

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Leading Souls to Heaven*

oS233 Church Street; Winfield, Illinois 60190 | [stjohnwinfield.org](http://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

### CHURCH

**Saturdays**

5:00 pm

**Sundays**

9:30 am

11:30 am

## CONFESSIONS

**Saturdays**

3:30-4:30 pm (Church)

## ADORATION

**Thursdays**

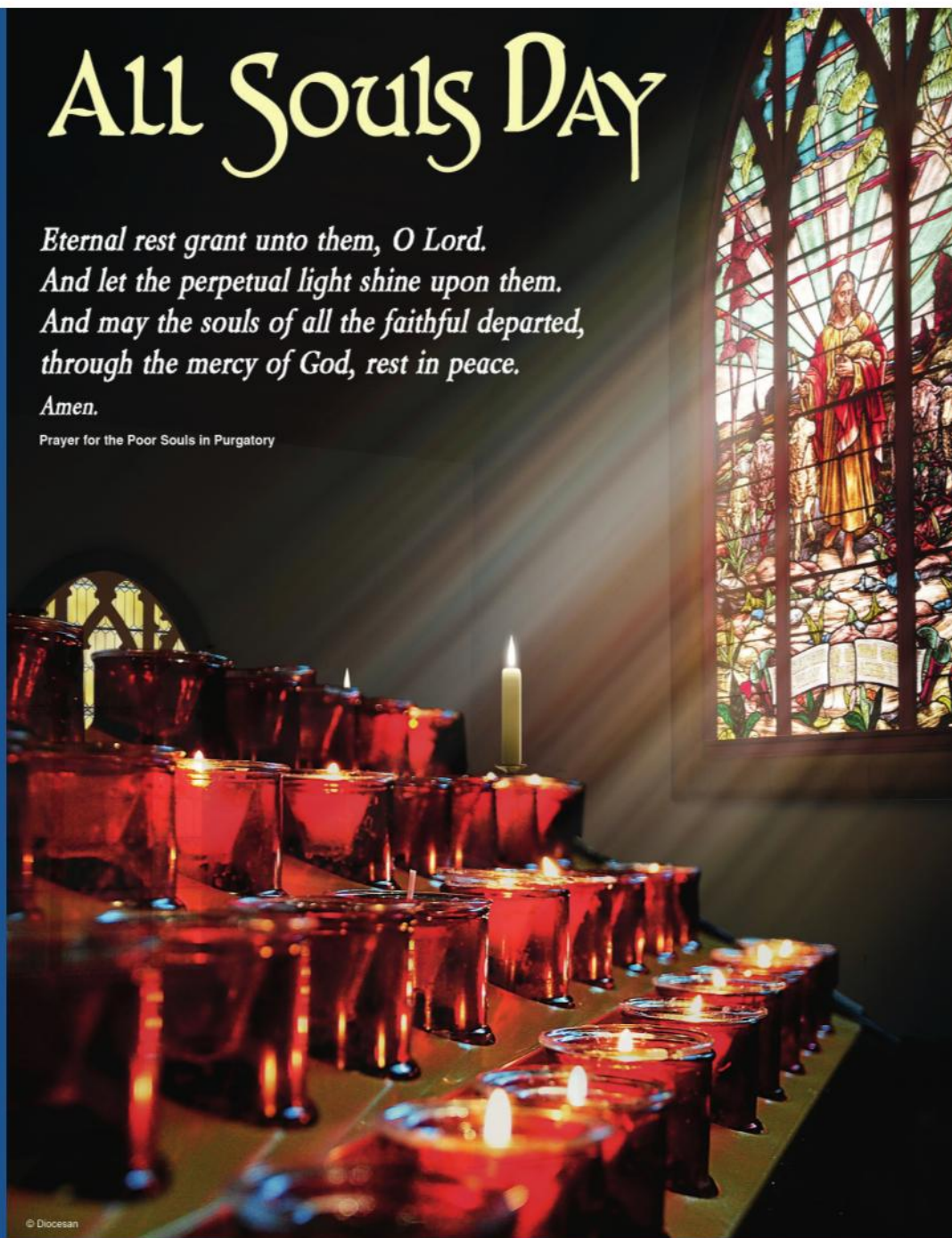
9:00 am to 8:00 pm  
(Chapel)

# All Souls Day

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.  
And let the perpetual light shine upon them.  
And may the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

*Amen.*

Prayer for the Poor Souls in Purgatory



*Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 29, 2023*

# FROM THE BISHOPS OF ILLINOIS



65 E. Wacker Place  
Suite 1620  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Ph. 312-368-1066  
Fx. 312-368-1090

108 E. Cook St.  
Springfield, IL 62704  
Ph. 217-528-9200  
Fx. 217-528-7214

[www.ilcatholic.org](http://www.ilcatholic.org)  
Diocese of Belleville  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
Diocese of Joliet  
Diocese of Peoria  
Diocese of Rockford  
Diocese of Springfield-in-IL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We, the Catholic bishops of Illinois, write with a sense of urgency. Unless the General Assembly acts to renew the Invest in Kids scholarship program, more than 9,000 children currently relying on this program to attend a non-public school may have their educational path disrupted. Without an extension of the program in Illinois law now, no scholarships will be awarded for the school year that will begin in September 2024. Most of these children will have to leave the school their families determined was their best chance to receive a high-quality education in a safe and wholesome learning environment. This is an injustice that should and can be avoided, but only if the General Assembly acts when it reconvenes on October 24, 2023.

Invest in Kids has proven to be a beacon of hope for thousands of Illinois students and their families. Children receiving Invest in Kids scholarships come from lower-income families who could not otherwise afford tuition at the Catholic or another non-public school that is the best fit for their child. Childhood is a limited time in the life of a human being and primary and secondary education is not something that can be put off to some future date when it is convenient for adults. This is our one chance to offer these Illinois children a good start. Please help keep education options available and a brighter future possible by contacting your state senator and state representative and telling them to continue the Invest in Kids Program.

Since its inception six years ago, Invest in Kids has generated overwhelmingly positive results. Nearly 40,000 scholarships have been awarded to students attending non-public schools across Illinois. Demand for scholarships is very high - for every scholarship granted, three students are turned down due to lack of funds. Contrary to what you may have heard, this is not a voucher program, nor does it take state funds away from the public schools. These scholarships are funded through contributions from donors who receive a tax credit for their donation on their Illinois state income tax.

**What can you do to help?** Please contact your state senator and state representative to let them know of your support for extending the Invest in Kids tax credit scholarship program in Illinois. We also encourage you to urge your fellow parishioners to do the same. Our collective voice is vital to the continued help for Illinois families. Please visit the Catholic Conference of Illinois website at [www.ilcatholic.org](http://www.ilcatholic.org) or call the Springfield office at (217) 528-9200 for further information on how to locate your elected officials, request sample wording for a message to your legislator, or for information about how to donate to this program.

His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich  
Archbishop of Chicago

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

Most Reverend David J. Malloy  
Bishop of Rockford

Most Reverend Ronald Hicks  
Bishop of Joliet

Most Reverend Michael McGovern  
Bishop of Belleville

Most Reverend Louis Tylka  
Bishop of Peoria



# All Saints All Souls

## MASS SCHEDULE:

**Tues. Oct. 31st**

5:30 pm All Saints Vigil Mass

**Wed. Nov. 1st**

8:15 am Mass

5:30 pm All Souls' Vigil Mass

**Thurs. Nov 2nd**

8:15 am Mass

5:30 pm All Souls' Memorial Mass

**Reception following Mass in Sebahar Hall**

## Sacrificial Giving

Offertory collections for the weekend of **October 15, 2023**, were \$16,672. We thank you for your support and prayers in helping us meet our weekly goal of \$24,600.



Join Us!

**WESHARE ONLINE GIVING**

**Sign Up to Give Online!**

If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy!  
Visit our church website at [www.stjohnwinfield.org](http://www.stjohnwinfield.org) and click

## Give Online

Once you've added your account information,

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

donations will automatically deduct from your account. *It's that easy!*

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

## Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets

### U R G E N T !

#### FREEDOM COMMISSARY WISH LIST

The shelves of the Commissary of the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets in Wheaton are very sparse! All items below are desperately needed for our veterans. If you can help in any way, we would greatly appreciate it. At this time, we are only accepting new items and we are not accepting gift cards. Thank you for your support!



They are in desperate need of the following items:

#### Household:

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Kleenex
- Garbage Bags (Kitchen)
- Garbage Cans (Kitchen and Bath)
- Mops (Swiffer) and Pads

- Laundry Pods
- Dryer Sheets
- All Purpose cleaner
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Bathroom Cleaner
- Bleach
- Scrub Brush
- Disinfectant Wipes
- SOS Pads
- Windex

#### Personal Care Items:

- Lip Balm
- Dental Floss (Spools)
- Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Hand Soap
- Shampoo

For ease of shopping, also look for our Amazon Wish List at: <https://a.co/b3ifTXn>

When dropping off your donation items, please consider a financial donation to Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans to help cover operational costs, allowing us to continue providing household & personal items free of charge to the Veterans and their families. Thank you!

Updated 10/18/23

For more information please visit our website at [helpaveteran.org](http://helpaveteran.org) or call us at 630-871-8387 ext. 617

# Bishop Hicks' Column

October 2023

## CONTEMPLATING THE CONVOCATION



View a convocation photo at [diojoliet.org](http://diojoliet.org)

BESIDES CELEBRATING MASS ON SUNDAYS, a question people frequently ask me is, "What do priests do during the week?" My initial response is that priesthood is so much more than a 9-to-5 job—it is more like a 24/7 vocation.

A priest is called to serve God and His people, and to assist his

bishop by governing, teaching, and sanctifying. In modern times, it may seem like a priest is expected to be able to administer with an MBA, counsel with the spirituality of the saints, offer a love for the poor of Saint Mother Teresa, maintain the constant energy of a newly ordained priest, and resolve issues with the wisdom of a seasoned pastor.

While it is virtually impossible to embody all those expectations, leading a parish with a wide variety of ministries and missions in the Catholic Church has become more complicated and challenging. Therefore, there is a growing need to attend to the professional development and spiritual growth of priests. In the Diocese of Joliet, we are blessed to have a director of on-going formation for priests, Father Sunny Castillo, who currently also serves as pastor of Mary Queen of Heaven Parish in Elmhurst.

Besides coordinating a variety of programs for spiritual, educational, and professional growth, Father Sunny and a dedicated team of priests, staff, and volunteers also organize a bi-annual convocation. This September, the priests of the diocese all gathered at our four-day convocation to pray, grow in camaraderie, and learn from a series of talks presented by Sister Miriam James Heidland from the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity.

Sister Miriam's daily topics highlighted our theme, *The Journey of the Priestly Heart: Building a Eucharistic Legacy in the Priesthood*. At the very beginning, she said that one of the greatest dangers to priests is "a hardening of heart." Using a powerful example, she explained that after the child Jesus was found in the temple, the Gospel says that the Holy Family returned home, and Jesus *grew*.

She warned us, "Woe is the day you stop *growing* as priests." This stirring advice is good not only for priests, but also to anyone, especially when it comes to the spiritual life.

I wish space allowed me to share all her many other valuable teachings. Towards the end of the convocation, after Sister Miriam had departed, I pointed out to everyone that she has a true and deep respect for priests. I was moved to say, "I hope you love your priesthood as much as she does."

Besides listening to Sister Miriam's presentations, we also celebrated daily Mass, prayed the Liturgy of the Hours, and had the opportunity to pray a rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and daily holy hour with adoration and benediction. And between the prayers and talks, the priests shared with each other their struggles, their triumphs, and their leadership insights.

Evenings were spent enjoying rare social time with brother priests. At one dinner, we honored those marking a special jubilee year of their priesthood. The next evening, we celebrated our upcoming 75th anniversary as a diocese. Not only did we enjoy good food and conversation, but we competed in a friendly trivia game to see who knew the most about the history of the Diocese of Joliet. What a joy to learn more about the deep roots and richness of our diocese!

The last day of the convocation allowed me the opportunity to give a "state of the union" presentation in which I shared a good deal of information and issues, including a Q-and-A session and groupwide dialogue. Appropriately, before departing, we gathered for Mass one more time to thank God for all the blessings and fruits of the convocation.

I left the convocation with a smile on my face, deeply grateful to God for the time and space to renew our minds, bodies, and souls as a presbyterate. My gratitude bubbled over for our priests, and all the clergy, religious, and laity who make this Church so vibrant and wonderful.

May we all continue to *grow* in the knowledge, love, and service of the Lord and each other.

## DIOCESE OF JOLIET







# Food Drive

Sunday November 5, 2023



**Cub Scout  
Pack 575**



**Boy Scout  
Troop 575**



**THE KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



**Society of  
St. Vincent de Paul**

- Help stock the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry.
- Non-perishable food items (boxed or canned goods).
- Toiletry items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant).
- Place donations outside your front door in **full** view.
- Donations need to be out by **noon** on Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Scouts will be by to pick up items throughout the afternoon.
- Pickup times will vary by neighborhood.
- Collection is limited to Winfield addresses.
- Donations can also be dropped off Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 pm at St. John the Baptist Church parking lot at 0S233 Church St.
- Donations will benefit the needy in our community.

**Our goal is to collect 3,000 pounds of items.**

*Thank you for your support!*



**K of C's Pancake Breakfast  
Sunday Nov 5th 8-11am.**

**Where: Sebahar Hall**



The Knights provide over 75 million hours of donated volunteer time across the U.S. each year, all for the betterment of our Catholic Faith Communities.

Enjoy a menu that includes Hot Buttermilk Pancakes, Sausage Links, Applewood Smoked Bacon, Apple or Orange Juice, and Fresh Roasted Coffee. Hungry?

Invite some Friends, Bring a Group, Support the Parish, Have a cup of coffee on us. Voted best breakfast value in the six county area.

## Women of the Parish and Beyond

Join us Saturday, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 10:30am

St. John the Baptist parish, Winfield-SCHOOL HALL

Presentation by Katie Choudhary on Virtues:

*The NOT so RANDOM Acts of Kindness that Flow from the Eucharist*

Katie will help us break open the pure gift of life-giving water that Jesus gives to us from Himself. We will take a look at how we inherit this life-giving water; receiving and sustaining it in the Sacraments, and then cooperating with God's grace, allowing it to flow from us so God may continue to bring life to the world through each of us.



Katie Choudhary formerly served in our diocese as Life Long Lay Formation Lead and also worked at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet and St. Isaac Jogues in Hinsdale in faith formation and evangelization. She currently is co-leading the *Be Formed* program here in the diocese, gives presentations to parishes and groups on various formation topics, and homeschools her three children. Katie attended Lewis University where she played centerfield, helping her team get to the Women's College World Series twice and earned her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and her Bachelor's Degree in History and Education. Katie and her husband live with their three children in Joliet.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am -Join us for brunch followed by Katie's presentation. Afterwards we will hold our St. John's CCW General meeting.

Enter the SCHOOL HALL at the back by the Ramp entrance. 0S259 Church St., Winfield

Questions – contact Venessa Lopatka- 630-336-5414 [venessalopatka@gmail.com](mailto:venessalopatka@gmail.com)

## THANKSGIVING GROCERY GIFT CARDS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



As we did last year, St. Vincent DePaul will be distributing **Food Gift Cards** to the needy in the Winfield, West Chicago, and Wheaton areas. Approximately 70 families are helped through your generosity each year.

If you would like to contribute to a family for Thanksgiving, please call the parish office, 630-668-0918, ext 606. You will be asked:

- Your name, address, telephone number and email address.
- If you want to donate a \$60 minimum food gift card for a family of 3 or less, or an \$80 minimum food gift card for a family of 4 or more.

You will then be contacted by a SVDP volunteer by email who will let you know when and where to drop off your gift cards.

The gift card should be to a local grocery store, such as Aldi's, Jewel, Target, Walmart, or Mariano's. Thank you as always for your generous hearts. May God bless you and your families during the holidays and always.

Jim Effinger, President

St. Vincent DePaul Society

## 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). Beginning in 2023, when you turn 73, you can use your gift to satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution (RMD). (In 2019, the trigger was set at the age of 72). Gifts of any value of \$100,000 or less are eligible for this benefit 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, Jim Nolan (630-668-0918 x604), will also be happy to answer questions you might have.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, October 28, Vigil, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. † Rober D. Conley (*Sean Conley*)  
 † Fred Dusza (*Maryann Dusza*)  
 † Sharon Garro (*Maureen & Joe Garro*)  
 † Ray Vanagunas (*The Vanagunas Family*)  
 † Deceased Members of the Figiel Family (*Amy Serritela*)  
 † Iona Harrold (*Religious Education Families*)

Sunday, October 29, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. ♥ Diana & Florian Szmurlo, 30th Wedding Anniversary  
 9:30 a.m. ♥† The People of the Parish  
 11:30 a.m. † Dorothy Aylward (*Jack Aylward*)

Monday, October 30

5:30 p.m. † Jo Ann Johnson (*The Ushman Family*)

Tuesday, October 31

8:15 a.m. † A. J. Milder (*Jim & Annie Milder*)  
 5:30 p.m. ♥† The People of the Parish

Wednesday, November 1

8:15 a.m. ♥† The People of the Parish  
 5:30 p.m. ♥† The People of the Parish

Thursday, November 2

8:15 a.m. † Faithful Departed  
 † Faithful Departed

Friday, November 3

12:00 p.m. † Our Parish All Souls' Intentions  
 ♥† CCW Living & Deceased & for Peace  
 † Dorothy Aylward  
 † Jeanne Ptak (*Al Ptak*)  
 † Michael McPheters  
 † Richard Berilacqua (*Donna Gacek*)

**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.

## 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  
 Barbara Makuch  
 Chris Mara  
 Richard Murdock

The entire prayer list is on our website, at [www.stjohnwinfield.org](http://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.



## Cursillo Corner

*Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ!*

Divine Mercy Chaplet - Sunday, Nov. 5  
 We invite you to pray the Chaplet with the Fourth Day Community on Sunday evening, **November 5 from 8:00-8:15 pm**. What better way to end your weekend than to pray this beautiful prayer recognizing our merciful Lord. **Friends and family are welcome.** Prayer intentions are taken prior to the start of the Chaplet.  
**Zoom Meeting ID is 812-1236-0469.**

Ultreya - Saturday, November 11  
 Join us for the next Ultreya on **Saturday, November 11** at St. John the Baptist. **Rosary will begin in the Chapel (old church) at 9:00 a.m.** Immediately following, we will convene at Sebahar Hall for the Ultreya. Continental breakfast will be available. **Guests are always encouraged and welcome!**



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

Pvt James Luigi Akin	WO1 Jake Miller
SRA Francis Beifuss	CMDCM (SW/SS/AW)
Lt. Col. John Berg	Timothy A. Newell
Sgt. Tyler Bowling, US Army	ABH2 Sean Phillips
Sgt Melissa Brooker	Captain Colleen Rezabek
Pvt Timothy Conley	Captain Kevin Rezabek
Lt. Jr. Gr. Nicholas Daly	A1C Alejandro Luis Sanchez
Major Daniel Durbin	Sgt Ian Sarlitto
Lt. Col. Tony Eschliman	AN Michael Schieve
LCPI Ciro Esquivel, Jr.	2LT Allyson Serbick
Sgt. Nicholas Gedvilas	PFC Keegan Serbick
Pv2 Nicholas Gorman	Lt. Col. James Smolucha
Sgt Pamela Gray	Major Mike Smolucha
Colonel Eric Hass, US Army	SPC Thomas Stanhope
Colonel Erica Haas, USAF	Lt. Keith Wolfe
A1C Seth Kelley	
Airman Nicholas Kostecka	
Lt. Crystal Kotvan	

Sgt Major Carrie Kwiatkowski  
 Sgt. David Lawless  
 SrA Robert Lawless  
 Captain Matthew Luff

## 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.



## Our Sanctuary Lamps

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

CHAPEL † *Manuel Garza, Sr.*  
 CHURCH † *Jeanne Ptak*

*\*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.*





**Another Fr. John tidbit: He loves basketball!!**



**Above Fr. John blesses pets at the annual St. Francis pet blessing at the pavilion.**

**Join St John's Book Club at our next  
monthly meeting,  
Wednesday Nov, 15th at 7 pm**



at the home of Carol Schroeder. We  
will discuss the book, *Remarkably Bright Creatures*  
by Shelby Van pelt.

Please inquire for directions or with any questions  
& RSVP Jean at [tjdaniell@att.net](mailto:tjdaniell@att.net)

## THE KNIGHTS & MEN OF SJB:

Come pray the rosary  
& stay for a get-together.

St. John's Fire Pit,

7:00 pm Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Questions? Sean Conley, 630-835-8225



**CATHOLICS  
FOR LIFE**

"May the dignity of man according  
to the Creator's plan be spread" - Pope St. John Paul II

### **FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE FALL VIGIL**

runs through Sunday, November 5th.  
As we have done in previous years, St.

John's has signed up for praying at Waterleaf in front of Planned  
Parenthood, **3055 E New York St. in Aurora**, every Wednesday from 10  
am to noon.

If we cannot have the sign-up, please email Linda LeBreux at  
[rvlinda@comcast.net](mailto:rvlinda@comcast.net), or, call or text her at 331-218-9637 to sign up to  
pray at Waterleaf. Information will also be available on the bulletin  
board and posters.

### **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 **November 2th, 2023 , 7:00 pm.**

#### **Bulletin Articles**

Interested in submitting a bulletin article? Email  
[SJBBulletin@stjohnwinfield.org](mailto: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 pm in Sodonna Hall, the  
basement of the parish office.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Parish Main 630-668-0918 Ext 0

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 School Office:

Principal: Joanne Policht \_\_\_\_\_ 630-668-0918 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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I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint." Jeremiah 31:25

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