

All Are Welcome . . .

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

December 11, 2005

THIRD 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“WHO ARE YOU?”

John the Baptist was asked by some of the leaders of the people: “Who are you?” His answer was quick and clear: “I am not the Messiah, Elijah or the Prophet. I am one sent by God to announce the presence of Christ and call others to recognize Christ.”

What is our answer to that same question, “Who am I?” We are baptized into the family of Jesus Christ. We are members of the Body of Christ. Our answer to that question must include our personal relationship to Jesus.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. If we look at the Child through the eyes of faith we see that it is Jesus, our brother. We are members of his family. How enriching to our faith to celebrate Jesus’ birth on December 25th with members of our biological family together with all the other members of God’s family. What a wonderful family! What a celebration! Don’t miss it!

HOLY NAME NEWS

St. John Holy Name Society monthly Mass and Communion today, Sunday, December 11 at the 9 am Mass. All men of the parish are welcome to honor His holy name. A meeting will follow in the Founders Room. Rolls and coffee will be served. Hope you can make it!

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

Sacred Heart Church is hosting the Cluster’s celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12th. The celebration begins with 6:30 p.m. Mass of the Roses, which will be sung by mariachi. “La Perla de Mexico” will serenade with song, followed by a social in the Rose Room. Please come enjoy this festive evening honoring Our Lady.

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

The W/R Catholic Community will celebrate the sacrament of Penance on Wednesday, Dec. 14th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Adalbert Church. The scripture readings and hymns offered that evening are meant to inspire us to a sincere confession of our personal sinfulness. As we light the pink candle in the Advent wreath we rejoice in God’s mercy and love for each of us. As we receive God’s forgiveness, we grow in faith, hope, and love.

ADVENT VESPERS

Enrich your personal prayer life; come to Vespers 4:00 pm each Sunday of Advent: December 11th (Immaculate Conception Church), December 18th (Sacred Heart Church). Advent psalms provide a rich opportunity to deepen one’s sense of connection with God and the Universal Church.

Monday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe
7:00 am †William Sullivan Off: Joanne Kanyur

Tuesday, December 13, Lucy, virgin, martyr
7:00 am †Estelle Barron Off: Tom & Diane Puplava
8:30 am †Deceased Members of Mateja & Salley Families

Wednesday, December 14, John of the Cross, priest, doctor
7:00 am †Charles Kosalko Off: Relatives & Friends
8:30 am †John Senko Off: Marty & Jane Michels

Thursday, December 15
7:00 am †Dr. Joseph Ritzi Off: Wife Fran & Children Cyndi, Kevin & Joni

Friday, December 16
7:00 am †Ignatius & Rosalie Dubeck Off: Family
8:30 am †Sarah Hojnacki Off: Carrie Kucken

Saturday, December 17
7:00 am In Thanksgiving Off: Adeline
4:30 pm For Our Parish Family

Sunday, December 18, Fourth 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, Patrica Iwan, Catherine Kalicky, Eugene M. Kasper, Susan Kenda, Joseph Knish, Barbara Kotlowski, Laura Kresich, Julia Kukta, Ann Latta, Joyce Lesar, Rose Leslie, Ann Mihalso, Jay Sheets, Marie Silich, Victor Silich, Joseph Smolen, Joseph Sotak, Angie Srncik, Mary Talabay, Rev. John Zvijak, C.P.P.S.

BULLETIN ARTICLE NOTICE: Due to the Holiday printing schedule, articles for the December 25th and January 1st bulletin must be in by **4 pm, December 16th**. Bulletins for Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st will be one combined issue.

OPLATKY

Oplatky (Christmas Wafers) are available in the school lobby after the Sunday Masses. Cost is \$2.00 for a packet of four wafers.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Looking for a unique gift? Come to the Church Rectory Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We have the ever-popular Favorite Recipes of St. John Rosary Society Cook Book for \$7 a copy. Historical VCR tapes (3 volumes) of St. John Parish for \$25 each, and porcelain-lit replicas of our beautiful St. John the Baptist Church for \$40 each.

ADMINISTRATION & STEWARDSHIP

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Adults.....	\$11,342.10
Loose.....	\$280.28
High School.....	\$47.00
Grade School.....	\$155.15
Total for the Week.....	\$11,824.53

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:

Larry Gazafy
Gerardo Gonzalez
Thomas Gormley
Jonathan Joseph
Thomas M. Kaminsky
Philip Mlynarski
Curtis Mordus
Nicholas Okamura
Thomas Pupilava Jr.
Aaron Suarez

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

"ADOPT-A-BABY" OUTREACH PROJECT

Each Advent we sponsor an Outreach Project for babies and young children. This project assists local service agencies who help needy families, some in our own community.

We are collecting new clothing of all types (sizes newborn to 4T); "gently used" children's clothing (up to size 4T) and maternity clothes; used cribs, car seats, high chairs, playpens, strollers etc. that are in working order (NO mattresses). We also collect disposable diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, Dreft laundry soap, shampoo, etc. To assist sorting and packing, please do not wrap donations.

Items will be collected until Friday, December 16. Leave items in the school lobby between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm on school days, or in the Centennial Room on Sundays. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, make checks payable to "St. John Church" and place in an envelope marked "Adopt-a-Baby" donation. We will forward all donations to the assisting agencies. Thank you for your generosity and compassion! Call Diane Pupilava at 473-7557 if you would like more information.

2006 PARISH CALENDARS

Please pick up your copy of the 2006 Calendar at the church entrances...one to a family, please. We are most grateful to the Baran Funeral Home for providing this service.

TRIP SCHEDULE FOR January 2006

Order Date	Pick up Date
1/9	1/17 (holiday)
1/23	1/30
2/6	2/13
2/17 (Friday)	2/27

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Jim Kozak Agency - American Family Insurance
1333 - 119th Street Whiting
659-2886

ATTENTION SENIOR CITIZENS

And their families! Today Sunday, December 11th at 8:00 a.m. and again at 10:00 a.m. in the Founders Room of St. John the Baptist School, Lincoln Avenue entrance, Certified Senior Advisor, Jim Sandrick, will be presenting the next in a series of one-hour workshops designed to cover various issues facing seniors. The primary focus will be on Medicare Part D. Cake and coffee served. Seating is limited. Call 659-7120 for reservations.

TOO BUSY TO BAKE?

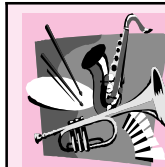
BSA Venture Crew Scouts #432 is taking orders for nut cups, nut rolls, snowball and peanut butter kiss cookies. Call JoAnn Palko at 659-0977 or Michele Rohrman at 659-8069 to place orders. Orders delivered Dec. 15-17.

PIROHI

St. John Church will be selling home made Pirohi on Sunday December 18th in the Panel Room Lobby from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Five varieties will be sold for \$6 per dozen, Potato, Kraut, Cheese, Plum Butter and Apricot. Noodles will be available for \$2 per bag, while they last.

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 Pupilava at 473-7557. See you in church!



TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

St. John the Baptist School
Christmas Band Concert
7 PM, Marian Auditorium

CAROLING AT THE CHRISTMAS CRIB

The Whiting/Robertsdale Faith Enrichment Committee invites you to come to the Christmas Crib at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and 119th Street on Saturday, December 17, at 5:30 pm for an Advent celebration of song, fellowship, and hospitality. Bring your voice, a musical instrument if you would like, family members, and friends to make a joyful noise in praise of God, our Savior. Song sheets provided; refreshments follow in the Panel Room. Everyone is welcome!



CAROLING FOR THE NEEDY

On Saturday, December 17, our St. John middle school students will be caroling throughout the Whiting-Robertsdale neighborhood from 6 pm—7 pm. The proceeds from this project will be used to support needy families in St. John the Baptist Parish. If you would like us to visit your home during the caroling hour, please call the school office at 659-3042 and leave your name and address. Thank you for your support!

ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross has scheduled its annual blood drive at St. John the Baptist on Saturday, January 14, from 9 am—1 pm. Registration will take place in the Panel Room beginning at 8:45 am. Interested donors can contact Mary Poppen at 659-8440 to reserve a specific time slot. Additional details will follow at a later date.

LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS

4:30 pm, December 17

Lectors: L. Gonzalez, J. Kozak

Euch Min: D. Cuculich, R&B Jerzyk, B. Jerzyk, M. Krull, G&C Rosen

Altar Servers: Drew Dybel, Kyle Brown, Colin Chiluski

7:00 am, December 18

Lectors: G. Jancosek, R. Matlon

Euch Min: T&S Adam, L. Barron, B. Chidalek, E. Matuska, D&R Barnes

Altar Servers: Alec & Eric Rodriguez, Eric Roldan

9:00 am, December 18

Lectors: F. Stofcik, F. Gazda

Euch Min: S&E Bakajza, L. Wade, Br. J. Hall, A. Jurek, D. Weber

Altar Servers: Hunter Banas, Nicholas & Zack Curosh

11:00 am, December 18

Lectors: N. Gomez, S. Silva

Euch Min: MJ Kansky, M. Knazur, D. Shimala, Erwin Roldan, S. Rosendo, K. Saliga, C. Lannon, E. Duray

Altar Servers: Adam Rosado, Vincent Rossodivito, Natalie Serna

5:30 pm, December 18

Altar Servers: David Boland, Adam Flores, Joseph Franko

CARE CENTER

December 18: 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

7:00 am

December 12 & 13: David Matura & Elena Paloma

December 14 & 15: Aimee Perhach & Ashley Pokraka

December 16 & 17: Clarke Remmers & Rafael Rodriguez

Jesus is the reason for the season.
Let's remember to keep Christ in
Christmas!

ADOPTION INFORMATION MEETING

Sunny Ridge Family Center invites you to attend a General Adoption Information meeting on Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m., Munster Public Library, 8701 Calumet Ave., Munster. Come learn about children from the USA, China, Guatemala, and Poland who are awaiting a family. For more information or to register for this free meeting call 219-836-2117.

CRIME WATCH

The Whiting/Robertsdale Crime Watch meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m., at Calumet College of St. Joseph, Room 200. Let's work together as one community to keep our neighborhoods safe! All are welcome.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS

Couples who make Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends rediscover joy, intimacy & romance in their relationships and also become more active in their Church. Together, we are helping marriages, families and our Church become stronger and healthier. Please call Bob & Judi Hornback 219-923-9614 with questions. For information about non-English speaking weekends, couples can contact 1-800-795-LOVE (5683).

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
St. John School Advisory Board.....Chair: Deanne Shimala, Anna Howard, Monique Jakubielski, Jean Lovasko, Robert Rodriguez, Scott Thrasher
St. John School Principal.....Thomas Feltz
Secretary.....Marilyn Schaufele
School Band DirectorRich Mlynarski
School Cafeteria Manager.....Liz Delgado

PARISH LIFE

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

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Altar Ministers..... Fr. Gary Scherer
Care Center Coordinator Joseph Kruczek
Environment.....Martin Dybel
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, December 11
 9:00 am FFP Classes Grades 6-9 (SH)
 11:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
 4:00 pm Advent Vespers (IC)
 5:30 pm Life Teen Mass (SJ) & Life Nite
 7:00 pm Band Concert (SJ)

Monday, December 12, TRIP Pick Up
 10:30-11:45 am Bible Study (SH)
 11:15 am Band Concert (SJ)
 6:00 pm FCSLA St. Ann's Guild Christmas Party (MR)
 6:30 pm Feast Our Lady of Guadalupe (SH)
 7:00 pm RCIA (SJ)

Tuesday, December 13
 1:00 pm Confessions SJS Grades 3 & 4
 6:30 pm Liturgy Meeting (SJ)
 7:00 pm H.S.A. Meeting

Wednesday, December 14
 1:00 pm Confessions SJS Grades 5 & 6
 6:00 pm FFP Classes Grades 1-5 (SH)
 7:00 pm Advent Penance Service (SA)
 7:00 pm RCIA (SJ)
 7:00 pm Prayer Group

Thursday, December 15
 1:00 pm Confessions SJS Grades 7 & 8
 6:00 pm W/R Crime Watch, Rm 200, Cal. College
 Last day to submit items for outreach project

Friday, December 16

Saturday, December 17
 5:30 pm Caroling at the Crib (SJ)
 6:00 pm Middle School Caroling

Sunday, December 18
 9:00 am FFP Classes Grades 6-9 (SH)
 11:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
 2:00 pm Kindergarten Show
 4:00 pm Advent Vespers (SH)
 5:30 pm Life Teen Mass (SJ) & Life Nite

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

The Hammond/Whiting Cluster Parishes Advent Penance Services are scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on the following dates.

Monday, December 12 th	Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Tuesday, December 13 th	St. Casimir
Wednesday, December 14 th	St. Adalbert (Confessions in English, Spanish & Polish)
Thursday, December 15 th	St. Joseph (Hammond) Host Parish, with All Saints
Monday, December 19 th	St. Catherine of Siena
Tuesday, December 20 th	St. Stanislaus (East Chicago)
Thursday, December 22 nd	St. John Bosco

PREPARE



FOR HIM