

All Are Welcome . . .

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

November 27, 2005

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Our Parish Vision

In the name of the Father, we, the Catholic community of St. John the Baptist, empowered by the Holy Spirit, the sacraments and prayer, seek to follow the call of Jesus Christ by sharing our individual gifts and talents. Our mission is:

To Love, Serve and Reach out.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. John Kalicky, CPPS Pastor
Rev. Gary Scherer, CPPS Associate Pastor
Deacon Joseph Manchak
Brother Terry Nufer, CPPS In Residence

Business Office

Florence Gazda, Louise Kaminsky

Telephone (219)/Website Information

Parish Office.....659-0023
Parish website:.....sjbcatholicparish.org
Parish Fax.....473-7551
Parish E-mail.....churchparishoffice@yahoo.com
School Office.....659-3042
School Fax.....473-7553
School website:
www.myschoolonline.com/IN/stjohnbaptistschool
Religious Formation.....473-7557
St. John Program:
Baptism.....473-7557
RCIA.....473-7557
Children's Faith Formation.....219-765-9916
Life Teen Coordinators:
Marjie Biel: marjriebiel@yahoo.com or 973-1283
Candi Stapleton: cms615@yahoo.com or 659-1663
Cafeteria.....659-3041
Gymnasium.....473-7556
Helping Hands.....473-7554
Marian Theatre.....473-7555
Panel Room.....659-3041



Mass Schedule

Sunday Masses: 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 AM;
Sunday Lifeteen Mass 5:30 PM
Vigil Mass, Saturday.....4:30 PM
Daily Mass 7:00 AM
School Children's Mass..... 8:30 AM Tues., Wed., Fri.

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Every Saturday.....3:30-4:00 PM
Thursday before First Friday of the month...4-5 PM
Weekdays after the 7:00 AM Mass

Baptism

Call Diane Pupilava at 473-7557

Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to the wedding date.

Communion to the Sick and Shut-Ins

Sundays and First Fridays. Call the Rectory Office.

Hospital Calls

If you or one of your family members is entering the hospital, please inform the rectory.

Registration

Welcome to all. Please register by calling the rectory.

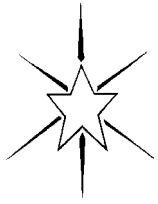
Business Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Bulletin Deadline

Please submit bulletin articles by 1:00 PM Monday.

SPIRITUAL LIFE



"Awaiting the Coming of the Light"

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

All the ways our society tries to meet its longings (e.g., consumerism, pleasure, acquisitions) mask over the deeper human longing for what truly satisfies—life in God. We are the gatekeepers—the sentinels of Christ's coming. Especially in today's society, we are called to witness. As gatekeepers, we are called to take an active role to identify the coming of Christ and to announce his presence to our world. To be faithful as gatekeepers we must "Be watchful! Be Alert!"

"Living the Liturgy" Liturgical Press

Please refer to the insert in last week's bulletin for special advent wreath blessings and prayers.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Would your family like to participate in lighting our church Advent Wreath at a Sunday Mass? If you are interested, please call Diane Puplava at 473-7557. See you in church!

PRAYERS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

The conflicts in our world continue, and members of our parish community, family, or friends are serving in foreign lands. Please pray for these brave men and women.



Jonathan Joseph
Thomas M. Kaminsky
Curtis Mordus
Thomas Puplava Jr.
Philip Mlynarski

If you would like to add a name to this prayer list, call the parish office at 659-0023 or place the name in the Sunday collection basket.

ADVENT VESPERS

The Faith Enrichment Committee invites you to Vespers at 4:00 p.m. each of the four Sundays of Advent: November 27th (St. John the Baptist Catholic Church), December 4th (St. Adalbert Church), December 11th (Immaculate Conception Church), December 18th (Sacred Heart Church). Participation in advent psalms provides a rich opportunity to deepen one's sense of connection with God and the Universal Church while enriching one's personal prayer life.

"HOPE IN THE DARKNESS"

The video/discussion series continues at Sacred Heart, 'Rose Room', from 1-2 pm, Tuesdays, November 29, and Dec. 6. Reflect on God's wonderful plan for our daily lives. Join others who seek to appreciate the reason for this beautiful season. Questions? Call Margaret 659-4138.

2006 MASS BOOK

The 2006 Mass Book is available during rectory office hours of 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Each family is entitled to two Masses for the year. The offering for each Mass is \$10.

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 28

7:00 am †Michael Veslocki Off: Family

Tuesday, November 29

7:00 am †Alma Koch Off: Class of '42 Immaculate Conception School

8:30 am †Andrea Buell Off: Husband Ray & Family

Wednesday, November 30, Andrew, apostle

7:00 am †Jerry Ban Off: Jerry Bobos

8:30 am †Joseph, Ann & Joe Skertich Off: Rosalie

Thursday, December 1

7:00 am †Georgene Smaluk Off: Husband Alex & Sons

Friday, December 2

7:00 am †Margaret T. Tokarz Off: Ted & Edna Dridzik

8:30 am †Vincent & Mary Kaminsky Off: Family

Saturday, December 3, Francis Xavier, priest

7:00 am †Furtak, Miller & Humenick Families Off: Bill & Mary

2:00 pm Kyle Dempsey & Jennifer Markovich Wedding

4:30 pm For Our Parish Family

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent

7:00 am For Our Parish Family

9:00 am For Our Parish Family

11:00 am For Our Parish Family

5:30 pm LifeTeen Mass for Youth of Whiting-Robertsdale Cluster



Mary Banik, Charles Beerling, Susan Biel, Mary Danielson, Irene Dombrowski, John Dubec,

Sophie Foley, Florence Golding, Patricia Iwan, Catherine Kalicky, Eugene M. Kasper, Susan Kenda, Joseph Knish, Barbara Kotlowski, Laura Kresich, Julia Kukta, Ann Latta, Joyce Lesar, Rose Leslie, Ann Mihalso, Marie Silich, Victor Silich, Joseph Smolen, Joseph Sotak, Angie Srencik, Mary Talabay, Rev. John Zvijak, C.P.P.S.



Paul E. Gerba

"I want to be only a poor Friar who prays... Pray, hope and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer... Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips but with your heart. In fact on certain occasions you should speak to Him only with your heart..." Saint Pio of Pietrelcina
Canonized June 16, 2002

ADMINISTRATION & STEWARDSHIP

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Adults.....	\$9,024.45
Loose.....	\$447.00
High School.....	\$56.00
Grade School.....	\$174.50
Total for the Week.....	\$9,701.95

ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION

Come to an Advent morning of spiritual renewal Saturday, December 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until noon at Sacred Heart 'Rose Room'. Rev. Jerry Schweitzer of Sacred Heart Church, Wanatah, will be guest speaker. The morning will provide a brief space of time to listen and reflect as we prepare for our blessed Savior's birthday. Coffee, cake and conversation will enhance our gathering. There is no charge but a freewill offering will benefit the Whiting St. Vincent de Paul Society. Call Margaret 659-4138, or Joann 659-3766.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION PROGRAM

St. John/St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Hammond is now offering a Christmas decoration program for the cemetery. With your participation you will not only be able to beautify the graves of your family for the winter months, but also assist the cemetery in a very special way.

The Holy Innocents Shelter has been established by the Carmelite Sisters to provide emergency care for babies that have been abandoned or need emergency shelter. The cemetery will be assisting the sisters in their mission by donating all profits from the sale of the wreaths and decorations to the shelter. Call 844-9475, or stop at the cemetery office to make a selection.



GOD'S NEW CHILDREN

We welcome God's new children, Nicolas Paul Angotti, Merek Arthur Lopez, Marco Antonio Menconi, Jack Andrew O'Hara, Scarlett

Marion O'Hara and Angelo Arthur Ramirez who through the waters of baptism have received New Life in Christ.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

On March 19, 2005, Northwest Indiana Habitat for Humanity opened the ReStore Habitat for Humanity, located at 6114 W. Ridge Road in Gary. The ReStore is a retail outlet for new and gently used building supplies, home furnishings, appliances and other household goods, open to the public and general contractors. Merchandise is sold at 50% or more below average retail prices. Products are donated to the ReStore by generous individuals, corporations and builders, then, resold to the public to generate revenue for building Habitat homes throughout Northwest Indiana. The ReStore is staffed both by dedicated volunteers as well as Habitat employees. For information regarding volunteering or donating materials, please call 219-923-7265.



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

DANKO, GOLDSMITH & RITZI

Attorneys At Law—We Make House Calls.

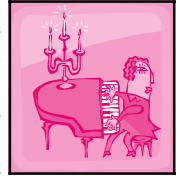
219-659-0800

ROSARY SOCIETY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday, Dec. 7 in the Mural Room. Dinner at 6 pm, cost is \$16.50. Reservations taken until Sunday, Nov. 27. Call Ethel Bugyis 659-6369 or Lucille Korem 931-1992 for reservations. No reservations taken after Nov. 27! Pay in advance by putting your check or money in an envelope marked "Rosary Society". Drop in the collection basket or Rectory Drop Box. No money taken at the door.

JOYEUX NOEL HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Whiting Park Festival Orchestra presents a Holiday Concert "Joyeux Noel" Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 pm in Marian Memorial Auditorium. The concert features the orchestra, members of the chorus, and the St. John Children's Chorus. For tickets call 659-0292. Dinner concert available.



HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The Illiana Oratorio Society will present Handel's "MESSIAH" on Sunday, December 4th at 2:00 pm at the First Christian Reformed Church, 1248 South Park Avenue, South Holland, Illinois. Celebrate the holiday season!

FANNIE MAY CANDY PICK UP

Fannie May orders will be ready for pick up Saturday, December 3rd in the St John Panel Room from 10 am to Noon.

BOOK FAIR

Books make wonderful gifts! Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Founder's Room on Sunday, December 4th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. On Monday & Tuesday, December 5th and 6th the fair will be open from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm; and on Wednesday, December 7th from 8:00 am to 12 Noon. If you are uncertain about the type of books your kids/grandkids like, you can purchase gift certificates, which students can redeem during the fair.

HELP WANTED

St. John Parish seeks to fill a full time custodial position. Please contact the Rectory Business Office between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm at 659-0023 for an appointment.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please help our school participate in three great programs. All you need to do is clip and save box tops and/or labels from products you use. Simply clip the official Box Tops for Education Coupon from participating General Mills products. Look for the Project A+ logo on the Tyson Food Products you buy, cut on the dotted line and send in the entire label. We also recycle old inkjet cartridges. Drop off these items in the containers located in the back of church, or send them to school with your child. Thank you for your help!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

A BIG thank you to all who shared their time, talents, and gifts in making this Thanksgiving food drive a huge success! Happy Thanksgiving & God bless all of you!

Tom & Lucy Chocholek

WEDDING BANNS

III Kyle Dempsey & Jennifer Markovich

LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS

4:30 pm, December 3

Lectors: M. Banik, P. Banik

Euch Min: L. Barron, L. Blackwell, R&B Jerzyk,
B. Jerzyk, D. McCampbell, C. Vrabel

Altar Servers: Johnathan Lovasko, Robert Markovich,
Nicole Massoels

7:00 am, December 4

Lectors: T. Barilla, D. Guiden

Euch Min: T&S Adam, B. Chidalek, G. Jancosek,
E. Matuska, M. Saliga, L. Kilander

Altar Servers: Jackie Camacho, Julio Casares IV,
Donnella Casillas

9:00 am, December 4

Lectors: E. Bojda, F. Powell

Euch Min: S&E Bakajza, B. Delinck, E. Igras,
ML Tonkovich, L. Wade, F. Delinck, E. Duray

Altar Servers: Javier Mena, Michelle Mirza, David
Moats

11:00 am, December 4

Lectors: D. Bondi, R. Mikola

Euch Min: D. Cuculich, M&K Wagner, M. Poppen,
Erwin Roldan, S. Rosendo

Altar Servers: Carla & Carlo Jr. Casas, Katherine
Chiluski

5:30 pm, December 4

Altar Servers: Joshua & Jacob Pelletier, Stephanie
Perz

CARE CENTER

December 4: 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

7:00 am

Nov. 28 & 29: Amanda Blackwell & Rachel
Boland

Nov. 30 & Dec 1: Joseph Bondi & Ryan Brown

December 2 & 3: Brittany & Matthew Bulatovich

F.C.S.L. CHRISTMAS PARTIES

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assn. Branch 81 will be hosting their annual Christmas Party for members on Wednesday, December 14th. Meeting to begin at 10:00 am, with lunch to follow at noon at the St. John Mural Room. Please bring in a non-perishable item to be donated to the Whiting food pantry. Any questions call Rebecca Coleman at 659-7215.

Jr. Branch 348, Immaculate Conception Church, will have their Annual Children's Christmas party Dec. 4 at 1:30 pm, at IC Cafeteria. Santa will be present.

Helen Kocan District, St. Ann's Guild will have their annual Christmas Party Dec. 12th in the St. John's Mural Room. Dinner at 6 pm. Donation \$15.00. Reservation deadline Dec. 6th. Contact Marge Abildua 659-2109 or Elizabeth Dedinsky 659-2898.

ANDREAN HIGH SCHOOL: Freshmen Placement Exam: Saturday, December 3rd in the cafeteria from 8:00 am – 12 Noon. For information Call 887-5281 Ext. 237.

PARISH DIRECTORY

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chair: Leo Barron, Damian Bondi, Debbie Franko,
Anne Marie Gyure, Luz Gonzales, Robert Hildreth,
Colleen Lannon, Nancy Mitchell, Mary Poppen,
Martha Shimala, Dorris Weber, Janel Zubeck

FINANCE COUNCIL

Chair: Edward Bojda, Darlene Beerling, Dan Botich,
Linda Gajewski, Florence Gazda, Don Kaminsky,
Milan Kruszynski

COMMISSIONS:

STEWARDSHIP/ADMINISTRATION

Bulletin.....Mary Igras, Louise Kaminsky
Buildings/Grounds Director Don Kaminsky
Church/Rectory
School Building Facilities..... Joseph Lazur

EDUCATION

Director of Religious EducationDiane Puplava
Elizabeth Ministry .Diane Puplava, Kathleen Tallman
GymnasiumMatthew Saliga
Helping Hands.....Rebecca Flores
Home/School Association Chair.... Charles Remmers
Panel Room Manager.....Carol Vargo
School Band Director Rich Mlynarski
St. John School Advisory Board..... Chair: Deanne
Shimala, Anna Howard, Monique Jakubielski,
Jean Lovasko, Robert Rodriguez, Scott Thrasher
St. John School: PrincipalThomas Feltz
Secretary.....Marilyn Schaufele
School Cafeteria Manager.....Liz Delgado

PARISH LIFE

Rosary Society.....Marsha Banik
Cub Scouts..... Michael Maloney
Girl Scouts..... Jeannine Dabertin
HomeboundDeacon Joe Manchak
Holy Name SocietyAnthony Barilla
Life Teen.....Marjie Biel, Candi Stapleton
Marian Theatre Guild.....Martin Dybel
Pirohi MakersGeri Tumidalsky

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Altar Ministers..... Fr. Gary Scherer
Environment.....Martin Dybel
Care Center Coordinator Joseph Kruczek
Eucharistic Ministers..... Eve Duray
Lectors..... Nancy Gomez
Liturgy Committee..... Margaret Saliga
Marriage Coordinators:Anne Marie Gyure; Mary Tolin
Parish Music Director.....Geraldine Hildreth
Prayer Group Marilou Tonkovich
Sacristan.....Margaret Matuska

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Food Collection..... Thomas Chocholek
St. Vincent de Paul Society.....Diane Kaminsky

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 27

No FFP Classes

11:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

4:00 pm Advent Vespers (SJ)

5:30 pm Life Teen Mass (SJ) & Life Nite

Monday, November 28 — Trip Pick Up

10:30-11:45 am Bible Study (SH)

7:00 pm RCIA (SJ)

7:00 pm Finance Council (SJ)

Tuesday, November 29

1:00 pm Hope in Darkness (SH)

Wednesday, November 30

6:00 pm FFP Classes Grades 1-5 (SH)

7:00 pm Pastoral Council (SH)

7:00 pm Prayer Group

Thursday, December 1

4:00-5:00 pm Confessions (SJ)

7:00 pm Pastoral Council (SA)

Friday, December 2

8:30 a.m. Communion to Shut-ins

1:00-6:00 pm Eucharistic Devotions (SJ)

Saturday, December 3

9:00 am-12:00 pm Advent Reflection (SH)

10:00 am-Noon Fannie May Candy Pick Up -Panel Room

7:30 pm Christmas Holiday Concert Joyeux Noel

Sunday, December 4

7:00 am-12 Noon H.S.A. Pancake Breakfast (SJ)

8:00 am-1:00 pm Book Fair (Founders Room)

9:00 am FFP Classes Grades 6-9 (SH)

11:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

1:30 pm FCSLA Br. 348 Children's Christmas Party (IC)

4:00 pm Advent Vespers (SA)

5:30 pm Life Teen Mass (SJ) & Life Nite

7:00 pm C.P.P.S. Companions

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

Sacred Heart Church will be hosting the Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community's celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Special devotions will be held each evening December 8th, 9th, and 10th at 6:30 p.m. On December 12th at 6:30 p.m. we will celebrate the Mass of the Roses. "La Perla de Mexico" one of the best mariachi in the area will provide the music on that night. Please set aside these evenings and join us.