

## MISSION STATEMENT

***We The people of the Whiting/Robertsdale Cluster, are a Catholic Faith Community, ethnically rich, culturally diverse, and one in Faith. Inspired by the unity of The Holy Trinity, we endeavor to share our Faith as disciples of Jesus.***

## 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



***Whiting / Robertsdale Faith Community***

***St. John the Baptist  
&***

***St. Adalbert***

**1849 Lincoln Ave. Whiting, IN.**

**Confessions after 7:00 a.m. Mass in  
the Centennial Rm. Also by appointment.**

**Sacraments**

**Please Call St. John Church Office: 219-659-0023**

**January 24, 2021**

THERE IS A DEFINITE URGENCY ABOUT THE READINGS  
FOR THE **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.**

In the **1<sup>st</sup> Reading** the Ninevites heed God's announcement and immediately proclaim a fast, put on sackcloth (signifying their willingness to repent), and seek the Lord.

The **Responsorial Psalm** 25 pleads:  
***"Teach me your ways, O Lord."***

**St. Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> letter** to the Corinthians 7:29-31 warns:  
***"time is running out...for the world in its present  
form is passing away."***

**THE GOSPEL** Mk1:14-20, provides the climax as Jesus proclaims:

***"This is the time of fulfillment.  
The kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent, and believe in the gospel."***

Upon seeing the fishermen, Simon Peter and his brother  
Andrew, Jesus summons them:  
***"Come after me and I will make you fishers of men."***

Seeing two more brothers, James and John, Jesus offers the  
same invitation. Each one immediately leaves his old way in  
order to follow Jesus.

The implication in each of today's readings is that we be atten-  
tive and listen with fresh ears in order to positively respond to  
God's invitation.

+ + + + +

- ◆ Like Peter, Andrew, James & John, am I willing to live in a  
"new way" this year?
- ◆ Am I ready to hear God's Word, calling me to repent and  
accept His invitation to follow without counting the cost?
- ◆ What are the "nets" of distraction that may be holding me  
back from fully following Jesus?

In this new year with its chaotic beginning, we do well to com-  
mit to the daily reading of God's Word. St. Augustine has told  
us that ***"when we pray we speak to God, but when we read the  
scriptures, God speaks to us"***. We are certainly in need of  
God's direction.

We are quick to employ cell phones, facebook, you tube, and/or  
the TV for daily happenings. How much more important it is to  
consult with God for our life's direction found in His written  
word, revealed in sacred scripture.

Daily Mass attendees are inspired by the scripture readings.  
Others look to the Gospel delivered directly to their computers:  
Bishop Barron's daily Gospel Reflection [wof@wordonfire.org](http://wof@wordonfire.org) or  
Dr. Tim Grey's Daily Scripture Reflection [watch@formed.org](http://watch@formed.org)  
Each provides inspirational helpmates. Still others read the  
daily scripture reflections in ***God's Word Among Us, God's  
Word Today***, or the ***Magnificat*** publications. The **USCCB Daily  
Reflection**, available on-line, likewise provides the day's scrip-  
tures and a brief commentary for spiritual nourishment.

- ◆ How is God calling me right now?
- ◆ In what ways is God encouraging me & giving me the grace  
to respond?

MAIN RECTORY NUMBER.....(219) 659-0023

RECTORY FAX NUMBER.....(219) 473-7551

E-Mail: [churchparishoffice@stjohnbap.org](mailto:churchparishoffice@stjohnbap.org)WEBSITE: [www.stjohnbap.org](http://www.stjohnbap.org)**RECTORY STAFF**

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Articles deadline: Thursdays @10:00 a.m.

WEBSITE INFORMATION: [jsandona@stjohnbap.org](mailto:jsandona@stjohnbap.org)

Community events are resuming with restrictions.

Please call the rectory for more information.

**WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY****IN LOVING MEMORY****January 25: Monday ~ Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle**

7:00 a.m. † Eileen Coppage by Great Grandson Thomas

**January 26: Tuesday ~ Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops**

7:00 a.m. † Therese Kulas by Children

**January 27: Wednesday ~ St. Angela Merici, Virgin  
& Religious Founder**

7:00 a.m. † Mary "Mimi" Murzyn by Don Kometz

**January 28: Thursday ~ St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor  
of the Church**

7:00 a.m. † Robert &amp; Rita Bondi by Family

**January 29: Friday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 a.m. † Julie Geffert by Family &amp; Friends

**January 30: Saturday in Ordinary Time**

(SA) 4:30 p.m. † W/R Catholic Community

**January 31: Sunday: FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00 a.m. † Dottie &amp; Bob Conner by Sister

10:30 a.m. † George Brezene by Angie Kenealy &amp; Ted Sinal

Cluster Parishes ~ Mass Intentions ~ The Mass Book for 2021 intentions, is now available. All Mass intentions will be taken at the St. John Rectory business office Monday through Friday 9:00 am to noon, and 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Please call our office with any questions.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Our Capital Campaign continues. When each family gives even \$2, \$3, \$5, or more per day over the next 12 months, it will allow us to enrich our parish for years to come.

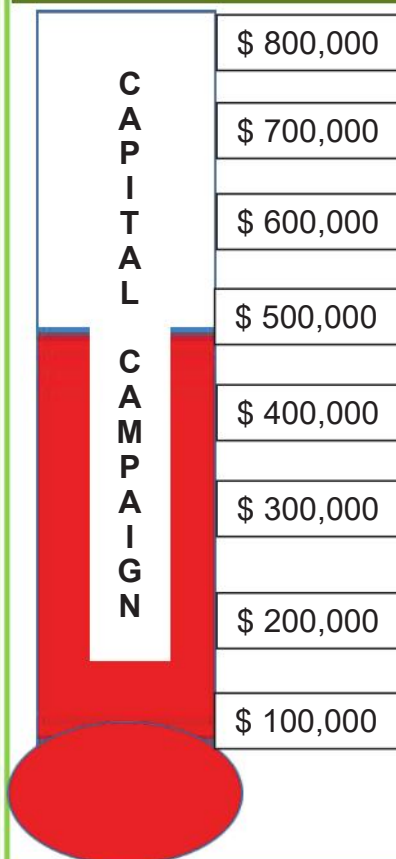
Our parish was built on the sacrifices of our families and friends many years ago. Through our own sacrifices we can reach our goal and serve our community for years to come. There are many ways to help sacrificially in addition to a

few dollars a day. Several of those different ways are included in the information that you have all received. But the most important way is to pray, pray, and pray again for the success of our campaign.

We invite all faithful parishioners to complete a pledge card as our goal is 100% participation. You may return your card by:

- ◆ Mailing it to the rectory using the pre-addressed envelope included in your mailing.
- ◆ Bring it to Mass next weekend and drop it in the basket.
- ◆ Or visit the parish website at [www.stjohnbap.org](http://www.stjohnbap.org) and complete the electronic pledge card.

Please contact the office for any questions you may have about different types of gifts. Electronic giving is an easy, safe and secure way to give to our parish. To schedule a recurring electronic gift directly from your bank account or credit card, please visit our website and follow the instructions.

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**THANK  
YOU!**

1/17/2021St. JohnSt. Adalbert

Regular Collection.....\$ 3,988.25

TO BE ANNOUNCED

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2020**

	GOAL	PLEDGES	PAID	Balance Due
SA	\$ 10,842.00	\$ 3,966.00	\$ 3,716.00	\$ 7,126.00
SJB	\$ 56,573.00	\$ 48,309.00	\$ 45,344.00	\$ 11,229.00

**Note:** Contributions letters for 2020 have been mailed out. If you do not receive one by January 29, please call the Rectory (219) 659-0023.

**Dear Friends in Christ,**

Following the metrics set for us by the diocese, we have determined that the maximum capacity at St John's is 100 people and at St Adalbert's 45 people. **At present we have two Sunday Masses at SJB at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. and one 4:30 p.m. vigil Mass at St. Adalbert.** We continue to live stream this Mass which can be found on our website at [stjohnbap.org](http://stjohnbap.org).

Things will be much different if/when you come to Mass:

1. **You will need to call the rectory at 219-659-0023 to make a reservation for Mass.** If we are already filled, we will put you down for the next Sunday. We will only be taking reservations one week at a time.
2. You must **wear a mask while in the church.** You may only remove the mask to consume the host and you should receive communion only in the hand.
3. **You will be directed as to when you may enter the church, sign-in at the door, and then be ushered to a seat. Those living in the same house may be seated in the same pew.**
4. You will likewise be dismissed individually or as household units.
5. **If you are sick, you should stay home.** Anyone who is coughing or sneezing excessively will be asked to leave.
6. **Those who are over the age of 65 should be cautious when attending the Masses per the CDC state guidelines and the guidelines established by all the bishops of Indiana.** We value each of you and desire that you stay healthy. **Bishop McClory has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass indefinitely until further notice.**

Know that I am praying without ceasing for all of you. Please feel free to contact anyone at the rectory if you have questions or prayer concerns. And please join with me in praying for God's grace to be a powerful force for healing and wholeness in our community, our country, and the world.

Most Sincerely, Father Mark Peres, C.P.P.S.



**INSPIRATION from  
St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta**

"Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts....I always begin my prayer in silence, for it is in the silence of the heart that God speaks. God and silence are great friends. We need to listen to God, because it's not what we say, but what He says to us and through us that matters."

Dear parishioners, I would like to share with you a change of mission for me as a Missionary of the Precious Blood.

After much discernment with Precious Blood leadership and many other caring and wise souls along the way, it seems that God is calling me to be closer to my parents in my hometown of Cincinnati, and to return to Catholic secondary education.

Great joy fills me as I anticipate my new role as a member of the administration and faculty of Archbishop McNicholas High School, serving in a few capacities, but namely as chaplain and a member of their theology faculty.

At the same time, a certain sadness fills me as I prepare to leave a college, a diocese, and important relationships that have been so life-giving. This change will occur in May.

The Whiting family has been like a second family for me since I arrived as a seminarian in 2005. That warmth has only continued. I am so grateful.

Finally, in the words of singer and songwriter, Tim McGraw, "we all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere." Indeed. You have given meaning to my life and for that I am immensely grateful.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Kevin

**A NEW YEAR HAS BEGUN**

We would probably agree that there are lots of reasons to turn the calendar and say "good riddance" to 2020. And yet, a question we should ask ourselves is whether or not the difficulties of this past year have helped us draw closer to the Lord.

As difficult as everything may have been (and continues to be), all the turmoil and unrest should make us realize that the only true peace we're ever going to find is in Jesus Christ.

*"For he is our peace",* says St. Paul. (Ephesians 2:14).

This would be a good time to read about the **Conversion of St. Paul Acts 9:1-19**, whose feast we celebrate on Monday, Jan. 25.

If you would like to borrow the 2018 film **"Paul, Apostle of Christ"**, you are welcome to phone me, Margaret Saliga, at 659, 4138 or email me at [dominicanmom@att.net](mailto:dominicanmom@att.net).

**FYI** Register on [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) where wonderful movies on St. Paul and a documentary series on the Early Christians are offered for free for your educational enjoyment.

**RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY ~ JANUARY 24**

This year's theme, **"Live the Gospel of Life,"** was inspired by the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's encyclical **The Gospel of Life**. His masterfully articulated defense of the right to life for children in their mothers' wombs, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and the marginalized is more relevant today than ever before.

Pope Francis has said, **"if we fail to protect life, no other rights matter. Abortion is first and foremost a human rights issue."**

**The Gospel of Life** provides a blueprint for building a culture of life and a civilization of love. The important work of transforming our culture begins by allowing the Gospel of Christ to touch and transform our own hearts and the decisions we make. May we strive to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps, caring for the most vulnerable among us. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to live courageously and faithfully his Gospel of LIFE.

(from **LIVE THE GOSPEL OF LIFE** letter by Rev. Joseph F. Naumann, Chairman of USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, Oct. 2020)



**PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE****SHARING THE PIG**

On his CD titled, "Letting Go: A Spirituality of Subtraction", Fr. Richard Rohr, O.F.M. tells the following story:

"I had an experience in Guatemala similar to many others I've had in other Third World countries: As soon as you come to the village, in a very short time you will hear the squeal of a pig or the squawk of a chicken. They're killing it for you. They've been saving it for you. And sometimes you find out afterward that it was the village's last pig or chicken. The poor are so generous.... After you're finished eating with the people who were originally invited to the meal, there's lots left over. What would we do in our country? We have Tupperware and refrigerators. To save it would be a good, responsible thing to do: Don't waste food is our commandment. And we have the technology to do just that. But here is the perfect example of the good and bad sides of technology. Where we store our leftovers for future use by ourselves. Guatemalans immediately have to share the pig or chicken with other people. Bringing food from one house to the next is a daily experience which creates family, community, interdependence and solidarity."

"Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received – only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage."

- Saint Francis of Assisi -



**SICK LIST Update~** The bulletin "sick list" will be refreshed at the end of January, 2021. Retired names will be placed in the parish petition book, where individuals will continue to be prayed for when we process the book at the beginning of the weekend Masses. If a name is to remain on the list or a new name added, a request must be made to the rectory by **January 31st**. Your request may be written (placed in an envelope and dropped into the collection basket or rectory drop box), or emailed to [nperez@stjohnbap.org](mailto:nperez@stjohnbap.org). Please include the correctly spelled name of the person in need of prayers along with your phone# (in the event that we need to contact you).

**WISDOM from Pope Francis**

"The joy of the gospel is for all people: no one can be excluded. That is what the angel proclaimed to the shepherds in Bethlehem: "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people." (Lk 2:10)..."

"Let us try harder to take the first step and to become involved...an evangelizing community is always supportive, standing by people at every step of the way, no matter how difficult or lengthy this may prove to be."

(POPE FRANCIS, *The Joy of the Gospel*, paragraphs 23, 24)

**St. ADALBERT**

**THANK YOU** to all the parishioners who helped decorate and take down the decorations for our Christmas at St. Adalbert's this year. It was greatly appreciated and the church looked great.

Also a thank you to Marty Dybel for donating and setting up his Mom's outdoor nativity set right next to St. Al's church. It looked beautiful and we received many good comments about it.

A special **Thank You** to all of our parishioners and visitors to St. Adalbert's who have been contributing to our parish throughout the pandemic.

We couldn't have made it without you. God Bless You.

**BE A VALENTINE!**

**This Valentine's Day (Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>) be a Valentine to someone who can truly use one.**

**St. Adalbert's Church will be open from 10am to 4pm** collecting items for the Haven House. Haven House Inc., a 501(c)3 agency founded in 1983 and located in Hammond, Indiana, is a 24-hour emergency shelter for domestic violence victims and their dependents. Haven House provides services to Hammond, East Chicago, Whiting, Munster, Griffith, and Highland, which comprises a significant geographic area of Northwest Indiana. The facility is a three-story six bedroom house which can comfortably accommodate 21 people.

The purpose of Haven House is to provide safe housing, the essentials for everyday living, and support services to female adults and their children who are victims of domestic/sexual assault and to assist them in breaking the cycle of violence through education, counseling, advocacy, referral, and skill building techniques.

If you are unable to give something physical, you are always welcome to give the gift of prayer. The church will be open to collect donated items or for you to stop by and say a prayer or just light a candle for those who suffer from domestic violence.

**Items being collected**

Garbage Bags: 13gal and 33gal., Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue, Hand Soap, Shower Curtains and Liners, Diapers size 6, Body Wash, Women's underwear: size 7, 8, and 9  
Ibuprofen, Cold and Cough medicine for adults and kids.

**Coats needed. Sizes in adult S, M, L, 2x and 3x. Sizes in kids 6/6x, 10/12, and 14/16.**

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\$ 125,000

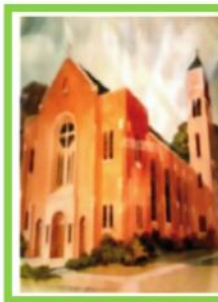
\$ 100,000

\$ 80,000

\$ 60,000

\$ 40,000

\$ 20,000



**THANK  
YOU!**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

**A:** Marie & Robert Anderson, Frank Angotti, Saul Arambula

**B:** Eleanor Biel, Steve B., Al & Dot Baker, Joseph Bibat, Walter Biser, Bob Bonchik, Mary Bodnar, Noel Bubala

**C:** Ben Cassoday, Jim Campbell, Abigail Coates, Rebecca Coates, Dorothy Chovan, Olivia Crinion, Lavonne Curington, Jeannine Cusson, Sharon Cusson

**D:** Mary Ann Delinck, Jeff Delinck, Gloria Demeter, Kevin Dexter,

**F:** Jeanine Faulkner, Thomas Federenko, Audrey Filipek, George Fitzak, Malia Fortunak, Joseph Fortunak

**G:** Andrea Gaynor

**H:** H. Haas, Debra Henderson, Kingston M. Hensley, Dennis and Peggy Hyde, Jimmie & Bruce Hunt, Nellie Hunt

**J:** Sheila J.

**K:** Don Kaminsky, Leonard Kaminski, Gerry Kasarda, Ryan Keelan, Anne M. Kovach, Barbara J. Korba, Corky Kuipers

**L:** Lenore Lazur, Donna Lewandowski, Frank Lowry

**M:** Adeline Matalik, Edward Matalik, Kristi Matalik, Mary Madejewski, Frank Matlon, Ginny McHale, Jerilyn Miller, Larry & Toni Milkowski

**N:** Ann Novotney, Linda N., Chloe N.

**O:** Bob Oliver

**P:** Willie Parlor, Guillermina Perez, Virginia Piljak, Mary Puplava

**Q:** Leonardo Quiroz

**R:** Kathleen Radloff, David Reyes, Delia M. Reyes, Joel Rivera, Ed. Roszkowski, Kay Rosinski, Randy & Luke Rycerz, Joyce Rybicki

**S:** Arthur Salinas Jr., Armando Sanchez, S. Scivinsky, Robert & Phyllis Samano, Collette Santay, Deanna Stolarz, K. Smith, R. Smith, M. Stimac, Michael J., Jack Strisko, Swentko, Suzanne M. Swentko, Ann Swiatkowski

**T:** Nancy Teles, James Toth, Geraldine Tumidalsky

**V:** Elaine V.

**W:** Gina W. Sadie Watson, Captoria Weems, Terry W., Phil Wetnight, Marjorie Wohrle

**"O Lord, Remember that your compassion and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord."**

(Psalm 25: 6-7)

**B:** Matt Barbetta, Sean Bowman, **C:** Christina Campra, Sean Coleman, Joey Collins, **E:** Noe Edmond, **F:** Victoria Franco, **G:** Larry Gazafy, Matthew Geffert, John Gervais, Gerardo Gonzalez, James Grunhard Jr., **H:** Alex Gonzalo Hernandez, Elliot Hlavaty, Matthew Hlavaty, **J:** Justin Jansky, **K:** Thomas M. Kaminsky, Keith Kennedy, Jeff Klobucar, Jason Koscielski, Jeffery Koval, Mark Koval, **M:** Walter Malenki, Randall McAllister, Mike McCay, Hugh A. McNinch, Philip Mlynarski, Derek Monks, **N:** David Novotney, **O:** Zack O'Drobinak, Nicholas Okamura, Justus Oliver, Mark Opachan, **P:** Kenneth Petkunas, Thomas Puplava Jr., **R:** Robert Rodriguez, **S:** Eric Schaufele, Elliott Schultz, Natalie Serna, John Starzyk Jr, Alex Supergan, Jason Sutton, Szewczyk, **T:** Stephen Taylor, Jeffrey Thormeyer, Christopher Trojnar, **V:** Samuel Valdyke, **W:** Ray Walsh.

## REST IN PEACE

Genevieve J. "Jean" Swierc

## WISDOM OF THE SAINTS



This week we celebrate the lives of **Sts Paul, Timothy and Titus**, early 1<sup>st</sup> century Christian leaders who suffered greatly for proclaiming and living the Gospel. St. Paul, martyred in Rome, wrote numerous letters of instruction and encouragement to the various communities he had evangelized. In one of his most memorable letters 1Cor 13:4-7, St. Paul explains the meaning and importance of Christian love.

**Timothy** was just a youth when he converted and accompanied Paul on his mission to Corinth. **Paul advised him:** *"Let no one have contempt for your youth."* (1 Tim 5:23)

In 2 Tim 1:6-8 St. Paul instructs the young Timothy to *"stir into flame the gift of God that you have received through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control... bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God."* Later, Paul, under house arrest in Rome, installed Timothy as his representative at the church of Ephesus.

**Titus**, also a disciple, co-worker, and close friend of Paul was a natural peacemaker, having great patience and charity when solving problems within the early Christian communities.

**St. Thomas Aquinas**, O.P. (1225-1274, feast ~ Jan. 28) gave a great gift to the Church and to Christianity in general through his prolific writings on the faith. Most memorable is his Summa Theologiae dealing with the whole of Catholic Theology. He has humbly said: *"For the knowledge of truth, man needs Divine help."*

**Angela Merici (1470-1540, feast day ~ Jan. 27)**, a vowed member of the Third Order of St. Francis, renounced worldly goods in order to lovingly serve poor families and youth. She founded the first teaching congregation of women in the Church. Beginning with 28 like-minded women, Angela followed the example of St. Ursula for the purpose of re-Christianizing family life through solid Christian education of future wives and mothers. She has said: *"If according to times and needs you should be obliged to make fresh rules and change certain things, do it with prudence and good advice."* Angela provides a dynamic example of holiness and wholeness for women of our times.

**~WE CAN LEARN MUCH FROM THESE STEADFAST MEN AND WOMEN OF FAITH.~**

## St. Ignatius of Loyola

**Finding God In All Things**, Ignatius of Loyola taught others to experience life attuned to God's activity in everyday circumstances.

*"Take, Lord, receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, my whole will, all that I have and all that I possess. You gave it all to me, Lord; I give it all back to you. Do with it as you will, according to your good pleasure."*





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