

# WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



**MAY 7, 2023 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....5:30 pm  
 Sunday.....9:00 am  
 Wednesday & Friday.....7:00 am  
 1st Friday-Pine Haven.....10:00 am  
 2nd Friday-Prairie Crossing.....10:00 am

## PARISH OFFICE

**Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 - 3:30 PM**

601 Valley Road, Kohler WI 53044

Telephone.....(920) 452-9623

Email.....[stjohnnev@btsje.org](mailto:stjohnnev@btsje.org)

Website.....[stjohnkohler.org](http://stjohnkohler.org)

**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

## PARISH STAFF:

**Administrator:** Rev. Jonathon Schmeckel

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 206

**Anointing or Emergency: 920-550-1145**

**Parish Administrative Assistant:**

Gretchen Free 920-452-9623 ext. 201

**Director of Liturgy & Music:**

Zach Holzer E-Mail: [zach@btsje.org](mailto:zach@btsje.org)

**Directors of Religious Education:**

Jeanne Bitkers (Gr. 4K-6)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 220

E-Mail: [jeanne@btsje.org](mailto:jeanne@btsje.org)

Teresa Bettag (Gr. 7-12)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 218

E-Mail: [teresab@btsje.org](mailto:teresab@btsje.org)

**Co-Directors of Catholic Life Center:**

John O'Dell E-Mail: [john@btsje.org](mailto:john@btsje.org)

Mary Waitkus E-Mail: [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org)

## FINANCE COUNCIL:

**Finance Council Chair**.....Rob Wenberg

Bob Goldsmith

Ryan Kuhn

## PASTORAL COUNCIL:

**Chairperson**.....Bridgett Zielke

**Vice Chairperson**.....Steve O'Neil

Rich Tauferner

Peter Bustos

Tracy Kissel

Norma Horne

Jenny Roatch

**Trustees:** Toni Sarafin, Trustee Treasurer

Michael Pellegrino, Trustee Secretary

## PRAY THE ROSARY DURING THE WEEK:

Wednesday & Friday at 6:40 am

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

1st Fridays-6:00 - 6:45 am St. John Evangelist

Sundays 8:00 - 8:45 am St. John Evangelist

1st & 2nd Saturdays-3:00 pm-Blessed Trinity

3rd, 4th & 5th Saturdays-3:00 pm-St. John Evangelist

## LAY MINISTERS FOR MAY 13/14

MASSES	Saturday, 5:30 pm	Sunday, 9:00 am
Lectors	Jillian Walton Susan Vavra	Paul Garni Gerald Loth
Servers		Anthony Bustos Annalise Bustos
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion		Ken Udovich
Ushers	Mel Free Volunteer	Rich Tauferner Peter Bustos
Sacristan	Connie Katchkey	Nick Cinquepalmi
Greeters	Bob & Bette Kluge	Audrey Waitkus



## From Father Schmeckel:

This Sunday our young people at Blessed Trinity Parish will receive their first Holy Communion! Please pray that this will be great moment as they grow in their friendship with Jesus!

Congratulations to the children of Saint John Evangelist Parish who received their First Holy Communion last Sunday!



This is a good opportunity for us to continue reflecting on what it means for each of us to receive our Lord in the Eucharist week after week. The Catechism of the Catholic Church provides a list of 'Fruits of Holy Communion'. This week I'll explain the first three and finish in next week next Sunday's bulletin.

Holy Communion, the Catechism says, (1) augments our union with Christ (no. 1391); (2) separates us from sin (no. 1393); and (3) wipes away venial sins (no. 1394). Here are a few comments about each of these.

First: **Holy Communion augments our union with Christ.** The *Catechism* quotes Jesus' own words: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him." (Jn 6:56) Even when we think of it very practically, we can't get much closer to something than when we eat and digest it! Likewise, in a spiritual way, we cannot get much closer to Jesus than by eating his flesh and drinking his blood – which we do every time we receive the Consecrated Host at Holy Communion.

Second: **The Eucharist separates us from sin.** "The Body of Christ that we receive in Holy Communion is 'given up for us,' and the Blood we drink 'shed for the many for the forgiveness.'" (no. 1393) Jesus' sacrifice and death on the Cross – which we celebrate at every Mass – is for the forgiveness of our sins; therefore, if we receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in a worthy manner, we become like oil, and sin becomes like water. – They just don't mix and go together.

Third: **The Eucharist wipes away venial sins.** In another article, we can discuss the difference between venial and mortal sins. For now, remember that receiving the Eucharist helps to wipe away our venial sins. Here's an analogy that might help. Eating well and staying well-hydrated when getting sick can sometimes help to avoid becoming more ill. The Eucharist acts in the same way. It nourishes and strengthens us so that we can fight off and work against any little sins that might lead us to more serious, more grave sins.

Last, an answer to a question I have received many times in the past few months: **When should I stop kneeling after receiving Holy Communion?** We kneel, in part, to show our smallness before God, to humble ourselves before God who created us, and to thank Him for feeding us in the Eucharist; so, once you're finished thanking God for being able to receive Him, you could sit down. (Kneeling isn't the only way that we can show love, reverence, and humility – so you shouldn't be embarrassed if you cannot kneel for any reason.) If you're looking for a clear signal for when it's "safe" to sit, I'll offer two options: 1) when the doors of the tabernacle are closed, or 2) when the Priest sits in his chair again. Hope that helps!

All of the priests of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will be gathering this week from May 8-10 for the Spring Priest Assembly. Please pray for all of us as we gather for a time of formation, prayer, and fraternity!

# MASS INTENTIONS

3

Saturday	May 6	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Edwin Sabel & Jane Ornelas by Family, †Mike Ferk by Dave & Nancy Schleicher
Saturday	May 6	St. John's	5:30 pm	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	May 7	St. John's	9:00 am	†Donald Hill by Tengowski Family
Sunday	May 7	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†John & Alena Markgraf by Paul Morgan Family, †Betty Van Ouwerkerk by Janet Mauer
Tuesday	May 9	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Robert Nebel by Bettag Family
Wednesday	May 10	St. John's	7:00 am	†Jayden Lagonowski by Andy & Tracy Kissel
Thursday	May 11	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Louis & Agnes Billmann by LuAnne Immel & Rick Rammer
Friday	May 12	St. John's	7:00 am	†Steffes Family by Judy Zingsheim
Friday	May 12	Prairie Crossing	10:00 am	†Lorraine Erbstoesser
Saturday	May 13	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Victor & Helen Kampmann by Family, †Carol Schuessler by Family
Saturday	May 13	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Hubert & Lucille Marchand and Carol Mertzig by Family
Sunday	May 14	St. John's	9:00 am	†Ann Marie Pelosi by Pellegrino Family
Sunday	May 14	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Will be offered at Blessed Trinity Parish on Saturday, May 13 and St. John Evangelist Parish on Sunday, May 14 from 8:00 - 8:45 am.

**PRIEST ASSEMBLY:** Father Schmeckel will be out of the office on Monday, May 8 until Thursday, May 11 for the annual Priest Assembly. If there is an emergency, please contact the Parish Office (920-452-9623) for assistance.

**FINANCIAL: APRIL 29/30:** Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$6,414.61.

**MAY WINE & HOSTS:** In Memory of Tauferner & Schwebel Families by Rich Tauferner.



**BAPTIZED IN CHRIST:** Leo Michael, son of Paul & Meghan Garni was Baptized at St. John Evangelist Parish on Sunday, April 30. Please pray for Leo and his family.

**ROSARY LEADER NEEDED:** We are in need of Rosary leaders for the month of May. The rosary is recited 20 minutes prior to the weekend Masses. Please contact Rich Tauferner at 920-918-5066 to volunteer to lead the Rosary before one or more of these Masses.

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER UPDATE:** As of Friday, April 28, St. John Evangelist Parishioners have donated \$285,425.00. This is 66% of our \$429,405.00 goal.

**FOOD PANTRY:** Please continue to bring non perishable goods for the Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry. They are in need of pasta sauce at this time. In addition, volunteers are needed to pick up the food at St. John's and deliver it to the Food Pantry on the 1st Monday morning of every month. Please contact the Parish Office with your preferred month/s by June 1. The new yearly schedule, July 1, 2023 -June 30, 2024, will be compiled and emailed at the end of June. Thank you to everyone who has helped this past year.

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## SATURDAY, MAY 6

12:00 pm AA Meeting  
Church hall  
5:30 pm Mass

## SUNDAY, MAY 7

8:00 - 8:45 am Reconciliation  
9:00 am Mass

## TUESDAY, MAY 9

8:30 - 11:00 am Mission Society

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

7:00 am Mass  
3:30 - 4:45 pm SEEDs Program  
4K - Grade 6

## THURSDAY, MAY 11

2:00 - 3:00 pm Bible Study  
Church Hall

## FRIDAY, MAY 12

7:00 am Mass

## SATURDAY, MAY 13

12:00 pm AA Meeting  
Church hall  
5:30 pm Mass

## SUNDAY, MAY 14

8:00 - 8:45 am Reconciliation  
9:00 am Mass

## St. John's Human Concerns-Social Justice Committee:

Human Concerns Social Justice Committee members will once again be serving an "Emmaus Meal" on **Saturday, May 13th** from **10:30 am to about 1:30 pm**. They are seeking volunteers to help serve that Meal (held at St. Luke's Methodist Church, 623 Ontario Avenue, Sheboygan) and/or provide bars for desserts. If you are available to bake or offer a few volunteer hours, please contact Sharon Reilly (920-980-9622) or sign up on the board at the Church in the Gathering Space area.



## MISSION SOCIETY QUILT

**RAFFLE:** Congratulations to Courtney Multer who won this year's quilt. A total of \$166.00 was raised. These monies will be used to purchase quilting supplies. Thank you to everyone who supported this raffle.

## SUNDAY SOCIAL:

There will be a social immediately following the 9:00 am Mass **THIS SUNDAY, May, 7**. Stop by and enjoy a sweet treat and come coffee. The social is hosted by the Catholic Life Center.



**HOMEBOUND VISITS:** If you or someone you know is homebound and is interested in receiving Communion regularly, please call the Parish Office at 920-452-9623 so that Father can visit, and we can also arrange Communion visits.



## FRESH MEALS ON WHEELS DUSK TO GLOW GOLF

**OUTING:** Do you enjoy golf? Need something fun to do on a Friday night? Consider joining Fresh Meals On Wheels at their inaugural "glow ball golf fundraiser" taking place **Friday, May 19 from 7:00 pm to 12:00 am** at Crystal Lake Golf Course. Played in a best ball scramble format, where your foursome could take top honors. Each golfer will receive 2 LED lit golf balls. Enjoy food & drinks, raffle prizes, attempt a hole prize and help raise money for Sheboygan County's senior, disabled and homebound neighbors. Cost is \$280 per foursome, \$75 per golfer, or \$30 per spectator. More details can be found on their website at

<https://www.freshmealsonwheels.org/events>





### **Blest are We – Welcoming First Communicants to the Table of the Lord**

Preparing children to receive the Sacraments is one of the most important things that we do at St. John Evangelist Parish. This year 12 second graders and 2 third graders who spent this year getting ready for this important occasion received their First Communion last Sunday, April 30th. Their Parents and volunteer Catechists, Patti Wenberg and Susan Vavra prepared them well and we thank them for sharing their time and their gift of faith so generously.

These 14 children were baptized as infants and became part of the family of God, that we call "the Church". First Communion was another memorable occasion. It was the very first time that they joined their families, other friends, and parishioners at the Table of the Lord.

We congratulate all the children who received the Body and Blood of Jesus for the very first time at the 9:00 AM Mass last week. We pray that they will always have faith in God and that they will continue, both now and in the future, to use the many gifts that they have been given to reach out in love and service to others.

~Jeanne Bitkers, Director of Religious Education 4K - Grade 6



**Religious Education 4K-Grade 6 Spring 2023 SEEDS Program:** Your child is still welcome to join the SEEDS Program that began this past Wednesday here at St. John Evangelist Parish from 3:30 – 4:45 PM. **There are three Wednesday Sessions left.** This is an optional Spring interim Religious Education Program. This year students are learning about a different Saint each week and doing a service project for others just as the Saints did. For more information or to register by phone or e-mail please contact: Jeanne Bitkers, Director of Religious Education 4K-Grade 6 at [jeanne@btsje.org](mailto:jeanne@btsje.org) or call the parish office 920-452-9623.

# Dear Padre,

***I know a Catholic couple who wanted to celebrate their sacrament of matrimony at a Mass in a forest, but the bishop didn't allow it. Why not marry in God's creation?***

A marriage between Catholics or between a Catholic and a baptized non-Catholic is usually celebrated in a parish church. It can be celebrated in another church or oratory with the bishop or pastor's permission. A marriage between a Catholic and an unbaptized person can be celebrated in a church or another suitable place, although a Catholic church remains the preferred place for the celebration.

Why is the parish church the preferred site for the celebration? For Catholics, matrimony is a sacrament—one of the seven sacred signs through which God communicates love to us. When Catholics ask God to bind their union as a sacrament, the couple's love for each other is a sign of God's love for both, and their union is also a continuous sign of Christ's love for the Church. Thus, the church as a "house of God," which contains the presence of Christ, is revered as the most sacred place to make this most sacred commitment. Marriage, according to Pope Francis in a 2015 General Audience, "is not merely a ceremony in a church, with flowers, a dress, photographs....Christian marriage is a sacrament that takes place in the Church, and which also makes the Church, by giving rise to a new family community....[Saint] Paul says that the love between spouses is an image of the love between Christ and his Church. An unimaginable dignity!" ●



CNS PHOTO/KAREN CALLAWAY, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Weekday	Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 14:5–18	Acts 14:19–28	Acts 15:1–6	Acts 15:17–21	Acts 15:22–31	Acts 16:1–10	Acts 8:5–8, 14–17
Jn 14:21–26	Jn 14:27–31a	Jn 15:1–8	Jn 15:9–11	Jn 15:12–17	Jn 15:18–21	1 Pt 3:15–18 Jn 14:15–21



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***[Jesus] knows that, in life, the worst anxiety, anguish, arises from the sensation of not being able to cope, of feeling alone and without points of reference when faced with events. We cannot overcome this anguish alone...and this is why Jesus asks us to have faith in him, that is, to lean not on ourselves but on him.***

**REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 10, 2020**

CNS PHOTO/VATICAN MEDIA