



# Saint John the Baptist

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

201 W. Blodgett St., Marshfield, WI 54449-2004 | [stjohnsmarshfield.org](http://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. Arturo Viguera, Associate Pastor .....715-384-3252 ext. 3  
 Deacon Jeffrey Austin, Permanent Deacon .....715-676-3186  
 Mary Gouin, Parish Secretary .....715-384-3252 ext. 0  
 Monica Trussoni, Finance Office .....715-384-3252 ext. 4  
 David Alcott, Director of Faith Formation .....715-384-3252 ext. 6  
 St. John School Office .....715-384-4989  
 David Eaton, CCS President .....715-387-1177  
 Mass Times.....715-384-3252 ext. 1

### *Masses*

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

HEARING LOOP INSTALLED



### *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*

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

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Sun 12/24/2023**

4pm Clarence & Mabel Schreindl  
6pm Parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church  
8pm Henry & Doris Gadke

**MON 12/25/2023** The Nativity of the Lord

**7:00am** Army Staff Sgt Joseph J. Altmann **9:00am** Jack Lang

**TUES 12/26/2023** St. Stephen, First Martyr

7:00am Donald Bentzler  
Scripture Readings: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22

**WED 12/27/2023** St. John, Apostle, Evangelist

7:00am Charles Hastreiter  
Scripture Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**THUR 12/28/2023** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

7:00am William Krainz  
Scripture Readings: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Mt 2:13-18

**FRI 12/29/2023** Fifth Day of the Octave of the Nativity

7:00am Margaret Kraus  
Scripture Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Lk 2:22-35

**SAT 12/30/2023** Sixth Day of the Octave of the Nativity

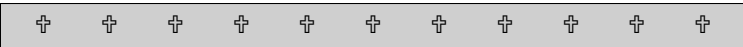
8:00am Jack Wallace  
Scripture Readings: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Lk 2:36-40

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

4:30pm Sylvester & Dorothy Gessert

**SUN 12/31/2023**

7:00am Richard Hansen  
9:00am Oscar & Frances Weigel  
11:00am Parishioners of St. John the Baptist  
Scripture Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21  
Lk 2:22-40



**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**LECTORS**

4:00pm Monte & Patti Willkom 7:00am Judy Garfield  
6:00pm Laurel Rudolph-Kniech 9:00am Maureen Karaliunas  
8:00pm John Salzmann

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

4:00pm Deacon Austin /Tom & Susan Youngwith / Linda Lewer  
6:00pm Joe & Clare Fischer / Dan & Dorothy Flees  
8:00pm Mike Clubb / Argelia Moya / Jeff Sternberg  
7:00am Connie Manlick / Dale Garfield  
9:00am Nancy Immerfall / Rita Blenker

**SERVERS**

4:00pm Luke Kaiser / Lily & Neil Adler / **Open**  
6:00pm Isaac Scheer / Zach Zerrudo / Maverick & Dakota Hannasch  
8:00pm Luke & Grace Clubb / Kolbe & Dominic Landwehr  
7:00am Paige Schlagenhaft / **Open / Open**  
9:00am Olivia Burt / **Open / Open / Open**

**MUSIC MINISTER**

4:00pm Kris Herr / Adult Choir  
6:00pm Ashley Nikolai / Karen Isaacson  
8:00pm Cathy Heuer  
7:00am Cathy Heuer  
9:00am Cathy Heuer

**Weekday Mass Servers - December 25<sup>th</sup> - December 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday** - Christmas Day **Thursday** Lee Alt  
**Tuesday** - Ray Housworth **Friday** - Mike Spencer  
**Wednesday** Lenny Kieliszewski **Saturday** Kolbe & Dominic Landwehr

**Prayer Vine ~ Do you or someone you know need prayers?**  
To have requests for prayer placed on the vine, please call Connie 715-305-6742 and Donna 715-384-2479 (there are 2 lists).



Christmas Masses at St. John's

**Christmas Eve Masses**

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
4:00pm, 6:00pm and 8:00pm

**Christmas Day Masses**

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
7:00am and 9:00am

**Christmas Mass Schedule - Catholics are to attend Mass twice next weekend**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent this year falls on the same Sunday as Christmas Eve. Two obligations means two Masses. Catholics are to attend Mass twice for these two occasions—once for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (either on the evening of Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> or during any Mass on December 24<sup>th</sup>), and once for Christmas (either on the evening of December 24<sup>th</sup> or during the day on December 25<sup>th</sup>).

The parish staff wishes everyone a blessed Christmas! The parish office will be closed on Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. Office hours for the days of December 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> will be 9am - 3:00pm. Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> the office will be closed.



**Marriage Banns (II)**

Cassandra Gripenrog & Theodore Conley January 6, 2024

**Next Bible Study... Psalms: School of Prayer**

by Jeff Cavins, Sarah Christmyer and Tim Gray.

**Start date:** Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024.  
**Time:** 8:15-10:30am. - 11 sessions.

Learn to read, pray and appreciate the Psalms for what they are: the prayer of the Church.

**No registrations accepted after Sunday, Jan 7, 2024!!**

Call Judy at 715-305-2261 to register!

**Our religious women and men offer gratitude.** A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org). **Thanks to the generosity of many from St. John's a total of \$3520.00 has been collected to date!**

**STEWARDSHIP - December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**

Adult / Youth / Plate - \$18,531.00  
Parish Improvement - 287.00  
Total \$18,818.18

ACH for December \$14,125.00

Total to date for December \$74,937.23

QR Code Scan to Donate



Thank you for your contributions to St. John's!

**Any donations you wish to have included on your December 2023 statement must be dated no later than December 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 and into the parish office by Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup> as it gives the finance office plenty of time to get it to the bank. Thank you!**

**Diocesan Annual Appeal - 2023-2024**

Campaign Goal \$133,350.00  
Pledged & Received 56.69% \$77,167.00  
Under Goal \$59,450.86  
Number of Donors 270

These numbers reflect the report as of December 18, 2023.

When filling our your pledge cards, please write checks out to *Diocese of La Crosse*. Thank you!



**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear Parishioners: This weekend we celebrate Christmas. As Catholics this celebration is not just a one-day event. The season of Christmas extends all the way to the Baptism of Our Lord on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January. The first eight days of this Christmas season, the Octave of Christmas, is treated within the liturgy with as much solemnity as the day of Christmas. As we pass through these many days of the Christmas season, we should focus deeply upon preparing our hearts for Jesus and inviting Him into our lives.

For most people, Christmas preparation meant buying gifts and preparing food. The most important preparation, however, is the preparation of the soul. When Jesus came into the world, there was no fancy banquet. He came into the world in simplicity. He revealed himself to the humble shepherds, to the faithful wiseman, and to the saintly Mary and Joseph. Have you prepared your soul for the coming of Jesus? Are you faithfully saying your prayers? Are you practicing virtue, charity and following the commandments? Have you gone to Confession? Are you attending Mass?

St. John the Baptist shows us an ideal way to prepare our hearts for Jesus. St. John the Baptist prepared the world for the coming of Jesus by announcing the coming of the Lord. To do this he proclaimed Jesus to others. If we love Jesus, we should do the same. During your days are you talking about Jesus? Are you sharing Jesus with others? I am going to make a bold challenge. Is it possible for you to speak about Jesus in 50 percent of your conversations? Could this be a goal of yours? Do you think it is possible? Or is this a ridiculous thing to consider?

There are hundreds of ways to do this. This could be as simple as praising the Lord by saying Thanks be to God. You could comment on the weather and give thanks to God for such a good day. Many cultures include expressions about God in their greetings and their farewells. There are many ways to share about Jesus. If you love Jesus, this will happen naturally. Do not force it. Love Jesus, love the person in front of you, and words about Jesus will naturally arise in your conversation. It becomes as common as breathing. When we speak about Jesus, we receive Life. The Holy Spirit fills us and we rejoice in the Lord. Make it your goal. Be like John the Baptist and speak about Jesus. Rejoice always in the Lord. Praise him always!

May St. John the Baptist pray for us and our parish.

Fr. Thelen



**Come Let Us Adore Jesus, Christ the King!** Hours available are: Thursdays from 4-5am and Saturdays 2-3pm at JP II Adoration Chapel. Please call Deacon Ray 715-207-6085 or Jean at 715-387-0571 for more information or if you would like to adore, God Bless!

**LIVING STATIONS**

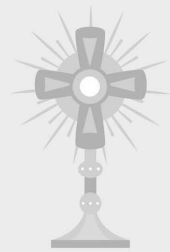
We are asking our high school students to step out in faith in helping us experience the actions taken by Jesus during his walk to Calvary. This is our third year of the living stations and we have had many who said they were touched by the performances. There are no lines to memorize, only being willing to walk with Jesus. We meet as a team and practice our parts. The performances will be during Lent 2024. Please consider being a part of this so we can be open to what God can do through us. Please contact Dave Alcott at [dalcott@mff.diocparish.org](mailto:dalcott@mff.diocparish.org) or (715) 384-3252 ext. 6 by Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.



O COME  
LET US  
ADORE  
HIM

*Friday, December 29th from 6-7pm*

All parish families, of all ages,  
are invited for an hour of  
**Family Adoration,**  
**Confession,** and  
**Live Praise Music**  
during the Christmas octave.



*Encounter Jesus  
in the Eucharist.  
He waits for you!*

**A Minute with Jesus during the  
National Eucharistic Revival**  
**Jesus wants to stay with us  
always.**

Jesus loves each one of us so much that He gives Himself to us in Holy Communion at Mass. We receive Jesus Himself. When the priest prays the words of Jesus over the bread and wine at Mass, they are no longer bread and wine but the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus gives Himself to us because He wants to stay with each one of us always.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

*Jesus, thank You for always wanting to stay with us.*

This week, read from Scripture about the birth of the Christ Child in Luke 2:1-7



**"the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will be held on June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. This event kicks off the first day that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La**

**Crosse. "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will begin with a Eucharistic Procession across the Cameron Street Bridge in La Crosse. It will end at the La Crosse Center where the rest of the rally will take place. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilibagize, and Josh Rosa, music from Luke Spehar, and plenty of vendors. The cost for this event is only \$15 per person. This rally is for middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. Tickets will go on sale December 15, 2023. You can find more information about the event by visiting <https://dioc.org/the-answer> For such an important event, it would be amazing if every parish brought a bus full of parishioners.**

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