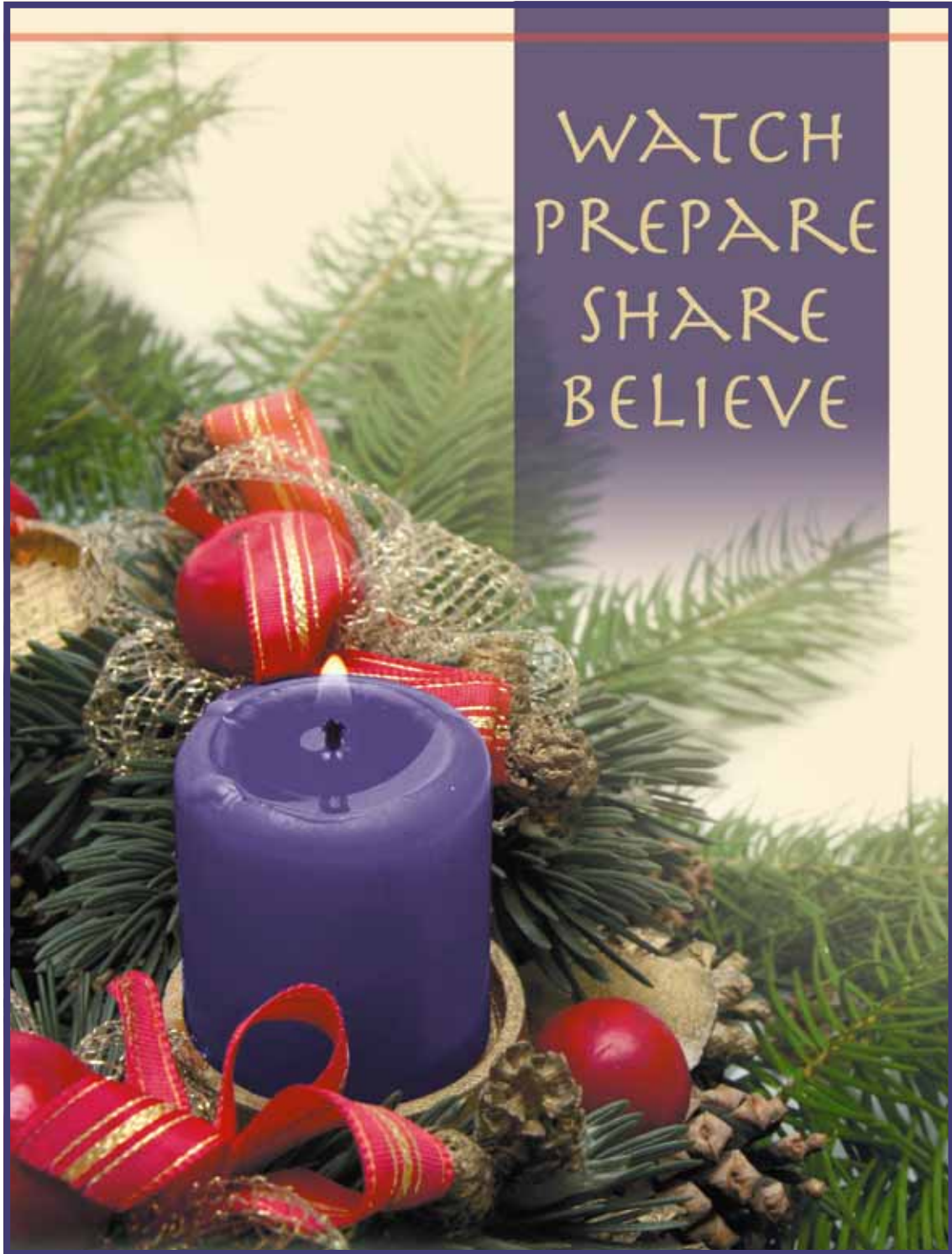


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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT • NOVEMBER 29, 2009

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# St. John <sup>the</sup> Baptist

Catholic Church

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4625 WEST 125th STREET • SAVAGE, MINNESOTA 55378 • [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org)

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*St. John's Adult Faith Formation Committee invites you to an evening of*

# CATHOLICISM

# COFFEE &

# DESSERT

**6:30 TO 8 P.M.**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009 ~ ATRIUM**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*Entering God's time ~ an evening of Advent reflection*



**with Lori Dahlhoff**

Musician, teacher, and avid learner,

Lori works to build bridges between the richness of people's daily lives and the banquet of the Catholic Tradition.

She earned an MA in Pastoral Ministry from St. John's University, is an NCEA Catechetical Scholar, and currently serves the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis as the catechesis specialist on the Parish Services Team.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME! FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (952)890-9434**

# Children's Shopping Spree

Christmas 2009

**SUNDAY,  
DECEMBER 6TH**

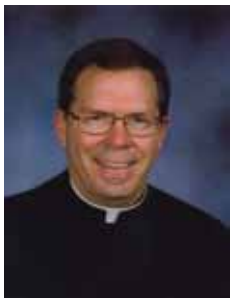
from 8am to 12:30pm  
in the parish center

Children in grade 6  
and younger can shop  
for Christmas gifts  
that are priced from  
\$.50 to \$3.50.

Santa's helpers will assist  
the young shoppers  
in choosing their gifts.

**Parents...**while you wait for your children to shop, you will have the opportunity to sit back and relax with coffee and donuts. What could be better than that!

◆ ◆ ◆ FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ◆ ◆ ◆



This weekend we begin Advent and a new liturgical year. During Advent we are filled with hope not only as we look to Christmas, but to the coming of the Messiah. As we begin this season, I want to share with you a reflection taken from, *The Spirit of Advent*, by Mark Searle that was published by the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy. The reflection provides a setting for all of us to consider in these four weeks of waiting and watching for Christ our light to appear.

*Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed – or cursed – with the ability to think about the future and to fear our actions to shaping it. So essential is this to human life, that human beings cannot live without hope, without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair. But we can find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything: for some measure of success or security or for the realization of some more or less modest ambition; for our children, that they might be saved from our mistakes and sufferings and find a better life than we have known; for a better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generations might be better off. Not all these forms of hope are selfish; indeed, they have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.*

*But one of the reasons why we read the Old Testament during Advent is to learn what to hope for. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile land; that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, that not only their own people, but all the peoples of the earth, would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly, their hopes were no different from ours or from any human being's: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, an end to suffering, pain and misery.*

*Thus we hope for the same things as the Old Testament people, for their hopes are not yet realized. But we differ from them in two ways. First, the coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God's promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthens our hope. Secondly, we differ from the Old Testament people because Jesus has revealed to us that God is not far off, but is already in our midst. Hence the importance in the Advent liturgy of John the Baptist and Mary: because they recognized the new situation, they served as models for the Church in discerning the presence of our Savior in the world.*

Father Mike Tix

WELCOME TO  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

We are happy that you are here. If you are just visiting for today, we wish you God's guidance on your journey. If you are seeking a church home, we would be honored to welcome you into our parish community. If you are interested in joining our parish family, parishioners are available after Mass to answer any questions and provide assistance with registrations. If you are over the age of 21 we ask you to register. You may also stop by the parish office during office hours to register.

Daily Mass

Tuesday - Friday: 8 am

Communion Service

Monday & Saturday: 8 am

Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Rosary

Monday - Saturday: 7:25 am

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am  
(nursery available at 9 am Mass)

Baptism

Call the parish office at 952.890.9465 to register for the next Baptism class: Monday, December 14, 7 - 8:30 pm

Marriage

Contact a priest or a deacon at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is available to those seriously ill or suffering from prolonged illness. Call the parish office for more information.

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8 am - 4:30 pm

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

For information including sign-up call Jack at 952.882.9227 or <http://pea.g-ware.org>

Bulletin Deadline

E-mail articles to [bulletin@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:bulletin@stjohns-savage.org) by 10 am on Friday.

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. John the Baptist Catholic community, established in 1854, continues its mission to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. As people of faith, we evangelize by worship, education, charity and social justice. God works through us as we share the blessings of our time, talent and treasure.



Parish Office  
952.890.9465

- Fr. Michael Tix, Pastor
- Fr. Terry Weber, Weekend Presider
- Rev. Mr. Jerry Little, Deacon
- Rev. Mr. Bob Durham, Deacon
- Christine Kelly, Accounting
- Laurie Dietz, Administrative Assistant
- Joyce Irlbeck, Administrative Assistant
- Fred Fox, Business Administrator
- Carol Radosevich, Communications
- Ron Nord, Facilities Manager
- Tracy Tredinnick, IT Coordinator
- Tim Malone, Music & Liturgy
- Jean Thompson, Music & Liturgy
- Jim Rylander, Pastoral Minister

Faith Formation  
952.890.9434

- Andi Little, Director
- Brenda Schroll, Adult Faith Formation
- Jan Jirik, Junior High - Grades 7-9
- Joan Walerius, Sunday School
- Lori Taormina, Youth Minister

St. John the Baptist Catholic School  
952.890.6604

- Beth Behnke, Principal
- Mike Smalley, Assistant Principal

Steppingstones Preschool  
952.846.4663

- Dora May, Director

## ◆ ◆ ◆ UPCOMING EVENTS ◆ ◆ ◆

### ADVENT-URE INTO THE SEASON



Everyone is invited to celebrate the Season of Advent on Friday, Dec. 4, from 7-9pm, in the parish center. There will be a variety of activities for all ages including creating an Advent wreath from live greenery. Cost is \$10 per family. Pre-registration is required; a minimum of 10 families are needed for this event to occur. Registration forms are available in the atrium or parish and education offices or on-line at [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org).

Adults, teens and Confirmation candidates who are looking for a great service opportunity are welcome to volunteer to help younger participants at activity stations. To learn more about St. John's **ADVENT-ure** or to volunteer, contact Andi Little at [alittle@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:alittle@stjohns-savage.org) or call 952.890.9434.

### ST. JOHN'S DAY AT BARNES & NOBLE

Mark your calendar! Sunday, Dec. 13, from 9am to 11pm, is St. John's annual shopping day at the Burnsville Barnes & Noble store. Present a voucher at the register and a portion of the total will come back to St. John's. There will be music, game time and special guest readers. Barnes & Noble carries more than just books so take care of your holiday shopping at one stop. Games, puzzles, music, movies, calendars and so much more are available. Cafe purchases count too. So don't forget to grab a latte while shopping or order a cheesecake for your holiday gatherings. Vouchers will be available closer to the event.

### SCHWAN'S TRUCK RETURNS TO ST. JOHN'S

St. John's parishioners, family members and friends can order holiday delights such as seasonal pies and appetizers for your Christmas parties and celebrations from Schwan's. Order forms and catalogs are available in the atrium and parish and education offices. Pre-orders will be taken until noon, on Monday, Dec. 14, for guaranteed delivery on Wednesday, Dec. 16. The Schwan's truck will also be in the church parking lot from 4-7pm on Wednesday, Dec. 16. At that time, you also may purchase items but some items may be limited. No payment is due until delivery is made. Money that is raised will go to Vacation Bible School for the children of our sister parish, Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Houston, Mississippi. Schwan's also has gift cards for those "hard-to-buy-for" and calendars for \$7.99 which contain coupons with savings of over \$150.

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 29, from 2-7pm, in the parish center. During the Christmas season blood donations are down and the need increases. To sign-up to donate blood, work at the welcome table or in the canteen visit the atrium after any of the weekend Masses on Dec. 5/6, Dec. 12/13 or Dec. 19/20. You can also call the parish office at 952.890.9465 to sign-up. If you have questions about donating call 1.800.GIVE.Blood. Please bring your Red Cross donor card or a drivers license with you when you come to donate blood.



**BAPTISM**

We welcome  
*Jacob Michael Lawler*  
into the Christian community through  
the holy water of baptism.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

We welcome the following people  
who recently joined our  
parish community:

*Charles Boissiere*

*Jeff & Lisa Dugan*

*Lindsey Bell*

*Kyle Larson*

*Alan & Tara Spillers ~*

*Josephine*

*Jason & Laura Roberts ~*

*Ava, Gwennyth, Samantha*

*Matthew & Sarah Garrison ~*

*Jessica, Benjamin*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO**

*Carol & Ralph Stramowski*  
as they celebrate their  
50th wedding anniversary on  
Saturday, Nov. 28,  
at the 5pm Mass.  
We wish them God's  
blessings and many more  
happy years together



**READINGS**

For the week of Nov. 29

Sun: Jer 33:14-16/  
1 Thes 3:124:2/  
Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Mon: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22

Tue: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

Wed: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

Thu: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Fri: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31

Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/  
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sun: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11  
Lk 3:1-6

◆ ◆ ◆ **ADULT FAITH FORMATION** ◆ ◆ ◆

**MEN'S BREAKFAST FEATURES JOHN CRUDELE**

St. John's will host John Crudele on Saturday, Dec. 12, starting with Mass at 8am. John's presentation, *The Narrow Door: A Life Dying For* will help men realize the role to which God calls them as spouse, father, friend in the Kingdom of God. John Crudele is an internationally renowned speaker and author who is best known for his inspirational presentations to young people and in the corporate world. He brings humor and real life stories to relate to the individual inside every listener. It will be a morning to energize the spirit and set a new pace for your faith journey. The breakfast will be provided by the Knights of Columbus. A free-will donation will be collected to help defray costs. Reservations are required by Monday, Dec. 7. You can contact Tom Lerick at [tjrick@mchsi.com](mailto:tjrick@mchsi.com) or call the RE Office at 952.890.9434.

◆ ◆ ◆ **ST. JOHN'S BOOK-N-GIFT STORE** ◆ ◆ ◆

**IN ANTICIPATION OF A BEAUTIFUL SEASON**

Advent is here and we look forward to the birth of Jesus as a truly loving gift to us all. As a symbolic reminder of this occasion, we are offering a special selection of items that would make wonderful gifts for all ages. We have Holy Family themed items including ornaments, water globes and statuary. Our tree ornaments are spectacular this year with many hand painted selections and others crafted by Fontanini. Browse over our board books for children such as *Baby Jesus Is Born* and *My First Christmas Sticker Book*. Our helpful volunteers look forward to assisting you.

◆ ◆ ◆ **55+ GROUP** ◆ ◆ ◆

**CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG** 🎵

Join us on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 8:30am, in the atrium for a Christmas sing-along and "Stump the Piano Player" with songs of the season! Jean Thompson from our Music & Liturgy Ministry will join us at the piano for a festive time of singing and fellowship. Refreshments will be served. 🎵

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The 55+ Group Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, Dec. 16, in the atrium. Social time will begin at 11:30am with a catered lunch to follow. Students from the school will provide musical entertainment and we will also play bingo. The cost is \$12. RSVP by Monday, Dec. 14, to Jim Rylander at 952.890.9465, ext. 114. Friends, relatives and neighbors are welcome to join us.



**CATHOLIC SENIOR SERVICES ~ CSS**

CSS is an entity of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It has recently been established to connect Catholic, older adults to services, housing and pastoral care throughout our archdiocese. Jim Rylander, in our parish office, is available to discuss this opportunity with you. For more information go to their website at [www.CatholicSeniorServices.org](http://www.CatholicSeniorServices.org) or call 1.877.420-6461.

◆ ◆ ◆ **LOSS OF SPOUSE** ◆ ◆ ◆

**CHRISTMAS POTLUCK LUNCHEON**

On Saturday, Dec. 12, at noon, in the atrium, the Loss of Spouse Group will meet for our Christmas potluck luncheon. RSVP by Thursday, Dec. 10, to Jim Rylander at 952.890.9465, ext. 114. If you know of a friend, neighbor, or relative who has lost a spouse they are welcome to join us.

## ◆ ◆ ◆ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ◆ ◆ ◆

### STEVE ANGRISANO IN CONCERT AT LIFELINE

Steve Angrisano is an internationally known Catholic musician, songwriter and witness. He will be in concert at NET Ministries LIFELINE on Saturday, Dec. 5. Meet at school door #1 at 4pm. (LIFELINE doors open at 5:30pm). We will return by 11pm. The concert will be part of an evening which also includes Mass and presentation by Fr. Nels Gjengdahl. **Tickets are required for this event. Cost is \$20 per person.** Depending on the number of people attending, a bus may be reserved at an additional cost of \$5 per person; otherwise, transportation to and from West St. Paul will be by **car\***. **Chaperones and adult drivers are needed.** Registration materials are available on-line at [www.stjohns-savage.org](http://www.stjohns-savage.org) and in the education office. For more information contact Lori Taormina at [ltaormina@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:ltaormina@stjohns-savage.org) or 952.890.9434.



*\*Drivers who have passed both a background check and driver's check and who have attended VIRTUS training will be needed if carpools are used. To check on your status or to get background check materials, contact Tracy Tredinnick at [tredinnick@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:tredinnick@stjohns-savage.org) or call 952.890.9465, ext. 118.*

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ~ OCC

Confirmation candidates, students in our day school and in our RE program will be going to the *Operation Christmas Child* packing center at various times in the next few weeks. All parishioners are more than welcome to pack a shoe box for OCC for a girl or a boy who may have never experienced the joy of receiving a gift. Our teens will bring them to the center on their packing dates. To learn more about *Operation Christmas Child* and what to pack in a box, visit their website at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) or pick up a flyer in the Education Office. Packed shoe boxes should be brought to the Education Office no later than Wednesday, Dec. 2, to ensure they are ready for overseas delivery. To learn more, call 952.890.9434.



## ◆ ◆ ◆ YOUTH MINISTRY ◆ ◆ ◆

### SNOWBALL DANCE

All youth in grades 6-8 are invited to dance the night away on Friday, Dec. 18, from 7-9pm, in the Fr. Wittman Auditorium. Cost is \$5. Deadline is Monday, Dec. 14. Chaperones are needed.

### MISSION 2010

There are still 19 participant and 5 chaperone openings left for the Twins Cities mission trip in July of 2010. Deadline for application forms and \$75 non-refundable deposit is Monday, Dec. 7.

### STEUBENVILLE NORTH YOUTH CONFERENCE

Registration is now open for the Steubenville Conference held in Rochester, MN, July 16-18, 2010. All high school students are eligible. *Partnership for Youth* and the Franciscan University of Steubenville have teamed up again to present this dynamic weekend conference. This is one of the most important experiences a teen can have next summer. Adults are encouraged to come as chaperones and to experience the Holy Spirit at work.

For more information regarding Youth Ministry activities contact Lori at [ltaormina@stjohns-savage.org](mailto:ltaormina@stjohns-savage.org) or call 952-890.9434, ext. 232.

## ◆ ◆ ◆ 55+ GROUP ◆ ◆ ◆

### FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN ~ FMSC



“Chicken, veggies, soy, rice”—these were words that the 55+ Group heard as they volunteered at FMSC in Eagan on Nov. 19. This represents the sequence of ingredients that go into a meal package. At the conclusion of our visit we were told that our group packaged enough food to feed 33 children for a year.



◆ ◆ ◆ OUTREACH & SOCIAL ACTION ◆ ◆ ◆

**CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE**

Please stop by the atrium to pick an ornament from the Giving Tree. We are assisting families of St. John's, Blessed Trinity in Richfield and our sister parish Immaculate Heart of Mary in Houston, Mississippi. You may drop off your [unwrapped gifts](#) in the atrium no later than the morning of Sunday, Dec. 13. Thank you for your generous giving spirit.

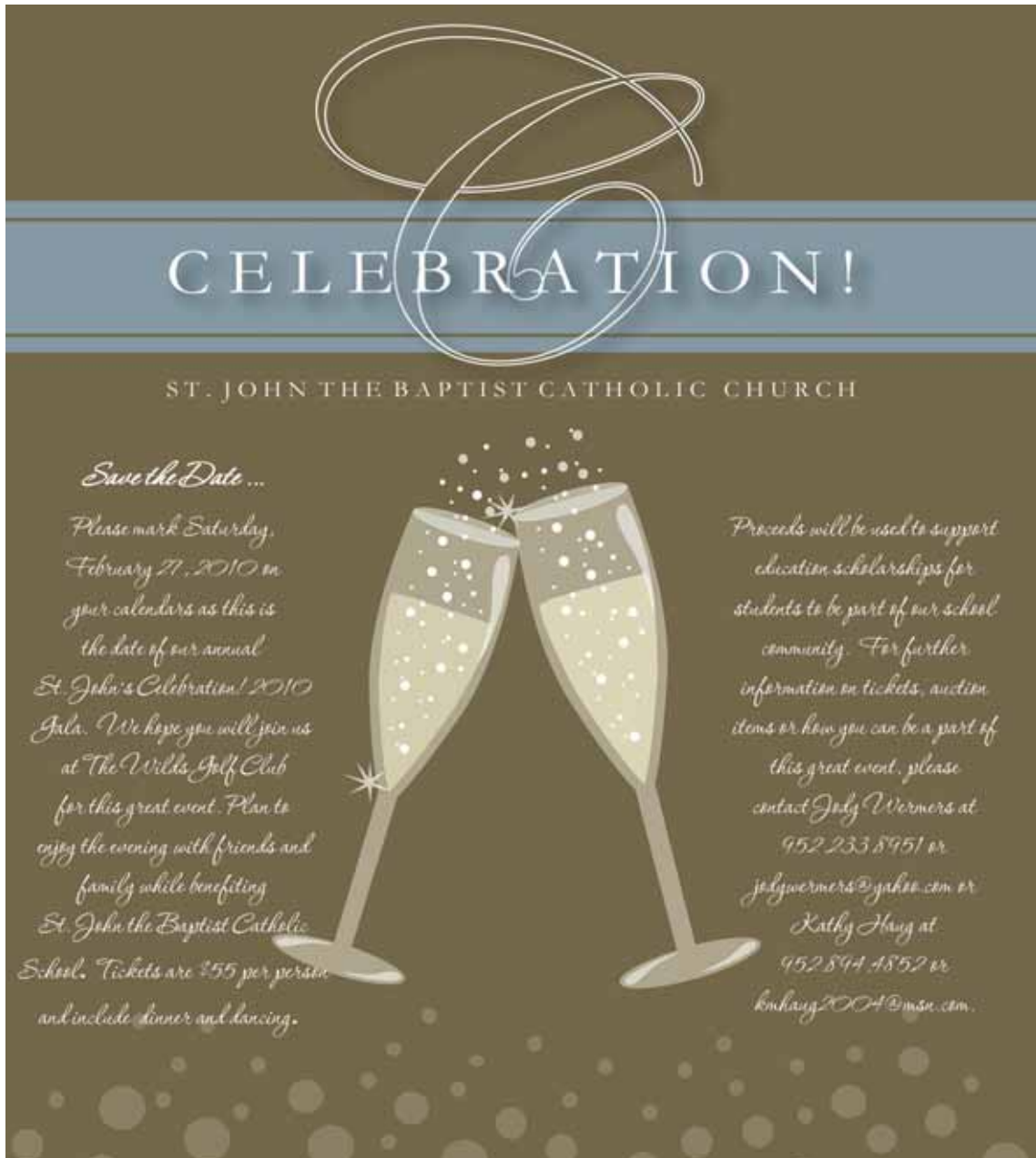
**LOAVES & FISHES, TOO**

On Thursday, Dec. 3, volunteers from Loaves & Fishes, Too will prepare and serve dinner to the needy at St. Stephen's Church in Minneapolis. If you would like to contribute a few hours of your time to help with this project call Pat Turgeon at 952.894.5888.

Did you know that Great Harvest Bread Company on County Rd. 42 donates bread to serve at Loaves & Fishes, Too?

**WE CARE SUNDAY IS NEXT WEEKEND**

Remember to bring non-perishable food items for the food shelves in Scott and Dakota Counties and leave items in the church entrances. Those less fortunate need your help. Last month 520 pounds of food was taken to our local food shelves. Thank you for your donations.



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, November 30

8:00 am Communion/Prayer Service

### Tuesday, December 1

8:00 am † Steven Studer

10:30 am † Rev. Edward Grzeskowiak  
(Ridges Nursing Home)

### Wednesday, December 2

8:00 am † Nora Brunello

### Thursday, December 3

8:00 am Special Intention of Vernon Brunkow

9:25 am † Carol Pexa (School Mass)

### First Friday, December 4

8:00 am † Katie O'Brien

10:30 am † Rev. Robert Boller  
(Augustana Regent)

### First Saturday, December 5

8:00 am Communion/Prayer Service

5:00 pm † Mary Erickson

### Sunday, December 6

7:30 am For the Parish

9:00 am † Nora Brunello

11:00 am †† Margaret & Ralph Mueller

## LECTORS

### December 5/6

5:00 pm Ron & Margaret Eustice

7:30 am Andi Little, Larry McCrory

9:00 am Teresa Hoffman, Linda Moriarty

11:00 am Mick Finn, Kent Anderson

## MASS SERVERS

### Weekdays 8:00 am

Dec. 1/2 Dane Kusber, Jacob Heim, Nate Becker

Dec. 3/4 Jacob Notermann, Matt Notermann,  
Richie Diedrick

### Saturday, December 5

5:00 pm Callie Fox, Joshua Miller, Julia Fox

### Sunday, December 6

7:30 am Carrie Manila, Dan Paulus

9:00 am Alex Kubicek, Matthew Kubicek,  
Sam Brunkow

11:00 am Abby Broadwell, Anna Brunner  
Kathleen Camacho

## DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Join us on Saturday, Dec. 5, for the 8am Communion/Prayer service in the church followed by the Rosary and meditation in the Holy Family Chapel.



## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

(\*SEE ARTICLE)

### Monday, November 30

6:30 pm Troop 336

7:00 pm REAC Meeting

### Tuesday, December 1

10:00 am Jeff Cavins Bible Study

6:00 pm Pack 338, Pack Meetings

7:00 pm Respect Life Meeting

7:00 pm Holy Family Prayer Group &  
Rosary for Life

### Wednesday, December 2

8:30 am 55+ Group\*

4:15 pm, 5:30 pm, 6:45 pm RE Gr. 1-6

4:15 pm Cherubim A Rehearsal

5:30 pm Cherubim B Rehearsal

6:30 pm Bible Study

6:45 pm RE Gr. 7-10 (on site classes)

### Thursday, December 3

6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:30 pm Jeff Cavins Bible Study

7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, December 4

8:30 am Stations of the Cross

9:30 am Bible Study

7:00 pm Advent-ure into the Season\*

### Saturday, December 5

4:00 pm Saturday Singers

7:30 pm South Metro Choir\*

### Saturday/Sunday, December 5/6

Blood Drive Sign Up\*

Fellowship/Can Collection/We Care\*

### Sunday, December 6

8:00 pm Children's Shopping Spree\*

8:00 am AA Meeting

10:15 am RCIA Program

6:30 pm Adult CCD\*

## FELLOWSHIP

is next weekend in the atrium. Come and visit with other parishioners, both new and veteran and say hello! Cookies will be served after the Saturday 5pm Mass. Donuts will be served after the 7:30am, 9am and 11am Masses.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO REMEMBER SOMEONE OR AN OCCASION IN A SPECIAL WAY?

For a donation of \$35, a plant will be placed by the statues of Mary and Joseph in the back of the church for a two week period. You may also have your intention published in the bulletin. If you are interested, call the parish office at 952.890.9465.

◆ ◆ ◆ IN THE COMMUNITY ◆ ◆ ◆

**CATHOLIC COALITION FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED**

All are welcome to our next small group meeting on Monday, Nov. 30, at St. Thomas Beckett Church, 4455 South Robert Trail in Eagan. Registration is at 6:45pm. Donation per session is \$2. New participants are welcome and encouraged to attend at any time. Call Jim Rylander for more information at 952.890.9465, ext. 114.

◆ ◆ ◆ SOUTH METRO CHOIR ◆ ◆ ◆

**TO PERFORM AT ST. JOHN'S**



on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 7:30pm, in the church. Come and relax, enjoy and feel the spirit of Christmas as you hear angelic voices sing some of your favorite songs of the season. Cost: \$10 for adults; \$8 for students and seniors.

**FINANCIAL BLESSINGS**

Last week's donations:

Envelopes.....	\$25,514
Simple Giving	
electronic donations.....	\$2,287
Total donations.....	\$27,801
Weekly revenue budget .....	\$32,625
Under budget.....	\$4,824
Budget year-to-date .....	- \$61,615

**RESPECT LIFE**

“Children, and those who are dependent on us due to disability or age, offer us the opportunity to grow in patience, kindness and love.



They teach us that life is shared gift, not an encumbrance. At the end of life, we will be judged on love alone.” Cardinal Justin Rigali, Statement for Respect Life Sunday, Sept. 29, 2009