

ST. JOSEPH AND ST. JOHN NEPOMUK CATHOLIC CHURCHES

DECEMBER 17, 2023

**THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Tuesday and Thursday:

8:30 a.m. (St. John's)

Wednesday and Friday:

8:30 a.m. (St. Joseph's)

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. (St. Joseph's)

5:00 p.m. (St. John's)

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. (St. Joseph's)

9:45 a.m. (St. John's)

Reconciliation

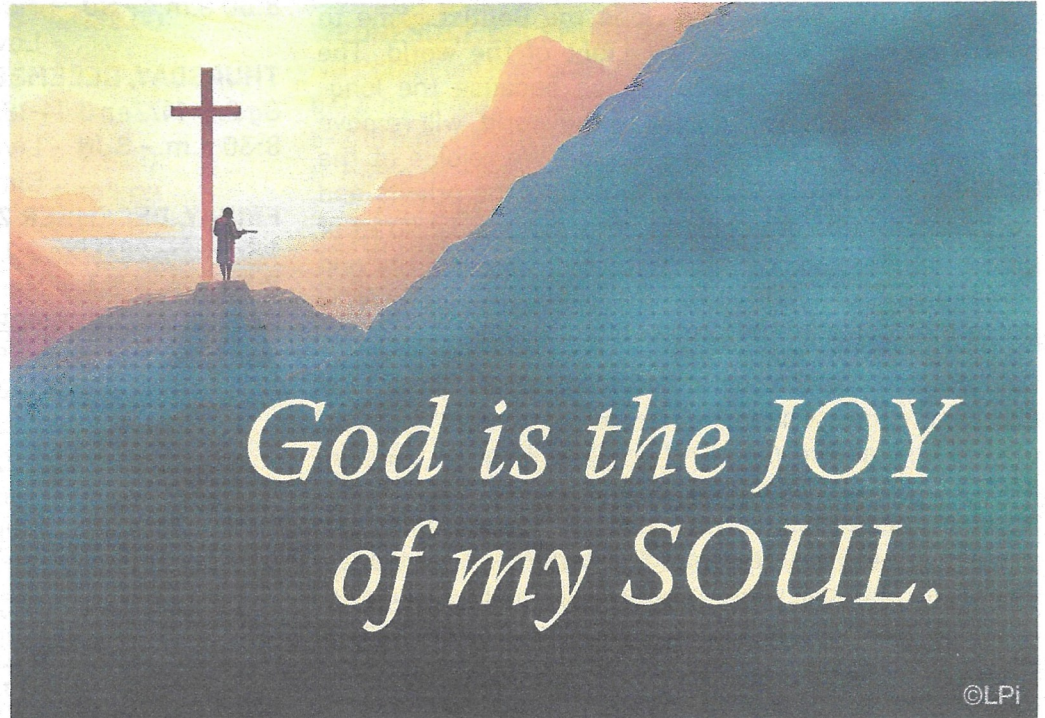
Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

(St. Joseph's) or by appointment

Parish Registration, Baptism, Wedding, and Pastoral Visit

Arrange with the parish office


 www.facebook.com/St-Joseph-Parish-Racine-1577780689170572




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OUR LOCATIONS

St. Joseph and St. John Nepomuk Churches


 **St. Joseph's** 1532 N. Wisconsin St.; Racine, WI 53402-4805


St. John's 700 English St.; Racine, WI 53402-4799

 262-633-8284 - SJ

 262-633-8285 - SJN

262-634-5647 - SJN

 info@st-joes.org

 www.st-joes.org

stjohnnepomuk@wi.rr.com

Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. - SJ

Mon.-Wed. 8:00 a.m.-noon | Th. 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. - SJN

PASTORAL STAFF

Walking With You in the Light of Faith

Pastor

Fr. Steven K. Varghese

Deacon - SJ

Douglas Gundlach

St. Joseph School Principal

Heidi Hernandez

School Administrative Ass't

Jeanmarie Diehn

Business Manager - SJ

Michael Reth

Director of Music - SJ / SJN

David Kirkpatrick

Administrative Secretary - SJN

Leslie Gain

Administrative Secretary - SJ

Coordinator of Faith Formation

Amber Fay

Bulletin Editor

Mary Lee Odders

ST. JOSEPH AND ST. JOHN NEPOMUK CATHOLIC CHURCHES

02 | RACINE, WISCONSIN

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 rose candle in the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments.

Today's Gospel tells us that John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus as the Light of the world. The Baptizer wants all 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 at the humility of John the Baptizer, who tells the priests and Levites that he is unworthy to untie the sandal strap of Jesus the Messiah. We also rejoice in the sincerity and commitment of John who spent himself completely preparing people for the long-awaited Messiah.

Our mission, as brothers and sisters of Christ and members of his Church, is to reflect Christ's Light to others, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun. Many people live in darkness and poverty, lacking real freedom because of their evil addictions and bad choices. Others are deafened and blinded by the world's cheap attractions, while 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.

Happy Advent journey,

Father Steve

ADVENT DAY OF RECONCILIATION

Monday, December 18

9 a.m.-7 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Church

A sleigh full of THANKS for making a child's WISH come true on Christmas Day!! May you feel the warmth of our gratitude from each of our families in the Food Basket Program. Merry Christmas!

SJ Food Basket Team and SJN Human Concerns

We need your 2024 Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Candles for your loved ones! Please call your Parish Office for an appointment to schedule Masses and Sanctuary Candles. Mass stipends are \$10. SJN Sanctuary Candles are \$7; SJ Sanctuary Candles are \$5.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 **Mo. of Perpetual Help Devo.**

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

8:30 a.m. - **SJN** + Pat Simanek
+ Marilyn Fogel

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + Marilyn Fogel
+ Lovell Gissell

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 **St. Peter Canisius**

Sg 2:8-14/Zep 3:14-18/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 21/Lk 1:39-45

8:30 a.m. - **SJN** - Living and Deceased Members of
Christian Mothers and Altar Society

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + Mary Inez Christensen

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 **St. John of Kanty**

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14/Lk 1:57-66

MASS OF ANTICIPATION

*2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 (2a)/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38*

4 p.m. - SJ + Tom Davis
- Living and Deceased Members of
St. Joseph Parish

5 p.m. - SJN + Ray Sertuche
- Living and Deceased Members of
St. John Nepomuk Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + Ken Bendon

9:45 a.m. - **SJN** + Terry Biarnesen on the Anniversary
of Death

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)

Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3, 11-13/Titus 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

4 p.m. - **SJ** + Larry Garski **Children's Mass**

4 p.m. - **SJN** + Bill and Mary LaBlanc

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 **Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

Livestream: [Facebook.com/St-Joseph-Parish-Racine](https://www.facebook.com/St-Joseph-Parish-Racine)

Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + Doug Splittgerber

9:45 a.m. - **SJN** + Dennis Baumgardt

^ School Mass

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH'S SANCTUARY LAMP

As we adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament,
please remember in faith, Ray Sertuche.

Advent Eucharistic Adoration Encounter

Dec. 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m., St. Joseph's, Dcn. Doug Gundlach

STEWARDSHIP

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH

December 2/3 collections:	\$ 2,705.65
Amount budgeted per week:	\$ 2,269.24
Fiscal year-to-date given:	\$ 45,381.84
Fiscal year-to-date budget:	\$ 52,192.52
Fiscal year-to-date balance:	\$ -6,810.68
Buildings and Grounds to date:	\$ 2,650.00

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Total collection income:	\$ 4,432.00
December 2/3 collections:	\$ 3,997.00
Holy Day:	\$ 70.00
Energy costs:	\$ 200.00
Capital funds:	\$ 165.00
Weekly budget requirement:	\$ 9,100.00
Difference for the week:	\$ -4,668.00
Fiscal year-to-date given:	\$ 115,042.16
Fiscal year-to-date budget:	\$209,300.00
Fiscal year-to-date balance:	\$ -94,257.84
Thanksgiv. Food Baskets to date:	\$ 3,890.00
Christmas Food Baskets to date:	\$ 2,360.00

If you wish to make a special year-end donation to offset our budget deficit, please know that a donation of any amount helps but must be postmarked **by Dec. 31** to be in your 2023 church contributions statement.

Oplatek, the Christmas wafer, is available at SJ Church for a free-will offering. Call 262-633-8284.

"Now let us pray for those who suffer, and that God may convert hearts to a steadfast will for peace."

Pope Francis

Catholic Relief Services and Caritas partners on the ground need immediate support to meet urgent and increasing humanitarian needs in the Holy Land. Donate to Catholic Relief Services; 228 West Lexington St.; Baltimore, MD 21201-3443 or info@crs.org.

The Mitten Basket NEEDS new or handmade child-sized mittens or gloves. Baskets are at the back of SJ and side entrance of SJN. Thanks for keeping hands warm!

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry needs your financial donations to buy frozen meat, milk, margarine, and eggs. Mail checks to: St. Vincent de Paul Society; P.O. Box 44195; Racine, WI 53404 with FOOD PANTRY on the memo line. **In October, we fed 867 people including 56 children.** **Needs:** canned meat; canned fruit; canned Ravioli or Beefaroni; canned vegetables (15 oz. size) corn, peas, carrots, beets, peas and carrots; pasta sides; Hamburger Helper; Mac 'n' Cheese; boxed instant oatmeal, and paper bags. Volunteer: Jean Thieme, 262-930-5850. Thank you.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES' FAMILY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:45-11:15 a.m. - Faith Formation, gr. 6-11: SJ Parish Ctr.
After 9:45 a.m. Mass - Scrip /calendar raffles: SJN Ch.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

9 a.m.-7 p.m. - Advent Day of Reconciliation: St. Paul Ch.
Noon - Bulletin article deadline to info@st-joes.org
2:45-7 p.m. - Youth Center: SJ Parish Center

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:30-7:30 p.m. - Advent Eucharistic Adoration: SJ Ch.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

NO Combined Pastoral Council meeting
6-7 p.m. - Faith Formation, gr. 1-5: SJN Parish Center
6-7:15 p.m. - Faith Formation, gr. 6-10: SJN Parish Center
6-7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir rehearsal: SJ Church
6:15-7:45 p.m. - Faith Formation, gr. 11: SJN Parish Ctr.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

After 5 p.m. Mass - NO Scrip/Calendar raffles: SJN Ch.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

NO Faith Formation classes
After 9:45 a.m. Mass - NO Scrip/calendar raffles: SJN Ch.
4 p.m. - Christmas Eve Mass: SJ and SJN Churches

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Parish Offices closed: SJ and SJN
8:30 a.m. - Christmas Day Mass: SJ Church
9:45 a.m. - Christmas Day Mass: SJN Church

WELCOME NEW SJ PARISHIONERS:

Mark Ruedinger and Thu Nguyen

IN YOUR CHARITY: Please remember in faith, SJ parishioner, **Arthur Holding**, who received his Christian burial through our church and ministry. Eternal rest, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon him.

Calendar 2024 Raffles (\$25) are on sale until January 2 for 365 chances to win, as winners are re-entered! Buy until Dec. 29 at SJN and SJ parish offices. Raffles will be sold at the Scrip table Dec. 16/17 and 30/31. You may put the monies in the SJ and SJN collection baskets. Questions: Lauri Buchaklian, 262-639-1330/Patti LaBlanc, 262-639-4350. Prizes: weekdays, \$25; Sundays, \$50; New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, \$100; Christmas, \$500.

SJN CALENDAR RAFFLE 2023 WINNERS

Sunday, Dec. 3, \$50

Susie LaMere #918

Monday, Dec. 4, \$25

Lisa Buchaklian #23

Tuesday, Dec. 5, \$25

Emily Stevens #609

Wednesday, Dec. 6, \$25

Hannah Riesner and

Jon Scolaro #503

Thursday, Dec. 7, \$25

Geoffrey Baker #740

Friday, Dec. 8, \$25

Joe Mueller #462

Saturday, Dec. 9, \$25


June BeBow #938

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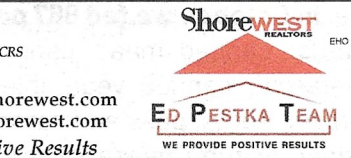
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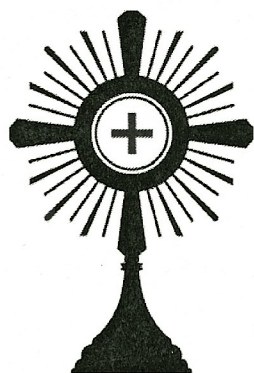


Advent Eucharistic Encounter

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

6:30-7:30 pm

St. Joseph Church



Join us this evening for a Holy Hour
to reflect on Advent & Christmas readings,
with the opportunity for the Sacrament of
Reconciliation, and to close with Benediction.

“Oh come let us adore him...”

