

# WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



## DECEMBER 12, 2021 THIRD 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 11	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Jane Ornelas by Family, †Mary Alice Schleicher by Norbert & Adeline Haen
Saturday	December 11	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Hubert & Lucille Marchand and Carol Mertzig by Family
Sunday	December 12	St. John's	9:00 am	†Kendra Versey by Greg & Janet Gottsacker
Sunday	December 12	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners
Tuesday	December 14	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Deacon Sy Regan by Liz Holtz
Wednesday	December 15	St. John's	7:00 am	†Ed, Bea, & George Adamczyk by Chuck & Jane Waldoch
Wednesday	December 15	St. John's	<b>5:15 pm</b>	Special Intention for Religious Education Students, their families and Catechists
Thursday	December 16	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Mary Alice Schleicher by Jim & Ann Higgins
Friday	December 17	St. John's	7:00 am	†Howard & Dorothy Dickelman by Hermine Grasse
Saturday	December 18	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Victor & Helen Kampmann, †Rodney & Lois Woveras by Family
Saturday	December 18	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Kathryn Schleicher by David & Nancy Schleicher
Sunday	December 19	St John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	December 19	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Rosemary Reiter by Family, †Lucille Micoliczky



**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.

## The Nativity Scene: Its Meaning and Importance - Religious Education 4K-Grade 6:

During the Christmas season, it is common to see displays of the Nativity scene: a small manger with the baby Jesus and his family, Mary and Joseph, shepherds, an angel, the three astrologers believed to have visited Jesus after his birth and several barnyard animals. In an Apostolic Letter written in 2019 Pope Francis reminded his readers and all of us that that displaying the Christmas Nativity scene is part of the precious, yet demanding, process of



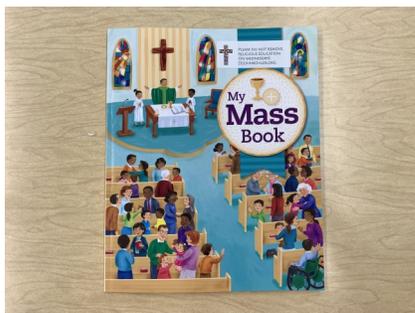
passing on the faith. He goes on to say that children learn to carry on this beautiful tradition from parents, grandparents, teachers and others. Setting up the Christmas Nativity scene in homes helps all who see it relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem, where the Evangelist Luke says simply that Mary "gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn". (2:7)

During our class on Wednesday, the last one before a Christmas, children learned about the history of the Nativity scene. Interestingly enough, it dates back to the time of St. Francis Assisi, a saint we talked about in October. It is said that St. Francis came up with the idea of a Nativity scene in the year 1223. Although Francis had been born wealthy he gave up all his riches up when he decided to follow Jesus more closely. Francis knew that most people he worked with were poor and he wanted to show them that Jesus knew what it was to be poor.

Francis contacted a friend who owned a high mountain with lots of caves, and together they found a suitable one. Then they filled a manger with hay and brought an ox, a donkey and some sheep to the cave. On Christmas Day Francis invited the people of the town to come to the cave. When they arrived, they found the cave lit by torchlight and Francis told them the story of Jesus' birth. They had heard the story before, but this was a reminder that God chose to be born poor, amid the animals, to show that He came to help all those who had nothing. What a great lesson for our children and for all of us as we prepare for Christmas! Those who come last in the eyes of the world, and seem to have the least to give, come first with God. **Please join us at our Family Mass this Wednesday, December 15, at 5:15 PM!**

~Jeanne Bitkers, Director of Religious Education 4K-Grade 6, [jeanne@btsje.org](mailto:jeanne@btsje.org); 920-452-9623

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Will be held at St. John Evangelist Parish on **Saturday, December 18 at 3:00 pm.**



**"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](mailto: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:

Third Sunday  
of Advent

This third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday, which is Latin for "rejoice." As we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath, we celebrate with great JOY as we move closer to the birth of Jesus. Did you notice in our first reading at Mass from the prophet Zephaniah, that God will rejoice over YOU with gladness?! Yes, we have a God who is in relentless pursuit of us, even to the extent of coming to Earth as a little baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger (Luke 2:12).



Advent is about preparing for Christ's coming in Bethlehem, but also preparing for His coming into our lives now, through the Sacraments and through lives of service, and finally, preparing for Christ's second coming at the end of time. St. Mother Teresa once said, "in return for the great grace of baptism, may we serve the Church joyfully. And remember, joy is not simply a matter of temperament, but of choice, it must be cultivated." So in these remaining days of Advent, let us continue to prepare our hearts and homes to "receive the good God who has given himself to us in order to bring joy into our very soul." (also St. Mother Teresa). Our RE classes will encourage this "loop of JOY" by concluding our 2021 classes with Mass next Wednesday, December 15 at 5:15 pm as we offer our time, love, thanks and praise to God who loved us first. Hope to see you there!  
~ Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grades 7 - 12, [teresab@btsje.org](mailto:teresab@btsje.org)

## 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 5:30 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



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



*Ushers  
Needed*

**USHERS NEEDED:** We are still in need a few ushers for the Christmas Masses. We need one additional usher during the 4:00 pm and two ushers for the 9:00 pm on Friday, December 24 and one additional usher at 9:00 am on Saturday, December 25. Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible if you are able to fill any of these times. Thank you to the ushers who have already volunteered.

ADVENT  
*A Season of Preparation*

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

Advent Reflections (Continued from Sunday, December 5)

From our reflections, we could see a strong connection between the Birth of Christ and His preaching the Good News, His Passion, Death on the Cross and final victorious act of Resurrection. Christ had to be dwelling among us (The Immanuel, God with us effect). This Shekinah (The manifested glory and grandeur of God) is Christ Jesus, the incarnated Redeemer of humankind. When we reflect upon these mysteries, we see God's careful planning to save humanity through divine interventions. Even after Adam and Eve's sin, God does not give up on us. God carefully chose a nation, sent all kinds of emissaries to remind that the chosen people are His prized possessions. But the chosen people were always rebellious and stubborn. Finally, in the fullness of time, God sent His only Son, born of a special woman who was kept sinless from the beginning of her life (The Feast of the Immaculate Conception). Since the majority of the chosen people's sacrifices involved shedding of blood (animals and birds), Jesus, the new High Priest, had to shed His blood to redeem us from the Original Sin (Hebrews Chapter 10 and following). Jesus' Passion and Death on the Cross had to end in a Final Victory over sin, death and the evil one.



If Christmas (The Incarnation of Jesus) brought us Joy, Peace and Love, Easter and the Resurrection cemented our destiny with God.

*Fr. Joe*

**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 for

**Christmas Trivia Party**



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.

## **BLESSED TRINITY HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE:**

Blessed Trinity's Homemade Christmas Cookie Sale will be held in the Gathering Area at Blessed Trinity on **Saturday, December 18** from **9:00 am until noon** OR until sold out.



**COOKIES**

Just in time for Christmas! Cookies make a GREAT gift for your family and friends. Boxes will be different prices. Please call Blessed Trinity at 920-467-4616 with any questions.

# ENRICH YOUR ADVENT JOURNEY

## 12 HOURS OF RECONCILIATION:



*Penance*

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.

## *Embrace the Season: Lessons and Carols*

As we journey from Advent into the Christmas Season, join the Holy Name of Jesus Choir for a twilight celebration of music, carols, and Scripture highlighting the wonder of our Savior's birth.

**Sunday, December 19**

**4:00 PM**

**Holy Name of Jesus Church  
Free Admission**



*"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption." - Galatians 4:4-5*

**2022 CALENDARS:** Are now available on the table under the bulletin board in the gathering space. There are 2 different calendars to choose from. Please take as many as you need.

COME TO MASS AND FIND THE

*joy*  
**YOU'RE SEEKING**



**Join us at Mass as we light the third of the four candles in the Advent wreath: a Candle of Joy.**

In today's rocky climate, it may be difficult to experience joy. Problems may cloud our life and overshadow the good things. But when we set our gaze on the Lord, he can help us find the joy, and our church can help! Come to Mass and find a community of people who love and support one another. Come to Mass and find joy!

WEEK 3 | JOY

**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](mailto:paula.marie.ind@gmail.com).



## 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 **THIS 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.

## Blessed Trinity Parish



## Trivia Night

with Pasta Dinner



Saturday, January 29, 2022

319 Giddings Avenue, Sheboygan Falls in Church Hall

- Come early for a Pasta Dinner served in our newly-renovated Church Hall from 5:30-6:30 PM, then stay for Trivia Night starting at 7:00 PM
- Or just come for Trivia Night starting at 7:00 PM
- Cash prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams
- Gift basket awarded to the best team table decorations
- Soda, Beer, and Wine available at Cash Bar throughout evening
- Grab your friends, decorate your table, and test your trivia knowledge!
- There is no minimum age limit to play (for example, a group of high schoolers could form a team)
- Don't have a team? No problem, we can put you on one!

Dinner Ticket \$10/person

Trivia Player Ticket \$10/person

Tickets available beginning in January after the weekend

Masses or at the Parish Office (115 Summer Street,

Mon-Fri 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM) All pre-determined teams

(from 2 to 8 people) should buy their tickets as a group.



**2021 SHEBOYGAN FALLS HOLIDAY PARADE:** On Saturday, December 4, at 4:30 PM was the beginning of the Sheboygan Falls Holiday Parade. The theme for the parade this year was "Believe". There at the beginning, 48 floats all lined up and ready to go. It was beautiful. So many people put hard work into them to try to make them stand out.

Blessed Trinity and St. John Evangelist's float was one of them. Many people have put so much hard work into it to make it look inviting and beautiful. On the sides of the float was the caption, "The Belief In Christ Will Change Your Life". On the back of the float was the caption, "If You Believe You Will Receive". On the back of the float was a manger scene with Joseph, Mary, Baby Jesus and an angel. We had more than 15 participants walking along and riding on the float. We had music playing, people singing and candy canes & Mass schedules were being handed out. We also had hand held signs on the float saying, "We Believe". Our message to the community was clear, we believe in Jesus Christ and everyone is invited.

I would like to thank all the people that helped put this float together. There are so many to thank and so many that shared their talents, its overwhelming. And let's not forget the help from the Religious Education kids. They were awesome helpers and they are our future. I am looking forward to next year as we have received more improvements and suggestions that will make the experience even better next year. Thank you.

Jerry Knier, Chairperson

Jim Jordan, Photographer



# METROPOLITAN ARCHDIOCESE OF TELLICHERRY

Archbishop's House, P.B.No.70, Tellicherry, Pin: 670101, Kannur Dist, Kerala - India  
E-mail: gnjaralakatt@gmail.com, Mob: 9446955591, 0490 2344 977



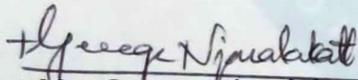
Tellicherry, 06/12/2021

To  
Rev. Fr. Joseph Dominic  
Pastor  
St. John Evangelist Parish, Kohler &  
Blessed Trinity Congregation, Sheboygan Falls  
USA

## Sub: Acknowledgement of the receipt \$ 10604

Dear Rev. Fr. Joseph Dominic  
Cordial greetings from the Archdiocese of Tellicherry. I hope these few lines will find you in good health and cheer. I express our gratitude for your generosity to support our Archdiocese in covid relief programmes. I am glad to let you know that we have received \$ 10604 from St. John Evangelist Parish, Kohler & Blessed Trinity Congregation, Sheboygan Falls to set up covid relief projects in the Archdiocese. Your benevolent contribution is a great relief for us to help the poor parishes which are struggling to make both ends meet in this financial crisis caused by covid. Remembering your love and concern for our Archdiocese, I offer our prayers for the success of your ministries and especially for the intentions of your benefactors. Wishing you a fruitful Lenten Season,

Yours paternally in our Lord

  
+ Mar George Njaralakatt  
Archbishop of Tellicherry



# Dear Padre,

I recently moved to a parish that includes a large Mexican community that's known for their annual *posadas* event. What is that?

**L**as *posadas*, a nine-day novena preparation for the celebration of Christmas, begins December 16 and ends Christmas Eve.

*Posada* is Spanish for "inn." The ceremony remembers Mary and Joseph's trip to Bethlehem and their difficulty finding a place to stay. *Posadas* are celebrated in many ways, but the traditional celebration involves a group of people, the "pilgrims," going to several houses, knocking on the door, and asking for *posada*. The pilgrims sing the part of Joseph as he explains their situation and asks for a place to stay. The people inside sing back that they have no room and that the pilgrims should just move on.

On the last night, the people in the last house recognize that Mary is the Queen of Heaven and that the child she carries is the Savior of the World. They invite the pilgrims inside and hold a prayer service that may include a Scripture reading or the rosary. The celebration ends with food and singing.

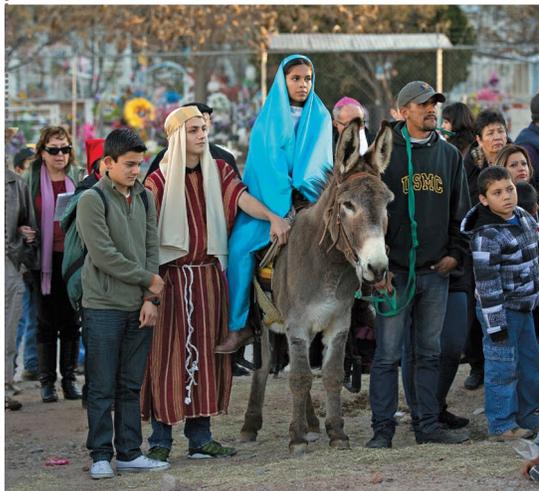
This tradition is more than a folksy reenactment of Joseph and Mary's search for lodging—it's a solemn dramatization by women and men who believe God

searches with them, a touching ceremony that can help Christians today see the real needs of those who live without the security of a home, health insurance, or a steady job.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

Do you have a question  
for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your  
question and to learn more about  
Dear Padre.



CNS PHOTO / NANCY WIECHEC

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Many Christians have that face...from a funeral wake, a face of sadness. But Christ is risen! Christ loves you! And you have no joy? Let us think a bit about this and let us ask: "Do I have joy because the Lord is close to me, because the Lord loves me, because the Lord has redeemed me?"*

GAUDETE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020



## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 13

St. Lucy,

Virgin and Martyr

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a

Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 14

St. John of the Cross,

Priest and Doctor

of the Church

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13

Mt 21:28-32

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 15

Advent Weekday

Is 45:6b-8, 18,

21c-25

Lk 7:18b-23

### Thursday

DECEMBER 16

Advent Weekday

Is 54:1-10

Lk 7:24-30

### Friday

DECEMBER 17

Advent Weekday

Gn 49:2, 8-10

Mt 1:1-17

### Saturday

DECEMBER 18

Advent Weekday

Jer 23:5-8

Mt 1:18-25

### Sunday

DECEMBER 19

Fourth Sunday

of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-45

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