



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

632 S. Broad St. • Mankato, MN 56001 • 507-625-3131 • stjohnch@stjohnsmankato.net

Pastor - Fr. John Kunz

Mass Schedule - Saturday Vigil: 5:15 pm • Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Reconciliation - Saturday: 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm



**THERE WILL BE SIGNS
in the sun, the moon, and the stars**

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December 2, 2018 - First Sunday of Advent - Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH STAFF

<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Fr. John Kunz</u>
625-3131	frjohn@stjohnsmankato.net
<u>Pastoral Care Associate/</u>	
<u>Parish Administrator</u>	<u>Mike Logeais</u>
625-3131	mike@stjohnsmankato.net
<u>Director of Liturgy/Music</u>	<u>Jaci James</u>
625-3131	jaci@stjohnsmankato.net
<u>Director of Children/Adult Formation</u>	<u>Kelly Huber</u>
625-3131	khuber@stjohnsmankato.net
<u>Director of Youth Formation</u>	<u>Mairin Bierer</u>
625-3131	mbierer@stjohnsmankato.net
<u>Faith Formation Assistant</u>	<u>Mary Hudson</u>
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<u>Accountant/Administrative Assistant</u>	<u>Daniel Pietsch</u>
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<u>Building & Grounds Maintenance</u>	<u>Jon Fitterer</u>
625-3131	jfitterer@stjohnsmankato.net

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Loyola Catholic School 507-388-0600
 Website - www.loyolacatholicschool.org

LOYOLA AMBASSADORS ST. JOHN'S PARISH:

Beth Johnson 388-6312

ST. JOHN'S ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS

Pastoral Leadership Team:

Dan Hansen	Jaci James
John Fell	Jennifer Hatkin
Christopher Meehan	Kelly Huber

Finance Council:

Kelsie Davis	Beth Baker
James Loaney	Lucas Schaefer
Mike Burkhardt	Pat Kruger
Gerald Hicks	Mike Spellacy

Faith Formation Advisory and Development Board:

Mick Hickok, adult rep	Dan Hansen, young family rep
Amy Kloss, family rep	Kelly Andresen, family rep
Savanna Witte, youth rep	Jayden Hatkin, youth rep
Phil White	Ann Benson

Parish Trustees:

Jim Swanson	Najwa Massad
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From the Pastor's Desk

We seek Advent grace. On our own we search for something to fill in our emptiness. The activities are endless, the toys are constantly beckoning to us, and we seem powerless to save ourselves.

However these coming weeks cry out to us in the wilderness of our lives - watch, be ready, awaken. God has come among us to share life, hope and the elusive grace we long for. It is an act of God that created us and now redeems us from the futile state we live in. These promises have been made and they will be kept.

Jesus, draw near.

Peace,
Fr. John

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 3 – Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

8:15 am - Communion Service

Tuesday, December 4 - Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

8:15 am – Leo Killion†

Wednesday, December 5 - Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

8:15 am – Richard Longenecker†

Thursday, December 6 – Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

8:15 am – Communion Service

Friday, December 7 - Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

No morning Mass or Communion Service

5:15pm– Julian Goettl†, Marlene Fredricks

Saturday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception Holy Day

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

9:00 am - St. John's Parishioners

5:15 pm – Gil & Jerre Berens†, Tony & Alice Rotchadl†,
Clair Haefner†, Phyllis Goettl†

Sunday, December 9 - Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

8:00 am – David Sullivan†, Phyllis Brunner†, Nikki Thede,
Lois Groebner†

10:00 am – Vernon & Joe Winter†, Parishioners of St. John's,
Tom & Danny O'Herin†, Delores Reuter†, Arlene Kosak†

St. John's Prayer Network -

To submit a prayer request, please call:

Sandy Roberts 387-1372 or Alice DiMeglio 345-5273
or email: Pastoral Care Associate at:
mike@stjohnsmankato.net

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, December 3

Communion Service – 8:15 AM – Church
Spirit Singers – 5:00 PM – St. Elizabeth room
Alpha – 6:00 PM - Library
A Community Conversation on Poverty, Part II at First Congregational UCC Church, 150 Stadium Ct., Mankato, MN 56001, 7-8:30pm

Tuesday, December 4

Sunrise AA Meeting – 6:30 AM – Matthews Hall
Daily Mass – 8:15 AM – Church
Piecemakers – 9:00 AM – Matthews Hall
Choir for Christ – 5:00 PM - Church
Hope-Grief Ministry – 5:15 PM – John Paul II room
Connections Ministry – 6:30 PM - John Paul II room

Wednesday, December 5

Daily Mass – 8:15 AM - Church
Legion of Mary – 9:00 AM – Marian room
Fall Journey through Grief – 9:30 AM – John Paul II room
Simon Ministry Christmas Party setup – 9:30 AM – Matthews Hall
New Perspectives Mass – 10:00 AM – New Perspectives Community
Choir for Christ (C4C) – 5:15 PM – Church
Roots & Edge – 6:30 PM – PLC Cafeteria
Life Teen – 7:30 PM – PLC gym

Thursday, December 6

Communion Service – 8:15 AM – Church
Simon Ministry Christmas Party– 10:30 AM – Matthews Hall
Laurels Peak Mass – 3:00 PM – Laurels Peak
YAC Disciple’s Night – 4:00 PM – Church
Wisdom-Scripture Study – 6:30 PM – John Paul II room

Friday, December 7

Al-Anon – 6:30 AM – Parish Library
Early Risers AA – 6:30 AM – Matthews Hall
Holy Day Mass – Immaculate Conception – 5:15 PM

Saturday, December 8

Holy Day Mass – Immaculate Conception – 9:00 AM - in the Church
Prayer Walk – 9:00 AM – Madison East Mall

Sunday, December 9

2nd Sunday of Advent
Faith Formation (Grades 1,3,4) – 9:00 AM – PLC
CLW – 10:10 AM – Matthews Hall
MSU Concert – 1:00 PM - Church

ST. JOHN’S NEWS

JUST A REMINDER

Please **DO NOT** park in front of St. John’s maintenance garage in the alley (**by door #15**) during the winter months. Snow removal equipment needs to be taken in and out of this area. Thank You.



ST. JOHN’S BOOK CLUB

The St. John Book Club book for this month is “Wisken and Hopin” by Wally Lamb. Anita Maki has extra copies, if you’d like a copy or have questions. Discussion will be at 1:30 pm in the St. John’s library on December 12th. New members are welcome. If you have any questions please call Anita Maki at 507-386-1395.



Laurels Peak Christmas Party

Every year, for the last 45 years, St. John’s Council of Catholic Women has hosted a Christmas party for the residents of Laurels Peak. The first Sunday of Advent, the CCW provides Christmas bows. If you would like to be a part of this tradition, please take a bow from the basket on the “Blessed Virgin’s altar” and purchase a gift for the person whose name appears on the card. You may buy one or more of the gifts suggested. Please return the gifts to St. John’s by Sunday, December 16th, or to Laurels Peak by Monday, December 17th, no later than 10 AM since that is the time and place the gifts will be sorted. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS DREAMS (PART 1)

A CANTATA BY JOSEPH M. MARTIN AND HEATHER SORENSON

An Advent celebration in scripture and song, featuring our own Spirit Singers!

And enjoy additional holiday music by Tom Bierer & company.

Sunday, December 2, 2018

2:00 pm in the church sanctuary

and refreshments afterwards. All are invited!

No admission charge.



Parish Office Hours: Weekdays 8:30 am-5:00 pm Office Phone: (507) 625-3131 Emergency (after office hours): (507) 388-7239
Web: www.stjohnscatholicchurch.com Check out St. John’s on Facebook and Instagram Youth Page!

SACRAMENTS

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 the parish office.

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.



NCCYM
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

please pray for us!

Dear St. John's Family,

We are excited to share with you that we, your Directors of Faith Formation, are traveling to Tampa, FL this week to attend the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry, December 5 - 9.

Please pray for us as we gather with thousands of other ministry leaders to be inspired, strengthened, and nourished in our work. We are excited for what we will learn from this national conference and can't wait to bring it home to St. John's and Mankato.

We look forward to sharing with you what we discover from this extraordinary gathering - these are exciting times in youth and young adult ministry!

Gratefully yours,

Mairin Bierer,
Director of Youth Formation

Kelly Huber,
Director of Children and Adult Formation

LOYOLA NEWS



Learn about Loyola Catholic School (PS-12) Visit www.loyolacatholicschool.org

Contact Angela Casteel at acasteel@loyolacatholicschool.org or 507.388.0615 to schedule family tours.

Save the Date!

Dec 1: Barnes & Noble Bookfair (Mention Loyola at checkout or use our event code: #12386660 at the store or when shopping online)

Jan 28: Catholic Schools Week Mass at 10am, Holy Rosary Parish

We wish each of you a prayerful and joyful **season of Advent**. Loyola students will have weekly Advent prayer services. Younger students will collect baby items for **Birthright**; older students will raise funds and shop for **Christmas Baskets** needed by local parish families.

Host Families needed: We need 4 more families to host students from Argentina for a homestay/shadow experience from Jan 6-Feb 9. A stipend will help cover room/board, meals, and transportation to/from school each day. Contact **Julienne Antes of Nacel Open Door** at 507.304.2143 to choose your student. **Students must have a host family by Dec. 1.**

37 Loyola fall athletes have been recognized by the MN State High School League in "**Spotlight on Scholarship**" for having a 3.0 or better GPA during the first quarter.

We celebrated a **Memorial Mass on Nov. 28**, inviting those who have ties to Loyola and have recently lost a loved one to join us as we proclaimed the loved ones' names, brought in a candle for each person, and prayed for them.

We continue to use **Top 20** concepts, helping all to be their best and creating a culture in which we daily acknowledge each person's dignity, worth and purpose.

Want to **volunteer** at school? Call us! 388.0600

THANK YOU to all who send us **Box Tops for Education**, **Hy-Vee** receipts, and **Milk Moola** labels.

Your parish support makes all we do, learn, and celebrate at Loyola possible.

*Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence,
and Service.*

We welcome our newest Christians into the family of God and St. John's parish.



Jonathan Colin McCabe Jr.
Parents are Jonathan and Brittany McCabe
November 22, 2018
Davis Crandall
Parents are Matthew and Lauren Crandall
November 25, 2018

FAITH FORMATION

St. John's Monthly Prayer Focus

DECEMBER MEDITATION

PRAYER is one of the three aspects of our Parish Mission and identity
PRAYER - SERVICE - LEARNING

For our 2018-2019 Faith Formation Year, we are focusing on different methods for prayer in order to expand and deepen each our prayer experiences and encounters with Jesus.

During the month of December, we are focusing on the practice of *mediation* in prayer. Advent is a wonderful time to introduce meditation into your daily prayer time. We have provided multiple tools to meditate and reflect on the Advent scripture readings, including the thoughts and prayers of such spiritual masters as C.S. Lewis and Henri Nouwen.

Please take advantage of these **free booklets** designed not just for adults but also children and families. Pick up your **Advent meditation booklet** from the table set up in the main entrance.



'We meditate before, during and after everything we do. The prophet says: "I will pray, and then I will understand." This is the way we can easily overcome the countless difficulties we have to face day after day, which, after all, are part of our work. In meditation we find the strength to bring Christ to birth in ourselves and in others.'

St. Charles Borromeo

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

	November 25, 2018	Budget
Adult Envelopes/Electronic Giving	\$ 14,122.75	\$ 16,865.00
Offertory	\$ 658.07	\$ 557.00
\$1 Youth Envelopes	\$ 231.00	
Thanksgiving	\$ 2,010.05	

Money Counters: Dec. 3 Team 2; Dec. 10 Team 3; Dec. 17 Team 4

	Budget Status: October 31, 2018	
	Current Fiscal YTD*	Prior Fiscal YTD
Income	\$346,104.88	\$309,796.87
Expenses	(\$350,449.41)	(\$322,342.35)
Operating Net Profit	(\$4,344.53)	(\$12,545.48)

* Results reflect many 2018 full year contributions.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL-2018**

Balance	2018 Collections	2018 Contributions needed
January 1, 2018	\$ 45,471	\$ 26,259
\$ 71,730		

BUILDING TUCK POINTING PROJECT

Cost/Goal	Building & Savings Funds	Contributions needed
\$249,343.00	\$195,446.00	\$53,897.00

St. John's Young Stewards Time & Treasure

Children's Envelopes \$81.37
(Talents from Children's Envelopes)

Time:
Talent:

** Catholic Ministries Appeal shortfall from the 2017 Parish obligation paid to the Catholic Foundation of Southern MN which is a separate entity from the Diocese of Winona.

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION

On **December 8th**, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (liturgy for the feast will be celebrated) **Sacred Space Ministry, Good Counsel Hill, Mankato. Celebrate Advent and Mary.** The day will include input, reflection, stories, sharing. How might Mary speak to us today? What is our Advent call? Fee: \$40, includes lunch. **Give yourself the gift of a day to enter into the spirit of Advent! Take time to prepare your heart, your spirit, your psyche for the coming of Christmas.** To register call 507-389-4266 or at mjwelter@ssndcp.org. Please register by December 4, 2018.

Catholics at the Capitol 2019

Are you tired of divisive angry politics? As a Minnesota Catholic you can begin to transform politics in our state. Join thousands of Catholics from across the state for a day of prayer and advocacy in St. Paul that will inspire you and teach you how to put your faith into action! On Tuesday, February 19th, 2019 we're coming together for life and dignity. Visit www.CatholicsAtTheCapitol.org for details and to register! Space is limited so don't delay! Transportation options are available.



As our hearts turn toward Bethlehem, join us for an Advent seminar:

"Palestine and Israel: Then and Now"

• Our world's Catholic bishops have stated: "50 Years of Occupation is enough!"
Let us gather to discuss **A LAND TWICE PROMISED.**

Saturday, December 8th – Feast of Immaculate Conception!

- Sacred Heart Parish—Waseca 111 4th St., NW
- 9am Mass.
- 9:45 AM Welcome (Coffee n pastries)
- 10:00 AM—12:15 PM Presentation
- Gifts of olive wood and olive oil available for purchase!

Rsvp Appreciated – Richard DeBona, PSM Cdrntr. Catholic Charities rdebona@ccsomn.org

Advent seminar:

Palestine and Israel: A Land Twice Promised.

Joins us on **Dec. 8th** at Sacred Heart in Waseca, 111 4th St. NW, 9am-Mass; 9:45am-Welcome coffee n pastry; 10am-12:15pm-presentation and discussion:

World's Bishops declare: **"50 years of Occupation Demands Action."** Gifts of olive wood and olive oil avlbl. for purchase. RSVP appreciated: rdebona@ccsomn.org

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb. 8-10, 2019 in Windom, MN and Apr. 26-28, 2019 in HUTCHINSON, MN. For more information, call Miki Schultz at 507-227-8229 or visit them at southmnnwme.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 8/9

Musicians

December 7/8 Holy Day - Immaculate Conception

5:15 pm – (vigil) Jeanne Makela / Kristin Bogenschutz

9:00 am – Joyce Kolbet and/or Jaci James

December 8/9

5:15 pm – Mary Pribyl / Spirit Singers

8:00 am – Joyce Kolbet or Jaci James / Voices in Praise

10:00 am – Jeanne Makela / Kristin Bogenschutz

Eucharistic Ministers

5:15 pm – Lisa Adams, Lynn Beadell, John Bulcock,
Glenda Landsteiner, Monica Orth, Thomas Rogness,
Laura Schulte, Kathy Wortel

8:00 am – Brian & Jan Hughes, Candy Jenson, Dan Kapsner,
Patty Mejias, Jeanne Morgan, Pat Sullivan, Barb Traxler

10:00 am – Susan Baker, Kris Barnes, Maggie Bennett,
Miriam Braunhausen, Mike Burkhardt, Julia Corbett,
Mike Ulman, Helen Ward

Lector

5:15 pm – John Fell, Kathy Wortel

8:00 am – Chad & Martha Witte

10:00 am – Leon Schaffer, Mike Ulman

Sacristan

5:15 pm – Jenny Wagner, John Fell

8:00 am – Mike Denn

10:00 am – Becki Stranik

Server

5:15 pm – Michelle Goodrich, Monica Orth, Pat Rogness

8:00 am – Eli & Ella Blace

10:00 am – Olivia Jaqua, Christopher & Dylan Vasquez

Ministers of Hospitality

5:15 pm – Team 4

8:00 am – Team 8

10:00 am - Team 12

Weekly EM (December 3-7)

Dick Collard

Laurel's Peak Service – (December 6)

Mike & Jean Burkhardt

**Communal Penance Service -
Sunday, December 16, 2018
at 1:00pm at St. John's**



AREA NEWS

The Board of Directors for the Connections Shelter invites YOU to:

A Pizza Ranch Fundraiser

Monday, December 3rd from 5 PM to 8:30 PM

The Connections Shelter Board of Directors invites you to kick off your holiday shopping with an extravagant buffet of pizza, fried chicken and all the fixings including dessert on Monday, December 3rd from 5 PM to 8:30 PM at The Pizza Ranch on Madison Avenue. Connections Shelter volunteers will be waiting tables that night while visiting with guests about this important ministry. All tip proceeds will support the shelter operations this winter.

See you at The Pizza Ranch!



Options for Women

Mankato Sunday Brunch Fundraiser on Sunday, December 2nd from 8:00 AM - 12:00 noon at the WOW Zone in Mankato. A delicious menu of pancakes, french toast, bacon, sausage, ham, fresh fruit, eggs, juice and coffee will be served for a fee of \$12 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 5-12 and under 5 is free. Of these fees, \$5 per meal will go to Options for Women. These funds will be used to support limited medical services and education for women facing an unplanned or difficult pregnancy.

The Knights of Columbus -

Christmas tree lot has opened at its new location. The lot is now located at 237 Belgrade Avenue between Arizona Olive Oil Co., 2 Pins Bakery, by Tony Friesen and Y Barbers. Throughout the holiday season, the lot will be open 4:00-8:00 p.m. weekdays and 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. weekends. Your support of the Knights of Columbus is greatly appreciated and helps us fund a variety of charitable efforts in your community. Thank you!

Energy Assistance Program for Income Qualified Homeowners & Renters

With heating season upon us, Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. (GMG) would like to remind residential homeowners or renters of the Energy Assistance Program (EAP). This federally funded program helps pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs for income-qualified households. Please contact your location EAP Service Provider to apply. For help finding your local EAP provider, call 1-800-657-3710. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 31, 2019 to be processed for benefits for the 2018-2019 program year. You can find more information on-line at the Minnesota Department of Commerce website at: <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>.