

All Are Welcome . . .

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will celebrate its annual St. Theresa Novena at 6:30 pm each evening beginning on Tuesday, September 23rd, ending on Wednesday, October 1st. These nine consecutive days of prayer center on the Blessed Sacrament and will include reflective thoughts from the personal writings of St. Theresa of Lisieux. Come spend a spirit-filled 35 minutes in prayer each evening. Everyone is most welcome!

1849 LINCOLN AVENUE • WHITING, INDIANA 46394
(219) 659-0023

Perspectives of the Afterlife IV

The Beatific Vision

What follows is the final article of a four-part series that has presented various perspectives on the topic "afterlife" from a Catholic-historical point of view. These writings have meant to be reflective not exhaustive.

"Beatific vision" is a theological expression for seeing God face-to-face. Christian hope is often expressed in terms of seeing the face of God directly, without the need for created intermediaries. In the Old Testament, divine favor is indicated by the face of God being turned toward an individual, just as disfavor is signaled by the face being averted. If the face of God were "hidden" or "turned away," the believer had no hope of finding divine acceptance (Deut. 31:17; Eze. 7:22).

Yet the "face of God" concerns more that the notion of divine favor and pleasure; it evokes the possibility of an encounter with the living God. To "see the face of God" is to have a privileged, intimate relationship with God - seeing God "as God actually is" (1 Jn. 3:2), rather than having to know God "as through a glass, darkly," but we shall finally see God face-to-face (1 Cor. 13:12).

St. Augustine, fourth century theologian, wrote extensively on this topic. He points out that the vision of God possesses a unique capacity to satisfy all human desires, utterly surpassing the ability of any created being or thing. Such a vision is the *summum bonum*, the "supreme good," the "light by which truth is perceived, and the fountain from which all blessedness is drunk."

From another perspective, John Donne is perhaps one of the greatest spiritual poets in the English language. In one of his poems he states: "No man [sic.] ever saw God and lived. And yet, I shall not live 'till I see God; and when I have seen him, I shall never die." What do you think he means? How does this relate to the "beatific vision" and your conception of the afterlife.

Deacon Kevin

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you suffer with chronic illness, are anticipating major surgery, are physically challenged, sick or are facing the limitation of old age, you are invited to receive the sacrament of the **Anointing of the Sick** on Sunday, September 28th at our cluster churches:

8:15 am Mass at Immaculate Conception Church

8:30 am Spanish Mass at Sacred Heart Church

10:15 am Mass at St. Adalbert's Church

10:45 Mass at Sacred Heart Church

11:00 am Mass at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Please sign the registration sheets at the church entrance or call the St. John rectory, 659-0023 or the Sacred Heart rectory 659-0733 during business hours to register for anointing at the parish where you wish to be anointed.

**Please note...there will be no
Sunday 5:30 p.m. Young Adult Mass
until further notice.**

ALMOST THERE!

We are still collecting for the annual CSA Appeal. We have come so close to our goal. Please, if you have not yet donated, do consider it. Thank you.



Monday, September 22

7:00 am †Joseph & Frances Prus—Founded Mass (SJB)

8:00 am †Rose Bachurek (IC)

Tuesday, September 23

7:00 am †John G. Lukascek Off: Eleanor Rybarczyk (SJB)

8:00 am †Joseph Furto (IC)

8:30 am †Alice M. Jurek Off: Edward & Lillian Fisher (SJB)

Wednesday, September 24

7:00 am †Margaret Ptoplava Off: Husband, Stephen (SJB)

8:00 am †Frank Kobli (IC)

8:30 am †Joseph Srencik Off: Family (SJB)

Thursday, September 25

7:00 am †Bill E. Angelcos Off: Jack & Elinor Vasilak (SJB)

8:00 am †Pauline Blasko Beck (IC)

Friday, September 26

7:00 am †Ann Kozak Off: Nephew, Michael Tolin (SJB)

8:00 am †Marianne Magro (IC)

8:30 am †Wanda & Louis Biedron Off: Daughter, Roma (SJB)

Saturday, September 27

7:00 am †Mike & Marie Benko Off: Mike & Betty Benko (SJ)

4:30 pm Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SJB)

Sunday, September 28, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SJB)

8:00 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SA)

8:15 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (IC)

8:30 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SH)

10:15 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SA)
40th Wedding Anniversary, Bernadine & Gil Cusson

10:45 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SH)

11:00 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SJB)



Mary Badankovich, Lenny Barnaby, Mary Bayus, Kristine Brown, Lucy Campbell, Thomas Castillo, Dorothy Chovan, Mary Danielson, Elizabeth Dedinsky, Ed Domasica, Magdalene Doucette, John Dubec, Sophie Foley, Ann Gulvas, Loretta Jambik, Richard Gene and Richard Kenneth Kaminsky, Eugene M. Kasper, Joann Keepes, Richard Kovach, Margaret Kovacich, Vicki Krause, Laura Kresich, Julia Kukta, Florence Kurella, Joyce Lesar, David Luttrell, Victoria Miller, Janet Moran, Albert Odlivak, Richard Pesenko, Ruth Rapchak, Jennifer Reeves, Marcia Ross, Lane Rovito, Marian Rovito, Mildred Saliga, John and Geraldine Sciacero, Martha Shimala, Marie Silich, Victor Silich, George Soltis, Angie Srencik, Mary Trelinski, Virginia Troksa, Agnes Vetroczyk, Mark Vine, Dorothy Zabrecky, Clara Zalapakus, Rev. John Zvijak, C.P.P.S.

Rest in Peace

Mildred Klochan (Millie)

Jason Verta

Mark Fesko, brother of Marcella Zajac

Jack Williams, father of Beth Bach

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Weekly.....	\$8,309.00
Loose.....	322.45
High School.....	27.50
Grade School.....	188.59
Total for Week.....	\$8,847.54
Special Mission Collection.....	\$1,657.63
488 Pledges to CSA.....	\$61,279.75
Parish Goal.....	\$61,703.00

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

This note was received recently from Susan Adam, Treasurer of The St. Vincent DePaul Society of the Whiting-Robertsdale Cluster: *Dear St. John the Baptist Parish, Thank you for your generous donation. You are helping to provide food, utility or rent assistance to people in need. Thank you for supporting this ministry. The people we serve are truly grateful!*

SONG OF BERNADETTE



The St. John Pastoral Council cordially invites everyone to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the miracle of Lourdes with a showing of the celebrated 20th Century Fox production of *The Song of Bernadette* starring Jennifer Jones in her Academy Award winning performance. It will be shown following the novena to St. Therese on Tuesday, September 23rd in the Mural Room of St. John School. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome.

ROSARY AND BENEDICTION

The Whiting/Robertsdale Faith Enrichment Committee invites you to participate in praying the rosary at the Immaculate Conception outdoor shrine located on White Oak Avenue next to Immaculate Conception Church on Sunday, October 5th at 2:00 pm. Join with the faith community as we pray for peace and respect for life during October, the Month of the Rosary. Benediction will conclude this hour of prayer. Bring a chair if you wish and your rosary. In the event of inclement weather, we will pray inside Immaculate Conception Church.

PET BLESSING



The Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic community invites pets and their owners to the annual Pet Blessing on Saturday, October 4th at 12:00 noon in front of St. John Church. This annual event coincides with the feast of St. Frances of Assisi who loved all of creation and promoted tender care of God's creatures. Certificates of blessing will be presented to all participants. Pets should be contained or on a leash. All are welcome.



Our Men and Women in the Service

Please keep them in your prayers: Zach Arnold, Robert Bughman, Jason Chavez, Austin Chiluski, Larry Gazafy, Gerardo Gonzalez, Thomas Gormley, James Grunhard Jr., Michael Hartman, Thomas M. Kaminsky, Mark Koval, Walter Malenki, Benjamin Mann, Randall McAllister, Michael McCullough, Philip Mlynarski, Curtis Mordus, Nicholas Okamura, Thomas Puplava Jr., Eric Schaufele, Adam Starzyk, John Starzyk Jr., John Starzyk Sr., Graham Stone.

THE MISSIONARIES OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS

WEEKDAY MASSES

7:00 a.m.

September 22 & 23: Emily & Jacob Brooks
September 24 & 25: William Maloney, Manuel Estrada
September 26 & 27: Carissa Jones, Rachel Kubisz

SUNDAY MASSES

4:30 pm, September 27, Saturday

Lectors: Perz, Kozak
 Euch Min: R&B Jerzyk, P&M Progar, C Vrabel, R Rodriguez, K Scalf

Altar Servers: Catherine Chiluski, Ashley Przybyla, Karina Rodriguez

8:00 am September 28, Sunday

Lectors: Banik, Banik
 Euch Min: T Barilla, D Weber, J Staley, M Saliga, G Jancosek, B Chidalek

Altar Servers: Kirsten & Amber Markusic, Adam Spanier

11:00 am September 28, Sunday

Lectors: Botich, Lannon
 Euch Min: N&M Lewandowski, F Delinck, C Lannon, S Rosendo, K Saliga, E Duray (CR), B Delinck (CR)

Altar Servers: Alec, Eric & Anthony Rodriguez

CARE CENTER

10:00 am September 28: J Bobos, R Mikola

ST. THERESA NOVENA

St. John Church, 6:30 pm each evening beginning Tues., Sept. 23rd, ending Wed., Oct. 1st. The 2008 First Communicants will lead the opening procession, and members of the 4th grade class will bring up the petition box in procession each evening. Nine consecutive days of prayer center on the Blessed Sacrament and will include reflective thoughts from the personal writings of St. Theresa of Lisieux. Come each evening, or pray at home if you're unable to attend. The final service Wed., Oct. 1st will include a free will offering to benefit our St. Vincent DePaul Society, followed by a social in the St. John Panel Room. Everyone is most welcome!

ADULT CATECHISM CLASSES RESUME

You are invited to gather with the "faithfilled 12" on Tuesday evenings in October and November for the continued study of *the U.S. Catholic Catechism*. For those who want to read ahead, we'll be discussing Chapter 18 concerning the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. If you would like to order a catechism and the corresponding reflection book, please contact Margaret Saliga at 659-4138. Gatherings are held in the Rose Room of Sacred Heart School at 6:30 pm. Come join in the discussion and share the Catholic faith which we all hold so dear.

OUR SINCERE THANKS

Thank you to the Family & Friends of Daniel Zatkulak for their generous donations to the St. John School Endowment Fund in his memory.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

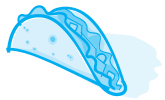
We extend our prayers and heartfelt sympathy to Anna Howard (aunt) and to the family of serviceman Jason Verta.



I Nick McNinch & Elizabeth Powell

SACRED HEART FESTIVAL

Sacred Heart's Parish Festival, 1731 LaPorte Avenue, is Sunday, TODAY, September 21st, from 11:30 am to 6:00 p.m. They will be featuring



Bingo, Cakewalk, Children's games and more. Football/baseball games will be televised in the Beer Garden. Featured food items are polish sausage, hot dogs, corned beef, grilled burgers, tacos and our delicious homemade chili. \$5 raffle tickets will be for sale for the top prize of \$1,200.

Hope to see you there!



Welcome Back Teens!

Although we are no longer Life Teen we are back. We have rearranged and regrouped and now we're ready to go. All teens from Confirmation through High School Seniors are welcome to join in. We will be meeting in Benedict Hall right after 11:00 am mass every other week beginning TODAY, September 21. Gatherings are approximately 2 hours in length. Time is spent in planning for upcoming events, faith sharing, food and free time, so come join us and bring a friend.

Upcoming events:

Life Chain- October 5
Savior of the World Presentation -October 12
Haunted House Construction - Throughout October
Teen Mass - October 26th at 11:00
Spirit Day - November 9th

I am seeking all musically talented young people who would be interested in becoming a part of the Music Ministry that we are developing for Teen Masses. Come and share your gifts with everyone. We are also looking for teens who would like to participate in the Liturgical Roles of the Mass. If interested, join us on Sundays in Benedict Hall or call me, Jamie Sandona, YM Coordinator at 659-0023.

I am also creating a team of Adults to serve on the guidance team for the Youth / Teen Ministry! If you are interested in helping out, please call Jamie Sandona at 659-0023!

"LIFE CHAIN"



On Sunday, October 5th, Lake County Right to Life is sponsoring a "Life Chain" beginning at Wicker Park and heading west along Ridge Road into Lansing, IL. Stand for life with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA. They will stand for one hour holding provided signs from 2:00 to 3:00 pm and pray that Life will be recognized as sacred and as the first inalienable right of each individual.



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK
eMark Vacations
219-689-6540
Mark/Eileen Jurek

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST • WHITING

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

The march to November 4th continues. Hear, Oh Catholics, and respond to the pastoral letter by the United States Catholic Bishops:

"Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship"
Catholic Social Teachings in the Public Square:
Seven Key Themes
Seventh Key Theme: Caring for God's Creation

54. We Show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of God's creation. Care for the earth is a duty of our faith and a sign of our concern for all people. We should strive to live simply to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We have a moral obligation to protect the planet on which we live—to respect God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for human beings, especially children at their most vulnerable stages of development. As stewards called by God to share the responsibility for the future of the earth, we should work for a world in which people respect and protect all of creation and seek to live simply in harmony with it for the sake of future generations.

(Read the complete statement at www.faithfulcitizenship.org).

Submitted by: Marsha Banik

ROSARY PRAYER SERVICE

Elizabeth Ministry will be hosting a Rosary Prayer Service for anyone whose life has been touched by the loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or an early childhood death, at St. John-St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, Hammond. The service will be in the Providence Section (between 167th & 169th) Saturday, October 4th at 10:00 am. Elizabeth Ministry is based on the biblical examples provided by Mary and Elizabeth, recognizing the sacredness of life from the moment of conception. For information call Sue Kresich at 219-838-5755.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity has cancelled their East Chicago build planned for September 27th. Their warehouse in Griffith was recently destroyed due to the tornado that went through the area a few weeks ago. This, with other circumstances, has forced Habitat to indefinitely postpone the build. Habitat will be rebuilding their warehouse, and they can always use help at the Habitat Restore. If you would like to help, call 219-923-7265 or visit www.nwihabitat.com. You may also contact Chris Suarez at 659-0197. Thanks so much for the wonderful support of those who volunteered!

SHRINE OF CHRIST'S PASSION

A bus trip to the new Shrine of Christ's Passion in St. John, Indiana is being considered. There will be a fee for the bus. If you are interested, please contact Diane in the Cluster Office (659-0733).

CATHOLIC RADIO

Dial 1270 or 820 on your AM radio and be spiritually uplifted by "Relevant Radio". People are testifying to the fact that they've returned to the sacraments, families have been strengthened, and individuals are sharing their spiritual awakening with family, friends, and co-workers. Let Catholic radio help bridge the gap between life in the world and the life that God wants for every person. This thoroughly Catholic programming airs 24/7.

September 21, 2008 | 4

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 21, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Catechetical Sunday

Food Pantry (IC)
 9:30-10:30 am Faith Formation (Gr.6-8) (SH)
 11:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (SJB)
 2:00 pm —7:00 pm Catechist Retreat Day (Carmelite Monastery)
 11:30 am—6:00 pm SACRED HEART PICNIC
 12 Noon—2:00 pm Teen gathering at St. John, Benedict Hall

Monday, September 22

10:30 am Bible Study (SH)
 7:00 pm RCIA (SJB)

Tuesday, September 23

6:30 pm St. Therese Novena at St. John, Daily thru Oct. 1st

After Novena *The Song of Bernadette* (SJB)

Wednesday, September 24

6-7:30 pm Faith Formation (Gr. 1-5) (SH)
 6:30 pm St. Therese Novena (SJB)

Thursday, September 25

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (SJB)
 6:30 pm St. Therese Novena (SJB)
 7:00 pm St. John Pastoral Council Meeting (SJB)

Friday, September 26

6:30 pm St. Therese Novena (SJB)

Saturday, September 27

6:30 pm St. Therese Novena (SJB)

Sunday, September 28, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Food Pantry (SH)
 9:30 -10:30 am Faith Formation (Gr. 6-8) (SH)
 No Children's Liturgy of the Word (SJB)
 6:30 pm St. Therese Novena (SJB)



ANOINTING OF THE SICK All Parishes

GET YOUR CAR CLEANED WHILE HELPING OUT

Bishop Noll Girls Soccer Team is holding a car wash on Saturday, September 27 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at St. Thomas More Parish. This fund raiser will be held in the north parking lot at 8435 Calumet Avenue. Call Coach Jara 219-932-9058 for information.

Whiting/Robertsdale Campfire Girls car wash to benefit local animal shelters & rescue groups: Saturdays, Sept. 27 & Oct. 4 at Owens-Ruzich Funeral Home, 816-119th Street, 10 am—3:30 pm. Call JoAnn Palko 659-0977 for information.

INTRIGUE, SUSPENSE, LAUGHTER & MURDER!

The Knights of Columbus, Trinity Council #3755 invite you to join them for a wild and interactive murder mystery on Saturday, October 4th, at the K of C Hall, 11207 Ewing Avenue, Chicago. Dinner/show tickets \$40. Call Dan Kleszynski 773-213-0637 or Ismael Velazquez 773-330-4459.