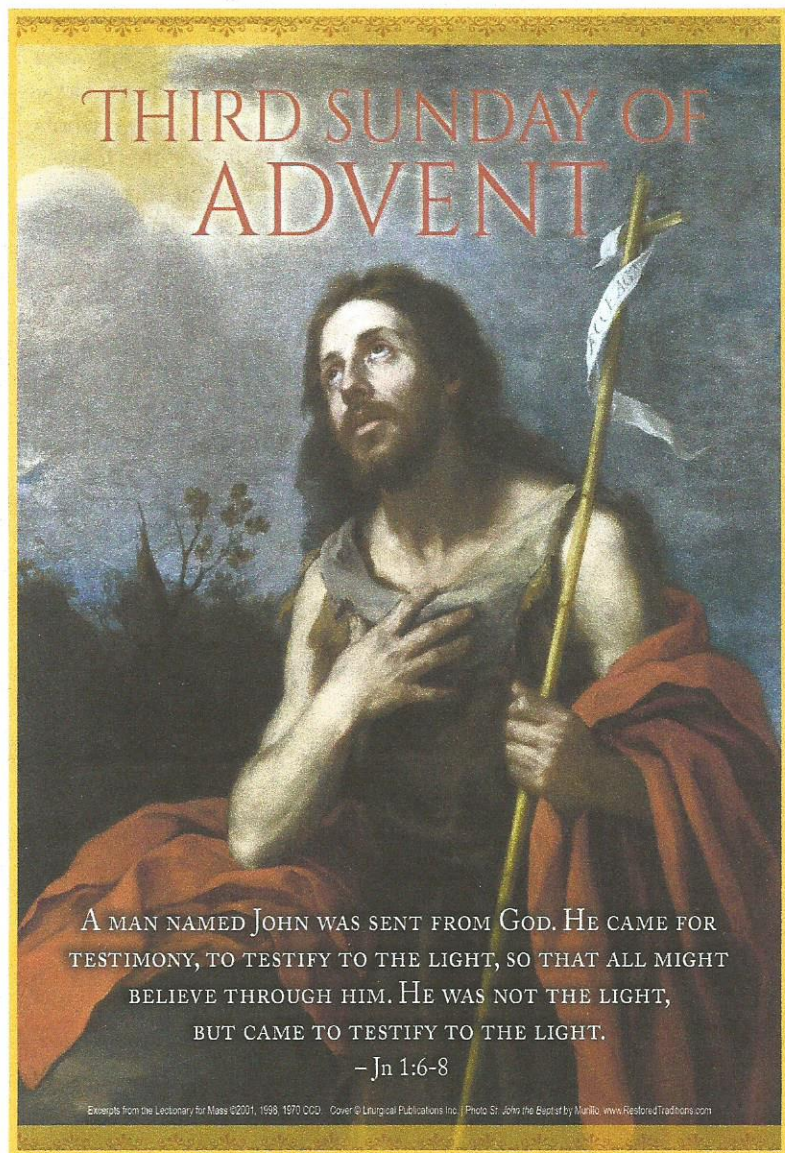


ST. JOSEPH AND ST. JOHN NEPOMUK CATHOLIC CHURCHES

RACINE, WISCONSIN • DECEMBER 17, 2017



PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Steven K. Varghese, SAC, Pastor
Leslie Gain, Administrative Assistant - SJN
Dan O'Connell, Director of Faith Formation - SH, SJN and SJ
Benjamin Horvat, Director of Music and Liturgy - SJN and SJ
David Kirkpatrick, Accompanist/Organist - SJN
Emily Knippel, St. Joseph School Principal
Michael Reth, Business Manager - SJ
Deanne Koleske, Parish Secretary - SJ
Jeanmarie Diehn, St. Joseph School Secretary
Mary Lee Odders, Bulletin Editor - SJ
Russ Blaha, Maintenance - SJ
Thomas Quiroz and Amilia Fletcher, Maintenance - SJN

MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. - SJN
Wednesday and Friday, 8 a.m. - SJ
Saturday Communion Service, 8 a.m. - SJ
Saturday Mass of Anticipation, 4 p.m. - SJN
Saturday Mass of Anticipation, 5:15 p.m. - SJ
Sunday, 8:30 a.m. - SJ
9:45 a.m. - SJN

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Anytime by appointment or Saturday, 3-3:45 p.m. - SJN

TRUSTEES

Dan Peterson - SJN John Gates - SJ
Suzanne Yde - SJN Pete Koleske - SJ

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Brian O'Connell, Chair

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. John Nepomuk Church; 1903 Green Street; Racine, WI

Office/Mailing: 700 English Street; Racine, WI 53402-4799

Office business hours: Monday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 a.m.-noon; Friday, closed

Office phone: 262-634-5647 and fax: 262-634-1436

e-mail: stjohnnepomuk@wi.rr.com

St. Joseph Church; 1533 Erie Street; Racine, WI

Office/Mailing: 1532 N. Wisconsin Street; Racine, WI 53402-4805

Office business hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Office phone: 262-633-8284 and fax: 262-633-8285

e-mail: info@st-joes.org website: st-joes.org

Preschool: 262-633-0112

School Office: 1525 Erie Street; Racine, WI 53402-4830

School Office phone: 262-633-2403 and fax: 262-633-4423

website: st-joes-school.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

Registration and calendar: triparish.psrenroll.com

Dan O'Connell: 630-965-9142 or oconnelld@archmil.org

To report a Religious Education class absence, please call

Dan O'Connell at 630-965-9142.

LEGACY GIFT

Please remember St. Joseph Church or St. John Nepomuk Church in your estate planning. Thank you.



Join us on Facebook at St. Joseph Parish Racine to access archived bulletins and more.


**MASS INTENTIONS
FOR THE WEEK**
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18*Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25*8 a.m. **NO Mass****TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 Perpetual Help Devotions***Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25*8 a.m. - **SJN** + Pat Michel

+ Patricia Auchter

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20*Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38** 8 a.m. - **SJ** + Gil Miller**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 St. Peter Canisius***Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45*8 a.m. - **SJN** + Jerome Simanek

+ Mary Inez and Arnold Nels Christensen

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22*1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56*8 a.m. - **SJ** + Laura and Albert Wilinski**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 St. John of Kanty***Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66*8 a.m. - **SJ** Communion Service**MASS OF ANTICIPATION***2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38*4 p.m. - **SJN** - The living and deceased members of the Sisak Family5:15 p.m. - **SJ** + Elizabeth Dickert

- Our Parishioners: Living and Deceased

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + Oscar Brusha

- The living and deceased members of the Nyiri-Sherman-Friedel Families

9:45 a.m. - **SJN** + Terry Biarnesen on the occasion of his first Anniversary of Death**Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)***Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25*4 p.m. - **SJN** - Our Parishioners: Living and Deceased4:30 p.m. - **SJ** *Prelude of choir music/children's pageant*5:15 p.m. - **SJ** **Children's Family Mass: gr. 1, 3, 5, 7**

- The living and deceased members of the Scholz, Bowman and Willing Families

- Our Parishioners: Living and Deceased

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) / Holy Day of Obligation*Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14*8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + Marie Zerzanek

+ Theresa and Walter Goebel Sr.

9:45 a.m. - **SJN** + Dennis BaumgardtKey: **SJ** - St. Joseph Parish **SJN** - St. John Nepomuk Parish

* Mass with St. Joseph School students

Dear Parishioners,

The Third Sunday of Advent is called "*Gaudete Sunday*" because the Mass for today (in its original Latin text) begins with the opening antiphon: "*Gaudete in Domino semper*"—"Rejoice in the Lord always." To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we light the Advent wreath's rose candle, and the priest may wear rose-colored vestments.

John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus as the Light of the world. The Baptizer wants all the Jews to rejoice because the long-expected Messiah, as the light of the world, will remove the darkness of sin from the world. We rejoice in the humility and commitment of John who spent himself completely in preparing people for the long-awaited Messiah. We have an additional reason to rejoice because, like John the Baptizer, we, too, are chosen to bear witness to Christ Jesus, the Light of the world.

Today, it is a sad reality, there are too many people who live in darkness and poverty because of their evil addictions and bad choices. There are others who are blinded by the cheap attractions of the world. Many others feel lonely, unwanted, rejected, and marginalized. **Let us bring the true Light of Christ to illumine the lives of all these brothers and sisters** during this Advent season through our sharing love, overflowing mercy, unconditional forgiveness, and humble service. We can accomplish this only by repenting of our sins, and renewing our lives by our daily prayers, by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, by attending and taking part in the Eucharist, and by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

A joyous season of Advent,

*Fr. Steve***St. John Nepomuk Parish**

December 8/9/10 collections:	\$ 3,594.50
Amount budgeted per week:	\$ 3,038.46
Year-to-date budget:	\$ 72,923.04
Year-to-date given:	\$ 68,282.79
Year-to-date balance:	\$ -4,640.25

St. Joseph Parish

Weekly collection income:	\$ 7,155.95
December 8/9/10 collections:	\$ 6,077.95
Energy Costs:	\$ 418.00
Church Renovation:	\$ 240.00
End-of-year contributions:	\$ 420.00
Weekly budget requirement:	\$ 9,100.00
Difference for the week:	\$ -1,944.05
Year-to-date budget:	\$ 218,400.00
Year-to-date given:	\$ 151,313.02
Year-to-date balance:	\$ -67,086.98
Christmas Baskets:	\$ 690.00

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH'S SANCTUARY CANDLE:

As we adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, please remember in faith, **THE LIVING AND DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SISAK FAMILY.**

ST. JOSEPH PARISH'S SANCTUARY LAMP:

As we adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, please remember in faith, **THE LIVING AND DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SHERMAN-NYIRI FAMILY.**



A Christmas Cookie Walk will be held in St. Joseph School cafeteria after all Masses THIS weekend as an eighth grade graduation fundraiser.

Join Archbishop Listecki in praying for peace and the family on his 8 p.m. daily rosary program on 100.1-FM.

Siena Catholic Schools of Racine needs your input as we establish marketing efforts for this new school system. The results of a short online survey will be used in our efforts to raise awareness of the organization and improve its communications across the Racine Catholic community. Your survey responses will have a direct impact on the growth of Siena Catholic Schools of Racine. **Survey link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMHL3YD>

An Advent Walk With Mary, a series of mini-retreats led by Fr. Ron Gramza, focuses on Mary, who identifies with the poor and radiates love for others as she brings Jesus into this world. Our call this Advent is much the same as hers. Join them to read Scriptural texts, discuss, pray, and reflect on Mary's role in our life of faith. Concludes Thursday, December 21, following the 8:15 a.m. Mass at St. Lucy's.

Prepare for the rebirth of Christ in our hearts by joining Advent Taizé Prayer on Friday, December 22, from 6-6:45 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church.

Prayer Shawls are given to someone in need of comfort and blessing due to illness or trying times. Fr. Steve blesses each shawl individually for the intention of the recipient. If you or someone you know needs one, please call St. Joseph's Parish Office, 633-8284. Prayer Shawls are not sold but given with our love and prayers. Our Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to pray for those receiving prayer shawls.



The Food Pantry receives no canned meat from the Food Bank, so canned Beef Stew, chicken, ham, Spam, Corned Beef Hash, Chili with or without beans are needed. Also needed are rice, saltine crackers, canned fish (no tuna), fruit cocktail, and peanut butter 16 oz. or larger. Substitute volunteers are needed. You will be trained and can accept/decline when a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday sub is needed. Please call Linda Meredith (SJ), 456-6035, or John Brashaw (SJN), 639-7919, to volunteer. Please **send checks for St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry** to St. Vincent de Paul Society; O.O. Box 44195; Racine, WI 53404.

The bulletin article deadline is noon Monday, December 18, for the December 31 bulletin. Send written items to the Parish Office or info@st-joes.org. **Bulletins and inserts are archived at st-joes.org**, on Facebook at St. Joseph Parish Racine.

If you wish to have Father visit your hospitalized loved one, please call your Parish Office with your request. The hospital does not notify us of a parishioner admission.

St. Joseph's and St. John's collection envelopes are returned to the respective parish for accounting purposes.

To be included in your 2017 parish financial support statement, your church support gifts must be received in the collection at Mass by Sunday, Dec. 31; in your Parish Office no later than Thursday, Dec. 28; or by mail Friday, Dec. 29. St. John and St. Joseph Parish Offices are closed Friday, December 29 and Monday, January 1.

A Senior Group at Sacred Heart Church meets in Haban Hall on first and third Tuesdays, noon-3 p.m. **Next Dec. 19.**

You are invited to St. Joseph School's Christmas concert Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the church. The concert will include many of our middle school students playing "Silent Night" on the guitars donated by our parish community. You are also welcome to attend our dress rehearsal preview performance beginning at 1:45 p.m. on December 19. *Nick Scaffidi*, St. Joseph School Music Teacher

Oplatek, the Christmas wafer, is available at St. Joseph's on the ushers' tables at the back of church for a free-will offering. Begun millenniums ago in Poland, Slovakia, and Lithuania, the Christmas Eve ritual continues wherever the blessed Oplatek is shared.

Remembrance Wreaths are available from the Racine Catholic Cemeteries Association. The 24" wreaths from northern Wisconsin are installed on a tri-pod stand at Calvary, Holy Cross, Holy Family, and Old Holy Cross cemeteries. Cost: \$30. To order, call 639-1071.

St. John Nepomuk's 2018 Calendar Raffle calendars are for sale at both Parish Offices **until Dec. 31**. The \$25 calendar has 365 chances of winning; winners re-entered.

Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based lifeline for couples in struggling marriages, providing the tools to get marriages back on track. For confidential information or to register for the Jan. 12-14 weekend, at the Siena Center, please call 414-502-7685 or visit HelpOurMarriage.com.

Our advertiser dollars pay for our bulletin. Thank them when you patronize their business. Advertiser of the Week: **Society's Assets**, 637-9128, societysassets.org. At home care.



Please remember in your prayers our men and women in the uniformed services, especially those serving in the Middle East. We beg your protection and guidance for them, O Lord.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH, RACINE, WISCONSIN, believe the Church is the Living Body of Christ, in which we all share responsibility. As the unit of God's Family which fulfills this universal mission of the Church within our community, this parish unites in a spirit of stewardship to offer our time, talents and treasure to foster Catholic Education, and to care for the spiritual, intellectual, moral, and temporal needs of parish members.

Liturgical Roles for December 23, 24, and 25

ACOLYTES

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Ryann Petersen
Ethan Petersen (Cross)
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Philip Weiglein and **Volunteer**
Chandler Rorek (Cross)
Christ. Eve 5:15 p.m. Student, Student
Student (Cross)
Christmas 8:30 a.m. **Volunteer** and **Volunteer**
Chandler Rorek (Cross)

CANTORS

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Julie Van Matre
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Pat Carbonneau
Christ. Eve 5:15 p.m. Adult Choir
Christmas 8:30 a.m. Pat Carbonneau

LECTORS

Saturday 5:15 p.m. John Sardino
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Genie Bosch
Christ. Eve 5:15 p.m. Students
Christmas 8:30 a.m. Michael Iggulden

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION CIBORIUM

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Mona Swan and Linda Von De Bur
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Catherine Gundlach, Sandy Lindstrom
Christ. Eve 5:15 p.m. Mona Swan and John Nielsen
Christmas 8:30 a.m. Dave Tarczon and Betsy Tarczon

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION CHALICE

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Nat Cycenas and John Nielsen
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Wally Goebel and Kathy Swiatek
Christ. Eve 5:15 p.m. Diana Weiss and Nat Cycenas
Christmas 8:30 a.m. Sandy Lindstrom and Wally Goebel

Fill our Mitten Basket for our school's mittenless kids!

Please direct prayer requests to the St. Joseph Prayer Chain Team by calling Lorraine Caspers at 639-1070.

FAITH FORMATION



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

— Upcoming Events —

December 17, 2017 - 12:30-2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church:
YFG service project pack bags for homeless children
December 24, 27 and 31, 2017 - No classes over the holidays
January 20-21, 2018 - Confirmation Retreat at Siena Center
February 24, 2018 - 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Church:

Reconciliation service for all Communion Candidates
Note: There is still an opportunity for one adult to lead one of our Confirmation Youth Faith Groups. Please contact Dan O'Connell at 630-965-9142 or oconnelld@archmil.org.

This Week in Our St. Joseph Parish Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8 a.m. - Rosary: Church
At 8:30 Mass - St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry collection
After 8:30 Mass - Cookie Walk, gr. 8 fundraiser: MSMH
11 a.m. - Christmas decorating: Church
11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. - Religious Ed. classes, gr. 7-12: Sacred Hrt.
1-5 p.m. - Cheer and basketball practice: Gym
7 p.m. - A.A. meeting: MSMH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

NO Creative Hands
4:30-8:30 p.m. - Basketball practice: Gym
6-7 p.m. - Cub Scout Den meeting: MSMH
6-7:30 p.m. - RCIA class: Parish Center, conference room
6:30 p.m. - Boy Scout Troop Christmas party: MSMH

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

After 8 a.m. Mass - Perpetual Help Devotions: St. John
2 p.m. - School's Christmas Concert dress rehearsal: Church
3-8 p.m. - Cheer and basketball practice: Gym
NO Rosary

6 p.m. - School's Christmas Concert: Church
6:30-8 p.m. - Revelation Bible study: St. John Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

4:30-6 p.m. - Basketball practice: Gym
NO Pastoral Council meeting
6 p.m. - Christmas party, pastoral and finance councils, staff
6-7 p.m. - Religious Ed., Special Needs class: St. Joseph
6-7:30 p.m. - Religious Ed. classes, gr. 1-6: St. John
6:15-7:45 p.m. - Religious Ed. classes, gr. 7-12: St. Joseph

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

11:30 a.m. - School dismissed for Christmas vacation
3-8 p.m. - Basketball practice: Gym
6:30 p.m. Boy Scout Committee meeting: MSMH
7-8:30 p.m. - Adult Choir rehearsal: Church

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

NO school

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

6:45-7:45 a.m. - Men's Faith/Bible-sharing Grp.: Parish Center
4:45 p.m. - Rosary: Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8 a.m. - Rosary: Church
NO Religious Education classes
NO Cheer and basketball practice
7 p.m. - A.A. meeting: MSMH

SANCTUARY LADIES: Saturday, December 23—Maryann Bayer, Ann Colwell, Mary Lee Odders, and Judy Scholz

COLLECTION TELLERS: Weekend of December 23-25—Bob and Kathy Sadlon

IN YOUR CHARITY: Please remember in faith, **Michael Bagdasarian, Theodore Joseph, and Angelo Puma**, who received their Christian burials through our church, and ministry in the past week. Eternal rest, O Lord.

WE, THE PARISH FAMILY OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUK CHURCH OF RACINE, WISCONSIN, believers in God and living members of the Body of Christ, through prayer and worship, will strive: to make good use of our gifts of time, talent and treasure and to pray for growth of our parish family and all people of God: to be open to the direction of the Holy Spirit by reaching out to all members of the community in a friendly and welcoming manner; to challenge all parishioners to become involved in the life of the parish, thus making St. John's a vibrant Christian community.

Liturgical Roles for December 23, 24 and 25

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday 4:00 p.m.	Marcelo Sosa
Sunday 9:45 a.m.	Lily Ertel
Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.	Emily Kaisler and Zachary Kaisler
Christmas Day 9:45 a.m.	Grace Gross and Danny Gross

LECTORS

Saturday 4:00 p.m.	Jim and Julie Arens also Sacristan
Sunday 9:45 a.m.	Deb Schuebel
Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.	Margaret Jeske
Christmas Day 9:45 a.m.	Linda Witek

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION PLATE

Saturday 4:00 p.m.	Jackie Morrow
Sunday 9:45 a.m.	Alicia Stiles
Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.	Jim Arens also Sacristan
Christmas Day 9:45 a.m.	Volunteer needed

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION CUP

Saturday 4:00 p.m.	Judy Sisak and Jim and Julie Arens
Sunday 9:45 a.m.	Maureen Biarnesen and Chuck and Marcy Knotek also Sacristan
Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.	Julie Arens and Volunteer needed
Christmas Day 9:45 a.m.	Kathy Cook and Maureen Biarnesen also Sacristan

This Week in Our St. John Nepomuk Parish Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

8 a.m. - Bulletin article deadline: Parish Office

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

After 8 a.m. Mass - Mo. of Perpetual Help Devotions: Church
Noon - Parish Office closes

6:30-8:00 p.m. - Bible Study: Parish Center

7-8:30 p.m. - BSA Troop #105 High Adventure meeting:
Parish Center, Scout Room

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Noon - Parish Office closes

6-7 p.m. - Religious Ed., Special Needs class: St. Joseph

6-7:30 p.m. - Religious Ed. classes, gr. 1-6: Parish Center

6:15-7:45 p.m. - Religious Ed. classes, gr. 7-12: St. Joseph

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Parish Office closed

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

4:30 p.m. - Human Concerns collection: Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

9 a.m. - Human Concerns collection: Church

NO Religious Education classes

7 p.m. - A.A. meeting: St. Joseph School cafeteria



We gratefully acknowledge this memorial Gift:
\$10 Memorial Fund in memory of Charlotte Barina
Total to date is \$750.

Our Building and Grounds project update shows that this week we have received Green envelopes totaling \$350. To-date total is \$19,454.50. Please continue to use the monthly Green envelopes for our parish repairs.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR 2017 RAFFLE WINNERS

Sunday, Dec. 3 -	Melissa Tigges
	#743 \$50
Monday, Dec. 4 -	Mary Buchaklian
	#247 \$25
Tuesday, Dec. 5 -	Katie Laxalt
	#1018 \$25
Wednesday, Dec. 6 -	Michael Schneider
	#563 \$25
Thursday, Dec. 7 -	Bernie and Susie LaMere
	#96 \$25
Friday, Dec. 8 -	Althea Kovalcik
	#547 \$25
Saturday, Dec. 9 -	Mark Schmitt
	#65 \$25



Our Annual Christmas Gift Appeal for St. John Nepomuk Parish will run from December 2017 through January 31, 2018. Thank you.



2018 Calendar Raffles makes great gifts for Christmas, birthdays, or any occasion, and only cost \$25 each. You have 365 chances to win! Calendar Raffles can be purchased until December 31. Money may be turned into the Parish Office, given to the ushers on Sundays, or placed in the Offertory basket at Mass.

The SJN Alumni, Family and Friends Committee will be awarding scholarships for St. Catherine's High School to qualifying parish students for the 2018-'19 school year. Applications are now available at the Scrip tables and Parish Office. The deadline for our SJN parish scholarship applications is January 18. Questions: Pat Steimle, 639-9774.

Food Drive



A Human Concerns Food Collection will be taken at all Masses December 23-24.

Please patronize our Scrip Program. The profit from Scrip purchases helps the parish with expenses. Certificates make great gift ideas and can be used for movies, restaurants, gas, groceries, and prescription drugs.

Thank you to all who donated food and money for our Thanksgiving collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. A total of \$209 was collected.

Christmas Mass Obligations Explained

This year the fourth Sunday of Advent falls on the same day as Christmas Eve, with Christmas on Monday.

The obligation to attend Mass on the fourth Sunday of Advent and on Christmas still stands, but to answer questions on how to fulfill both requirements, here are six options, provided by the archdiocese's office for worship:

Option 1: Saturday evening fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday after 4 p.m.

Option 2: Saturday evening fourth Sunday of Advent and Monday, Christmas Day.

Option 3: Sunday morning fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday after 4 p.m.

Option 4: Sunday morning fourth Sunday of Advent and Monday, Christmas Day.

Option 5: Sunday afternoon before 4 p.m. for the fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday after 4 p.m.

Option 6: Sunday afternoon before 4 p.m. for the fourth Sunday of Advent and Monday Christmas Day.

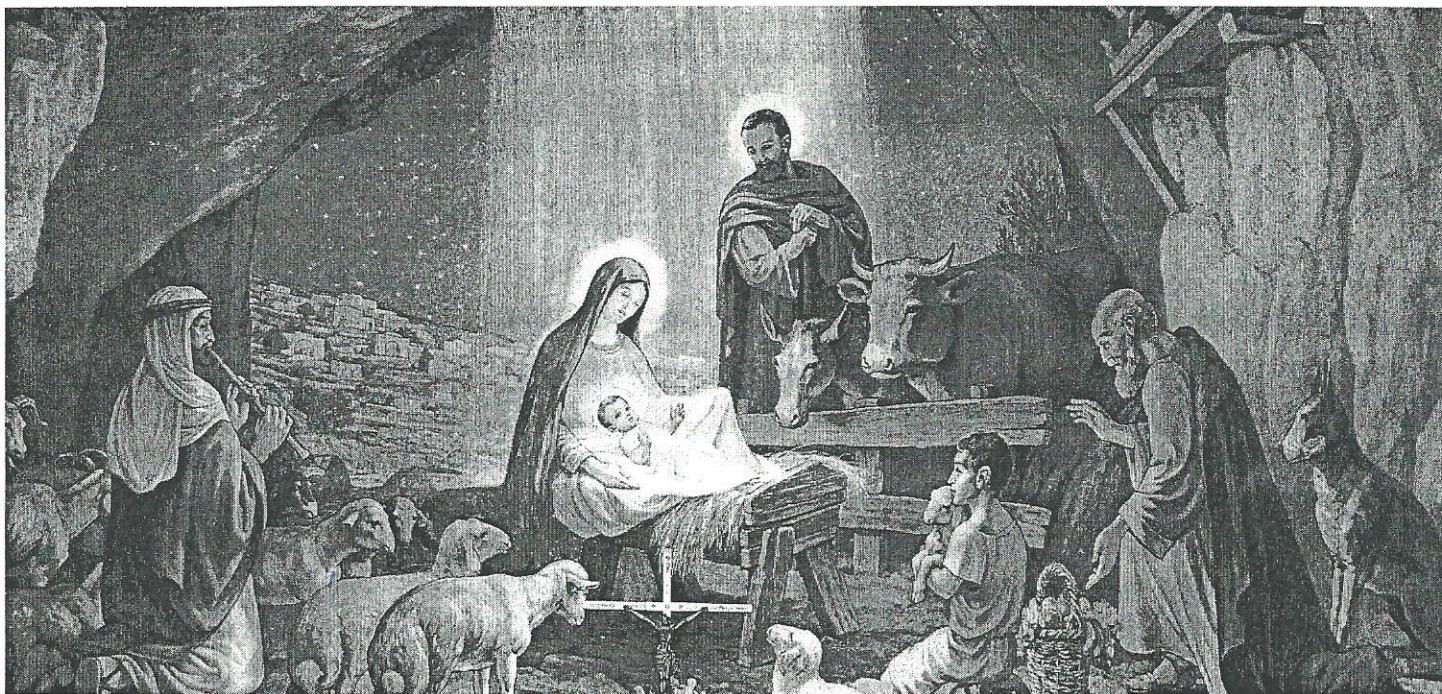
One week later, on Monday, Jan. 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Because the Jan. 1 feast day falls on a Monday in 2018, there is no obligation for the faithful to attend Mass.

Remember, any Mass celebrated after 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 31, will be a Mass for the Vigil of Mary, Mother of God.

Contact the Office for Worship with questions at (414) 769-3355, oremus@archmil.org

from the archdiocesan Office for Worship





CHRISTMAS 2017

*And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:
"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2: 13-14*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Do you know what I consider to be the best thing about Christmas? The fact that it doesn't have to end. Christmas should not just be another passing holiday. The birth of Christ allows us to live out the spirit of Christmas each and every day. We can do this by treasuring the gift of God's love on a daily basis.

This year, my Christmas wish for you is to work towards a deeper and more intimate relationship with our Lord. How can you do this? Make prayer the highlight of your day, commit to read the Bible regularly, devote time to attend Mass, go to Confession, care for those entrusted in you and help others in need.

There are many faith-filled opportunities within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to cultivate and strengthen your relationship with Christ – it is simply a matter of choosing and seeking.

May the peace, joy, and love of the Holy Family be present in your lives each day of the New Year.

I Am, Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+Jerome E. ListECKi

Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi
Archbishop of Milwaukee