

St. Sebastian Parish
N9269 Isaar Rd
Seymour, WI 54165



July 12, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday	7/12	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Lillian Ann Theroux Love, Aaron, Jessica, Peyton, Eloise & Adele Melchert Mass at St John's Ricky Vande Hei, Bill Van Handel & Deceased Family Members
Tuesday	7/14	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's OPEN
Wednesday	7/15	8:15 AM 9:00 AM	Mass at St John's OPEN Holy Communion Outside of Mass
Thursday	7/16	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's OPEN
Friday	7/17	8:15 AM	In Memory of Julie Vande Walle From Mary & DJ Hill
Saturday	7/18	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's Gerald Linsmeyer
Sunday	7/19	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Donald Vande Hei for His Birthday & Jane Angrabright ~ The Helen Vande Hei Family Mass at St John's Gerald Saindon

Adult Faith Formation
after Mass this Sunday
at St. Sebastian Parish
~ Donuts, Coffee, Juice
JOIN US!

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Matthew 13:1-23

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. **"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."** By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing. God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed **"understand the Word."** Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— Father John Muir

What's Planted In Your Heart

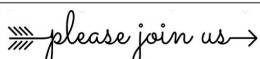
Over the years I have wasted a lot: a lot of money, a lot of time, and a lot of talent. Sometimes I didn't realize I was wasting these things but, after reflection, I realized I could have done more and accomplished much greater things. Of course, I think that is part of our imperfect humanity. It truly is easier for us to waste our gifts than grow them into something more.

The parable of the sower speaks about the word of God that gets planted in our hearts. If the soil of our heart is rich, then the word will grow and change us. If that soil is rocky or full of weeds, the word will lie there without any impact, bearing no fruit.

This parable can be applied to living a stewardship way of life as well. As sowers, we have been given the seeds of our time, talent, and treasure. We have a choice of where to plant these gifts. As good everyday stewards, we are called to plant them wisely and prudently. Oftentimes it is not enough to simply give away what we have. We need to discern the best places to sow these gifts so the maximum harvest can grow. This takes prayer, reflection, and study. Without a solid discernment process, we can find ourselves sowing seeds endlessly without much to show for it. But joyful is the person who has used one's gifts wisely, for the bounty of the harvest is great.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Parish Membership Invitation



If you are not currently members of St Sebastian Church, but would like to be part of our parish community, please contact the parish office #(920) 833-2558.

We would love to have you!

**Thank you to Jill & Dan Carey
for Sponsoring the July Bulletin
in Loving Memory of**

Gerald Linsmeyer



DAY/TIME	LECTORS	DISTRIBTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
Sunday 8:00 AM July 19	Amy Van Schyndel	Dcn Rich	Levi Main Brady Vander Heiden	Adam Vander Heiden Preston Vander Heiden

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 520.00
Loose Collection	\$ 265.00
Votives	\$ 8.30
Burial Fees - Lillian Van De Yacht	\$ 300.00
Funeral Stipend	\$ 75.00
Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$ 50.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 50.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:

MMC-Multi Media	\$ 20.00
St John's Cost Share	\$ 5713.56
True Quest Comm.-Web Domain	\$ 99.00
GIA Publications	\$ 21.00
Dcn Rich - June Mileage	\$ 101.50
Tim Vanden Langenberg	\$ 75.00
Jeff Vanden Langenberg	\$ 75.00
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 5.17

Sacrificial Giving Envelopes Delayed

UPDATE! Envelopes are on the way!

Cathedral Letter Concepts will be sending your monthly envelopes for July late as they are trying to catch up production for its 3,000-plus customers. Please use any previous month's envelopes you still have available or any blank envelope and write the correct date on it. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Blessing for Abundant Growth

Dear God, Bless our efforts in Your Name. Help us to understand Your will. Allow us to follow the invitation You have provided. We want to be rich soil— help us respond deeply and abundantly to every place You call. Amen.

“Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

~ Matthew 13:3, 7-9

Sharing Your Faith

Question: My friend has never heard of Christ and I want to share the Gospel with her but I'm afraid to. How do I share my faith?

Answer: There are a lot of ways to bring up the topic of religion, without being judgmental or pushy. Begin by asking what her thoughts are about religion, or what her experience was growing up. Finding common ground is often easier than you think, because the questions and problems we have about God, the presence of evil, our purpose in life, and our relationship with God are universal concerns.

Why are you afraid? If you do not want to insult or offend someone, don't be pushy or judgmental. If you are uncertain about how to explain your own faith, do a little reading or practice with a friend. If you measure success only by this person converting, focus your attention more on beginning the conversation, not on bringing it to a perfect close! Faith is a journey of many acts of belief, many discussions about God, and many choices about how we practice what we preach. In some we will have great success; in others we will need forgiveness and perseverance. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the Holy Spirit is always at work and our most humble efforts can bear great fruit. Have faith in God because he has faith in you!

Virtues, Explained! Forgiveness

Forgiveness is love in action. It is mercy extended for no other reason than a desire to be like God, who forgives us out of sheer goodness. The Catechism says that forgiveness proves that “love is stronger than sin.”

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

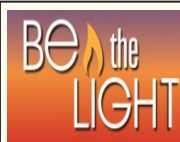
Our hearts are fertile ground for the Word of God, but we must be careful gardeners. Be conscious of what damages and depletes the soil of your heart. Pay attention to what nourishes it, so that the goodness of the Word can bloom forth into the world.

**Faith is trusting God's plan before you see His hand,
believing His promise before you see the proof,
and walking by faith when the path isn't clear.**



Perpetual Monthly Giving Calendar
Seymour Food Pantry St Vincent de Paul
to collect & deliver.

JULY: Mac & Cheese



Bishop's Appeal 2026

Parish Goal: \$16,357

Given to date: \$12,607

Still Needed: \$3,750

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