

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



DECEMBER 5, 2021 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Monday–Friday 7:30 - 3:30 PM
600 Green Tree Road,
Kohler WI 53044

Telephone.....(920) 452-9623
Emergency Phone...(920) 287-8235
Email.....stjohnnev@btsje.org
Website.....stjohnkohler.org
Facebook.....facebook.com/btsje

Please contact the Parish Office to:

1. **Join the Parish**
2. **Schedule a Baptism**
3. **Schedule a Mass Intention**
4. **Any other questions or concerns**

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	December 4	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Brian McCall by Family, †William Lane Jr. by Thomas & Diana Kreutz
Saturday	December 4	St. John's	5:30 pm	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	December 5	St. John's	9:00 am	†Eileen Mischock by Pietzner & Niemann Families
Sunday	December 5	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Tom Holtz by Family, †Jerzy & Nora Salata by Family
Tuesday	December 7	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	In Thanksgiving for At Home Mission Group by Jenna Krause
Wednesday	December 8	St. John's	6:45 am	†LaVerne Mahloch
Wednesday	December 8	Blessed Trinity	6:30 pm	Mass for Parishioners
Thursday	December 9	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Grover & Dona Heinig by Donna
Friday	December 10	St. John's	7:00 am	Plageman
Friday	December 10	Prairie Crossing	10:00 am	†Richard Lorenz by Family
Saturday	December 11	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Bernice Mett
Saturday	December 11	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Jane Ornelas by Family, †Mary Alice Schleicher by Norbert & Adeline Haen
Sunday	December 12	St John's	9:00 am	†Hubert & Lucille Marchand and Carol Mertzig by Family
Sunday	December 12	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Kendra Versey by Greg & Janet Gottsacker
				Mass for Parishioners

“All flesh shall see the salvation of God.”
Luke 3:6

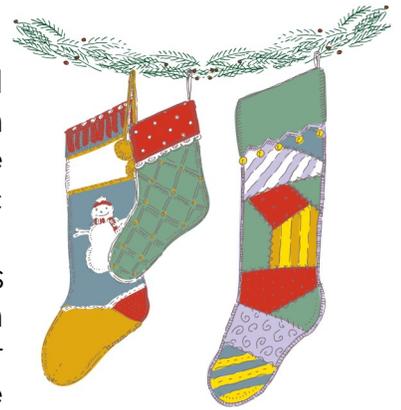
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: Mass will be held on **Wednesday, December 8** at St. John Evangelist at **6:45 am** and Blessed Trinity at **6:30 pm**. The feast of Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of obligation.



SUNDAY SOCIAL: There will be a social immediately following the 9:00 am Mass **THIS SUNDAY, December 5**. Stop by and enjoy a sweet treat and come coffee. The social is hosted by the Ushers.

Saint Nicholas Feast Day - December 6

Every year on December 6, the Feast Day of St. Nicholas is celebrated in homes in many different countries, and right here in our own neighborhoods, so this past Wednesday during a part of our class time most of our students learned about this popular and influential Catholic Saint who is said to be the patron of children. Here's what they heard: Nicholas was born during the third century in a Greek village. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while he was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made a Bishop while still a young man.



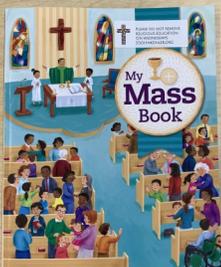
Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need and his care and concern for children. He loved God and God's people so much that he would do anything for them. He studied hard, prayed often, and followed Jesus by helping the poor. Legends say that Bishop Nicholas would climb on a roof and toss a bag of gold down needy families' chimneys late at night. These are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fireplace, and this led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, and eagerly awaiting gifts from St. Nicholas that exists even today.

There are also other stories told about him. It is said that God worked through Nicholas' prayers to cure children - some who had been injured in a fire and another child who nearly drowned. All of these stories are examples of ways St. Nicholas lived for God. If people were in need and he was able to help, St. Nicholas gave them hope and strength. He never paused to wonder what he should, or would, receive in return. Stories about St. Nicholas spread from his home in Turkey to Russia, where he is still a very popular saint. Through the centuries, people shared his story across the most northern parts of Europe, then to Germany, France, and England, and finally to the United States.

On December 5th, the eve of the feast day of Saint Nicholas, it is customary for children to place their shoes or hang a stocking by the fireplace, windowsill, or bedroom door for Saint Nicholas to fill with things like small toys, fruit, chocolate, candy, books, and coins. Giving gifts on this feast day and calling to mind the example of this Saint who lived long ago, can remind us all during this Advent Season that true joy lies not in receiving, but in giving!

Adapted from: Loyola Press. "Saints Stories for All Ages", 2003.

~Jeanne Bitkers, Director of Religious Education 4K-Grade 6, jeanne@btsje.org; 920-452-9623



“MY MASS BOOK” FOR CHILDREN: After getting some inquiries, we have ordered additional “My Mass Books” for parishioners and guests to purchase. The books can be given to children of any age but were specifically written for those who are approximately 5-10 years old. To cover the cost of the book and shipping we are requesting a \$7.00 donation per book. Please contact Jeanne Bitkers at jeanne@btsje.org or the parish office if you would like to purchase one or more of these books to give as gifts or for your own child.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE GRADES 7 - 12:

As we continue to prepare for the coming of baby Jesus into our homes and hearts during Advent, we encounter many figures in the Bible to help us on our journey. Today, St. Luke introduces us to St. John the Baptist and his mission "to prepare the way of the Lord." Let's use this holy season of Advent to examine our lives and relationships with others, Jesus and His Church and slow down to recognize and act in new ways to grow in holiness and faith. Our students always begin each class session in Church with quiet time and prayer. Perhaps this is a good example for all of us to begin our days and times with others in prayer and thanksgiving. Truly, God's first commandment in the Old Testament (Dt. 6:4) is to "Hear, O Israel.." Have you ever noticed that "silent" and "listen" are anagrams? Yes, the same letters, just mixed up! We are called this Advent to slow down, be still and prepare the way of the Lord! We are given an opportunity to practice this by two other figures familiar with the Advent/Nativity story...our Blessed Mother Mary and good St. Joseph. On Wed., Dec. 8 we celebrate the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, which is a holy day of obligation. We will also be concluding the universal year dedicated to St. Joseph, that was instituted by Pope Francis last year on Dec. 8, 2020! The Gospels do not record a single word from St. Joseph, his language was silence. Mary only speaks four times in the Gospels- at the Annunciation, the Visitation, the finding of Jesus in the temple and at the Wedding feast at Cana, where she tells the servants to "do whatever He (Jesus) tells you." (John 2:1-11). May this be our silent prayer as well. See you at Mass!



SECOND SUNDAY
OF
Advent

~ Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grades 7 - 12, teresab@btsje.org

ADVENT FAMILY MASS:

There will be a special Family Mass celebrated on **Wednesday, December 15 at 5:15 pm.** We encourage all families to take a little time out of their Christmas preparations to celebrate the 3rd week of Advent as a family. All parishioners are welcome to attend. This Mass is a wonderful way to enhance your Advent journey.



FINANCIAL: NOVEMBER 27/28:

Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$4,510.35.



WINE & HOSTS: In Loving Memory of the Juergen Pietzner by the Pietzner & Niemann Families.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: December 11 at 3:00 pm.

Will be held at Blessed Trinity Parish on **Saturday,**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Is looking for a few more members to aid in the Faith Formation of St. John Evangelist children grades 4K to Grade 12. Members of the committee give suggestions and support our Directors of Religious Education, Jeanne Bitkers and Teresa Bettag. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 6 at 7:00 pm.**

ST ANNE'S SOCIETY "LET'S TALK":

"Coffee in the Corner" on Wednesdays at 9:00 am hosted by St. Anne Society at St. John Evangelist Church Join  *Women's Fellowship* us for coffee, conversations, and casual get-togethers. We will meet in the St. Anne Society corner of St. John Evangelist Church Hall (located on the lower level). Bring a guest, visit with friends, and meet new parishioners!

The Incarnation of Christ (The Christmas) and the Suffering and Death of Christ



As we enter into the Holy Season of Advent, I would like to offer certain important points for our reflection.

God, in infinite wisdom, decided to create a universe and after everything that are required for the meaningful survival of human beings, decided to create humankind. It looks like that God convened a meeting of Son and the Holy Spirit and decided to create humankind in God's own image. Genesis Chapter 1, verse 26 reads, "Then God said: Let **us** make man in our image, after our likeness." This "God's image" reflects certain salient features.

Some of the attributes of God are "omniscient" (all knowing), "omnipotent" (all powerful), supremely good, supremely free, etc. Though we (humans) are not all knowing, we have the capacity and capability to know lots of truth about the inherent mysteries of the universe. Same with freedom, God knew the risk of creating and endowing us with freedom. God knew for certain that we (humans) as free beings will make mistakes and use our freedom wrongly. Just think of the freedom either to choose God and God's values in our lives and also the freedom to reject God altogether. Now exactly that happened after the creation of Adam and Eve. They could enjoy creation to the fullest.

The Lord gave man this order: "You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden, except the tree of knowledge of good and bad. From that tree you shall not eat; the moment you eat from it you are surely doomed to die." (Genesis 2:16-17)

Now our first parents not only disobeyed God but **gave away** the secret to the devil. The serpent asked the woman; "Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is bad." (Genesis 3:1b-5)

This reflection shall be continued.

Fr. Joe

BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE: Edward McKelvey



passed away on Monday, November 22. The Funeral Mass will be held at St. John Evangelist Parish on Thursday, December 9. Visitation is from 10:00 am until the time of the Mass at 12:00 pm. Please keep Edward and his family in your prayers.

ENRICH YOUR ADVENT JOURNEY

LITTLE BLUE ADVENT BOOKS: The Little Blue Advent Books are now in the Gathering Space in a basket on the table under the bulletin board. There are some copies of large print available.

ADVENT CALENDARS: Are available to take and are on the card table under the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

12 HOURS OF RECONCILIATION:



Will take place at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church (1439 South 12th Street, Sheboygan) on **Tuesday, December 14** from **8:00 am** until **8:00 pm**. Multiple priests will be on hand to hear Confessions. Please take this opportunity to prepare for Christmas.

2022 CALENDARS: Are now available on the table under the bulletin board in the gathering space. There are 3 different calendars to choose from. Please take as many as you need.

Join us at Mass as we light the second of the four candles in the Advent wreath: a Candle of Peace.

Peace be with you, and with your spirit! God longs to give you the peace which passes all understanding, and a relationship with God is where it can be found. Find the peace you long for by receiving our Lord in the Eucharist. It is here where we find that Jesus is always with us - body, blood, soul, and divinity. Come to Mass and experience peace.

WEEK 2 | PEACE

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

This year December 25 falls on a Saturday, which means we have two Mass obligations to satisfy on Christmas weekend. To help you plan your worship at St. John Evangelist, pick one Mass time from each section – two total – to satisfy both obligations. **Note: There is no 4:00 pm Mass at Blessed Trinity and no 5:15 pm Mass at St. John's on Saturday, December 25.**

Christmas Mass Obligation:

Friday, December 24

4:00 pm & 9:00 pm St. John Evangelist
4:00 pm Blessed Trinity

Saturday, December 25

9:00 am St. John Evangelist
7:30 am & 10:30 am Blessed Trinity

Sunday Mass Obligation:

Sunday, December 26

9:00 am St. John Evangelist
10:30 am Blessed Trinity



CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER NEWS

**The Catholic Life Center presents
SECOND THURSDAY COFFEE at Blessed Trinity
On Thursday, September 9th
After the 9:00 AM Mass
In the CLC Meeting Room**

Serving coffee and
an assortment of packaged pastries
Hope to see you there !



Afternoon/Evening at the Movies

The Christmas Candle: This fictional movie takes place in a quaint English Town in 1890. The town believes an angel visits every 25 years, blesses a Christmas candle, and grants a wish. The new pastor does not believe in miracles and wants to modernize the Church. A wonderful Christmas movie with a heartfelt message!



SHOWTIMES:

Wednesday, December 8, 1:30 - 4:00 pm
CLC Meeting Room at Blessed Trinity
AND
Thursday, December 9, 6:30 - 9:00 pm
LL Conference Room at St. John's

THE TEN VIRTUES OF MARY: A virtue is an attitude or way of life that helps us guide our conduct, so we live God's providence. This small group will define each virtue, read related scripture, and discuss living the virtues in today's world. Hosted by Paula Inda this Advent on **Sundays** from 9:00 - 10:20 am at the Catholic Life Center at Blessed Trinity Parish. Please contact Paula Inda to register: paula.marie.ind@gmail.com.

Christmas Trivia Party!!: Will take place on **Tuesday, December 14 from 1:30—3:30 pm** in the Catholic Life Center Meeting Room at Blessed Trinity. Join us

Christmas Trivia Party



for sweet treats and fun. Please RSVP by **Sunday, December 12** to Mary at maryw@btsje.org or 920-467-4516, Ext. 314. Hope to see you there.

TOY DONATIONS



SALVATION ARMY TOYS FOR TOTS:

The Salvation Army has dropped off a collection box. Please bring in new, unwrapped toys for ages 0 - 17 and place them in the bin by **Sunday, December 12**. All collection boxes will be picked up by the Salvation Army on Monday, December 13. This Christmas season, the Salvation Army is expecting to see a greater need than in the past. Thank you for helping those who need assistance this Christmas season.

Dear Padre,

My sister says that singing the *O Antiphons* are her favorite part of Advent. What are they?

An antiphon is a brief refrain, usually from the Bible, either sung or said during worship. An *O Antiphon* is an antiphon that starts with O, as in “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”—each verse of that song is made up of an O Antiphon.

The antiphons are most at home in the Liturgy of the Hours—the collection of psalms, hymns, prayers, and readings that make up the regular rhythm of the Church’s prayer at morning, midday, evening, and night. The O Antiphons your sister refers to are verses used during the Church’s evening prayer from December 17–23. With one verse spoken or sung before Mary’s Magnificat each evening, these antiphons call on the Lord to come to his people using titles taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

When the O Antiphons are sung in Latin, they present a sort of acrostic with a hidden message. The first letter of each title in the antiphon spells *sarcore*, which is *ero cras* (Latin for “tomorrow I come” or “tomorrow I shall be”) spelled backward.

In their original language and context, the O Antiphons have a particularly rich significance, but they remain beautiful even when sung simply in English as in the verses of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.”

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSsR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



JORISVO / SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

To prepare the way of the Lord’s coming, it is necessary to take note of the requirements of conversion to which the Baptist invites us....First of all we are called to fill the “valleys” caused by coldness and indifference, opening ourselves to others with the same sentiments as Jesus, that is, with affection and fraternal attention.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 9, 2018

Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 6
Advent Weekday
Is 35:1–10
Lk 5:17–26

Tuesday

DECEMBER 7
St. Ambrose,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Is 40:1–11
Mt 18:12–14

Wednesday

DECEMBER 8
Immaculate
Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9–15, 20
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12
Lk 1:26–38

Thursday

DECEMBER 9
Advent Weekday
Is 41:13–20
Mt 11:11–15

Friday

DECEMBER 10
Advent Weekday
Is 48:17–19
Mt 11:16–19

Saturday

DECEMBER 11
Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1–4, 9–11
Mt 17:9a, 10–13

Sunday

DECEMBER 12
Third Sunday
of Advent
Zep 3:14–18a
Phil 4:4–7
Lk 3:10–18