



**December 17, 2023**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

Sun	12/17	8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b>	In Memory of Rick De Ruyter Love, Family <b>Mass at St John's Living &amp; Deceased Members of the Coonen &amp; Kline Families</b>
Tues	12/19	<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's</b>
Wed	12/20	<b>8:15 AM</b> 9:00 AM 9:30 AM	<b>Mass at St John's Barb Wagner</b> Communion Service Faith Formation
Thurs	12/21	<b>8:15 AM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Mary Van Dyn Hoven</b>
Fri	12/22	8:15 AM	Many Blessings during this Holiday Season
Sat	12/23	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Mass at St John's Ann VandenHeuvel</b>
Sun	12/24	8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b> ***** <b>4:00 PM</b> 6:00 PM	Bill and Mary Matuszak by Barbara Socha <b>Mass at St John's Gerald Saindon</b> <b>CHRISTMAS EVE MASS</b> <b>Mass at St John's Stanley Skinkis</b> For All to Embrace Hope, Peace, Joy & LOVE this Christmas Season!
Mon	12/25	***** 8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY MASS</b> For Health & Happiness in the New Year! <b>Mass at St John's Living &amp; Deceased Members of the Coonen &amp; Kline Families</b>

**\* ST SEBASTIAN \***  
**YOUTH CHOIR**  
**Practice** Dec. 23 10:00am  
**SING** Dec 24 8:00am Mass

**ADULT CHOIR**  
**Practice** Dec. 23 9:00am  
**SING** Dec. 24 6:00pm  
Christmas Eve Mass

**Jesus IS THE Reason FOR THE Season**

**The Sign of Peace**

**Question:** Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

**Answer:** The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven. It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion - united in love and peace - with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

**Giving Tree & Bake Sale**

A big thank you to everyone who supported our **Giving Tree** again this year. After Father blessed all the gifts, they were delivered to the Salvation Army in Black Creek.

Our **Bake Sale** was also a big hit!

There was something for everyone with a sweet tooth!

A total of \$375 was made for next years gift giving.

Our little parish certainly has a big heart!

**Thank you again & have a Blessed Christmas!**

~ Christian Women



**Prayer for Advent ~ Week 3**

Dear Lord, Give us boldness as we move through the motions of the holiday season, to reflect and remind those around us of Your deep and abiding love for them. Allow them to encounter Your love, through us. Amen.



Thank you to all who gave generously last weekend through the **Retirement Collection**. If you still wish to donate, There are envelopes on the ledge on each side of the stairs. On behalf of them, thank you for your generous care!

**LIVE THE LITURGY** God sends a John the Baptist into every person's life — someone who prepares His way, who calls out His truth. Look for the John the Baptist in your life. Pray you can be this person for someone else.

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBTORS	SERVERS	USHERS
<b>Sunday 8:00 AM</b>	Toi Van Ess	Dcn Rich Matuszak	Ashlyn Ullmer	Ron Matuszak Sr
<b>December 24</b>			Graham Kisling	Kurt Schuh
<b>Sunday 6:00 PM</b>	Janet Matuszak	Dcn Rich Matuszak	Paden Melchert	Ron Matuszak Jr
<b>December 24 Christmas Eve</b>			Eloise Melchert	Rick Stedl
<b>Monday 8:00 AM</b>	Brad VandenHeuvel	Tim Eisenreich	Clara VanderHeiden	Perry Matuszak
<b>December 25 Christmas Day</b>			Preston VanderHeiden	Jacob VandenHeuvel

**St. Sebastian  
Monthly Stewardship and Expense Report  
2024 Fiscal Year**

<b>Ordinary Revenue</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Parish Support	\$ 5,183	\$ 30,009
Offerings and Other Unrestricted Income	<u>507</u>	<u>1,408</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5,690</b>	<b>\$ 31,417</b>
<b>Ordinary Expenses</b>		
Worship, Music, non-Religious Ed Catechesis	\$ 994	\$ 1,865
Personnel Expenses and Salaries	4,361	26,952
Purchased Services and Supplies	871	4,423
Utilities	460	2,541
Building and Grounds	213	2,577
General and Office Expenses	422	2,576
Diocesan Assessments	695	4,637
Other Expenses	12	70
Parish Donations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,028</b>	<b>\$ 45,641</b>
<b>Revenue Net of Expense</b>	<b>\$ (2,338)</b>	<b>\$ (14,224)</b>

**Christmas Flower Donations**

There is still time to send in your donation & intentions. Please use an envelope marked Flower Fund. You can put it in the collection basket, drop off or mail to the Parish Office. Thank you for helping to decorate our church for the Christmas Season!



**Loose Collection on Christmas, will be distributed as follows:**

**50% to Community 2000**  
in Seymour  
**50% to Emmanuel Lutheran**  
in Seymour \*support of  
Inclusive Community playground

*On* **MISSION**  
PRINT & DIGITAL MEDIA  
Office of Communications & Marketing

**FAITH THAT WORKS**  
**NOMINATION TIME!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOMINATE**

an individual who lives their faith in the workplace for the 2024 Faith That Works awards! The "Faith That Works" nomination form along with requirements and nominee criteria are available online at [bit.ly/nominateFTW](http://bit.ly/nominateFTW).  
Deadline is December 31, 2023. For information, visit [www.thecompassnews.org](http://www.thecompassnews.org) or call 920-272-8212. Sponsored by: On Mission media for the Diocese of Green Bay.



**The Four Christmas Trees by the Altar, were donated in memory of Martin & Rosemary Wied. Thank You!**

**Thank you to Douglas & Patty Karcz for sponsoring the December bulletin, in loving memory of Joseph & LaVerne Vande Corput.**

**INCOME FOR WEEK:**

Church Support	\$ 61,830.00
Loose Collection	\$ 108.00
Votive Candles	\$ 4.00
Christmas Flowers Fund	\$ 175.00
Christian Women Bake Sale	\$ 375.00
Retirement Collection	\$ 1,003.00
World Mission	\$ 10.00

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

MMC-Multi Media	\$ 20.00
Liguori Publications	\$ 89.78
The Catholic Foundation	\$ 1,013.00
Parish Center Laptop	\$ 263.72
CW donation to Emmanuel Lutheran	\$ 500.00
*Inclusive Community Playground	
CW donation to Good Shepherd	\$ 100.00
* Bus Fund	
8 Priests for Confession on 12/10	\$ 507.96
WeShare CC Fees	\$ 5.71

**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**