

Saint John ^{the} Evangelist Parish

WEEKLY BULLETIN

DECEMBER 24, 2023

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saint Luke Parish

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Patrick Loreto

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THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2023



Dear Friends in Christ,

Fr. Kumud and I are excited to celebrate our first Christmas here in our new home. We thank you for all the support and love we have received these past six months. Christmas is a time to adore the greatness of God who became a little child for us. The Divine Child has come to save us. Every year I have a Christmas carol/hymn which captures my heart. This year it is "Away in the Manger." Listening to children sing this song leads me to prayer:

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.*

Let us surrender our hearts, our worries and our sufferings into the infant heart of the Divine Child. Look at how he sleeps! We too should rest in Christ upon whom we can cast all our cares. What follows, even in the midst of the burdens of life, are deep peace and joy.

in prayer,

Fr. Luke

Other Notes:

January 1st is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Nonetheless it's a great day to attend Mass. We will have a Mass that morning at St. Luke and St. John.

In a special way, let us ask St. John the Evangelist to intercede for us on his feast day, December 27th. The opening lines of St. John's Gospel speak of Christ as the Word of God who existed "In the Beginning."

The Christmas season lasts until January 7th. I encourage us all to leave up our decorations and celebrate the season with glad tidings and rejoicing!

WEEKLY CALENDAR PASTORATE 6

- Sun: **Christmas Eve Mass at St. Luke, 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM, and at St. John, 6:00 PM**
- Mon: **Christmas Day Mass at St. Patrick, 8:00 AM and at St. John, 10:00 AM**
- Tues: **No Mass** at St. John, 8:30 AM
- Wed: Men's Group Meet at St. John, 5:30 AM
Adoration at St. John, 7:00 AM
No Mass at St. Luke, 10:45 AM
- Thurs: Adoration at St. John, 5:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Adoration at St. Luke, 7:00 AM



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
Virgil & Virginia
Delkamp**



St. Luke's Sanctuary Lamp

**In Memory of
Vernon Bindl**

Sanctuary Memorial Lights

Both parishes have openings in 2024!

For those who would like to remember a **birthday, an anniversary, a special intention, or a loved one's passing**, you may have a Sanctuary candle lit for 7 days at a cost of \$20. Please call the parish offices to schedule. 608-588-2028 for St. John's and 608-546-2482 for St. Luke's.

READINGS FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

**Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Colossians 3:12-21
Luke 2:22-40**

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



**May the Love of Christ
Fill Your Home
And Every Day of Your Life.**



PRAY FOR THE SICK & SUFFERING

Dave Dischler, 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.

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS FOR PASTORATE 6

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023 ~ *The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*

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 †

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2023 ~ *St. Stephen, The First Martyr*

8:30 AM **NO Mass** at St. John

5:15 PM Mass at St. Luke for David Meixelsperger, Jr. †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2023 ~ *St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for The People of Pastorate 6

10:45 AM **NO Mass** at St. Luke

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2023 ~ *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

8:30 AM Mass at St. Luke for Dick Marino †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2023 ~ *Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord*

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2023 ~ *Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord*

4:00 PM Mass at St. Luke for the People of Pastorate 6

5:30 PM Mass at St. John for John Richardson †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023 ~ *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

7:30 AM Mass at St. Patrick for Francis Nachreiner †

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for The Wilbert Mueller Family †

10:00 AM Mass at St. Luke for Mary, Ed, and Lawrence Prem †

STEWARDSHIP THANKS - A big shout-out and thank you to Nathan Peck for donating the Christmas trees to St. John's again this year and to Prairie Flowers (Ruth Schreiner) for her many flower donations. Thank you for your continued support of St. John Parish!!

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

| MON., DEC 25 | 8:00 AM ST. PATRICK | 10:00 AM ST. JOHN |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Sacristan | Sheila Drea | OPEN |
| Lector | Doug Faber | Diane Baryenbruch |
| Ushers | Jim Kast John Kast | OPEN OPEN |
| Servers | Jadyn Boland Braysen Boland | Charles McCall OPEN |

| SAT., DEC 30 | 4:00 PM ST. LUKE | 5:30 PM ST. JOHN |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sacristan | Gwen Kraemer | Jean Bindl |
| Lector | Rita Brey | Diane Baryenbruch |
| Ushers | Gary Mueller OPEN OPEN OPEN | Pat Slaney Robert Baird |
| Servers | OPEN OPEN | OPEN OPEN |

| SUN., DEC 31 | 7:30 AM ST. PATRICK | 8:30 AM ST. JOHN | 10:00 AM ST. LUKE |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Sacristan | Sheila Drea | Terri Larson | Marty Gates |
| Lector | Lucas Faber | Nancy Maxwell | Jim Moody |
| Greeter | | | Doug Schmitz |
| Ushers | Rod Mueller Colleen Mueller | Keith Maxwell Tom Bennett | Ken Bindl Sue Bindl Bev Eberle OPEN |
| Servers | Hewsten Boland Sammy Clary | Eli Limmex Charles McCall | Jack Nelson OPEN |



God bless all of you who prayed for me since my car accident, your prayers were key to my recovery. Thank you to all who sent cards ~ seeing your name on the card gave me much comfort. Thank you also for the visits and for the food. I am so grateful. Mickey Snyder



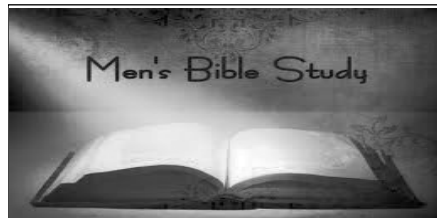
Thank you!

Thank you to all who generously donated and/or made purchases at the December Bake Sale!!! \$743.00 was the profit for this month's bake sale! The next bake sale will be January 20 & 21 with those with last names beginning with A-K asked to donate. Thank you!

LUCKY LUKE CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS:



December 11 - 17: Rebecca Weidner, Claire Bruckner, Matt & Liz Quinn, Hunter Schwingle, Jodie Cordts, and Anna Haun **who are \$50 Winners.** Norm Ruhland won \$300, as the Third Sunday of Advent winner!



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 21 - JANUARY 2: Christmas Vacation
JANUARY 3: Return to school



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!

WITH GREAT GRATITUDE ~ The faculty and staff would like to thank the Home & School and everyone for their gifts of appreciation during the holiday season.

TREMENDOUS BAKE SALE!! A HUGE thank you goes out to Home & School for organizing such a beautiful and profitable bake sale! A big thank you also goes out to all of you who made these tasty treats and/or purchased them. Your help made this a very profitable event.

YES ~ YOU CAN REGISTER! We are currently accepting registrations in all grade levels. If you would like a tour of St. John's School or would like to visit a classroom, please call 588-2021.

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.



Both schools have openings in all grade levels...

Come check us out by scheduling a tour!!



Don't give each other things this Christmas, give each other the gift of great communication, a deep love and a 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.



2024 Calendars from Stafford Funeral Home are available in the gathering space at both churches!! Thank you to Tom!



Special blessings on Luisa Schloesser & Felix Anzo who were recently married at St. Luke Church on December 16.

ST. LUKE SCHOOL NEWS

DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 2: Christmas Vacation
JANUARY 3: School resumes; School Mass



Thank you parents and Home & School for providing cookies and punch at our Christmas Program. Thank you Education Commission for serving and cleaning up at the program.

Thank you to St. Luke's school staff for the time, work, and help given to make our Christmas Program possible. A special thank you to Ms. Joni Cross for the hard work, time and energy she put into our music program.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to everyone from St. Luke School. We would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to everyone for all the support given throughout this past year. Many people have given their time, support, and prayers and it is greatly appreciated. We cannot begin to express how grateful and blessed we are for the support afforded the school from parishioners, families, benefactors and businesses.

CHRISTMAS VACATION begins Thursday, December 21 and goes through Tuesday, January 2. School will resume on Wednesday, January 3.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ~ will be celebrated January 28 through February 3. The Catholic Schools Week theme is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community".

DO YOUR 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!

KEEP UP ON THE LATEST SCHOOL HAPPENINGS AND

"LIKE US" ON FACEBOOK! Visit our Facebook page at St. Luke's Catholic School, Plain, WI. Check out our website at www.stlukes-plain.org.

Prayer Shawls - A reminder that prayer shawls are available for anyone you may feel is going through a serious illness or emotional time and could use the extra prayers and comfort. You can contact St. John's Parish Office 588-2028 or St. Luke's Parish Office 546-2482.

ST. LUKE FISH FRY NEWS

Circles 1, 2, 8 & 12 are scheduled to work for the February 2, 2024 fish fry. Please visit www.pastorate6.org and click on the "Fish Fry Sign Up to Volunteer" tab under "News."



A DAY OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

'...could ye not watch with me one hour'?

Mt. 26: 40

ONE HOUR WITH THE LORD IN GRATITUDE YET IN SILENCE

We welcome the New Year 2024 with gratitude to God for all the blessings we received in the year 2023.

The best way to be grateful is to give our time to the Eucharistic Lord in silent adoration.

On **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, from 5:00AM TO 5:00PM**

at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Spring Green,

by all PRINK brothers and sisters,

all are cordially welcome any time of the day to say "Thank you to Our Lord and God" who is present in the Most Holy Sacrament.



Deepen Your Faith with the *Catholic Herald* Issue for December 28, 2023

The *Catholic Herald* is the place to read Bishop Donald J. Hying's latest reflections in his weekly "From the Bishop's Desk" column.

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.



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!



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

Combined Weekly Total: 135
Running Grand Total: 8,694

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

PLANNING YOUR WILL

Remember St. John's, St. Luke's, and St. Patrick's

A bequest is a wonderful way to express gratitude to God for a lifetime of blessings! The gift you give establishes a lasting legacy of love for others by helping the Church to continue our Catholic heritage through its many ministries.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

| <u>St. John's (Week 25)</u> | <u>Church</u> | <u>Maint.</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Weekly Envelope Goal | \$ 7,925.00 | \$ 577.00 |
| Dec 16/17 Actual | \$ 5,903.00 | \$ 315.00 |
| ACH Weekly Average | \$ 2,496.00 | \$ 45.00 |
| Difference: | +\$ 474.00 | -\$ 217.00 |
| Envelope Goal YTD | \$ 198,125.00 | \$ 14,425.00 |
| YTD Total to Dec 17 | \$ 148,677.00 | \$ 5,727.00 |
| Difference | -\$ 49,448.00 | -\$ 8,698.00 |

Give Your "First Fruits" Back to God!

To Parish5-8%
To Diocese.....1%
To Charities.....1-4%

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.

| <u>St. Luke's (Week 25)</u> | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Total Weekly Goal | \$ 7,405.00 |
| Dec 16/17 Actual | \$ 10,444.00 |
| ACH Weekly Average | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Difference: | +\$ 5,539.00 |
| Total Goal YTD | \$ 185,125.00 |
| YTD Actual to Dec 17 | \$ 155,194.00 |
| Difference | -\$ 29,931.00 |

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

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P.O. Box 628
Spring Green, WI 53588

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.pastorate6.org
Parish Center/Kitchen..... 588-2229
Pastoral Council President: Dave Mack 459-0680
St. Vincent de Paul River Valley Conference.... 546-2482

ST. JOHN SCHOOL

School Office 588-2021
School Website..... <http://stjohns-springgreen.org>
School Principal: Allison Stroud..... 588-2021

ST. JOHN CEMETERY

Cemetery Sexton: Roger Kolan..... 588-2103

Saint Luke Parish

1240 Nachreiner Avenue
Plain, WI 53577

ST. LUKE MASS: Saturday 4:00pm & Sunday 10:00am

ST. LUKE OFFICES

Rectory/Parish Office..... 546-2482
Parish Fax 546-2616
Parish Email..... heather.faber@pastorate6.org
Website.....www.pastorate6.org
Church Kitchen 546-2800
Pastoral Council President: Bruce Culver..... 544-5813
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: Diane Mueller..... 546-2963

ST. LUKE CEMETERY

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

Saint Boniface

105 Church Street
Lime Ridge, WI 53942

Saint Patrick Loreto

58280 County Road G
Plain, WI 53577

Saint John the Baptist Mill Creek

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

1270 Nachreiner Avenue, Plain, WI 53577

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Fr. Kumud Chandra Nayak

546-2482 / 588-2028

fr.kumud.nayak@pastorate6.org

1270 Nachreiner Avenue, Plain, WI 53577

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Michael Davidson

588-2028 / 546-2482

michaeldavidson84@gmail.com

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.