# 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 Deacon: Rev. Mr. Alex Lorang

#### **MASS TIMES**

**Mondays** 5:30 pm

**Tuesdays** 8:15 am

Wednesdays 5:30 pm

**Thursdays** 8:15 am

Fridays 12:00 pm

**Saturdays** 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil)

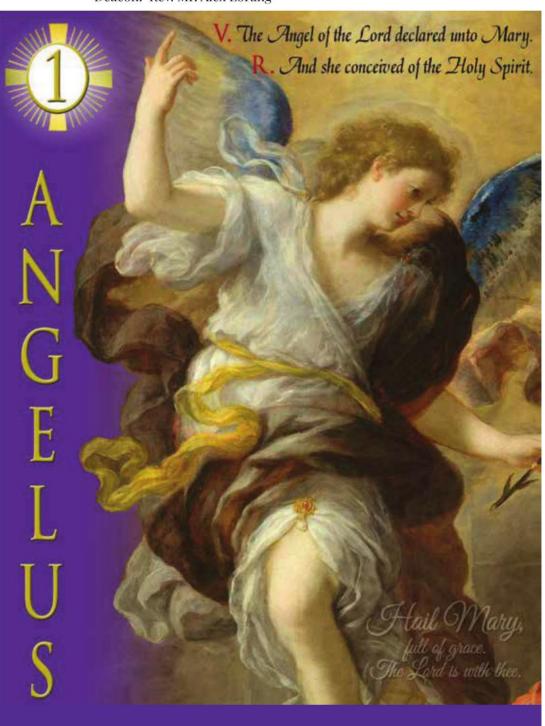
Sundays 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am

## CONFESSIONS

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

## **ADORATION**

Thursdays Following 8:15 am Mass & Rosary, to 8:00 pm (Chapel)



First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2022

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends in Christ,

In just a few hours, I'll be leaving for an amazing journey. I'll be making a visit to Rome and the Vatican!

I'm very blessed to spend the next several days in the Eternal City. I've been one time before, and it wasn't nearly enough time to see everything. It's such an amazing place, and I hope if you've never been, you get a chance to go soon!

Some may be wondering, am I going for official church business or pleasure. The majority of the trip will be pleasure, but there truly is never a vacation from a vocation. I'm a priest 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and if a priest is needed wherever I'm at, I'm there!

Some of the things I'm looking forward to while I'm there is seeing Fr. Jim Olofson, our previous SJB associate. I will be spending a lot of time with Fr. Jim while I'm there. Since he's been studying there for almost a year and a half he should be an expert on what to do and see while I'm there.

I'm also looking forward to, God willing, seeing the Holy Father. As of writing this article, if he is in town and around I may be able to see him at one of his typical Wednesday audiences. I'll be sure to say hi on all our behalf's and ask for a second priest for St. John's!

I'm also looking forward to simply relaxing and preparing spiritually for Christmas. It's hard to believe we are less than a month away from the Nativity of our Savior. As we enter into these Advent days, may we prepare our hearts for His birth.

Know of my prayers for each of you while I'm away and I look forward to seeing you once I'm home. God bless!

In Christ, Fr. Chris



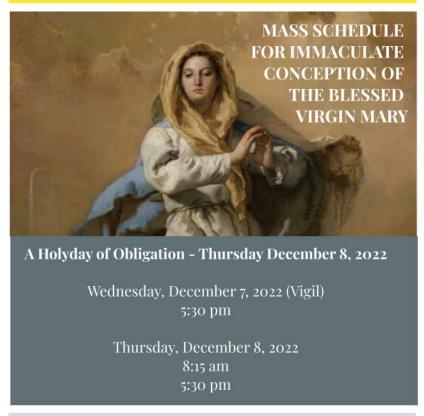
St. Peter's, Vatican City, Rome, Italy.

Photographer credit given to Fr. Jim Olofson. Thanks, Fr. Jim!

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#### SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Offertory collections for the parish were \$17,756 for the weekend of November 13, 2022. Thank you for your continued support, sacrifice and prayers in helping us meet our weekly obligations of \$23,450 during these difficult economic times.

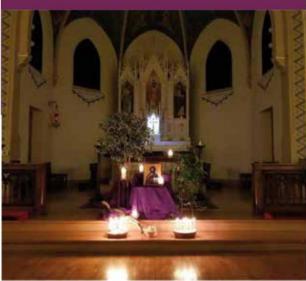


## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

St. John the Baptist Church and School in Winfield, IL is seeking to hire a Director of Communications. This is a part-time position with an estimated work week of 25-29 hours. This position will oversee both the parish and school websites, social media accounts, brochures, flyers, banners, print advertisements and mailings, promotional items for events, oversee the production of the weekly bulletin, and assume responsibilities for tasks and projects as assigned. The person must be fluent with Microsoft Office programs, email marketing services, Google Drive and Adobe Creative Suite. This person must also support the mission, philosophy, objectives and policies of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Joliet. To view a full job description, visit: The Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois. If you are interested in this opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to jnolan@stjohnwinfield.org.

ADVENT-THE TIME OF PREPARATION REFLECTION WITH TAIZÉ Waiting. Preparing.

Tuesday, November 29, 2022, 7:30 pm, Chapel



At Home with the Word books will be available after all Masses on Nov 26 & 27, and for the next two weekends if supplies last. The suggested donation is \$10.00 which will include a Little Blue Book for Advent. The Advent booklets can be purchased separately for \$2.00 each.

## SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK, SAT., NOV, 26TH AT THE 5PM MASS

Saturday, November 26th after the 5:00 pm Mass, Fr Chris will offer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick to all who wish to receive it.

Anyone who is sick or in need of healing is invited to attend and receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. This sacrament confers special grace on Christians experiencing the difficulties that accompany serious sickness, old age or a variety of afflictions.

## **BE FORMED GROUP, RE & SJB** SCHOOL-FOOD PANTRY/VETS **HOME DRIVE**

One of the commitments we make as part of the BE FORMED program is to reach out to others through the Works of Mercy. Our group has decided to sponsor a drive to collect items needed for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry which serves our community neighbors and for the Vets living in Larson House. For those who may not know, the Larson House is a residence for homeless veterans located in downtown Wheaton and is named in honor of Nick Larson, a St. John's parishioner who was killed in action in Fallujah. Our St. John's Religious Education and SJB students will also participate. There will be boxes in the narthex the weekend of Nov. 12 through Nov. 27 to collect these items: laundry detergent, fabric softener, baby wipes, diapers, cleaning supplies, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and dishwashing soap.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

## KC Fish Fry...Fridays during Advent



"Dine In or Drive By"

5 pm to 7 pm Fridays... December 2, 9, & 16

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

Kids \$5

### NOW 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

# PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Thurs., Dec. 1, 6-7:30 pm

Please come to St. John the Baptist Catholic School's Open House for Parents of New Preschool Children on Thursday, December 1 to learn more about our school, and find out why St. John the Baptist is the place for your child(ren). For more information, please contact Joanne Policht, jpolicht@stjohnwinfield.org

Please note: the Open House is for adults only as wine and light snacks will be served.



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#### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 26, Vigil, First Sunday of Advent 5:00 p.m.

† Fr. Gemskie (Anne & Dave Larson) † Roman "Ray" Vanagunas (The Vanagunas Family) † Frank & Nora Sweeney (Mary Passini) † Doris Morrissey (The Morrissey Family)

Health & Intentions, Nichole Shipman (Maureen & Joe Garro)

Health & Intentions, Karen Durbin

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. † The People of the Parish † Walt Wiborg (Family Members) † Charles Roloff (Arlene Reichert) 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

Monday, November 28

† Elizabeth M. Doyle (The Arnold Pins Family) 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 29

8:15 a.m. † Cyndi A. Vivoda (MaryBeth & Joan Cleary)

Wednesday, November 30

5:30 p.m. • Health & Intentions, Jim & Mary Leahy (Maureen Garro)

Thursday, December 1

8:15 a.m. † John Tarmichael (Ellen Tarmichael)

Friday, December 2

12:00 p.m. † Msgr. Vincent Cloos, Anniv. of Death

† Fr Arno Dennerlein

Health & Intentions, John Dominic Garro (Maureen & Joe Garro)
† The Aylward Family (Jack Aylward)
† William Ronaldson (Jack Aylward)

† Gloria & Stan Fortman (Patricia & Werner Welz)

Saturday, December 3, Vigil, Second Sunday of Advent

◆ † CCW Living, Deceased & for Peace (CCW) 5:00 p.m.

† John & Sophie Kohut (Joe & Dee Bryja)

† Joe Konopka (Kay Konopka)

† Lucille Vogt (Ronald & Sharon Kammes) † Scott Bromann (Edward "Skip" Meyer) † Miriam DiBella (Marianne & Jim Russell)

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent

† Fern Wilson (Peter & Rhonda Russo) 7:30 a.m.

† The People of the Parish 9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m. • † Knights of Columbus, Living & Deceased (K of C)

Mass Intentions: The donation for a Mass Intention is \$10; the 5:00 pm Sat. Vigil Mass and 12:00 pm Friday Mass are free-will donations. Please note: the 2023 Mass book is open.

## **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

In the month of November, the Book of Remembrance is in the Church underneath the Infant of Prague statue. You may write down the names of the deceased whom you would like in our prayers throughout this month.



## Our Sanctuary Lamps

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

CHAPEL † Bill Brach CHURCH † Patricia Rios

\*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 five dollars per week

#### **Grief Support Group**

Our Grief Support Group offers emotional support for those grieving a loss, whether by death, divorce, or other significant event in their lives. Support is based on confidentiality, trust, and safety. The next meeting is Thurs., Dec. 1, 2022, at 7:00 pm. Contact the parish office for information, 630-668-0918, ext. o.

#### 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 whose intentions were recently added:

Will Janowick Chris Mara Tom Payton

The entire sick list is on our website, at www.stjohnwinfield.org.

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 at 630-668-0918, ext. 0.

Please keep in your prayers our Deacon and Seminarian who are preparing for the Priesthood:

Rev. Mr. Alex Lorang Seminarian Sam Bergmann

Please pray for all the Deacons and Seminarians who are studying in the Diocese of Joliet

#### Please pray for those who defend our nation, those who serve in Active Duty

Pvt James Luigi Akin **SRA Francis Beifuss** Major John Berg Sqt Melissa Brooker Pvt Timothy Conley Lt. Jr. Gr. Nicholas Daly Major Daniel Durbin LCPI Ciro Esquivel, Jr. Sqt. Nicholas Gedvilas Pv2 Nicholas Gorman Sgt Pamela Gray Lt. Crystal Kotvan Sqt. David Lawless SrA Robert Lawless

Lt. Colonel James Smolucha

Lt. Col. Tony Eschliman

ABH2 Sean Phillips Captain Colleen Rezabek Captain Kevin Rezabek Cpl Riley Santoyo Sqt Ian Sarlitto AN Michael Schieve **2LT Allyson Serbick** PFC Keegan Serbick A1C Seth Kelley Major Mike Smolucha SPC Thomas Stanhope AFSSgt Zachary Ushman Lt. Keith Wolfe W01 Jake Miller

Sqt. Tyler Bowling, US Army Colonel Eric Hass, US Army Colonel Erica Haas, USAF Airman Nicholas Kostecka Sgt Major Carrie Kwiatkowski Navy Marco Angelo Lomibao Captain Matthew Luff CMDCM (SW/SS/AW) Timothy A. Newell A1C Alejandro Luis Sanchez

#### ST. VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS 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 our SVdP each Christmas.

If you would like to contribute to a needy family for Christmas, please call the parish office, 630-668-0918, ext. 606, and leave the following information on the voicemail:

- 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;
- If you want to donate a \$30 Children's Christmas Gift Card.

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



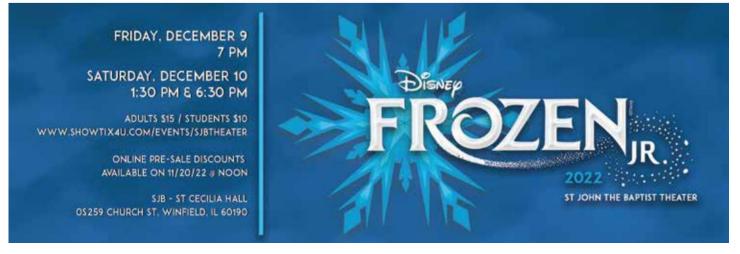


#### SJB CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Send your gently used and complete sets of toys to SJB for new children to enjoy them! Drop off toys outside narthex doors at Mass or at parish office, 8am-4pm, Mon-Fri., through Nov. 30th. SJB School and Religious Education students will help Organize, sanitize & package the toys that will benefit families from the Wayne Food Pantry program.

Volunteer drivers requested to deliver the presents by Friday, Dec. 2.

Email mariubulyk@gmail.com for additional information.



Parish Directory:	630-668-0918
Religious Education Office:	
Director: Maureen Brennan	Ext 612
RCIA (Convert Preparation)	Ext 600
Parish Secretaries: Jennifer Kurtyka, Rosa Benavides	Ext o or 600
Secretaria Hispana:	Ext 601
Director of Finance, Facilities & Operations: Jim Nolan	Ext 604
Music Ministry: Adrienne Rose	630-653-1489
Grade School Office:	Ext 618
Principal, Joanne Policht	
Phone 630-668-0918 Press 2	Fax: 630-668-1074
St Vincent de Paul Society:	F-1 (
Church: www.stjohnwinfield.org School: www.sjbwinfield.org	- Contraction and Contraction
For information on joining St. John's, please see our website or call the parish office. Office House	rs: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 b.m.



# Bishop Hicks' Column

## November 2022: Our Baptismal Duty



Recently, many of us tuned in to watch the events surrounding the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the longest reigning British monarch. In the United States, the existence of a royal family may be somewhat of a foreign concept in our political system that prefers democratically elected officials. Yet, with some curiosity, many of us cast our gaze across the pond to capture a glimpse of the new King Charles III receiving the royal scepter.

In the Catholic Church, we tap into "royal language" with titles like "Queen of Heaven" and the "Prince of Peace." During this month, we will come to the end of our liturgical year when the universal Church boldly proclaims Christ as King of the Universe on November 20.

Pope Pius XI instituted the celebration of "Christ the King" in 1925 with his encyclical Quas primas ("In the first") to respond to growing secularism and atheism in the world. From the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: "This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever. During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful, but civilization itself."

Almost 100 years after the solemnity's inception, there is still a need to promote the message of this feast day. We do not have to look far to see blatant attacks on religious liberty and increasing secularism. It is in this context that atheists are proactively trying to convert vulnerable minds to not believing in God. Still, there are others who plant a deceptive message by saying, "If you insist on believing in God, at least do so by being only spiritual and not religious within the Church."

While we embrace Christ as our king, we also need to remind ourselves that he is a very different kind of king. Instead of donning a crown of gold, Jesus wears a crown of thorns, and instead of ruling with arrogance or revenge, he utters decrees of mercy and forgiveness: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). Jesus rules by being a good shepherd who rejects loftiness and domination. Instead, he serves, as opposed to seeking to be served. He calls all those who follow him to join his ministry of service, humility, forgiveness and charity.

During the past few years, there has been a popular streaming series named "The Crown." In the first season, there is a poignant scene in which King George VI reminds his son-in-law, Philip, of his duty, especially toward the new queen, Elizabeth II. "You understand, the titles, the dukedom. They're not the job. She is the job! She is the essence of your duty. Loving her. Protecting her."

For those of us who have been called to minister in the Church, I think this quote is quite appropriate. It applies not exclusively to bishops, clergy and religious, but to every Catholic who is baptized and is a missionary disciple of Jesus: "The Church is our duty. Loving her. Protecting her."

In the rite of baptism for children, the parents listen to the following words before the water is poured: "You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of training him or her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him or her up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor." When parents are asked, "Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?" the affirmative answer they give at that moment is hopefully repeated daily and throughout the course of their lives.

To accomplish this, I continue to invite us to follow my vision for this diocese of Catechesis, Evangelization and Faith into Action. For if we truly know Jesus, love Jesus and serve others like he taught us, then we are doing our baptismal duty. As we strive to keep God at the center of our lives, the Church and the universe, may Christ the King live and reign today and always.

1605

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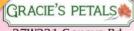




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I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint." Jeremiah 31:25



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