

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

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Mary set out and traveled to
the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered
the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40



FOURTH Sunday OF *Advent*

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MASS TIMES

Mondays - Thursdays

7:00 am

Fridays

12:00 pm

Saturdays

5:00 pm

(*Sunday
Vigil*)

Sundays

7:30 am

9:30 am

11:30 am

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Friday, December 24, 2021

(no 12:00 p.m. Daily Mass)

3:00 p.m. - Church

5:00 p.m. - Church

(Midnight Mass-see below)

Saturday, December 25, 2021

12:00 a.m. Midnight-Church

7:30 a.m. - Church

9:30 a.m. - Church

11:30 a.m. - Church

(no 5:00 p.m.)

**Sunday, December 26, 2021-The
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and
Joseph**

7:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We will not have an Advent Confession service this year. Rather, we will add confession times as follows:

Saturday, December 18, 2021

2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 22, 2021

12:00 p.m.-until all are heard

7:00 p.m.-until all are heard

No confessions will be heard on Saturday, Christmas Day, or the Solemnity of Mary, Saturday, January 1st.

Please pray for our sick

James Adduci
Alisa Allen
Sandy Anderson
Jack Aylward
Dave Balseqiz
Ada Bantola
Michael Barone
Ella Bitterman
Jennifer Bitterman
Floyd Bosch
Brian Burke
Allison Lamberts Burns
Jim Cabrera, Sr.
Maria Elena Castro
Karen Cervenka
Lisa Cicero
Al Cieslik
Patricia Clifford
Kathy Connor
Georgene Cook
Carol Connors
Julio Correa
Rita Cross
Mary Elaine Cruz
Linda Dameron
Anetta Derango
Krystyna Derecki
Kathe Doremus
Nick DuBay
Karen Durbin
Ralph Eckhoff
Concepcion Edoño
Joan Enders
Aaron Erickson
William Ferdinand

Patrocinia Fernandez
Marie Flores
Valerie Fraser
Kyle Freed
Ada Fritz
Dolores Gabriel
Monica Garcia
Gregory Garlt
Darlene Gedvilas
Danny Gonzalez
Judy Gonzalez
Dawn Grant
Destin Green
Daniel Guzman
Jennifer Hammerschmidt
Deborah Lynn Harris
Betty Hass
Jeremy Heintz
John Heitzler, Jr.
Joseph & Joy Henczel
Baby Luke Hougau
Edy Jacobs
Pat Jakubiec
Monique Jakubielski
Jason Jensen
Margarita Jimenez
Andrew Jin
Shawn Jurgensen
Mary Kallas
Kathy Kamphaus
Brandon Karimi
Ken Kasnicka
Carter Kettner
Donna Kevil
Gerry Krug

Margaret Kuhn
Korri Kupris
Ivanna Lamb
Rose Marie Lambert
Ken Larson
Nancy Liden
Haley Lipnisky
Marilyn Loechl
Sam Mahre
Beth Majerczyk
Gianna Malorny
John Maltese
Linda Marczewski
Jan Masters
Al Mathieu
Diane Maher
Alex McCall
Michael McCall
Perri McCall
Patricia Meschler
Bessy Miller
Mayette Monales
Joseph Jr. & Maggie Morgan
Thomas Morris
Megan Mueller
Mary Lu Mulcahy
Lauren Mungo
Joan Murdock
Tim Murnane
Becky Neal
Johnny Neal
Maura Neuens
Clare North
Alex Novak
Lesley (Tobin) Nygaard

Joseph O'Brien
Larry Orni
Joan Pacer
Lori Pacer
Charlie Parisi
Bill Parker
Josie Pasciak
Jim Paulissen
Owen Payton
Molly Peters
Bane Petrov
Joseph Pirofalo
Brittney Prehn
Ian Prosser
Tim Ptak
Mary Rauch
Sam Reyes
Alicia Ricciardi
Paul & Katherine Ricciardi
Cooper Rojas
Gertie Romero
Monica Romero
Kelli Rooney
Katherine Rose
John Rossi
Sister Audrey Rothwell
Marvin Rothwell
Susan Rothwell
Bob Salat
Dwayne Sarver
Scott Schwartz
Sven Segerlund
John Shannon
Desiree Sheppard
Evelyn Skriba

Dan Smyth
Dolores Snyder
Diane Srachta
Cynde Barone Stavros
Doug Stephan
Hugh Stott
Michael John Stralko
Rosemary Sumang
Ewa Samacka
Lucy Szwed
Mary Tarchala
Deborah Terry
Virg Tobin
Jim Toman
Michael Torri
Erin Anderson Tugman
Benjamin Vargas
Maria Vargas
Martha Vescio
Virginia Underwood
Dolores Vasquez
Genevieve Welch
Emily Wilson
Kylie Wells-Long
Paula Winterhalder
Elizabeth Wood
Susan Woodbury
Lexie Youngberg
Larry Zengri
New this week

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
0S233 Church St.
Winfield, IL 60190

Parish Directory - 630-668-0918

Pastor: Fr. Christopher Lankford

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Brian Geary

Secretaries: Jennifer Kurtyka, Rosa Benavides
.....Ext 0 or 600.....

Secretaria Hispana:.....Ext 601

Director of Finance, Facilities & Operations:
.....Jim Nolan.....Ext 604

Consultant, Facilities:
.....Aaron Simpson.....Ext 603

Music Ministry: Adrienne Rose...630-653-1489

Religious Education:.....Office: Ext 613

Director: Maureen Brennan.....Ext 612

RCIA (Convert Preparation):.....Ext 600

Grade School:.....Office: Ext 618

Principal: Joanne Policht.....Ext 618

Phone 630-668-0918, Press 2, Fax: 630-668-1074

St Vincent de Paul Society:.....Ext 692

Website: www.stjohnwinfield.org

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

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS- UPDATE

As of August 30, in accordance with the Diocese of Joliet, parishioners do not have to sign up for Mass. Full capacity inside our Church and Chapel is allowed. In accordance with Illinois state mandates, masks are required for anyone age 2 and up regardless of vaccination status. There will be a section in Church (if you are facing the altar, the section is to the extreme right, along north wall) to sit if you feel more comfortable social distancing. We will continue to refrain from offering blood of Christ in a chalice at Communion for the time being. If you would like to receive Communion on the tongue, please wait until the end and please receive from the priest celebrant of the Mass in compliance with the Diocese of Joliet. The bishop's dispensation to attend Sunday Mass remains in place for the time being.



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

Pvt James Luigi Akin
SRA Francis Beifuss
Major John Berg
Sgt. Tyler Bowling, US Army
Sgt Melissa Brooker
Pvt Timothy Conley
Lt. Jr. Gr. Nicholas Daly
Major Daniel Durbin
LCPI Ciro Esquivel, Jr.
Sgt. Nicholas Gedvilas
Pv2 Nicholas Gorman
Sgt Pamela Gray
A1C Seth Kelley
Airman Nicholas Kostecka
Sgt Major Carrie Kwiatkowski
Sgt. David Lawless
SrA Robert Lawless
Navy Marco Angelo Lomibao
Commander Matthew Luff
WO1 Jake Miller
CMDM (SW/SS/AW) Timothy A. Newell
ABH2 Sean Phillips
Captain Colleen Rezabek
Captain Kevin Rezabek
A1C Alejandro Luis Sanchez
Cpl Riley Santoyo
Sgt Ian Sarlito
AN Michael Schieve
PFC Keegan Serbick
Major Jim Smolucha
Major Mike Smolucha
SPC Thomas Stanhope
AFSSgt Zachary Ushman
Lt. Keith Wolfe

Please keep in your prayers our
Deacon & Seminarian who are prepar-
ing for the Priesthood :

Rev. Mr. Brian Geary
Seminarian Alex Lorang

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we approach the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Advent wreath candles are now all lit at the altar, shining brightly to welcome the light of Jesus at Christmas.

Because Advent is our season of preparation, I encourage you to prepare your heart for Jesus by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation. This Wednesday, December 22, 2021, there will be confessions heard at 12:00 pm and at 7:00 pm. I will stay at Church until all confessions are heard. If it has been awhile since you have last gone to confession, please do let any fear or embarrassment keep you away from this gift from our Lord. We priests are so happy when someone celebrates this sacrament. I know it personally brings me joy! If you are unsure what to do, just ask. We are here to help you get to Heaven. Please note, there will not be confessions heard on Saturday, Christmas Day, or on the Solemnity of Mary, Saturday, January 1st.

I am looking forward to celebrating Christmas with you this upcoming weekend. Please invite your family, your friends, your neighbors to come with you to celebrate Christmas at St. John's this year! What a beautiful change from last year's Covid restrictions; no online sign-ups to have a spot at Mass! A full Church this year at Christmas would be a beautiful gift to our Lord.

Merry Christmas and peace to you.

In Christ,
Fr Chris

Unfortunately, Father Chris has been "hacked." If you receive an email or a text from him asking for money or a gift card, please do not reply or respond. Father Chris would never ask for money or gift cards via text or emails.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 18

Vigil Mass of The Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 p.m. † Daniel J. McGrath (*Ellen & Michael McGrath*)
 † Gene Connors (*Carol Connors*)
 † John Hornyak (*SJB Adult Choir*)
 † Ken Rae (*Kevin Rae & Family*)
 † Gloria Romero (*Carlito & Amor Gabas*)
 † Ray & Carol Holterman (*Mark Holterman*)
 † Donald Rericka (*Rericka Family*)

Sunday, December 19, Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. † Amelia Alcazar (*Aimee Scala*)
 9:30 a.m. † Mr. Michele Rendina (*The LoCoco & Gasparro Family*)
 11:30 a.m. ♥† People of the Parish

Monday, December 20

7:00 a.m. † Fr Joyce (*Jack Aylward*)

Tuesday, December 21

7:00 a.m. † Mary O'Gallagher McGrath (*Michael & Ellen McGrath*)

Wednesday, December 22

7:00 a.m. † The Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, December 23

7:00 a.m. † Joseph, Timothy & Randy Lambert (*Rose Marie Lambert*)

Friday, December 24

(No 12:00 p.m. Daily Mass today)

Vigil of The Nativity of the Lord-Christmas

3:00 p.m. † Intention of the Priest
 5:00 p.m. † Fred Dusza (*The Dusza Family*)
 Midnight Mass, (see below)

Saturday, December 25-The Nativity of the Lord-Christmas

12:00 a.m. ♥† People of the Parish
 7:30 a.m. † Joseph Grabowski
 9:30 a.m. † James, Rose & Elizabeth Marecek (*The Lambert Family*)
 11:30 a.m. † Maria Garza
 (no 5:00 pm Mass on Christmas Day)

Sunday, December 26, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30 a.m. ♥† People of the Parish
 9:30 a.m. † Bill Rose (*The Rose Family*)
 11:30 a.m. † Dorothy Miller (*The Herbert Family*)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

O LORD of hosts,
 look down from heaven and see;
 take care of this vine,
 and protect what your right hand
 has planted.

— *Psalm 80:15–16*

Our Sanctuary Lamps

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

Chapel ♥† *The Wilke Family, Living & Deceased*

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 five dollars per week.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
 your grace into our hearts,
 that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
 was made known by the message of an Angel,
 may by his Passion and Cross
 be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
 Who lives and reigns with you
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I make known to others the Incarnation of Christ?

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*All Parish Offices will be closed from
 Christmas Eve, December 24th through
 New Year's weekend. We will re-open at
 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 3rd.*

ATTENTION USHERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

If you would like to serve as an usher at any of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Masses, please sign up on the sheet located on the usher's room door.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24, 2021

(no 12:00 p.m. Daily Mass)

3:00 p.m. - Church

5:00 p.m. - Church

Saturday, December 25, 2021

12:00 a.m. Midnight-Church (12/25)

7:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

(No Confessions on Christmas)

(No 5:00 p.m. Mass on 12/25)

Sunday, December 26, 2021-

*The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

7:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 31, 2021

12:00 p.m. Daily Mass

Vigil for Solemnity of Mary-

5:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 1, 2022

**Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God** *(not a holyday of obligation this year)*

10:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass for Sunday,
Epiphany of the Lord

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE & CONFESSION

The Sacrament of Penance & Confession schedule for the rest of the year is below. Masks are required for anyone over 2 and up regardless of vaccination status.

All Confessions are in the Church. To maintain confidentiality & privacy, everyone will be asked to remain in the Narthex until it is their turn.

Saturday, December 18, 2021

2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 22, 2021

12:00 p.m.-until all are heard

7:00 p.m.-until all are heard

No confessions will be heard on Saturday, Christmas Day or on Saturday, New Year's Day, the Solemnity of Mary.

Volunteer Opportunity for Christmas!

**JOIN US IN
DECORATING OUR
ST. JOHN'S
CHURCH HOME
FOR
CHRISTMAS!**



**Sunday, December 19,
after the 11:30 am Mass.**

We will be meeting in the Chapel.

All are welcome.

Bring your mask!

Questions? Contact Noel Luchinski at
630-338-2559 or

Noel.Luchinski@yahoo.com



Join Us! WESHARE ONLINE GIVING

WHY GIVE ONLINE?

- 1 **You can share your gifts...** Any way you want to. When you want to. Where you want to.
- 2 **Leave your checkbook at home.** Set up your recurring gift using a credit card, checking or savings account.
- 3 **Your funds are protected.** Your donations are automatically transferred to our parish so it's safer and more secure.
- 4 **Support our parish consistently,** even if you are unable to attend Mass.
- 5 **Give on-the-go!** Access the site from your mobile phone or tablet.

SIGN UP TO GIVE ONLINE

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

- 1 **Visit our church website and click Give Online.** www.stjohnwinfield.org
- 2 **Select the collection or event of your choice.**
- 3 **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 our parish office to speak with Jim Nolan, Director of Finance, Facilities, & Operations, 630-668-0918, ext. 604

Sacrificial Giving

We are ever grateful for your loving generosity & sharing in the Ministries of serving the Lord at St. John the Baptist Parish.

Parish Collections

Abram tithed (giving at least 10%) as a symbol that he depended totally on God. Moses said tithing was holy and an act of worship. Yes, even Jesus talked about money because money is a necessary part of our lives and it is also a necessary part of the viability of the church. Our tithe is merely a way to recognize that. Each family should prayerfully discern their own situation and understand that tithing is God's plan for supporting the church and the poor. We are ever grateful for your generosity and sharing in the Ministries of Serving the Lord here at St. John the Baptist. **Please help us meet our weekly needs of \$22,941.** Thank you for your generosity and support!

Nov. 14.....\$20,140	Nov. 28.....\$21,527
Nov. 21.....\$18,266	December 5.....\$27,128

End of Year Contributions

As a reminder to our parishioners, all contributions to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church must be received at the parish office or be postmarked by December 31 in order for those contributions to be credited to you on your 2021 parish contribution statement.

Contributions received after January 1st will be posted to your 2022 statement. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 630-668-0918, x604.

Thank you for your understanding and support of St. John's.

~Jim Nolan, Director of Finance, Operations &

Christmas Flower Offering

Envelopes are in your November/December contribution envelope packet.

These envelopes give you the opportunity to remember your loved ones at Christmas with flowers in the Church & Chapel this year.

Thank you!

COME ENCOUNTER JESUS AT ST. JOHN!

Eucharistic Adoration is held every Thursday from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. in the Chapel. There is no sign-up required.

WHAT IS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION?

Eucharistic adoration is the act of worshipping God as He is present in the consecrated Eucharist. Since the Last Supper, when Jesus broke the bread and distributed the wine, saying, "This is my Body" and "This is my Blood", Catholics have believed that the bread and wine are no longer merely baked wheat and fermented grape juice, but the actual living presence of the Second Person of the Trinity. Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament, in prayer and devotion, is exactly the same as spending time before the living God. Adoration occurs whenever someone kneels in front of a tabernacle that contains the Blessed Sacrament, genuflects towards a tabernacle, bows before receiving the Blessed Sacrament at Mass, or, in a more focused way, when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration. For an interesting article about Adoration, go to:



<https://prayers4reparation.wordpress.com/2012/04/21/things-to-do-during-eucharistic-adoration/>

MEN OF ST. JOHN- ROSARY GET-TOGETHER SCHEDULE 7p, Fire Pit, -East Side of Church Grounds

Wed., December 29
Wed., January 12

Gentlemen: We will pray the Rosary at the Mary Garden/KC Fire-Pit, with the same intentions in our hearts and minds: for the well-being of our Families, our Church, our Nation, and Ourselves. Afterwards, we will gather for fellowship and good conversation, enriched by snacks and liquid refreshments. Hope you can join us on:

Wednesday, December 29th and the above dates.

Please join us for this beautiful devotion.

SACRAMENTS



Welcome to Our Newly Baptized!

November 6, 2021

Claire Jacqueline Cheehy

*Child of
Jennifer & Bradley Cheehy*

Emmett Robert Frankel

*Child of
Sinead & Robert Frankel*

Luke Owen Kiebles

*Child of
Amanda & Curtis Kiebles*

Jecenia Aldonna Stith

*Child of
Vanessa & Charles Stith*

December 4, 2021

Charlotte Patricia Barton

*Child of
Monica & Kyle Barton*



We congratulate

***Katarina Joy Kuhn & Zachary Walter
Prociuk***

who celebrated the
Sacrament of Marriage
on November 27, 2021.

Best Wishes to You!

CATHOLIC FOR LIFE-A FAMILY NATIVITY EXHIBIT RECAP

The First Sunday of Advent, November 27th and 28th, Catholics for Life sponsored their annual Family Nativity Exhibit in Sebahar Hall. While it was smaller this year than in years' past, the Nativity scenes that were displayed were beautiful and interesting. This year, there was a Christmas tree that only had Nativity ornaments; what a delightful and meaningful theme for a Christmas tree!

Featured here is a photo of one of our youngest parishioners, George, enjoying the exhibit.

Happy Advent, Merry Christmas!



We hope your Advent is going well in preparing to welcome the baby Jesus. The following is from USCCB Catholic Current for December.



Blessing of a Christmas Manger

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223.

The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time. When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member. All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R/. Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.
R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined: God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

R/. Amen.
Getty Images

Council of Catholic Women
News & upcoming
January–February 2022



The Annual Christmas Luncheon returned this year at the Courtyard Banquets on Dec 2nd. There were 40 who enjoyed a delicious meal and the delightful presentation by President Abraham Lincoln and his wife Mary Todd, portrayed by Max Daniels and our CCW member Donna.

President and Mrs. Lincoln told us how Christmas was celebrated during the Victorian era of 1840-1900. Many of the traditions we practice today began during that time period.



Sat., Jan. 8, 2022 4:30pm Rosary in the Chapel before 5:00pm Mass



Thurs., Jan 27, 2022 7:00pm Board meeting Sebahar Hall

Sat., Feb 5th 9:30am General Meeting plus we will be doing a service project to benefit the residents at Winfield Woods.

Rosary at 4:30pm in the Chapel before 5:00pm Mass



Spring Bazaar will be held the weekend of February 26-27, 2022. If you are interested in being a vendor at the bazaar, please contact Theresa DeStefano at: destefano1961@gmail.com Donna Daniels at: ABENBABE@aol.com

SVDP Grocery Needs

While you are out doing holiday shopping this year, would you consider picking up any of the items listed to the right on the St. Vincent de Paul Grocery list? You can bring the item to Mass and place it in the barrel at each Church entrance inside the doors or drop off at the parish office vestibule which is open 24/7. Questions? 630-668-0918, ext 692. Thank you!

Helping Those In Need



St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference
of St. John Baptist Catholic Church
05233 Church Street Winfield, Illinois



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Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

O LORD of hosts,
look down from heaven and see;
take care of this vine,
and protect what your right hand has planted.

— Psalm 80:15–16



Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Parish on **Wednesday, January 5, 2022.**

A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

- **Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)**
- **Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening**
- **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)**
- **Atrial Fibrillation**
- **Osteoporosis Risk**

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$139 and take 60-90 minutes to complete.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word "circle" to 797979 or online at <https://llsa.social/HSC>



SVDP Grocery List

- * ***Cans of Chicken Noodle Soup***
- * ***Cans of Soup w/Beef***
- * ***Cans of Tuna***
- * ***Cans of Chili***
- * ***Cooking Oil***

Join the diocesan mission trip to the Navajo Nation in June

The Diocese of Joliet will resume its U.S. mission program in June with a two-week trip to the Navajo Nation located near Chinle, Arizona.

The June 4-17 trip will focus on construction projects for residents of the reservation, with volunteers helping with such jobs as framing a house, tearing down dilapidated buildings, repairing fencing, etc.

"It's not just going to work for the people, but to be with them and experience their life and culture," said diocesan missions coordinator Bruce Carlson.

The diocese has organized mission trips to the reservation since 2002, but paused the annual expeditions during the past two years because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Informational meetings on the trip will be held on Jan. 4 and 12 at the Blanchette Catholic Center, 16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill, Illinois. For more information, email bcarslon@dioceseofjoliet.org or call 815-221-6256.



CHRISTLIFE™
CATHOLIC MINISTRY FOR EVANGELIZATION



COME,
FOLLOW
ME

LUKE 18:22

following Christ

a seven-week journey

Begins Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 7-8:45 pm.

Info and Registration at stjohnwinfield.org/following-christ
or fill out form below and return to Welcome Desk or
Parish Office. Questions? ChristLife@stjohnwinfield.org



-----Registration Form -----

Following Christ – 2/8/22 – 3/22/22, 7-8:45 pm.

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Would you prefer to stay in the same group as Discovering Christ? _____

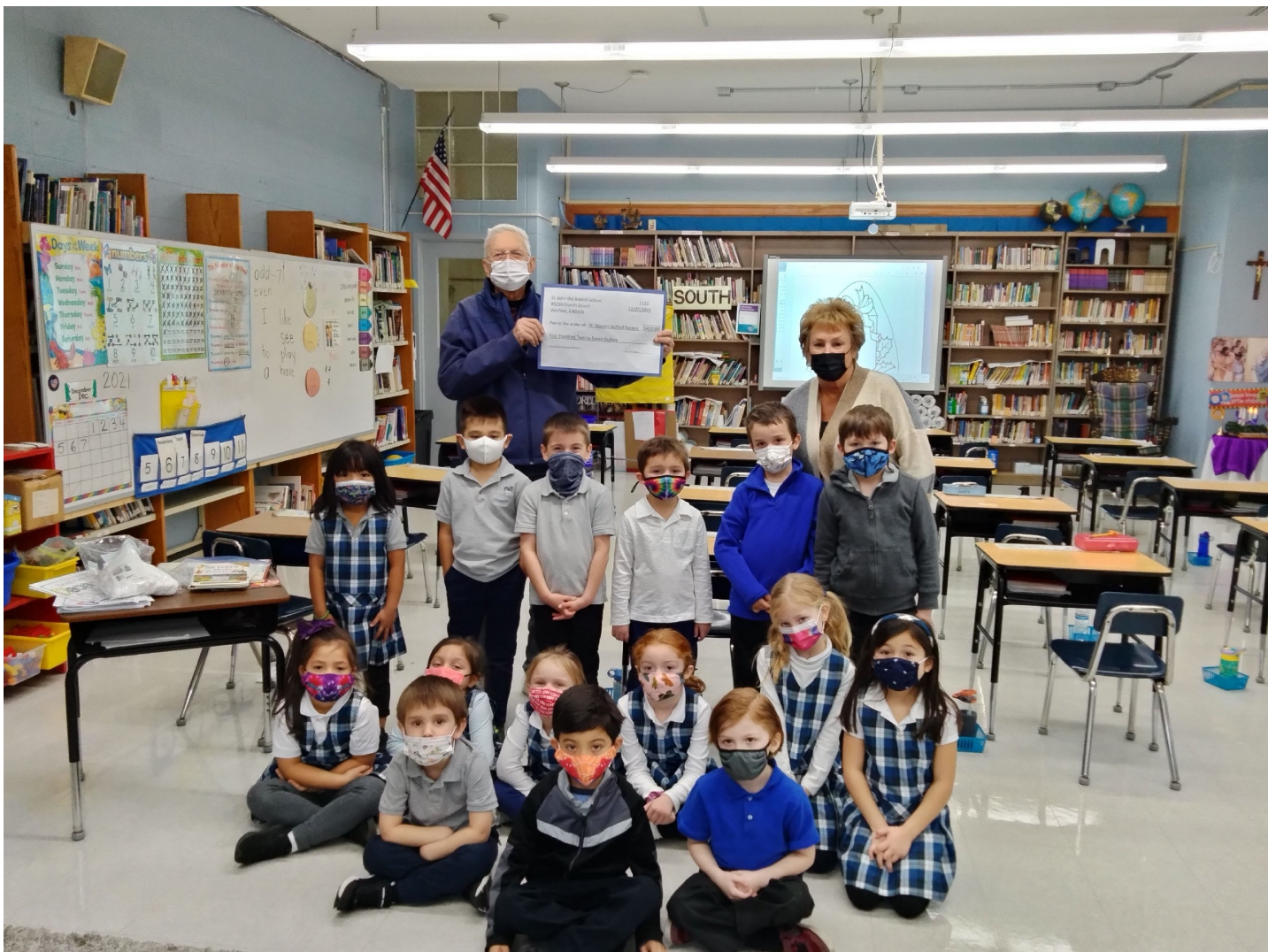
Would you prefer the Livestream/Zoom option? _____

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Trick or Treat for Change

Recently John Otto from the St. Vincent de Paul Society visited our preschool and Kindergarten classes. They presented him with a check for \$427 for the food pantry as a result of their schoolwide Trick or Treat for Change collection. He thanked them for living the words of Jesus to feed the needy. Our youngest learners also truly exemplified the school's vision of "At St. John the Baptist School, we are committed to preparing our students in a school that is formed in faith, educated in excellence, and embraced by community to joyfully proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ."

Pictured here is parishioner and St. Vincent de Paul Society president, John Otto, along with St. John's School teacher Mrs. Gudanick and her kindergarten class.



SUNDAY SCRIPTURES FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This Bulletin Shorts Series began in 2016 during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. Now, in this seventh year, it still aims to help the faithful and catechumens delve into the Sunday Scriptures and wrestle with Christian life. The hope is to rest more and more in God's grace and act in more merciful ways. It is a life-long task.

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 19 December 2021

Micah 5:1-4a. Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19. Hebrews 10:5-10. Luke 1:39-45.

Leaping for Joy. Let us take our cue from the six-month gestating baby in the womb of Elizabeth leaping for joy on encountering the Lord and the one who brings him. Let us sing again and again all week the antiphon of the psalm: "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."

How can I keep looking for the face of Christ in those around me?

Whom will I visit, even virtually if needed, to help in some way?

How can I get to Christmas Day in peace?

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins
Thursday: St. John of Kanty
Friday: The Vigil of Christmas
Saturday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)



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AUDACITY

There is a spirit of audacity in our readings today. During a time of injustice and threat of invasion, the prophet Micah boldly announces that the God of insignificant Israel will raise up a leader from backwater Bethlehem, and this leader will bring justice and peace to the whole world. In the Gospel, Elizabeth and Mary, marginalized women, brazenly celebrate that their sons will be world-changing instruments of God. We further learn that this audacity is rooted in trust in God. The author of Hebrews describes the faithful obedience of Jesus. Mary is shown as the exemplar of faithful trust in God. This is the way God often seems to work, in the ordinary and marginalized in our world. Those who seem weak have learned to trust in God's strength. These have the audacity to become instruments of God's peace and justice.

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The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" Lk 1:41-42

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Scripture from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptisms

Baptisms are held on Saturdays. Parents need to be registered parishioners for at least six months and parents will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Class prior to the Baptism. Godparents are to be practicing Catholics! If Godparents are married, their marriage needs to be blessed by the Catholic Church. Please contact the parish office, 630-668-0918, 600.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Our RCIA classes are for any adult wanting to become Catholic. This is the time when questions are answered and formation begins. So, whether you are answering God's call to join the church, seeking to participate fully in the sacraments, or looking to find answers about the Catholic faith, RCIA is for you. RCIA sessions meet weekly from September until Easter. Jim and Rosanne Druckemiller are co-directors and they can be reached by contacting the church office at 630-668-0918. Call soon and get excited about the Catholic faith. We can't wait to meet you!



Wedding Information

Getting married? Give us a ring! Please contact one of the parish priests as soon as you become engaged and at least six months before the wedding date. Spiritual preparation begins at least SIX MONTHS in advance. Catholics need to be attending church every Sunday. Please do not set your reception date until you meet with a priest.



Prayers & Support for the Sick & 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. Call the parish office at 630-668-0918, ext. 0, & set a time to come in BEFORE your surgery for anointing.

Hospital Visits

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our priests are unable to make a hospital visit unless the situation is dire. To receive communion while in the hospital, please make the request to a hospital Chaplain. Because of HIPAA Laws the Hospital does not notify Churches when parishioners are there. Please notify the St. John's Parish Office when a loved one is in the hospital so prayers can be offered. We want to do our best to minister to all hospitalized.

Homebound-Parishioners who are homebound and wish to receive communion, please call the parish office at 630-668-0918, ext. 0, and we will pass your name to the coordinator for Homebound Ministry.

Prayers of the Faithful

If you or someone in your family is sick and would like to be mentioned in the Prayers of the Faithful at Sunday Masses, please call the parish office at 630-668-0918, ext. 0.

Prayer Line, Pray for the Sick Listed in Bulletin

If you or someone in your family is sick & would like to be prayed for by our confidential Prayer Line or listed in the Please Pray for the Sick in the Church bulletin, please contact the parish office at 630-668-0918, ext. 0.

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. For more information, contact the parish office at 630-668-0918, ext. 0. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, December 2, 2021, 7:00 pm.

Eucharistic Adoration: Adoration is on Thursday evenings from 6pm-9pm. You do not need to pre-register. For more information, please call the parish office at 630.668.0918, ext. 600. All are welcome.



Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting-AA is meeting on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in Sodonna Hall, the basement of the parish office.



MASS INTENTION INFORMATION

Mass Intentions: . The donation for a Mass Intention is \$10; The 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass and 12:00 pm Friday Mass are free-will donations.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Our parish office is open 8:00 am-4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. We ask that you wear a mask and refrain from coming into office if you do not feel well. You are always welcome to call or email the parish office, as well, and we will respond to your inquiry as soon as possible. Please call 630-668-0918, ext 0 for the parish office, or email jenniferk@stjohnwinfield.org or rosab@stjohnwinfield.org.

Lost and Found: Please check the Lost and Found box in the Parish Office Vestibule.

Bulletin Articles: Submissions are due by noon on Thurs., 10 days prior to the Sunday on which you wish the article to appear. Include the name & phone number of the person submitting the article. Please email as an attachment using Microsoft Word or Publisher. Please do not include article in the body of the email. Email to: jenniferk@stjohnwinfield.org and rosab@stjohnwinfield.org. To subscribe to the St. John's weekly church bulletin, go to <https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx> and follow the prompts. SJB's zip code is 60190. You will automatically receive the church bulletin each week to your email; it usually arrives late Saturday morning in your inbox.



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Helping Those in Need

During these tough economic times, St. Vincent De-Paul Society invites you again to remember the needy persons and families in our parish and in the greater Winfield community by using the monthly St. Vincent de Paul contribution envelope that appears in your regular envelope packet or by making a contribution in the Poor Box in the Narthex of the Church by the back window. Remember, any contributions you make by check are tax-deductible.

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John Otto, President
St. Vincent de Paul Society

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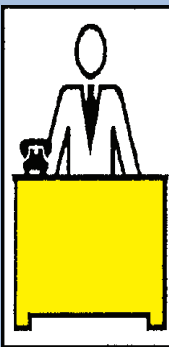
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