

St. Sebastian Parish
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 Seymour, WI 54165



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NOVEMBER 19, 2017
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sun	11/19	8:00 AM	In Memory of Mary Alsteen Req. by Louis & Georgian Rynish
		10:00 AM	Mass at St John's
Mon	11/20		No Communion Service
Wed	11/22		No Communion Service-No Adult Faith Formation at St Sebastian
		8:15 AM	Mass at St John's
		7:00 PM	Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Thur	11/23	8:15 AM	Thanksgiving Mass at St John's
		9:00 AM	Thanksgiving Communion Service-St Sebastian-In Church
Fri	11/24		No Mass
Sat	11/25	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's
Sun	11/26	8:00 AM	In Memory of Michael Bowers Req. by the family
		10:00 AM	Mass at St John's



"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them." In today's Gospel parable, this man represents God, and the servants represent us. The story makes a clear point about the importance of putting the gifts God has given us to good use. Unlike the first two servants, the third servant chose not to make a return on his "talent." Thus we can understand the frustration of the master. He trusted this servant, and the fellow let him down. Remember, this all began with an act of trust when the master handed over care of his things. The fact is that the third servant did not take good care of what he was given.

What have we been given? Some gifts from God we all share in common: life and salvation. But others differ from person to person. We each have our own set of "talents": our personal skills, our material blessings, our education, family background, and so on. Some have more, and some have fewer. But the point is that we are called to make the most of what we have, whatever that may be. Perhaps the starting point for making a return on God's investment in us is to recognize that what we have is really his! In a sense, our gifts and skills, even our lives, are all "on loan" from God. He is generous in sharing his life and his blessings with us. And, like the parable's master, he is quick to praise and reward our efforts. But when we choose to be "wicked, lazy" servants, taking everything for granted and not using our gifts for God's glory, then "even what [we have] will be taken away." What we bury underground is as good as gone. So let's bring our gifts into the light of day by sharing them with others and making the best possible use of all we've received.



Everyday Stewardship

I remember watching a television show about a high school that dug up a time capsule that students had buried twenty-five years earlier. They had buried it with the purpose of showing others many years later the trends of the day and how student life was at that time. It was a fun exercise and everyone--the current students as well as those now grown--laughed at the clothing styles, corny photos, and lack of technology from years ago.

I wonder how the former students felt about how they had grown in those twenty-five years. How many of them realized their high school dreams? Did they find their purpose in this world and feel fulfilled in life? Did they use the talents and gifts God gave them to really make a difference in the world?

We have all been given talents and gifts by God to be cultivated and offered back to him and those around us for his glory. As time has passed, hopefully we have taken seriously our stewardship of these gifts. But sometimes out of fear, misunderstanding, or even apathy, we have taken one or more of our gifts and buried them, hiding them away from others and stifling all growth. This is no way to honor God and certainly not a path to fulfillment in life. If we have anything buried in our backyard we might do well to dig it back up, clean it up, and begin building upon it. Like a time capsule, those things will not be buried forever. One day the giver of that gift will ask what you have done with it. When that day comes, I pray you don't need to find a shovel.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBUTORS	MUSIC	SERVERS	USHERS
SUNDAY	Brad VandenHeuvel	Tim Eisenreich*	Sebastian	Jadyn Johnson	Jim Soltvedt
NOV 26		Alice VandenLangenberg	Singers	Addison Kust	Don Eisenreich
8:00 AM		Norb Matuszak		Emily Wagner	

Week of November 20th

Church Cleaners: Ray & Beth VandeHei and family

Money Counters: Kim VanHandel & Jane Buch

INCOME: November 12, 2017

Church Support	1,140.00
Loose Collection	158.64
Votive Candles	6.75
Christian Women Dues	10.00
Improvement Fund	100.00
Cemetery Perpetual Care	50.00
Burial Fees	150.00
Cemetery Checking Account	50.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

Bills paid the week of 11/13/17	7,561.07
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Bell ringers are at the heart of Salvation Army's mission. Schedule your shift by texting or calling Sue Seidl at 920-366-3420. Ringers begin Friday, Nov 17th at Don's Quality Market and Seymour's Hometown Shopko. Call now to schedule a date and time!

Give A-Kid-A Book Campaign is underway. Drop off new, unwrapped books at any Brown County Library or anywhere you see a collection box by December 10th.

Liturgical Schedules are in the church lobby. Please be sure to take yours home when you leave today.

The parish office will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 23rd and 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The deadline to submit information for the bulletin will be 9:00 am on Tuesday, November 21st due to the holiday.



The Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service in Seymour will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 22, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Any undesignated moneys collected, will be donated to the Food Pantry. A pie social will follow the service.
All are Welcome!



The Salvation Army Christmas Giving Drive is now underway. The cards are posted on the bulletin board by the men's restroom. Everyone is invited to help us out with this charitable opportunity. This year we have almost twice as many requests as last year...so the need is great. All unwrapped gifts should have the card attached to the gift box and be returned by December 10th. Be sure to read the instructions on the bottom of the sign-up sheets.

Muehl-Boettcher Funeral Home along with the New Life United Methodist Church will be co-sponsoring an inspirational program entitled **Blessings of Hope-Bereavement Support Program** on December 7th at 6:30 pm at the United Methodist Church, Seymour. It is an evening of fellowship and prayer. The main purpose of the program is to help those families who have lost loved ones understand how to cope with the upcoming holiday.

Almighty God,
you bring forth bountiful food from the earth that our loved ones may never grow hungry.
For this, we give thanks.
You give us families that meet at this time to reunite and be one with each other.
For this, we give thanks.
You have let us live in a land that has unbridled opportunity and unparalleled freedoms.
For this, we give thanks.
For those who are hungry today, we pray for their fulfillment.
For families that are separated, we pray for their unity.
And for people who live in the midst of persecution, we pray for their deliverance.
We ask all these things through Christ, our ever-risen Lord. Amen.



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. Brian Belongia
St. John Parish Office - 833-6140

Dcn. Richard Matuszak
833-2294 or 609-5292

St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558
Hours – Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 8:30 – 2:30
Wednesday 8:30 - Noon