

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



MARCH 31, 2024 EASTER SUNDAY

MASS SCHEDULE

2nd & 4th Saturday.....	4:00 pm
Sunday.....	9:00 am
Wednesday & Friday.....	7:00 am
1st Friday-Pine Haven.....	10:00 am
2nd Friday-Prairie Crossing.....	10:00 am

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 - 3:30 PM

601 Valley Road, Kohler WI 53044

Telephone..... (920) 452-9623

Email..... stjohnnev@btsje.org

Website..... stjohnkohler.org

Please contact the Parish Office to:

1. **Join the Parish**
2. **Schedule a Baptism**
3. **Schedule a Mass Intention**
4. **Any other questions or concerns**

PARISH STAFF:

Administrator: Rev. Jonathon Schmeckel

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 206

Anointing or Emergency: 920-550-1145

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Gretchen Free 920-452-9623 ext. 201

Director of Liturgy & Music:

Zach Holzer E-Mail: zach@btsje.org

Directors of Religious Education:

Jeanne Bitkers (Gr. 4K-6)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 220

E-Mail: jeanne@btsje.org

Teresa Bettag (Gr. 7-12)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 218

E-Mail: teresab@btsje.org

Co-Directors of Catholic Life Center:

John O'Dell E-Mail: john@btsje.org

Mary Waitkus E-Mail: maryw@btsje.org

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Finance Council Chair..... Rob Wenberg

Bob Goldsmith Ryan Kuhn

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson..... Bridgitt Zielke

Vice Chairperson..... Steve O'Neil

Rich Tauferner Norma Horne

Nick Cinquepalmi Paul Gami

Rita Gast Carol Marksteiner

Rick Michaletz

Trustees: Toni Sarafin, Trustee Treasurer

Michael Pellegrino, Trustee Secretary

PRAY THE ROSARY DURING THE WEEK:

Wednesday & Friday at 6:40 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

1st Fridays-6:00 - 6:45 am St. John Evangelist

Sundays 8:00 - 8:45 am St. John Evangelist

1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays-3 :00 pm-Blessed Trinity

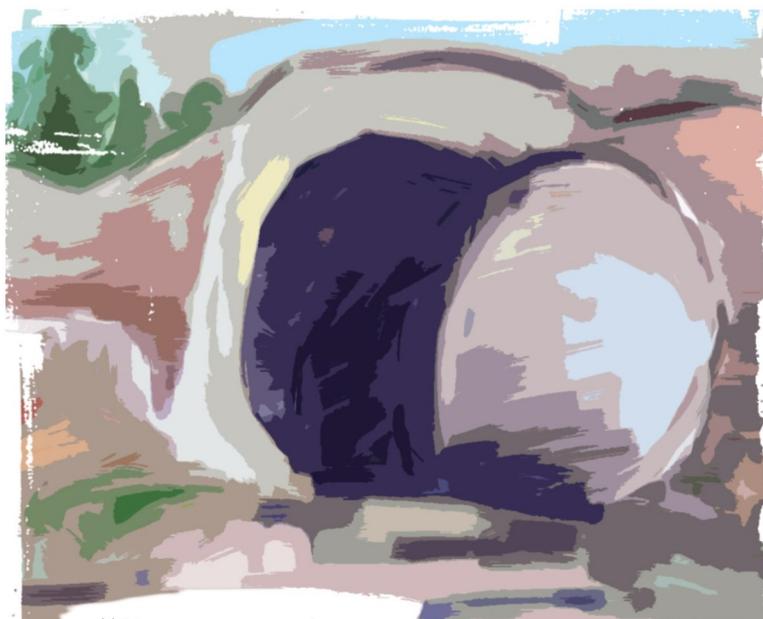
2nd & 4th Saturdays-3:00 pm-St. John Evangelist

Readings for Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9



*"On the first
day of the week, Mary
of Magdala came to the tomb
early in the morning, while it
was still dark, and saw the
stone removed from the tomb."
John 20:1*

Bulletin Submission Deadline: All requests for bulletin articles must be received by Wednesday noon to be included in that weekend's bulletin. Any articles received after that will be included as space permits. For holiday weeks, the deadline may change. Thank you for your understanding.

From Father Schmeckel:

Happy Easter to you and your family!

What great joy should fill our hearts today!

There is ancient homily on Holy Saturday from an anonymous preacher that is read and prayed by many priests, nuns, monks and lay faithful throughout the world. In this homily, we find these words:



“Something strange is happening – there is a great silence on earth today, a great silence and stillness. The whole earth keeps silence because the King is asleep... God has died in the flesh and hell trembles with fear.”

The preacher goes on to tell about Jesus' descent into hell, which we profess every time we pray the Apostles' Creed. He describes with vivid imagery that Jesus goes there to seek out our first parents, Adam and Eve. As the homily goes on, he begins to describe how they are led out of captivity into the freedom and light of eternal life with Jesus forever.

He then describes how God gave Adam and Eve a plentiful garden to live in; Jesus was betrayed in a garden; He was crucified in a garden. But then, in a very beautiful scene, Jesus tells Adam and Eve that they will *not* be going back to the garden of Eden. Rather, he says:

“Rise, let us leave this place. The enemy led you out of the earthly paradise. I will not restore you to that paradise, but I will enthrone you in heaven.”

In simpler terms, Jesus plans to take Adam and Eve *and us* to something greater than the Garden of Eden. This is the great gift that Jesus offers us today through his Death and Resurrection. He offers us the entrance into Heaven.

The Octave of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and runs through the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday. Each of the days from March 31 through April 7 is considered a Sunday in the Church calendar. This means that each of these days should be marked in our prayer and daily lives with extra joy and festivity. In my mind, this means desserts each day, and a little extra salt, butter, and bacon on top of everything. Some of these outward signs help us to “absorb” the meaning of these joyful days!

THANK YOU to all of our staff and volunteers at Blessed Trinity and Saint John who help us to celebrate Easter, in the day-to-day, ordinary things, and by having patience with me as we prepare for the extra details of Lent and Easter celebrations! From our Directors of Religious Education and Administrative Staff; to our lectors, musicians, sacristans, and ushers; to our decorators, plant-waterers, custodians, and maintenance staff, to everyone in between, and to all who pray with us and/or for us. Our celebrations could not happen as wonderfully and prayerfully without the many, many things you do to make it all happen (and to keep me on track!). May God reward you for all that you do. I am grateful to all.

FINANCIAL: MARCH 23/24, 2024: Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$7,155.26

MASS INTENTIONS

Thursday	March 28	St. John's	7:00 pm	†Deceased Members of the Tauferner and Schwebel Families
Friday	March 29	Blessed Trinity	1:30 pm	<i>The Lord's Passion; Veneration of the Cross; Holy Communion</i>
Saturday	March 30	Blessed Trinity	7:45 pm	†Wally Dobrzynski by Family
Sunday	March 31	St. John's	6:45 am	†Norbert & Adeline Haen by Cate Pearce
Sunday	March 31	St. John's	8:30 am	†Frank Plesetz by Kathy & Family
Sunday	March 31	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners
Tuesday	April 2	St. John's	8:00 am	†Constance Cook by Family
Tuesday	April 2	Blessed Trinity	6:00 pm	†Francis & Luella Buechler by Family
Wednesday	April 3	St. John's	7:00 am	†Poor Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday	April 3	Blessed Trinity	6:00 pm	Special Intention for Religious Education Catechists and Students
Thursday	April 4	St. John's	8:00 am	†Kyle Wagner by Mom & Dad
Friday	April 5	St. John's	7:00 am	†Rich Lorenz by Family
Friday	April 5	Pine Haven	10:00 am	†Adele, John, & Norbert Abromaitis by Jim & Sandy Jordan
Saturday	April 6	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Lucy Gilsdorf by Family, †Edward Zimmermann by Family and Friends
Sunday	April 7	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	April 7	Blessed Trinity	10:30 pm	†Ulrich Bartels by Shelly Bartels, Carol Schuessler by Family

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Will be offered at Blessed Trinity Parish on Saturday, April 6 at 3:00 pm and at St. John Evangelist Parish on Friday, April 5 from 6:00 - 6:45am and Sunday, April 7 from 8:00 - 8:30 am.

LAY MINISTERS FOR APRIL 7	
MASSES	Sunday, 9:00 am
Lectors	Justin Spaeth Erin M.
Servers	Volunteer Volunteer
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Rich Tauferner
Ushers	Tom Reilly Jim Sarafin
Sacristan	Dave & Diane Hart
Greeters	Peter Bustos

IMPORTANT MASS CHANGE & UPDATE: The elevator at Blessed Trinity is set to be replaced beginning on **Monday, April 1 (tentatively through June 10)**. Due to this work, the daily Tuesday and Thursday Masses will be moved to St. John Evangelist Parish beginning on **Tuesday, April 2**. Additional information:

- The Tuesday and Thursday Mass time will change to **8:00 am** (currently it is at 9:00 am).
- Tuesday Rosary will begin at 7:30 am.
- Thursday Adoration at St. John Evangelist Parish will begin at **8:30 am** (immediately following the Mass). Note: The church will still be open beginning at 5:45 am for private prayer on Thursdays.

EVENTS CALENDAR

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

6:45 am Mass
8:30 am Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

8:00 am Mass
8:30 - 11:00 am Mission Society
5:30 pm Emmaus 90
6:30 - 8:00 pm Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

7:00 am Mass
4:00 - 5:15 pm Religious Education
4K- Grade 6
6:45 - 8:00 pm Religious Education
Grades 7 - 12

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am - 9:00 pm Adoration
2:00 pm Bible Study

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

6:00 - 6:45 am Reconciliation
7:00 am Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

8:00 am Reconciliation
9:00 am Mass

REFLECTIVE MATERIALS

DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR EASTER TO PENTECOST are available on the table in the Gathering Space.



WALKING WITH JESUS:

The 4K-Grade 6 Religious Education Lenten theme this year is "Walking with Jesus" and our students and families are giving and collecting new socks (any size) to be given to those in need. Collection baskets are in the Religious Education wing and in the Gathering Space. **This is the last weekend to donate socks.** All socks will be sent to St. Vincent de Paul after Easter.



SHEBOYGAN FALLS

FOOD PANTRY:

Please continue to bring **non-perishable** goods for the Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry. Special reminder from Heidi O'Neill: "The Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry appreciates the many donations that are made to us throughout the year. However, we are unable to accept any outdated items, as this poses a possible risk to our clients. Thank you for your understanding and thank you for the many donations that you make to the pantry." **Next Delivery: Monday, April 2, 2024: Matt & Jennifer Walton**

SUNDAY SOCIAL:

There will be a social immediately following the 9:00 am Mass **NEXT SUNDAY, April 7.** Stop by and enjoy a sweet treat and come coffee. The social is hosted by the Pastoral Council.



Sheboygan County Adult Faith Formation
invites you to

Young Adult Mass & Social at King Park

Join other Sheboygan County young adults in their 20s and 30s for Mass in the King Park Pavilion followed by food and games! Bring a side to share, and a friend! The main course and drinks will be provided.

Date:

Saturday, April 27

Time:

6:30 PM Mass
Social to follow

Location:

King Park Pavilion
1615 S. 7th Street
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Questions:

Contact Jacqueline at
jguilbeault@sjbplymouth.org



MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY - THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES:

Enter into the Mysteries of the Rosary and Rediscover its Power! An authentic encounter with Christ leads to our transformation and sanctification. Mysteries of the Rosary integrates deeply reflective insights on the life of Christ, theological truths, and captivating stories together with breathtaking scenery, illuminating sacred art, and inspiring music. By filming on location in the Holy Land, our aspiration is to make the Rosary come alive in the hearts and minds of each of us.

The call to pray is urgent. Please join us in the church at Blessed Trinity Parish for each half-hour episode, and then stay to pray the Rosary with us, as a community, afterwards!

Seven episodes on seven evenings: **Mondays May 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th** starting at **6:00 PM. Saturdays May 4th and 18th, and Saturday June 1st, following the 4:00 PM Mass (approximately 5:15 PM).** ~Jim O'Neill

CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER OPEN HOUSE:

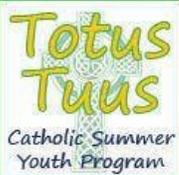
On **Saturday, April 6 from 5:00-5:45 pm** and on **Sunday, April 21 from 11:30 am - 12:15 pm**, stop by after Mass at Blessed Trinity Parish to see the Catholic Life Center renovations, learn more about the Catholic Life Center, and enjoy a treat.



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FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL:

The Catholic Life Center will host a First Friday Social after the 7:00 am Mass on Friday, **April 5**. Please stay for a sweet treat and some coffee.



Grades 1-6 and 7-12 Summer Vacation Bible School: Totus Tuus is taking place here at St. John Evangelist Parish from **June 23-28**. More information and Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space at the entrance of the Church or on the St John Evangelist website. Registration Fees: \$20.00 per student Grades 1-6, \$20.00 per student / Grades 7-12, \$10 per student. Fees increase after April 1. For more information contact: Jeanne Bitkers, DRE 4K-Grade 6 jeanne@btsje.org or call the Parish Office 920-452-9623.

2024 Lenten Almsgiving: Thank you to all who have contributed to our Lenten Almsgiving focus for 2023. Your generosity toward this initiative has been amazing. This is the last week to contribute. On behalf of SJE and BT human concerns committee we thank you for putting your faith into action. **To date, we have collected \$23,659.00.** This will afford young mothers the opportunity to pursue a meaningful career to provide for their families. ~Sharon Reilly, Human Concerns Social Justice Committee

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CHARITY CLUB:

The next Catholic Women's Charity Club meeting is **Wednesday, April 3rd** at 1:00 p.m. at St. Peter Claver Van Treeck Hall. The speaker for the evening is Linda Wieck with the Camo Quilt Project. All Catholic Women are welcome.

CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER BUS TRIP TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP:

The Catholic Life Center will be hosting a pilgrimage to visit The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion WI on **Friday, June 14**. The bus will leave Blessed Trinity Parish parking lot at 8:00 am and arrive back around 4:30 pm. During the pilgrimage, there will be opportunities for Mass, Confessions, and the rosary. Cost is \$25.00 per adult and \$10.00 per child. Bring your own bag lunch or purchase a box lunch for an additional \$10.00 per person. Space is limited. Registration forms are located in the Gathering Space and are due by May 20.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE: 4K - GRADE 6: The goal of our St John Evangelist Religious Education Program for our youngest children (4K-Grade 6) is to help parents, the first teachers of their children, plant the seeds of faith, and to help our students know God and His Son Jesus, to follow His example, and to love and serve others. Our classes are taught by experienced volunteer Catechists who work together to ensure that all of our students are receiving the best possible opportunities to grow in faith and knowledge. We are most grateful for everything that our Catechists do every Wednesday of the school year!

All but our youngest 4/5 year old students start each class in Church with prayer and a large group lesson where they hear about the upcoming Sunday's Gospel and learn more about Sacraments, the Mass, various forms of prayer, Liturgical Seasons, and/or Special Saints. Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist/Communion begins in Grade 1, and special classes are held for older students who have not received these Sacraments. Parent participation in Sacrament Preparation Family Events is required.

During the school year our students are involved in a variety of activities including Bible studies, class discussions, crafts, role-playing, letter-writing, guessing games, classroom parades, church tours and artwork. They also participate in age-appropriate service projects and liturgical celebrations such as Mass during class time, the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent and Lent, Stations of the Cross and other prayer experiences. We use Loyola Press textbooks, Pflaum Gospel Weekly materials, and other resources to help us teach our students. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee also provides specific grade level expectations for our use. These can be found at <https://www.archmil.org/Education/Curriculum.htm>

We have four more classes this year and have begun to look forward to a new summer vacation program called "Totus Tuus", that will be held during the week of June 23-28th! Special thanks to Fr. Schmeckel, the Parish Staff, the Religious Education families and you, the St. John Evangelist Parishioners who are providing for the Religious Education/Faith Formation of 75 of our youngest students. May the Lord bless you, and our children and all those you love; and may He touch your hearts in a special way as we continue to celebrate the Miracle of Easter!

~Jeanne Bitkers, Director of Religious Education 4K-Grade 6

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE: GRADES 7 - 12:

Happy Easter from all of the 7-12th grade RE students and catechists!! We are having a great year of "falling in love with Jesus!" This past Lent was especially faith FULL, as we had an evening of reconciliation with three priests available to hear our confessions. We walked and prayed the Stations of the Cross as a large group one night and had a Seder meal where we learned all about the Jewish roots of the Eucharist! Our students saw first hand how the Old Testament portends the New Testament and the New Testament fulfills the Old Testament. Throughout our RE year, we always meet in Church as a large group where we gather for prayer and read a passage or two from the Bible. Then each class goes to their respective classroom with their catechists as they prepare themselves for the Sacrament of Confirmation in 11th grade; learn about the Kerygma and being missionary disciples in 10th grade; are "altared" by the Eucharist in 9th grade; dive deeper into why, what and who we believe by studying the story of creation, the 10 commandments and the Creed, just to name a few, in 8th grade; and in 7th grade stories of Jesus come to life with some role playing and studies on the passion and the Holy Land. We are super blessed here at SJE to have dedicated and holy catechists, who truly give of their time, talent and treasure! Of course, we welcome more folks who would like to join our team-please reach out if the Holy Spirit is nudging you in this direction. Finally, I humbly ask all of you to please keep our 11th grade students in your prayers, as they will be making their Confirmation retreat this April 13-14 at Holy Hill in Hubertus, WI. They will be confirmed here at SJE on Oct. 13, 2024, so lots to look forward to and be grateful for as they continue to "fall in love with Jesus!" Thanks for your good prayers and support! Come, Holy Spirit!

~Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grades 7-12



On Wed., March 20 our 7-11th grade RE students here at SJE had our own mini Eucharistic Revival, as we participated in an ancient traditional Jewish Seder meal. All of our students gathered in Church for prayer and then went to the basement where food and facts were shared by our 9th grade catechist, Jen M; 7th grade catechist Susan V. and 10th grade student Erin M. All of the students learned the order of the meal and what each course represented as we read along with the Old Testament stories of the Passover. After the

meal a talk was given by Mrs. Bettag on the Jewish roots of the Eucharist, followed by a quick church tour to see some of the symbolism from the Bible that is contained in our gorgeous stained glass windows! ~Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grades 7- 12



“We Adore thee Oh Christ and We Bless thee...” During our last class before Holy Week Fr. Schmeckel prayed the Stations of the Cross with students in Grades 1-6. Grade 2 students who are preparing for First Communion walked with him during this prayer.



EASTER 2024

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

– 1 Peter: 1:3

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace be to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As we enter this joyous season of Easter, I am filled with gratitude for the many blessings we have received from God throughout this year. Easter is a time of renewal and hope, a time when we celebrate the victory of life over death, light over darkness, and love over sin. No doubt, we've all experienced moments of sadness and grief, yet with the Lord's grace, we've carried on.

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, I encourage you to reflect closely on the significance of this great feast. Easter is not simply a historical event that took place more than 2000 years ago; it is a reality that continues to shape our lives today. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus conquered sin and death, opening the way to eternal life for all who believe in him.

This Easter, let us renew our faith in the risen Christ and recommit ourselves to living as his disciples. Embrace the message of hope and salvation that he proclaimed and make a commitment to share it with others. May we all strive to love one another as he has loved us, showing compassion, mercy, and forgiveness to all.

I pray that the joy of Easter fills your hearts and homes, bringing renewed hope, peace, and love. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

With prayers for a blessed Easter,

+ Jerome E. Listecki

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee