

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

0S233 Church Street Winfield, IL 60190 630.668.0918 www.stjohnwinfield.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025



YOU SHALL NAME HIM  
JESUS  
LUKE 1:31



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, December 24

3:00 pm in Church **doors open at 2** **Incense is used**  
3:00 pm in the Chapel **doors open at 2** **Incense is used**

7:00 pm in Church

9:30 pm *Christmas Caroling in Church*

10:00 pm in Church

### Thursday, December 25

8:00 am in Church

10:00 am in Church **Incense is used**

12:00 noon in Church

### Solemnity of Mary-Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil: Wednesday, December 31 5:00 pm in Church

Holy Day: Thursday, January 1 9:00 am in Church **Incense will be used**



## DONUT SUNDAY IS THIS WEEKEND

**Last one of the calendar year-join us in Sebahar Hall after the 8 & 10 am Mass**

Thank you to the volunteers who have faithfully hosted these gatherings most months of the year. Like most things around the church, it takes a village to make these events happen. Thank you to John Lamberts and the entire crew for having the coffee hot and the sweets at the ready. The fellowship served up along with the sweets is not to be missed! Next Donut Sunday will be January 18th of 2026.



## THIRD THROUGH 8TH GRADERS - JOIN US!

**Do you have time to be in our Parish Youth Choir for 3 weeks?**

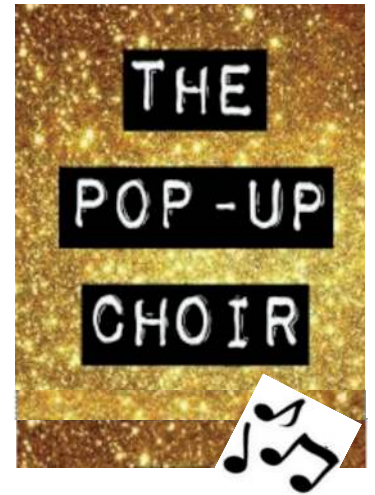
Our first "pop up" Parish Youth Choir in October was well received. Our *second* "pop up" Parish Youth Choir will take place **this January, 2026**. It is a 3 week commitment.

The choir will practice in the Church:

Sundays, January 4 and January 11, 11:15-11:45 am

Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:15-11:45 am. After our practice on January 18<sup>th</sup>, we will stay in Church and sing at the Noon Mass.

If you were unable to join us the first time, hopefully this second time will fit your schedules. If January does not work for your families, we will have a third "pop up" Parish Youth Choir opportunity in April. To register, you may fill out the google form at this link: <https://forms.gle/vy8dtSaww8hQhBu8A> or you may email Carrie Marcotte, Director of Sacred Music, at [cmarcotte@stjohnwinfield.org](mailto:cmarcotte@stjohnwinfield.org)



## PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

**December 24 through January 4**

The Parish Office will be closed beginning Christmas Eve into the New Year. The emergency phone line extension will still be operative. For an anointing of the sick or emergency requiring a priest phone the main phone line at 630.668.0918 x 655. We look forward to serving your needs in the parish office beginning Monday, January 5th.



## **MAKE Learn How to MAKE Disciples!**



Join a conversation with Bishop Ron Hicks as he unpacks the details of his pastoral letter, MAKE, and discusses how to make disciples for Jesus in the Diocese of Joliet. Tuesday, January 20th from 6:30-8:00 pm at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church 36 N. Ellsworth St. Naperville. MAKE is a call to action-rooted in Catechesis, Evangelization and Faith into Action - to follow Jesus' Great Commission: Go and make disciples.



## STEWARDSHIP IS ... GIFT GIVEN FOR GIFTS RECEIVED

Your sacrificial giving for the weekend of December 7 totaled \$ 28,300.

We thank you as we celebrate Advent, and anticipate together the greatest gift of all. Thank you for your support and prayers in helping the parish meet our weekly goal of \$20,198. May God continue to bless all of us with many gifts!





## OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS

**Bring back a beloved tradition or add this new this year!**

The tradition of Oplatki originated in Poland in Early Christian times, baked from flour and water yielding a white wafer. The wafers now bear Christmas images such as the nativity scene. They are not consecrated.

Traditionally they are shared on Christmas Eve with the family around the dinner table before the Christmas Eve meal. Generally, the oldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing of either what you desire for your loved one in the coming year such as good health, success or happiness. The purpose of this act is to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of the family. The best gift of Christmas!

**Oplatki available for a \$3.00 donation in the parish office or see a Greeter after Mass**



## HEARTFELT GRATITUDE

**Your generosity is appreciated!**

"Thank you very much for your donations, always," says Sr. Olivia Bellegante, 93, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis, Missouri. Your gift directly impacts thousands of senior religious, providing the support they need in their later years. Learn more at: [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)



## WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

**CCW and Knights show up in a big way**

A big THANK YOU to the CCW and KoC for all their AMAZING hard work to make Fr. Dan's Installation Reception a huge success. How fortunate our parish is to have these two organizations that offer so much of their time and talent to make our parish the special place that it is! The Bishop and staff recognize your faith alive!



## EMBRACE THE FAITH WITH FR. PAT

Are you:



- ◆ An unbaptized person interested in joining the Catholic Church?
- ◆ A person baptized in another Christian denomination who would like to become Catholic?
- ◆ A Catholic who was baptized but has not yet received other sacraments of initiation (First Eucharist and/or Confirmation) or made first reconciliation (confession)?

If any of these are true, and you would like to become Catholic or deepen your Catholic faith, please **contact Fr. Pat** via email: [frpat@stjohnwinfield.org](mailto:frpat@stjohnwinfield.org) -OR- phone the parish office at 630. 668.0918.



## PARISH CALENDAR

**Thank you to Hultgren Funeral Homes**

Parish Calendars are available for pick up at the back of church or in the parish office. They are free for you to take one to your homes. This year's calendar was sponsored by Hultgren Funeral Homes and we thank them for their support. This year's calendar highlights a different Saint each month, in addition to providing information on vestment colors, holy days of obligation, penitential rules, a table of moveable feasts and more!



## And just like that, we have a Pastor!

Last weekend, during a public, solemn ceremony, Bishop Hicks installed the 12th Pastor of St. John the Baptist. In support of Fr. Dan and his ministry, Fr. John Balluff (who vested Fr. Dan for his first Mass), Fr. Michal, Dcn Kurt Lange and Dcn Len Penkala (both from St. Raphael church) along with our own Dcn Joe were present to hear Fr. Dan's pledge:

“My friends, I pledge to seek your counsel, guidance, and advice in the spiritual and temporal care of my pastorate.”



Fr. Dan's first official act as pastor was to lead the people in the Profession of Faith and the Nicene Creed. This is followed by an Oath of Fidelity in front of the Bishop.



Fr. Dan continued with these powerful words:

“With firm faith, I believe as well everything contained in God's word, written or handed down in tradition and professed by the Church whether in solemn judgment or in the ordinary and Universal Magisterium- as divinely revealed and calling for faith.”

With these final words:

“Moreover, I adhere with religious submission of will and intellect to the teaching which either the Roman Pontiff with the College of Bishops enunciate when they exercise the authentic Magisterium, even if they proclaim those teachings in an act that is not definitive.”

the bishop of the diocese is assured that the bonds of unity are strengthened between the parish to the diocese and to the Universal Church. The pastor never acts alone.

Bishop Hicks asked for our continued prayers for our new pastor and all the priests of the Diocese.





## Scripture Readings

### MONDAY

December 22  
Advent Weekday  
1 Sm 1:24-28  
Lk 1:46-56

### TUESDAY

December 23  
Advent Weekday  
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Lk 1:57-66

### WEDNESDAY

December 24  
Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67-79

### THURSDAY

December 25  
*The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14

### FRIDAY

December 26  
*St. Stephen, the First Martyr*  
Acts 6:8-10;  
7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

### SATURDAY

December 27  
*St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

### SUNDAY

December 28  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14  
Col 3:12-21  
or 3:12-17  
Mt 2:13-15,  
19-23



Christmas  
Break  
has begun!

Classes  
resume  
on Tuesday  
January 6

No School  
Monday  
January 19



Our School is

- ≡ Formed in Faith
- ≡ Educated in Excellence
- ≡ Embraced by Community

Information about our **Catholic School Week Open House** on **January 25th** will be in the bulletin soon. Mark your calendar to join us to see the many unique ways we feed the spiritual, intellectual and social needs of our students. **Merry Christmas!**

For more information, contact school Principal, Mrs. Joanne Policht at [jplicht@stjohnwinfield.org](mailto:jplicht@stjohnwinfield.org)

## CLOSING MASS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

### We'll meet you at the Cathedral

On Sunday December 28 throughout the world Catholics will gather at their Cathedral Churches to celebrate the closing of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025. The Diocese of Joliet will celebrate the closing of this Jubilee Year at the 10:30 am Mass on December 28 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus in Joliet. Everyone is invited to this very special Mass as a worldwide celebration of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 ends. This has been a very special time for the Church and we now gather to give thanks for all the blessings received during this Jubilee Year of Hope throughout the Diocese. Mark your calendar to be present at the 10:30 am Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday December 28 and join all Catholics throughout the world celebrating the closing of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025.



## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CMAA PLEDGE REPORT

Thank you for making your pledge payments for the CMAA. Now that we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs.

PARISH GOAL:	\$103,800	AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$129,339
AMOUNT PAID:	\$126,594	REMAINING BALANCE:	\$ 2,745
REBATE AMOUNT:	\$ 15,955		

Thank you and God Bless you for your generosity and support.



# In Our Heart and Prayers

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, December 20**

5:00 pm ✠ Joe Konopka  
✠ Clem Milder  
✠ James Russell

**Sunday, December 21**

8:00 am ✠ Robert Urick  
10:00 am ✠ Clem Milder  
12 Noon People of the Parish

Monday, December 22

8:00 am ✠ Michael Foster

Tuesday, December 23

8:00 am ✠ Garnett Skopal

Wednesday, December 24

3:00 pm church ✠ Grace Spatz  
3:00 pm chapel ✠ Frank Fabianski  
7:00 pm church ✠ Jeanne Ptak  
10:00 pm church ✠ Maria Garza

Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day

8:00 am People of the Parish  
10:00 am ✠ Joe Grabowski  
12 Noon ✠ James Marecek  
✠ Rose Marecek  
✠ Elizabeth Marecek

Friday, December 26

8:00 am ✠ Jeanne Ptak  
✠ Robert Esposito  
✠ Robert Henry

**Saturday, December 27**

8:00 am ✠ Grace Spatz

5:00 pm Sp. Int. of Erin and Jake Bodi

✠ James Russell  
✠ Raymond Kalina  
Stark Family

**Sunday, December 28**

8:00 am ✠ Deceased members of  
Moreen and Brown  
Families  
10:00 am ✠ Michael Foster  
12 Noon ✠ Jennifer Thompson

## For the Sick

Joan Buckingham, Wally Buckingham, Lawrence Campbell, Luke Hougan, Michael McGrath, Britney Prehn, Father Gerald Riva, Rick Rohr, Desiree Sheppard, Jeffrey Skrobitt, Anita Venard, Marino Verdico

To place a name on the prayer lists, contact Rosa Benavides, at [rosab@stjohnwinfield.org](mailto:rosab@stjohnwinfield.org) or by phone at 630.668.0918 x 601. Names will remain on the sick list for six weeks. In a long term illness situation, simply identify such to Rosa at the time of your call.

## For the Deceased

**Charles LoGiudice** - father of Jennifer Jin

## For those in the Armed Forces for Peace and Safety

Lt. Col. John Berg, SSgt Tyler Bowling, Commander Nicholas Daly, Lt. Col. Anthony Eschliman, Airman Nicholas Kostecka, Cpt. Matthew Luff, 1st Lt. Allyson Serbick, SPC Keegan Serbick, SPC Jack Serbick, Lt. Col. James Smolucha, Maj. Michael Smolucha

## For Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

This week, the Sanctuary Lamp in the Chapel burns in memory of Patricia Rios.

The Sanctuary Church lamp burns this week in memory of Jeanne Ptak.



*Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer; and only through prayer can they persevere and bear fruit. - Pope Francis*

## Vocation Prayer Calendar

**December 21** Srs. Helen Vahling, Rita Vahling, OSF  
**December 22** Dcn. Jonathan Hernandez  
**December 23** Dcns. Gary Wooley, Duane Wozek  
**December 24** Dcns. Ron Yurcus, Robert Ziomek  
**December 25** Srs. M. Yvonne Weidner, Vivian Whitehead, OSF  
**December 26** Dcns. Guadalupe Villarreal, Francis Vonesh  
**December 27** Srs. M. Joan Clare Wisner, Irene Yosick, OSF



## POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

### For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope



# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and School

**Parish office:** (630) 668 - 0918 Ext. 1  
**School office:** (630) 668 - 2625 Ext. 618

fax: (630) 668 - 1074  
fax: (630) 668 - 1074

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm, closed Friday

**Clergy** (630) 668-0918

**Rev. Dan Bachner, Pastor** Ext. 1

**Rev. Michal Twaruzek, Parochial Vicar**  
mtwaruzek@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 604

**Deacon Rev. Mr. Joe Verdico**  
DeaconJoe@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 610

**Parish Staff** (630) 668-0918

## Administration

**Marian Johnston, Business Manager**  
mjohnston@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 602

**Aaron Simpson, Facilities Manager**  
aarons@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 603

**Rosa Benavides, Admin. Assistant /  
Secretaria Hispana**  
rosab@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 601

**Dianne Scheiblein, Accountant**  
diannes@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 614

## Adult Faith Formation

**Fr. Patrick Mulcahy**  
frpat@stjohnwinfield.org

## Religious Education Office

**Kathie Brewer, K-5 grade Coordinator**  
kathieb@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 613

**Sofia Lech, 6-8 grade Coordinator**  
slech@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 612

## Music

**Carrie Marcotte, Dir. of Sacred Music**  
cmarcotte@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 611



Contact Us via email at:  
contactus@stjohnwinfield.org

(630) 668-2625 x 618  
**School Office**

**Joanne Policht, Principal**  
jpolicht@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 617

**Teri Hardesty, Admin. Assistant**  
terih@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 618

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**  
(630) 668-0918 Ext. 692

## Communication

### Bulletin submissions:

Due Wednesday by 3:00 pm, ten days prior to publication date to sjbbulletin@stjohnwinfield.org  
Holiday schedules will vary.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church & School



## NEW PARISHIONERS

We warmly invite you to join our parish family. To register, visit the parish website at [www.stjohnwinfield.org](http://www.stjohnwinfield.org) or stop by the parish office.

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms are usually celebrated on the third Saturday of the month at 12:00 noon. Special events and holidays may alter the schedule. There is a three month waiting period for new parishioners. Contact the parish office for information.

## PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Hospitals do not inform churches when parishioners are patients. Tell hospital staff you want to be added to the Catholic census so that hospital ministers know to visit. Contact the parish office Ext 1 to be added to the prayer list, or to receive Eucharist from a Minister of Care.

## FUNERALS

Arrangements for a funeral are usually made through the Funeral Director at a funeral home of your choice. Contact the parish office with any questions.

## MARRIAGE REQUIREMENTS

Diocese requirements include a formal engagement preparation period of at least six months before the date of the wedding and attendance in a marriage preparation program. St. John the Baptist requires either the bride, groom or parents of either to be registered as parishioners for at least three months before contacting us to set a date. There are a number of additional requirements. To begin the marriage process, either the bride or groom must contact the parish office.

## ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meetings take place on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the lower level of the parish office in Sodonna Hall.

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday (Sunday vigil)** 5:00 pm - church  
**Sunday** 8:00, 10:00 am, and 12:00 noon - church  
**Daily** Monday through Friday 8:00 am - chapel  
Saturday 8:00 am - church

Follow us on:  

**Reconciliation** Friday 3:00 pm and **Saturday** following morning Mass - both in church

## First Saturday Devotion and Reconciliation

First Saturday of each month following 8:00 am Mass - church

**Eucharistic Adoration** Thursdays 9:00am until 6:00 pm - chapel



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