship Recipients Face Uncertain Future After Legislature Failed to Act

It is difficult to put into words the level of disappointment so many are experiencing today after learning the Illinois General Assembly failed to renew the Invest in Kids Act.

This year alone, Invest in Kids is providing more than 9,500 scholarships to qualifying low-income families who want their child to attend a non-public school. Due to the cruelty of the Illinois General Assembly, those 9,500 scholarships will not be available next school year. In addition, the hopes of more than 26,000 students on a waitlist who so desperately want a scholarship have been dashed as has using Invest in Kids scholarships at high school-level trade schools.

Sadly, we expected more from our elected state senators, representatives and Governor. At the very least, we expected them to represent the opinions of their constituents. An Impact Research poll conducted in August 2023 found that a majority of Illinois voters supports the program in all regions of the State; most notably it is supported by parents, voters of color and voters with incomes below \$40,000 per year. Support remains high even after voters hear arguments about the program from critics and proponents alike. Who, then, are the members of the Illinois General Assembly who did not support renewal representing?

Six years ago, supporters of Invest in Kids were told that this was a pilot program. We were asked to see how it goes. Here is how it has gone:

- Of the 40,000 families who have received a scholarship, more than 97 percent are satisfied with the program. Children report they feel safe in school, and they are learning.
- The demand for the program is staggering for every child in the program, three are on a waiting list due to funding constraints.
- The number of Black and Latino children in the program has grown steadily, and Black and Latino students participate in the program at higher rates than in public schools.

Where do we go from here? Despite this setback, we will build on the incredible efforts of the thousands of people who went to Springfield, wrote letters, called their legislators, put up yard signs and attended the many Town Hall meetings. Those efforts resulted in a lot of support to continue the program, and one could argue a majority does support it. We are grateful to those lawmakers who came out publicly to renew the program so more scholarships could be awarded.

The General Assembly reconvenes in January. We must continue our efforts to find a way that allows for more educational opportunities such as Invest in Kids for low-income students and parents who need this program.

This work is not over. The kids are worth the fight.

Donate Tax Free From Your IRA

Did you know you can give from your IRA to St. John the Baptist without having to pay income taxes on the money? This is called an IRA charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution (QCD), which you can begin to make when you turn 70 ½ years old. And, you can use your gift to satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution (RMD) if you turn 73 in 2023. (In 2019, this trigger was set at the age of 72). Gifts of any value of \$100,000 or less are eligible for this benefit. For married couples, each spouse can donate up to \$100,000. And, you can feel good knowing that you are making a difference in your parish. Contact your retirement provider to get started. Our finance director, (630-668-0918 Nolan x604), will also be happy to answer questions you might have.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 25, Vigil, Solemnity of Christ the King

5:00 p.m. † Thomas & Margaret Bartelli (Bernie & Chris Bartelli)

† Amanda Wilke (Rita Wilke) † Patti Bentley (Mike Bentley)

† Nord & Frank Sweeney (Mary Passini)

† Cy Stark (Marianne & Jim Russell)

† Rick Zagotta (Brenda & Dan Wilkens)

Sunday, November 26, Solemnity of Christ the King

7:30 a.m. † Fr. Charles Gemskie (Anne & Dave Larson)

9:30 a.m. † The Faithful Departed of our Parish

11:30 a.m. ♥† The People of the Parish

Monday, November 27

5:30 p.m. + Leslie & Jim Malik, 42nd Wedding Anniversary

Tuesday, November 28

8:15 a.m. † Mafalda Marello (The St. John the Baptist Parish Family)

Wednesday, November 29

5:30 p.m. † Betty Tucknott (The Riendeau Family)

Thursday, November 30

8:15 a.m. † Mitchell Abbas & JoAnn Banister (Jack Bannister)

Friday, December 1

12:00 p.m. † Our Parish All Souls' Intentions

♥† CCW Living and Deceased and for Peace

♥ Mary & Jim Leahy, Health & Intentions (Maureen & Joe Garro)

♥ John Dominic Garro, Health & Intentions (Maureen & Joe Garro)

† Robert Lutzenkirchen (Dan & Helen Lutzenkirchen)

† Phil Sheehan (Tom McGrath)

Mass Intentions: The donation for a Mass Intention is \$10.00; the 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass and 12:00 pm Friday Mass are free-will donations. Please note: the 2024 Mass book is open.

Knights of Columbus and Versiti Blood center would like to thank everyone who helped and donated blood this fall. It was greatly appreciated, potentially saving up to 90 lives.

The next donation date will be April 22, 2024 from 3 to 7pm.



Please keep in your prayers all Deacons and Seminarians who are studying in the Diocese of Joliet including our own Seminarian Sam Bergmann

Our Sanctuary Lamps

This week, our Sanctuary Lamps* burn in Memory of (†) /Honor of (♥):

CHAPEL † *Jeanne Ptak*CHURCH † *John Moscinski*

*If you would like to request a sanctuary lamp to burn in memory of/in honor of a loved one, please contact the parish office. The cost is \$10.00 per week.

Please pray for our sick

Praying for our sick is one of the most important things we can do as a parish community. Please pray for the following people:

Baby Luke Hougan

The entire prayer list is on our website, at www.stjohnwinfield.org. Click on the heading, "Prayer Request", then scroll right underneath Prayer Request banner: to PLEASE CLICK HERE TO SEE OUR CURRENT PRAY FOR OUR SICK LIST

If you or someone in your family is sick & would like to be included in this list or prayed for by our confidential Prayer Line, please contact the parish office.



Please pray for all first responders and for those in Active Duty, including our own:

Pvt James Luigi Akin SRA Francis Beifuss Lt. Col. John Berg Sat. Tyler Bowling, US Army Sat Melissa Brooker Pvt Timothy Conley Lt. Commander Nicholas Daly Major Daniel Durbin Lt. Col. Tony Eschliman LCPI Ciro Esquivel, Jr. Sgt. Nicholas Gedvilas Pv2 Nicholas Gorman Sgt Pamela Gray Colonel Eric Hass, US Army Colonel Erica Haas, USAF A1C Seth Kelley Airman Nicholas Kostecka Lt. Crystal Kotvan

Captain Matthew Luff W01 Jake Miller CMDCM (SW/SS/AW) Timothy A. Newell ABH2 Sean Phillips Captain Colleen Rezabek Captain Kevin Rezabek A1C Alejandro Luis Sanchez Sgt Ian Sarlitto AN Michael Schieve 2LT Allyson Serbick PFC Keegan Serbick Lt. Col. James Smolucha Major Mike Smolucha SPC Thomas Stanhope Lt. Keith Wolfe

Sgt Major Carrie Kwiatkowski Sgt. David Lawless SrA Robert Lawless

THE KNIGHTS & MEN OF SJB:

Come pray the rosary stay for a get-together. St. John's Fire Pit, 7:00 pm Wednesday,

December 6, 2023

Questions? Sean Conley, 630-835-8225

ALEX'S BLESSING BAGS

As you know, last year we had a very successful drive and supplied over 500 homeless people "care bags" containing hats, gloves, socks, hot hands, snacks, and other personal essentials.

We donated these bags to PADS, a couple of veteran's shelters, Hesed House, the Winfield Police Department, the West Chicago Police Department, West Chicago Food Pantry, Wayne Township, Milton Township, and the DuPage County Sheriff. I am asking for any of the above items as a donation to support the "Alex Project" again this year. I really appreciate all of your support last year.

I would like to beat last year's count of 500 and with everyone's help, we will do it.

Thank you for helping out.

Alex McCall

Please bring your donations to the Religious Education Office. In the past, the children of our parish have put the items together for Alex to deliver to the above people.

WISH TREES

Our Wish Trees will be up in our Church narthex again this year. The Wish Trees provide an opportunity for our St. John the Baptist family to help two organizations this Christmas: Ahva Care of Winfield (formerly known as Winfield Woods) which is a long-term care facility and our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry clients.

Ahva Care of Winfield tags are red. They are requesting \$25 gift cards for their residents from Walmart or McDonald's. St. Vincent de Paul tags are mint green. They are requesting \$40 gift cards from Target, Walmart, Amazon, etc. The cards will be given to the children of the St. Vincent de Paul clients.

The gift cards need to be returned anytime through December 13 to the parish office. Please place the gift cards in an envelope and tape the tag to the outside of the envelope. Put them through the mail slot in the parish office inner door or bring to Mass and hand to an usher.



Join St John's Book Club at our next monthly meeting, December 13th at 7pm at the home of Jean Daniell



We will discuss the book,

Christmas Cupcake Murder by Joanne Fluke

Please inquire for directions or with any questions & RSVP Jean at tjdaniell@att.net

PRAYERS & THOSE IN NEED

Having Surgery?

Give one of our priests a call PRIOR to your surgery, so that anointing can be given at a time when you are less stressed.

Hospital Visits

To receive communion while in the hospital, please make the request to a hospital chaplain. Because of HIPPA laws, the hospital does not notify churches when parishioners are there. Please notify the St. John's parish office when a loved one is the hospital so prayers can be offered. We want to do our best to minister to all who are hospitalized.

Homebound

Parishioners who are homebound and wish to receive communion should call the parish office and we will pass your name to the coordinator for Homebound Ministry.

Grief Support Group

Our Grief Support Group offers emotional support for these grieving a loss whether by death, divorce, or other significant event in their lives. Support is based on confidentiality, trust, and safety. Our next meeting is **December 5, 2023 , 7:00 pm.**

Bulletin Articles

Interested in submitting a bulletin article? Email SJBBulletin@stjohnwinfield.org

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

For Baptisms, Funerals and Wedding information, please contact the parish office.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting:

AA is meeting on Thursday evenings at $7:00~\mathrm{pm}$ in Sodonna Hall, the basement of the parish office.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Parish Main 630-668-0918 Ext o Parish Administrative Assistants:

	Tammy Miller	Ext 600
	Rosa Benavides	Ext 601
	Secretaria Hispana	Ext 601
Religious Education office		Ext 613
Director of Faith Formation & RCIA: Sarah Reznicek		Ext 612
Director of	Finance, Facilities & Operations: Jim Nolan _	Ext 604
Director of Liturgical Life: Michael Berger		Ext 607
Grade Scho	ool Office:	

Orace Delibor Officer	
Principal: Joanne Polic	cht630-668-0918 Press 2
Fax:	630-668-1074
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Ext 692

For information on joining St. John's, please see our website or call the parish office.

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., and Thurs.: 09 am - 3 pm; Wed.: 12 pm - 3 pm; Friday; Closed

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