



# 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
dthelen@diolclergy.org	
Hispanic Ministries .....	715-384-3252 ext. 3
Deacon Jeffrey Austin, Permanent Deacon .....	715-676-3186
Mary Gouin, Parish Secretary .....	715-384-3252 ext. 0
Lisa Freund, Finance Office .....	715-384-3252 ext. 4
David Alcott, Director of Faith Formation .....	715-384-3252 ext. 5
St. John School Office .....	715-384-4989
David Eaton, CCS President .....	715-387-1177
Mass Times.....	715-384-3252 ext. 1

### *Masses*

Weekdays	6:45 a.m.
Saturdays	8 a.m. / 4:30 p.m.
Sundays	7 a.m. / 9 a.m. / 11 a.m.

HEARING LOOP INSTALLED  
Switch  
hearing aid  
to T-coil

### *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*

Monday - Thursdays	6:15 a.m.
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****MON 12/22/2025**6:45am Jean Joseph  
Scripture Readings: 1 Sm 1:24-28

Lk 1:46-56

**TUES 12/23/2025** St. John of Kanty, Priest6:45am Peter Franckowiak  
Scripture Readings: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24

Lk 1:57-66

**WED 12/24/2025**6:45am Harold & Dorothy Faust  
Scripture Readings: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
4:00pm Parishioners of St. John the Baptist  
6:00pm Patrick Imhoff  
8:00pm Henry & Doris Gadke

Lk 1:67-79

**THUR 12/25/2025 The Nativity of the Lord**

7:00am Staff Sergeant Joseph J. Altmann

9:00am Jack Lang

Scripture Readings: Is 52:7-10

Heb 1:1-6

Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

**FRI 12/26/2025** St. Stephen, The First Martyr**No 6:45am Mass at St. John's**

Scripture Readings: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59

Mt 10:17-22

**SAT 12/27/2025** St. John, Apostle, Evangelist

8:00am Elaine Fehrenbach

Scripture Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4

Jn 20:1a, 2-8

4:30pm Harold &amp; Sylvia Reigel

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph****SUN 12/28/2025**

7:00am Charles Hastreiter

9:00am Parishioners of St. John the Baptist

11:00am John &amp; Joyce Zinthefer

Scripture Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14

Col 3:12-21

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**December 27<sup>th</sup> & December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**LECTORS**4:30pm Bryan Pischel  
7:00am Connie Manlick  
9:00am Lonny Roberts  
11:00am Gayle Specht**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**4:30pm Tom & Susan Youngwith / Lois Carlson / Marty Draxler  
7:00am Ray & Pam Housworth / Melissa Pittsley  
9:00am Lonny Roberts / David Schliensog / Rita Blenker  
Dan & Dorothy Flees / Jill Hiller  
11:00am Michael Clubb / Linda Degenhardt / Argelia Moya /  
Danielle Rummells**SERVERS**4:30pm Abigail, Sullivan, Eliza & Olivia Schuld  
7:00am Paige Schlagenhaft / Joseph & Madeline Niehaus  
9:00am Phinehas & Benjamin Prusinski  
11:00am Emmett Luther / Savannah Rummells / Gwendolyn Clubb**MUSIC MINISTER**4:30pm Suzanne Golden 9:00am Kris Herr / Adult Choir  
7:00am Megan Schirger 11:00am Cathy Heuer**Weekday Mass Servers - December 22<sup>nd</sup> - December 27<sup>th</sup>**Monday - Glenn Linzmeier  
Tuesday - Marty Draxler  
Wednesday - Lenny KThursday Christmas Day  
Friday No Mass  
Saturday Kolbe & Dominic

Confessions are heard at St. John's on the third Friday of the month and at Sacred Heart on the first Friday beginning at 6:00pm. Two priests are available at this time. Confessions are also available at 6:15am Monday - Thursday and on Saturdays after the 8am Mass.



Merry Christmas to everyone from the staff of St. John the Baptist!  
The parish office will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>.

**STEWARSHIP for December 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>**

Adult / Youth / Plate	\$22,364.85
Parish Improvement	450.00
Total	\$22,814.85
ACH for December	\$14,712.00
Total to date	\$57,013.02



Any donations you wish to have included on your December 2025 statement must be dated no later than December 28, 2025 and into the parish office by Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> to allow ample amount of time for the finance office to process/deposit into the bank. Thank you!

**Diocesan Annual Appeal - 2025-2026**

We will give weekly updates on our progress. As of 12/16/2025:

Campaign Goal	\$131,020.00
Amount Received	71.27% \$93,381.32
Under Goal	\$37,638.68
Number of Donors	259

We are making amazing progress!  
Thank you to all who have contributed so far!

**COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES**

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> -

12:30pm - 5:00pm

Take this opportunity to prepare your heart for Christmas.

Area priests will be available during these hours.

**Christmas Masses at St. John's****Christmas Eve Masses**Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
4:00pm, 6:00pm and 8:00pm**Christmas Day Masses**Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
7:00am and 9:00am

Our Lady of Peace will have a 4:00pm on Christmas Eve and a Midnight Mass.

Sacred Heart will have an 9:00am Christmas morning Mass. Christ the King, Spencer will have a 4:00pm and 10:00pm on Christmas Eve and a 10:00am on Christmas day.

Those assisting at Mass, please check in on the sign-up sheet in the Sacristy.

The next Holy Day of obligation is the Solemnity of the of Mary into heaven. The Mass schedule is:

St. John: January 1<sup>st</sup>

8:00am / Noon / 6:00pm

Ministers of Holy Communion, lectors, and Mass servers are needed. The sign-up sheet is in the sacristy. Please volunteer as soon as possible.

**Masses at area Churches:**December 31<sup>st</sup> Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus at 5:30pmJanuary 1<sup>st</sup> Our Lady of Peace at 9:00am

Christ the King, Spencer, at 8:00am and 6:00pm

## FROM OUR BISHOP

### The One thing necessary...

My dear people,

In the Office of Readings, part of the Liturgy of the Hours in the Breviary of the Church, in the readings assigned for the day, I came across a line from St. Anselm that has captured my heart.

St. Anselm writes: *I seek your face; your face, Lord, I desire.* One can hear the echo of Jesus' words to anxious Martha in St. Anselm's prayer: Mary has chosen the better part (cf. Luke 10:42); she chose to sit at the Master's feet and gaze upon his face. Truly, this is the one thing necessary, to gaze on him who lies in a manger, to behold him who is lifted up and is revealed truly the Son of God. (cf. Matthew 27:54) to gaze on him who was pierced to contemplate the one thing necessary and in this to be changed. St. Paul expresses this beautifully when he writes to the Church of Corinth: *All of us, gazing on the Lord's glory with unveiled faces, are being transformed from glory to glory into his very image by the Lord who is Spirit.* (2 Corinthians 3:18)

The one thing necessary is the Lord and we so often limit our transformation in Christ because our gaze is too often on ourselves or on the fierce waves which lapped St. Peter as he left the boat. (cf. Matthew 14:28) These are roiled times and the enemy of Christ would have us distrustful and suspicious of one another, of the pope, our bishops and priests, our neighbors. We fail to submit to the gaze of the Lord allowing him to make us holy, obedient and wise, because we fear losing control, fear allowing God to be Our Savior, allowing and trusting that with him all things are possible and without him we can do nothing of lasting value. (cf. John 15:5) If we truly believe that Jesus is the Christ, that he is Lord, then we will have little difficulty in trusting him and his Church, confident that his words truly are words of everlasting life. (cf. John 6:68)

The one thing necessary for this Diocese of La Crosse, for her bishop and priests, her clergy and religious, her people, is to make time on a daily basis, a weekly basis, to spend time with the Master and gaze on him, allowing him to gaze upon us that we, you and I, may become transformed in his Holy Spirit. We must cultivate in our hearts an ache for Jesus, fearing not our weaknesses or sinfulness but running to him in confidence born of intimacy knowing that we will receive timely aid. (cf. James 1:56) I hear much advice given to the pope on the blogosphere, I receive much counsel as well, the advice I treasure is the advice offered as the fruit of prayer, of the change of heart which comes from being conformed to Christ, of the humility of those who choose the better part. We are each myopic in our own way, we must imitate the humility of St. Joseph and Our Lady, who knew as St. Anselm did, that each of us knows but a part and was made in order to see him and have not yet done that for which I was made.

Peace,

+Bishop Battersby



Congratulations to

Jordan & Laura Wolf  
On the celebration of their Marriage  
December 20, 2025



## Dear St. John the Baptist Parish Family:

Greetings from snowy and cold St. Patrick's parish in Mauston, Wisconsin. I want to begin by first expressing how much I miss all of you at St. John's. Please know that you are in my prayers as you move forward in this current situation. I want you all to know that I am settling in at St. Patrick's. It has been a bit overwhelming so far; but I am still alive and joyful. The people here are very nice and I have a fantastic staff who are helping me to learn the ropes. It is a good thing that we don't base assignment decisions on the first week. My first full day started at 2:30am and continued with me spilling apple juice on my phone. Then later that morning my computer was not working at all. However, it is amazing what a staff lunch will do because when I came back in the afternoon it worked fine. Thanks to God and the Holy Spirit I believe we are moving forward with the needed healing.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the wonderful cards, gifts, and wishes for my 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, for my move here to St. Patrick's, Thanksgiving, and yes even a Christmas card or two has arrived. I really appreciate your thinking of me during this time of year. I wish I had time to write each of you individually, but life is just way too crazy here in Mauston. Please know of my tremendous gratitude for your thoughtfulness. My prayers also go with you. A blessed and merry Christmas to all of you; may God bless you and please be assured of my prayers.

Please don't work Fr. Thelen and Deacon Austin or the rest of the staff too hard. St. John the Baptist and St. Patrick pray for us. Fr. Mlsna  
Parochial Administrator St. Patrick's Parish Mauston, Wisconsin

## Advent Lessons and Carols



### The Deanery Festival of Advent / Christmas Lessons & Carols

The third annual Deanery Festival of Advent - Christmas Lessons & Carols will be presented on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6pm at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church.

This hour long celebration is structured somewhat like the Easter Vigil's Liturgy of the Word.

## Save the Date:

Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

6:00pm

Columbia Room

St. John the Baptist School



Join Father Thelen in a prayerful reading of the first chapter of the Gospel of John. Father Thelen will draw upon the Latin vulgate to explain the meaning of each verse.

We will encounter rich texts of our faith that will prepare our hearts for Christmas, the incarnation of our Lord.

OCIA Are you—or is someone you know—seeking a deeper relationship with God or interested in becoming Catholic? The Marshfield Deanery will offer OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) beginning in the New Year. This journey in faith includes 10 Sunday morning sessions from January 18<sup>th</sup> to March 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Palm Sunday retreat on March 29<sup>th</sup>, and the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil on April 4<sup>th</sup>, followed by four classes from April 12<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>. All are welcome! Contact JaNae at 715-384-9414 to sign up.



## Living Stations of the Cross - for High School students

This is our 5<sup>th</sup> year of high school area students presenting the Living Stations of the Cross. We are looking for students willing to share their faith in this powerful ministry. Practices would be held once a week during January and February with the performance in March. There are no speaking parts. If you are interested in being a part of the Living Stations of the Cross, please submit your contact information to the parish office. Thank you!

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