



November 9, 2025

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Sunday	11/9	8:00 AM <i>10:00 AM</i>	Richard Hock for His Birthday Love, Family <i>Mass at St John's Russell & Rose Kleist</i>	
Tuesday	11/11	<i>8:15 AM</i>	<i>Mass at St John's OPEN</i>	
Wednesday	11/12	<i>8:15 AM</i> 9:00 AM	<i>Mass at St John's Deceased Members of the Liebergen Family</i> Holy Communion Outside of Mass / Faith Formation to follow	
Thursday	11/13	<i>8:15 AM</i>	<i>Mass at St John's Jean Birling</i>	
Friday	11/14	8:15 AM	Sharon Marcks From Pat Ullmer	
Saturday	11/15	<i>4:00 PM</i>	<i>Mass at St John's Phyllis Pelishek</i>	
Sunday	11/16	8:00 AM <i>10:00 AM</i>	Bonnie Ahlborn From Jim & Dan Carey & Family <i>Mass at St John's Mary, Mark, & Paul Burkel</i>	

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica John 2:13-22

When I was 22, I entered St. Peter's Basilica for the first time. It floored me. I could hardly take it in, its grandeur, majestic arches, vibrant colors, and the light that danced through its high windows. Somehow, amidst such splendor, I felt an overwhelming sense of belonging, as if I had finally come home.

Jesus reorients how we Catholics see sacred buildings. In today's Gospel he says, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up**" (John 2:13-22). His riddle implies, shockingly, that his own body is now the fundamental dwelling place of God and humanity. The temple in Jerusalem has been superseded.

In our churches today — whether they mirror the basilica's grandeur or embrace humble simplicity — we experience architectural symbols of Christ's risen body. It is no accident we call them "churches": they make visible in brick-and-mortar Christ's body which is made up of the living stones we call Christians. Each church building, like St. John Lateran in Rome, or St. Peter's, or any other, is meant to be a vibrant sign of Christ's resurrected body. We should cherish and protect our churches as places where heaven touches earth, where we, as a community, are raised to the fullness of life in Christ.

— Father John Muir

CATHOLIC Q & A

Cremation and The Church

Question: Can Catholics be cremated?

Answer: As the practice of cremation becomes more and more common, it's important to know what the Church asks of families who have chosen this for a loved one who has died.

As the US Bishops observe on their website, "Ideally, if a family chooses cremation, the cremation would take place some time after the Funeral Mass, so that there can be an opportunity for the Vigil for the Deceased in the presence of the body." However, if cremation takes places before the Funeral Mass, the cremated remains can be present at the Funeral Mass and the appendix to the *Order of Christian Funerals* provides adaptations for the texts and rituals that are part of the Funeral Mass and the Committal.

The primary concern is that the cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to any human remains. The *Order of Christian Funerals* instructs, "This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, and the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains on the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires" (no. 417).

It is becoming more and more common for parishes or diocese-sponsored cemeteries to include columbaria to house cremated remains in a way that respects Church teaching, allowing family and friends the opportunity to honor the remains of the one they have lost with dignity, reverence, and care.

**The November Bulletin is Sponsored in Memory of
Donald Vande Hei & Jane (Vande Hei) Angrabright**



**Love, The Helen Vande
Hei Family**

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the name of the river Jesus was baptized in? **Answer:** The Jordan River.

DAY/TIME	LECTORS	DISTRIBTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
Sunday 8:00 AM November 16		Sandy Sponenburg	Ella Ambrosius Saddie Ambrosius Olivia Ambrosius	

St. Sebastian Monthly Stewardship and Expense Report 2026 Fiscal Year			
Ordinary Revenue	August	September	Year to Date
Parish Support	\$ 4,602	\$ 10,749	\$ 21,713
Offerings and Other Unrestricted Income	753	1,466	2,508
Total Revenue	\$ 5,354	\$ 12,216	\$ 24,221
Ordinary Expenses			
Worship, Music, non-Religious Ed Catechesis	\$ 780	\$ 481	\$ 1,599
Personnel Expenses and Salaries	6,849	7,050	18,809
Purchased Services and Supplies	971	1,317	3,196
Utilities	587	444	1,594
Building and Grounds	133	1,115	2,667
General and Office Expenses	369	1,034	2,199
Diocesan Assessments	640	640	3,059
Other Expenses	2,022	101	2,151
Parish Donations	-	-	-
Total Expenses	\$ 12,351	\$ 12,181	\$ 35,273
Revenue Net of Expense	\$ (6,996)	\$ 35	\$(11,052)

It's that time of year...
The Christmas Giving Tree
 is located in the lobby across from the women's bathroom. When you take an Angel Card, be sure to write your name by the # of your card on the sign up sheet. If you don't care to take an Angel Card & prefer to buy gifts of any kind, please put those unwrapped gifts on the table marked "Extra Gifts" Gas & food cards are always welcome! You can put those in the collection basket ~ be sure to label envelope as Christmas Giving Tree.

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**Mark your calendars!**  
**Christian Women Society**  
**Annual Bake Sale**  
**Sunday, December 7th**  
 More info in next week's bulletin

**Prayer of Missionary Zeal**  
 Dear Lord,  
 Give us eyes to see the depth of grace  
 You provide to Your Church.  
 May that goodness ignite in us fire  
 to share the truth of Your mercy  
 with every soul we encounter.  
 Amen.

**Live The Liturgy -  
 Inspiration of the Week**  
 "You are the temple of God," Paul tells us. But in today's Gospel we see how easily even temple areas become corrupted. Jesus, purge the greed and selfishness from our hearts. Make them fit dwellings for your Holy Spirit.

**Devotions, Explained!**  
**Simbang Gabi**  
 Simbang Gabi is a Filipino tradition of nine early-morning votive Masses offered in anticipation of Christmas. Celebrations follow Mass, where delicacies like baked rice cakes and breakfast rolls are enjoyed.

This week our parish will take a collection to benefit the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS).  
  
 The AMS is the Archdiocese for the Military Services, not of the Military Services. This is an important distinction, because the AMS receives no funding from the U.S. Government or U.S. Military and has no parishes from which to receive a weekly assessment. Instead, it must rely on the generosity of those whose values and priorities align with its mission, programs and services, to meet its costs. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to this special collection to support active-duty military men and women, and their families—including those from our own parish. Please give generously.

| INCOME FOR WEEK:                          |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Church Support                            | \$ 1060.00 |
| Loose Collection                          | \$ 252.00  |
| Votives                                   | \$ 18.25   |
| Mass Intentions                           | \$ 80.00   |
| Bulletin Sponsor                          | \$ 30.00   |
| Building & Maintenance                    | \$ 200.00  |
| CWS—Hall Rental                           | \$ 110.00  |
| DISBURSEMENTS FOR WEEK:                   |            |
| AON Risk                                  | \$ 830.26  |
| St John's Cost Share                      | \$ 5078.21 |
| Bishop David Ricken— Confirmation Stipend | \$ 30.00   |
| The Bug Blaster                           | \$ 175.00  |
| Salvation Army Gift Giving/CWS            | \$ 400.00  |
| Dcn Rich— Gas Mileage                     | \$ 105.00  |
| Lawn Mower Fuel—Reimbursement             | \$ 40.00   |
| WeShare CC Fees                           | \$ 6.69    |

**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**