

# WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



**DECEMBER 31, 2023 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

## MASS SCHEDULE

2nd & 4th Saturday .....	4:00 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.....** Bridgitt Zielke

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

Rich Tauferner

Norma Horne

Nick Cinquepalmi

Paul Gami

Rita Gast

Carol Marksteiner

Rick Michaletz

**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, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays-3 :00 pm-Blessed Trinity

2nd & 4th Saturdays-3:00 pm-St. John Evangelist

## Readings for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

2nd Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40



THE CHILD GREW AND  
**BECAME STRONG,**  
FILLED WITH  
**WISDOM;**  
AND THE FAVOR OF GOD  
**WAS UPON HIM.**

Luke 2:40

Bulletin Submission Deadline: All requests for bulletin articles must be received by Wednesday noon to be included in that weekend's bulletin. Any articles received after that will be included as space permits. For holiday weeks, the deadline may change. Thank you for your understanding.

## **From Father Schmeckel:**

**Merry Christmas! Remember that the Christmas season continues through the Baptism of the Lord, which is on Monday, January 8 this year.**

During this joyous season, I want to say "thank you" to all who have helped us to celebrate Christmas, the Birth of Jesus, our Savior with such great joy and exuberance. Special thanks to our staff and volunteers who helped with music, worship aids, cleaning, decorating, reading, serving, and many, many other things during this Christmas Season and who continue to do this throughout the year.



As the calendar year winds down, I want to point out a few practical things that have been done in each of our parishes and a few things to look forward to in the year ahead.

### **At Saint John Evangelist Parish:**

During this past semester we began working on technology upgrades in our classrooms to improve internet connectivity, provide projectors, and eventually have computers available in each room. While there are several things that remain to be completely finished, this will be a great use of donations through the "Faith in our Future Campaign" that will provide Catechists with more materials and resources to help our children and young people learn and grow, and will help adults deepen their faith.

As you may have noticed, our crèche (or nativity scene) at St. John's is a little different this year. Max Schefsky, a student from Blessed Trinity, built the stable and its stand as part of his Eagle Scout project. This wonderful addition has already helped to lift our devotion to the Infant Jesus in the manger. I hope it has also helped you to pray and meditate on the great mysteries of Christmas. Thank you for your hard work, Max!

In this new year, there will also be many other projects around our campus that may need some work. We will likely need to give some attention to the sound system in the church. Everything we have now works, but there are a few signs of its age and normal wear-and-tear. A portion of our "Love One Another Campaign" funds were designated for this purpose and will help us to make those necessary upgrades and improvements.

### **At Blessed Trinity Parish:**

At the Catholic Life Center at Blessed Trinity Parish a handicapped-accessible bathroom has been under construction for the past two months. This project has now been completed along with some other things which surfaced along the way. There is also new carpeting and fresh paint, and some leakage issues were taken care of. Mike Matoska, Tim Woodworth, Mike White, Gene Specht, Paul Klauck, and several others have put in many, many hours over these past few months to make the completion of all of this work possible. These great improvements and more accessible facilities will enable us to serve and reach more people.

This Spring, the church elevator project, that was recently approved by the Archdiocese, will begin. The exact start date is still to be determined. There will be a few adjustments to weekday schedules to accommodate construction, and we will communicate them as they are known to us. This is also one of the projects that will be paid for with funds from the "Love One Another Campaign"

Soon we will also have to start considering carpet replacement options in the Sanctuary to elevate our worship at Mass. This is not an immediate project, but something we should keep in mind.

Finally, Monday, January 1, 2024 is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. It is not a holy day of obligation this year, but Mass will be offered at 9:00 AM at Saint John Evangelist Parish.

# MASS INTENTIONS

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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 30</b>	<b>Blessed Trinity</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	†Ben Woveras by Family, †Kay & Jim Altmeyer by Mattek & Schueffner Families Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	December 31	St. John's	9:00 am	†John Klopff Sr. by Ron & Marlene Krueger,
Sunday	December 31	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Barbara Stodor by Ruth Pedroni
Monday	January 1	St. John's	9:00 am	†Kendra Versey by Family
Tuesday	January 2	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Fr. Mike Hammer by Donna Plageman
Tuesday	January 2	Blessed Trinity	6:00 pm	†Leonard & Margaret Tomczyk by Nancy Matthews
Wednesday	January 3	St. John's	7:00 am	†Ted Biskup
Thursday	January 4	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Alena Markgraf by Paul Morgan Family
Friday	January 5	St. John's	7:00 am	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Friday	January 5	Pine Haven	10:00 am	Special Intention for Pine Haven Residents and Staff
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 6</b>	<b>Blessed Trinity</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	Deceased Members of O'Neill Family by Jim & Heidi O'Neill, †Mitchell Daharsh by Doug & Cindy Dorn, †Sylvester & Eleanora Regan by Regan Family Trust
Sunday	January 7	St. John's	9:00 am	†Debbie Schroeder Miller by Chuck & Jane Waldoch
Sunday	January 7	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Will be offered at Blessed Trinity Parish on Saturday, January 6 at 3:00 pm and at St. John Evangelist Parish on Friday, January 5 from 6:00 - 6:45 am and Sunday, January 7 from 8:00 to 8:45 am.

## LAY MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 7

MASSES	Sunday, 9:00 am
Lectors	Steve O'Neil Jillian W.
Servers	Annaleise B. Anthony B.
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Rich Tauferner
Ushers	Tom Reilly Jim Sarafin
Sacristan	Dave & Diane Hart
Greeters	Connie Katchkey

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD:** Is **Monday, January 1, 2024**. Since this falls on a Monday it is not a holy day of obligation. There will be a Mass at St. John Evangelist Parish at **9:00 am**.

**ALL PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED:** All Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2024 in Observance of New Years. All emails and voicemails will be returned as soon as possible on Tuesday, January 2.

**FINANCIAL: DECEMBER 23/24:** Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$10,845.15.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING:** \$10,650.00



# EVENTS CALENDAR

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

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

## MONDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 am Mass

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

7:00 am Mass

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

6:00 am - 9:00 pm Adoration

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

6:00 - 6:45 am Reconciliation  
7:00 am Mass

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

8:00 am Reconciliation  
9:00 am Mass

**MISSION SOCIETY:** The Mission Society will not meet on Tuesday, January 2. Quilting begins again on Tuesday, **January 9, 2024.**



**SUNDAY SOCIAL:** There will be a social immediately following the 9:00 am Mass **NEXT SUNDAY, January 7.** Stop by and enjoy a sweet treat and come coffee. The social is hosted by the Eucharistic Ministers & Sacristans.



## FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL:



The Catholic Life Center will host a First Friday Social after the 7:00 am Mass on **Friday, January 5.** Please stay for a donut and some coffee.



## WINTERFEST 2024:

Will take place on **Sunday, January 28, 2024** from **10:00am** until **2:00 pm.**

Volunteers are needed.

Please use the link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B44A9A82BA0F85-46883314-winterfest#/> to volunteer. If you have problems or don't have internet, please contact the parish office to volunteer.

## 2023 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS:

All 2022 Contributions must be included in the collection at the Masses **December 30/31** or placed in the locked drop box outside door #5 before January 1st to be counted in the 2023 tax year. If you would like to check on your contributions so far this year, please contact the Parish Office during normal hours (7:30 am - 3:30 pm).



**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. **Next Delivery: Monday, January 6, 2024: Tracy Kissel & Faye Rogers.**



**WELCOME TO THE PARISH:** Please welcome Ismael Ortega & Cynthia Zarzosa and their children Jose Emiliano, Juan Pablo & Miguel Angel to the Parish.



## Happy New Year - January 2024:



The start of a new year almost always provides us with an opportunity to begin again and to set goals or make plans to do something that might really make a difference. Rather than thinking of ways to improve or to eliminate a bad habit as in past years, you may want to consider a new question: What is God calling me, or our family, to do in 2024?

Here's something you might want to try: During the next few days choose a Saint that you, and/or your family, can learn more about and try to imitate him/her during 2024. Select a Saint that you feel would be a good fit. For example: You or your family might choose St. John the Evangelist, the patron Saint of our parish, or St. Anthony, because you are constantly misplacing things, or St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta, who cared for the poor and others in need, because you want to do more of this in the new year.

After you have selected your patron Saint for 2024, there are many things you can do. Here are a few suggestions:

- ♦ Find and put a statue or a picture of that Saint in your home.
- ♦ Find a book, an article, or a video about your Saint. If you have children, find a book they can read or listen to and give it to them on a special occasion.
- ♦ Learn something new about your Saint each month.
- ♦ Celebrate your Saint's feast day and have some special food or dessert that reminds you of your chosen Saint.
- ♦ Do a quick google search to see if your Saint has a prayer you can say and post it somewhere in your home. Include this prayer in your morning or bedtime prayer routine for the year.
- ♦ Throughout the year you or other family members can make crafts and do activities relating to your Saint and his or her work with others. Check out websites with ideas for Catholic children.

Adopting a Saint for the year may also help you and/or your family have more Saints to feel "close" to. The number can grow each year. This Saint can become a spiritual inspiration and give you or your family a reason to celebrate a new Saint feast day each year and learn about the traditions that go along with the Saint.

The New Year is just beginning. May we all find new ways to care for ourselves and for others; May this time bring us all closer to recognizing our need to love and cherish one another; And may we all grow stronger in our faith and our desire to share it, and the love of God .....Best wishes for a very happy, safe, healthy, joyous, and Blessed 2024!

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

### NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**CLASSES:** There will be NO Religious Education Classes this upcoming Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Classes will resume on **Wednesday, January 10, 2024.**

### "LIVING FAITH" KID'S EDITION

**BOOKLETS:** There are January - March 2024 "Living Faith" Kid's Edition booklets available under the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

# The Catholic Life Center

**Mission: "To engage and unite our intergenerational faith community in learning and fellowship."**

Sponsoring parishes: St. John Evangelist, Kohler and Blessed Trinity, Sheboygan Falls

Contacts: John O'Dell, Co-Director, 920-467-4616, ext. 315 and

Mary Waitkus, Co-Director, 920-467-4616, ext. 314



[www.blessedtrinitysheboyganfalls.org/CLC](http://www.blessedtrinitysheboyganfalls.org/CLC)

January 2024



## Bishop Barron's The Mass, 6-part series

CLC-Meeting Room, Wednesdays 10:00-11:00 am

January 17	<b>A Privileged Encounter</b>	February 14	<b>Responding to God</b>
January 24	<b>Called Out of the World</b>	February 21	<b>Preparing for Sacrifice</b>
January 31	<b>God Speaks Our Story</b>	February 28	<b>The Real Presence</b>
February 7	<b>No Class</b>		<b>Creates Communion</b>

Walk through the Liturgy of the Mass with Bishop Barron and be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. "The Mass" will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of Christian Life.

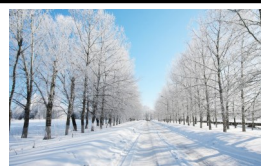
**\*\*Register with Mary at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314.**

## Service Projects

<b>Tuesday, January 16</b>	Make Cards for Meals on Wheels, 10:00-11:30 am, CLC-Meeting Room
<b>Tuesday, January 23</b>	Decorate Bags for Meals on Wheels, 10:00-11:30 am, SJE-Lower Level Conference Room



**\*Register with Mary by the Friday before each event at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314.**



## Sheboygan County Women's Retreat

January 5/6, 2024 at BT/Lakeland University

One day attendance permitted, Register online at <https://bit.ly/3FFa37V>



## Arthritis Presentation

Thursday, January 11, CLC-Meeting Room

9:30 am refreshments, 10:00-11:00 am program

Join us for a presentation on bone and joint health, early arthritis management, and hip fractures by Janelle Teunissen, RN, Prevea Health.

Please register with Mary at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314 to ensure that we will have enough seating at the event.

## Tiny Saints Story Time, 3rd Thursday of the month

January 18, 10:00-10:45 am in St. John Evangelist Classrooms

Ideal for children ages 1-4 and their caregivers.





## First Friday and Second Thursday Coffee

**No First Friday Coffee in January**  
**2nd Thursday Coffee is January 11** after the 9:00 am Mass at BT in the CLC-Meeting Room with 10:00 am program to follow.

**Walk the Walk...** Our adult walking program has restarted and is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30-8:30 am in the old school gym on the 3rd floor at Blessed Trinity. An elevator is not available. Led by Diane Hart/SJE member. Any questions, call Mary at the Catholic Life Center at 920-467-4616, Ext. 314.



## Afternoon at the Movies

Featuring the film, *A Man Called Otto*

This comedy drama is about a man who lost his wife and has given up on life. A young family moves into his neighborhood and challenges the way he thinks.

**Wednesday, January 10** from 1:30-3:30 pm in the CLC-Meeting Room

Starring  
Tom  
Hanks



## Saturday Morning Women's Group

Watch for the Bulletin for date for the next group.



## Cell Phone Workshop

**Tuesday, January 30**

**3:30-5:00 pm in the CLC-Meeting & Assembly Rooms**

This program requires sign up; seats are limited. We need to know the type of phone you have and what you would like to learn. There will be separate presentations for Android and Apple phones with time for questions in small groups. Flip phones users are welcome!



**\*Register with Mary by January 23 at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314.**

## BT/SJE Senior Singles 55+

Come socialize at our next brunch on **Thursday, January 25**, at 10:30 am at River Park Family Restaurant. Please RSVP to Sharon Temme by Monday, January 22, at [temmesharon197@gmail.com](mailto:temmesharon197@gmail.com) or text/call 920-467-2298.



**\*Contact Mary from the CLC for more information or to sign up at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314.**

## Enrich Your Sunday

After 9:00 am Mass at St. John Evangelist-Classroom 8

**January 21-Bishop Barron's The Mass, Lesson 1, A Privileged Encounter**

Join us for part one of this video series and short discussion at a convenient time after Mass. Details of the program are on the front.



**\*Register with Mary at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314.**



# Dear Padre,

***How much should we support our adult children? We have a niece and a daughter who are both healthy, capable, and in their twenties. We have set boundaries and continue to give to them but they just can't seem to get their act together. Would it be unchristian to cut them off?***



The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes in detail the duties of family members toward each other (CCC 2214–33). Parents are responsible to ensure that their children grow up in faith and to meet their basic needs. Children should show respect toward their parents and, as they grow older, assist them as needed. As children become adults, they should take on responsibility for themselves and parents are not to pressure them into choices of a profession or a spouse, while at the same time, “giving their children judicious advice...” (CCC 2230). At some point, children need to become responsible adults, which brings us to your point.

You seem to have done what is required as parents. At the same time, you would not want to abandon young adults if physical, mental, or emotional factors prevent them from assuming the responsibility of adulthood. If they are healthy, capable young people they should be able to progress in life without your financial assistance. To help them toward this goal, you may want to set very specific limits, perhaps with the help of a counselor, and then consistently follow those limits. ●

**Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January 1 <i>Mary, Holy Mother of God</i> Nm 6:22–27 Gal 4:4–7 Lk 2:16–21	January 2 <i>Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church</i> 1 Jn 2:22–28 Jn 1:19–28	January 3 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Jn 1:29–34	January 4 <i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</i> 1 Jn 3:7–10 Jn 1:35–42	January 5 <i>St. John Neumann, Bishop</i> 1 Jn 3:11–21 Jn 1:43–51	January 6 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 5:5–13 Mk 1:7–11 or Lk 3:23–38 or 3:23, 31–34, 36, 38	January 7 <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i> Is 60:1–6 Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6 Mt 2:1–12

**Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons.**

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***In imitation of the Holy Family, we are called to rediscover the educational value of the family unit: it requires being founded on the love that always regenerates relationships.... [I]f you quarrel within the family, do not end the day without making peace.... And do you know why? Because a cold war, day after day, is extremely dangerous.***

**ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 27, 2020**

HOLY FAMILY WITH SAINTS ANNE AND JOHN THE BAPTIST (DETAIL), ANDREA MANTEGNA / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS