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## DECEMBER 25, 2022 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Sun	12/25	8:00 AM	In Memory of William & Mary Matuszak and Ryan Socha Req by Barbara Socha		
		10:00 AM	Mass at St John's - Living & Deceased Members of the Coonen & Kline Families		
Tues	12/27	8:15 AM	Communion Service at St John's * Goy to the world		
Wed	12/28	8:15 AM	Communion Service at St John's		
		9:00 AM	Communion Service in Church / Faith Formation		
Thurs	12/29		No Services		
Fri	12/30		No Services		
Sat	12/31	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's - Living & Deceased Members of the Austin Koeppel Family		
Sun	1/1	8:00 AM	All the Living & Deceased Descendants of the Vande Corput Families		
		10:00 AM	Living & Deceased Members of the Coonen & Kline Families		



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

## CORRECTION TO RE CLASSES RESUMING AFTER THE HOLIDAY'S



Next RE Classes will be held January 22nd for Grades 1-11 (not February as mistakenly put in last weeks bulletin)

# The Nativity of the Lord

Our hearts are aglow with the joy of Christmas! Our senses are alive with the season, from the rich smells of evergreen and gingerbread to the feel of crisp air on our skin and the warmth of a loved one's embrace. At some point in the holiday hustle and bustle, take a few moments of quiet. In the silence, reflect on the other senses of the season. Imagine the cool damp of an animal stable, the earthy smell of hay and feed, and the crisp night air blowing in softly. Imagine kneeling beside an exhausted, joyful

St. Sebastian Monthly Stewardship and Expense Report 2023 Fiscal Year **Ordinary Revenue** Year to Date November Parish Support 6.049 35,002 Offerings and Other Unrestricted Income 125 1,168 6,174 \$ **Total Revenue** 36,170 Ordinary Expenses Worship, Music, non-Religious Ed Catechesis 1.085 Personnel Expenses and Salaries 39,682 8.862 Purchased Services and Supplies 703 3,777 Utilities 689 2,916 **Building and Grounds** 1,578 General and Office Expenses 249 2,368 Diocesan Assessments 695 4,565 Other Expenses 15 94 Parish Donations **Total Expenses** 56,065 Revenue Net of Expense (5,267)(19,895) mother and a relieved, protective father. Imagine an infant wrapped in cloth scraps held out to your open arms. Imagine holding the infant Jesus. As his eyes meet yours, welcome into your heart the greatest gift of Christmas.

May Christmas be an opportunity for all of us to rediscover the family as a cradle of life and faith, a place of acceptance and love, dialogue, forgiveness, fraternal solidarity and shared joy, a source of peace for all humanity.

~ Pope Francis,

Twitter

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBUTORS	GREETERS	SERVERS	USHERS
SUNDAY	Julie Skinkis	Georgian Rynish		Jackson Banker	Louis Rynish
8:00AM / JAN 1					Dick Stedl

INCOME FOR WEEK:	
Church Support	\$ 2,395.70
Loose Collection	136.00
Flowers & Decorations	240.00
Christian Women Bake Sale	253.00
Other	129.50
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Utilities	\$ 221.33
St John's Cost Share	7,255.97
Catholic Foundation	638.00
St Therese of the Little Flower	694.60
AON Risk Insurance	608.77
Den Rich Matuszak	564.38
Other	503.56



Communion Service on Wednesday, December 28th will be held in Church so all can appreciate the decorations from Christmas as much as possible.

Christmas - Today marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season. We have lighted four candles these past four weeks and asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends. Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world.

God, you became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary. Mary is our model of faith. May we be faithful to your word as Mary was. Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to you. We ask this through the incarnate God, who comes to us again during this Christmas season. Amen.

#### Living the Liturgy

The true meaning of Christmas is not found in the twinkling lights, the beautifully adorned trees, or the exchanged gifts. It is revealed when we find God along the way of our lives, especially when we feel displaced, desperate, and alone. Fleeing from their home, Joseph and Mary cautiously made their way through the uncertain, complex, and dark paths to a longed-for place of safety and welcome. Not sure where to lay their heads, they created makeshift preparations for the birth of their child, the Son of God. God, who always was, is, and will be, without beginning or end is the one constant in life who sees us through difficult and scary times. Jesus is the light, which enlightens everyone, and comes into the world to show us the truth. It is joyful good news that calms our fears and allows us to go forth into the nighttime of our lives, courageously. This is the meaning of Christmas. We are never lost or alone. God is with us, loving us and leading us where we need to be.

Next RE Classes January 22nd Grades 1-11



St Sebastian Feast Day Breakfast January 22nd following Mass



## Everyday Stewardship - Being the Sign



I think the real challenge of evangelization in the modern age is the reality that pretty much everyone has already heard of Jesus Christ — or, at least, they think they have.

To our 21st-century eyes, the angel who shared news of the birth of Jesus with the shepherds had an easy job. All he had to do was announce it.

Our baptism compels us to do the same — to announce the coming of Christ over and over again, always and everywhere. But our audience is not a group of illiterate shepherds in ancient Judea. Our audience is a world that has heard so much about Jesus they often claim weariness of his name. So how do we do it? If we walk into a crowd of strangers and tell them we want to talk about Jesus, their reaction will probably be either "I already know about Jesus, thanks," or "I've heard of him, and based on the behavior of those who claim to follow him, I'm really not interested in hearing more."

Because in the end, our very lives are how we "announce his salvation" in the present day. We announce it in our actions to strangers. We announce it in our treatment of people who have wronged us. We announce it in our interactions with those who disagree with us.

How long had the coming of the Messiah been foretold to the Israelites? So long that, no doubt, many of them despaired of his coming altogether. So, God had to give them a sign: "You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

Now we are the sign.

The world has heard of Christ by now. But have they all seen him? It's our job to show them. - Tracy Earl Welliver

**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

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