



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun	9/17	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Joyce Cleven by Shirley Roskom Mass at St John's 50th Wedding Anniversary of Dan & Mary VandenHeuvel
Tues	9/19	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's Living & Deceased Members of Coonen & Kline Families
Wed	9/20	8:15 AM 9:00 AM 9:30 AM	Mass at St John's Delores Leininger Communion Service Faith Formation
Thurs	9/21	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's Joseph Fassbender
Fri	9/22	8:15 AM	All Souls in Purgatory
Sat	9/23	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's For All Members of St John's Parish
Sun	9/24	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of June Linsmeyer by Gary and Bev Bunkelman Mass at St John's Dorothy Fellion

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
— Tracy Earl Welliver

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

Life is not always easy on us and it can be hard to figure out the next step to take in our journey. We can even become immobilized by indecisiveness and fear about making the wrong move or choosing the incorrect path. I think of the song, *Should I Stay, or Should I Go*, as a mantra for many times in my life. Should I stay in this house, this job, or this car? Should I go here or there? When those times of decision surface, I usually turn to my wife, my friends, or even my children. Talking it out can help, and their perspectives give me more data to consider. When I lean on others to help me make a decision, it helps me become more confident in my choices.

Discerning the will of God is not easy either. Rarely do we understand God's calling clearly at first. God's calling is always more easily discerned within a community of faithful disciples. Our stewardship way of life can suffer greatly if we refuse to allow others to assist us in the process of discernment. What gifts or talents are needed for the task at hand? Where do I fit best into God's plan? Where is God leading me? No one should have to decide the answers to these questions alone. We need to always lean on the Body of Christ to help us see the path that God has laid before us. Without a little help along the journey, over time we might find ourselves stuck in the same place where we started.

Question: Psychics and Mediums

Are Catholics allowed to visit psychics? Why or why not?

Answer: It's part of human nature to experience some sense of unease and fear about the future. This can lead some people to seek out the services of psychics or consult horoscopes or turn to other occult practices or resources (e.g. Ouija boards or tarot cards). The Catechism of the Catholic Church is very clear that Catholics should avoid such practices: "Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance, and recourse to mediums all conceal a desire for power over time, history, and, in the last analysis, other human beings, as well as a wish to conciliate hidden powers. They contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone" (no. 2116). Despite the uncertainties we might feel, we are called to have faith and trust in God, confident of God's desire for what is best for us. This means that we are called to surrender, to pray and to reflect on how we can best move into the future in hope, knowing that God is with us.

(GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE)

When I was in second grade, my prized possession was a metal Star Wars-themed lunch box. After school one day, another student ripped it from my hands. I helplessly watched in horror as my classmate threw it to the ground and violently stomped it into an unrecognizable heap of junk. I came home covered in tears of shame and rage. After a few months, I never thought about it again ... until I was almost thirty years old and on a retreat to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

That childhood memory — and the attendant outrage — came back afresh. My spiritual director helped me in the process of acknowledging that I was angry because that kid *owed* me my lunch box. Then she helped me, through the grace of Jesus, to forgive the debt. Almost immediately I felt a new peace. I was amazed that I hadn't forgotten what I had lost, even from years before. Aren't we human beings simply amazing at remembering what people owe us?

We see this week in Jesus' parable a servant who is forgiven much but then commands another servant: "Pay back what you owe!" He can't forget or let go of how he was wronged. He *remembers* — and he becomes a monster because of it. If only he had remembered not only the debts owed to him, but also his greater debt owed to — and forgiven by — his master. It's natural for us to remember what others owe us. But when we contextualize those offenses in Jesus' mercy toward us and them, we're free to be merciful like the Master and less like a monster who never forgets.

— Father John Muir

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBTORS	GREETERS	SERVERS	USHERS
SUNDAY	Amanda Nagel	Jake Hodkiewicz		Eloise Melchert	Ken Linsmeyer
September 24				Saddie Ambrosius	Fred Fleming

St. Sebastian
Monthly Stewardship and Expense Report
2024 Fiscal Year

Ordinary Revenue	August	Year to Date
Parish Support	\$ 4,449	\$ 13,381
Offerings and Other Unrestricted Income	257	475
Total Revenue	\$ 4,706	\$ 13,856
Ordinary Expenses		
Worship, Music, non-Religious Ed Catechesis	\$ 331	\$ 283
Personnel Expenses and Salaries	5,071	10,395
Purchased Services and Supplies	751	1,999
Utilities	591	1,134
Building and Grounds	198	1,740
General and Office Expenses	513	1,117
Diocesan Assessments	695	2,553
Other Expenses	13	23
Parish Donations	-	-
Total Expenses	\$ 8,162	\$ 19,243
Revenue Net of Expense	\$ (3,457)	\$ (5,387)



SEPT. 27 – NOV. 5, 2023
WWW.40DAYSFORLIFE.COM

**If you are interested in a yard sign, please contact Laurie at the Parish Office. She will order if there is enough interest.*

**LIVE THE LITURGY -
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Take some time to reflect on the enormity of what Christ offers us in salvation. Can we find the strength to offer just a fraction of that to our brothers and sisters?

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 1,357.00
Loose Collection	\$ 193.00
Votive Candles	\$ 17.00
Christian Women Dues	\$ 7.00
Building/Maintenance	\$ 50.00
RE Donations	\$ 75.00
RE Tuition	\$ 540.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

MMC-Multi Media	\$ 20.00
OCP Liturgical Supplies	\$ 34.72

thank you

Thank you to
Bonnie Laskowski
for sponsoring the
September Bulletin
in memory of
Ron's Anniversary of Death (9/17/1991)
and their
60th Wedding Anniversary (9/28/1963)
With Love, Bonnie

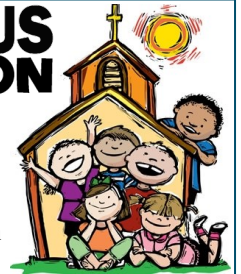
**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

If you have not yet returned your completed Religious Education registration forms, please due so

as soon as possible.

Classes begin October 1, 2023!

Questions, contact Laurie at the Parish Office.



Spectacular holiday fun for the whole family!



Xavier Fine Arts Theatre • 1600 W. Prospect Avenue, Appleton

www.christmasstars.org • (920) 733-8840

FallFest - Saturday, Sept 30, 10am-3pm

St. Joseph, 936 9th St, Green Bay

Shop Grandma's Attic, Grandpa's Workshop, Sports Emporium, Book Boon. Enjoy Karaoke, Cornhole Tournaments, Games, Bakery, Pies, Belgium Pies, Pulled Pork, Chili, Burgers, Hotdogs, Nacho Chips, Beverages. Raffles: 1-Night Stay at Tundra Lodge, 50/50, Theme Baskets. Bring the family, friends, neighbors. Come to simply enjoy one another, eat some good food, have some fun & be together! More info: www.quad-parish.org

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