

Support St. John the Baptist Catholic School

Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR

Sunday, December 13, 2009

Burnsville Barnes & Noble
828 West County Road 42
Store hours 10am-9pm

- See our adult choir perform at 1pm
- Guest readers from 12pm-2:30pm (Fr. Tix reading at 2pm)
- Think Fun game time 2pm-4pm
- Free gift wrapping from 12pm-6pm

Constance VanHoven, author of the just released kid's book, *The Twelve Days of Christmas in Minnesota*, will be signing books.

Special St. John's Frappuccino available in the café (café purchases count too).

A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases will benefit St. John the Baptist Catholic School.



SAVE
THE DATE

St. John ^{the} Baptist

Catholic Church

**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>

Early Bulletin Deadline

E-mail articles to bulletin@stjohns-savage.org by 10 am on Tuesday, Dec. 15 for the combined bulletin for Dec. 27 and Jan. 3.

◆ ◆ ◆ FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ◆ ◆ ◆



On the third Sunday of Advent the church celebrates Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for rejoice. It is on this third Sunday that the rose colored candle of our Advent wreath is lit. At some parishes, rose colored vestments are worn for the day. The reason for the rejoicing on this Sunday is that over half of our Advent wait is now over. While we must still wait for the celebration of Christ's birth, the nearness is cause for rejoicing!

As Christmas draws near I would like to say a brief word about the Christmas collection. The Christmas collection, and every Sunday collection, is used by parishes to make the presence of Christ known by funding our various programs and ministries. A parish depends on every collection, but especially the Christmas and Easter collections to catch-up from shortfalls incurred over other times in the year. We are not any different. I hope and trust that you will be generous in your Christmas contribution this year.

Finally, a word about the schedule of Masses for Christmas this year. Last year for the first time on Christmas Eve an extra Mass was added at 3pm, which was very popular for many people. In late summer, Archbishop Nienstedt wrote to pastors and specifically asked that no Christmas Eve Mass be celebrated earlier than 4pm. This is to better respect the intention as well as the ancient tradition of the Church in celebrating vigils. Given this request, this year our Mass schedule for Christmas Eve will be at 4pm, 6pm and 10pm. On Christmas Day our Mass schedule will be the same as for any Sunday.

Father Mike Tix

◆ ◆ ◆ PENANCE & LITURGY SCHEDULES ◆ ◆ ◆

PENANCE

Individual Confession

Saturday, December 19 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Communal Penance with Individual Confession and Absolution

Sunday, December 20 2:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24

- 3:30 pm Carols and Preludes
- 4:00 pm Mass ~ Combined Children's Choir with Piano and Woodwinds
- 5:30 pm Carols and Preludes
- 6:00 pm Mass ~ Combined Ensemble with Piano, Organ, Guitars & Woodwinds
- 9:30 pm Carols and Preludes
- 10:00 pm Vigil Mass ~ Adult Festival Choir with Piano, Organ, Guitars & Brass Quintet

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25

- 7:30 am Mass ~ Cantor with Piano, Organ and Flute
- 9:00 am Mass ~ Combined Children's Choir with Piano, String Quartet, Hand Bells & Woodwinds
- 11:00 am Mass ~ Adult Festival Choir with Piano, Organ, Hand Bells, Guitars & Brass Quartet

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation

- Thursday, December 31
- 5:00 pm Mass ~ Ensemble with Piano and Organ
- Friday, January 1, 2010
- 9:00 am Mass ~ Ensemble with Piano and Organ

◆ ◆ ◆ PARISH NEWS ◆ ◆ ◆

DAVANNI'S NIGHT

St. John's School fundraiser at Davanni's Restaurant is on Monday, Dec. 14, from 4-8pm, at the intersection of County Road 42 and Highway 13 in Savage. Pick up a red voucher after Mass to turn in with your dine-in or take-out orders. 20% of the evening ticketed sales go to St. John's School.

SCHWAN'S ORDERS ARE DUE

Orders for our Sister Parish Schwan's fundraiser should be turned in to the RE Office on **Monday, Dec. 14, by noon**. Completed forms may be dropped in the RE folder in the atrium message center, faxed to 952.890.9481, or brought to either the parish or education offices in order to guarantee availability for your holiday entertaining. You may pick-up your order or make purchases from the Schwan's truck on Wednesday, Dec. 16, from 4-7pm. Can't decide what to get? Purchase a gift certificate by following the directions in the catalogue or go to http://www.schwans.com/landing/landingpromonl.aspx?id=giftCert&incmpid=hp_giftcert to order on-line. For more information about ordering call 952.890.9434.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Liz Kelly, award-winning author of both fiction and nonfiction books, including *The Seekers Guide to the Rosary*, *The Rosary: A Path into Prayer* and her latest *Heaven in You and You in Heaven, Unveiling Eternity on Earth* is the featured presenter for Adult CCD (Catholicism, Coffee & Dessert) on Sunday, Jan. 10, from 6:30-8pm, in the atrium. Her presentation, *Mary & The Saints* will introduce you to the Mother of God and the Saints who serve as models of how we can live our faith. In her engaging and frank style, Liz explores the nuances of her richly textured Catholic faith, hoping to inspire others to see our faith with new eyes – a perfect start for a new year! Liz also is an accomplished jazz singer who has released two CDs. She lives in St. Paul and teaches Catholic studies at the University of St. Thomas. Liz also is the managing editor of *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought & Culture*. There is no cost to attend and all are welcome. For more information about Adult CCD, contact Brenda Schroll at bschroll@stjohns-savage.org or call 952.890.9434.

◆ ◆ ◆ PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY & ROME ◆ ◆ ◆



Join Fr. Tix on a 10-day Italian Renaissance Tour Oct. 11-21, 2010. Some of the places you will visit are: Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi and Rome. While in Rome you will hopefully attend a general audience with Pope Benedict in St. Peter's Square. The cost of the trip includes round-trip transportation, accommodations in first-class hotels, admission fees to sites and two meals per day. Space is limited. Reserve your seat today. You do not have to be a parishioner to participate. Brochures are available in the atrium and the parish office.

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 President
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 Radosovich, 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

BAPTISM

We welcome
William Jeffrey Schonhoff
into the Christian community
through the holy water of baptism.

MARRIAGE BANNES

Please remember in your prayers
Candice Knight & Jon Duval
as they prepare for their marriage.

**REMEMBER
IN YOUR PRAYERS**

- † *Joan Light*, grandmother of Jason Robert
- † *Ed McCorkell*, father of Anne Zschokke and grandfather of Alicen, Kelly and Thomas

NEW PARISHIONERS

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

- Scott Wittl ~ Zach*
- Ryan & Brigett Peterson ~ George, Oliver*
- Jerry & Karen Morris ~ Tali, Carly, Ben, Hannah, Jake*

John answered them all, saying, “*I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*” - Lk 3:16

READINGS

For the week of December 13

- Sun: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/
Lk 3:10-18
- Mon: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/
Mt 21:23-27
- Tue: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
- Wed: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/
Lk 7:18b-23
- Thu: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
- Fri: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
- Sat: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
- Sun: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/
Lk 1:39-45

◆ ◆ ◆ PASTORAL CARE ◆ ◆ ◆

CATHOLIC COALITION FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

The next presentation will be on Monday, Dec. 14, at St. Thomas Beckett Church, 4455 South Robert Trail in Eagan. Dick Obershaw will speak on *Creating New Holiday Rituals*. Registration is at 6:45pm, speaker at 7pm. 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.

◆ ◆ ◆ THANK YOU ◆ ◆ ◆

THE TURKEY BINGO COMMITTEE



would like to thank our generous sponsors, the many volunteers and all who participated at the Nov. 22 event. It was very well attended, lots of fun and a huge success, raising over \$2,500 for Vacation Bible School for our sister parish in Houston, Mississippi next summer. Our generous sponsors included our own Knights of Columbus, Sam’s Club in Shakopee, Rainbow in Savage, Byerly’s and Target in Burnsville, Abdallah’s Candies, JPR Distributing Inc. and Syndicut for Hair.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WOMEN’S AUXILIARY

noticed at the last pancake breakfast the silverware from the atrium was short on forks. We would like to thank the ladies of the Knights of Columbus Council 4914 for their generous donation of 96 new forks for the atrium kitchen.

◆ ◆ ◆ SOCIAL OUTREACH ◆ ◆ ◆

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE REMINDER

All unwrapped gifts should be returned on Sunday, Dec. 13, no later than 12:30pm, in the atrium. Thank you for your generous giving spirit.

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

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 this weekend after any of the Masses or Dec. 19/20. Please bring your Red Cross donor card or another form of ID when you give blood.

◆ ◆ ◆ 55+ GROUP ◆ ◆ ◆

SANTA IS CHECKING HIS LIST

and he is checking it twice to see if you have made your reservation for the 55+ Christmas lunch on Wednesday, Dec. 16. Festivities start at 11:30am with social time followed by a catered lunch. Students from the school will provide musical entertainment and we will also play bingo. **RSVP by Monday, Dec. 14, to Jim Rylander at 952.890.9465, ext. 114.**



◆ ◆ ◆ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ◆ ◆ ◆

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT 🎵

Our Sunday Schoolers will share a few songs of the Christmas season on Sunday, Dec. 20, after 9am Mass, in the church. Everyone is welcome to join us!

◆ ◆ ◆ 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. **Permission slips are due by Monday, Dec. 14.** Chaperones are needed.



STEUBENVILLE NORTH YOUTH CONFERENCE

Registrations are still being accepted for the Steubenville Conference which will be 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.

THERE'S STILL ROOM FOR YOU IN MISSION 2010

Registrations are still being accepted for next summer's Mission Minneapolis. This is offered to teens who will enter grade 10 in the fall of 2010 and older teens including adults. This is a "higher level" camp sponsored by *Catholic Heart Workcamp*. Tentative dates (offered by Catholic Heart WorkCamp as of this date) will be Sunday to Friday, June 13-19. The host facility where all CHWC participants will be housed is Holy Family Catholic Church in Victoria. Applications will be accepted on a first-come basis. Forms are available in the RE Office.

CHILLFEST 2010

is on Friday, Jan. 29, and Saturday, Jan. 30, from 8pm to 6:30 am, at St. Hubert's Catholic Church in Chanhasen and Chaska Community Center. There will be swimming, ice skating, inflatables, laser tag, Karaoke and DJ, wallyball, nail salon, Snack Shop and more! Cost is \$40 per person and includes transportation to and from St. Hubert's and Chaska Community Center. Registration deadline is Friday, Jan. 22, to ensure adequate adult chaperones are available.

For more information regarding Youth Ministry activities contact Lori at ltaormina@stjohns-savage.org or call 952.890.9434, ext. 232.

There are no RE classes on Wednesdays, Dec. 23 and Dec. 30.
There are no Sunday School classes on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3.
Elementary, junior and senior high religion classes resume
Wednesday, Jan. 6. Sunday School resumes Jan. 10.

**Your parish Religious Education staff wishes everyone
a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year!**



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 14

8:00 am Communion/Prayer Service

Tuesday, December 15

8:00 am † Dyer Pettijohn

Wednesday, December 16

8:00 am † George Gall

Thursday, December 17

8:00 am †† Len Renner &
Mary (Renner) Trumble

9:25 am † Rosaria Schmalz
(School Mass)

Friday, December 18

8:00 am † John Turner

Saturday, December 19

8:00 am Communion/Prayer Service

5:00 pm † Adeline Hortsch

Sunday, December 20

7:30 am †† Bill & Stephen Ross

9:00 am For the Parish

11:00 am † Rev. Leo J. Fox

LECTORS

December 19/20

5:00 pm Aileen Hill, Rich Myers

7:30 am Kris Lambrecht
James Eck

9:00 am Christine Brickweg
Bob Brickweg

11:00 am Janet Williams
Wilfred Williams

MASS SERVERS

Weekdays 8:00 am

Dec. 15/16 Cassie Boutelle
Maria Strittmater
Shawn Patch

Dec. 17/18 Amanda Pfeiffer
Andrea Lerick
Sydney Schulberg

December 19

5:00 pm Jacob Notermann
Matt Notermann
Nate Becker

Sunday, December 20

7:30 am Lucy Walbruch
Will Diedrick

9:00 am Emma Marko
Nicole Swensen
Shawn Patch

11:00 am Jenna Kacheroski
Kate Ruth
Robert Tobroxen

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS
(*SEE ARTICLE)

Monday, December 14

- 6:30 pm Troop 336
- 7:00 pm Baptism Preparation Class*
- 7:00 pm REAC Mtg.
- 7:30 pm Home & School Mtg.

Tuesday, December 15

- 10:00 am Jeff Cavins Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Holy Family Prayer Group

Wednesday, December 16

- 11:30 am 55+ Group Christmas Party*
- 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 17

- 4:00 pm Schoenstatt Girls Group
- 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm BeFriender Training
- 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 18

- 8:30 am Stations of the Cross
- 9:30 am Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Snowball Dance*

Saturday, December 19

- 4:00 pm Saturday Singers

Saturday/Sunday, December 19/20

- Blood Drive Sign-Up*

Sunday, December 20

- 8:00 am AA Meeting
- 9:00 am Sunday School
- 9:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 10:15 am RCIA Program
- 2:00 pm Communal Penance Service*

HOLY FAMILY FLOWERS



have been donated in memory of *Helen Kelleher*

- Jim Kelleher

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.

◆ ◆ ◆ **ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL NEWS** ◆ ◆ ◆

Last week in the Sun Current Newspaper, which is distributed in the Burnsville area, there was an article on the front page about one of our own, the Farmah family. For those of you who do not receive or did not read the article, it is a story worth sharing especially during the season of Advent and Christmas. The Farmah family is originally from Liberia. In 2000 the family was pulled apart during the civil war in Liberia. Cora, mom and her daughter CeCe, moved here to join Cora's sister. Less than four years ago the family was reunited here in Minnesota when sons, Victor and George were able to move here permanently. The story is about the boys experience with *Operation Christmas Child* and their journey to America. I encourage all of you to read the entire article at <http://www.mnsun.com/articles/2009/12/02/news/cw26farmahthanksgiving.txt> to see how our local *Operation Christmas Child* project reached Victor while in a refugee camp in Ghana and how the family continues to share their story.

◆ ◆ ◆ **YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS** ◆ ◆ ◆

If you want to receive a tax deduction for a year end contribution, you can bring your contribution to the parish office no later than Thursday, Dec. 31, before 4:30pm. Please remember to check with your employer to see if your company offers matching contributions. **Tax Tip** -You may want to consider contributing appreciated stock to minimize your cash outlay while at the same time maximizing the cash received by the church, since no tax is paid when we sell it. Please call Fred Fox at 952.890.9465, ext. 112 if you have questions.

◆ ◆ ◆ **IT WAS SO MUCH FUN!** ◆ ◆ ◆

THE CHILDREN'S SHOPPING SPREE



Thank you to all the children who participated in the Children's Shopping Spree. It was a fun morning filled with shopping, wrapping and visiting with Santa. Also thank you to all the teen and adult volunteers. This event couldn't happen without you. Because of you the shopping spree was a HUGE success!



◆ ◆ ◆ **CATHOLIC SINGLE ADULTS CLUB** ◆ ◆ ◆

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER/DANCE

The Catholic Single Adults Club of the Twin Cites invites all single Catholics, 21 and older, for their annual Christmas dinner and dance on Saturday, Jan. 2. Social hour begins at 5:30pm and dancing at 8pm. The cost for dinner and dancing is \$20 or for the dance only is \$10. Dinner reservations are required by Friday, Dec. 18. Dinner choices are bacon-wrapped chicken kiev or 10 piece jumbo shrimp. For reservation information call Carl at 651.603.1412.

◆ ◆ ◆ REFLECTION ◆ ◆ ◆

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pretty practical advice from John the Baptist in this week’s Gospel: if you have two cloaks, share one; if you have food, do the same; be honest, don’t cheat; don’t lie about others.

Practical advice is the kind of thing elders would dole out to children and grandchildren. Be polite; wait your turn; say “thank you”; wash your hands before meals; take a walk; have regular check-ups. You know the routine.

While the simple practical advice of our elders was meant to situate us in a wholesome life that was respectful of self and others, the practical advice of John the Baptist has a great end in mind. The actions he promotes are directed toward the coming kingdom of God. John’s vision takes in the whole world and extends beyond his moment in time. He is foreseeing a day when God’s justice will reign supreme. He is asking his listeners to begin now to make that justice happen.

The kind things we do at this time of year are to be more than simple acts of charity. Donating food, bringing gifts for the poor, contributing to agencies that help those in need are all good things. But if we see our actions for what they can be—giving from what has been given to us to the many who have less—we then begin to understand our place in the kingdom of God. If we have more than someone else, it is always incumbent on us to share. That is the practical advice that John lays out for his listeners as preparation for the coming of the Messiah. And just to make it clear, John adds that this Messiah is coming with his winnowing fan to separate wheat from chaff. God’s justice will not be denied.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Last week’s donations:

Envelopes.....	\$30,152
Simple Giving electronic donations	\$2,362
Total donations	\$32,514
Weekly revenue budget	\$32,625
Under budget.....	\$111
Budget year-to-date	-\$60,288

SIMPLE GIVING CHRISTMAS DEDUCTIONS

If your contributions to St. John’s are deducted through *Simple Giving*, our automatic transfer program, please note that your Christmas contribution will be deducted on **Tuesday, Dec. 15**. If you would like more information about our *Simple Giving* program, go to our website at www.stjohns-savage.org.