

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We The people of the Whiting/Robertsedale 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.



**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Whiting/Robertsedale Faith
Community St. John the Baptist &
St. Adalbert
1849 Lincoln Ave. Whiting, IN 46394**

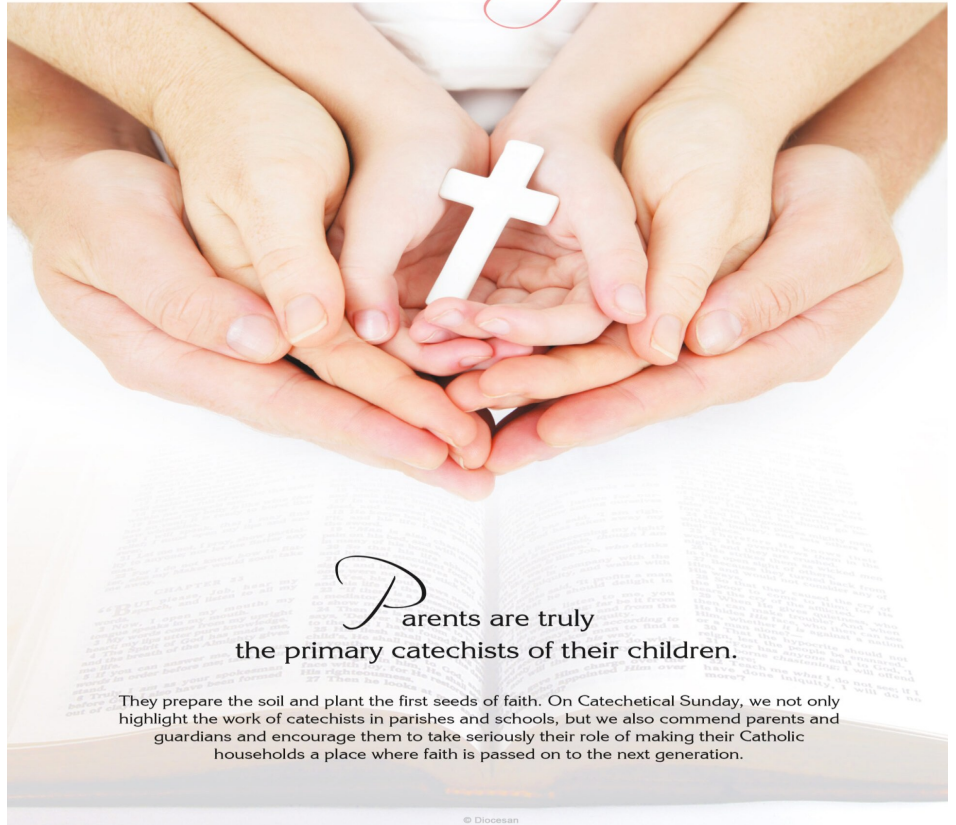
**Sacraments:
Please Call St. John Church Office:
219-659-0023**

**Rectory new Hours
Monday 8am-3:30pm
Tues-Fri 8am-4:00pm
Lunch hours 12pm-1pm**

**Confessions after 7:00 a.m. Mass
and Saturdays 3:00–3:30 p.m.
in the SJB Centennial Room,
also by appointment.**



With your fatherly blessing, Lord, strengthen these servants of yours in their resolve to dedicate themselves as catechists to Christ, that they will strive to share with others what they themselves have received. And let them gladly join those they teach in praising your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. Blessings



THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today the prophet Amos warns against all forms of greed. Cheating and dishonesty have no place among the people of God. St. Paul, in his letter to Timothy, reminds us to pray for those in authority, for political leaders, that they will serve with “devotion” and “dignity” for they, as well as we, will have to answer to God, who has sent His own son, Jesus, to show us how to live righteously.

Jesus, using **the Parable of the Rich Man and the Steward**, points out how those in secular society know very well how to gain favor with others in order to avoid their own demise. The shrewd steward gains the praise of his master for acting “prudently”. Jesus uses this worldly example to teach us that we need to be as enterprising as the steward in the ways we live our Christian lives. There will be an accounting on judgment day; the help we offer to those in need, our alms giving, our selfless generosity determine where our hearts lie.

“No servant can serve two masters.

You cannot serve both God and mammon.”

(Luke 16:13)

- “ How can I be more generous toward the poor in my town?
- “ What does it mean to be owned by my possessions?
- “ I will “make do with less” in order to benefit another.

MAIN RECTORY NUMBER.....(219) 659-0023
 RECTORY FAX NUMBER.....(219) 473-7551
 E-Mail: churchparishoffice@stjohnbap.org
 WEBSITE: www.stjohnbap.org

RECTORY STAFF

PASTOR.....Rev. Mark Peres, C.P.P.S. Ext. 116
 DEACONS.....Leo Barron & Joseph Manchak
 FAITH ENRICHMENT/Adult.....Margaret Saliga (219) 659-4138
 FAITH & SACRAMENTAL FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY
 Jamie Sandona Ext. 106
 MARRIAGE PREPARATION.....(219) 659-0023
 OFFICE MANAGER.....Becky Flores Ext. 100
 PARISH SECRETARY/BULLETIN EDITOR.....Edna Alvarez Ext. 105
 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.....(219) 659-1073

ST. JOHN SCHOOL

Main Number.....(219) 659-3042
 PRINCIPAL.....Michelle Ondas Ext. 304
 SCHOOL SECRETARY.....Ashley Roldan Ext. 301
 BULLETIN ARTICLES: alvarez@stjohnbap.org
 Articles deadline: Thursdays @10:00 a.m.
 WEBSITE INFORMATION: jsandona@stjohnbap.org

~ SACRIFICIAL GIVING ~ September 14, 2025

St. John: \$7,181.60 St. Adalbert: \$1,176.00
Online Giving: \$1,738.15

ST. ADALBERT CHURCH ROOF FUND

Cost is \$157,144.50
 Collected as of June 23, 2025 is \$98,640.11

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2024**

	GOAL	PLEDGES	PAID	Balance Due
SA	\$ 9,872.30	\$4,852.00	\$4,352.00	\$5,520.00
SJB	\$44,488.47	\$24,911.00	\$23,886.00	\$20,602.47

**Saturday, September 27th ~ St. Adalbert: 4:30 p.m.**

Altar Servers: Reagan Lector: B. Boyle
 Eucharistic M: G. Cusson, C. Mareta, J. Ballman

Sunday, September 28th ~ St. John: 8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Rebecca, Julian, Adriana Lector: R. Matlon
 Eucharistic M: K. Behrens, B. Behrens, S. Adam, M. Hassen,
 T. Wargo, T. Adam

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Paul, Anthony, Angela Lector: M. Cornejo

Eucharistic M: D. Urbanik, B. Coleman, G. Kulas, E. Igras,
 L. Morandi, A. Alcala, J. Kaminsky

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY**IN LOVING MEMORY****September 21: Sunday: TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00 a.m. WHITING/ROBERTSDALE FAITH COMMUNITY
 10:30 a.m. †Louis Kovach Jr. & Cousin Denise (Pauca) Hruskocv
 by Kulas family

September 22: Monday:

7:00a.m. †Jack Strisko by Dorothy Lambert

September 23: Tuesday: St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

7:00a.m. †Geraldin Gavel by Adrienne Smriga

September 24: Wednesday:

7:00a.m. †Carl Graves by Russ & Betty Wirbicki

September 25: Thursday:

7:00 a.m. †Mikola Family (Deceased & Living) by family

September 26: Friday: Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs

7:00 a.m. †Joseph & Charlotte Tomera by family

September 27: Saturday: St. Vincent De Paul, Priest

SA 4:30 p.m. †Genevieve Swierc by St. Adalbert's Rosary

September 28: Sunday: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00a.m. WHITING/ROBERTSDALE FAITH COMMUNITY
 10:30a.m. †Zebracki Family by family

✠ REST IN PEACE

Deceased members of our Whiting-Robertsdale
 Catholic Community

FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

October 19th – Our first Slovak Dinner- 11:30-2:00. Featuring
 Frank Rossi as our entertainment. Advance ticket sales will begin at
 the Parish Picnic.

November 14th – ALL You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner- 3:30-7:30

January 16th - Mexican Dinner- 3:30-7:30

February 20th- March 27th on Fridays - Fish Fry Dinners- 3:30-7:30

Watch the bulletin for volunteer opportunities.

Happy 40th Anniversary
 Matthew & Annette Markovich





St. John Rosary Society will have a joint Rosary with St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church 2011 Clark Street in Whiting. On Sunday, September 28th at 1pm at St. Mary's outdoor garden (Marian Prayer Garden)

followed by an informal reception. If it rains the rosary will be prayed in church. Please invite family/friends to attend to attend this special service.

Our annual Corporate Communion Mass will be on Sunday, October 5th at the 10:30 am Mass at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. New(er) members who joined the organization since October 1st of 2024 will be recognized and will be officially welcomed into the Rosary Society.

All are welcome!

ST. THERESE NOVENA

Beginning this Tuesday September 23rd at 6:30 pm, you are invited to come to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church for nine consecutive evenings of prayer.

Our SJB St. Therese shrine honors the French cloistered nun who is called "The Little Flower" because she referred to herself as a simple wild flower in God's universal garden. Her brief life ended in 1897 due to tuberculosis. Shortly before her death, at just 24 years of age, Therese said that she would spend eternity praying for all of us, and that God's blessings would shower us like a cascade of roses.

Our parish continues to ask St. Therese to intercede for our current parish projects and the many needs of our parishioners and Catholic Community. **Novena prayer booklets are available Sept. 20th & 21st at SJB and SA church doors** and at the side door of the St. John Rectory. Everyone is encouraged to pray the novena at church and/or at home, asking St. Therese of Lisieux to intercede for all our needs during these challenging times.

The Novena ends on Wednesday Oct 1st, the feast day of St. Therese of Lisieux. Bible study is cancelled on Tuesdays September 23rd and the 30th.

You are encouraged to come to the Novena.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** will be offered at **St. John Church on Sunday, September 28, 10:30 a.m.** Those in need of God's physical and spiritual healing are encouraged to receive this sacrament.

Our Catholic Community will have an additional opportunity to receive this important sacrament of healing at the **4:30 p.m. Mass on Oct., 4, at St. Adalbert Church.**

With holy oil and prayer, the Church continues Jesus' ministry of healing. This sacrament is an expression of compassion for those who suffer and a source of grace and spiritual healing so that eternal life may be within reach.

For emergency anointing contact Fr. Mark.

* **Who are the sick and suffering that I can pray for today?**

* **When I suffer in mind, body, or spirit, how can I seek to unite my suffering with that of Jesus?**

"Jesus merciful healer, you know human suffering in a way I can never know.

Let me be a sign of your compassion and healing to those who suffer around me."

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY is TODAY

Always be ready to give an explanation... for your hope (1Peter 3:15), is this year's theme, linked to the **2025 Jubilee year "Pilgrims of hope"**.

All our catechists are commissioned for their ministry and the entire community is called to reflect on their baptismal call to share the faith.

All who serve in liturgical ministry within our Catholic Community are commissioned: lectors, ministers of Holy Communion, musicians, servers, greeters, ushers, sacristans, those who prepare the sacred environment, and the liturgy committee members.

PRAYER

Loving Father, please bless our catechists and liturgical ministers. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.

Grant them your wisdom, that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word.

Grant them your love, that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.



PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**THE MASTER AND THE STEWARD**

Today's Gospel is often labeled as one of the most often misunderstood Gospels: the parable of the Master and the Steward. At first glance, it would seem that Jesus is actually supporting the concept of swindling your neighbor! But, like all of His parables, if you peel away the layers and drop this into first century context, the message that Christ's parable brings to us becomes clear.

This is a story of a Steward who is entrusted with selling his Master's goods. His job is to take his Master's inventory, apply a nominal mark-up for his pay, and sell the goods to those around the area. Evidently, the Steward was very good at what he did, because he was able to place a significant mark-up or interest payment on top of the Master's costs and still make the sale. But the wise Master recognized that by the Steward gouging the customers with high interest rates, the market would not continue to pay for his goods. Thus the Steward was mismanaging the assets. So while short term, the Master was making his margin, although his customers were over paying, in the long term, he knew his sales would fall off. So he dismissed the Steward, not for being dishonest, but rather for not being prudent. Clearly by misusing his talents, the Steward was focused on short term gain versus long term growth.

Once the Steward realizes that he has lost his job, and that he has few options to make a living, he becomes focused on his future. Realizing that placing his trust and talents into short term financial gain did not bring him true rewards, he does a life course correction, and using the same financial talents that got him in trouble, he rewrites the debtor's notes, removing his abnormally high interest mark-ups.

Through this act of reformation, the use of his talents, the Steward is commended by the Master and at the same time certainly welcomed by the debtors. He positions himself to be praised by the Master and welcomed into the community.

So how can we apply this parable to our lives? The Lord has entrusted each of us with many talents and assets for us to manage. How are we using them? Are we simply focused on the here and now, or are we on the long road we call our spiritual journey to God's Kingdom?

Deacon Jim Knipper

The Pope's intention for September:

For our relationship with all of creation. Let us pray that, inspired by St. Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear St. John Families,

This Sunday's Gospel, *Luke 16:1-13*, tells the story of a steward who is called to account for how he has managed his master's resources. While the steward is clever in protecting his future, Jesus reminds us of a deeper truth: **"Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much."** These words challenge us to reflect on how we handle the gifts, talents, and responsibilities that God has entrusted to us.

Responsibility is our key character trait this month, and this Gospel illustrates its importance beautifully. Each of us has been given blessings, our families, our education, our faith, and our opportunities. God calls us to use these gifts wisely and faithfully. Just as the steward had to give an account of his actions, we too are accountable for the way we live our daily lives.

At **St. John the Baptist School**, we teach our students that **responsibility** goes beyond completing homework or being prepared for class. It means caring for others, being trustworthy, and making choices that reflect our values as followers of Christ. When students take ownership of their learning, their behavior, and their faith, they begin to see themselves as active participants in God's mission for the world.

This week, I encourage you to talk with your child about what it means to be faithful in the "small things." Something as simple as showing kindness to a classmate, taking care of belongings, or saying daily prayers can be a way of serving God and living responsibly.

Blessings,
Michelle Ondas
Principal, St. John the Baptist School

Diocese of Gary
Offices of Worship and Intercultural Ministry

CONFERENCE '25

Heaven Wed To Earth: Celebrating Hope
Se Une El Cielo Con La Tierra: Celebrando La Esperanza

Training and Renewal for Lectors
OCIA • EMHCs • Ministers of Care
Music Ministers • Art & Environment
Hospitality/Greeters • Sacristans

JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

**SAVE THE DATE
RESERVEN LA FECHA**

**SPREAD THE WORD
CORRAN LA VOZ**

November 14-15
St. Michael the Archangel
Schererville, IN

Bishop Robert J. McClory
Friday
Night Prayer with Our Eucharistic Lord



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Members of the Whiting Knights of Columbus will be conducting a membership drive on the **weekend of September 20-21** after all masses. The invitation to join is open to all Catholic men 18 or older, in good standing with the Catholic Church. Our order was founded on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism by Fr. Michael J. McGivney in 18823.

For additional information got to www.kofc.org/



CALLING ALL YARD WORKERS, GARDENERS, AND GROUNDSKEEPERS

We're in need of a few more people to help us whack weeds, clean up litter, trim shrubs, and tidy up the grounds around the church, school, and rectory on Saturday mornings.

There's a core group of 4 to 5 of us who meet **Saturday mornings from 9:30 to around noon near the garage.**

Please stop by if you're able to help. You don't have to commit to working every Saturday, of course, and you don't need to do any kneeling, bending, or heavy lifting. Any time you can spare will be a big help. Coffee, donuts, and ginger chews will be available. ;-) Questions?

Call or text Tom Markovich: (219) 801-6952. Thank you!

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (1581-1660)

September 27

St. Vincent de Paul was born in the 16th century and lived on a small farm in Gascony, France. He worked herding his family's livestock as a child and entered seminary at age 15. He was ordained at age 19 but since he was too young to be a pastor, he continued his theological studies. Although he initially hoped priesthood would afford him a comfortable life, he had a change of heart while hearing the confession of a dying servant. From then on, he sought to fulfill the spiritual needs of the poor in France. He eventually became the leader of the Vincentian community, whose members devoted themselves to the service of the poor in small towns and villages. Throughout his life he established confraternities of charity, organized fundraisers for missionary projects, founded hospitals and seminaries, and ransomed slaves. He also had a particular passion for training priests by conducting retreats. Vincent started out as a hard and rough man but became tender and sensitive to others' needs. Let us be uplifted by the example of St. Vincent de Paul, who allowed himself to be transformed by Christ in both character and deeds. May we follow his example and seek to serve those in need in whatever capacity God may be calling us to.

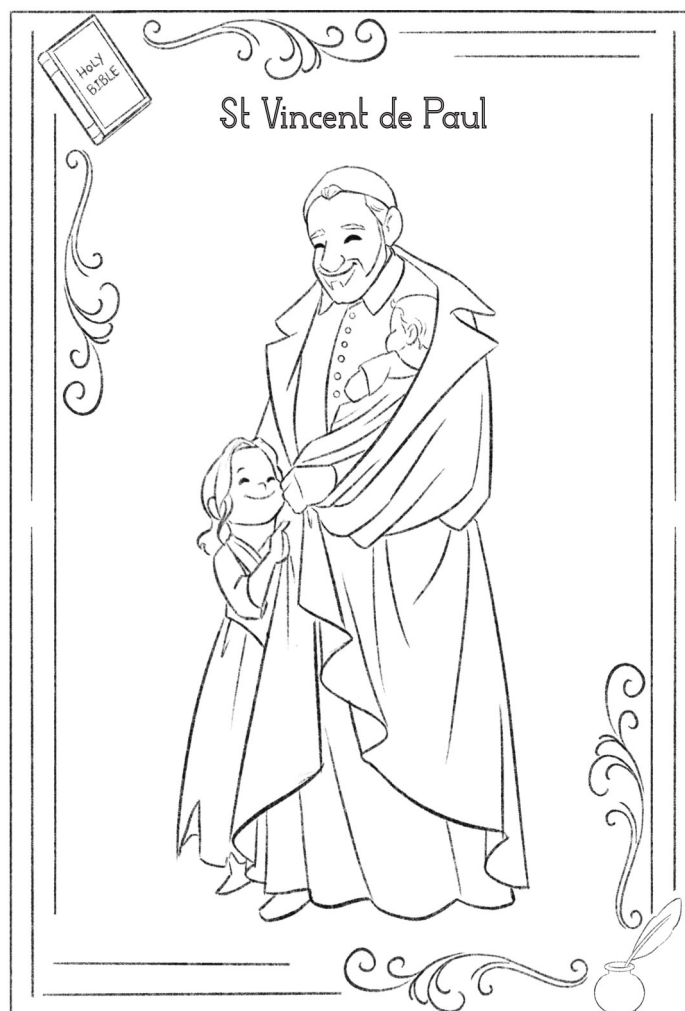
—Tami Urcia

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows

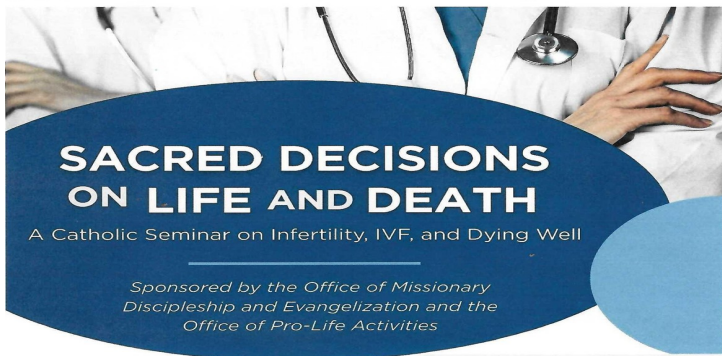


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***Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget
not all his benefits.
(Psalm 103:1-2)***



Saturday,
November 8, 2025

at Our Lady of Consolation
8303 Taft Street Merrillville,
IN 46410

Presented by:

Fr. Tad
Pacholczyk
Catholic Priest,
Neuroscientist & Ethicist



FREE
admission
with
a free-will
offering.

Join for one or both
talks!

9:15 to 10:45 a.m.

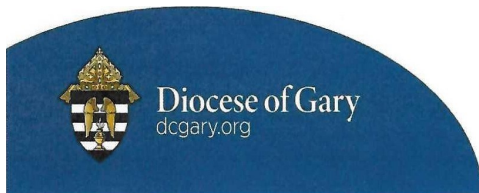
Infertility and IVF

11:00 a.m. to

12:30 p.m.

The Gift of Dying
Well

Learn more and
RSVP:
[dcgary.org/
2025sacred](http://dcgary.org/2025sacred)



[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/\(\)/#inbox?projector=](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/()/#inbox?projector=)

St. Mary's Young Adults invites you to:

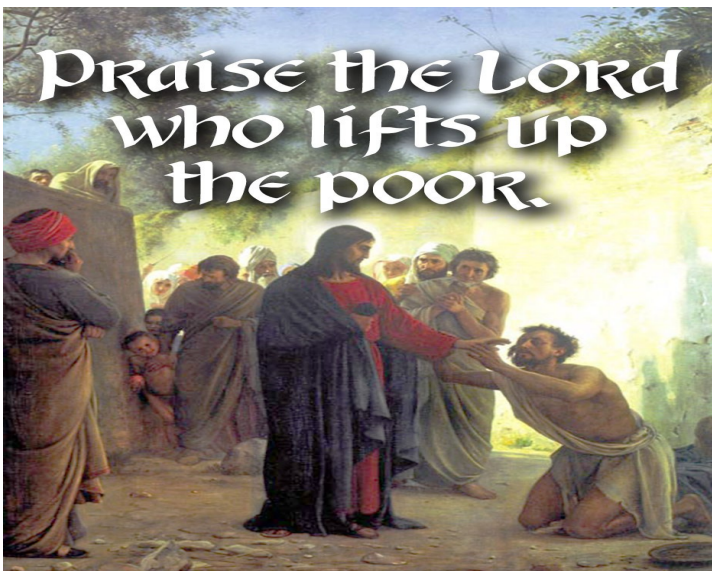
FAITH AND FLANNELS *Bonfire Night!*

Put on your favorite flannel
and join us for an evening of
scripture reflection,
s'mores, hot dogs, and a cozy
bonfire!!! 🔥🍌

802 W 144th St.
East Chicago, IN 46312

September 26, 2025
7:00 PM

Ages: 18-39 / Text: (219) 743-2026 to RSVP :)



FUNDRAISING BENEFITING

THE WHITING PD K-9 UNIT

ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER

OPTIMIST CLUB OF HAMMOND

7015 KENNEDY AVENUE HAMMOND IN

OCTOBER 24TH - 4:00-8:00 PM

\$5 KIDS

\$15 ADULTS

BASKET RAFFLES, CASH BAR & MORE



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

A: Mary Jane Adam, Marie Anderson, Frank Angotti, Saul Arambula, Nancy Artim
B: Steve B., Matt Baccar, Susan Bancroft, Wendy Bannerman, Rita Bais, Mary Lou Barcevac, Ron Benko, Donna Bewley, Carol Bibat, Sue Bobalik, Bob Bonchik, Thomas Brooks, Ruth Bzibziak, John Boyle, Marsha Banik, Josie Bolek
C: Ben Cassoday, Jim Campbell, Maximiliano Chavez, Fr. Dennis Chriszt, C.P.P.S. Abigail Coates, Rebecca Coates, Marlene Cooney, Geraldine Cox, Olivia Crinion, Gloria Cruz, Bernadine Cusson, Larry Culp, Jeannine Cusson, Richard Cusson, Sharon Cusson, Sr. Ann Marie Caporale, Brian C.
D: Dave M., Jeff Delinck, Mary Ann Delinck, Ernie Demeter, Peggy Demeter, Kevin Dexter, Norb Dudzik, Lenore Duray, Don Domsich
E: Oliver Edlin
F: Jeanine Faulkner, Thomas Federenko, John M. Fedor, Bernice Fesko, Malia Fortunak, Dianna Fritz, Dave Furtak
G: Andrea Gaynor, Jacqueline Gonzalez
H: H. Haas, Shery & Jim H., Mariah Hayes, Debra Henderson, Kingston M. Hensley, Lorraine Homco, Betty Hunt, Sheila Huizzie, Bruce Hunt, Nellie Hunt, Dennis and Peggy Hyde, Judy Harkenrider
J: Mark J., Sheila J.,
K: Danny K., Linda K, Gerry Kasarda, Diane Kaspar, Alex Kaleta, Ryan Keelan, Mark Kobli, Bernadine Kontrik, Barbara J. Korba, Patti Koopmans, Nancy Koselke, Marcia Krull, Joan Kurczek, Kathy Kutcka

L: Carol Lukasik, Donna Lewandowski
M: Maria M, Mary Madejewski, Howard Marshall, Kristi Matalik, Sebastian, Jerry Matlon, Mendoza, Delaney McGinnis, Jerilyn Miller, Larry & Toni Milkowski, Andy Mueller
N: Ann Novotney, Linda N., Chloe N.
O: Bob Oliver, Selma O'Drobnak, Joan Orosz
P: Anna E. Palomo, Pat, Donna Patton, Mike Pena, Eric Pieters Jr., Virginia Piljac, Julie P., Pamela Puhek, Mary Puplava
Q: Christina Quiroz, Leonardo Quiroz
R: Lucretia R., Kathleen Radloff, David Reyes, Delia M. Reyes, Celeste Richardson, Sylvia Richardson, Joel Rivera, Danielle Roszkowski, Ed Roszkowski, Eileen Ross, Randy & Luke Rycerz, Joyce Rybicki, Cris Rzonca
S: Arthur Salinas Jr., Robert & Phyllis Samano, Armando Sanchez, Linda Secviar, Lori Shaffer, K. Smith, R. Smith, M. Stimac, Judy Strisko, Deanna Stolarz, Renee Suma, Suzanne M. Swentko, Ann Swiatkowski, Morgan Sikora
T: Frank Tarajack, Nancy Teles, Cindy Tokarz, Marilyn Tomko, Geraldine Tumidalsky
V: Pauline V.
W: Walter Watchel, Gina W., Terry W., Tucker W., Sadie Watson, Captoria Weems, Phil Wetnight, Evelyn White
Z: Margaret Zehner, Janel Zubeck, Ray Zubeck, Theresa Zvonar

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

B: Matt Barbetta, **C:** Christina Campra, **E:** **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, **R:** Robert Rodriguez, **S:** Eric Schaufele, Elliott Schultz, Natalie Serna, John Starzyk Jr, Alex Supergan, Jason Sutton, Szweczyk, **T:** Stephen Taylor, Jeffrey Thormeyer, **V:** Samuel Valdyke, **W:** Ray Walsh.

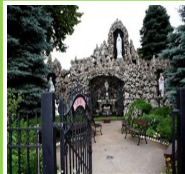


SJB CIRCLE OF PRAYER

If you have an immediate need for prayer support, **please consider calling Margaret at 219-659-4138.**

She will pray with you on the phone and then send your request to the volunteers in our circle of faith who will pray specifically for your intentions.

Please know that we will maintain your privacy with use of first names only. If you would like to join this steadfast community of prayer, please call the SJB rectory to add your name to the circle so that you too can pray for those who are in need of spiritual support.



COME TO THE GROTTO

The warm weather combined with the outdoor beauty of the **Immaculate Conception Grotto on White Oak Ave.** beckons us to gather and pray the rosary, **Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.**



INSPIRATION from St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

*"Jesus said to St. Paul, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? This clarifies that we serve Christ in the poorest of the poor: **Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren, you do to me.**"*

(Thirsting for God, Daily Meditations of Mother Teresa)

*Praise, you servants of the lord,
 praise the name of the Lord.
 Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.*
 (Psalm 113:1-2)



Please recycle this bulletin



MASS INTENTION BOOK FOR 2026 OPENS OCTOBER 1, 2025.