

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



DECEMBER 4, 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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–Thursday 7:30 - 3:30 PM

Friday 7:30 - 11:30 am

601 Valley Road, Kohler WI 53044

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

Email.....stjohnnev@btsje.org

Website.....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

Emergency: 920-287-8235

E-Mail: frjonathon@btsje.org

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Gretchen Free 920-452-9623 ext. 201

Director of Liturgy & Music:

Zach Holzer E-Mail: zach@btsje.org

Directors of Religious Education:

Jeanne Birkers (Gr. 4K-6)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 220

E-Mail: jeanne@btsje.org

Teresa Bettag (Gr. 7-12)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 218

E-Mail: teresab@btsje.org

Co-Directors of Catholic Life Center:

John O'Dell E-Mail: john@btsje.org

Mary Waitkus E-Mail: 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:

Monday-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 DECEMBER 10/11

MASSES	Saturday, 5:30 pm	Sunday, 9:00 am
Lectors	Volunteer	Julia Rodemeier Colleen Kuhn
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion		Ken Udovich
Ushers	Bill Moffatt Kevin Smith	Rich Tauferner Peter Bustos
Sacristan	Connie Katchkey	Nick Cinquepalmi

*Prepare the way
for the
Lord,*

*make
straight
paths for him.*

Matthew 3:3

From Father Schmeckel:

Thursday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – and also a Holy Day of Obligation. Here are the times that Mass will be offered in our parishes:

Wednesday, December 7 – 5:15 PM – St John Evangelist

Thursday, December 8 – 6:45 AM – St John Evangelist

Thursday, December 8 – 6:30 PM – Blessed Trinity

If you're unable to make it to Mass at one of these times, I encourage you to check out www.masstimes.org or to visit the websites of the other parishes in our county.



On this feast day we do not celebrate the conception of Jesus, but the Immaculate Conception of Mary his mother. I encourage you to spend some time reading and praying the Preface of the Mass for the Immaculate Conception:

"For you preserved the most Blessed Virgin Mary from all stain of original sin, so that in her, endowed with the rich fullness of your grace, you might prepare a worthy Mother for your Son and signify the beginning of the Church, his Beautiful Bride without spot or wrinkle."

During the Mass, this Preface is said or sung immediately before we sing the "Holy, Holy, Holy..."

When you come to the Holyday Mass this week, listen carefully to these words. When we hear them and pray along, we thank God for saving Mary from the stain of original sin and giving her the rich fullness of God's grace. Unlike you and me, she did not endure the effects of the sin of Adam and Eve. God kept her from this so that when Jesus came into the world, she could be His noble and worthy Mother. This is good news for you and me because she plays her part in helping bring our Savior into the world.

Mary's Immaculate Conception also reminds us that Christ offers us salvation and the chance to enter into life with Him. He does this through the Sacraments – especially Baptism. As we celebrate this great Solemnity of our Lady's Immaculate Conception, let us thank God for the good things He has accomplished through Mary and remember that He desires to accomplish good things through us as well.

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception is also the patroness of the United States, so on this Holyday take a few minutes to give thanks and to pray for our nation, our leaders, and all who help to serve and govern us as well.

Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us!

Finally, a word about the archdiocesan capital campaign, **Love One Another**. At Blessed Trinity, you will notice that the upgrades to our church doors have already begun. By the time you read this, they might be near completion! This will be a great asset for us to open our doors more regularly and to keep our campus safe and secure. At Saint John, we will begin our participation in January 2023 as part of wave 3. Look in next week's bulletin for more detailed information. Thank you for your ongoing generous support of our parishes!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Will be offered at Blessed Trinity Parish on Saturday, December 10 at 3:00 pm and at St. John Evangelist Parish on Sunday, December 11 from 8:00 - 8:45 am.

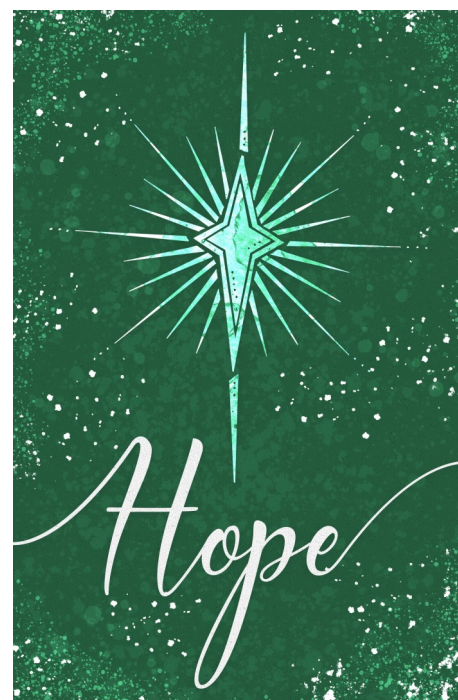
MASS INTENTIONS

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Saturday	December 3	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Brian McCall by Richard & Lorraine Schaap, †Larry Kissinger by Sabel Family
Saturday	December 3	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Andy Andersen Family by K & S Schmeling
Sunday	December 4	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	December 4	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Clara Weyker & Rosie Reiter by John & Lisa Reiter, †Paul Richter by Richard & Ken Schmeling
Tuesday	December 6	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Russell & Grace Furgeson by Donna Plageman
Tuesday	December 6	St. John's	5:15 pm	†LaVerne Mahloch
Wednesday	December 7	St. John's	7:00 am	†Fr. Louis Wilimek
Wednesday	December 7	St. John's	5:15 pm	†Joe Etchingham by Bob & Bette Kluge
Thursday	December 8	St. John's	6:45 am	Mass for Parishioners
Thursday	December 8	Blessed Trinity	6:30 pm	†Rosemary Eigenberger & Carol Ziegler by Paul & Jessica, †Lori Pribek & Brian McCall by Dick & Lorraine Schaap
Friday	December 9	St. John's	7:00 am	Special Intention for Hermine Grasse
Friday	December 9	Prairie Crossing	10:00 am	†Lorraine Erbstoesser
Saturday	December 10	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Jane Ornelas by Family, †Rodney & Lois Woveras by Family
Saturday	December 10	St. John's	5:30 pm	Living & Deceased Members of the LaRon Mischock Family
Sunday	December 11	St. John's	9:00 am	†Lydia Turba & Myron LaPean, †Bruecker & McGinnis Families by Bill McGinnis
Sunday	December 11	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, CHRISTMAS, & SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS TIMES

	DATE	St. John Evangelist Parish	Blessed Trinity Parish
Immaculate Conception	Tuesday Dec. 7	5:15 pm	
	Wednesday Dec. 8	6:45 am	6:30 pm
Christmas Eve (Vigil)	Saturday Dec. 24	4:00 pm 9:00 pm	4:00 pm
Christmas Day	Sunday, Dec. 25	9:00 am	10:30 am
New Year's Eve (Reg. Times)	Saturday, Dec. 31	5:30 pm	4:00 pm
Solemnity of Mary (Reg. Time)	Sunday, Jan. 1	9:00 am	10:30 am



EVENTS CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

9:00 - 10:30 am Mother's Group

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:30 - 11:00 am Mission Society
5:15 pm Advent Mass
5:30 pm Communication
Committee
6:30 - 8:00 pm Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00 am St. Anne Society
"Let's Walk"
10:00 am St. Anne Society
"Let's Talk"
Church Hall
5:15 pm Mass - Immaculate
Conception

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

6:45 am Mass-Immaculate
Conception
2:00 - 3:00 pm Bible Study

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00 - 8:45 am Reconciliation
9:00 am Mass
4:00 pm Village of Kohler
Caroling Walk

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: On **Thursday, December 8** in observance of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



"TREMENDOUS CELEBRATION":

The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center is having a "Treemendous Celebration". Tour two buildings at the facilities at 518 Water Street and 511 Adams Street in Sheboygan Falls (across the street from each other) to see beautifully decorated trees sponsored by local businesses and nonprofit organizations. **Blessed Trinity and St. John Evangelist Parishes sponsored a tree** and donated/made ornaments to decorate it. Look for ours and see all the trees on Tuesdays through Saturdays starting November 25 and ending December 30 from 4 pm to 9 pm. It is a free event!

Mary Waitkus, Co-Director of the Catholic Life Center

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CHARITY

CLUB: Catholic Women's Charity Club (CWCC) will meet on **Wednesday, December 7th** at 6:30 pm with Evening Prayer at St. Peter Claver Church in Sheboygan. At 7:00 pm, there will be entertainment by the Kohler High School Madrigal Singers, meeting, and a Christmas social in St. Peter Claver's Van Treeck Hall. Interested members are invited to attend. If you need transportation to/from the meeting please contact Virginia at 783-8249 or Mary at 467-9679. For more information about CWCC, please check out their web site at:



SALVATION ARMY'S "TOYS FOR TOTS":

The Salvation Army has dropped off a box for this year's "Toys for Tots" Drive. Please bring an unwrapped toy for any age child and place it in the box. All toys must be donated by Sunday, December 11 for pick up by the Salvation Army on Monday, December 12.

Saint Nicholas Feast Day - December 6:

Monday December 5th, is the eve of the feast day of Saint Nicholas. On this day, and in this area, it is customary for children to hang a stocking or place their shoes by a fireplace, windowsill, or bedroom door for Saint Nicholas to fill with small toys, fruit, chocolate, candy, books, and coins.



And, just who was St. Nicholas?.....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 studied hard, prayed often, and followed the example of Jesus by helping the poor.

Legends say that Bishop Nicholas would climb on a roof and toss a bag of gold down a needy family's chimney 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 exist even today.

Other stories are also told about Nicholas. It's said that God worked through Nicholas's prayers to cure children - some who had been injured in a fire and another child who nearly drowned. All of these stories tell us the same thing about St. Nicholas. He 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 receive in return for his help. 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.

Giving small gifts on the Eve of St. Nicholas and calling to mind the example of this Saint who lived long ago, can prepare us for Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Through the love, compassion, and generosity of Saint Nicholas children, and adults as well, can learn, or simply recall, 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



**ROCKY KNOLL HEALTH CARE CENTER
CHRISTMAS GIFT COLLECTION :** Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Rocky Knoll Small Christmas Gift collection. Your donation will help brighten the day of a resident.



Walking Route:

St. John Evangelist Catholic Parish
601 Valley Rd • (920) 452-9623

Grace United Church of Christ
500 School St (920) 452-6795

Bethany Lutheran Church
222 Church St (920) 457-4681

*Special thanks to Kohler Co. for
printing materials for the
2022 Caroling Walk.*



THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL KOHLER VILLAGE CAROLING WALK DECEMBER 11, 2022 4:00 P.M.

**CAROLING BEGINS
AT ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH,
THEN STOPS AT GRACE UCC, AND
FINISHES UP AT BETHANY LUTHERAN
CHURCH WHERE WE WILL ENJOY FELLOWSHIP
OVER REFRESHMENTS AND ENJOY THE
HEAVENLY SOUNDS OF THE KOHLER HIGH
SCHOOL MADRIGAL SINGERS*.**

All are welcome!

Angels of all ages are invited to wear "heavenly" angel apparel.

* Freewill offering graciously accepted by the Madrigal Singers

2022 COORDINATOR: GRACE UCC (920) 452-6795

GIVING TREE FOR MARY'S ROOM:

Please take a tag off of the tree or pick up a list of needed items for this year's Giving Tree for Mary's Room sponsored by the St. Anne's Society. They are in need of infant and toddler clothes including cold weather clothes as well as supplies such as diapers, especially newborn and 3,4, and 5 sizes. Please return your donation to the tree no later than **Wednesday, December 7**. Your donations will then be delivered to Mary's Room. Thank you for your generosity.

A Visit with St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas returns to Sheboygan! HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital warmly invites you to attend A Visit with St. Nicholas. This outdoor event embraces the traditional spirit of Christmas and celebrates the hospital's patron saint, who was a friend to all children.

**Monday, Dec. 5, 2022
5 to 7 p.m.**

HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital
3100 Superior Ave., Sheboygan
Outside, near the Chapel entrance

From 5 to 6:30 p.m., children (and kids-at-heart!) can meet St. Nicholas. Don't forget to bring your camera or phone to take photos. The first 200 children will receive a goodie bag.

At 6:30 p.m., we'll read The Christmas Story for all to hear. Enjoy velvety hot cocoa and delicious Christmas cookies while listening to songs of the season performed by Catholic North Youth Choir and St. Dominic's Adult Choir.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35
In the spirit of the season, while not required, **please bring a new pair of shoes to donate for a local charity.**

Michael Pellegrino and Toni Sarafin have been serving as the trustees of our parish. After some extensions of their terms of service due to COVID, it is now time to have an official election for the continuing administration of our parish. Father Schmeckel, as the parish administrator, will nominate one candidate for each position, with terms ending June 30, 2024. Other candidates may be nominated by a parishioner with ten signatures and submitted to Father Schmeckel by 12:00 noon on Friday, December 31. Nomination forms are available in the kiosk. Candidates must be Catholic and registered, practicing parishioners who are at least 25 years old; they will be required to present a recent credit report for the pastor to review. If an election is necessary, it will be held on the weekend of January 13 and 14.

Covenant daughter, raise your eyes and dance!

A retreat for girls ages 8-18!

Girls ages 8-18 - 10:00am-4pm
Ends with Saturday night Mass at 4

Please bring a packed lunch

Join us December 10th at Shepherd of the Hills Catholic Parish for a day of fellowship, prayer, discussion, testimonies and more! Together girls will get a chance to grow in their faith and become closer to Christ, through our Blessed Mother.

To register scan the barcode or use the link below

For more information, contact
Kayla Doll: sgyw.wi@schoenstatt.us

Where: Shepherd of the Hills Catholic Parish
W1562 Co Rd B, Eden, WI 53019

Cost: Free! Donations are appreciated

Link: <https://form.jotform.com/223068155932154>





FORMED: St. John Evangelist and Blessed Trinity Parishes have purchased a subscription to **Formed.org**. FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. FORMED is filled with content for all age groups and supports thousands of movies, children's programs, eBooks, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device.

To sign up with Formed enter the web address <https://formed.org/signup>

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "Sign Up as A Parishioner"
4. Find Blessed Trinity by parish name, address, or zip code
5. Enter your email - and you're in!

Any questions? Please contact the parish office at 920-452-9623 or stjohnnev@btsje.org.

Dear Padre,

Many LGBTQ+ youth are homeless, suicidal, or even murdered because of who they are. How can we support them?

Your desire to be compassionate is very much in keeping with the Church's teaching. In 1986, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, led by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now emeritus Pope Benedict XVI), issued a strongly worded call for civility and respect for homosexual persons. On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons emphasized, "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors wherever it occurs." The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* stresses that homosexual persons "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (CCC 2358).

"The Church actively asserts and promotes the intrinsic dignity of every person. As human persons, persons with a homosexual inclination have the same basic rights as all people, including the right to be treated with dignity," wrote the US Bishops in "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination" (2006). In terms of offering support, this document reads, "As baptized members of the Catholic community, persons with a homosexual inclination continue to look to the Church for a place where they may live in authentic human integrity and holiness of life. Being welcomed into and participating in their local faith community is the foundation of spiritual support that the Church offers to them. Full and active participation is encouraged. Participation in a worshipping Catholic community is a support for living a life of chastity and integrity and an encouragement to an ongoing personal conversion." ●

— **The Redemptorists**
DearPadre.org



VECTOR GODDESS / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Many people today are constantly using social media, but are not themselves very social: they are caught up in themselves, prisoners of the cell phone in their hand. What appears on the screen is not the reality of other persons: their eyes, their breath and their hands.

**ADDRESS IN A MEETING
WITH YOUNG PEOPLE,
ATHENS, DECEMBER 6, 2021**



MONDAY

December 5
Advent Weekday
Is 35:1-10
Lk 5:17-26

TUESDAY

December 6
Advent Weekday
Is 40:1-11
Mt 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY

December 7
*St. Ambrose,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church*
Is 40:25-31
Mt 11:28-30

THURSDAY

December 8
*The Immaculate
Conception of the
Blessed Virgin
Mary*
Gn 3:9-15, 20
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
Lk 1:26-38

FRIDAY

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 48:17-19
Mt 11:16-19

SATURDAY

December 10
Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

SUNDAY

December 11
*Third Sunday
of Advent*
Is 35:1-6a, 10
Jas 5:7-10
Mt 11:2-11

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.