

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



DECEMBER 25, 2022 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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: jonathon@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 Bickers (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

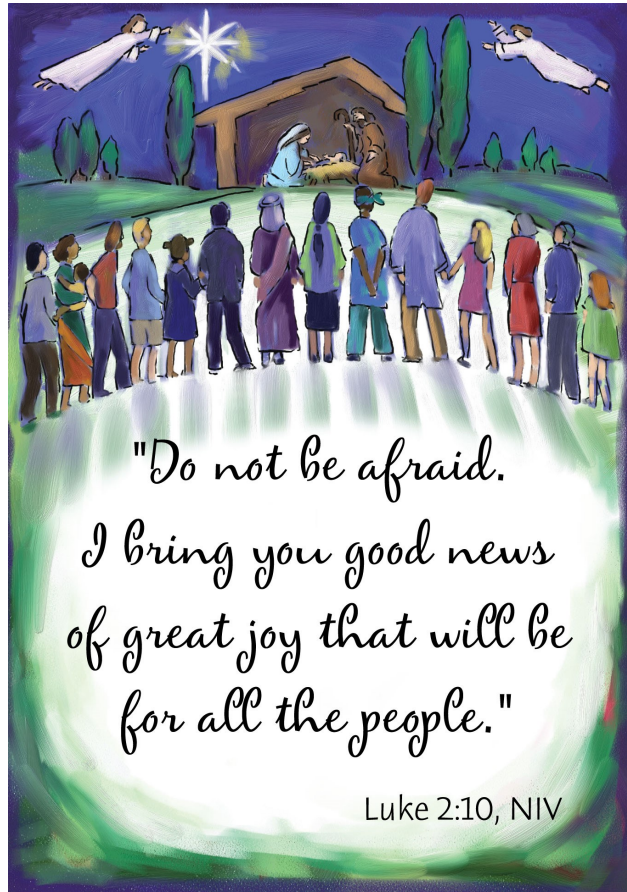
3rd, 4th & 5th Saturdays-3:00 pm-St. John Evangelist

LAY MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 31 & JANUARY 1

| MASSES | Saturday, 5:30 pm | Sunday, 9:00 am |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lectors | Angela Bustos | Steve O'Neil |
| Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | | Mel Free |
| Ushers | Randy Miller Bill Moffatt | Tom Reilly Jim Sarafin |
| Sacristan | Diane Torke | Diane Hart |

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF

GOD: Is celebrated on **Sunday, January 1**. Because it falls on a Sunday, the normal weekend Mass schedule will be followed.



"Do not be afraid.
 I bring you good news
 of great joy that will be
 for all the people."

Luke 2:10, NIV

From Father Schmeckel:

"Dearly beloved, today our Savior is born, let us rejoice. Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with promise of eternal happiness." – Saint Leo the Great
Merry Christmas to you and your family!



I hope that you all have a very blessed and joyful Christmas season. Even if there is sadness or fear in your life right now, I hope the birth of the baby Jesus "swallows up" your challenges and difficulties (to use Saint Leo's words from above) – even if it is just for a short time.

When you come to Mass or visit the Church during this joyful time, I invite you to look carefully at the nativity scenes in our churches. As we look at that image of the baby Jesus, it reminds us that Jesus became human and took on human flesh so that He could be close to us. He knows what it means to be tired and hungry, to be happy and laugh, and to eat and be merry! As we look at the images of Mary and Joseph, they remind us how much they loved baby Jesus – and also remind us to love Him with the similar warmth and affection. As we look at the images of the sheep, the donkey and the ox, they remind us of the goodness of the world around us. Maybe we feel like we are just a sheep or donkey, or ox, but even the barn animals can love Jesus and teach us to love Him, too!

Let's look at our nativity scenes in church, in our homes, or on our yards with great love for Jesus who loves us.

Christmas should remind you of how much God loves you, and so do I! It is such a joy and blessing for me to celebrate my first Christmas as your priest – and I am so grateful for the generosity and kindness you have all shown to me in so many ways! I pray for you every day!

Wherever you're from, whatever's going on in your life, I pray that this year's celebration of Jesus' birth brings you great peace, joy, and love!

One more thing: Tuesday, December 27 is the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist! It is also the St. John Evangelist Parish patronal feast. We will have a special Mass and a candlelit procession at 5:15 PM at Saint John Evangelist parish. Afterwards we will have hot cocoa, popcorn and a cookie exchange (bring some cookies to share/trade/enjoy) – and a short Christmas movie for children and others. All are invited. Let's celebrate this feast day together and keep the Christmas Spirit going!

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: The Parish Office will be closed on beginning at **11:30 am Thursday, December 22 and on Friday, December 23 and Monday December 26** in observance of Christmas. The Parish office will also be closed on **Monday, January 2, 2023** in observance of New Year's Day. 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

3

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|----------|---|
| Saturday | December 24 | Blessed Trinity | 4:00 pm | †Judy Kelley, Jamie Veldboom, & Stacy 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, †Roland & Veronica Gilles by Jim & Sandy Jordan |
| Tuesday | December 27 | Blessed Trinity | 9:00 am | †Bill Jens & Zach Mauer by Jens Family |
| Tuesday | December 27 | St. John's | 5:15 pm | Archbishop Jerome Listeki |
| Wednesday | December 28 | St. John's | 7:00 am | †Ted & Phyllis Biskup |
| Thursday | December 29 | Blessed Trinity | 9:00 am | †Bill Heimerl by Judy Heimerl |
| Friday | December 30 | St. John's | 7:00 am | †Fr. Louis Wilimek |
| Saturday | December 31 | Blessed Trinity | 4:00 pm | †Clarence, Josephine, & John Klopff by Ron & Marlene Krueger, †Gerhardt & Alice Krueger by Family |
| Saturday | December 31 | St. John's | 5:30 pm | †Juergen Pietzner by Debbie Noworatzky |
| Sunday | January 1 | St. John's | 9:00 am | Mass for Parishioners |
| Sunday | January 1 | Blessed Trinity | 10:30 am | †Rodney & Lois Woveras by Family, †Mark Briski by Family |

FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST (DECEMBER 27):



WHEN: Tuesday, December 27 5:15 pm Mass followed by a procession around the block (if you are unable to process, you are welcome to remain at church until the procession has returned) singing the Litany of Saints and assorted Hymns.

AFTER: Return to St. John Evangelist and enjoy cookies, popcorn and hot cocoa. There will also be a video for the kids to enjoy Veggie Tales "The Little Drummer Boy".

*** Please bring some Christmas cookies to share if you are able to do so.***



BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE: Norbert Haen passed away on Saturday, December 17. A funeral Mass will be held at St. John Evangelist Parish on **Wednesday, December 28** at 12:00 pm with visitation from 10:00 am until the time of Mass. Please keep Norbert and his family in your prayers.



Christmas
DAY

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Will be offered at Blessed Trinity Parish on Saturday, December 30 at 3:00 pm and on Sunday, December 31 from 8:00 - 8:45 am.

EVENTS CALENDAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:00 - 9:00 am Confessions
12:00 pm AA Meeting
Church hall

No Confessions at 3:00 pm

4:00 pm Mass
9:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

5:15 pm Mass - Feast of
St. John Evangelist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

12:00 pm Haen Funeral

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00 - 8:45 am Confession
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).



FINANCIAL:

DECEMBER 10/11: Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$12,814.00.

DECEMBER 17/18: Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$8,872.86.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES:

Will resume on **Wednesday, January 4 at 4:00 pm** for 4K - Grade 6 and **6:45 pm** for Grades 7-12.



**"LIFE WAS JUST OK...
I FOUND REAL JOY
IN JESUS."**



JOIN US AT MASS | ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE

Because of Christmas and the New Year Holiday Celebrations, please check the schedules below for next meeting information:

BIBLE STUDY: Will resume meeting on **Thursday, January 12 at 2:00 pm** in the lower level conference room.

MISSION SOCIETY: Will resume quilting on **Tuesday, January 3 at 8:30 am**. Everyone is welcome.

ST. ANNE'S SOCIETY: Will meet again on **Wednesday, January 4 at 10:00 am** in the church hall.

Sheboygan County Adult Faith Formation
invites you to

Young Adult Mass & Social

at Lakeland University
Plymouth, WI

Join other Sheboygan County young adults in their 20s and 30s for Mass followed by dinner and a pick-up volleyball game! Bring a side or dessert to share, and a friend! The main course and drinks will be provided.



Date:

Saturday, January 7, 2023

Time:

5:30 PM Mass
Social to follow

Location:

Ley Chapel
Lakeland University
W3718 South Drive
Plymouth, WI

Arrive onto campus on County Rd M. Cross the stone bridge and turn right and follow the road until it ends. The Chapel is on the left.

ARISE FAMILY ADORATION: Will be held **EVERY FIRST FRIDAY IN 2023** at 6:30 pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church (12700 W Howard Ave. New Berlin, WI). Encounter Christ as a family at Arise Family Adoration! This free, family-oriented night of worship will introduce your family to the teaching of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through prayer, music, and children's breakout sessions alongside adult prayer. Please see **ARISEMKE.ORG/FAMILY-ADORATION** for more information.

FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL:

The Catholic Life Center will host a First Friday Social after the 7:00 am Mass on Friday, **January 6, 2023**. Please stay for a donut and some coffee.



OPEN GYM!

2PM TO 4PM

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

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

February
o 5th - SJB
o 12th - CCA
o 26th - 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!

CLC Calendar

January 2023



- January 2 -Office Closed, Mother's Group is cancelled
- January 3 -Card Making with Liz Holtz, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR
- January 5 -Bible Study, 2:00-3:00 pm, SJE-LLCR
- January 6 -First Friday Coffee after 7:00 am Mass, SJE Gathering Space
- January 7 -Young Adult Mass with Social afterwards, 5:30 pm, Lakeland University
- January 9 -Adult Card Party, 1:00-4:00 pm, CLC-MR
- January 11 -Movie Matinee, *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, 1:30-4:00 pm, CLC-MR
- January 12 -Second Thursday Coffee after 9:00 am Mass, CLC-MR
- January 12 -Bible Study, 2:00-3:00 pm, SJE-LLCR
- January 16 -Mother's Group, 9:00-10:30 am, SJE classroom
- January 17 -**Clearing the Clutter from your Home**, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR
- January 18 -**Priest, Prophet, King**, by Bishop Barron, Part 1, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR
- January 19 -Bible Study, 2:00-3:00 pm, SJE-LLCR
- January 19 -Adult Card Social, 6:30-9:00 pm, CLC-MR
- January 22 -**Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist**, 10:15-11:00 am, SJE Gathering Space
- January 23 -Adult Card Party, 1:00-4:00 pm, CLC-MR
- January 24 -**Arthritis/Joint Replacement Presentation** by Patrick Riggle, DO (Prevea), 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR, **Registration by January 24** for a free lunch
- January 25 -**Priest, Prophet, King**, by Bishop Barron, Part 2, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR
- January 26 -Bible Study, 2:00-3:00 pm, SJE-LLCR
- January 28 -Singles Group for 55+ Social after 4 pm Mass, **please register** with the CLC and bring an hors d'oeuvre to share, CLC MR/AR
- January 31 -Service Project: Birthday Bag Assembly, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR

Save the Dates!

- **February 1, 8, 15, 22-**Priest, Prophet, King** by Bishop Barron, **Parts 3-6**, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR
- **February 8 -**Movie Matinee**, *Bells of St. Mary's*, 1:30-4:00 pm, CLC-MR
- **February 10-**Acrylic Painting** with Natalie, 6:00-8:00 pm, SJE-Room TBD
- **February 28-**Alzheimer's Disease** presentation by ADRC, 10:00-11:00 am, CLC-MR/AR
- **February/March-**Walking with Purpose**, Woman's Bible Studies at SJE, watch for more details
- **March 21, 28-**Two-part Lenten Series** by Fr. Bob Lotz, in the evening, watch for more details
- **April 1 -**Passion Play Matinee** Bus Trip to Xavier High School, watch for registration form in early January

CLC-MR, CLC-AR, and CLC-PMR refer to the Catholic Life Center Meeting Room, Assembly Room, and Parish Meeting Room in our facility adjacent to Blessed Trinity Church. CLCG refers to the Catholic Life Center Former School Gym. SJE-LLCR refers to the St. John Evangelist's Lower Level Conference Room.





CHRISTMAS 2022

*“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.” Matthew 1:23*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

From a fresh Christmas tree to the familiar nativity creche passed down through generations, Christmas is filled with traditions – especially here in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. There is so much to see and experience from Las Posadas celebrations honoring our Hispanic culture, beautiful nativity pageants featuring students of all ages from our amazing Catholic schools, Christmas Midnight Mass at our home parishes, and of course, Christmas Day surrounded by loved ones as we celebrate the true reason for the season.

I can’t help but be amazed at all there is available to us within this great archdiocese, both during the Advent season and year-round. It is truly apparent that GOD IS HERE – are you listening to His call?

As we near the New Year, I invite you to take some time to reflect on your relationship with Jesus and look for tangible ways to cultivate your relationship with Him. Ask yourself, is my prayer life consistent? Do I attend Mass regularly? Do I receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation often? Do people see the face of Jesus through me? Whatever your answer may be, I invite you to seek new ways to strengthen your relationship with Him. We’ve dedicated a section of the archdiocese website at www.archmil.org/ComeToMe to providing a multitude of resources to help you grow in this important journey of faith.

I am blessed beyond belief to be your shepherd. May God grant you all the blessings of faith, family, and friends during this blessed season and into the new year!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki

Archbishop of Milwaukee

Dear Padre,

I haven't been to Mass in a long time, but lately I feel drawn to come again. Can you help me better understand the Mass?

Welcome home! To learn more about the Mass, you might consider participating in your parish's program for those who are thinking about joining the Catholic Church. Meanwhile, we can offer five principles that form the foundation for what happens at Mass.

Participation rather than passive attendance: Mass is a time of prayerful activity—listening intently, praying fervently, reflecting quietly, singing and worshipping joyfully.

Gratitude for God's mercy as we acknowledge our sinfulness: There are several occasions during Mass when we are called to acknowledge that we sin, but also that mercy and forgiveness are offered freely to all who acknowledge their imperfections and sinful behavior.

Word and sacrament: The liturgy comprises the Liturgy of the Word (penitential act, Scripture readings, homily, and prayers of the faithful) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (presentation of gifts, eucharistic prayer, and Communion rite). Both are important.

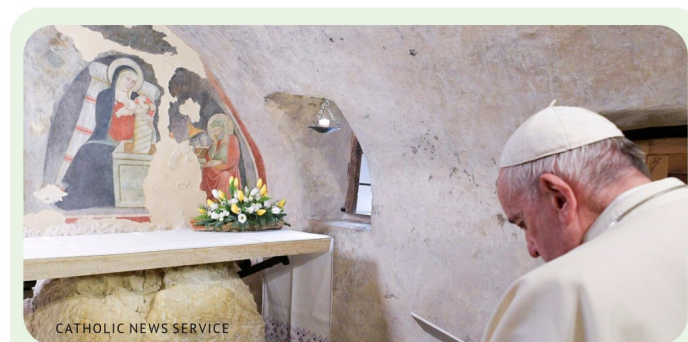
Christ's Real Presence: Under the forms of bread and wine (the Eucharist), the Real Presence of Christ retains a prominent place in the Mass. Christ is also present—in different ways—in the words of Scripture, in the presence of the priest, and in the assembly gathered in his name.

A celebration of family and community: Jesus fostered a sense of family among his disciples. Parish liturgies should be a time when young and old, rich and poor, families and single people join together to experience unity in Christ Jesus. ●



SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The great mystery of our faith is shown in this simple sign of the Nativity scene....God loves us to the point of sharing our humanity and our lives. He never leaves us alone; he accompanies us with his hidden, but not invisible, presence. In all circumstances, in joy as in pain, he is the Emmanuel, God-with-us.

HOMILY, SHRINE OF GRECCIO, RIETE, ITALY, DECEMBER 1, 2019

MONDAY

December 26
*St. Stephen,
First Martyr*
Acts 6:8–10;
7:54–59
Mt 10:17–22

TUESDAY

December 27
*St. John,
Apostle and
Evangelist*
1 Jn 1:1–4
Jn 20:1a, 2–8

WEDNESDAY

December 28
*Holy Innocents,
Martyrs*
1 Jn 1:5–2:2
Mt 2:13–18

THURSDAY

December 29
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 2:3–11
Lk 2:22–35

FRIDAY

December 30
*Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and
Joseph*
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 or
Col 3:12–21 or
Col 3:12–17
Mt 2:13–15, 19–23

SATURDAY

December 31
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 2:18–21
Jn 1:1–18

SUNDAY

January 1, 2023
*Blessed Virgin Mary,
the Mother of God*
Nm 6:22–27
Gal 4:4–7
Lk 2:16–21

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.