

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

0S233 Church Street Winfield, IL 60190 630.668.0918 [www.stjohnwinfield.org](http://www.stjohnwinfield.org)

Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026



# Easter at St. John the Baptist



Easter Vigil  
 Saturday, April 4  
 7:45 - 9:45 pm  
 Reception to follow  
 in Sebahar Hall

Easter  
 Sunday, April 5  
 8:00 am in Church  
 8:00 am in Chapel  
 10:00 am in Church  
 10:00 am in Chapel  
 12:00 noon in Church

We've made sure that there is room for everyone to participate in worship with us this Easter.

The Easter Vigil will welcome the three newest members of our church family. The Mass will not include as many readings as in years past. We expect the Vigil Mass to have a duration of two hours.

The Easter Sunday Masses will follow our usual Sunday schedule.

Plan now to celebrate with us! Ushers, please sign up on the sheets posted in Usher's room to help accommodate all in our house of worship this Easter!

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE CHANGES

- ⇒ Morning prayer service (without reception of communion) replaces morning Mass on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday
- ⇒ There will be no confessions on Good Friday or Holy Saturday.
- ⇒ Catholics in good health ages 18-59 are required to observe the Easter fast AND abstain from meat on Good Friday. Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal. Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meal on all Fridays of Lent.
- ⇒ There is no Fish Fry on Good Friday.
- ⇒ There will be no First Saturday devotion this month, on April 4th.



**Holy Thursday**

April 2  
 8:00 am Prayer Service  
 7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Incense will be used  
 Adoration until 11:00 pm



**Good Friday**

April 3  
 8:00 am Prayer Service  
 3:00 pm Passion of the Lord  
 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
 Begin your Divine Mercy  
 Novena today



**Holy Saturday**

April 4  
 8:00 am Prayer Service  
 12 Noon Blessing of Baskets  
 12:30 pm Easter Egg Hunt  
 7:45 pm Easter Vigil  
 Incense will be used



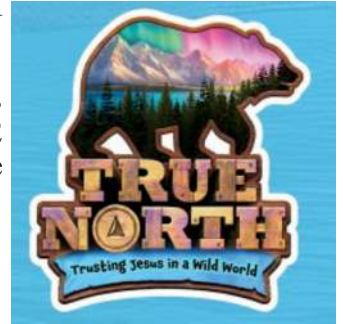
**Easter Sunday**

April 5  
 8:00 am Mass in Church  
 and Chapel  
 10:00 am Mass in Church  
 and Chapel  
 12:00 noon Mass in Church

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

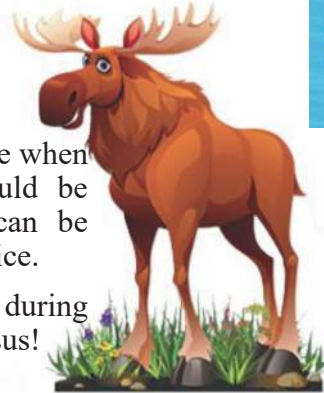
### Plan now for summer fun - spaces fill fast!

Come and learn how to trust Jesus in a Wild World! Open to all children entering grades K through 5 as of Fall 2026. 'Camp' will take place here at St. John the Baptist June 22 through June 26 between the hours of 9 am and 12 noon. Don't 'moose' out on all the fun as St. John's will be the site for a combined VBS for St. John's and St. Michael's due to their road construction. SPACE IS VERY LIMITED! Registration is now open, spaces will be filled on a first-come basis.



Registration is considered complete when payment is made. Checks should be made out to St. Michael, but can be dropped off at the St. John RE Office.

Come and meet new friends during a week of wild adventures with Jesus!



**\$ 50 per student for your Passport to Fun !!**

Use these links to register:

Camper link for students entering Gr K-5: <https://forms.gle/6CmADRhZ4CaM3SFe8>

Jr. High Crew Leader link for students entering Gr 6-8:

<https://www.canva.com/design/DAHDb2tUAAAY/2LeTEtO2cGLnTXzFNK3hOQ/edit>



For more information, contact: Kathie Brewer at 630-682-4400 x 613 or [kathieb@stjohnwinfield.org](mailto:kathieb@stjohnwinfield.org)

**OPEN TO ALL PRESCHOOLERS THROUGH 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADERS**

**Date: Saturday, April 4, 2026**

**Time: 12:30 pm (after Blessing of Easter Baskets@12 Noon)**

**Place: Gather at the Church pavilion  
(East side of Church off Liberty St.)**

Bring a non-perishable food item or cleaning supplies for the Food Pantry. Don't forget a basket to collect eggs and to carry your candy home. Eggs will be emptied on site so we can collect the empty eggs for next year.

Please dress children appropriately.

**Inclement weather will move the Egg Hunt to Sebahar Hall**



## EASTER USHERS NEEDED

**Please sign up now!**

As preparations continue in your homes with Easter just a couple weeks away, we are getting your church home ready too!

Counting the seats at the table, dusting, decorating and purchasing fresh flowers are all on the To Do List.

We could use the help of the Ushers to commit to attending Mass at one of the needed open spots.

Sign up sheets are in the Usher's room.

Just like the favorite aunt who brings an extra dish to pass, we **SO** appreciate you!



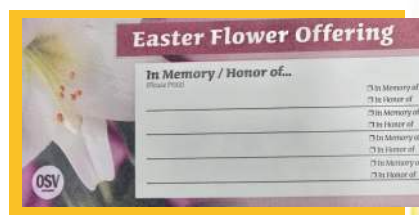
## GETTING OUR HOUSE READY FOR EASTER

### Your generosity will help in that effort!

Easter preparations have started here at Church, just as they have in your own homes. Please see the Easter Flower contribution envelope in your envelope packet to help decorate our worship space for Easter! Donations may also be made using the QR code at below left.



Names listed *in memory of* or *in honor of* on the flower envelopes will be listed in the bulletin on Divine Mercy Sunday and will be remembered in a special way during the Mass Intentions at Easter. What a lovely way to celebrate Easter with those who may not be with us to celebrate this year.



## PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

### Plan accordingly

Holy week and Easter will have us working frantically behind the scenes, which means the Parish office will be closed. The parish office is closed for: Holy Thursday, April 2 Good Friday, April 3 and Easter Monday, April 6

Please remember that when the parish offices are closed, the chapel is NOT open for prayer.

We wish you all a Blessed Easter Season (remember the celebration of Easter lasts for 50 days and continues until Pentecost on May 24!



## Easter Sunday Message from Bishop Dennis E. Spies April 2026



Happy Easter everyone!

This is the greatest of all the celebrations. Everything we celebrate all year culminates Easter Sunday. Have you ever considered that the whole point of Christmas is that Easter Sunday needs to happen?

Sometimes we forget in our life that Easter Sunday is real. We think a lot about the passion that Jesus had to go through on Good Friday and how we participate in it. When life is difficult and we're struggling, we sometimes forget about Easter Sunday during the year. It's important for us to remember that any time we're going through something and we're struggling, and then somehow we get through it, and it's extraordinary afterwards—that's Easter Sunday in your life.

Our Lord Jesus participated in Easter Sunday to let us know that he has power over life and death. His life wasn't taken from him. He gave it away—the same with rising from the dead. He chose to rise from the dead. Why would he do that? To let us know that we're next. We get to participate in this resurrection when we follow Him throughout our whole life. And the whole point of the resurrection is the proclamation of eternal life, that we will rise from the dead when we die. Thanks be to God that He saw fit to give us such an example.

This witness is apparent as we enter into this Easter season when we see the apostles boldly testifying to the resurrection from the dead—most of them with their lives. They were martyred on account of their testimony, so it's not just an expression. Jesus actually rose from the dead, and they gave their lives to testify to it.

So, this year, remember that celebrating Easter is about celebrating Jesus' rising from the dead, and the hope that he gives us. Rather than filling up on chocolate Easter bunnies and eggs because you gave up chocolate for Lent, celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus in your life, rising out of the many challenges you face to give you hope in this life and in the life to come. Thanks be to God.



[www.stjohnwinfield.org](http://www.stjohnwinfield.org)

## Scripture Readings

### MONDAY

MARCH 30

Monday of Holy Week

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

### TUESDAY

MARCH 31

Tuesday of Holy Week

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

### WEDNESDAY

APRIL 1

Wednesday of Holy Week

Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25

### THURSDAY

APRIL 2

Thursday of Holy Week

(Holy Thursday)

Chrism Mass:

Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9

Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the

Lord's Supper:

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor

11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

### FRIDAY

APRIL 3

Friday of the Passion of

the Lord (Good Friday)

Is 52:13-53:12

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

### SATURDAY

APRIL 4

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)

Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1,

26-31a; Gn 22:1-18 or

22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Ex 14:15-15:1

Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11

Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4

Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28

Rom 6:3-11; Mt 28:1-10

### SUNDAY

APRIL 5

Easter Sunday of the

Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor

5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

or Mt 28:1-10



## POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

## ALL ARE INVITED TO THE BLESSING OF THE BASKETS

The blessing of the food for the Easter feast will take place in church on

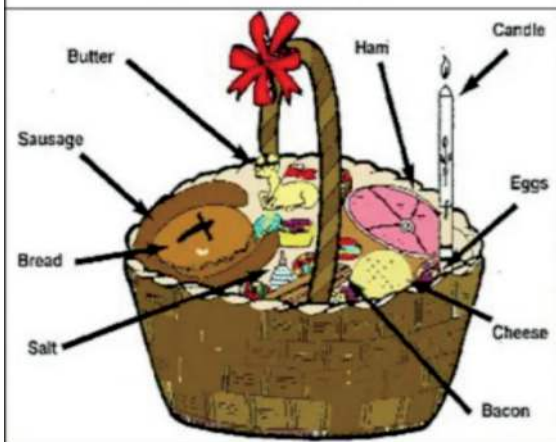
**Saturday, April 4th at 12:00 noon.**

This is a beloved tradition borrowed from those of Eastern European backgrounds. The foods in the baskets are rich in Easter symbolism and serve to do more than whet one's appetite after the long season of Lenten fasting.

Traditional items are listed below. The baskets are sprinkled with holy water and a prayer of blessing is said.

Traditionally the baskets are adorned with boxwood and dried flowers. Covering the basket is a cloth that is meant to symbolize the burial cloth that wrapped Jesus' body in the tomb. These are often embroidered and passed down from one generation to another, as is often, the gift of our faith.

### Load the Basket with traditional items.



### You might want to put in some of the traditional items:

- **Bread**—symbolizing Jesus, the Bread of Life
- **Easter Eggs**—symbolizing our new life in Christ
- **Salt**—to remind Christians that they are to "season" the Earth
- **Meat**—symbolizing joy and abundance
- **Candle**—symbolizing Christ, the Light of the World
- **ribbons**—symbolizing joy and celebration
- **any other items** you want to put in (chocolates, desserts, whatever)

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

Sunday April 12

Reconciliation begins at 2:00 pm

Adoration holy hour 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Start your Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday, April 3 and then celebrate on April 12th

In 1937, she wrote that Jesus made her understand how much He suffered in that procession, with "Hosanna" echoing the coming "Crucify."  
(St. Maria Kowalska, Diary paragraph 1028)



# In Our Heart and Prayers

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, March 28

5:00 pm ✠ Ludwig and Elfriede  
Groetzl  
✠ Armella and Vernon  
Vechart

### Sunday, March 29

8:00 am ✠ Grace Spatz  
10:00 am People of the Parish  
12 Noon Sp Int of George Scheuller

### Monday, March 30

8:00 am ✠ Dorothy Aylward

### Tuesday, March 31

8:00 am Sp Int of Daniel Noonan

### Wednesday, April 1

8:00 am ✠ Marilyn Bishop  
5:00 pm Our Sorrowful Mother

### HOLY Thursday, April 2

8:00 am Prayer Service  
7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

### GOOD Friday, April 3

8:00 am Prayer Service  
3:00 pm Passion of the Lord

### HOLY Saturday, April 4

8:00 am Prayer Service  
12:00 noon Blessing of the Baskets  
7:45 pm Easter Vigil

### EASTER Sunday, April 5

8:00 am Intention of celebrant  
10:00 am People of the Parish  
12 Noon Intention of celebrant

**T**he Mass is considered the highest form of prayer in the Church, and certainly the most powerful prayer that is said on behalf of those who are deceased.

## For the Sick

Joan Buckingham, Wally Buckingham, Lawrence Campbell, Regalado Carlos, Mildred Hoffman, Luke Hougan, Michael McGrath, Britney Prehn, Fr. Gerald Riva, Genevieve Rohr, Rick Rohr, Bobby Schreiber, Fr. John Sebahar, Desiree Sheppard, Jeffrey Skrobutt, **Fr. Gerald Tivy**, Anita Venard, Marino Verdico

To place a name on the prayer lists, contact Rosa Benavides, at 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

*Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember. Fulfill in them the purpose of your love, and bring us all with them, to your eternal joy.*

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

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

## For Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

The Sanctuary Church lamp burns this week for the Musni Family

The Chapel sanctuary lamp burns for a private personal intention



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

## Vocation Prayer Calendar

**March 29** Sr. Monica Rocha, MSCGpe  
**March 30** Dcns. John Freund, Joseph Ferrari  
**March 31** Fr. John Ronaldo Abulag  
**April 1** Sr. Rose Cecile Espinos, SSND  
**April 2** Fr. Christian Sinclair  
**April 3** Brs. Philip Johnson, David Kuebler, Joseph Martin, FSC  
**April 4** Sr. Carmen Sotelo, MSCGpe

## Stewardship... A Way of Life

Your sacrificial giving for the weekend of March 15 totaled \$ 17,390. Thank you for your support and prayers in helping the parish meet our weekly goal of \$20,198. May God continue to bless you for your generosity and Lenten Sacrifice.



# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and School

**Parish office:** (630) 668 - 0918 Ext. 0  
**School office:** (630) 668 - 2625 Ext. 618

*Parish Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm, closed Friday*

**Clergy** (630) 668-0918  
**Rev. Dan Bachner, Pastor** Ext. 601  
**Rev. Michal Twaruzek, Parochial Vicar**  
mtwaruzek@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 604  
**Deacon Rev. Mr. Joe Verdico**  
DeaconJoe@stjohnwinfield.org Ext. 610



**Contact Us via email at:**  
contactus@stjohnwinfield.org

**Parish Staff** (630) 668-0918 x 0  
**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. 608

(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 sjbulletin@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, stop by the parish office or see the parish website at [www.stjohnwinfield.org](http://www.stjohnwinfield.org).

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms are usually celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month after the 12:00 noon Mass. Special events and holidays may alter the schedule. There is a three month waiting period for new parishioners to schedule a baptism. 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 0 to be added to the prayer list. Ext 610 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.

Follow us on:  

### **Daily Mass Schedule during Lent :**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 am**

**Wednesday 8:00 am and 5:00 pm** \* 5pm Mass is followed by Our Lady of Sorrows Novena

**School Mass is Tuesday at 8:45 am**

### **Weekend Mass Schedule which fulfills Sunday Obligation :**

**Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon**

### **Reconciliation :**

Fridays at 3 pm and Saturdays following morning Mass

**There is no reconciliation on Good Friday or Holy Saturday**

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