St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish
680 Mill Street, Excelsior, MN 55331

November 17, 2019
{Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time}

To know, love, serve and share Christ through worship, teaching, stewardship and witness.

Church Office  (952) 474-8868
Fax: (952) 444-3474

Pastor  Ext. 216
Father Carlson  fr.carlson@stjohns-excelsior.org
Deacon  Dcn Gary Hoffman  deacongary@stjohns-excelsior.org
Parish Administrator  Ext. 204
Andrea McMerty-Brummer  amcmerty-brummer@stjohns-excelsior.org
Accounting  Ext. 203
Christa Vassallo  cvassallo@stjohns-excelsior.org
Faith Formation  Ext. 207
Taylor Gruber  tgruber@stjohns-excelsior.org
Communications Coordinator  Ext. 208
Sarah Reid  sreid@stjohns-excelsior.org
Office & Cemetery Manager  Ext. 200
Megan Adam  madam@stjohns-excelsior.org
Lead Maintenance Technician  Ext. 205
Scott Kragness  skragness@stjohns-excelsior.org

School: (952) 474-5812  Fax: (952) 444-3474

Principal  Ext. 301
Angela Wroblewski  awroblewski@stjohns-excelsior.org
Administrative Assistant  Ext. 300
Monica Benda  mbenda@stjohns-excelsior.org

Parish Trustees  Barb Thomas, Mark Spaniol
Finance Council Chair  Pat Johnson
Parish Council Chair  Charlie Kanan

Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil.........................5:00pm
Sunday.................................8:00am
.........................................10:00am
Tuesdays..............................5:30pm
Wednesdays, Thursdays.........8:00am
Friday (School Mass)............9:00am
Saturdays............................8:00am
(Holy Days and Holidays—see bulletin
Or call Parish Office)

Resurrection Cemetery
5555 Covington Rd, Shorewood, MN 55331

Sacrament of Confession
Tuesdays...............................5:00pm
Wednesdays, Thursdays........7:30am
Fridays...............................8:30am
Saturdays............................8:30-9:30am
.........................................3:30-4:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel
Open to all, 24 hours per day
Sacrament of Marriage
Couples must call Fr. Carlson 6 months in advance
Sacrament of Baptism
Please call the Parish Office 2 months prior to
child’s birth. Required classes held regularly.

A local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or
victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church.
Victim Assistance Hotline: (651)291-4497
Gratitude
Greetings and God’s Blessings to you, family and circle of individuals who demonstrate their love for you through dynamic acts of gratefulness. My communication with you today reflects on God’s will to empower each and everyone of us to daily perform acts of gratitude.

“Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Many reflections of how gratitude enters our daily life begin before planting our feet on the floor as God hears us wherever we are. Waking in the morning with a thought of gratitude is a goal I strive to achieve each and every day. A simple thank you for a family, a place to call home, food to refresh my body and copies of different biblical stories or a reading of the day inspire me to think before I begin a day of activities and interactions. Born and raised as a Christian with strong commitment in our family to living a style reflective of the journey God has laid out for us, I am grateful each day for the strong relationship I have with Him. Many times I did walk with someone carrying me as in the famous “Footprints in the Sand” prominently displayed above our bed. Reminding us before we begin our day and end the evening to be thankful for the times when we needed His help and unknowingly it was provided. God’s influence is all around us in simple to complicated ways as our daily tasks and activities perhaps seem mundane, this is far from the truth, as God influences every choice we make.

I’m grateful for my relationship with God, family, friends, work colleagues, people I meet when it’s comfortable saying a few kind words, someone who opens the door for me and to be a part of the community at St. John the Baptist. Be grateful for the wonders of the world He created, for what you have and most of all knowing one day you will be in the Kingdom of Heaven and the resurrection when Jesus comes again.
Go with God!

Respectfully shared with the community of St. John the Baptist. Amen

God bless you,
Carol Fury, Director of Advancement at St. John’s Catholic Montessori School

God our Father,
Graciously accept from your humble people
a thankful heart and spirit.
Everything we have and are able to share with others
ultimately comes from your love of your creations.
Often we think that everything we have
is our own creation;
we ask you this day to create in us
a spirit of gratitude,
that we may always know
that all good gifts come from you.

We ask this through Christ our brother,
NEEDED: EUCHARISTICADORATION
SCHEDULER
We are looking for someone to assist in scheduling people to fill hours in the Adoration Chapel. If you are interested in learning more about this important ministry leadership position, please contact Andrea McMerty-Brummer in the church office at 952-474-8868.

OPEN ADORATION HOURS

Take some quiet prayer time in the adoration chapel

OPEN ADORATION HOURS
MONDAYS: 12:00AM, 12:00PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM
TUESDAYS: 10:00PM
WEDNESDAYS: 12:00AM
THURSDAYS: 9:00AM, 9:00PM
FRIDAYS: 12:00AM, 4:00AM, 12:00PM, 1:00PM, 11:00AM (WEEK 4 ONLY)
SATURDAYS: 4:00AM, 7:00AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM
SUNDAYS:

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH
We invite you to keep in your daily prayers the sick and confined of our parish who seek God’s joy in their infirmity, in particular:

- Elvera Hoops
- Betty Roy
- Mary Rosati
- Viviana Wright
- Bill Ashenbach
- Margaret Davis
- Kon Wurm
- Ruth Colnar
- Kathy Bedford
- Steve Haskins

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 2019
Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-9/2Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19
Tuesday: 2Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-7/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2Mc 7:1,20-31/Ps 17:1,5-6,8,15/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: 1Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1,2,5-6,14-15/Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1Mc 4:36-37,52-59/1Chrn 29:10-12/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-4,6,16,19/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: 2Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-5/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

LITURGICAL EXPEDITIONS
THE MASS IN TWO PARTS
BY DEACON RILEY
I would like to take this opportunity to give a little bit more of a “bird’s eye view” to the Mass. We often refer to Mass as a “meal.” “The Supper of the Lamb.” We are indeed fed, but maybe not in the way we think.

Mass is divided into two parts. The Liturgy of the Word and The Liturgy of the Eucharist. Both parts are separate, yet united. The same, but distinct. We need both parts to celebrate Mass, but yet we are being fed in two different ways.

The Liturgy of the Word is the first part of Mass. It is when we listen to the Word of God and our intellect is fed by seeing God’s hand work throughout history. In the homily, the priest explains how we can apply the lesson of these scriptures in our daily lives. We “consume” these eternal truths through our minds and apply them to receive the strength to be better Christians.

The Liturgy of the Word is also very earthly. We begin by confessing our sinfulness in the penitential rite, listen to how God moved throughout history, offer our prayers as a community to God during the petitions, and finally end by reciting what we believe as Christians during the Creed.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist is when the priest consecrates the bread and wine to become the true and living body and blood of Jesus Christ. We ascend from the more terrestrial Liturgy of the Word, to receiving Our Lord in communion. A very heavenly reality, but yet, the two portions work with each other. We hear about God’s promises to Israel and about the life of Jesus, and then we see it fulfilled. Earth meets heaven, and come together out of love for us.

MEN WHO PRAY
#SATURDAYSAREFORTHEMEN
All men are invited to join us in the Gathering Place on Saturday mornings from 6:30am – 8:00am for morning prayer and reflection on the weekly Gospel. No need to RSVP, just show up and feel free to bring a friend! Coffee is provided!
**Parish Events**

**Sunday, November 17th**
- 8:00am Mass (Hospitality)
- 10:00am Mass (Hospitality)

**Monday, November 18th**
- 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (Lower GP)

**Tuesday, November 19th**
- 9:15am Adult Bible Study
- 7:00pm RCIA Meeting (Upper GP)
- 7:00pm Finance Council Meeting

**Wednesday, November 20th**
- Faith Formation Classes
- 5:45pm First Reconciliation Meditation

**Thursday, November 21st**

**Friday, November 22nd**
- 6:30am Men Who Pray
- 5:00pm Mass

**Sunday, November 24th**
- 8:00am Mass (Hospitality)
- 10:00am Mass with Rite of Welcome (Hospitality)

**Thanksgiving Day Mass**
Join us on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28th at 9:00 am for Mass. We will have a special collection of food items for the ICA Food Shelf so please bring a non-perishable food item.

**Book of Remembrance**
During the month of November, the Book of Remembrance is in the back of the church. The Book is offered so that members of St. John’s Parish may write in the names of family members or loved ones who have passed away so that our church family may pray for them.

**A Note of Gratitude**
St. John’s Fr. Cushen Council of the Knights of Columbus wishes to express its gratitude to all of St. John’s parishioners and staff. It is their support that made our Catholic School Grant Fundraiser such a great success.

With most of our bills accounted for, and the fundraiser money deposited, we are again able to set aside approximately $19,000 for Catholic School Grants. This is a real blessing. Our 2019/20 grant requests total more than $11,000. As we do this fundraiser every one and half years, we will be entering the 20/21 school year in a position to offer continuing support for St. John’s families sending their children to Catholic Schools in grades K-12.

God Bless You All,
Your Excelsior Knights

**St. John the Baptist Giving Tree**
The gift drive will begin **Saturday, November 9th and run until Sunday, December 1st**. Like past years, we will be working with Sharing & Caring Hands, People Serving People, Office of Indian Ministries, Catholic Charities, Haven Housing, and Inter-congregation Communities Association (ICA Food Shelf) to make Christmas brighter for children and adults in need. **You can grab a star from the tree in the Gathering Place near the front entrance** to bring in anything from alarm clocks to Lego sets, and gift cards to towel sets. Please respond with generous hearts to help our local brothers and sisters in need!

For more information, please contact Taylor Gruber at tgruber@stjohns-excelsior.org.
SCHOOL UPDATE

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION:
The students at SJB gathered to honor the Veteran's in our children's lives. The students led all who attended in praying the Rosary, saying a Hail Mary for each Veteran on the USA flag. Students wrote the names of loved ones and posted pictures to help us remember the gift and sacrifice of these Veterans. The celebration included prayers, songs and hospitality. Thank you to our Veterans!!

THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE (PRESCHOOL) ENVIRONMENT:
*In a Montessori Early Childhood classroom (the Children's House), highly trained teachers create a customized "hands-on" learning environment. Dr. Maria Montessori believed (and modern science has affirmed) that moving and learning are inseparable. In the prepared classroom, children work with specially designed manipulative materials that invite exploration and engage the senses in the process of learning. This child-directed engagement strengthens motivation, supports attention, and encourages responsibility, all the while supporting the children to choose meaningful and challenging work. The work cycle (uninterrupted blocks of time typically 2.5 hours + in length) allows the children to work at their own pace and fully engage themselves in their work. This cycle respects individuals, facilitates the development of coordination, concentration, independence, and a sense of order, all the while facilitating the child’s assimilation of information.

*A Welcoming Space: A Montessori classroom feels more like a home than a school. You won’t see desks, rather, you’ll see children happily working individually or in small groups, at tables or on the floor near small mats that delineate their own space. Specially designed learning materials are easily accessible to children as they are displayed on open shelves. Classrooms support the size of the child with low sinks, child-sized furniture, reachable shelves and child-sized kitchen utensils so the students can eat, prepare, and clean up their snack on their own. Teachers gently guide students to help maintain the organization and cleanliness of this environment to keep it orderly and attractive, and to help the child understand how to care for materials and clean up after themselves.

SCHOOL STAFF SPOTLIGHT
Christa Gawarecki /Children's House 2 Guide
This is Miss Christa's third year in a Montessori environment, having spent the last 2 years as an Elementary Assistant in Mrs. W's classroom. She previously worked in Special Education at St. Louis Park Middle School as well as being a personal care attendant for adolescents and young adults with Down Syndrome. She was first introduced to Montessori when she attended The Way of the Shepherd Catholic Montessori School in their Children's House. Christa and her husband have a daughter, Eloise, who attends the Toddler Community at St. John's. They are expecting a baby boy in December. As a family, they love being outdoors, camping, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. In her spare time, Christa enjoys art, baking, cooking, and being at the lake, especially kayaking. She is excited to continue her journey at St. John's.
IMPORTANT DATES
Wednesday, November 20th:
*Confirmation Year 1 and 2 Meeting
*First Reconciliation Meditation from 5:45-6:30pm
Sunday, November 24th:
*Rite of Welcome & Acceptance Confirmation
Year 1, 10:00 AM Mass
Wednesday, November 27th:
*No Faith Formation - Happy Thanksgiving!

GARDEN PATCH GIFT CERTIFICATES ON SALE
Please contact the parish office to buy your gift certificates this year for the Garden Patch! This youth fundraiser is going on now. You can use the gift certificates for trees, wreaths, decorations, etc - anything and everything they have to make your home festive for the holidays! You can also purchase the gift certificates online here: https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/MN855/27057 and pick them up in the church office.
*Youth will sell gift certificates after Masses most weekends.

Fireside Discussion With Tala
Wednesdays, November 20th & December 4th
From 6:30—8:00PM
Join us for a “Fireside” gathering with discussion on the book, The Gifts of Imperfect Parenting by Brené Brown on Nov. 20 and Dec. 4 from 6:30 - 8:00pm. Find the audio-book for purchase online, for free with an Audible trial or at your local library.

Children’s Advent Party
December 7 at 6:00 PM
In the Gathering Place.
All Children Ages 3+ Welcome!
More Details Coming Soon!

Thank you for all who came to The Well last Saturday night! It was a beautiful night of prayer with over 60 in attendance; how wonderful to see so many children praising our Lord in Adoration! Watch the bulletin for information on the next one!
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Next weekend, our parish will take a special collection for the CCHD. Founded in 1970 by the U.S. Conference of Bishops, CCHD is a domestic anti-poverty program supporting community and economic development programs nationally and locally. One organization receiving CCHD grants in our own archdiocese is Urban Roots. They fight local poverty by providing opportunities for youth to learn entrepreneurship and healthy eating while enhancing self-confidence and personal responsibility. Urban Roots is our focus for the 2019 campaign. Please help support those “Working in the Margins” and give generously!

Men’s Bible Boot Camp with Fr. John Echert

Saturday, December 7th 9 AM – 3:30 PM (8 AM Registration)
Holy Trinity, South St. Paul
Cost is $40 (includes workbook, donuts, and a hearty lunch; free for sons under 18). Contact Enzo Randazzo 651-291-4483 or at randazzov@archspm.org.

Lessons and Carols for Advent

Sunday, December 8th 4 PM
Join us for this popular tradition that features choral music, readings, and congregational hymns celebrating the Advent season. Performed by The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity Chorale, Dr. David Jenkins, director, and Michelle Plombon, organ. Call (651) 962 5050 or visit http://semssp.org

Stewardship Update

* Please note that fluctuation in weekly giving is often due to variable timing of annual stewardship gifts.

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<th>COLLECTION(s) AS OF: 11/12/19</th>
<th>YTD INFORMATION (as of 11/12/19)</th>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY*</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors & Altar Servers: November 23rd & 24th

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<th>5:00PM</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1ST READER</strong></td>
<td>Karina Rodriguez</td>
<td>Andrea Homecker</td>
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<td><strong>2ND READER</strong></td>
<td>Bob Martinka</td>
<td>Phil Bortscheller</td>
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<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers</strong></td>
<td>C1. Sue Brisley</td>
<td>C1. Nancy Giacchetti</td>
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<td>Nicki Bartholomew</td>
<td>Judith Bortscheller</td>
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<td>Mark Spaniol</td>
<td>Jane Fournier</td>
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<td>John Dupont</td>
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<td>Liz Rosenberg</td>
<td>Roxanne Franzen</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Altar Servers</strong></th>
<th>M. Cockburn*</th>
<th>J. Wroblewski*</th>
<th>K. Hollahan*</th>
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<td></td>
<td>A. Rodriguez</td>
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<td>S. Rodriguez</td>
<td>N. Wroblewski</td>
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<td>C. Smith</td>
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