

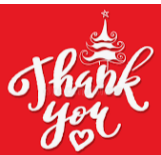




DECEMBER 11, 2022
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sun	12/11	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Leroy Harvancik Req by Jennifer Dercks Mass at St John's - David & Rosemary Vande Hei		Retired Religious Collection
Tues	12/13	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's - Karen Hallada		
Wed	12/14	8:15 AM 9:00 AM 6:00 PM	Mass at St John's - For Those Facing the Holiday's Alone Communion Service / Faith Formation Advent Penance Service / 6:15 pm Confessions begin (extra priests will be present to help Father Sengole listen to confessions)		
Thurs	12/15	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's - Harlen Blumreich		
Fri	12/16	8:15 AM	In Memory of Barbara Hauser Req by Anna Mae Matuszak (Confessions to follow Mass)		
Sat	12/17	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's - Jim Clevon		
Sun	12/18	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Joseph Socha & Ryan Socha Req by Barbara Socha Mass at St John's - Andrew Rueben		



Thank you to Don & Patti Eisenreich for the December bulletin sponsorship in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Eisenreich, Liebhaber & Wied Families

"If you or a family member are limited in your ability to leave your home, and would like to receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of the month, please contact Dcn. Rich or the parish office. We would love to include you in our First Friday Communion visits."

2nd Collection today for the Retired Religious

Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained
Strengthening Faith

Question: Our prayer group is discussing ways we can change and strengthen our faith. What one thing could we change that would have the greatest impact on our faith?



Answer: A famous coach once said that when the team is in trouble and things aren't going well, go back to the basics; when the team is winning and things are going well, go back to the basics! Any renewal program, faith development, or spiritual growth effort has to start with the basic core of what it means to believe. If the foundation is not strong, the house will not stand. So if you work on one thing, begin with the idea that God is love, who loves us and calls us to love one another. If we really take that belief to heart, it changes how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It would change how we pray, how we treat others, and how we understand and live our own life. Our sense of mission and purpose will be more focused on God's plan and our role in it. Love is the core of faith, the goal of life, and the hope of heaven. Whatever we do to strengthen and deepen our faith will begin and end with love.

The magic of Christmas is not in the presents but in His presence.

Everyday Stewardship - The Season That Gives Back

I don't have anything left to give.

You can't pour from an empty cup.

All I do is give. Who is giving to me?



Raise your hand if these thoughts have ever run through your head. I'm sure they occur to all of us from time to time. We can become so easily depleted by the fast pace of life and whatever vocation God has called us to, whether that's parenthood, a demanding professional career or the caretaking of friends and family (or as so often happens, a hybrid of all three). Many of us also undergo certain seasons — seasons of the year, but also seasons of life — that seem to sap us of energy and leave us totally empty.

In these times, it seems impossible to continue in the spirituality of Everyday Stewardship. Graciousness, mindfulness, prayerfulness, gratitude, accountability — maintaining some semblance of these characteristics in our daily life feels not only overly optimistic, but totally impossible.

The Church gives us certain liturgical seasons that are meant to fill us up, almost like spiritual pit stops. Advent is one such season, and the Scriptural passages we reflect on at Mass during these four weeks are filled with images of nature defied. We see the dry steppe blooming. We see the weak made firm. We see the frightened made strong. We see the lame walk. We see the Virgin give birth.

If you think you don't have anything left to give this Advent, think again. This is the season of miracles when what we thought was depleted brings new life.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBUTORS	MUSIC	SERVERS	USHERS
SUNDAY	Abby Matuszak	Darlene Stedl		Liberty Schroeder	Steve Hackl
8:00AM / DEC 18				Olivia Ambrosius	Ken Linsmeyer

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 1,471.94
Loose Collection	124.00
Votive Candles	4.50
Flowers & Decorations	235.00
Wedding Stipend	75.00
Giving Tree Cash Donation	100.00
Other	70.00
DISBURSEMENTS:	
WE Energies	\$ 622.07
Other	103.06

RE Classes **TODAY** After Mass

8:00 am Little Liturgy at Mass
 9:00-11:00 am Grades 1-8 in Parish Center
 9:00-11:00 am HS RE-CFH in Parish Center



St John's Wednesday, December 14th

6:00 pm Service begins
 6:15 pm Confessions begin
 Wednesday, December 21st
 6:00 pm Service begins
 6:15 pm Confessions begin
 Father will have additional priests to help with confessions



Additional Opportunities for Reconciliation During Advent

St Sebastian's
 Friday, December 16th following the 8:15 am Mass
St John's
 Saturday, December 17th at 3:00 pm

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Master of both light and darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things Look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy Seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness yet seeking light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen

Living the Liturgy - We can often feel parched, desolate, lifeless, and dark. Even though we still engage in the business and demands of life, we find ourselves somewhat detached, disengaged, and removed. We lack joy, wonder, awe, and zest. Rather than being an experience of freedom and excitement, life holds us captive. We are tethered to systems, agendas, protocols, regulations, and expectations that go against the grain of what it means to be God's child. We find ourselves in a desert. Jesus came to release us from all of this negativity and desolation. John the Baptist announced the arrival of the One who embodies healing, reconciliation, freedom, and life. Stop complaining about what you don't have. Prepare for the arrival of the remedy to life's despair. Be strong, fear not! Christ will save us from life's distortions, illusions, and disappointments. Be patient. With proper time and care, all will be well.

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.

The Christian Women Society are holding their annual Bake Sale after Mass **TODAY** to raise money for the Salvation Army Christmas donation. Thank you!



Christmas Flower Donations are now being accepted. Please put your donation and intention in an envelope marked Flower Fund and put it in the collection basket or drop it off or mail it to the parish office. Thanks for helping decorate our church for Christmas.

Catholic Trivia – Just For Fun

Question: Why did Mary and Joseph travel to a distant town before Jesus was born?

Answer: It was required for the Roman census.

Seymour Community Christmas Dinner Sunday, December 25 11 AM - 12:30 PM

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 349 N. Main St., Seymour
 Dine-in, Carry-out, or Delivery
 RSVP to 920-833-2316 by December 21.



You are invited to a free Community Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Dine-in, carry-out, and delivery is available for the traditional turkey dinner. Please RSVP to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church office at 920-833-2316 by Wednesday, December 21st. Come for food and fellowship as we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

Fr. Sengole Dass
St. John Parish Office - 833-6140

DC. Richard Matuszak
833-2294 or 609-5292

St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558
Hours – Mon/Tues/Thurs/8:00 – 4:00
Wednesday 8:30 - Noon, Closed Friday