

St. Sebastian Parish
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February 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday	2/8	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Living Intention for Katelyn Grzelak Mass at St John's Sue Smet
Tuesday	2/10	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's All Living & Deceased Members of St John's & St Sebastian's
Wednesday	2/11	***** 9:00 AM	NO Mass or Services at St John's Holy Communion Outside of Mass / Adoration & Benediction to follow
Thursday	2/12	8:15 AM	Holy Communion Outside of Mass at St John's
Friday	2/13	8:15 AM	Holy Communion Outside of Mass
Saturday	2/14	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's Bill, Marie, & Jerry Kranzush
Sunday	2/15	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Clarence & Marcella Vande Hei & Living & Deceased Family Members POLKA Mass at St John's Sue Smet Fat Sunday luncheon following Mass!

*St. Valentine's
Feast Day*

RE after Mass

GOSPEL MEDITATION — *Father John Muir*

Matthew 5:13-16

I recently learned why zebras have stripes. Scientists used to think it was for camouflage, but new research suggests something more interesting: the stripes help zebras blend in with one another. When a predator looks at a herd, the overlapping stripes make it hard to single out one animal. But if a researcher spray-paints a dot on just one zebra, predators lock on it and eventually attack. The lesson? In the wild, blending in is protection. Standing out can be dangerous.

Human beings are not so different. Most of us would rather blend in than stand out, especially when it comes to our faith. We know that giving bold witness to Jesus — through our words, values, or public choices — can make us targets for criticism, isolation, or judgment. That's why Jesus' words in today's Gospel are so challenging: **"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14).**

A city on a hill draws attention. It also draws fire. But that's part of the cost of discipleship. Jesus doesn't call us to be tribal or boastful. He calls us to stand in the open with humble confidence, so that people might see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven. Today, let's ask for the courage not just to believe in Christ, but to be seen believing in him.

What is the Bishop's Appeal?

The Bishop's Appeal is a stewardship opportunity for each of us to reach out to thousands of people in search of Jesus' love. Each gift given supports the ministries of the Diocese of Green Bay which serve our parishes, Catholic schools, and communities. Your gift truly helps bring the heart and hands of Christ to our children, young adults, families, and neighbors here in northeastern Wisconsin.

To make a gift today, contact your parish, visit the Bishop's Appeal website at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give, or call Tammy at 920-272-8123.

Pledge cards are also located on the ledge and table in the entrance of church.

**Thank you to Phil & Lori Letter
for Sponsoring the February Bulletin
in Memory of the Living & Deceased
Members of the Letter Family**

**Thank
You!**

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
Be Salty

I want you to close your eyes. Are they closed? (I'm serious.) Okay. Now think of the greatest saint in history.

I don't care who you're thinking of. It's going to be different for everyone. Just think of that person. Think of his or her life. And answer the question: Why is he or she a great saint?

You're all thinking of different people, but the answer is the same for everyone. And it's not "Because he did great things for God" or "Because she sacrificed everything she had for the poor." Those answers show *evidence* of the reason. But the reason is something more.

The greatest saints in history were not great at holiness. God brought holiness about within them because (ding ding ding! Here's the answer!) the greatest saints in history were great at being who they were meant to be.

Not who they wanted to be. Not who they thought they *should* be. Who they were meant to be.

Simply put, they gave themselves to God. All of themselves. Flaws and all. And God took them, in their totality, and said: "Now watch this."

Just imagine if salt was ashamed of being salty. Imagine if it looked at the sodium content on its nutrition label and thought, "That's embarrassing," and decided it was going to stop being salt. Well, great. Now it's just a box of tiny rocks.

Wouldn't it have been better for the salt to trust the baker using it?

There is a plan for each of us. There is a path to holiness for each of us. This path doesn't bypass our flaws or our weaknesses; it incorporates them. It transforms them. It fulfills them.

So be salty. Be who you were meant to be.

DAY/TIME	LECTORS	DISTRIBTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
Sunday 8:00 AM February 15	Brad Vanden Heuvel	Sandy Sponenburg	Wyatt Main Preston Vander Heiden Brady Vander Heiden	Jacob Vanden Heuvel Brennin Wojick
Wednesday 8:15 AM February 18	Laurie Paholke	Dcn Rich	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer	Dick Stedl Ken Linsmeyer

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 1767.00
Loose Collection	\$ 127.00
Votives	\$ 3.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 120.00
Bulletin Sponsorship	\$ 120.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:

AON Risk Insurance	\$ 830.26
St John's Cost Share	\$ 6396.08
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 3.75

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: How many votes are needed in a papal conclave to elect a new pope?

Answer: A two-thirds majority.



Blessing of Mission

Bless us on our way, O Lord. Share with us as we share with others. Heal us as we help others to heal. Provide for us as we open our hands in charity. Every gift comes from You. You are at the heart of all that is good. Share that goodness with us today, abundantly. Amen.



2026 BISHOP'S APPEAL

PARISH GOAL:

\$16,357

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

Salt without flavor is no longer salt. Light that illuminates nothing is no longer light.

As Christians, we must be what we have been made to be. So think about it, carefully: what stands between you and being who you were made to be?

Virtues, Explained! Goodness

In baptism, the Holy Spirit gives us the sanctifying grace to grow in goodness through an increase in moral virtue (CCC 1266). Baptism, therefore, disposes us toward goodness.

DISPOSAL OF PALMS

Holy palms should be returned to nature. Should you wish to dispose of yours, you may bury it or burn it and spread the ashes outside. Or you can bring them to church and leave in the marked basket located in the entrance.

We will take all the collected palms and burn them.

The ashes will then be used for the Ash Wednesday service on February 18th.

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Join us for an evening of music and hilarious sketches celebrating the fun and foibles of the dreaded blind date.

Adult \$10 • Senior Citizen \$9 • Student \$8

7:00 pm February 11, 12, 14

www.xaviertheatre.com

Blessed as Women of Faith Retreat

All adult women are invited to a morning retreat at St. Bernard Church led by Sr. Laura Zelten.

Sr. Laura will lead us through a reflection on the lives of 3 female saints and how they can serve as role models as we strive to be women of faith today.

Saturday, February 7, 2026

8:30am - 11:30am

St. Bernard-Bishop Hall

2040 Hillside Lane, Green Bay

Tickets are \$10 and will be sold after Masses Jan. 31 & Feb. 1 or by contacting Jeannine at jeannine@stbernardcong.org

Cost includes continental breakfast, hot cocoa bar, and all retreat materials.

Fr Sengole to return on February 16th

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