



DEANERY MISSION

at St. John the Baptist Church

Let us join together in this special mission as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of our diocese. Services each evening begin at 7:00 pm with song, prayer, scripture reading, reflection, and an inspiring message given by Father John Judie. Come and reflect on God's grace and His future for *YOU*.

Sunday, Feb. 25th Theme:

Bring forth the light of Christ to burn brightly in a world of darkness.

Monday, Feb. 26th Theme:

Recommitment to the Mission to which we have been called.

Tuesday, Feb. 27th Theme:

"Family Night" with a focus on relationships--a special blessing for families.

Wednesday, Feb. 28th:

Closing Liturgy with Bishop Melczek as main celebrant.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Lenten Stations of the Cross

St. Adalbert: Sundays at 1:00 pm
Immaculate Conception: Fridays at 2:30 pm
Sacred Heart (Bi-Lingual): March 9, March 23 at 7 pm
St. John the Baptist: Fridays at 7:00 pm

Evening Mass (Fridays) Bi-Lingual at Sacred Heart:
March 2, March 16, March 30 at 7:00 pm

Today's Special Collection AID TO THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE



Pope Benedict XVI writes in his first encyclical, *God Is Love (Deus Caritas Est)*, "Love is the light--and in the end, the only light--that can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working" (no.39). With a love that brings radiant light, Catholics in the United States help through the Collection of Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe to build parishes in many distant, unknown places. Your generous donations support seminars, social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and the spreading the Gospel message through the mass media.

Please pray for these brave men and women who are serving in our armed services: Robert Bughman, Jason Chavez, Justin Faulkner, Larry Gazafy, Gerardo Gonzalez, Thomas Gormley, James Grunhard Jr., Michael Hartman, Jonathan Joseph, Thomas M. Kaminsky, Mark Koval, Philip Mlynarski, Curtis Mordus, Nicholas Okamura, Thomas Pupilava Jr., Robert Rodriguez, Eric Schaufele, Adam Starzyk, John Starzyk Jr., John Starzyk Sr., Aaron Suarez, Jason Verta, Nathan Wilson. To add a name to this list, please call the rectory.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 26

7:00 am †Steve Mihalso Off: Wife, Ann & Family (SJB)
8:00 am †Ann Bajda (SA)

Tuesday, February 27

7:00 am †Andrew J. Hrapcak Off: Joe & Ines O'Drobinak (SJB)

8:00 am †Martin Plawecki (SA)

8:15 am †Margaret Kussy Off: Ladies Penna Slovak Catholic Union Branch #79 (SJB)

Wednesday, February 28

7:00 am †Ben Sandrick Off: Family & Friends (SJB)

8:00 am †Steve Pirosko (SA)

8:15 am †Anthony & Margaret Matlon Off: Son, Rick (SJB)

7:00 pm Closing Mass for Mission

Thursday, March 1

7:00 am †Anthony Mikulaj Off: M/M Ken Kalina (SJB)

8:00 am †Delphine Murzyn (SA)

Friday, March 2

7:00 am †Benjamin Pardinek Off: Ed Vanek (SJB)

8:00 am †Ann Adams (SA)

8:15 am Intention of Janice Byrley Off: Son & Daughter-in-law (SJB)

7:00 pm Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (Bilingual) (SH)

Saturday, March 3, Katherine Drexel, virgin

7:00 am †Bernard Strbjak Off: St. John Rosary Society (SJB)

10:00 am †Memorial Mass for Michelle Sikora (SA)

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

5:30 pm †Virginia Geleta (SH)

Sunday, March 4, Second Sunday of Lent

7:00 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SJB)

8:00 am †Victoria Horvath (SA)

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

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

9:00 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SJB)

10:15 am Whiting/Robertsdale Catholic Community (SA)

10:45 am †Florence Kovacik (SH)

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

5:30 pm Life Teen Mass (SJB)

Pray For

Mary Bayus, Charles Beerling, Susan Biel, Kristine Brown, Lucy Campbell, Mary Danielson, Elizabeth Dedinsky, Cindy Dreesen, John Dubec, Magdalene Doucette, Marie Emro, Sophie Foley, Eugene M. Kasper, Joseph Knish, Vicki Krause, Laura Kresich, Leo Kriegl, Julia Kukta, Florence Kurella, Ann Latta, Joyce Lesar, David Luttrell, Ruth Magurany, Edward S. Marcisz, Ann Mihalso, Victoria Miller, Nick Miner, Janet Moran, Marge Myers, Ruth Rapchak, Mildred Saliga, Marie Silich, Victor Silich, Joseph Sotak, Angie Srencik, Waseem Syed, Mary Talabay, Virginia Troksa, Catherine Verville, Mark Vine, Bobby Joe Watkins, Dorothy Zabrecky, Rev. John Zvijak, C.P.P.S.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Weekly.....	\$8,113.00
Loose.....	\$360.06
High School.....	\$64.50
Grade School.....	\$121.42
Total for the Week.....	\$8,658.98



EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration on Friday, March 2 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at St. John's. The Litany and Rosary begin at 5:25 pm with Benediction following. Jesus proclaimed, "Blessed are the peacemakers". Our special intention for the month of March is to pray for God's blessings for spiritual renewal during this season of Lent so we may know His promised peace. Sign-up sheets are posted at all Church entrances.

LENTEN LUNCH BUNCH

The Whiting Robertsdale Faith Enrichment Committee invites you to spend your Tuesday lunch hour from 12:00-1:00 p.m. March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3 at the Sacred Heart Rose Room, 1731 LaPorte Ave., Whiting. Participate in a video/discussion on the lives of heroic individuals who have positively impacted our world and give us an example for our lives. We call these ordinary people who have lived extraordinary lives, saints. Come and be inspired to live in the hope and power of the Holy Spirit. Bring your own lunch/snack and we'll provide the beverages. Questions? Call Margaret at 659-4138.

NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

This wonderful Catholic newspaper provides news and photos of local, state, national, and international interest regarding our Catholic faith. February is Catholic Press Month. Renew or begin your subscription by placing your envelope and \$23 in the collection basket. For only 50 cents a week keep updated on the latest Catholic news.

Pray for the courage to walk with Christ throughout Lent. Think of some ways that you can be a better listener not only to God but to people around you. Give of your time to listen more attentively to someone to whom you don't always pay attention. As you listen to the news this week, Pray for your neighbors around the world who are poor. Contributions offered during the Lenten season allow Catholic Relief Services to support development in over 40 countries. Projects include agricultural development, education, water and sanitation development, and micro-finance initiatives. Twenty-five percent of all funds collected remain in the Diocese of Gary. Materials for Operation Rice Bowl may be found in the church vestibule. Connect to www.catholicrelief.org to learn more about the work of Catholic Relief Services.



Operation Rice Bowl

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK
MEYER'S**

Heating, Plumbing, Cooling, Electric
219-924-1999 - See \$10 off coupon

**COUPLE TO COUPLE
MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

Six married couples from St. John Church have been gathering on Saturday mornings with Margaret Saliga, Fr. John Kalicky, and Fr. Gary Scherer, preparing to assist engaged couples in their journey to the sacrament of matrimony. The "Couple to Couple Marriage Preparation Program" will provide mentoring and support in the Catholic faith for engaged couples. A welcome alternative to the large group preCana conferences, this program is tailored to the needs of individual engaged couples. Thank you to mentor couples Mary Ann and Bert Bibat, Debbie and Joe Franko, David and Marianna Humenik, Mary and Ed Igras, Chris and Ed Lerma, Mary Ann and Norb Lewandowski for your service to this important ministry. Couples preparing for marriage should contact the rectory one year in advance of their intended wedding.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Now that the Valentine roses have wilted and the candy is almost gone, why not give your spouse a present which can last a lifetime? Put the warmth back into your relationship by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend dates will be: April 20-22, Aug 3-5, or Sept 21-23 (Gary Diocese). For info or reservations call Mark & Mary 800-553-3193 or go to <http://www.wmehicago-gary.org>.

TUESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

The Whiting Robertsdale Faith Enrichment Committee invites you to the Sacred Heart Church - Rose Room, 1731 LaPorte Ave., Whiting, Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm on March 6, 13, 20, 17, and April 3 for an evening with Fr. John Corapi on the topic of "Divine Revelation in Sacred Scripture." Bring your Bible and an open heart to absorb God's holy word. Questions? Call Margaret at 659-4138.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

The Diocese of Gary welcomes Christopher West as he presents an introduction to John Paul II's Theology of the Body, March 9 & 10, at Avalon Manor, Merrillville. The seminar is open to anyone 16 or over. Join us for a thought provoking presentation that will enrich your understanding of human sexuality and the spiritual power it contains in the married, single, and consecrated life. Cost is \$35 after (student discount.) Visit www.cwestinindiana.com or call Rosanne 219-696-1308.



A little note from Fr. John Zvijak...

Thanks to all of you for all your prayers!
I am doing well!

LIFE TEEN

"Leading teens closer to Christ"

February 25, Sunday – No Life Teen Mass and No Life Nite due to the Deanery Mission

March 1, Thursday - 7:00 pm - Spirit Day planning

March 4, Sunday – 10:30 a.m. SPIRIT DAY!

March 10, Saturday – 6:00-8:00 p.m. Bowling Party at Whiting Community Center.

Keep an eye out for information on
Good Friday's Living Stations of the cross.

LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS

4:30 pm, March 3

Lectors: J. Wagner, L. Gonzales
 Euch Min: D&L Blackwell, J&D Franko, E. Igras, M. Krull,
 D. McCampbell
 Altar Servers: Javier Mena, David Moats, Taylor Pokraka

7:00 am, March 4

Lectors: D. Guiden, L. Barron
 Euch Min: T. Barilla, G. Jancosek, L. Kilander, E. Matuska,
 T&S Adam, B. Chidalek
 Altar Servers: Carissa Jones, Alyce & Michael Jakubielski

9:00 am, March 4

Lectors: R. Jakubielski, A. Perz
 Euch Min: I. Dominguez, Br. J. Hall, ML Tonkovich,
 D. Weber, R&J Zubeck, F. Delinck, E. Duray
 Altar Servers: Isabella Kalasinski, Justin Lerma, Adam
 Lewandowski

11:00 am, March 4

Lectors: K. Lannon, D. Botich
 Euch Min: D. Cuculich, C. Lannon, Evelyn Roldan,
 D. Shimala, M&K Wagner
 Altar Servers: Katelyn & Sara Kruszynski Colton Lopez

CARE CENTER

March 4: 10:00 a.m. J. Kruczek

WEEKDAY MASSES

7:00 a.m.

Feb. 26 & 27: Bianca Gonzalez & Chris Grankowski
 Feb. 28 & March 1: Armando Hernandez & Rachel
 Grunhard
 March 2 & 3: Alex-Gonzalo Hernandez & Rachel Hurtig

2007 SCHOOL WINTER FESTIVAL

RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations All!

- 1st Prize \$5,000 –Ms. Ella Buford
- 2nd Prize \$2,500 –Ginger Fenes
- 3rd Prize \$1,000 –Ms. Tacye Chiluski
- 4th Prize \$750 - A. Kurella
- 5th Prize \$500 – Tilda Gonzalez
- 6th Prize \$250 – Andy Bes, Jr.
- 7th Prize \$250 –M/M Gerald Zimmerman
- 8th Prize \$250 – Ben Likens
- 9th Prize \$100 - J&C Schweisthal
- 10th Prize \$100 – Anne D. Salley
- 11th Prize \$100 – Mike & Betty Benko
- 12th Prize \$100 – Emilia Lazur
- 13th Prize \$100 – Oscar Quiroga

Sellers Drawing \$50 each: Walsh, Angela Matushek,
Lisa Tonkovich

Many many thanks to all who so generously gave and supported our raffle and Festival weekend!

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Application forms for 2007-2008 school year are available in the parish office for Catholic students in diocesan schools grades 1-12. A \$20 non-refundable processing fee must accompany the application. The deadline is March 2 when completed applications must be returned to the pastor. The deadline is strictly enforced. Parents will be notified of the results in writing by May 31.

PARISH DIRECTORY

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chair: Colleen Lannon, Robert Hildreth, Edward Igras, Rita Krilich, Marcia Krull, Nancy Mitchell, Gary Pieters, Mary Poppen, Martha Shimala, Chris Suarez, Minerva Wiczorek, Janel Zubeck

FINANCE COUNCIL

Chair: Edward Bojda, Darlene Beerling, Dan Botich, Linda Gajewski, Florence Gazda, Don Kaminsky, Milan Kruszynski

COMMISSIONS:

STEWARDSHIP/ADMINISTRATION

Bulletin.....Mary Igras, Louise Kaminsky
 Buildings/Grounds Director..... Don Kaminsky
 Church/Rectory
 School Building Facilities.....Pat Shalack

EDUCATION

Director of Religious Education..... Diane Puplava
 Elizabeth Ministry: Diane Puplava, Kathleen Tallman
 Gymnasium..... Matthew Saliga
 Helping Hands.....Rebecca Flores
 Home/School Association Chair....Vickie Lockridge
 Panel Room Manager.....Carol Vargo
 St. John School Advisory Board.....Chair: Deanne
 Shimala, Anna Howard, Monique Jakubielski,
 Jean Lovasko, Robert Rodriguez, Scott Thrasher
 St. John School Principal.....Thomas Feltz
 Secretary.....Marylin Schaufele
 School Band Director..... Rich Mlynarski
 School Cafeteria Manager.....Liz Delgado
 Cub Scouts.....Michael Maloney
 Girl ScoutsJeannine Dabertin

PARISH LIFE

Holy Name Society Anthony Barilla
 Homebound.....Deacon Joe Manchak
 Life Teen.....Marjie Biel, Candi Gard
 Marian Theatre Guild Martin Dybel
 Pirohi Makers.....
 Rosary Society.....Marsha Banik

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Altar MinistersFr. Gary Scherer
 Care Center Coordinator.....Joseph Kruczek
 Environment Martin Dybel
 Eucharistic Ministers Eve Duray
 Lectors Nancy Gomez
 Liturgy CommitteeMargaret Saliga
 Marriage Coordinators:Anne Marie Gyure, Mary Tolin
 Parish Music Director Geraldine Hildreth
 Prayer Group.....Marilou Tonkovich
 Sacristan Margaret Matuska

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Food CollectionThomas Chocholek
 St. Vincent de Paul Society.....Susan Adam

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, FEBRUARY 25 — MISSION

- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes, Grades 6-8
- 11:00 am Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- 1:00 pm Stations of the Cross (SA)
- 2:00 pm Rite of Election (Cathedral)
- 5:30 pm No Life Teen Mass
- 7:00 pm Deanery Mission (SJB)

Monday, FEBRUARY 26

- 10:30 am Bible Study at (SH)
- 6:30 pm Confirmation Formation (SJB) will attend the Deanery Mission
- 7:00 pm Deanery Mission (SJB)
- 7:00 pm RCIA Will attend the Deanery Mission

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 27

- 6:30 pm Reconciliation Formation (SJB) will attend the Deanery Mission
- 7:00 pm Deanery Mission (SJB)

Wednesday, FEBRUARY 28

- 7:00 pm Closing Mass for Mission (SJB)

Thursday, March 1

- 4:00-5:00 pm Confessions (SJB)
- 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (SJB)

Friday, March 2

- Communion Calls to shut-ins
- 1:00-6:00 pm Eucharistic Devotions (SJB)
- 2:30 pm Stations of the Cross (IC)
- 4:00—7:00 pm St. Stan Fish Fry, E. Chicago
- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross (SJB)
- 7:00 pm Mass (SH)

Saturday, March 3 –Food Drive (SJB)

- 9:00 am –3:00 pm Rummage Sale (SA)

Sunday, March 4 –Food Drive (SJB)

- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes, Grades 6-8
- 10:15 am RCIA Penitential Rite (SA)
- 10:30 am Life Teen “SPIRIT DAY”
- 11:00 am RCIA Penitential Rite (SJB)
- 1:00 pm Stations of the Cross (SA)
- 5:30 pm Life Teen Mass
- 7:00 pm CPPS Companions (SJB)

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE — Did you know that the number of poor Americans has grown by more than 4 million since 2000? Pope John Paul II reminded us: “Love for others, and especially for the poor, is made concrete by promoting justice”. Please contribute to our monthly food collection March 3 & 4 at St. John. Your kind donations benefit the Whiting/Robertsdale Food Pantry.