



February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent

| | | | | |
|-----------|------|---|---|---|
| Sunday | 2/22 | 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:50 PM 1:00 PM | In Memory of Gene Kropf From Mary Linsmeyer Mass at St John's Ann Theroux Chaplet of Divine Mercy Stations of the Cross |  |
| Tuesday | 2/24 | 8:15 AM | Mass at St John's Lloyd & Esther Kraft |  |
| Wednesday | 2/25 | 8:15 AM 9:00 AM | Mass at St John's Open Holy Communion Outside of Mass | |
| Thursday | 2/26 | 8:15 AM | Mass at St John's Julian Tyczkowski | |
| Friday | 2/27 | 8:15 AM 6:00 PM | Donald Vande Hei By Jill & Dan Carey Stations of the Cross at St John's | |
| Saturday | 2/28 | 3:00 PM 4:00 PM | Reconciliation at St John's Mass at St John's LaVern & Helen Leisgang | |
| Sunday | 3/1 | 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:50 PM 1:00 PM | In Memory of Joe & Ryan Socha Love, Family Mass at St John's Alex Pretti & Renee Good Chaplet of Divine Mercy Stations of the Cross |  |

First Sunday of Lent

A covenant is a formal agreement between two parties. Assuming both parties enter into the covenant of their own free will, it is a bond that cannot be broken. As time goes on, that covenant will be tested and its validity questioned by skeptics, but it will remain if it is real.

God's covenant with his people is real. It began with a promise made to Noah and was renewed in the person of Jesus Christ. It has been tested by man through sin and by evil through Jesus' trials in the desert. But here in 2015, it still remains as strong as ever.

This Lent, take time to rediscover and reflect on this covenant God has with us. Reclaim your baptism and make it a motivating factor in how you live your life. Take the opportunity this Lenten season provides to increase your devotion and spirituality. You will be tested and you will suffer trials, for life is not always easy. But God has always upheld his part of the agreement. Now is the time to take our part in this covenant more seriously.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: According to the Acts of the Apostles, who was selected to replace the Apostle Judas?

Answer: St. Matthias.



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

Please join us every Sunday of Lent

Divine Mercy Chaplet 12:50 PM
Stations of the Cross 1:00 PM

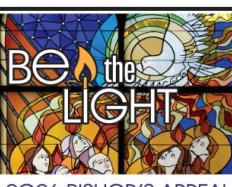


Take Up Our Cross

Question: What does Jesus mean when he talks about taking up our cross?

Answer: Our journey of faith begins in baptism. When we are faithful to it, we find God's plan for us, his way of allowing us to participate in his saving work, which in turn becomes for us our own salvation. Stated simply, we share in the mission of Jesus each day. We live our life with all of its ups, downs, joys, and sorrows in union with the mission of Jesus. Our work then is holy. It is joined to the cross, God's will for Jesus — the way in which he destroys sin and death and makes eternal life possible. His sacrifice accomplishes what we ourselves cannot do.

To take up the cross, then, means that we share in the mission of Jesus and so embrace the sufferings of the cross. It is our daily life made holy, given a redemptive mission. It is our purpose and goal to unite our life to that of Christ. St. Paul says it best, "If we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection" (Rom 6:5).



Please prayerfully consider giving to the 2026 Bishop's Appeal.

St Sebastian's has reached \$660 of its \$16,357 parish goal!

2026 BISHOP'S APPEAL

| DAY/TIME | LECTORS | DISTRIBUTORS | SERVERS | USHERS |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Sunday 8:00 AM March 1 | Jodi Soltvedt | Clarence Gruszczynski | Levi Main Jack Bluma Harry Bluma | Jim Soltvedt Don Eisenreich |

St. Sebastian
Monthly Stewardship and Expense Report
2026 Fiscal Year

Ordinary Revenue

| | January | Year to Date |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|
| Parish Support | \$ 4,588 | \$ 107,638 |
| Offerings and Other Unrestricted Income | 242 | 5,795 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 4,830 | \$ 113,433 |

Ordinary Expenses

| | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------|
| Worship, Music, non-Religious Ed Catechesis | \$ 348 | \$ 2,702 |
| Personnel Expenses and Salaries | 5,698 | 38,211 |
| Purchased Services and Supplies | 907 | 8,673 |
| Utilities | 1,373 | 5,204 |
| Building and Grounds | 1,170 | 5,111 |
| General and Office Expenses | 672 | 3,870 |
| Diocesan Assessments | 640 | 5,617 |
| Other Expenses | 24 | 2,421 |
| Parish Donations | - | 379 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 10,831 | \$ 72,187 |
| Revenue Net of Expense | \$ (6,001) | \$ 41,246 |

Lenten Blessing

Bless us in Your mercy, Lord, as we enter these 40 Days of Lent. Use this time to call, anoint, bind, strengthen, and inspire us anew. Like a good shepherd, teach us Your voice, and give us the strength to follow. Amen.

Virtues, Explained! Understanding

Understanding is the “food” of faith. “I believe, in order to understand,” said St. Augustine. We must constantly ask the Holy Spirit for greater and more profound understanding, for though understanding proceeds from faith, it in turn nourishes that faith.

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus’ interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: “Get away, Satan.”



**Confessions are heard
the last Friday of the month,
after 8:15am Mass**



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.



Available Dates:
March 13, 20, 29
April 24, 26

BE the LIGHT
through your support of our Catholic educators



Did you know within our diocese, more than 25,000 children participate in Catholic schools or faith formation classes? Through different education programs, children learn to know and love Jesus.

Your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal provides training and support for Catholic educators. Help them inspire disciples in our school.



Please give generously at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give

INCOME FOR WEEK:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Church Support | \$ 1800.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$ 161.00 |
| Votives | \$ 10.00 |

DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| WE Energies | \$ 1308.21 |
| St Therese of the Little Flower | \$ 639.50 |
| WeShare CC Fees | \$ 3.75 |

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

Helping Christians in the Holy Land

Even though the war in Israel has ended, the Christians there and throughout the Holy Land rely heavily on our help. It is with funds from the Good Friday collection that the Franciscan Custody provides presence, care and service to the people who are living under dire circumstances in the land of Christ. You can make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters who live, work, and are struggling to survive in the land where Jesus walked on this earth. Please plan now to make your donation on Good Friday to this vitally important work!

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