ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER & HOLY FAMILY

423 West 7th Street, Mankato • 211 North Hunt Street, Lake Crystal

Christmas Mass Schedule

Confession Times

Dec. 21st-6:30PM @ HF

Dec. 22nd-11AM @ SJW

Dec. 23rd-8AM @ HF & 6:30PM @ SJW

Christmas Eve

3PM Mass @ HF & 4:30PM Mass @ SJW

8:30PM Vigil Mass @ SJW

Christmas Day

9:30AM Mass @ SJW *no 5PM Mass*

New Year's Eve

4PM Mass @ SJW

Livestream Masses also available, check sjwhf.org for links.

Oh, come let us adore Him.

12.19.21

Welcome *New-member registration forms are available in the church entrances and on our website. One Eucharistic family united on our faith journey: Welcome Home!*

sjwhf.org

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

What Kind of "House" Are We?

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem later this week, it might be good to remember that "Bethlehem" means "house of bread." Jesus, who is the Bread of Life, was born in a manger as one step in becoming nourishment for us, who have a deep longing for God in the core of our being. As his disciples and members of the Church, our parish churches are to be "houses of bread" for those who come to us with various needs: spiritual, emotional and physical. Too often we can see what is lacking, rather than what is present. I thought you might benefit from this letter written by an anonymous parishioner:

"*You may be aware there is such a thing as 'house blindness.' The condition of 'house blindness' is when you are not aware or perhaps unable to see what your home really looks like. Recently, I discovered I have 'church blindness.' Meeting with a friend over a cup of coffee, she told me how impressed she was after exploring/studying several parishes around our area. I asked, 'Really?' She said, 'Yes, your parish is very active in Social Justice.'*

I know St. Joseph has a lot to offer, but Social Justice/Concerns would not have been first on my list. She started listing and I became more impressed with every item mentioned.

She said, 'You have: the Baby Bottle Project, ECHO Food baskets at every door for weekly donations, a collection for Haiti Earthquake & Tropical Storm, you even have a Sister Parish in Haiti. You have dug a well, built a school, and are paying for teachers' salaries.'

We also have the pastor's discretionary account to help people who stop by the rectory needing help. We have a pastor who is sensitive and aware of the importance of treating everyone in his flock equally.

West Mankato families with kids of all ages, enjoy our "Yellow" playground and parking lot. A young dad stops daily on his way home with his young daughter to play on the playground and release some of the daily stresses before going home for supper. There's also a dog lover who stops every day and plays fetch with his dog. St. Joe's is a place for making memories, relaxing, meditating, and playing.

My friend ended with, 'And you have parish events. Do you know of any other place hosting a better fish fry during a pandemic? Cars lined up for a fish dinner went on for blocks! You guys figured it out. This fall, St. Joe's had safe and memorable Fall Festival with great food and even a Jar Raffle! I watched the people working the event having a fun time. Everyone was working like a well-oiled machine.'

So, over a cup of coffee my eyes have been opened. Now, I am even more thankful for my parish, pastor and faith family. Thank you to each and everyone for helping me along on my faith journey."

The author might be mistaken about the pastor, but as we prepare for the Synod process, mentioned last week, I think it's important for us to prayerfully discern how God is at work in our midst. Yes, there is much more we can be and do, but it's also a graced time to reflect upon how God-is-with-us (Immanuel) and whether we are a "Bethlehem" ("house of bread") for others.

Sincerely in Christ, Father Tim Reken

DON'T HAVE CASH OR CHECK?

No problem! You can make a one-time or recurring donation to St. Joe's or Holy Family with a credit or debit card. Grab your phone or computer and visit the church website at sjwhf.org and click on the Donation button , then select your parish. Thank you for your donations this Holiday Season!

Virtual Candlelight Christmas Novena

The School Sisters of Notre Dame invite young adults (ages 18+) to their December online evening prayer which will be the fourth night of a chanted, candlelight Christmas novena on Sunday, December 19 at 8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT / 6 p.m. MT / 5 p.m. PT. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/12.19.21.

Synod on Synodality Listening Sessions

The Synod on Synodality is a two-year process of listening and dialogue that will conclude in 2023. Pope Francis has asked the entire Church to take an active part in the synod, inviting people from all walks of life and from all around the world to gather together for prayer, sharing experiences, listening, and seeking the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Our parish's listening session will be Tuesday, January 4th at 6PM. Watch next week's bulletin for an insert with additional information or visit https://www.dowr.org/synod/index.html.

Stewardship of TREASURE

Holy Family

Dec. 5, 2021
$1,845.00

Fiscal Year to Date
$49,947.17 Actual
$51,679.44 Budget

St. Joseph the Worker

Dec. 11 & 12, 2021
$5,451.53

Fiscal Year to Date
$151,031.32 Actual
$173,315.04 Budget

This Week at a Glance

Tues. 12/21:	11:00am Confession - SJW
	6:30pm Confession - HF
	6:30pm Music Practice - SJW Church
Weds. 12/22:	11:00am Confession - SJW
	5:30pm Christmas Program Practice - HF
	6:00pm **No** Faith Formation - SJW & HF
	6:45pm Christmas Program Practice - SJW
Thurs. 12/23:	8:00am Confession - HF
	6:30pm Confession - SJW
Fri. 12/24:	**Office Closed**
Sat. 12/25:	Merry Christmas
Sun. 12/26:	8:00am Confession - HF

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday, December 25, Christmas

SJW—9:30 a.m. Mass **NO 5PM Mass**

Reader: Richard Hansen
Servers: **3 NEEDED**
ECM: Glenn Barnette, **2 NEEDED**
Ushers: **4 NEEDED**
Musicians: Cindy Lawrence, Joyce Hoelmer, Teresa Anderson

Sunday, December 26, Feast of the Holy Family

HF—8:30 a.m. Mass
Reader: Jane Schuck
Servers: Kendall Lange, Katie Hanson
ECM: Pat Jones
Ushers: Doug Meixell, **1 NEEDED**
Musicians: Erika Seppmann, Sheila Sickler

SJW—10:30 a.m. Mass
Reader: Richard Hansen
Servers: Cecelia Gair, Sophie Nachreiner
ECM: Shelly Nachreiner, Susan Peller, Wendy Weingartz
Ushers: Rich Peller, **3 NEEDED**
Musicians: Kris Madsen, Anne Richardson, Tim Wendlandt

Doorkeeper: Terri Michels

LIKE OUR PAGE ON FACEBOOK
for the most up-to-date news about our parishes!

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Tuesday, Dec. 21 :
SJW 12:05pm -†Rita Weingartz
Wednesday, Dec. 22:
Hillcrest 9:30am - Word & Communion
Pathstone 10:00am -Word & Communion
SJW 12:05pm -†Deceased members of the Ray Reker Family
Thursday, Dec. 23:
HF 8:30am -†Irene Mack
Friday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve
HF 3:00pm -†Leona & Clarence Schneider
SJW 4:30pm -†Neil Andring
SJW 8:30pm -†Gary Heller
Saturday, Dec. 25: Christmas *** Notice time change**
SJW 9:30am - †Sylvia Willmott
Sunday, Dec. 26: The Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
HF 8:30am - For the Parishioners
SJW 10:30am - †Joseph Phillips

Mon: Is 7: 10-14/ Ps 24: 1-4b,5-6/ Lk 1: 26-38
Tues: Sg 2: 8-14/ Ps 33: 2-3,11-12,20-21/ Lk 1: 39-45
Wed: 1Sm 1: 24-28/ (Ps) 1Sm 2: 1,4-8d/ Lk 1:46-56
Thurs: Mal 3: 1-4,23-24/ Ps 25: 4-5b,8-10,14/ Lk 1:57-66
Fri: 2Sm 7: 1-5,8b-12,14a,16/ Ps 89: 2-5,27,29/ Lk 1: 67-79
Vigil Is 62:1-5/ Ps 89: 4-5,16-17,27,29/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 / Mt 1: 1-25 or 1: 18-25
Sat: (Night) Is 62: 11-12/ Ps 96: 1-3,11-13/ Ti 2: 11-14 Lk 2: 1-14
Sun: Sir 3:26,12-14/ Ps 128: 1-5/ Col 3: 12-21/ Lk 2: 41-52

Congratulations to David Westermayer, the "301" winner of $500 for December 11!

Children's Weekly Stewardship

Treasure: SJW: $23.00 HF: $25.00

Parish & Area Announcements

DO YOU PROVIDE CARE FOR A LOVED ONE? A FREE POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS workshop where participants learn skills proven to reduce stress, communicate more effectively, improve self-care, how to deal with difficult emotions, positive self-talk, etc. A FREE workshop sponsored by Catholic Charities of Southern MN, will meet six Wednesdays, from 1 – 3 PM beginning Jan. 19th thru Feb. 23rd at Catholic Charities Office located at 201 N. Broad St, Suite 100. (lower level of the Union Square Bldg). Pre-register by January 14th as seating is limited. Email at mcassem @ccsomn.org or call 507-458-9687.

CONFIDENT PREGNANCIES AND STABLE BEGINNINGS. Whether a pregnant woman is excited to bring her new baby home or is choosing the loving option of adoption, Catholic Charities supports confident pregnancies and stable beginnings. Our social workers travel to new and expectant parents all across the Diocese to bring help and hope through financial assistance, pregnancy counseling, parenting education, free baby items, and helping women throughout the entire process of placing a child for adoption. We are honored to work with those who are pregnant or have a child under 12 months old. We work with teens and adults, women who are single or married, those who are financially secure or living in poverty. Reach our social workers at 800-222-5859 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

December Faith Formation Calendar

22 **Wed**	Christmas Program Practice No Faith Formation Classes	5:30-6:15PM HF 6:45-7:30PM SJW
25	MERRY CHRISTMAS! Next FF Class January 5, 2022	

Watch on FORMED:

(See last week's bulletin for log in instructions.)

Brother Francis presents **The Days of Advent** (explains the meaning of many Advent and Christmas preparations —for younger kids).

Watch & Pray with Dr. Edward Sri as he explores the Nativity narrative in Luke's Gospel – for older kids and adults.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, January 9th

- All 6th-10th graders attend a NET Retreat
- Held at SJW in the gym and Church 10AM-6PM
- NET Ministries Team members will engage students in music, inspirational talks, interactive games, prayer and age leveled small group discussion
- Theme: Righteousness- Knowing Jesus
- Registration Forms due January 2, 2022

2021 Christmas Program

We have a great crew lined up for Holy Family and St. Joseph the Worker 's programs! It's not to late to join, but you must email Val by Monday, Dec 20 at noon. vkoch@sjwhf.org

All participants meet for practice this Wednesday, December 22 evening:

Holy Family at 5:30PM in the Church
St. Joseph the Worker at 6:45PM in the Church

DAILY MASS
ADORATION
RECONCILIATION
DYNAMIC SPEAKERS
WORSHIP MUSIC
PRAYER
GROUP REFLECTION

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CAMP SUMMIT— August 1-4, 2022

Middle School Youth: Camp Summit is designed for youth entering grades 6-8.
High School Youth: Youth entering 9-12th grade can apply to lead on either Dream Team or Fiat.
Registration opens **January 18th**!

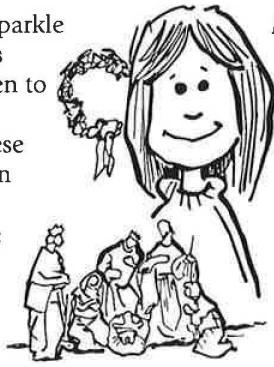
Please email Val at vkoch@sjwhf.org if you are interested.
Cost: $300 per youth-financial help is available.
Go to **Campsummitwinona.org** for more information!

WE NEED TO SIGN UP EARLY THIS YEAR!

Make your family Christmas sparkle with Jesus

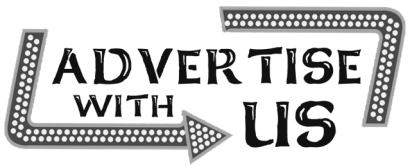
What mother or father doesn't cherish the sparkle of excitement in a child's eye at Christmas? As Catholic parents, though, we want our children to have real joy, not just the anticipation of receiving gifts or getting out of school. Try these tips to help children turn their eyes to Jesus on this special day:

Focus on Jesus: On Christmas Eve, read the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 1:5 – 2:39 or Matthew 1:18 – 2:23. Sing your favorite religious Christmas carols. After attending Mass on Christmas Day (a Holy Day of Obligation), light a candle and sing, "Happy Birthday" to remember the meaning of the day.



Make it come alive. The true joy of the holiday comes from knowing that God really came. Gather around your family nativity scene and act out the story of Jesus' birth by moving the figures. Imagine what a legion (army) of angels looks like and how the shepherds felt when they saw that God was born. Help children experience the wonder of the miraculous birth.

Additional Announcements



2022 BULLETIN ADVERTISERS NEEDED - St. Joseph the Worker and Holy Family Parish would like to invite your business to advertise in our weekly bulletin for 2022. We print these bulletins in-house which allows us to include more content and color features, while still supporting businesses in our local community. In addition to displaying your advertisement on the bulletin jacket, we showcase a different business each week under our "Bulletin Brought to You by" section. We also offer "In Loving Memory" ads for those who have passed away. The bulletin would not be possible without our advertisers, so please consider helping your parish in this way. Contact Nicole at 388-3766 or nhermer@sjwhf.org for more info. or if you are interested.

MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED - We are in need of additional volunteers to help count the Sunday collection. Commitment is 1 day a month for about an hour. Day of the week is flexible. Counting is simple and straightforward and no special skills are necessary. Please contact Nicole at 388-3766 or nhermer@sjwhf.org if you can volunteer.

JOB OPENING: The Diocesan Pastoral Center in Winona is currently accepting applications for an Information Technology/Communications Specialist. Interested applicants are encouraged to go to the Diocese of Winona/Rochester website (https://www.dowr.org/about/employment.html) for more information.

LoyolaCatholicSchool

Phone: 388-0600, Website: loyolacatholicschool.org
Adam Bemmels PreK-12 Principal

Admissions: We are excited to announce that enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year will open on January 3rd, 2022 for the community. Current Loyola families will have priority registration starting on December 15th - January 3rd. Please call Kerstyn Cafarelli, Admissions Associate at 507-386-5399 or email admissions@loyolacatholicschool.org to schedule a tour.

School-Based Mentoring Program: Loyola Catholic School is participating in the YMCA School-Based Mentoring Program for the upcoming school year. The school-based mentoring program pairs Loyola Catholic School students with adult mentors for lunch once a week. For the students, it is an adult who will listen without judging, talk without preaching, and take a genuine interest in how things are going. In other words, a friend. Our hope is to have mentors ready to start in September with additional mentors being added as needed and they become available throughout the school year. Please email Becky Gerdes, Dean of Academics at bgerdes@loyolacatholicschool.org if you would be interested in serving as a mentor. Training will be provided by the YMCA.

Employment opportunities: Loyola is currently accepting applications for the following positions: Part-time before and after school childcare assistants & Part-time bus driver. For information about these positions, please visit the "About" tab at www.loyolacatholicschool.org. To apply for a position, please send a cover letter, resume, and three letters of recommendation to employment@loyolacatholicschool.org.

Your parish support makes all we do, learn, and celebrate at Loyola possible.
Leading through Faith, Academic Excellence, and Service.

SJW MEN'S CLUB MISSION STATEMENT:
To bring together men of all ages to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ. With the direction of our Priest, encouraging each other to be servant leaders in our Church.

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fri: 8:30am-12:00pm
or by appointment

Contact Information

Office Phone……..……388-3766
Parish Email……...…office@sjwhf.org
SJW Prayer Chain……Terri: email terri@terrimichels.com
HF Prayer Chain……..Margaret: 317-4785
Email: margaretbuss@yahoo.com
Calvary Cemetery……Terry Miller: 387-5784

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Timothy T. Reker - Pastor
Val Koch - Director of Faith Formation
Nicole Hermer - Director of Parish Activities
Glenn Barnette - Bookkeeper
Kathy Moldan - Office Assistant
Sister Janet Wermerskirchen - Music Director
Jon Hermanson - SJW Custodial Engineer
Mike Murrain - SJW Custodian
Ben Moldan - HF Custodian

Sacraments

Baptism - Please contact Fr. Reker in the parish office to schedule the baptism and the baptism preparation class.

Marriage - Congratulations on your engagement! Please contact Fr. Reker at least 6 months in advance to begin preparation.

Anointing of the Sick - If you or a family member is homebound or in the hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please notify the office.

Prayers for Healing

Richard Johnson, John Allen, Jerry Schultz, George Larson, Tom B.

Bulletin Brought to you by:

In Loving Memory of
Phillip & Norma Deegan
-From Family and Friends

Email bulletin notices to office@sjwhf.org by Tuesday at noon.

echo food shelf

(SJW) Last week: Items needed this week: Canned Tuna and Crackers.

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TECTA AMERICA
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Mechanical & Roofing Contractors

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Attend St. Joe's Men's Club
9:00 a.m. Every 1st Sunday
Monthly - Auditorium

North Mankato Family Dentistry
Angela M. Schuck, DDS
Keith P. Flack, DDS
507-625-CARE (2273)
mankatodentist.com

SUBWAY
Mankato • North Mankato • St. Peter

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Contact the parish office at 388-3766 to promote your business.

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Mankato MN | 507.625.3001

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100% Grass-Fed • No Hormones/Antibiotics • A2A2
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mmatuska@catholicunited.org
Life Insurance • Annuities • Estate Planning

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mankato
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A ministry for young adults (20s/30s, married/single, kids /no kids) in the Mankato area!
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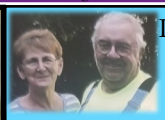
calvarymankato.wordpress.com

In Loving Memory of
Vanessa Ewert
We love you and miss you very much.
~Your Family & Friends

In Loving Memory of
Louis and Marvis Maday
Love and miss you every day.



In Loving Memory of
Phillip & Norma Deegan
-From Family and Friends

Woodland Hills
Mankato, MN 507-387-5504
100% Locally Owned Funeral Home, Cemetery, Mausoleum, Crematory

In Loving Memory of
Irene Mack
We love you and miss you very much.
~Your Family

In Loving Memory of
John Quiring
Husband, Father, Grandfather.
We love and miss you,
-Your Family

Mankato Area Funeral Homes
North Mankato Mortuary—507-388-2288
Mankato Mortuary—507-388-2202
Lake Crystal Mortuary—507-726-6161

In loving memory of all our family:
Francis, Phyllis & Nathan Sohler
Love and miss you all.
-Michael & Nancy

In Loving Memory of our wife, mother, sister, and dear friend.
JUDY HOGAN

In Loving Memory of my family
Bill & Marie Sturm, Donny, AnnaBelle & Mary Ann
Missing You—Peg

IN LOVING Memory of my daughter, Kristin and husband, Larry Volk. We love and miss you.