

Saint John the Baptist CATHOLIC CHURCH

201 W. Blodgett St., Marshfield, WI 54449-2004 | stjohnsmarshfield.org

Mission Statement:

Our mission at St. John the Baptist Parish is to prepare people for the coming of the fullness of God's Kingdom by sharing the Catholic Faith and its tradition.

Parish Personnel

Fr. Dan Thelen, Pastor	715-384-3252 ext. 2
Fr. Daniel Williams, Associate Pastor	715-384-3252 ext. 3
Deacon Jeffrey Austin, Permanent Deacon .	
Mary Gouin, Parish Secretary	715-384-3252 ext. O
Monica Trussoni, Finance Office	715-384-3252 ext. 4
David Alcott, Director of Faith Formation	715-384-3252 ext. 6
St. John School Office	
David Eaton, CCS President	
Mass Times	715-384-3252 ext. 1

Masses

Weekdays 7 a.m. Saturdays 8 a.m. / 4: 30 p.m. 7 a.m. / 9 a.m. / 11 a.m. Sundays

HEARING LOOP INSTALLED Switch



Sacrament of Marriage Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of Baptism

Expectant parents are to participate in the Baptism preparation program. Contact the parish office for details.

Sacrament of Penance

First & Third Fridays	6:00 p.m.
Saturdays	Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Those preparing for serious surgery are to contact the Rectory Office at 715-384-3252.

Parish Membership

Call the Rectory Office at 715-384-3252

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Nemilz 11:00am Rita Glab / OPEN

MUSIC MINISTER

4:30pm	Cathy Heuer			
7:00am	Cathy Heuer			
9:00am	Mary Frey			
11:00am	Mary Frey			

Weekday Mass Servers

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Monday -	David Gouin	Thursday	David Schlinsog
Tuesday -	Dan Alsides	Friday -	Mike Spencer
Wednesday	Lenny Kieliszewski	Saturday Kolb	e & Dominic Landwehr

"In the first place, it should be known, that if a person is seeking God, His Beloved is seeking him much more."

St. John of the Cross ~ Feast day - December 14

STEWARDSHIP - December 3 rd & 4 th	
Adult / Youth / Plate	\$19,161.67
Parish Improvement	629.00
Total	\$19,790.67

Any donations you wish to have included on your December **2022 statement** must be dated no later than December 29th 2022 and into the parish office by Friday, December 29th as it gives the finance office plenty of time to get it to the bank. Thank you!



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH-12:30pm - 6:30PM

There will be four confessionals continually available with twelve priests assisting throughout the afternoon.

Confessions will be available at 6pm on Friday, December 16th and at noon starting Monday, December 19th through Friday, December 23rd. Confessions are also heard after the 8:00am Mass on Saturday mornings.

Christmas Mass times Saturday, December 24^{th -} 4pm / 6pm / 8pm Sunday, December 25th - 7am / 9am / 11am



Sign-up sheets for Mass servers, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors are in the Sacristy. Please sign up soon!

Prayer Vine To have requests for prayer placed on the vine, please call Connie Manlick 715-305-6742 and Donna 715-384-2479

Church Cleaning: Thursday, December 22nd, beginning at 5:15pm. Bring your own gloves if desired. All other cleaning supplies are provided. Your time (about 1.5 hours) is greatly appreciated. Please contact Dorothy at 715-387-8224 if interested in helping.

The PCCW Christmas party is this Sunday, December 11th at 12pm in the Columbia Room. There will be a catered luncheon and a brief business meeting after which sweepstakes winners will be drawn with Bingo to follow. All women of the parish are invited to come and enjoy an afternoon of fun!

Ministry schedules for lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Adult and Youth servers are ready to be picked up. All schedules are in the sacristy. Please pick your schedule up as soon as possible.

Frassati Young Adult Group: There will be a gathering for all young adults on Tuesday, December 13th, at 6:30pm. Please join us for a Christmas potluck (see the group email for the link to the sign up sheet) and a white elephant gift exchange! We will meet in St. Francis Hall in St. John's school. If you would like to be added to the email list to receive updates about our monthly meetings and other events, please email marshfieldfrassatiyoungadults@gmail.com. Newcomers are always welcome!

Calendars - 2023: The parish calendars are available and may be picked up when you come to church. We thank Rembs Funeral Home for donating the calendars this year.

2022 GIVING TREE

The St. John the Baptist Social Justice Committee would like to thank everyone for their generous response to the Giving Tree fund. Christmas is a blessed time to think of others and that certainly shows here at St. John's. Many will be helped by your generosity now and throughout the year.



We are also grateful for the very generous response in all that has been given for the Chalice of Mercy collection and for all of those

who helped package it up! God Bless your Christmas!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

There is a British sitcom called 'Keeping up Appearances'. You may be familiar with it when re-runs appear on TV. The comedy follows the life of a middle-age woman named Hyacinth, who perennially tries to cover up the commonness of her extended family's background through rather outlandish attempts to gain standing with those she considers upper class. Perhaps her character can best be summed up by her last name 'Bucket', which she forever tries to tell everyone is pronounced 'bouquet'.

Occasionally I stumble across this comedy and I am always reminded of how similar the exaggerated personality of Hyacinth is reflected in each of our own personas. Are we not always trying to 'Keep up Appearances'? Is this not exhausting?

Advent can be a time for us to 'take off the mask'. We do this first and foremost by encountering the Love of God. God loves us just as we are. He loves us despite our failures, our brokenness and even our sin. God simply loves. We just need to let him love us – and then the power of his love enters within us. When we know we are loved by God, we then know who we are and we are at peace.

God's love acts first. His grace always acts first. From here we can take the second step of 'taking off the mask'. Repentance and conversion. When we feel God's love, we are moved to deep contrition and deep conversion. The sacrament of Confession is like a mega-power of grace. When we receive the Sacrament of Confession with a deep contrition of our sins and a profound belief in the power of God to forgive our sins, we are set free.

This second step is always fruitful; however, it is most fruitful when we enter Confession with a deep awareness of our own poverty. Read Isaiah Chapter 35 to better understand our poverty and the power of God's healing. God is our Savior. He heals in a way beyond description: "the lame leap like a stag, the tongue of the mute will sing."

To be touched by God in a profound way we must first know that we are loved by God, and secondly while knowing our complete poverty we must experience the mercy of his forgiveness through the repentance of our sins. In this we encounter the God who is beyond description. The God who comes as both infant and as Savior, as the gentle shepherd and as the crucified one. "Because of him kings shall stand speechless." So great is his majesty. (Is 52:15)

My prayers are with you as we continue through this holy season of Advent in expectant delight for the coming of Our Savior Jesus Christ. Blessings to each of you this holy season.

May St. John the Baptist pray for us.

Fr. Thelen

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Our sympathy to the family of: Angeline Scherr



May the Soul of Angeline and the Souls of all the Faithful Departed, through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace. **Natural Family Planning**: "The underlying reason why young adults, engaged couples, and married couples should know Natural Family Planning is that this method teaches them that the body, as God made it, is the expression of the person." (Richard M. Hogan and John M. LeVoir, Covenant of Love: Pope John Paul II on Sexuality, Marriage, and Family in the Modern World, 1985, p. 59)

An in-person 3-part SymptoPro Natural Family Planning course will be offered in the Marshfield Deanery at St. John the Baptist Marshfield from 1:00pm-4:00pm Sunday, Jan. 22, Feb. 5, and Feb. 19. Cost is \$100. If you have taken this course in the past and have the <u>Couple's Guide to Fertility</u> book, the fee will be waived. Contact Christy Kitzhaber at <u>kitzhaber@symptopro.org</u> or 715-486-5733 for registration information.

Retirement Religious Fund: Support aging religious by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps pay for medications, nursing care and other needs for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous Envelopes for this cause are in the December packets for those receiving tithing envelopes. Envelopes can also be found in the Special Envelope boxes found in the vestibule of the church.

Attention engaged couples: Registration is now open for the *Married Love: two becoming one* classes. Next available dates are: Feb. 11, 2023 and April 15, 2023. Couples should first contact their priest and then plan to attend a class at least six months before their wedding. For questions or to register, contact Alanna Hart at <u>hart_alanna@yahoo.com</u> or 715-650-7310.

Eucharistic Revival: The dioceses of the United States of America have embarked on a three-year time of grace called "Eucharistic Revival." It is an occasion for us to restore our understanding, celebration and love of Jesus in the Eucharist. This focus on the Eucharist will begin with Advent Reflections. The recordings will be 40 minutes and discussion questions will be provided. The Advent Series is available here: <u>diolc.org/catechesis</u> 3rd week: Offering ourselves with Jesus to the Father with Msgr. Richard Gilles. Here is the link to the video: youtu.be/mmsAR9emZTU • 4th week: "Source and Summit" of the Church's Life with Father Steven Weller.

Knights of Columbus Council 1799 has brought back the Men's Night. Every month on the 3rd Monday. It is held at the Rembs Celebration Center, doors open at 5PM and dinner is served from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Cost is \$12 per person, carry-outs are available. You DO NOT need to be a KC member to enjoy an evening out with your friends. We ask that you let us know before the event if you and/or your friends are coming, that way we make sure to have enough food prepared for everyone. Please call Dan Spencer at 715 -305-0398 to register.

Special Church Envelopes: For those using ACH for your tithing or for visitors, Christmas flower envelopes and Christmas envelopes can be found in the special envelope boxes in the vestibule of the church.

Gift Card Program: With the holidays fast approaching, we remind you that when you purchase gift cards through Columbus a per centage comes back to St. John's. It is another way to tithe. There are many places to choose from. For details, check with the Gift Card Coordinator at 715-387-1177 or giftcard@columbusdons.org.



