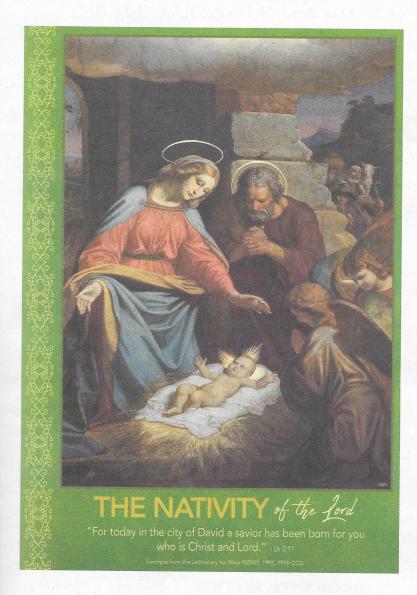
ST. JOSEPH AND ST. JOHN NEPOMUK CATHOLIC CHURCHES

RACINE, WISCONSIN · DECEMBER 20, 2020



MASSES

SAT 4:00 p.m. - SJN

SUN 8:30 a.m. live stream / 10 a.m. - SJ

TUE 8:30 a.m. - SJN

WED 8:30 a.m. - S.J.

THU 8:30 a.m. - SJN

FRI 8:30 a.m. - SJ

Live stream at Facebook.com/St-Joseph-Parish-Racine

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SAT 3-3:30 p.m. - SJN Face masks, please. Anytime by appointment. Call the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF RACINE

Call their office, 639-1071, or visit racinecemeteries.org

LEGACY GIFT

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Steven K. Varghese, Pastor

Deacon Douglas Gundlach - SJ

Leslie Gain, Administrative Assistant - SJN

Amber Fay, Coordinator of Faith Formation - SJ and SJN

David Kirkpatrick, Director of Music - SJ and SJN

Heidi Hernandez, 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 and SJN

Russ Blaha, Maintenance - SJ

Thomas Quiroz, Maintenance - SJN

TRUSTEES

Jim Tresemer - SJN

John Gates - SJ

Suzanne Yde - SJN

Pete Koleske - SJ

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dennis Maller, Chair

OFFICE INFORMATION

St. John Nepomuk Church; 1903 Green Street; Racine, WI Office/Mailing 700 English Street; Racine, WI 53402-4799 Office hours Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 8 a.m.-noon;

Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Friday, closed

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

Office/Mailing 1532 N. Wisconsin Street; Racine, WI 53402-4805 Office hours Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

St. Joseph School; 1525 Erie Street; Racine, WI 53402-4830 Office hours 7:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m. when school is in session

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

Faith Formation Office and absences 262-633-9005

Registration and calendar st-joes.org or 262-633-9005

CONNECT

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH - SJN

Phone 262-634-5647

Fax 262-634-1436

Email stjohnnepomuk@wi.rr.com

ST. JOSEPH PARISH - SJ

Phone 262-633-8284

Fax 262-633-8285

Email info@st-joes.org

Online st-joes.org

Facebook /St-Joseph-Parish-Racine

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

Phone 262-633-2403

Preschool phone 262-633-0112

Fax 262-633-4423

Email jdiehn@sienacatholicschools.org

Online st-joes-school.org

Facebook /stjosephschoolracine

Dear Parishioners,

"THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US" (JOHN 1:14)

Christmas is a feast of love! God in human-flesh is a blinding love-light made radiant by divine Self-giving. God loves us so intensely that we cannot help but respond. Long ago, St. Augustine said, "To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek God is the greatest adventure; to find God is the greatest human achievement." How well St. Augustine describes the love mystery of incarnation.

Our response to God's love is to seek and find God, to encounter and embrace God's presence, to become God's love-light in our own time and place. God's love knows no bounds; neither can ours. On this Christmas Day and Christmas season, let us become aware of the mystery of incarnation as a love encounter between God and human beings. Let us become God's love-light in our own time and place.

Along with my staff, I wish you the peace and joy of Christ at Christmas.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE,

Fr. Steve

For unto us a child is born

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH'S SANCTUARY LAMP: As we adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, please remember in faith, **SUE SISAK.**

ST. JOSEPH PARISH'S BREAD AND WINE were donated this week and THE SANCTUARY LAMP burned this week IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF THE DON SCHOLZ FAMILY; HILDEGARDE AND GILBERT BOWMAN Please remember them in faith.



St. Joseph's Poinsettia and Altar Candles were also donated in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Murphy and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wirry.

*FACE MASK MANDATE IF OLDER THAN 4 YRS.

The church environment is sanitized between Masses. View livestream of 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at Facebook.com/St-Joseph-Parish-Racine.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, 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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56

* 8:30 a.m. - SJN + Edward Floyd

WEDNESDAY, 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*

* 8:30 a.m. - SJ - For the Intentions of the Pastor THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

* 8:30 a.m. - **SJN** No Mass 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.

* 3 p.m. - **SJ** - The Don Scholz Family and Hildegarde and Gilbert Bowman

* 3 p.m. - SJN + Kevin Mauer

* 4:30 p.m. - SJ - Living and Deceased Members of the Sus and Shimkus Families

* 4:30 p.m. - SJN - Living and Deceased Members of the Matt J. and Agnes Sisak Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 Nativity of the Lord (S) / holy day of obligation

Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

* 8:30 a.m. - SJ + Gil Miller

- The Living and Deceased Members of St. John Nepomuk/St. Joseph Parishes

* 9:45 a.m. - **SJN** + Pat Steimle

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 St. Stephen

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

MASS OF ANTICIPATION

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

* 4 p.m. - SJN + Anthony Azarian

+ Lloyd and Frances Meier

- Living and Deceased Members of the Nyiri, Sherman and Friedel Families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 The Holy Family (F) livestream

* 8:30 a.m. - SJ - The Gary Alvarado Family

- The Living and Deceased Members of St. John Nepomuk/St. Joseph Parishes

* 10 a.m. - SJ + William Geertsen

+ Sue Sisak

† STEWARDSHIP ⊠ Whatever you have - has been given. Whatever you give - will be returned.

St. John Nepomuk Parish

December 5/6 collections:	\$ 1,812.50
Amount budgeted per week:	\$ 2,115.38
Year-to-date given:	\$ 51,592.44
Year-to-date budget:	\$ 48,653.74
Year-to-date balance:	\$ 2,938.70
Festival donations to date:	\$ 14,009.00
Buildings & Grounds to date:	\$ 5,264.00

Please address mailed contributions to your parish office, not the church. Refer to the bulletin cover.

St. Joseph Parish

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Weekly collection income:	\$ 5,105.00	
December 5/6 collections:	\$ 3,983.00	
ACH contributions:	\$ 615.00	
Church renovation:	\$ 50.00	
Energy costs:	\$ 75.00	
End-of-year donations:	\$ 382.00	
Weekly budget requirement:	\$ 9,100.00	
Difference for the week:	\$ -3,995.00	
Year-to-date given:	\$ 138,791.02	
Year-to-date budget:	\$ 209,300.00	
Year-to-date balance:	\$ -70,508.98	
Christmas baskets:	\$ 75.00	

Church contributions for 2020 must be postmarked by December 31 to be credited to the current year.

St. Catherine High School scholarships for 2021-'22 will be awarded to qualifying parish students by the SJN Alumni, Family & Friends. Applications are only available at SJN parish office. The deadline for this application is January 21, 2021. The deadline for our Endowment Fund scholarship at SCHS online is January 15, 2021. Questions: Paul Steimle, 639-9774.

All adult St. Joseph's and St. John's parishioners are invited to a new virtual gospel study and prayer group. One night per month we will virtually meet for an hour to read the upcoming Sunday's gospel, talk about how it applies to our lives today, and close with simple prayers. For the January date and time, please contact Deacon Doug at 681-7335 for an email link to the online meeting that is free and easy to connect.

Mail Food Pantry donation checks to St. Vincent de Paul Society; P.O. Box 44195; Racine, WI 53404-7004. Thank you. Your kind donation stays in Racine to feed the hungry of all ages.

Read our weekly bulletin at parishesonline.com, st-joes.org, or Facebook.com/St-Joseph-Parish-Racine. The bulletin article deadline is noon Monday, Dec. 21, for the Jan. 3 bulletin. Send to info@st-joes.org.

For the Sacrament of the Sick and Communion for the Sick when a parishioner is unable to attend church due to age, prolonged illness, or upcoming hospitalization, please call St. John Parish Office at 634-5647 or St. Joseph Parish Office at 633-8284. 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 parishioner admissions.

St. Joseph and St. John Nepomuk parishes' 2021 Mass Intention Calendars are open. A Mass stipend is \$10. Sanctuary Candles are \$5 (St. Joseph's) or \$7 (St. John's.) Please call your parish office to arrange.

S.IN CALENDAR 2020 RAFFLE WINNERS

Sunday, Dec. 6, \$50	Thursday, Dec. 10, \$25
Brian Brusha II #64	Carolyn Lorenzini #368
Monday, Dec. 7, \$25	Friday, Dec. 11, \$25
Kathleen Simanek #540	Julie Sisak #70
Tuesday, Dec. 8, \$25	Saturday, Dec. 12, \$25
Dan Gross #276	Aram Buchaklian #44
Wednesday, Dec. 9, \$25 Sandra Sus #740	

Calendar 2021 Raffles (\$25) are on sale until January 3 for 365 chances to win! Buy yours until December 30 in both parish offices. Due to both parish offices being closed December 31, we will accept calendar sales through the first weekend of January. You may put the monies in the collection basket at both churches, or call Lauri Buchaklian at 639-1330 or Patti LaBlanc at 639-4350 with questions. Please continue to sell the calendars, a major St. John's fundraiser. Winners are re-entered for prizes: weekdays, \$25; Sundays, \$50; New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, \$100; Christmas, \$500.

IN YOUR CHARITY: Please remember in faith, St. Joseph's parishioner, Phyllis Stinson, who received her Christian burial through our church and ministry. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES' FAMILY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20/27

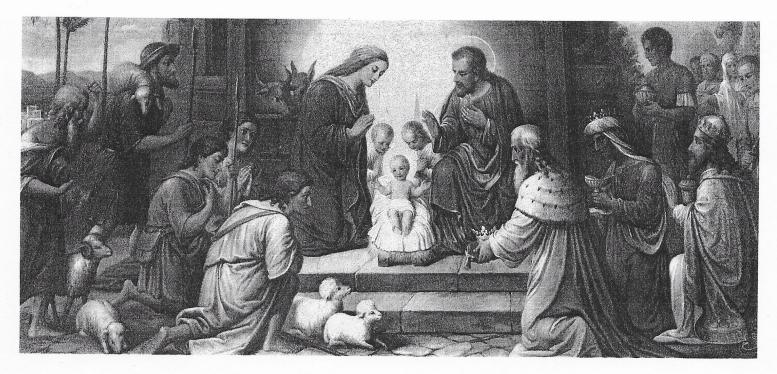
NO Faith Formation virtual classes, gr. 9-11

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23/30

NO Faith Formation virtual classes, gr. 1-11

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24/25

Parish offices closed: SJ and SJN



CHRISTMAS 2020

What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When we pray the Nicene Creed we profess, "I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man."

These familiar words echo the prologue of John's Gospel, which is read at Christmas. John proclaims, "What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4-5) I draw your attention to the Creed and John's Gospel to emphasize the profundity of describing God as Light and Life. Out of the infinite ways to describe Christ, light and life are given to us as preeminent and essential descriptions.

The key to understanding this is the celebration of the Incarnation. The Son of God did not become man to prove a point, become rich, powerful and popular, or punish the wicked. It is all too easy to look at the life of Christ in these terms because of our human tendencies to want to be rich, famous or powerful. In doing so, the Gospels become a biography among many other great people who did great things.

However, that is not why God became man; He became man to save us from the darkness of sin and the punishment of death. When we profess this truth, we allow Christ to reorient our lives. No longer is He just another great person to listen to or admire; He becomes the Light and Life of our lives.

Whatever you have faced this year, from the joyous occasions to suffering and sadness, I pray that you will entrust them to Christ at Christmas. May the Light and Life you receive be the gifts you share with your family and loved ones this year. I trust in God. I trust in His Word. Merry Christmas!

With a heart full of gratitude for your faithfulness, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Verone E. Historki

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki Archbishop of Milwaukee