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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
dthelen@diolclergy.org	
Fr. Arturo Vigueras, 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.

Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass Saturdays

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

MON 2/26/2024

7:00am Jack Gerend

Lk 6:36-38 Scripture Readings: Dn 9:4b-10

TUES 2/27/2024 St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot, Doctor of the Church

7:00am David Kundinger

Scripture Readings: Is 1:10, 16-20 Mt 23:1-12

WED 2/28/2024

7:00am Eugene & Wanda Hamus

8:00am Joan Schirger

Scripture Readings: Jer 18:18-20 Mt 20:17-28

THUR 2/29/2024

7:00am Joyce Lindner

Scripture Readings: Jer 17:5-10 Lk 16:19-31

FRI 3/1/2024

7:00am Lynette Barrett

Scripture Readings: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a,17b-28a Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

SAT 3/2/2024

8:00am Lawrence & Marian Van De Loo Scripture Readings: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Third Sunday of Lent

4:30pm Sylvester & Dorothy Gessert

SUN 3/3/2024

7:00am Parishioners of St. John the Baptist

9:00am Jack Lang

11:00am Dale & Todd Kopf

1:30pm Martha Konopa Gilmeister

Scripture Readings: Ex 20:1-17

1 Cor 1:22-25

Jn 2:13-25



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

March 2nd - March 3rd, 2024

LECTORS

4:30pm Kathy Doebereiner

7:00am Caren Alsides

9:00am Maureen Karaliunas

11:00am John Salzmann

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

4:30pm Mike Gonering / Becky Kaiser / Kay Kmiec / Joan Raschke

7:00am Dan Alsides / Barb Barrett

9:00am Jill Hiller / Nancy Immerfall Maureen Karaliunas

Ron & Patty Kraus / Ann Kundinger

11:00am John & Lori Salzmann / Audrey Ably / Michael Clubb

SERVERS

4:30pm Abigail, Sullivan & Eliza Schuld

7:00am Ava & Gianna Rootellis

9:00am Isaac Scheer / Christina & Jonathan Nemitz

11:00am Luke & Grace Clubb

MUSIC MINISTER

4:30pm Cathy Heuer

7:00am **Open**

9:00am Kris Herr / Adult Choir

11:00am Suzanne Golden

Weekday Mass Servers - February 26th - March 2nd

Thursday Monday -David Gouin Lee Alt

Tuesday -Friday - Dennis Spencer Saturday Kolbe & Dominic Landwehr Ray Housworth Wednesday Lenny Kieliszewski

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).

STEWARDSHIP for February 17th / 18th

Adult / Youth / Plate -\$12.077.11 Parish Improvement -201.00 Spanish Mass 324.75 Total \$12,602,86

Total to Date for February \$44,062.37



QR Code Scan to Donate

Diocesan Annual Appeal - 2023-2024

Campaign Goal \$133,350.00 Pledged & Received 77.15% \$102,875.50

Under Goal \$33,193.58

Number of Donors 342

These numbers reflect the report as of February 20, 2024.

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

Our parish of St. John the Baptist is looking for a person to fill our bookkeeping position. Monica Trussoni is retiring after many good years of helping in this position. Hours are typically about 15 hours per week and are flexible. Skills needed include: bookkeeping, payroll, use of a computer, organizational aptitude, attention to detail. Monica is willing to train and assist as needed. If interested please contact Fr Thelen or the parish at 715-384-3252, ext. 2

Your input is requested! With the ongoing Synod on Synodality, the Church values your feedback regarding how Church structures and organization further or hinder the Church's mission and how such structures can help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel. Please take some time to offer consultation using an online questionnaire at https://forms.office.com/r/ SVPGxJChAv Consultation must be received by March 20, 2024. Thank you for your participation.

An in-person 3-part SymptoPro Natural Family Planning course will be offered in the Marshfield Deanery at St. John the Baptist Marshfield from 10:15am-11:45am on Sunday, Feb. 25, Mar. 10, and Mar. 24, 2024. The cost is \$100. If you have taken this course in the past and have the Couple's Guide to Fertility book, the fee will be waived. Contact Christy Kitzhaber at kitzhaber@symptopro.org or 715-486-5733 for registration information.



Drawings, paintings, construction paper crafts, and coloring sheets are all gladly accepted. No school worksheets, please. Bring your donations to one of the boxes around church by March 18th



A bus will be reserved for this rally if we finswer have at least 30 people signed up! A sign-up sheet can be found in the entryway. Once we have a number

verified, the parish will buy tickets and those can be purchased for \$15.00 in the office. An additional \$5.00 will be added and put toward the cost of the bus.

"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 day will include Mass. Adoration, Confession and powerful speakers.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners: For the Bulletin column during this Lenten season, I will focus on the four last things: Death, Judgment, Hell, and Heaven. Death is a tough subject to bring up. None of us wants to think of our own mortality; nevertheless, a healthy balanced outlook upon the future reality of our death assists us in living correctly and justly.

The Letter of Hebrews states, "It is appointed for men to die once, then comes judgment". (Heb 9:27) These sobering words from Scripture help us to combat the secular heresies of the day. In the relativism of today's materialistic environment, few contemplate their own mortality and even fewer consider the effects that their moral choices have upon the eternal destiny of their soul. In today's culture, it is all too easy to go down the broad road that Jesus warned us about (Matt 7:13) that leads to destruction!

Death, by definition, is the temporary separation of the soul from the body. The physical body dies, but the soul endures. At the general judgement the body will partake in the resurrection and rejoin the soul, whether in heaven for eternal glory or in Hell for eternal shame. This is the fundamental truth of our future destiny. Its reality should be a guiding principle in our day-to-day decisions and our moral choices.

St. Robert Bellarmine noted in 1619, in his excellent book, *The Art of Dying Well*, that "It is a most dangerous thing to deter till death our conversion: far more happy are they who begin to carry the yoke of the Lord 'from their youth." When we are young we think we will live forever. The popular acronym from my youth: YOLO, (you only live once) summed this up well. St. Robert Bellarmine, however, says that to live a good life involves a dying to self: "That we may live well, it is necessary, in the first place, that we die to the world before we die in the body. We cannot in any way begin to live for God, unless we first die to the world."

The great Patron Saint of Priests St. Jean-Marie Vianney expressed a similar thought: "To die well we must live well." This involves letting Christ work within us. This is assisted by making frequent examinations of conscience, even if just briefly during the day or before retiring at night.

The great saints never took their salvation for granted but rather followed St. Paul's admonition to work out their salvation with "fear and trembling" (Phil 2:12). This doesn't mean adopting a cringing, servile attitude towards God, but rather one of great respect and awe for Him as both our Creator and partner in our salvation. The reality of our death should not devolve into scrupulosity but rather rest on a great trust in God's overwhelming mercy. The fundamental truth of our existence is that God loves us. Our Lord teaches us through St. Faustina, 'Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of My hands are crowned with mercy.'

In considering this subject, it is most important to remember that prayers to our Blessed Mother (such as the Rosary) and to St. Joseph (the patron of a happy death) are so very important as well!

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



Encounter Jesus in the Eucharist. He waits for you!

We need God's help to believe The Eucharist is beyond our

ability to grasp fully. The Eucharist is a mystery, which means we would not know this is

Jesus' Body and Blood without the Lord specifically saying these words to us in Scripture. We can understand this mystery to an extent, but not fully because this mystery is of God, Who is infinite.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, please open my heart to believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

This week, read how St. Paul speaks of this mystery of the Eucharist in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.



We welcome these children through the Living Waters of Baptism:



Theodore Lars Tollefson son of Erik & Brionna Tollefson Baptized February 25, 2024

> Kevin Cyril Raphael Kisitu son of Emmanuel Kisitu & Lydia Mbatidde Baptized February 25, 2024

Columbus Catholic Schools Corner: The Casa Hogar Mission Team is looking for donations of old, soft-sided, light weight luggage. Luggage will be used to fly donations to Casa Hogar Peru this summer. It will not be returned but will be donated to local Peruvians. Donations can be dropped off at the Our Lady of Peace Intermediate School main office. Contact Senora Kennedy for more information.



CONFESSIONS DURING LENT

Every Friday beginning at 6:00pm
Every Saturday morning after the 8:00am Mass

Holy Week Confessions 12:00pm—1:00pm Monday, March 25th , Wednesday, March 27th and Thursday, March 28th

DEANERY WIDE CONFESSIONS AT OUR LADY OF PEACE Sunday, March 24th 1:00 - 5:00pm

No Confessions on Tuesday, March 26th as our Priests will be at the Chrism Mass.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross will be offered on the following dates and times:

2:00pm for the students of St. John's (anyone is welcome to join)
February 28th / March 6th
March 13th / March 27th.

Fridays at 5:15pm (followed by Confessions)

March 1st/ March 8th March 15th/ March 22nd

March 1st Servers: Jeremiah & Fulton Prusinski

Living Stations of the Cross will be presented on Wednesday, March 6th at 5:30pm and again on Wednesday, March 13th at 6:00pm. You are invited to come and watch our students in these powerful performances.





Edward Jones

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"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Matt 11:28

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