

ST. JOSEPH AND ST. JOHN NEPOMUK CATHOLIC CHURCHES

DECEMBER 24, 2023

**FOURTH 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.

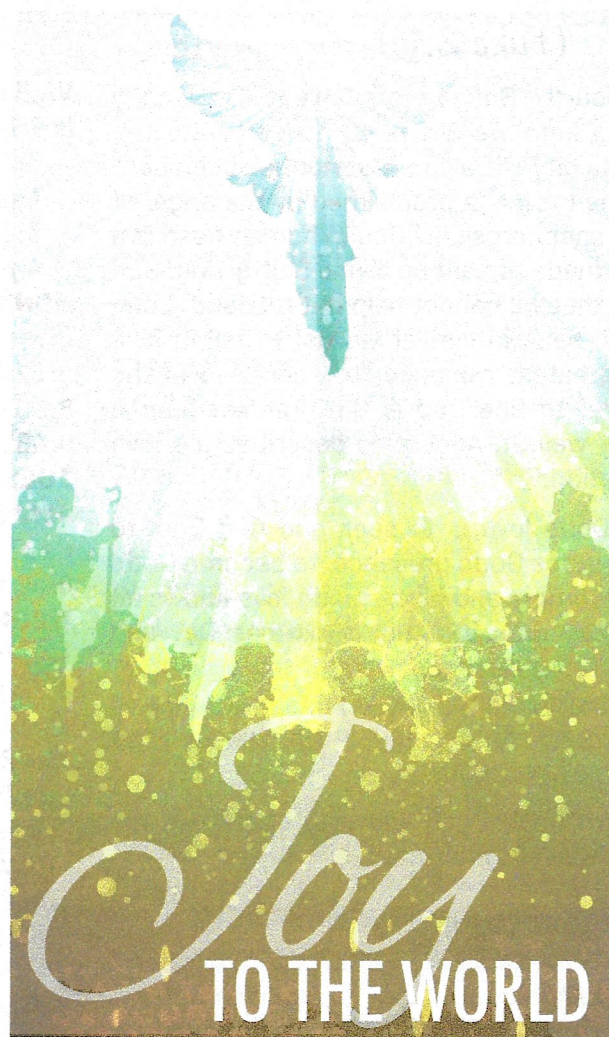
(St. Joseph's) or by appointment

Parish Registration, Baptism,

Wedding, and Pastoral Visit


Arrange with the parish office

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





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 - SJ

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

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."

(Luke 2:11)

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent is already Christmas Eve. So here we are ready to celebrate the feast of love! "In the city of David...A Savior has been born for you"... this is the message proclaimed by the angel of the Lord. And the shepherds saw God in human flesh is a blinding love-light made radiant by divine Self-giving. God loves us intensely that we cannot help but respond. Long ago, St. Augustine said, in similar words, 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 being. Let us become God's love-light in our own time and space where we dwell and work.

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

Merry Christmas everyone,

Father Steve

O COME
all ye faithful

ST. JOSEPH PARISH'S BREAD AND WINE

was donated in memory of Don Scholz by his family.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH'S SANCTUARY LAMP

As we adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, please remember in faith, Don Scholz.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH'S SANCTUARY LAMP

As we adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, please remember in faith, Living and Deceased Members of the Sisak Family.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

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

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

3:30 p.m. - **SJ** musical prelude

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

3:30 p.m. - **SJN** musical prelude

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 The Nativity of the Lord (S)

Livestream: 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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26 St. Stephen (F) / Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/

Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17/Mt 10:17-22

8:30 a.m. - **SJN** + Bert, Margaret, and Michael Mayerl

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27 St. John (F)

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** - Living and Deceased Members of

the Shirley Kosterman Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28 The Holy Innocents (F)

1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

8:30 a.m. - **SJN** + Elsie Budzinski

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 St. Thomas Becket

1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2ab-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** + David A. and K. Maryellen Carlson

+ Lovell Gissell

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8ab-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

MASS OF ANTICIPATION

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-5 or Ps

105:1-6; 8-9/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. - **SJ** + Steve Nyiri

- Living and Deceased Members of

St. Joseph Parish

5 p.m. - **SJN** + Lloyd and Frances Meier

- Living and Deceased Members of

St. John Nepomuk Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 The Feast of the Holy Family

8:30 a.m. - **SJ** - Living and Deceased Members of

the Shirley Kosterman Family

9:45 a.m. - **SJN** + Joseph Pribyl

Join us to pray the rosary before each Mass.

STEWARDSHIP

ST. JOHN NEPOMUK PARISH

December 9/10 collections:	\$ 1,793.26
Holy Day collection to date:	\$ 195.10
Amount budgeted per week:	\$ 2,269.24
Fiscal year-to-date given:	\$ 47,370.20
Fiscal year-to-date budget:	\$ 54,461.76
Fiscal year-to-date balance:	\$ -7,091.56
Buildings and Grounds to date:	\$ 2,730.00

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Total collection income:	\$ 11,680.00
December 9/10 collections:	\$ 10,640.00
Holy Days collections:	\$ 450.00
Energy costs:	\$ 212.50
Capital funds:	\$ 177.50
End-of-year donations:	\$ 200.00
Weekly budget requirement:	\$ 9,100.00
Difference for the week:	\$ 2,580.00
Fiscal year-to-date given:	\$ 126,722.16
Fiscal year-to-date budget:	\$ 218,400.00
Fiscal year-to-date balance:	\$ -91,677.84
Needy Family Fund:	\$ 20.00
Christmas Food Baskets to date:	\$ 3,130.00

Your special year-end donation must be postmarked by Dec. 31 for your 2023 church contributions statement.

Save the Date! St. Joseph School's Open House is Monday, February 5, from 3:15-5:15 p.m.

"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 Baskets urgently NEED new or handmade child-sized mittens or gloves. Mitten Baskets are at the back of SJ and side entrance of SJN Church.

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. To volunteer, call Jean Thieme, 262-930-5850.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES' FAMILY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

NO Faith Formation classes

After 9:45 a.m. Mass - NO Scrip/Calendar Raffles: SJN Ch. 3:30-4 p.m. - Christmas Eve musical prelude: SJ and SJN 4 p.m. - Christmas Eve Mass: SJ and SJN Churches

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Parish Offices closed: SJ and SJN

Noon - Bulletin article deadline to info@st-joes.org

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

NO Faith Formation classes, gr. 1-11

NO Adult Choir rehearsal

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

At all Masses - Food Pantry non-perishables collected After 5 p.m. Mass - Scrip/Calendar raffles sold: SJN Ch.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

At all Masses - Food Pantry non-perishables collected

NO Faith Formation classes

After 9:45 a.m. Mass - Scrip/Calendar Raffles: SJN Ch.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

Parish Offices closed: SJ and SJN

IN YOUR CHARITY: Please remember in faith, SJ parishioner, **Kathleen R. Vail**, who received her Christian burial through our church's ministry. Eternal rest, O Lord.

Thank you to Gary Alvarado for his outstanding service in providing the livestreamed Mass during COVID and beyond, allowing our parishioners to remain connected to St. Joseph and St. John Nepomuk parishes when in-person Mass was not allowed and afterward when high-risk groups could not attend. God bless you abundantly as you end this ministry. We are very grateful for your time.

Calendar 2024 Raffles (\$25) are on sale until January 2 for 365 chances to win, as winners are re-entered! Buy yours until Dec. 29 at SJN/SJ parish offices. Calendars will be on sale at the Scrip table Dec. 30/31. You may put the monies in the collection basket at both churches. Questions: Lauri Buchaklian, 262-639-1330 or 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. 10, \$50

Steve Clementi #184

Monday, Dec. 11, \$25

Joan Feest #243

Tuesday, Dec. 12, \$25

Jeremy Heitmann #293

Wednesday, Dec. 13, \$25

Jolene Verwey #595

Thursday, Dec. 14, \$25

Don Paar #828

Friday, Dec. 15, \$25

Jim/Sally Priaulx #958

Saturday, Dec. 16, \$25

Gina DaPra #225

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CHRISTMAS 2023

"And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." Luke 2:12

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's no accident that when Jesus was born, he was placed in a manger. Think of it – the Son of God, born among us in absolute poverty, and placed in a trough meant for animal food. He became our Bread of Life. "This King of Kings came to us as food, feeding a starving humanity 'with his tender love,'" Pope Francis once said. How true, and that continues today with the ultimate gift we receive at every Mass – Jesus in the Eucharist.

This Christmas, we are in the second year of the Eucharistic Revival, a special time in our Church when we are called to renew our devotion to the Eucharist. Jesus is truly present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, and is there to sustain us in all that we do. Come and receive Him at Mass, and never go hungry. Sit with Him in Adoration and find comfort in the love He has for you, today and always.

As we look to resolutions for the new year, I suggest you resolve to make this extra effort to deepen your relationship with Christ. What an amazing opportunity to focus on the Eucharist as the Source and Summit of our faith – for it is through the Eucharist that we are united with Christ and with one another.

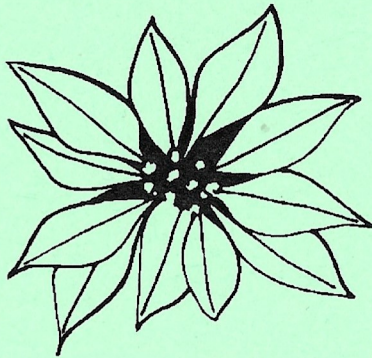
May peace and joy be with you and your family this Christmas, and throughout the New Year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Jerome E. ListECKi

Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi

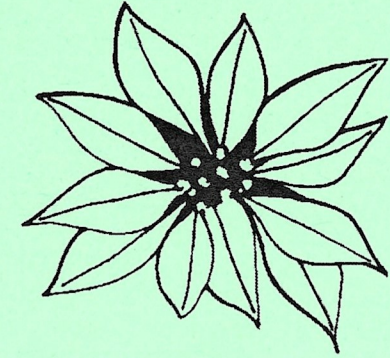
Archbishop of Milwaukee



Altar Flowers and Altar Candles

A special thank you to everyone who donated beautiful poinsettias and altar candles decorating St. Joseph Church for Christmas.

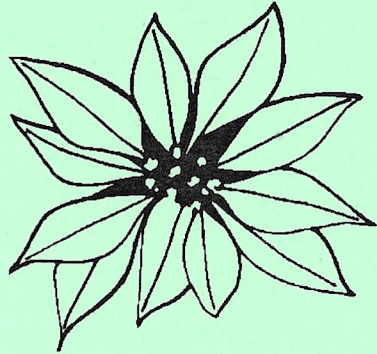
Given in memory of these loved ones, please remember them in your prayers.



Father John Aiello x 2
Andy Anderson
Peggy Anderson
Susan Anderson
Viola Augustine
Charlotte and Joseph Barranco
Charles Bayer
Richard J. BeBow
Erwin Benjamin
Irene Benjamin
Catherine Beres
Jim Beres
Joe and Hildegarde Beres
Tony and Esther Beres
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Bowman
Joseph and Margaret Braun
Ferdinand, Emma and
Thomas Brodek

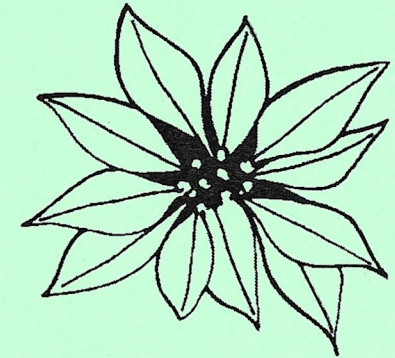
Scott Brown
Bruzas-Markus Family
Christopher M. Case
Dorothy A. Case
William R. Case
Jameson Couch
Ann and Mario Covelli x 2
Sophie Derderian
Louis and Mary Ann Falbo
Gall and Muraski Families
Lawrence J. Garski
Leroy and Lorraine Gehrig
Peter and Margaret George
William George x 2
Angie Goebel
Edward Goebel
Theresa Goebel
Walter Goebel Sr.

Bob Greico
John Greico
Oswald and Mildred Griffin
Richard P. Gundlach
Virginia and Willard Haigh
Michael Harrington
Elizabeth Heidorn
Sister Dorothy Johnson
Lawrence Johnson
Marie Johnson
Don Kern
Frank and Marge Kern
Bill Koleske
Frank and Laura Koleske
Louis M. Korth
Norbert Kosterman Jr.
Rosemary and Norbert
Kosterman Sr.



Altar Flowers and Altar Candles

A special thank you to everyone who donated beautiful poinsettias and altar candles decorating St. Joseph Church for Christmas. Given in memory of these loved ones, please remember them in your prayers.



Krajcz Family
Krogh Family
Jerry Krug
Kaitlyn Krug
William Krug
Lackey and Thieme Families
Albert and Elsie Leuker
Gordon Matthews
May and Gengozian Families
Lorraine J. McCray
Patrick W. McCray
Thomas P. McCray
Tyler T. McCray
John and Dorothy McGrath
David Michna
Ralph and Belva Michna
Freddie Moten
Mydill Family

Orth Family
Cecilia Ortiz
Robert Payne
Pellizzari Family
George and Marie Penza
Rasmussen Family
Edith Ricchio
Tristram Ricchio
Jacklyn and Patti Robash
Eugene F. Schneider
Donald Scholz
Connie Schrader
William Schrader
Harold Schram
Lucille Schram
Sepanski Family
Al and Christina Simonsen
Natalie K. Simonsen

Fidelis Steinhoff
Elmer and Mary Sura
Linda Teschler
Uminski Family
Vaszily Family
Vena Family
Chuck and Bernie Vosika x 2
Eugene and Hildegarde Walsh
Wemmert Family
Barb Yust
Zongolowicz Family

