



DECEMBER 5, 2021
 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sun	12/5	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Rosemarie Wied Req by the family Mass at St John's - Helen Leisgang
Tues	12/7	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's - Living & Deceased Members of St John's
Wed	12/8	8:15 AM 6:30 PM	Mass at St Sebastian - Immaculate Conception - In Memory of Mary Steffens Mass at St John's - Immaculate Conception - Evelyn Gardner
Thurs	12/9	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's - Joe Liebhaber
Fri	12/10	8:15 AM	In Memory of Richard Bluma Req by Rose Kleist
Sat	12/11	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's - Bob, Jack & Duke Liebergen
Sun	12/12	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of David Vande Hei Req by Don & Helen Vande Hei Mass at St John's - Living & Deceased Members of Robert & Diann Ciesielczyk



Thank you to Don & Helen Vande Hei for sponsoring the December bulletin for the Living & Deceased Members of the Vande Hei & Garrity Families

The Christian Women Society will be holding their Annual Bake Sale on Sunday, December 12th to raise money for the Salvation Army Christmas donation. Each parish member is asked to bring 2 pre-priced items to donate to the sale. Thanks!



The next Knights of Columbus meeting will be held on December 7 at 6:30 PM in the parish hall at St. Mary's in Black Creek. All those considering becoming a member of this fine Catholic organization are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Bill Letter at 833-6502.

Thank you to all helping celebrate today's Student Mass and every Mass!
 In honor of Saint Nicholas, chocolates are being served at the exit, please enjoy as you go in peace.
 December 12th is the next RE Class Day.

Immaculate Conception
 of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, December 8th
8:15 am St Sebastian Parish
 Confessions to follow Mass (9:00-9:30 am)
6:30 pm St John the Baptist
 Holy Day of Obligation



Sermon
 "The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible."
 — George Burns

PRAYER May the splendor of your glory dawn in our hearts, we pray, almighty God, that all shadows of the night may be scattered and we may be shown to be children of light by the advent of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

Question: With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

Answer: Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBUTORS	MUSIC	SERVERS	USHERS
WEDNESDAY	Volunteer	Dcn Rich Matuszak			Volunteers
8:15AM/DEC 8					
SUNDAY	Brad VandenHeuvel	Dcn Rich Matuszak		Clara VanderHeiden	Jacob VandenHeuvel
8:00AM/DEC 12				Gracelynn VanderHeiden	Kevin Matuszak

INCOME FOR THE WEEK:

Church Support	\$1,439.96
Loose Collection	113.00
Other	177.00

DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE WEEK:

Utilities - WE Energies & Centurylink	\$ 748.47
AON Risk Insurance	583.09
Leo Benevolent - Retirement	1,738.00
Northern Sound & Video	747.24
St Therese of LF—Cathedraticum Assessment	697.00
Other	135.31

Christmas Flowers

Donations of Poinsettias or money to purchase them are needed to decorate our church for the Christmas season.

Please put money in an envelope marked "Flower Fund" and drop in the collection basket or drop off or mail in to the parish office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



The 20th Annual Women Celebrate retreat will be held February 4-6, 2022

It will be held at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, WI. The weekend includes inspirational speakers, worship music, workshops and plenty of food and fun! The organizers are excited to welcome Nicole Phillips, Julianne Stanz, Jan Struck and Fr Kevin Schneider, among others, to share God's spirit and love with participants.

Women Celebrate always includes Mass and the opportunity to attend Reconciliation. ONLINE registration can be found at womencelebrate.org.

Everyday Stewardship - God's Personal Assistants

If you have ever planned a large-scale event, whether it's a musical performance or a religious conference, you may have dealt with someone's personal assistant. This person could be a representative of the keynote speaker or the master of ceremonies for the local bishop; perhaps it's even the staffer of a local politician or the lackey of a well-known musical act.

Personal assistants are masters of stewardship — overseeing things in their boss' absence. They prepare the way. This person's job is to get everything ready for the person in charge, so that when he or she shows up — whoever he or she is — it's smooth sailing for them to do whatever it is they need to do: sing, speak, pray, mingle, what-have-you. It's usually a big job full of little things, a gig where attention to detail is key.

God is the guest of honor in our life, the keynote speaker, the main event. And what He wants — what He needs — to do is to change our hearts. Constantly, over, and over, and over again.

We are all His personal assistants in this endeavor. We need to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight His paths. We need to make everything ready so that when He shows up — however He shows up, whether it's in the form of a neighbor in need or a burning bush right in front of us — everything is ready for Him to do His job. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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.



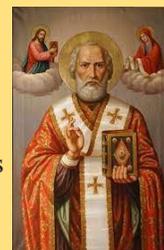
All gifts from the Salvation Army Giving Tree must be back in the church hall TODAY. Any questions, call Alice Vanden Langenberg at 833-2919.

Are you looking for more ways to give this holiday season? Our friends at Shepherds Inn, Meadow Wood and Forest Glen are looking for some people to help fill some tags on their giving trees for their residents. You do not need to go into the facilities. The trees are located in the entrances of the buildings. You pick a tag, and then write down your name and the tag number. Please return all gifts to them by the 14th of December. Thank you for making someone's day this Christmas Season.

Saint of the Week - Examples of our Faith

St. Nicholas | Feast Day December 6

St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters avoid a life of prostitution.



According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.

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