

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



JANUARY 2, 2022 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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	January 1	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Deacon Sy Regan by Jim & Sandy Jordan, †Lori Pribek by Steve & Kim Harder
Saturday	January 1	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Kendra Versey by Versey Family
Sunday	January 2	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	January 2	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Nora Salata by Tim & Cathy George, †Mary Alice Schleicher by Marcia Schleicher
Tuesday	January 4	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Van Treeck Family by Rammer Family
Wednesday	January 5	St. John's	7:00 am	†Ted Biskup
Thursday	January 6	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Sam & Marie Block by Donna Plageman
Friday	January 7	St. John's	7:00 am	†Fr. Louis Wilimek
Friday	January 7	Pine Haven	10:00 am	†Verdayne Meyer by Lynn Erbstoesser
Saturday	January 8	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Lucille Micolczyk, †Sylvester & Eleanora Regan by Regan Family Trust
Saturday	January 8	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Ed Mauer by Judy & Family
Sunday	January 9	St. John's	9:00 am	†Alma Helm by Tom & Rita Gast
Sunday	January 9	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners



PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: The office will be closed on Friday, December 31 in observance of New Years. ***When the parish office is closed, the church will also be locked.***

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD:

On this day we celebrate Mary's faith and trust in God alone, and are reminded that we are called to imitate her faith. Since January 1 falls on a Saturday, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

The Feast of the Epiphany 2022:

This Sunday, the second one after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, the coming of the Magi – the wise men (or kings), who followed a star that led them to the Infant Jesus. Most of us have heard the story of these Magi many times, but we really know little about them.

We believe that they came from the East and journeyed to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we presume that they were astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts, but the Gospel doesn't actually say how many paid homage to Jesus.

We do know that the Magi set out for Bethlehem, that they eventually came to the place where Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were staying., and that they gave Jesus the gifts they brought for Him – gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We have come to consider these gifts as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. Gold was presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense was a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, was offered in anticipation of Jesus' death on the cross for the salvation of all humankind.

Because the Magi represented the entire known world at the time, they also represent our search for Jesus. As we celebrate the Epiphany, and the beginning of the New Year, we might take some time to:

- think about the ways that God is revealing himself in our own lives;
- open our eyes to the great epiphanies going on around us;
- journey to those places in life where God seems to be most present to us;
- allow ourselves to be transformed;
- and to willingly share our gifts, just as the Magi did, with others.

In the words of Pope Francis: "Like the Magi, may we also journey and be attentive, untiring and courageous on the path to find the invisible God who was born among us."

Adapted from: Sammut, Monique. My Catholic Kids. "The Epiphany: Come and Adore", January 5, 2019 and Paprocki, Joe. Loyola Press: Catechist's Journey. "Epiphany: God Does All the Work", January 6, 2017.

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



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: We will begin Children's Liturgy of the Word **NEXT SUNDAY, January 9** during the 9:00 am Mass. Children ages 4 and up will be invited to leave with an adult volunteer for the Liturgy of the Word. They will hear the Readings and their message in a way they can understand, and return to Church at the Offertory time. No pre-registration is required.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to be Children's Liturgy of the Word leaders. If you would be Interested in learning more about this program and/or joining our current CLOW Team and serving as a leader on an occasional basis in the future, please contact Jeanne Bitkers at jeanne@btsje.org or the parish office. Training will be provided.

Children's
Liturgy



The star...
came to
rest over
the place
where the
child was.

Matthew 2:9, ESV



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE GRADES 7 - 12:



As we continue to celebrate this Christmas season in our Church calendar, we begin our new year with two "awe-full" feast days! On January 1, we celebrate the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Of all the Marian feasts within our Church, this one is the greatest! There have been ecumenical councils (the Council of Ephesus in 431) that have spent years declaring that Mary is "theotokos" Greek for her being the "God-Bearer!" This emphasizes Mary's pivotal role in the Incarnation, salvation history and acknowledges her as a model of the Church! Then today, on January 2, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord! This recalls the story of the Magi following signs, the star, prophecies and a deep desire to find the newborn King to offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh! If the three kings were so wise, why didn't they bring gifts of diapers, clothes and food for baby Jesus? Their gifts reveal that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise and the real light to guide mankind out of the darkness of sin and separation. The gold represents that Jesus is the true King of Kings; the frankincense reveals that Jesus is the great high priest, with prayers rising to heaven like incense; and the myrrh predicts His death that will save us from our sin and give us the chance for eternal life with Him in His true Kingdom of heaven! After their encounter with Jesus, Mary and Joseph the three kings returned "home to their own country by a different way (Mt. 2:12)." Truly, this is what happens to every one of us when we encounter Jesus and His church. We are changed and are never the same and so this year, encounter Jesus in truth, goodness and beauty. He is yours for the askING!! See you at Mass.

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



CHOIR: Practice is on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Everybody is welcome to join in. No musical experience is necessary. We hope to "hear" you there!

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS: All 2021 contributions must be at the parish office by Friday, December 31. If you have any questions about your contributions, please contact the parish office.

FINANCIAL: DECEMBER 26:

Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$5,365.50.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING (to date): \$5,195.04



The Mission Society: Quilting activities will resume on January 4, 2022. Everyone is welcome.

Hope For A New Year

Gracious God,

As a new year begins, we place our trust in you.

May the time to come bring us closer to recognizing our need to love and cherish one another.

May those in power understand the importance of cultivating peace and bringing an end to war.

May those who struggle with disease, loss, poverty, and despair find light in the midst of their struggles and suffering.

And may we grow stronger in our desire to imitate the love and compassion of Jesus Christ, your Son, in whom our hopes abide.

Amen



HOLIDAY CONCERT SING-A-LONG

Sunday, January 9th at 12 Noon

Blessed Trinity Church
319 Giddings Avenue, Sheboygan Falls



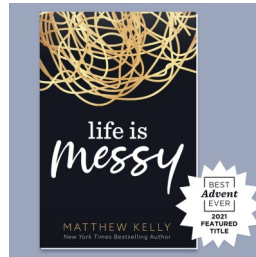
Featuring

- Music Ministry Choir
- Contemporary Choir
- Bell Choir
- Traditional Songs for ALL to Sing

REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW



LIFE IS MESSY:



An anonymous donor has graciously donated books again this Christmas. The book, *Life is Messy* by Matthew Kelly, is part of the Dynamic Catholic Series. Books were handed out during the Christmas Masses. They are now available on the table under the bulletin board in the Gathering Space for anyone who may have been out of town or missed them at Christmas. Please take only one per family.

FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL:

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



PARISH SOCIAL: There will be a Parish Social on **Sunday, January 9** immediately following the 9:00 am Mass. Please stop by for a sweet treat and coffee. The social is hosted by the Pastoral Council.



FOOD PANTRY: Please bring your non perishable food items to the multipurpose room by **Sunday, January 2**. Please do not bring any paper products including bathroom tissue, paper towels, and napkins or pasta and pasta sauce. Donations will be delivered to the Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry on **Monday, January 3 by 9:30 am** by Paul & Celeste Nugent and Matt & Jennifer Walton. Thank you to everyone who has donated and to all the people who have taken the donation this past year.



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 1st and 2nd 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

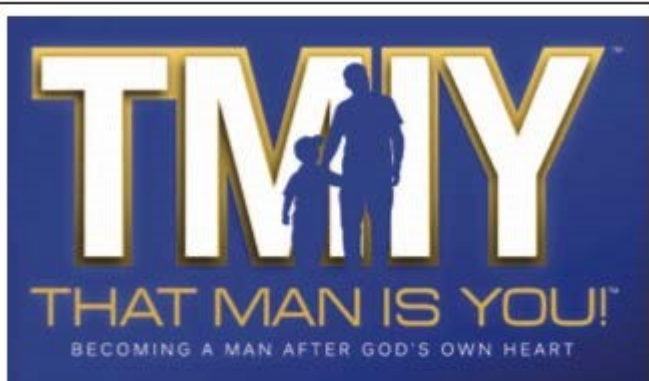
Trivia Player Ticket \$10/person

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.

WESTERN KENTUCKY TORNADO RELIEF APPEAL:



This is the last weekend we will be collecting donations for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro for those affected by the devastating tornado that destroyed property and lives in Western Kentucky. Please place your donations in the regular collection basket. If you are writing a check, please make it out to St. John's and put "Tornado Appeal" in the memo line. Our prayers go out to all those affected by these tornados. Thank you for your generosity.



CATHOLIC MEN'S PROGRAM 'THE FIGHT OF FAITH'

13 week Winter/Spring program
begins Saturday, January 22nd
@ Blessed Trinity CLC from 7- 8:30AM.
All men 18 and over are invited.

Program Information and Registrations are held after all masses BT/SJE on January 15/16.

The Fight of Faith equips and enables men to engage in the spiritual battle raging in our day.

contact Mark Weber 920-980-2112



All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2022 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship.

When: Sunday, January 9th
Register on site: 1:00-1:30 p.m.
Shooting competition will begin at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Seton Catholic School, 814 Superior Ave, in Sheboygan

Who: Boys and Girls Ages 9 to 14

The contest is **FREE** for all participants.

Free gifts and prize drawing to win a regulation-sized basketball

Participants will compete within their respective age groups for both boys and girls. Winners will advance to the district level.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age.

For additional information contact: Gary Reinholtz (920) 917-3676.



The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C International headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. More than 120,000 sharpshooters participate in over 3,600 local competitions.



FISH FRY: St. Peter Claver Parish, 1439 S 12th St, Sheboygan will serve lightly breaded fish on **Friday, January 7** in Van Treeck Hall, Lower Level from **4:30 to 7:00 pm**. Come and enjoy fish with fries or potato salad, coleslaw or applesauce. Also available grilled cheese sandwiches, grilled cheese and ham sandwiches, desserts and beverages. Carry outs available.

LET'S TALK: St. Anne Society's Wednesday morning coffee gatherings (Let's Talk!) will resume on January 5th. Please join us as we get together for casual conversations, coffee, and friendship in the Church Hall at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome!

2022 CALENDARS: Are now available on the table under the bulletin board in the gathering space. Please take as many as you need.

Dear Padre,

How is Twelfth Night related to Christmas?

Twelfth Night is another name for the Epiphany, which traditionally occurred on January 6, the twelfth day after Christmas. Since the 1980s, United States Catholics have celebrated the Epiphany on the first Sunday after January 1, which is why we're celebrating it today instead of Thursday.

Liturgical celebrations are distinguished as solemnities, feasts, and memorials according to their importance. The two greatest solemnities, Easter and Christmas, continue for an octave (eight days). Since the octave of Christmas runs from December 25 through January 1 (the solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God), it's not affected by the transfer of the Epiphany celebration.

Christmas is the great gift-giving day in the United States. In other cultures—for example, the Latino community—the anticipation and excitement of gift-giving is saved for Epiphany, the day the Magi brought their gifts to Jesus.

We often complain about how frenzied Christmas is—how much shopping, wrapping, and baking there is to do. But Christmas should be a time of worship and acknowledging the gift God gave us by sending his Son.

Epiphany, on the other hand, is made for celebration, gift-giving, going all out. Perhaps someday we can return to the traditions of Epiphany and restore Christmas as a day of rejoicing and worship.



A woman holds a figurine of the Christ Child during Mass on the feast of the Epiphany.

CNS/DAVID MERCADO, REUTERS

The Redemptorists

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

[The Lord] is our light: a light that does not dazzle but accompanies and bestows a unique joy. This light is for everyone, and it calls each one of us....At the beginning of each day we can welcome this invitation: arise, shine, and follow today—among the many shooting stars in the world—the bright star of Jesus!

ANGELUS ON EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017

Calendar

Monday

JANUARY 3

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 3:22—4:6

Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday

JANUARY 4

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Religious*

1 Jn 4:7–10

Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday

JANUARY 5

*St. John Neumann,
Bishop*

1 Jn 4:11–18

Mk 6:45–52

Thursday

JANUARY 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4

Lk 4:14–22a

Friday

JANUARY 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5–13

Lk 5:12–16

Saturday

JANUARY 8

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14–21

Jn 3:22–30

Sunday

JANUARY 9

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1–4, 6–7

or Is 40:1–5, 9–11

Acts 10:34–38

or Ti 2:11–14; 3:4–7

Lk 3:15–16, 21–22