



Saints Joachim & Anne Pastorate



JANUARY 5, 2025
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

| SAINT LUKE PARISH

| SAINT JOHN THE
EVANGELIST PARISH

WITH PASTORAL CARE OF:

SAINT BONIFACE

SAINT PATRICK
LORETO

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
MILL CREEK

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ,

The celebration of Epiphany places before us the interesting characters we know as the Magi. These men undertook a long and arduous journey to see the “newborn king of the Jews.” What inspired their journey? Pope Benedict points out that their own religion pointed them to Christ. They studied their books and therefore did not wonder what the “star of wonder” meant -- they *knew* what it meant. Studying led them to adventure and, ultimately, the joy of meeting the Christ child.

The Magi let the truth of their learning impact their life. Intellectual knowledge is never enough to save us -- we need our learning to impact our will. When the time had arrived the Magi were not content to be passive observers of truth -- they let the truth call them into action. They were men of willpower and energy.

Do you have a few books you would like to read in 2025? How about reading the New Testament? There are 260 chapters in the New Testament -- reading one chapter a day on Monday - Friday is an easy way to finish the New Testament in a year. Reading should be followed up by reflection and application to our day to day lives. In this way we will imitate the Magi -- our study will lead us to seek Christ with energy and zeal.

In prayers,

Fr. Luke

Other Notes:

Thank you for the very kind cards and gifts at Christmas. Fr. Kumud and I are very blessed by your generosity. Please pray that we will serve you as Jesus wants us to in 2025!

The renovation project at St. John's kicks off on January 6th. I have been asking St. Joseph to be the patron saint of this project since he was a great construction worker! Our Lord's real presence in the Blessed Sacrament is always my motivation for making the Church a beautiful and reverent space. May this project be all for His glory and help us experience the beauty of God.

I was able to pray at the Shrine of Our Lady of Champion (near Green Bay) on New Year's Eve. In my prayer the Lord called to mind this oldest known Marian prayer:

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God;
despise not our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin.

With Mary by our side we are indeed *delivered from dangers*. In the Old Testament when Israel fought military battles with the Ark of the Covenant (the gilded wooden box containing the 10 commandments and the place where God promised to “meet them”) nearby they won. When the Ark was not nearby they lost. Mary is the New Ark of the Covenant -- with her by our side we are always victorious in the big and small battles of life.

Please join us for coffee, donuts, milk and juice after the 10:00 AM mass at St. Luke on Sunday, January 19th.

SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Sun: Family of Faith at St. John
~ Mass at 8:30 AM
~ Class at 9:30 AM
- Tues: OCIA at St. John the Evangelist hall, 5:30 PM
Choir Rehearsal at St. Luke, 6:00 PM
- Wed: Men's Group at St. John, 5:30 AM
Adoration at St. John, 7:00 AM
PRINK at St. John, 9:15 AM
First Reconciliation at St. Luke for the Second Graders
preparing for First Communion, 6:00 PM
High School Youth Group at St. Pat's, 6:45 PM
- Thurs: Adoration at St. Luke, 7:00 AM
SVDP at St. John, 5:30 PM
KC Meeting at St. John Parish Hall, 7:00 PM
- Sat: KC Christmas party at St. Luke, 5:00 PM
No Mass at St. John, 5:30 PM due to flooring project
- Sun: Mass at St. John the Baptist, 8:30 AM
No Mass at St. John the Evangelist, 8:30 AM due to flooring project

LOOKING AHEAD ...

- ✠ Family of Faith at St. John the Evangelist, January 5
- ✠ High School Youth Group at St. Pat, January 8
- ✠ First Reconciliation for Second Graders, January 8
- ✠ Coffee and donuts after mass at St. Luke, January 19
- ✠ Mass with Bishop Donald J. Hying, January 27
- ✠ Catholic Schools Week, January 26 to February 1, 2025
- ✠ St. Luke Fish Fry, Friday, February 7

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions will be heard 30 minutes before each Weekend Mass
St. John the Baptist ~ 8:00 AM Sunday
St. Luke ~ 3:30 PM Saturday & 9:30 AM Sunday
St. Patrick ~ 7:00 AM Sunday

THE LIGHTS THIS WEEK BURN FOR ...



**Merven & Mary Nelson
(SJB)**

**Vern Liegel
(SJE)**



PRAY FOR THE SICK & SUFFERING

Amanda Olson, Rosie Bodendein, Marlene Dischler, Joann Schanke, Jim Hansen, Aloysius Bauer, Christina Litviak, Peggy Sprecher, Marie Neider, Greg Rieder, Kelly Feiner, Jacob Emerson, Harvey Rieder, Shelly Alt, Michael Whitcomb, and Doug Schmitz.

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 <p>Main Phone 608-588-2586 Spring Green, WI 53588 www.greenwayspringgreen.com</p>  <p>547 McKinley Spring Green, WI 608-588-3603 or 608-588-2586</p>	 <p>SCOTT POTTER 608.515.6646</p>	 <p>OFFICE 515 RAINBOW ROAD SPRING GREEN, WI PHONE (608) 588-7108 WEB SPRINGPRINTINGLLC.COM PRINT@SPRINGPRINTINGLLC.COM</p> <p>HOTTMANN PLUMBING • Serving the area for over 45 years • MP # 226172 Spring Green 588-7183</p>	<p>E4690 County Road B Spring Green, WI 53588 (608) 546-2188 Email: ridgetopllc@gmail.com Mark A. Alt</p> <p>EXCAVATING FINISH GRADING</p>  <p>EXCAVATING "WE DIG WHAT WE DO"</p> <p>ShadySide Kennels & LLC Boarding & Grooming Michelle (Missy) Mack Registered Veterinary Technician Quality Pet Care Close To Home S12295 Porter Rd. • Spring Green, WI 53588 (608) 583-2698 • Cell (608) 712-6743</p>
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MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS FOR SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE PASTORATE

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 ~ *St. Andre Bessette*,
Religious

7:00 AM Mass at St. Luke for Fr. Laverne Meier †

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025 ~ *St. Raymond of Penafort*,
Priest

7:00 AM **NO** Mass at St. John

5:15 PM Mass at St. Luke for George Liegel and Marie
Kraemer †

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

8:30 AM Mass at St. John

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

8:30 AM Mass at St. Luke for Lorraine Meister †

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

8:30 AM Mass at St. John for Mary Gust †

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025

4:00 PM Mass at St. Luke for George Brey, Jr. † and The
People of Saints Joachim & Anne Pastorate

5:30 PM **NO** Mass at St. John

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 ~ *BAPTISM OF THE
LORD*

7:30 AM Mass at St. Patrick for The Joseph & Catherine
Schmitz Family †

8:30 AM Mass at **St. John the Baptist** for Lindy Schmitz †

10:00 AM Mass at St. Luke for Joseph Schmitz †

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SAT., JAN. 11	4:00 PM ST. LUKE
Sacristan	Rita Brey
Lector	Rita Brey
EM	Donna Ochsner
Ushers	Donna Ochsner OPEN
Servers	OPEN OPEN

SUN., JAN. 12	7:30 AM ST. PAT	8:30 AM ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	10:00 AM ST. LUKE
Sacristan	Sheila Drea	Ann Nelson	Doreen Laack
Lector	Marty McCluskey	Robert Baird	Rebecca Johnson
EM		Diane Emerson	Mary Schluter
Ushers	Rod Mueller Colleen Mueller	Steve Emerson Tom Bennett	Ken Bindl Susan Bindl
Greeter			Doug Schmitz
Servers	Braysen Boland Jadyn Boland	Charles McCall Brianna McCall	Isaac Faber Jacob Faber

READINGS FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Acts 10:34-38
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Are you thinking about becoming Catholic?



Do you have a friend or family member considering the Catholic Church? Many people have never joined the Catholic Church because no one invited them. This is your invitation or your call to invite someone you love to learn more. Please contact Marie Lins at 608-469-3982 or marie.lins@madisondiocese.org. **RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process to learn what the Church teaches and why and prepare for receiving sacraments. Sessions will be starting soon.



Join us for High School Youth Group on January 8th at St. Pat's at 6:45 PM. All high school students 9th - 12th grade are welcome!



"Parish Rosary Program"
(Saints Joachim & Anne Pastorate)

Combined Weekly Total: 183
Running Grand Total: 18,364

We would like to ask parishioners of ALL five churches to put your rosary counts into the collection baskets at the weekend Masses!

Creation Care Corner

Taking action to protect God's great gift to us

A New Year's Resolution to Care for Creation

- ◆ The Pope's encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, is a text of landmark significance in Catholic Social Teaching. He challenges us to rethink our relationship with nature.
- ◆ Pope Francis reframes the environmental dialogue from a political discussion into language of faith. Creation, the natural world around us, is recognized as a precious gift from God to be revered by all.
- ◆ The Holy Father invites us to become aware and reflect deeply on the unsustainable environmental degradation around us and its consequences.
- ◆ Francis extends an "urgent challenge to protect our common home...to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change."
- ◆ The Pope asks us to examine our lifestyles through sound ecological virtues, strive for greater simplicity and to focus less on material things.



What will you do in the New Year to demonstrate your care for creation and gratitude for this great gift from God?

"We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of Creation."

- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

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ST. JOHN SCHOOL NEWS

DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 1: No School; Christmas Vacation
JANUARY 2: Return to school

HAPPY NEW YEAR! All of us at St. John's School would like to wish you and your family a Blessed New Year!

WITH GREAT GRATITUDE ~ The faculty and staff would like to thank the Home & School and everyone for their gifts of appreciation during the holiday season.

TREMENDOUS BAKE SALE!! ~ A HUGE thank you goes out to Home & School for organizing such a beautiful and profitable bake sale! A big thank you also goes out to all of you who made these tasty treats and/or purchased them. Your help made this a very profitable event.

YES - YOU CAN REGISTER!

We are currently accepting registrations in all grade levels. If you would like a tour of St. John's School or would like to visit a classroom, please call 608-588-2021.



LIKE AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK! See for yourself all the great things that are happening at St. John's School by visiting our website at www.stjohnspringgreen.org or by liking our Facebook page – St. John the Evangelist School Spring Green, WI.



Sanctuary Memorial Lights ~ St. John the Evangelist, St. Luke, St. Pat, and St. John the Baptist have openings in 2025! For those who would like to remember a birthday, an anniversary, a special intention, or a loved one's passing, you may have a Sanctuary candle lit for 7 days at a cost of \$20. Please call the parish offices to schedule these intentions.

Christmas Clean Up

Clean Up will be at noon on January 5th at St. John the Evangelist and on January 12th after Mass at St. Pat and St. Luke. Volunteers are welcome and appreciated!



We want to give a HUGE shout out and thank you to Nathan Peck for donating the large Christmas trees for St. John's Church. Thank you!



Deepen Your Faith with the Catholic Herald Issue on January 9, 2025

In every issue, Bishop Donald J. Hying connects with his flock through his "From the Bishop's Desk" column.

It is easy to get the *Catholic Herald* print or e-Edition in your home - just contact the parish office!

ST. LUKE SCHOOL NEWS

JANUARY 8: Home & School Meeting
JANUARY 9: School Mass, Education Commission Meeting
JANUARY 12: Outdoor Nativity Takedown



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! St. Luke School is hosting a Preschool Open House on Thursday, February 13, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. Come and see what we have to offer children 3-5 years old. Call the school office or email diane.mueller@stlukecatholicchurchplain.com to RSVP.



NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ~ National Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated January 26 through February 1. The Catholic Schools Week theme is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community". We will kick the week off with Sunday Mass, a chili lunch and tours of the school.

St. Luke School won the Diocesan Giving Tuesday Contest. Students and staff will celebrate Mass with Bishop Hying on Monday, January 27 at 12:30 PM. Following Mass, students will get to play bingo with the Bishop. Thank you to everyone who donated on St. Luke's behalf.

LITTLE LUKE DAYCARE ~ Our daycare has openings for children ages 6 weeks to 4 years old. If interested contact diane.mueller@stlukecatholicchurchplain.com or call the school office at 608-546-2963.

ST. LUKE SCHOOL'S EIGHTH ANNUAL GALA ~ The Gala will be held on Saturday, March 15th at the Wisconsin Riverside Resort. Tickets go on sale January 6, 2025 and can be purchased at the school office. This year, you will receive a paper ticket as your admission into the event.

WE HAVE IT! St. Luke School has a faith-filled and nurturing environment that provides spiritual, academic, and social growth for its students. Call the school office, 546-2963, or email Mrs. Mueller at diane.mueller@stlukecatholicchurchplain.com to set up a time to tour the school. If you know anyone else that may be interested in enrolling their child, please have them contact the school office or email Mrs. Mueller.

KEEP UP ON THE LATEST SCHOOL HAPPENINGS AND "LIKE US" ON FACEBOOK! Visit our Facebook page at St. Luke's Catholic School, Plain, WI. Check out our website at www.stlukes-plain.org.



LUCKY LUKE CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS:

December 23-29: Leah Bowe, Donald Thering, Sandra Kay Bindl, Becca Oppert, Connie & Kevin Alt, William & Donna Billhorn, and Tom & Carol Walsh (\$800). All others were \$50 Winners. Congratulations!



"A good resolution is like an old horse, which is often saddled but rarely ridden." ~ Mexican Proverb

I love New Year's Resolutions!

Making them, that is. I'm not sure what happens on keeping them side, but I make them faithfully every year. I have kept a personal journal, irregularly, for years. Irregularly meaning that I have faithfully kept a personal journal each year for the last 20 years but have consistently avoided making daily entries. Each yearly journal includes an entry for January 1st. After that, things get sketchy. The reason for my faithfully beginning a journal each year is that it is always on my New Years resolution list; thus, the January 1st entry. I feel like there is some sort of psychological satisfaction to make it but never paid much attention if I can fulfill all that is in my resolution. In the past constantly making resolutions only to fail in implementing them. But this year, I have made the decision not to keep a personal journal. But I thought of a few things that I need to do this year as it is the most important year of my life. Being 50, half or more of my life has passed. So here is what I am going to do in the year 2025.

IF I AM ALIVE; EVERY MORNING, I WILL WAKE UP, I WILL SIT IN SILENCE, I WILL EAT, I WILL TALK TO MY PARENTS, I WILL SIT IN SILENCE, I WILL EAT, I WILL TAKE A NAP, I WILL SIT IN SILENCE, I WILL EAT AND I WILL SLEEP IN THE NIGHT.

That's so cool...right, anyone can do it. What is different that anyone does otherwise. Maybe I did not include whether I will work or spend time reading or spend time traveling or spend time on social media. Oh yeah...those are all included between the silences cuz, even if I do not take resolution, I do it very faithfully. So, I did not include them. As a matter of fact, those are the ones that replaced my time for my sleep, prayer, family, friends, and good meals. At the end of the year, I retreated to see how I did in 2024, I found I had no time for the very important things of life. Like Martha, I kept busy with many things. And I am reminded what Jesus told her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered and anxious about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her" (Lk 10:41-42).

So, I decided to take Mary's part. But why should I choose Mary's part, which looks lethargic? Because Jesus told in Matthew 16:26, "What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? "Boy...it is scary...better I take care of my soul before it is too late. I need to eat healthy and take good rest to have a healthy body, which is the temple of God in which my

soul dwells. (1 Cor 6:19) To keep my body healthy, I need to work to earn good food. Healthy body brings healthy mind. Healthy mind helps to have a positive outlook towards life and relations.

What do you think about it? Do my New Year Resolutions look good? What are your New Year Resolutions? You can share with me via email, and I will tell Jesus about you when I am sitting in silence with Him like Mary.

Thank you to one and all who sent me Christmas Greetings Cards and gifts. Be assured of my prayers for your sound health of mind and body. May the Abba Father bless each one of you.

~ Fr. Kumud

Kumud



We can't offer Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh— but we can offer Him the gift of our marriage. Draw nearer to Jesus by participating in an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience of February 14-16 in Brookfield, WI or March 29-30 in Neenah, WI. Visit our website at alifetimeoflove.org or call (888)574-5653.

ST. LUKE FISH FRY NEWS

Circles 1, 2, 8 & 12 are scheduled to work for the February 7, 2025 fish fry. Please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A49A4AC2BA5F94-54109996-february#/> to sign up! Thank you in advance!!

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

St. John's (Week 26)

Weekly Offertory Goal	\$ 7,153.00
Dec 28/29 Actual	\$ 9,113.00
ACH Weekly Average	\$ 2,485.00

Difference: +\$ 4,445.00

Envelope Goal YTD	\$ 185,978.00
YTD Total to Dec 29	\$ 171,340.00

Difference -\$ 14,638.00

Give Your "First Fruits" Back to God!

To Parish5-8%
To Diocese1%
To Charities1-4%

Would you prayerfully consider treating St. Luke/St. John Parish as one of your children in your will/estate planning?

Call your Parish Office for details.

St. Luke's (Week 26)

Weekly Offertory Goal	\$ 7,507.00
Dec 28/29 Actual	\$ 14,037.00
ACH Weekly Average	\$ 2,500.00

Difference: +\$ 9,030.00

Total Goal YTD	\$ 187,675.00
YTD Actual to Dec 29	\$ 160,229.00

Difference - \$ 27,446.00

Saints Joachim & Anne Pastorate

Saint John the Evangelist Parish

253 N. Washington Street
P.O. Box 628
Spring Green, WI 53588

ST. JOHN MASS: Saturday 5:30pm & Sunday 8:30am

ST. JOHN OFFICES

Rectory/Parish Office..... 588-2028
Parish Fax..... 588-2648
Parish Email..... barb.ferguson@saintsja.org
Website..... www.saintsja.org
Parish Center/Kitchen..... 588-2229
Pastoral Council President: Dave Mack..... 459-0680
St. Vincent de Paul River Valley Conference 546-2482

ST. JOHN SCHOOL

School Office..... 588-2021
School Website..... <http://stjohns-springgreen.org>
School Principal: Allison Stroud..... 588-2021

ST. JOHN CEMETERY

Cemetery Sexton: Roger Kolan..... 588-2103

Saint Luke Parish

1240 Nachreiner Avenue
Plain, WI 53577

ST. LUKE MASS: Saturday 4:00pm & Sunday 10:00am

ST. LUKE OFFICES

Rectory/Parish Office..... 546-2482
Parish Fax..... 546-2616
Parish Email..... heather.faber@saintsja.org
Website..... www.saintsja.org
Church Kitchen..... 546-2800
Pastoral Council President: Bruce Culver 544-5813
St. Vincent de Paul River Valley Conference 546-2482
Little Luke Daycare 546-2963, ext. 316

ST. LUKE SCHOOL

School..... 546-2963
School Website..... <http://stlukes-plain.org>
School Principal: Diane Mueller..... 546-2963

ST. LUKE CEMETERY

Cemetery Sexton: Bob Schweiss..... Cell: 608-963-8163

Saint Boniface

105 Church Street
Lime Ridge, WI 53942

MASS: First Saturday Mass 9:00am

(November-April)

Saint Patrick Loreto

S8280 County Road G
Plain, WI 53577

MASS: Sunday 7:30am

St. Patrick's and Our Lady of the Fields
Shrine Cemetery Sexton: Doug Faber

Saint John the Baptist Mill Creek

6494 County Highway H
Arena, WI 53503

MASS: First Saturday Mass 9:00am

(May-October)

JOINT STAFF & OFFICE INFORMATION

PASTOR: Fr. Luke Syse

546-2482 / 588-2028 / Cell: 636-4337

fr.luke.syse@saintsja.org

1270 Nachreiner Avenue, Plain, WI 53577

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Fr. Kumud Chandra Nayak

546-2482 / 588-2028

fr.kumud.nayak@saintsja.org

1270 Nachreiner Avenue, Plain, WI 53577

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Michael Davidson

588-2028 / 546-2482

michaeldavidson84@gmail.com

SCHEDULING EVENTS

All parish activities or meetings need to be scheduled on the parish calendar. Please call the parish office.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Wednesday - Noon

MINISTERIO HISPANO / HISPANIC MINISTRY

Padre Luke Syse se habla español

Puedes llamarlo a 608-636-4337

HOMEBOUND VISITS

Deacon Tom Fogarty - 414-530-0868

tjohnf52480@gmail.com

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to our parish family. Please stop by or call the parish office for information about registering as parish members.

SACRAMENTS

PENANCE/RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is offered 30 minutes before every scheduled mass.

MARRIAGE

To schedule a wedding date, call the parish office. The common policy of the Diocese of Madison requires a 6-month minimum notice. We strongly recommend at least one year in advance.

BAPTISM

Baptism dates are arranged through an intake form at our website www.saintsja.org. First time parents and godparents are required to attend a baptism preparation program before the baptism of their child. These classes are held the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at St. Luke.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

We are happy to bring Holy Communion to those confined to their homes. Please notify the parish office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Individual celebrations can be arranged by calling the parish office.

OCIA (FORMERLY RCIA)

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

OCIA is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith and for those seeking more information on the Catholic Church. Please contact Marie Lins at 608-469-3982 or marie.lins@madisondiocese.org.