

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

## *Catholic Church*

DECEMBER 3, 2023 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## WELCOME!

### CONTACT US

**Pastor** - Fr. John Kunz

**Address:** 632 S. Broad St.  
Mankato, MN 56001

**Office Hours**

Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

**Office Phone:** 507-625-3131

**Email**

stjohnch@stjohnsmankato.net

**Website**

stjohnscatholicchurch.com

### MASS TIMES

**Tues. Wed, Fri** 8:15 am

**Saturday** 5:15 pm

**Sunday** 8:00 am & 10:00 am

**Word & Communion Service**

Mon, Thurs. 8:15 am

### RECONCILIATION

Confessions will take place  
in the Reconciliation Room

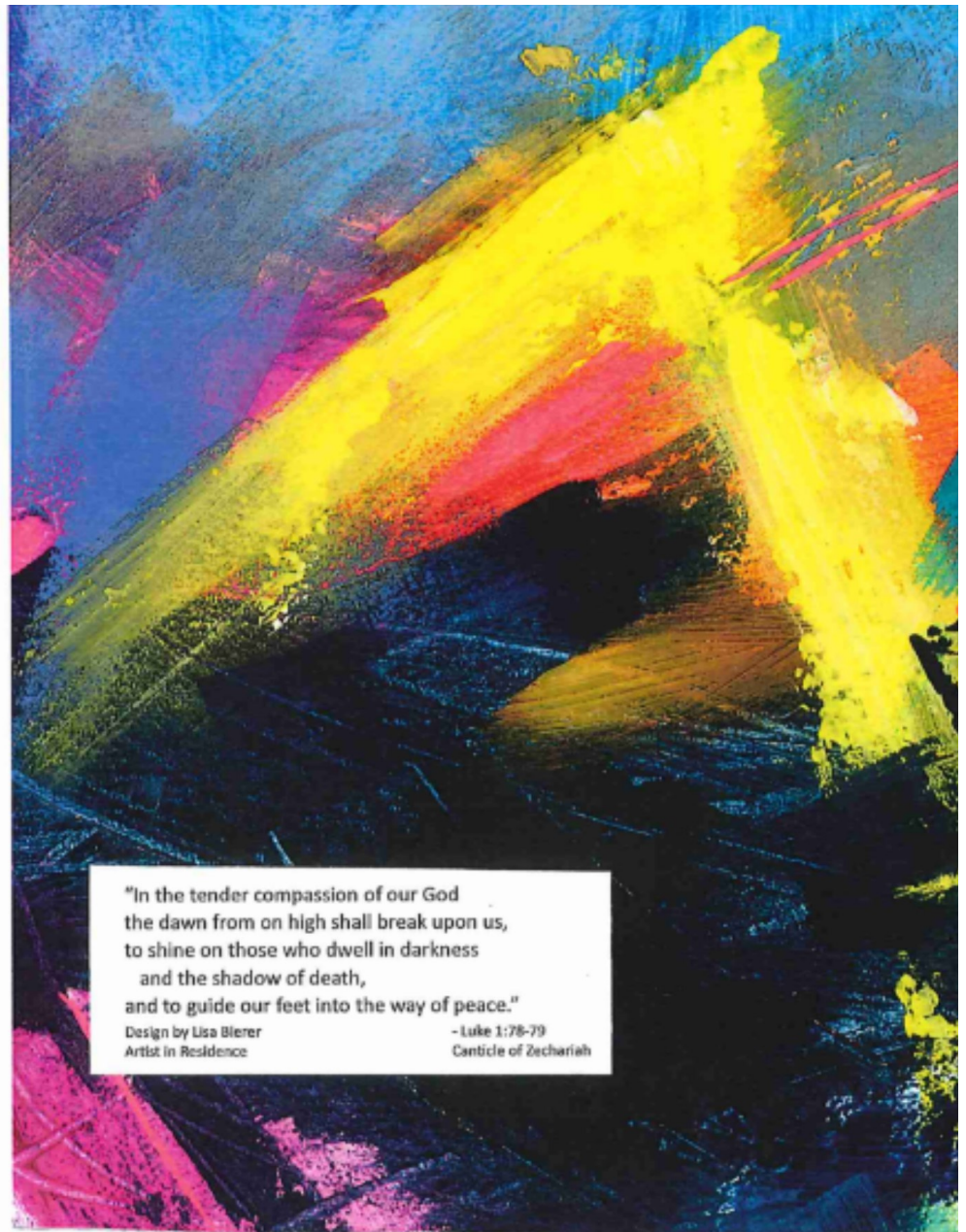
**Saturdays** 4:30 pm

or by appointment

### ADORATION

In the Adoration Chapel

LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK!



"In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Design by Lisa Blerer  
Artist in Residence

- Luke 1:78-79  
Canticle of Zechariah

## MISSION STATEMENT

With the Holy Spirit pouring the love of God into our hearts,  
we invite people to Christ by living like Christ through prayer, service, and learning.

## PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH OFFICE: 507-625-3131

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor** Fr. John Kunz |

frjohn@stjohnsmankato.net

**Deacon** Chris Walchuk |

Dcn.cwalchuk@stjohnsmankato.net

**Pastoral Care Associate/Parish****Administrator**

Mike Logeais | mike@stjohnsmankato.net

**Parish Ministry**

Sister Mary Ann Kuhn |

srmariann@stjohnsmankato.net

**Director of Liturgy/Music**

Jaci James |

jaci@stjohnsmankato.net

**Teen Faith Formation Coordinator**

Kristine McCabe |

Kristy@stjohnsmankato.net

**Children's Faith Formation Coordinator**

Jeanne Fitterer

jeannef@stjohnsmankato.net

**Administrative Assistant/Data**

Susan Durbala |

susand@stjohnsmankato.net

**Administrative Assistant/Communications**

Linda Hogan |

lhogan@stjohnsmankato.net

**Administrative Assistant/Communications**

Wendy Fell |

wfell@stjohnsmankato.net

**Building & Grounds Maintenance**

Jon Fitterer | jfitterer@stjohnsmankato.net

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Loyola Catholic School****Phone:** 507-388-0600**Website:** loyolacatholicschool.org

## LOYOLA AMBASSADORS

St. John's Parish

Natalie Wiebold | 608-772-7994

## CALVARY CEMETERY

Terry Miller

Office 507-387-5784 | P 507-995-1010

## ST. JOHN'S ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS

**Pastoral Leadership Team:**

Dan Hansen | Jaci James | John Fell | Mike

Logeais | Lisa Soupir

Mark Traxler | Nicole Goebel

**Finance Council:**

Kelsie Davis | James Loaney

Mike Ludvik | Dianne Reuter

Tom Schueneman | Joe Meidl

Steve Jansen | Pam Steffl

**Parish Trustees:**

Najwa Massad | Gerald Hicks



The 4<sup>th</sup> week of Advent is one day this year. So it's the shortest Advent season that we can possibly have. That puts the pressure on our shoulders. We have so much to get done before Christmas. Or from another perspective, it heightens our awareness. We don't want to waste time on things that really don't matter. So each day is precious, as we move forward. We focus on the gifts and blessings, and we let go of worry and anxiety. The revelation of Christ begins now as we see Him in one another, even before Christmas

*Peace,  
Father John*

## MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4 IS 2:1-5; MT 8:5-11

8:15 am Word &amp; Communion Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 IS 11:1-10; LK 10:21-24

8:15 am MASS Genelle Lenort †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 IS 25:6-10a; MT 15:29-37

8:15 am Mass Carol Armstrong † Mary Zimmerman †  
Jeremy Wyrowski †

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 IS 26:1-6; MT 7:21, 24-27

8:15 am Word &amp; Communion Service

5:15 pm Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
GN 3:9-15, 20; EPH 1:3-6, 11-12; LK 1:26-38

8:15 am Holy Day Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 IS 30:19-21, 23-26; MT 9:35-10:1,5A, 6-8

5:15 pm Mass Jeff Longenecker †, Louise Theissen †, Gene  
Prunty †, Sophia Pirl †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 IS 40:1-5,9-11; 2 PT 3:8-14; MK 1:1-8

8:00 am Mass Patricia Norris † Helen Dehen †

10:00 am Mass Charlie Frost †, Matt Michaletz †,  
James Anton †

*Hail,* full of grace! The Lord is with you.





### Mankato YMCA Big Brother/Sister Program

"Building unique friendships between terrific kids and adult volunteers."

The Mankato YMCA has many dedicated mentors who support the development of healthy youth by being a positive adult contact. Part of being a mentor is to offer opportunities outside of the youth's home. Example of outings are, bowling, eating at restaurants, taking in a sporting event, going to a movie, or just taking a ride in the car to visit. These events all require money which comes out of the pockets of the mentors.

St. John's has joined with the YMCA to help ease that monetary burden. Beginning this week there will be a Christmas Tree in the Narthex. Ornaments have gift ideas which the YMCA will share with the mentors to use on outings with their mentees. Please return your gift to the Parish Office or when attending weekend mass. There will also be wood boxes by the pillars for those who wish to make a monetary donation. The YMCA has also provided us with brochures for those interested in learning more about becoming a Mentor.



### Espresso Mass

Please join us for coffee and treats every Friday after 8:15 am mass December 1<sup>st</sup> - January 5<sup>th</sup>. Tables will be setup in the Narthex. This is an opportunity for you to relax and enjoy some fellowship.



### Laurels Peak Christmas Bows

St. John parishioners will once again be given the opportunity to provide gifts for the residents of Laurels Peak. Bows will be available beginning December 7<sup>th</sup>. Gifts along with the bow attached need to be returned by December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Bulletin Ads

It's time once again to renew the advertising on the back of our church bulletin.

The cost of the advertising pays the cost of producing our weekly bulletin for the year. A representative will be at our church on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. She will be making calls to renew existing ads or reaching out to new advertisers. If you are interested in getting information about a printed ad/or a digital ad, please contact our parish office or contact, Kristee Flynn directly at [kflynn@4lpi.com](mailto:kflynn@4lpi.com) or calling 651-303-3461.

*Justice shall flourish in his time,  
and fullness of peace forever.*

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

### St. John's Book Club

This month the book club will be reading, *The Five Years*, by Rebecca Serle. The meeting will be on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. Contact, Anita Maki at 507-386-1395.

### Simon Ministry Christmas Party

As a centrally located downtown church, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church established the Simon Ministry program as a parish-supported ministry to the poor, unemployed and those in need. Holy Rosary and St. Joseph the Worker parishes also support Simon Ministry. On December 14, 2023, Simon Ministry will be offering their visitors a Christmas Party gathering. We would like to offer our visitors a lunch and a chance to Christmas shop for themselves or someone in their family.

We are asking for donations of new, unwrapped gifts for men and women. Suggested items are warm gloves, heavy sock, long and short-sleeved T-shirts, flannel lounge pants, PJs, sweatshirts and men's boxer shorts. For men the sizes should be large, x-large, xx-large or xxx-large. Women's sizes should be small, medium, large, x-large or xx-large. Other items to consider are, blankets, bath towels, and heavy-duty backpacks.

Please bring donations to St. Johns by December 10<sup>th</sup> and drop in the collection box located at the Door 4 entrance.

Thank you for your continued generosity to Simon Ministry. If you have any questions, please call Mike at St. John's parish office.

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

**Baptism** - To prepare your child for Baptism, it is essential that parents participate in Pre-Jordan preparation.

**Marriage** - Contact the parish office 1 year in advance of wedding date. Marriage prep is required.

**Becoming Catholic** - If you or someone you know are interested in becoming Catholic or have questions about the process (Christian Initiation), please contact Dcn. Chris Walchuk at

Dcn.cwalchuk@stjohnsmankato.net

**Sacrament of the Sick - Anointing** If you have a serious illness, are facing hospitalization and/or surgery, please contact the parish office to arrange to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Loyola Catholic School is seeking qualified candidates for an Advancement Director opening. Please pass along this information if you know someone who might be interested in joining the Loyola family!

The application process and full job description can be found here:

<https://www.loyolacatholicschool.org/about/employment.cfm>

Join us for Loyola's annual Christmas concerts and programs. We promise they will help prepare your hearts for Christmas and spread joy to your family this holiday season!

**Sunday, December 10**

6-8 grade band & choir concert, 5pm, Loyola gym

9-12 grade band & choir concert, 7pm, Loyola chapel

**Tuesday, December 19**

PS/PreK Christmas program, 8:30am, Loyola gym

K-2 grade Christmas program, 10am, Loyola gym

3-5 grade Christmas program, 1pm, Loyola gym

Save the date!

Loyola Catholic School is planning for a new event, Clash of the Keys, on February 2, 2024. Join us at the Kato Ballroom for a dueling pianos event featuring the always-popular Deuces Wild. Tickets will be available soon. Watch for more information!

ANNOUNCE  
THE GOOD NEWS



1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

First Reading:

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you. (IS 63:19)

Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

Second Reading:

The testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor 1:6-7)

Gospel:

"Watch, therefore: you do not know when the lord of the house is coming." (MK 13:35)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved ©LPI

*Behold, the Lord will come,  
and all his holy ones with Him;  
and on that day  
there will be great light.*

Zechariah 14::5,7

**St. John's Prayer Network**

To submit a request call:

Mickey Bicek 507-388-5906 or Lynn Beadell 507-351-3742

MASS TIMES AROUND THE AREA

DIOCESE WEEKLY TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE:

KTTW Channel 7 (Sioux Falls) at 7:00am

KEYC Channel 12 (Mankato) at 7:30am

KEYC-DT, Digital Channel 12.2 or

Charter Channel 19 (Mankato) at 9:30am

KAAL Channel 6 (Rochester) at 9:00am

WKBT Channel 8 (LaCrosse) at 7:30am



## FINANCES

***December 9 - 5:15 pm******Communion Ministers:*** John Fell, Lynn Klingsporn, Brenda TeVogt***Lector:*** Craig Soupir***Sacristan:*** Jane Jans***Servers:*** Noah Altomari, Olivia Altomari***Ushers/Hospitality:*** Team 2***December 10- 8:00 am******Communion Ministers:*** Massaad Chahine, Nicole Goebel, Najwa Massad***Lector:*** Mark Traxler***Sacristan:*** Doug Homan***Servers:*** Oliver Tibodeau. Clayton Tibodeau***Ushers/Hospitality:*** Team 6***December 10 - 10:00 am******Communion Ministers:*** Pam Steffl, Dianne Reuter, Lisa Vasquez***Lector:*** Chris Meehan***Sacristan:*** Jeanne Atkinson***Servers:*** John Green, Liam Vasquez***Ushers/Hospitality:*** Team 10**NOVEMBER 10-17 2023**

Adult Support	\$	11,101.19
Offertory	\$	1,000.50
Donations via website - 11/10 -11/17	\$	1,720.63
Holy Day	\$	345.00
ACH (5 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> ) 11/06/2023	\$	
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>14,167.32</u></b>

Weekly Offering goal is:  
\$ 18,163.73

Year-to-date income as  
of 11/17/2023 **\$ 362,616.23**

**NOV. 17-24, 2023**

Adult Support	\$	6,709.00
Offertory	\$	833.43
Donations via website - 11/18 -11/24	\$	1,005.00
Holy Day	\$	110.00
ACH (5 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> ) 11/20/2023	\$	7,378.00
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>16,035.43</u></b>

Weekly Offering goal is:  
\$ 18,163.73

Year-to-date income as  
of 11/24/2023 **\$ 378,651.66**

**THANK YOU**

To everyone who has been dropping off or mailing your weekly donations. We are grateful for whatever contributions you are able to make, as we pay our utilities, payroll and other expenses. Your generosity is much appreciated!

**Money Counters**

December 4 - Team 1  
December 11 - Team 2  
December 18 - Team 3

**PEACE THROUGH PLANNING**

Death comes to each of us. Often we have very little forewarning or control over the circumstances of our dying. Planning for these end times is a gentle way of being supportive of our loved ones who, while grieving our dying, must also try to make a peaceful, orderly, and spiritual transition to living without us. If you or a loved one are facing final illness, death, and funeral planning, or you just want to prepare for that un-known day when you will be called home, ease the burden by picking up a "P" booklet. This guide is available at any time in the parish office and is designed to make the planning for end times a logical step in the life of a responsible and caring adult.

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

**Word & Communion Service**

8:15 AM - Church

**Spirit Singers**

5:30 PM - St. Elizabeth Room

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

**Sunrise AA Meeting**

6:30 AM - Matthews Hall

**Mass**

8:15 AM - Church

**Piecemakers**

1:00 PM - St. Matthews Hall

**Grief Group**

5:00 PM - Matthews Hall

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

**Mass**

8:15 AM - Church

**Choir for Christ**

5:50 PM - Church

**Small Groups**

7:00 PM - Classrooms

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

**Mass**

8:15 AM - Church

**Simon Ministry**

10:30 - Matthews Hall

**Immaculate Conception Vigil****Mass**

5:15 PM - Church

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

**Al-Anon - ZOOM****Early Risers AA**

6:30 AM - Matthews Hall

**Immaculate Conception Mass**

8:15 AM - Church

**Fellowship Gathering**

After mass - Narthex

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

4:30 PM - Confession Room

**Mass**

5:15 PM - Church

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

**Mass**

8:00 AM - Church

**FF Grades 1-5**

9:00 AM - Classroom/Mtg Rm

**Mass**

10:00 AM - Church

**CLW - Shine Bright**

10:10 AM - Matthews Hall

**OA**

3:00 PM - JP II Room



*Dear Jesus, as we light the candle on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends, and be with all those who are in need this holiday season.*

*Amen*



# Faith FORMATION

## SAVE THE DATE

**Second Grade First Reconciliation**  
**Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

There will be a short prayer service, reflective time and then you are on your own to meet with one of the 3 priests for your First Reconciliation. Please remember your whole family is invited and encouraged to attend and participate.

**G  
R  
A  
D  
E  
S**

### St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Nativity Pageant

The St. John's Nativity Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 PM. We will be doing it a little different this year. Practice dates will be listed in next week's bulletin. You **MUST** be able to make both practices to participate. There will be a link in the bulletin to sign up. This is for any child in our parish. You do not need to be in our Sunday School Program to participate.

**4 year olds-Kindergarten** will be sheep

**1st Grade** will be angels

**2nd Grade** will be shepherds

**3rd Grade** will be talking animals and animal leaders

**4th Grade** will be Wise Man and King Herod

**5th Grade** will be Mary and Joseph, Leaders of sheep and angels, and scenery.

**1-5**

### Where Am I Wrap-Up

What do you remember from all the rooms we found. Please match the room to the grade level. If you need a life-line...ask your children. Enjoy!

Bride's Room	5th Grade
Matthew's Hall	3rd Grade
Marion Room	1st Grade
John Paul Room	4th Grade
Mother Theresa Room	2nd Grade
St. Patrick Room	Meeting Room

## TEEN FAITH FORMATION



Classes Meet:  
 Wednesdays from 7-8pm  
 December 6th  
 December 14th

No Classes from December 20 -  
 January 10th

If you have questions about or would like to get involved with our Faith Formation Program, please contact:  
 GRADES 1-5: Jeanne Fitterer [jeannef@stjohnsmankato.net](mailto:jeannef@stjohnsmankato.net) GRADES 6-12: Kristy McCabe [kristy@stjohnsmankato.net](mailto:kristy@stjohnsmankato.net)