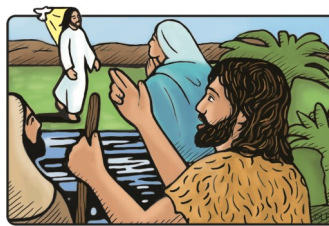


St. Sebastian Parish
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January 18, 2026

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday	1/18	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Barb Sponenburg From Chris & Sandy Mass at St John's Gerald & Gladys Schaumberg	St Sebastian Feast Day Breakfast after Mass & RE
Tuesday	1/20	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's OPEN	
Wednesday	1/21	***** 9:00 AM	NO Mass or Services at St John's Holy Communion Outside of Mass / Faith Formation to follow	
Thursday	1/22	8:15 AM	Holy Communion Outside of Mass at St John's	Day of Prayer for the LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN
Friday	1/23	9:00 AM	Holy Communion Outside of Mass	
Saturday	1/24	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's LaVern & Helen Leisgang	
Sunday	1/25	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Larry Vanden Langenberg (20) and Le Roy Matuszak (14) ~ Anniversaries of Death Mass at St John's Dorothy Fellion	

GOSPEL MEDITATION

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time John 1:29-34

It's common to hear belief in Jesus and the Church mocked as blind faith and credulity. But in reality, it is deeply human and rational. Think about it: we rely on the testimony of others constantly. I trust chemists who certify the safety of toothpaste and cleaning products. I trust engineers when I use a microwave or drive over a bridge. Why? Because they have studied and seen what I have not, and their testimony proves itself in daily life. That kind of trust is not irrational; it is how human knowledge works.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist declares: "**Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God**" (John 1:34). That is the language of an eyewitness. It invites us into a very human act: trusting someone who has directly encountered something — or Someone — we have not yet fully seen ourselves.

The Church's faith is built on this kind of reliable sight-based testimony. The Apostles did not make abstract claims. They saw, followed, suffered for, and proclaimed Jesus Christ. Over centuries, their witness — carried in Scripture, in the lives of the saints, and in the sacramental life of the Church — has proven dependable. We come to know its truth by assenting to it, by living and studying it, praying with it, trusting it.

Faith in Christ is not a childish leap into the dark. It is a step into the light of testimony that proves itself over time.
— Father John Muir

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Play That One Again

How many times have you sung the church song, "Here I Am, Lord"? If you grew up Catholic and are around my age (still 50!), the answer is more than you can count. The song that quotes various verses of Scripture is sung using guitar, piano, or organ, by cantors and choirs, in traditional and modern churches. It is truly a Catholic greatest hit of the modern Church. The question is how many times when singing the refrain have you really taken to heart what you were singing.

"Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." Like the biblical figure Samuel, we are responding to the call of God by asking for clarification that we are indeed the one being called. We then follow up the question with a profound statement: "I will go if You lead me." It is profound because we are pledging to our God that we are willing to go wherever He wants. We are accepting the challenge put forth in the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," to become mature disciples who respond to the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We have sung this pledge repeatedly for many years.

We never have any idea what God will call us to do and where to go. Sometimes the request can ask us for quite a lot. Hopefully, we respond like a mature disciple. If not, maybe we should reflect more the next time this song is played. The melody will not allow for the words, "I will see if I am busy and then decide to go if you lead me." Then again, I don't want to sing that to God, the source of all life anyway.
Do you?
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**You are all invited to the Parish Hall to partake in a delicious breakfast
in honor of St. Sebastian's Feast Day!**

**The breakfast is sponsored by the Christian Women Society
and served by our Religious Education Students!**

~ We Hope You All Join Us ~

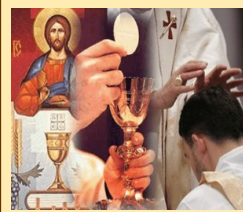
DAY/TIME	LECTORS	DISTRIBTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
Sunday 8:00 AM January 25	Pat Posbrig	Jake Hodkiewicz	Clara Vander Heiden Gracelyn Vander Heiden Elaina Vander Heiden	Adam Vander Heiden Preston Vander Heiden

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 1102.00
Loose Collection	\$ 124.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 160.00
Building & Maintenance	\$ 100.00
Bulletin Sponsorship	\$ 30.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:

Brightspeed	\$ 23.06
Security Luebke Roofing	\$ 9663.85
RE Reimbursement (Jessica Melchert)	\$ 91.70
USPS (Stamps)	\$ 234.00
Cathedral Letter Concepts	\$ 116.76
Cathedral Book & Gift (RE Supplies)	\$ 19.80
Kailhofer's Greenhouse (Christmas)	\$ 416.50
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 3.75



Congratulations to Fr. Sengole Dass on his Ordination Anniversary. He was ordained as a priest on January 17, 2009.

Thank you for your years of generous service to the people of God!

Fr Sengole will be gone on vacation from January 19th - February 16th.



May the Lord surround him with loving care as he travels, protect him from every danger, and bring him safely to his journey's end. Enjoy your time with your family!

The Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children **Thursday, January 22nd - Prayer for Life**

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.



AVAILABILITY

Dates in February & March for Mass Intentions. February Bulletin Sponsorship. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to schedule.

Blessing of the Beloved

Dear God, Bless and anoint us today. You are our Father and guide. Remind us of our identity in You; loved, called, and equipped for mission. Bless us as we journey, giving us strength for each day and grace in each step. Amen.

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

Do we recognize Christ when we see him? Do we have the courage to point him out, to show others who he is? John cried out so the whole world could hear: "He is the Son of God." Always and everywhere, let us do the same.

Virtues, Explained! Peace

Our modern Catholic understanding of peace is derived from the Hebrew concept of shalom, or wholeness, and refers not just to an absence of violence but to a personal reconciliation with one's Creator.

The January Bulletin is Sponsored in Memory of the Living & Deceased Members of the De Ruyter & Van Asten Families

From Sherry & Family



Thank You!!



We welcome to our parish faith community, **Ellie Mae**, daughter of Brandon & Emily Wegner

and **Ava Rose**, daughter of Tim & Lauren Vanden Langenberg.

Both were baptized in our parish last weekend!

We thank God for the gift of these children and pray that we may inspire them in their life of faith.

Perpetual Monthly Giving Calendar
Seymour Food Pantry
St Vincent de Paul to collect & deliver.
Featured items for January:

Canned Veggies, Dried Beans, Bagged Brown Rice



Dried beans



Ministry of the Sick: Please notify the parish office if a member of your family is confined to their home or is hospitalized. Also, please inform the hospital of your affiliation with your parish.

Baptisms: Please call the parish office two months in advance.

Marriage: Please call St. John's parish office eight months in advance.

Funeral Arrangements: Please call St. John's parish office.

Anointing of the Sick and Dying: Please call St. John's parish office.

Fr. Sengole Dass
St. John Parish Office - 833-6140

DC. Richard Matuszak
833-2294 or 609-5292

St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558
Current Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:00 – 4:00
Wed: 8:30 - Noon, Closed: Tues & Fri