

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: Rev. 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)



Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



"This is the one about whom it is written:
'Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way before you.'"

Matthew 11:10

Dear Friends in Christ,
Today marks Gaudate Sunday.
The word Gaudate literally
means rejoice, as we rejoice that
the celebration of the Nativity of
our Lord Jesus Christ is so near.

This is one of the two times out
of the Church year that the priest will wear rose colored
vestments, as the rose colored vestment is symbolic of joy. We also
light the third advent candle which also happens to be rose
colored as well.



Just yesterday we had our extra confession times at the parish in
order to give opportunity to greater prepare our hearts for our
Christmas celebration. If you have not yet made it to
Reconciliation this season, you still have time! I highly encourage
everyone to celebrate this great Sacrament of Healing. Jesus from
His Sacred Heart desires to give us His Love and Mercy, all we
need to do is ask!

As we celebrate the gift of His birth in just a few days, let us give
Him a gift in return by receiving His love and Mercy and becoming
worthy dwelling places for His Light to dwell and shine.

Let's keep Leading Souls to Heaven!

In Christ,
Fr. Chris

J
O
Y

Advent & Christmas Calendar

Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 23rd

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 24th

Masses 7:30 am & 9:30 am

(There will not be a 11:30 am Mass Dec. 24th)

Christmas Eve Masses:

Sunday, December 24th

Masses 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm

and Midnight (12:00 am)

Christmas Day Masses:

Monday, December 25th

Masses 7:30 am, 9:30 am

& 11:30 am



Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 30th

Mass 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 31st

Masses 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 11:30 am



Solemnity of Mary the

Mother of God

Holy day of Obligation

Monday, January 1, 2024

Mass 9:00 am and 11:00 am



TAKE A BREAK

*Come Pray
With Us*

For loved ones and
friends who have left
the Church.

Sunday, Dec. 17th, 2-3pm

St. John's Chapel

Sacrificial Giving

Offertory collections for the weekend of
December 3, 2023, were **\$30,078**. We thank you for
your support and prayers in helping us meet our
weekly goal of \$24,600.

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE
★ **CHRISTMAS** ★

Please join us after the

11:30 Mass

Sunday, December 17

to decorate our church and chapel
for Christmas.

We will be meeting in Sebahar Hall.

Bring the family!

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

As a reminder to our parishioners, ALL
contributions to
St. John the Baptist
Catholic Church must be
received or be
postmarked by

December 31, 2023

for those contributions
to be credited to your
2023 parish contribution statement.



***Contributions postmarked or
received after January 1st will
be credited to your 2024
statement.***

If you have any questions or
concerns please contact the finance
office at

630-668-0918, x 604



Young at Heart



The Christmas celebration will be held **Wednesday December 20th at 11:30 a.m.** in Sebahar Hall.

Please join us to celebrate all the blessings of the season. Feast on delicious Chinese food and yummy Christmas desserts.

As a very special treat, students from our very own St. John's School will come to sing Christmas Carols.

Everyone at least 55 years young is invited. Free will donations are accepted.

Please call Gwen at 630-222-6777 with any questions.






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 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 the Parish Office, 630-668-0918.

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. Please call the parish office, (630)668-0918 to schedule an appointment to discuss any questions you may have.

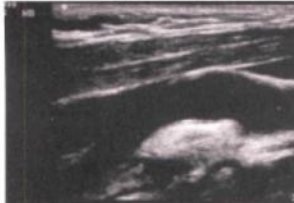


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No Plaque Buildup



Plaque Buildup



Advanced ultrasound technology looks inside your arteries for signs of plaque buildup. That's why **9 out of 10 cardiovascular doctors** support preventive screenings for those with key risk factors.¹

Adults age 50+ and those 40 and older with one or more risk factors for cardiovascular disease should be screened.
*Key Risk Factors include: *High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity, smoking, family history.

We are coming to your neighborhood.


Where: Winfield - St John the Baptist Catholic Parish


When: Wednesday, January 24, 2024

To register for your appointment and to receive the special discount, please call **1-800-640-6307** or visit **LLSA.SOCIAL/HC**




LLSA.SOCIAL/HC






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freewill.com/dioceseofjoliet

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.com/dioceseofjoliet or scan the QR code on the front of this card.

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

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

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Thank you to all the parents, families, parishioners, and friends who have so generously given of their time, gifts, and talents to help build the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium for our children. Brian Schwarting and Tony Zagotta worked hard to paint the walls and trim. Dads of Action built the child-sized pine shelves. Mrs. Tyznik sewed a beautiful set of miniature chasubles, and Mrs. Simeo sewed several sets of child-sized aprons for the children's work. Our dedicated catechists Mrs. Tasha and Mrs. Kelly and their families have donated so much to the atrium, not the least of which preparing the materials and painting our liturgical calendar and biblical figurines. Thank you!!



St Nick visited
St. John the
Baptist School
December 6th.
Everyone from
little to big was
thankful.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 16, Vigil, Third Sunday of Advent

5:00 p.m. † Albert & Lucille Vogt (*The Ronald & Sharon Kammes Family*)
 † Frank Trojanowski (*Walter & Therese Martineau*)
 † Eileen Kissane (*Breen & Alexander Family*)
 † Richard & Betty Lou Kammes (*The Ronald & Sharon Kammes Family*)
 † Shirley Stachniak (*The Stachniak Family*)
 ♥ The Shepherd Family, Health & Intentions (*Bob & Carol Garcia*)

Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. † Lorraine B. Conley (*Sean Conley*)
 9:30 a.m. † Joe Druckemiller (*Fr. Chris Lankford*)
 11:30 a.m. ♥† The People of the Parish

Monday, December 18

5:30 p.m. † Charlene Kerman (*Karen Flynn*)

Tuesday, December 19

8:15 a.m. † Elaine Fischer (*Rita Grabowski*)

Wednesday, December 20

5:30 p.m. † Garnett Skopal (*The Skopal Family*)

Thursday, December 21

8:15 a.m. † Mark Herwaldt (*The Zielinski Family*)

Friday, December 22

12:00 p.m. † For the Souls in Purgatory, may they rest in peace
 † Dolores Wehling (*Edward "Skip" Meyer*)
 † Gloria Sullivan (*Kennan Sullivan*)
 † Victor Alcazar
 † Virginia Tobin (*Vicky Stadel*)
 † Laura Jeanne Quaynor

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.

THE KNIGHTS & MEN OF SJB:

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

St. John's Fire Pit,
 7:00 pm Wednesday,
December 20, 2023

Questions? Sean Conley, 630-835-8225



Our Sanctuary Lamps

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

CHAPEL † *John Cotvan*
 CHURCH † *Kermit M. Ludwig, Sr.*

**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
 James Oliver

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

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



CATHOLICS FOR LIFE

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

Advent will be short this year, so in the rush of the season hopefully we'll remember our gift for Jesus. Maybe praying outside at Waterleaf, or in their lovely chapel for the mothers and their babies.

If you have been praying for a baby and its mother, that you spiritually adopted on March 25th, you can pray for a safe delivery as Christmas draws near.

Good news: a new national analysis finds abortion bans have saved the lives of over 32K babies from abortions so far, and the figure is likely higher. Births have gone up in every state with an abortion ban. What joy this brings to God who gave them life.



Cursillo Corner

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

Women's 135th Rectora Announced

Amy Serritella has been discerned and accepted the role of Rectora of the Women's 135th Cursillo Weekend. The Weekend will be held Thursday evening through Sunday evening, **April 4 - April 7th, 2024**, at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien. Please pray about who you are being called to sponsor this weekend.

Team Formation will be held on **Wednesday's January 24 through March 20**. January and February meetings will be held at **St. John the Baptist** in Sebahar Hall. The **March meetings, (6th, 13th and 20th)** will be held at **St. Michaels** Parish Center in Wheaton. Look for additional details in the Joliet Cursillo email communications.

Are you interested in being sponsored for a Cursillo Weekend? Are you looking for more information on what is entailed in making a Cursillo Weekend? As a start you can pick up a copy of "**Why Cursillo**" located on the wall of brochures in the narthex of the church. You can email our Parish Coordinator, Amy Serritella at amythe1@att.net. Finally, please visit the Joliet Cursillo website at: www.jolietcursillo.org.

60th Anniversary – Joliet Cursillo

Happy 60th Anniversary! Back in 1963, the first Cursillo was held in the Joliet Diocese. While Cursillo originated in Spain in 1944, the lay movement has spread to millions of people in 60 countries. There are approximately 3,650 Cursillistas in our Diocese representing men and women of all ages and ethnicities.

Fr. Burke, reflects on his weekend in his recent book *A Grand Slam for God*. "After the Cursillo, there was a fire in me to become a better disciple of Christ and to spend more time with him." It is evident that the seeds planted in that Cursillo weekend started his journey toward the priesthood. What a blessing this movement has been for our parishes, our diocese, and our Catholic faith!

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 **January 4, 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 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

Interim Director of Facilities: Aaron Simpson _____ Ext 603

Interim Director of Finance: Ed Rylko _____ 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.: 9 am - 3 pm; Wed.: 12 pm - 3 pm; Friday: Closed

LET US
ADORE HIM

Christ the Lord

The parish office will be **CLOSED**
December 22nd—January 1st
Blessed Christmas and New Year to all!

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