

# CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

FAITH · FAMILY · FRIENDSHIP

December 14, 2025 ♦ Third Sunday of Advent

## MISSION STATEMENT:

We are called together in fellowship to witness to our Catholic faith through prayer and the celebration of the sacraments. We give testimony to Jesus Christ by reaching out with compassion to others.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Fax: 763.428.6462  
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Website: www.sjbdayton.org

## PARISH STAFF:

Pastor:

Fr. John Powers  
powersj@archspm.org

Business Manager:

Patti Fodstad-Bouley

Director of Faith Formation and  
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Moylan  
sarah.sjbchurch@gmail.com

Music Director:

Sharon Williams

Cemetery Manager:

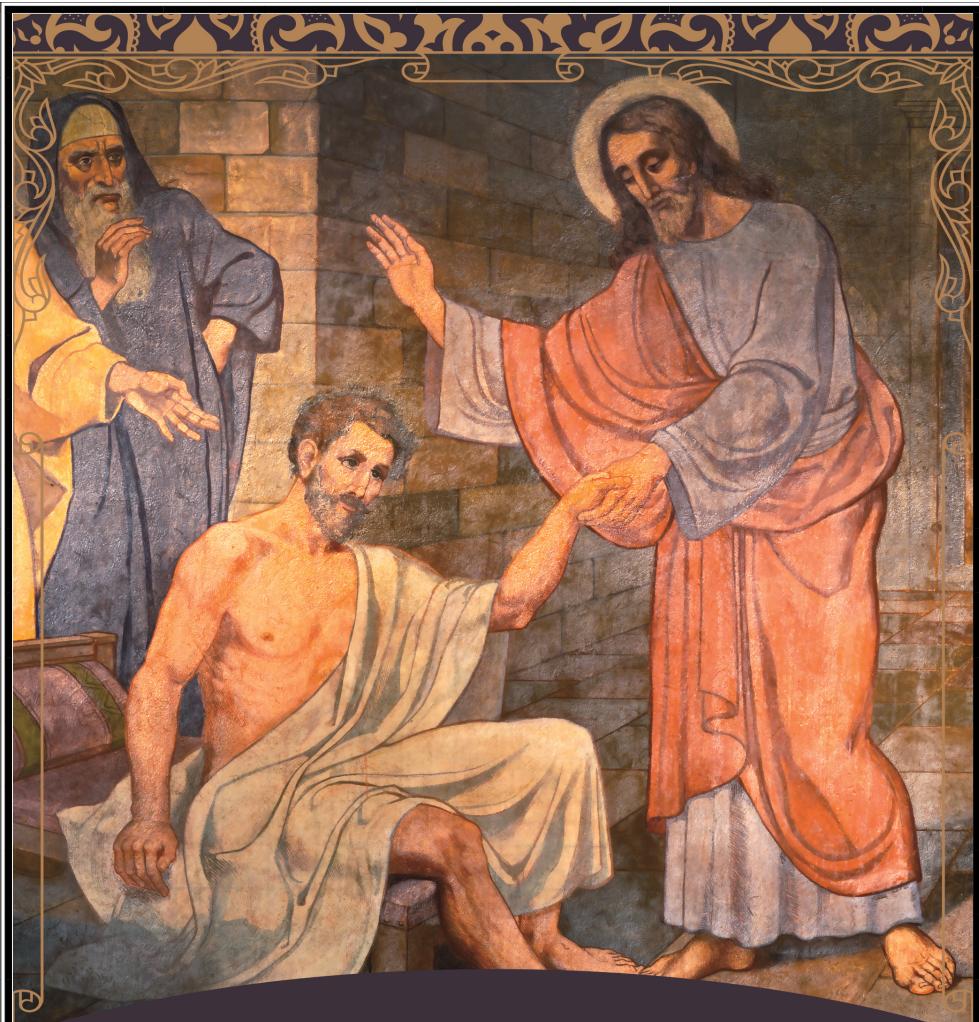
Steve Bebeau

## TRUSTEES:

Lynn Eggert      Russ Ray

## PARISH COUNCIL:

Mike Beauchene	Angie Haggerty
Adam Benney	Rena Hales
Barb Carnes	Jim Penick
Lisa Crosby	Jake Reining
Cindy Gibbs	



• 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT •

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HEAR AND SEE.

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## From the Pastor

One of my favorite musicals right now is Hadestown - a creole jazz influenced retelling of the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. Orpheus in Greek mythology is the first poet-musician, and on their wedding day his wife Eurydice is bitten by a snake and dies. Out of love for her, Orpheus travels to the underworld (the titular Hadestown) and sings so beautifully that Hades, the god of death, allows him the trial of trying to bring Eurydice back to the land of the living. In Hadestown the musical, the bigger background issue is that Hades and his wife Persephone have forgotten their love and grown cold, disrupting cosmic harmony, and Orpheus' song helps them remember their love for each other, but it also includes the great biting line "Where is your youth" - which in Greek mythology is a really big deal as the gods are eternally young.

For centuries, before the beginning of mass, priests (and those assisting them) would pray a series of prayers at the step into the sanctuary called the prayers at the foot of the altar. The opening line of these in Latin was "Introibo ad altare Dei, ad Deum qui laetificat iuventutem meam" - "I go to the altar of God, the God who gives joy to my youth". While I am still a relatively young priest, I celebrated my tenth anniversary of ordination this year, marking a major milestone and beginning the "middle-aged" phase of my ministry, and 40 is fast approaching. But the youth that we are called to have, and I hope I still have at 50 years of ministry and when 90 is fast approaching, is the joy that the Church wants us to focus on for the third Sunday of Advent. Theologically joy comes from remembering and looking to the Lord's providence, seeing God's goodness and mercy in every age, and in our lives as well. God's love, God's mercy not only gives joy to our youth, but since God's love and mercy are eternal and inexhaustible, we may return to God with childlike trust and receive from the Lord all that gives joy to our hearts.

- Fr. John Powers

## CHRISTMAS PLANT MEMORIALS

If you would like to have one or more of the Christmas Poinsettias which adorn the sanctuary for the Christmas Season as a memorial for a deceased loved one, please put your name and the name(s) of the ones being remembered in an envelope along with \$13.00 for each plant and either drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the church. Deadline is: Sunday, December 21.

## ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIME THIS WEEK

In addition to the regular confession times, Fr. Powers will be hearing confessions this coming Wednesday evening, December 17, from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS SPECIAL COLLECTION

This weekend, the annual collection in support of the Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR) takes place. Your gift to RFR helps provide medication, nursing care, and more for tens of thousand of elderly religious. **Please note:** There will not be a second collection for this effort, so please place your donation in the regular offering basket and be sure to mark it "RFR". Checks should be made payable to St. John the Baptist Church.



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

The schedule for Christmas is as follows:

Christmas Eve	4:30 p.m.
	9:00 p.m.
Christmas Day	9:00 a.m.

## GIVING TREE

This weekend is the final weekend to return your gift(s) for the Giving Tree for Gifts Anonymous of Otsego and Rogers. Please place your unwrapped gifts underneath the tree in the vestibule with the tag attached.



## STEWARSHIP REFLECTION

*"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."* - James 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

## CHURCH SUPPORT



### OFFERTORY • DECEMBER 7, 2025

Adult Envelopes (71)	\$ 3,527.00
Plate and Non-Parishioners	549.00
Holy Day Offerings (5)	90.00
Automatic Deposits (29)	2,853.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$ 7,019.00</b>
Projected Need	\$ 5,607.00
Received Last Week	7,019.00
Projected Need to Date	128,961.00
Amount Received to Date	127,020.00
Deficit - Last Week	\$ 3,353.00
This Week	1,941.00





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## CATHOLIC Q & A

### SAINTS OR SINNERS?

**Question:** Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

**Answer:** Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

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### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS . . .

Bena Bourgeois, Marie Corbin, Ken Croteau, Lynn Eggert, Donna Rivers Hauan, Martha Killian, Jean Klee, Peggy Kohman, Wayne Lahn, Jane Lenz, Rick Marion, Mary Middleton, Barbara Mulcahy, Anné Otremba, Viola Plante, Jodi Playle, Catherine Schumacher, Dawn Storms Family, Tim Timm, Mary Watson, Billi Jo Weekley, and Sandi Weekley. Becky Bader (sister of Ed Bader), Ricky Bengtson, Mike Gullickson and Bill Southworth (friends of Marilyn Nordine), Mary Bebeau (sister-in-law of Dave Bebeau), Raymond Bernard (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Lori Brix (sister of Elaine Wagner), Jeff Chouinard (son of Joanne Chouinard), Dennis Daleiden, Collette Hardy, Andy Heid, Nikki Martinez, Virginia Resler, Phillip Robinson and Joe Simms (friends of Lynn Eggert), Darrell Delles (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Sarah Dietzler (friend of Kathy Timm), Julie Corbin Dray (niece of Joan Playle), Nancy Hobbs (sister of Linda Bebeau), Jerry Kamrow and Scott Knowlan (sons-in-law of Mary Kay Christian), Nancy Karls (friend of Mary Dahlheimer), Dawn Schmidt (friend of Joanne Chouinard), Dave Stasson (brother-in-law of Lucy McAlpine), and Dan and Kristy Zapf (grandchildren of Earl and Elaine Schulenburg).

## THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, December 14

7:30 a.m. Mass  
Confessions following Mass till 8:45 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m. Mass  
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection  
CCW Bake Sale after Masses, Social Hall

### Monday, December 15

6:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation - Advent Series  
(till 7:00 p.m.)

### Tuesday, December 16

#### No 6:30 p.m. Mass

7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting, Social Hall

### Wednesday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Mass  
TLC Kid's Sessions  
5:30 p.m. Confessions (till 7:00 p.m.)

### Thursday, December 18

8:00 a.m. Mass

### Friday, December 19

7:30 a.m. Confessions  
8:00 a.m. Mass  
8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration (till 7:00 p.m.)

### Saturday, December 20

4:00 p.m. Confessions (till 4:45 p.m.)  
4:30 p.m. Rosary  
5:00 p.m. Mass

### Sunday, December 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Winter Begins  
7:30 a.m. Mass  
Confessions following Mass till 8:45 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m. Mass  
10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Eve Rehearsal, Church  
10:30 a.m. Church Decorating for Christmas

## HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH

The Liturgical Environment Committee invites everyone to come help decorate the church for Christmas. This year we will be decorating on Sunday, December 21, beginning at 10:30 a.m. We need many hands to accomplish this task. Come for as little or as long as you can.

## EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

Because of early publication deadlines for Christmas and New Year's, please note the following bulletin deadlines:

Bulletin Date	Deadline
December 21	Tuesday, December 9 - 9:00 a.m.
December 28	Tuesday, December 16 - 9:00 a.m.
January 4	Monday, December 22 - 9:00 a.m.

# LORD, RENEW YOUR CHURCH



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

**Updates as of December 10, 2025**

**THANK YOU** for your willingness to learn about this effort.

**THANK YOU** for your support for our parish.

**THANK YOU** for your vision for our greater Church.

**THANK YOU** for your commitment to our future.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, St. John's has reached 226% of our original campaign goal with \$745,080 raised! Through your gifts, sacrifices, and unwavering dedication, you have strengthened the foundation of our Church and ensured that future generations will continue to grow in faith.

If you are still contemplating your sacrificial gift, keep in mind that 100% of all additional funds contributed come back to the parish! Every contribution, no matter the size, is a testament to your commitment to our shared mission. Campaign disbursements will begin coming back to our parish in January! Together, we help build a stronger, more vibrant Catholic Church for years to come. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity and devotion.

**Thank you!**

**GOAL: \$330,000**

**\$745,080**

**RAISED TO DATE**

**226% OF OUR GOAL!**

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