

# WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



**DECEMBER 18, 2022 FOURTH 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](mailto: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](mailto:frjonathon@btsje.org)

**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 Birkers (Gr. 4K-6)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 220

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Teresa Bettag (Gr. 7-12)

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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 Taufferner 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

THEY SHALL  
NAME HIM  
EMMANUEL,  
WHICH MEANS,  
“GOD IS  
WITH US.”

MATTHEW 1:23



## From Father Schmeckel:

We have one more week of Advent to prepare for Christmas and the coming of Jesus. On the First Sunday of Advent, I proposed two questions in my homily: What is one habit the Lord is asking you to stop doing? What is one habit the Lord is asking you to start doing to grow in holiness and friendship with Him? This is to serve as a little reminder to think about those habits. Even if you have fallen behind or completely forgot, you can still begin again today to invite Jesus deeper into your heart and your life!



This week, **we will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in abundance.** Every day this week except Monday, confessions will be heard in one of our parishes – at a wide variety of times of day. I encourage you to make use of these opportunities to receive God's mercy, love, and grace. Even if you haven't murdered anyone or stolen anything, this sacrament gives us the grace to overcome even small or venial sins with Jesus' help. To that end, I would like to provide some of the "nuts and bolts" in case it has been a while since your last confession or if you are nervous about doing this:

1. Enter confessional.
  2. Father usual starts with the sign of the cross or "hello"
  3. Say, "Forgive me, Father, it's been (x days, months, years) since my last confession"
  4. Or, if it's been a while, say "It's been a while since my last confession." Father will help you.
  5. State your sins and things that you've done wrong.
  6. Father might ask a few questions to clarify and to give you a piece of advice or encouragement.
  7. Father will give you a penance (often, a prayer) to help make up for the things we've done wrong.
  8. Say the Act of Contrition (a copy will be available in all of our confessionals)
  9. Father will pray the Prayer of Absolution, "*I absolve you...*"
- He will then tell you to, "Go in peace, and sin no more".

If you are nervous about going to confession, it might be helpful to remember that **priests also get nervous about confession.** I often get nervous to go to confession because I know that I am a sinner in need of God's mercy; plus, as a priest, it's unlikely that the priest doesn't know me! But, I know, this sacrament helps me grow in holiness and is a very necessary part of my regular spiritual life.

I also get nervous to *hear* confessions. This might sound odd at first, however, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is an encounter with God Himself. He might use my voice, it is really God to whom we confess our sins. To be an instrument of that, to help people in their friendship with God is a grave and serious task in the life of a priest! So, don't be too nervous because **God is good and wants to invite you into a deeper friendship with Him!**

Come, Lord Jesus!



**FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST (DECEMBER 27):** The Feast of our Patron Saint, St. John the Evangelist is on December 27. To celebrate, there will be Mass at 5:15 pm with a procession. Following Mass, there will be hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn with socialization and a short movie for the children.

# MASS INTENTIONS

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Saturday	December 17	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Victor & Helen Kampmann & Ulrich Bartel by Family, †Sylvester & Eleanora Regan by Regan Family Trust
Saturday	December 17	St. John's	5:30 pm	†Richard Lorenz by Family
Sunday	December 18	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	December 18	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Nora Salata by Norbert & Adeline Haen, †Ralph & May Alice Schleicher by Sandy Jordan
Tuesday	December 20	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Brian Woveras by Family
Tuesday	December 20	St. John's	5:15 pm	†Ann Marie Pelosi by Pellegrino Family
Wednesday	December 21	St. John's	7:00 am	†Lois Oberbroeckling & Family by Mark & Teresa Bettag
Thursday	December 22	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Alfred & Rita Grusznski by Children
Thursday	December 22	Blessed Trinity	5:15 pm	†Tony Bonde by Ken & Ann Johnson
Friday	December 23	St. John's	7:00 am	†Joan Ribich by Hermine Grasse
Saturday	December 24	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Judy Kelley, Jamie Veldboom, & Staci Kelley by Kelley Family, †Lori Pribek by Mom & Dad
Saturday	December 24	St. John's	4:00 pm	†Juergen Pietzner by Family
Saturday	December 24	St. John's	9:00 pm	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	December 25	St. John's	9:00 am	†Frank Plesetz by Kathy & Family
Sunday	December 25	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Geri Widder by Len Widder, †Ronald & Veronica Gilles by Jim & Sandy Jordan

## LAY MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 24/25

MASSES	Saturday, 4:00 pm Christmas Eve	Saturday, 9:00 pm Christmas Eve	Sunday, 9:00 am Christmas Day
Lectors	Erin Meyer Colleen Kuhn	Susan Vavra Riley Holzrichter	Julia Rodemeier Steve O'Neil
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Rich Tauferner Rita Gast John Egan	Sue Neumeyer	Clyde or Sharon Kometer
Ushers	Jim Sarafin Tom Reilly Randy Romanoski	Tom Valicenti Volunteer	John Multer Peter Guske
Sacristan	Dave & Diane Hart	Connie Katchkey	Julia Rodemeier Steve O'Neil

**PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:** The Parish Office will be closed beginning at 11:30 am on **Thursday, December 22**. The office will also be closed on **Friday, December 24 and Monday, December 26** in observance of Christmas. The canopy doors will be unlocked from 7:30 am until 3:30 pm to access to the church for private prayer. If there is an emergency, please contact Fr. Schmeckel on his emergency phone at 920-287-8235. All emails and voicemails will be returned as soon as possible on Tuesday, December 27.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

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

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

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

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00 - 10:30 am Mother's Group  
Religious Ed. Wing

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

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

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

4:00 - 5:15 pm Religious Education  
4K - Grade 6  
6:45 - 8:00 pm Religious Education  
Grades 7 - 12

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

12:00 pm AA Meeting  
Church hall  
4:00 pm Mass  
9:00 pm Mass

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00 am Mass

### Y E A R E N D CONTRIBUTIONS:

All 2022 Contributions must be to the Parish Office no later than **Friday, December 30** to be counted in the 2022 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).



**ST. ANNE'S "LET'S TALK":** Will not meet on **Wednesday, December 21.**

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

### Tuesday, December 20:

Blessed Trinity 6:30 - 8:00 am  
9:30 - 10:00 am

### Wednesday December 21:

St. John's After 7:00 am Mass

### Thursday, December 22:

Blessed Trinity 3:00-5:00 pm

### Friday, December 23:

St. John's 6:00-6:45 am  
Blessed Trinity 6:00-8:00 pm

### Saturday, December 24:

St. John's 7:00-9:00 am

**\*No Confessions at 3:00 pm at St John\***

### Sunday, December 25:

**\*No Confessions at 8:00 am at St John\***

**THANK YOU!** The Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone at St. John Evangelist Parish who donated to the pantry in 2022. Your generous donations of food, as well as your monetary donations, have enabled us to continue helping those in the community who find themselves needing some assistance. Thank you, also, to the wonderful volunteers from your Church who faithfully helped us out at the pantry during the year. Thank you again for your donations, they are appreciated very much. Merry Christmas and Blessings in the New Year. ~Heidi O'Neill

**MISSION SOCIETY:** Will not meet on **Tuesday, December 27 and January 3.**

**BIBLE STUDY:** Will not meet on **Thursday, December 22.** Bible Study will resume on **Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 2:00 pm** in the lower level conference room.





4TH SUNDAY OF Advent

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE GRADES 7 - 12:** On this 4th Sunday of Advent, we hear Matthew's gospel story of "Joseph's Annunciation" where an angel spoke to him in a dream and told him to "not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Every Advent, God calls us to respond to the same promptings of this same Holy Spirit to confess our sins, so we can be saved. This past Wednesday, December 14 our Religious Education programs had the Sacrament of Reconciliation offered to all of our students so we could prepare and make room in our hearts for the coming baby Jesus to be born anew! Throughout this Advent season, we have heard the call of St. John the Baptist to repent; to hear again the trust and obedience of Mary and Joseph as they listen and accept God's will for their lives through the intercession of an angel and then the greater call of Jesus to humbly embrace His mercy. I know that these days are busy for everyone, but what, or who, is more important to focus on this coming Christmas than Jesus? I have my Ph.D. in Biochemistry and so I like pathways and reducing things to their lowest concentrate, so here is a good and simple reminder of what this season and our entire lives are truly all about....

What is at the center of Christmas? Christ. And who is Christ? Jesus. And who is Jesus? God. And who is God? Love, aka sacrifice (from 1John4:8). So, if you haven't gone already, before Advent is done, please find an opportunity receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus desires to dwell within us, will He find room in us? Like the angel's words to Mary and Joseph, be not afraid. See you at Mass.

~Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grades 7-12



### NATIVITY SCENES: Fr.

Bob Lotz's Nativity scenes from around the world will be on display after Masses at Blessed Trinity

Parish this weekend. Come to the CLC-Assembly and Meeting Rooms (across the parking lot from the church) on **Saturday December 17, 5:00-6:00 pm** and **Sunday December 18, 11:30 am-12:30 pm** and view over 100 different Nativity Scenes.

## OPEN GYM!

2PM TO 4PM

### December

- o 4th - SJB
- o 11th - CCA
- o 18th - St. Dominic

### February

- o 5th - SJB
- o 12th - CCA
- o 26th - St. Dominic

### January

- o 8th - SJB
- o 15th - CCA
- o 22nd - St. Dominic

### March

- o 5th - SJB
- o 19th - CCA
- o 26th - St. Dominic

### April

- o 2nd - SJB
- o 16th - CCA
- o 23rd - St. Dominic

ST. DOMINIC  
SHEBOYGAN

ST JOHN  
THE BAPTIST  
PLYMOUTH

CHRIST CHILD  
ACADEMY  
SHEBOYGAN

HOMESCHOOLERS WELCOME!



**Blessed Trinity Parish's Homemade Christmas Cookie Sale:** On Saturday, December 17 beginning at 9:00 am at Blessed Trinity's Front Entrance Gathering Area (319 Giddings Avenue, Sheboygan Falls). Just in time for Christmas! Purchase assorted Cookie Boxes for sale as well as a variety of plates. Cookies make a great gift for your family and friends.

# 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 2023



**COVID Update:** Masks are optional.  
Please do not attend if you are not feeling well.

## Priest, Prophet, King A Bishop Barron Program

Wednesdays starting January 18, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-Meeting Room

The better we understand Jesus, the better we understand ourselves. Through this presentation of *Priest, Prophet, King*, you will better understand Jesus, become more familiar with Scripture, and realize your own priestly, prophetic, and kingly mission.

- January 18 -Adoratio
- January 25 -The High Priest
- February 1 -Challenging False Worship
- February 8 -The Word Made Flesh
- February 15 -Ordering the Kingdom
- February 22 -King of Kings



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



## Health and Wellness Tuesdays

Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 am in the CLC-Meeting Room

- January 3 -**Card Making** with Liz Holtz. Make them for yourself or to give to Pine Haven.
- January 10 -**No class**
- January 17 -**Clearing the Clutter from Your Home** presented by Bill Horsch from Caring Transitions
- January 24 -**Hip and Knee Arthritis/Replacement** follow up on the November presentation by Patrick Riggle, DO from Prevea. **Register with Mary at 920-467-4616, Ext. 314 or [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) by Jan. 24 for a free lunch!**
- January 31 -**Birthday Bag Assembly Service Project**

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



## First Friday and Second Thursday Coffee

**Friday, January 6** after 7:00 am Mass at SJE Gathering Space  
**Thursday, January 12** after the 9:00 am Mass at BT in the CLC-Meeting Room

**Walk the Walk...** Our adult walking program is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 - 8:30 am in the old school gym on the 3rd floor at Blessed Trinity. Led by Diane Hart/SJE member. Any questions call the Catholic Life Center at 920-467-4616: Mary, Ext. 314 .



## Afternoon at the Movies

Featuring the film,  
*The Art of Racing in the Rain*

This emotional film is about positive life lessons taught through the relationship of a Formula One race car driver and his dog as they negotiate both the racetrack and life.

**Wednesday, January 11** from 1:30-3:30 pm in the CLC-Meeting Room

Starring  
 Amanda  
 Seyfried &  
 Voice of  
 Kevin  
 Costner



## Singles 55+ Group Forming

Are you over 55 and want to socialize with like-situated individuals? Think there aren't any here? Our first get-together will be January 28 after the 4:00 pm Mass. Watch the bulletin for details.

**Please contact Mary at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314 to sign up or for more details.**



## Two New Groups at St. John Evangelist Continue

**Mother's Group** - for activities, friendship and support. First and third Mondays from 9:30-10:30 am in a SJE Classroom.

**Bible Study** - Thursdays from 2:00-3:00 pm in the SJE Gathering Space.

**Please contact Mary at [maryw@btsje.org](mailto:maryw@btsje.org) or 920-467-4616, Ext. 314 for more details and**



## Enrich Your Sunday, January 22

After 9:00 am Mass, 10:15-11:00 am, St. John Evangelist's  
 Gathering Space

**Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist**  
**Episode 1: God is with Us**



Join us for part one of three of a wonderful program about the Eucharist at a convenient time after Mass, with light refreshments. We finish by 11:00 am in time for other Sunday plans.



# Dear Padre,

***My children, who go to Catholic school, refer to our Sunday celebration as the “Eucharist.” I grew up calling it the “Mass.” Why the difference?***

*Eucharist* comes from the Greek word *eucharistein*. This word simply means “to give thanks.” In the Eucharist we Catholics celebrate, we give thanks to God for giving us Jesus. We also give thanks to Jesus, who shares his Body and Blood with us. “Eucharist” was used to describe the early Church’s gathering, where the people repeated the stories of the Lord and shared the bread and wine, as the Lord commanded them to do.

The word *mass* comes from the Latin word *missa*, which means “the sending.” This refers to the words of dismissal at the end of Mass. The priest or deacon invites us to “go in peace to love and serve the Lord.” In the Latin Mass, this phrase is “*ite missa est*.” No one quite knows why the Eucharist came to be known as the “missa” or “mass.” Some think it is because of the way monastic prayers were conducted in the early Middle Ages. When the monks gathered for prayers, they often concluded with a short eucharistic celebration. These celebrations sometimes lasted only ten minutes or so, and as they marked the end of the whole set of prayers, they signaled the end of the service. This, it is suggested, is why the Eucharist came to be known as the “dismissal,” or the “Mass.” ●

— **The Redemptorists**  
**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
December 19	December 20	December 21	December 22	December 23	December 24	December 25
Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a	Is 7:10–14 Lk 1:26–38	Sg 2:8–14 Lk 1:39–45	1 Sm 1:24–28 Lk 1:46–56	Mal 3:1–4, 23–24 Lk 1:57–66	2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67–79	Is 52:7–10 Heb 1:1–6 Jn 1:1–18



CNS PHOTO/GUGLIELMO MANGIAPANE, REUTERS

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***Saint Joseph appears as a strong and courageous man, a working man, yet in his heart we see great tenderness, which is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength of spirit and a capacity for concern, for compassion, for genuine openness to others, for love.***

**HOMILY, MASS FOR BEGINNING OF  
PETRINE MINISTRY, MARCH 19, 2013**