

We are a Eucharistic Community called together to celebrate our Catholic faith. As a welcoming community of God, our mission is to provide an environment that enriches our spiritual, personal and social growth through prayer, education, outreach and fellowship.

- Joint Parish Mission Statement



WITH PASTORAL CARE OF:

Saint Boniface

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S8280 COUNTY ROAD G PLAIN, WISCONSIN Saint John the Baptist Mill Creek

6494 COUNTY HIGHWAY H ARENA, WISCONSIN

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 17, 2023



Dear Friends in Christ,

Rejoice! This Sunday we have arrived at the mid-way point of Advent--with our journey nearly complete, we rejoice in anticipation of the Christmas celebration. The very first description

of Jesus, given by the Angel to the Shepherds in the Gospel of Luke, was simply this: "Good News of Great Joy."

We who follow Christ have a mission to spread this Good News of Great Joy. Can you think of two or three people who God wants to reach through you? If we really slow down and pray about it, I'm certain God will show us who they are. It begins with friendship and charity...but it doesn't stop there. Eventually we need to say, as our Lord did, "come and see." We could invite them to join us in prayer, to attend mass, to read a good book on the faith or to attend a class taught by myself or Fr. Kumud. This is our baptismal vocation to be, as Pope Francis says, "missionary disciples."

in prayer,

Fr. Luke

Other Notes:

The Holy Spirit is certainly at work in evangelization on college campuses throughout the United States. Having spent the first four years of my priesthood on campus I got to witness this in a profound way--I, myself, grew a lot in my faith in my college years. This year I'm delighted to see that St. Paul's at UW-Madison has 75 students preparing for baptism and confirmation. That's not a typo....75!

The Madison Seminarians will be making a stop at Greenway Manor this week on Wednesday to sing carols at 5:30 p.m. Their annual caroling tour is a great time of fun and fraternity for the seminarians. It's a great reminder to us to pray for many holy vocations to the priesthood.

Our first transition team meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 21st at 6:00 p.m. at St. John's Church Hall. I look forward to discussing the parish naming process. Our notes from our meetings will be available at our new website: www.pastorate6.org. This website is live but not yet a finished project--please check it out!

As a follow up to our budget shortfalls, I would like everyone to make a financial commitment as we enter the new year for our parish offertory. You will not be asked to submit this commitment to the parish. A good starting point would be to give 2.5% of our income back to our parish. This would amount to one hour of a 40 hour work week. As one priest I know put it, "we should work one hour each week for God." Thank you for your generosity. In January a financial update and capital campaign update letter will be published for your review. For those who may be new to the parish, a 5-year capital campaign for both St. Luke's and St. John's will be wrapping up in 2024. These campaigns were used to update the school buildings and various other projects which the letter will detail. St. John's has about \$225,000 (with pledges still coming in) in the bank to be used on projects over the next year. This money is restricted for capital improvements of our church and school.

WEEKLY CALENDAR PASTORATE 6

Sun: Hospitality after St. Luke Mass

St. John's Church Christmas Decorating, 9:30 AM

Mon: No Mass at St. Luke

St. Luke School Christmas Program, 1:30 PM &

6:30 PM

Tues: St. John School Christmas Program, 1:30 PM &

6:30 PM

Choir Rehearsal at St. Luke, 6:00 PM Wed: Men's Group Meet at St. John, 5:30 AM

Adoration at St. John, 7:00 AM (note day change)

Prink the Word at St. John, 9:15AM

MS/HS Faith Formation Youth Group Night,

6:45 PM

Thurs: Adoration at St. Luke, 7:00 AM

Pastorate Transition Team at St. John, 6:00 PM St. Luke's Church Christmas Decorating, 1:00 PM

Sat: Confessions at St. Luke, 9:00 - 10:00 AM



Fri:

ST. PATRICK'S will be holding hospitality after Mass on Sunday, December 31st. Please bring a dish to pass and come enjoy time with your fellow parish members!

THE LIGHTS THIS WEEK BURN FOR ...

St. John's Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of John & Florentine Ruhland



St. Luke's Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Tina, David, Jr., and Dawn Meixelsperger

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions will be heard 30 minutes before each Weekend Mass St. Luke ~ 3:30 PM Saturday & 9:30 AM Sunday St. John ~ 5:00 PM Saturday & 8:00 AM Sunday St. Patrick ~ 7:00 AM Sunday St. Boniface ~ 8:30 AM First Saturday of the Month



PRAY FOR THE SICK & SUFFERING

Dale Mueller (husband of Diane Mueller), Shelly Alt, Tom Rieder, Michael Whitcomb, Tony Anday, Doug Schmitz, Dave Schoenmann, Lexi Norton, Kelly Feiner, Roger & Mary Pascavis, John Johnson,

Miles Bishop, and Cyndi Anliker.

For those who have died: Serene Zwettler

Welcome to St. Luke new member ~ Sherry Karls ~

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS FOR PASTORATE 6

PASTORATE 6

8:30 AM NO Mass at St. Luke TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for Donny Kraemer †

5:15 PM Mass at St. Luke for George Brey, Jr. †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for Bob & Joann Nachreiner † 10:45 AM Mass at St. Luke for Richard Taschek †

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023 ~ St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 AM Mass at St. Luke for Duane A. Meixelsperger †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for Duane A. Meixelsperger †

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023

4:00 PM Mass at St. Luke for Verda Lorraine Meister - Schmitz †

5:30 PM Mass at St. John for the People of Pastorate 6 †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Mass at St. Patrick for Brenda Faber †

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for Bill, Virginia, and Kevin Hackl †

10:00 AM Mass at St. Luke for Norman Liegel †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM Mass at St. Luke for LeRoy Heiser †

6:00 PM Mass at St. John for Bob & Joann Nachreiner †

10:00 PM Mass at St. Luke for the People of Pastorate 6

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 AM Mass at St. Patrick for Deceased Members of the George A. Weitzel Family

10:00 AM Mass at St. John for Art Baryenbruch and Diane Davenport Baryenbruch

ST. LUKE FISH FRY NEWS

Circles 1, 2, 8 & 12 are scheduled to work for the February 2, 2024 fish fry. Please visit https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A49A4AC2BA5F94-46672945-february#/

DIOCESE OF MADISON

Sacred Music at the Oratory 2023-2024 Season

Sunday, December 17, 2023

A Service of Lessons and Carols

featuring music of Handel, Carter, Nestor, Vaughan Williams, and Victoria (Diocesan Choir and Chamber Orchestra)

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Solemn Choral Vespers for Palm Sunday

featuring "Ad Manus" from Buxtehude's "Membra Jesu Nostri" (Diocesan Schola and Consort)

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Solemn Choral Vespers and Concert

(Diocesan Choir)

All events are at 4:00 PM in Holy Name Oratory, Madison.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

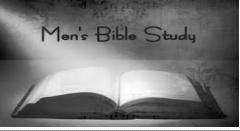
SAT., DEC 23	4:00 PM ST. LUKE	5:30 PM ST. JOHN
Sacristan	Gwen Kraemer	Donna Slaney
Lector	Lynae Schott	Barb Louis
Ushers	Gary Mueller Rita Brey Bill Bergman OPEN	Pat Slaney Gary Nachreiner
Servers	OPEN OPEN	OPEN OPEN

SUN., DEC 24	7:30 AM ST. PATRICK	8:30 AM ST. JOHN	10:00 AM ST. LUKE
Sacristan	Sheila Drea	Terri Larson	Marty Gates
Lector	Jodie Schweitzer	Dave Mack	Bob Gates
Greeter			Doug Schmitz
Ushers	Jim Huebsch Joyce Huebsch	Tom Slaney Todd Hogan	Ken Bindl Sue Bindl Bev Eberle OPEN
Servers	Wyatt Klingaman Sammy Clary	Vincent Limmex Charles McCall	Isaac Faber Jacob Faber

CHRISTMAS EVE-DEC. 24	4:00 PM ST. LUKE	6:00 PM ST. JOHN	10:00 PM ST. LUKE
Sacristan	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Lector	Rita Brey	Diane Baryenbruch	OPEN
Ushers	OPEN OPEN OPEN	OPEN OPEN	OPEN OPEN OPEN
Servers	Carolena Weiss OPEN	Charles McCall OPEN	Isaac Faber Evan Faber

LUCKY LUKE CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS:

December 4 - 10: Patricia Ederer, Nancy Culver, Doris Bindl, Kensleigh, Malena, & Addisyn Colstad, Bill (Shirley) Gruber, and Rick Meixelsperger, who are \$50 Winners. Greg & Tami Alt won \$200, as the Second Sunday of Advent winners!



Join us on Wednesday mornings from 5:30 - 6:30 AM for Bible study with Fr. Kumud. All men are welcome.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL NEWS

DECEMBER 19: Christmas Program, 1:30 PM & 6:30 PM

DECEMBER 19: Home & School Bake Sale

DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 2: Christmas Vacation

DECEMBER 24: The Christmas Story, 5:45 PM Christmas Eve Mass, 6:00 PM



JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND "LIGHT FUTURE" TREE ~ St. John's School is having a "Light of the Future" tree to benefit the school's Endowment Fund. Lights for the tree may be purchased for \$2.00 each in remembrance of

envelope "St. John's School - Light of the Future Tree."

be performed this year in the church with performances at 1:30 11 Wednesday, January 3. PM and 6:30 PM on Tuesday, December 19th. Please keep in ! mind that the afternoon program will probably offer better seating with fewer people in attendance.

HOME & SCHOOL BAKE SALE ~ There will be a Home & School Bake Sale before and after both performances of this year's Christmas Program on December 19th. Donations would! be greatly appreciated and may be dropped off at church that i morning.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS ~ St. John's students will be participating in reenacting the Christmas Story at 5:45 PM before the 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass at St. John's.





MERRY CHRISTMAS! All of us at St. John's School would like to wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

See for yourself all the great things happening at St. John's School by visiting our website at www.stjohns-springgreen.org or by liking our Facebook page - St. John the Evangelist School Spring Green, WI.



Don't give each other things this Christmas, give each other the gift of great communication, a deep love and a encounter marriage filled with God by going on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Jan 26-28 in

Brookfield, WI; Feb. 9-11, 2024 in Geneva IL; March 9-10 in Wisconsin or April 27-28, 2024 in Mundelein, IL. For more info go to: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.

ST. LUKE SCHOOL NEWS

DECEMBER 18: Christmas Program, 1:30 PM & 6:30 PM **DECEMBER 20:** School Mass; last day before break **JANUARY 3:** School resumes



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM ~ St. Luke School's Christmas program is on Monday, December 18. There will be an afternoon performance at 1:30 PM and an evening performance at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy some wonderful music and hear the Christmas story as told by St. Luke School students.

family and friends, living and deceased. The tree LIMERRY CHRISTMAS to everyone from St. Luke School. We will be set up in the church greeting area and will would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to everyone for all the be lit on Christmas Eve. The deadline for turning support given throughout this past year. Many people have given in names is December 20. Please find forms on the table in back their time, support, and prayers and it is greatly appreciated. We of church to list names and return it with \$2.00 per name to the cannot begin to express how grateful and blessed we are for the school office or the collection basket at church. Please mark the support afforded the school from parishioners, families, benefactors and businesses.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT ~ The students and Mrs. Voegeli | CHRISTMAS VACATION begins Thursday, December 21 have been working hard on this year's Christmas Concert. It will 1 and goes through Tuesday, January 2. School will resume on



Thank you to Jerry Kohls for the time spent cooking for St. Luke's school children this past year and a half. We appreciate the kindness shown to our children and wish him well. Thank

BRIGHT LIGHTS ~ Reserve a light for yourself or a special person, living or deceased, to shine bright on the



Christmas trees surrounding the Nativity scene in front of St. Luke Church during the Christmas season. Each light purchased is \$2.00 and will go toward the St. Luke School Endowment. Turn in your forms by December 20. Thank you for your continuous support!

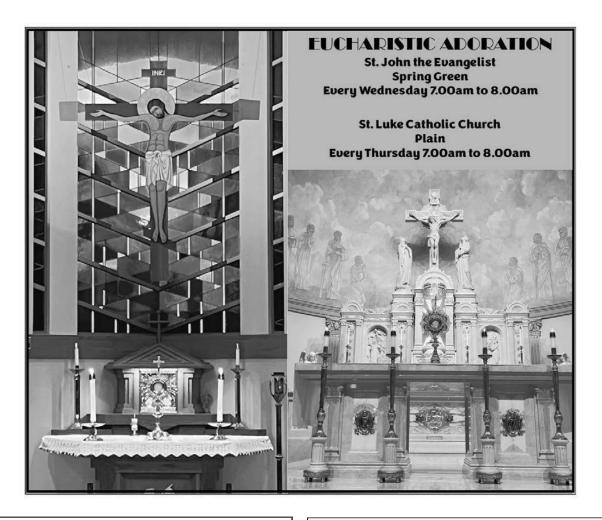
DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING THROUGH THE SCHOOL STORE ~ You can support St. Luke School while shopping. Simply go to Schoolstore.com, enter our school name, St. Lukes Catholic School, and click the tab under the blue SchoolStore banner that says "Merchants". Choose the merchants that you would like to shop with either by category or alphabetically with the drop down bar on the left. Once you click the merchant, you will be redirected to that merchant's actual website. A portion of the money you spend will automatically be sent to St. Luke School. You need to go through the Schoolstore.com portal for St. Luke's to get credit. Happy Shopping!

<u>KEEP UP ON THE LATEST SCHOOL HAPPENINGS AND</u>
<u>"LIKE US" ON FACEBOOK!</u> Visit our Facebook page at St.
Luke's Catholic School, Plain, WI. Check out our website at www.stlukes-plain.org.





Both schools have openings in all grade levels... Come check us out by scheduling a tour!!



Deepen Your Faith with the Catholic Herald Issue for December 21, 2023

As Christmas is so close, this issue of the *Catholic Herald* highlights the reason for the season, and has Christmas greetings from Bishop Hying and others.

Learn more about your Catholic faith by reading the *Catholic Herald*. If you do not subscribe but wish to receive the *Catholic Herald* print or e-edition in your home, contact your parish office.



"Parish Rosary Program"
(All parishes of Pastorate 6)

Combined Weekly Total: 143 Running Grand Total: 8,559

We would like to ask parishioners of ALL five churches to put your rosary counts into the collection baskets at the weekend Masses!



St. John's will be decorating for Christmas after the 8:30 AM Mass on December 17th, 2023. **St. Luke's** will decorate for Christmas on December 22nd, at 1:00 PM. Please join us in preparing the church for this most blessed time of year! Thank you.





As we come to the end of the calendar year, December 31, *THANK YOU* for your contributions and your support of St. John, St. Luke

and St. Patrick churches, schools and ministries! A reminder that if a donor (parishioner) wishes to claim a contribution as a charitable deduction for income tax purposes, then the donor must relinquish control of the funds before it is technically a contribution. If you wish to have your donations counted in 2023, please make sure they reach the parish offices or put in the collection basket by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31. God bless you!

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

St. John's (Week 24)	Φ.	Church	Ф	Maint.
Weekly Envelope Goal Dec 9/10 Actual	\$ \$	7,925.00 2,716.00	\$ \$	577.00 220.00
ACH Weekly Average	\$	2,496.00	\$	45.00
Difference:	-\$	2,713.00	-\$	312.00
Envelope Goal YTD YTD Total to Dec 10	\$ \$	190,200.00 140,278.00		13,848.00 5,367.00
Difference	-\$	49,922.00	-\$	8,481.00

Give Your "First Fruits"

Back to God!

To Parish5-8%

To Diocese......1%

To Charities1-4%

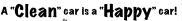
Would you prayerfully consider treating St. Luke/St. John Parish as one of your children in your will/estate planning?

Call Parish Office for details.

St. Luke's (Week 24)		
Total Weekly Goal	\$	7,405.00
Dec 9/10 Actual	\$	8,380.00
ACH Weekly Average	\$	2,500.00
Difference:	+\$	3,475.00
Total Goal YTD	\$	177,720.00
YTD Actual to Dec 10	\$	142,250.00
Difference	- \$	35,470.00

*This now includes weekly envelopes and weekly offertory basket collection!!

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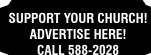


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1240 Nachreiner Avenue Plain, WI 53577

ST. JOHN MASS: Saturday 5:30pm & Sunday 8:30am

ST. JOHN OFFICES

Rectory/Parish Office	588-2028
Parish Fax	588-2648
Parish Email	barb.ferguson@pastorate6.org
Website	www.stjohnspringgreen.com
Parish Center/Kitchen	588-2229
Pastoral Council Preside	ent: Dave Mack459-0680
St. Vincent de Paul Rive	er Valley Conference 546-2482

ST. JOHN SCHOOL

School Office	588-2021
School Websitehtt	p://stjohns-springgreen.org
School Principal: Allison Stroud	588-2021

ST. JOHN CEMETERY

Cemetery Sexton: Ro.	ger Kolan	588-2103
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ST. LUKE MASS: Saturday 4:00pm & Sunday 10:00am

ST. LUKE OFFICES

Rectory/Parish Off	ice546-2482
Parish Fax	546-2616
Parish Email	heather.faber@pastorate6.org
Website	. www.stlukecatholicchurchplain.com
Church Kitchen	546-2800
Pastoral Council Pr	esident: Bruce Culver544-5813
St. Vincent de Paul	River Valley Conference 546-2482
Little Luke Daycare	546-2963, ext. 316

ST. LUKE SCHOOL

School	546-2963
School Website	http://stlukes-plain.org
School Principal: Dia	ne Mueller546-2963

ST. LUKE CEMETERY

Cemetery Sexton: Bob Schweiss....... Cell: 608-963-8163

Saint

105 Church Street Lime Ridge, WI 53942

Saint Patrick Loreto

S8280 County Road G Plain, WI 53577

Saint John the

6494 County Highway H Arena, WI 53503

MASS: First Saturday Mass 9:00am

MASS: Sunday 7:30am

MASS: First Saturday Mass 9:00am

St. Patrick's and Our Lady of the Fields Shrine Cemetery Sexton: Doug Faber

(May-October)

JOINT STAFF & OFFICE INFORMATION

PASTOR: Fr. Luke Syse 546-2482 / 588-2028 / Cell: 636-4337

fr.luke.syse@pastorate6.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Fr. Kumud Chandra Nayak 546-2482 / 588-2028

fr.kumud.nayak@pastorate6.org

1270 Nachreiner Avenue, Plain, WI 53577 1270 Nachreiner Avenue, Plain, WI 53577 michaeldavidson84@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Michael Davidson 588-2028 / 546-2482

SCHEDULING EVENTS

All parish activities or meetings need to be scheduled on the parish calendar. Please call the parish office.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Wednesday - Noon

MINISTERIO HISPANO / HISPANIC MINISTRY

Padre Luke Syse se habla espanol Puedes llamarlo a 608-636-4337

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to our parish family. Please stop by or call the parish office for information about registering as parish members.

SACRAMENTS

PENANCE/RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is offered 30 minutes before every scheduled mass.

MARRIAGE

To schedule a wedding date, call the parish office. The common policy of the Diocese of Madison requires a 6-month minimum notice. We strongly recommend at least one year in advance.

BAPTISM

Baptism dates are arranged through the parish offices. First time parents are required to attend a baptism preparation program before the baptism of their child. Please call the parish office for more information.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

We are happy to bring Holy Communion to those confined to their homes. Please notify the parish office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Individual celebrations can be arranged by calling the parish office.

OCIA (FORMERLY RCIA)

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

OCIA is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith and for those seeking more information on the Catholic Church. Please contact Marie Lins at 608-469-3982 or marie.lins@madisondiocese.org.