





My prayers this holy season are for all of you and your families.

I thank you all for your generous support of St. John the
Baptist church throughout the years. May the Incarnate God,
Son of Mary, bless you in this holy time and new year. On
behalf of Fr. Antonio Kim and the Korean Catholic Community,
my staff, Aggie Howard, Victoria Scruggs, Gina Bishop, and
John Huffman, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a
Blessed, Happy New Year!
In Jesus through Mary,
Fr. Andrew Kozminski



The Mass is available on St. John's Facebook page or YouTube channel, Saint John the Baptist, Cbus. Go to our website: www.sjbitaliana.com under Livestream Mass.

Confessions Heard before Mass Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday	December 24, 2022, 4:00 p.m.	
Lector 1 & 2:	Ed Pagnanelli, Gabe Bishop	
Euch. Min 1 & 2.:	Ed Pagnanelli, Pat Rossetti	
Sunday	December 25, 2022, 9:30 a.m.	
Lector 1 & 2:	Kurt Heininger, Gretchen Heininger	
Euch. Min 1 & 2.:	Antonio D'Alberto, Sharon D'Alberto	
Sunday	January 1, 2023, 9:30 a.m.	
Lector 1 & 2:	Valerie Milano, Krissy Ciacchi	
Euch. Min 1 & 2:	Al Iosue, Ed Pagnanelli	

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Saturday 12/24	4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil	Tony Solazzo by Irene Solazzo and Family		
Sunday 12/25	9:30 a.m.	Karen Mikalonis by Heininger Family		
Monday 12/26		NO MASS		
Tuesday 12/27	9:00 a.m.	Edoardo Cua by Michael Cua		
Sunday 1/1	9:30 a.m.	James Graf by Louise Masdea		
Monday 1/2		NO MASS		
Tuesday 1/3	9:00 a.m.	Joann Paesano by Gary & Molly Sheldon		
Sunday 1/8	9:30 a.m.	Nestor & Rose Susi by Michael and Kerree Susi		

PARISH INFORMATION

The Italian Catholic Community at
St. John the Baptist
Corner of E. Lincoln and Hamlet Streets
Church Mailing Address: 168 E. Lincoln Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 294-5319

Fax: (614) 294-4303 Livestream our 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on our St. John the Baptist Facebook page or YouTube channel, Saint John the Baptist Cbus, by visiting our website, www.sjbitaliana.com

Office Hours are from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Closed for Christmas Monday, December 26, and will reopen Tuesday, December 27, 2022. Closed for New Year's Day, Friday, December 30, 2022, and Monday, January 2, reopening Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Email: info@sjbitaliana.org

Father Andrew Kozminski, SAC – Administrator/Rector Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant

Ms. Victoria Scruggs - Secretary and Bulletin Editor

Ms. Gina Bishop — Director of Liturgy

Mr. John Huffman – Organist and Musical consultant

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – 9:30 a.m. each Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mondays & Tuesdays

Sacrament of Penance – 9:00 a.m. (before Sunday Mass or by appointment)

Sacrament of Baptism and Baptism preparation (by appointment)

Sacrament of Matrimony (you must be registered at Saint John at least 6 months prior to scheduling your wedding by Deacon or Priest)

Sacrament of Confirmation and Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults

(please make an appointment with Parish Administrator)

Saint John Italian Festival

(please visit our website for more information)

Sala Hall and Marrapese Hall (scheduled with approval of Parish Administrator)

Bulletin Deadline: Announcements must be submitted in writing by **Tuesday** at **noon**.

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Angela & Mariano Ventresca

by Irene Solazzo & Family

Blessed Sacrament: Carlo & Monica Ventresca

by Carol Ventresca

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For Vienna D'Alberto, who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village. Also, keep in your prayers Laura Williams, Guy Williams, John Contino and Tony Caradonna.

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: We begin the Rosary around 9:00-9:05 a.m., and it takes about 15-20 minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact Kevin Koesters at 937-902-7446 or via email at k.koesters32@gmail.com. Leaders for December and January are:

December 25 Albert Iosue
January 1 Kevin Koesters
January 8 Maureen Iosue

EVENTS THIS WEEK

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12/24	SJB Christmas Vigil – SJB Church
Saturday	4:00 p.m.
	KCC Christmas Vigil – Fr. Kim – SJB Church
	8:00 p.m10:30 p.m. Meeting in Sala Hall
12/25	SJB - Mass - Fr. Andrew Kozminski
Sunday	9:30 a.m.
	KCC Sunday Mass – Fr. Kim
	12:00 p.m. – Meeting in Sala Hall after Mass
12/26	Office Closed
Monday	No Mass
12/27	SJB - Mass Fr. Andrew Kozminski
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. – SJB Church
12/29	SH Young Professionals Meeting – Fr. Kozminski
Thursday	<u>– Italian Cultural Room</u>
	7:00 p.m8:30 p.m.
12/30	KCC Mass – Fr. Kim
Friday	6:00 p.m. – SJB Church
12/31	Dennis/Osborne Wedding - SJB
Saturday	5:30 p.m. – Fr. Frank Brown Celebrant
	Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the
	Month - Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

December 18, 2022

will be posted in the Bulletin for January 1, 2023.

SJB Collection Counters for Tuesday, December 27, 2022 Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters for Tuesday, January 3, 2023
Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard

Altar Guild: The Altar Guild Ohio State bowl game pool sold out in just two days, so a big thank-you to all who signed up. Pool numbers were drawn after Mass the second Sunday in December. The annual Super Bowl pool will go on sale the last Sunday of December/first Sunday of January. Cost will be \$50.00 per square, with winning payouts of \$1,000.00 per quarter. Good luck to all who participate and a sincere thanks for supporting the Altar Guild's ongoing efforts to fund items for our beloved church.

<u>PAVERS:</u> The front <u>Pavilion</u> of <u>St. John's Church</u> is covered with <u>Pavers</u>. These <u>Pavers</u> are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information, please call the office of <u>St. John's</u> at <u>614-294-5319</u>.

Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Vigil	Church	Mass Time
December 24	Sacred Heart	6:00 p.m.
	St. John	4:00 p.m.
Christmas Day	Church	Mass Time
December 25	Sacred Heart	11:00 a.m.
	St. John	9:30 a.m.
New Year's Eve	Church	Mass Time
New Year's Eve December 31	Church Sacred Heart	Mass Time 4:00 p.m.
	Sacred Heart	4:00 p.m.
December 31	Sacred Heart St. John	4:00 p.m. No Mass

The La Befana Celebration will be January 8, 2023, after 9:30 a.m. Mass in Marrapese Hall. Please bring children, grandchildren and enjoy this beautiful Italian tradition. Sponsored by the Le Donne.

Where Are My Offertory Envelopes? The company that manufactures envelopes for our parish informed us of a manufacturing issue that is forcing production to run at a significantly slower pace. This delay is affecting the delivery of envelopes across the country. If you have not received your shipment of envelopes for **December**, please submit your weekly offering in an envelope that has your name and address displayed on the front of the envelope. Thank you for your cooperation.



Q: What does Santa do when the reindeer drive too fast? A: Hold on for deer life.

Proverbs 15:15: "For the despondent, every day brings trouble; for the happy heart, life is a continual feast."

AROUND US

Liturgical Year: The first **24** days of **December** fall during the liturgical season known as of **Advent** and are represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remaining days of **December** mark the beginning of the **Christmas** season. The liturgical color changes to white or gold — a symbol of joy, purity, and innocence. The month of **December** is dedicated to the **Immaculate Conception**.

<u>Museum Membership Opportunities:</u> Consider becoming a member of the Museum and encouraging your fellow parishioners to do so. Membership includes:

- Admission to the **Museum** for one year.
- Discounts for offsite events.
- VIP preference for events.
- Three special members-only evening events.

A family membership is \$200.00 a year and includes two adults and their children who are 18 and younger. An individual membership is \$120.00 a year and includes one other unnamed adult.

Christmas Catholic Charities Collection: This annual collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations including J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Center, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the Catholic Charities collection this year.

Nominations now open for the 2023 Catholic Man of the Year: The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is accepting nominations for the Diocese of Columbus 2023 Catholic Man of the Year. The annual award will be presented by Bishop Earl Fernandes on Friday, February 3, 2023, at the Men's Luncheon held at St. Patrick Church in Downtown Columbus. The Catholic Man of the Year is awarded to one layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." The recipient will have the opportunity to share his personal testimony during the ceremony.

Nominations will be accepted through **December 31, 2022**. For details, nomination instructions and the required online nomination form, go to https://www.catholicmensministry.com/catholic-manof-the-year. Submit your nomination and let us know why your parishioner, husband, father, son, uncle, brother, or friend is the **Catholic Man of the Year!**

Museum of Catholic Art and History: Nativity Displays are at the Diocesan Museum. Join us for our annual Nativity display at the diocesan Museum of Catholic Art and History. Be inspired and see our five hundred Nativity sets representing cultures from all over the world. The display will be open until January 9. The Museum's hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Adult admission is \$10.00, and students/seniors are \$5.00. The Museum is in the Catholic Foundation building at 257 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215. Call 614-618-4030 for more information.

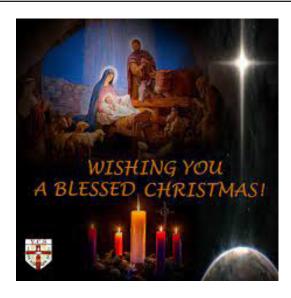
Christmas Season: The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with Him...including the fact that He was born to die for us. The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends to honor God the Father's gift of His only Son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

Today's Gospel: Today, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Nativity the Lord, the Birth of Jesus Christ, and the First Day in the Octave of Christmas. Throughout Advent, the Church longed ardently for the coming of our Savior. Today, she celebrates His birth with unrestrained joy. "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." The Son of God became man to give us a share in that divine life which is eternally His in the Blessed Trinity. Christmas time begins on **December 24** with the first **Vespers** of the feast and ends on the feast of the **Baptism of Christ**. White vestments reappear in our churches as a sign of joy. The Christmas feast is a festival full of joy. The **Eternal Word** has become Man and dwells among us. The longings of the patriarchs and prophets are fulfilled. With the shepherds, we hurry to the manger and adore the Incarnate Son of God, who for us and for our salvation descended upon earth. The purpose of the Christmas feast is beautifully expressed in the Preface of the Nativity: "For by the mystery of the Word made flesh the light of Thy glory hath shone anew upon the eyes of our mind; so that while we acknowledge Him a God seen by men, we may be drawn by Him to the love of things unseen."



"I invite you to pray, before the creche, that the Nativity of the Lord will bring a ray of peace to children all over the world, especially those forced to live the terrible and dark days of war."

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"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel..." Matthew 1:23

Prayer

God, our loving Father, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to counter all the forces of evil: sin, suffering and death, and to overcome evil with the force of good; hatred with the power of love, Your great love for us in Jesus.

Help us to be instruments of Your light and love by doing one special act of kindness or by being Your instrument of reconciliation this **New Year**.

May the **Christ Candle** we light symbolize our desire to bring light into a world of darkness and hope into a world of despair.

We ask this through **Christ, Our Lord**. **Amen.**

Sunday, Dec 25, 2022

Jubilee, every day!

Christmas is the only day of the year designated as "merry." While most birthdays are declared "happy" in the celebration of life, the birth of God among us recommends merriment: a festival of delight, high spirits, good fellowship, and feasting. Yet Saint Théophane Vénard observed that our faith asks even more of us: "Try to fulfill each day's tasks steadily and cheerfully. Be merry, really merry. The life of a true Christian should be a perpetual jubilee, a prelude to the festivals of eternity." Capture the spirit of Christmas in your being. Resolve to bring joy to the world, every day of the year.

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) TODAY'S READINGS: Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (14); Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 (16). "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."

Monday, Dec 26, 2022

A day for renewed commitment

Advent is full of anticipation that finally culminates on Christmas. But once the Savior is here, there's no time to wait to start Christianity's mission. So today we honor the first martyr of the faith, Saint Stephen, who was stoned to death. One of the first followers of the apostles, chosen by them to serve as a deacon, Stephen preached and performed miracles and forgave his attackers (Saul, later Saint Paul, among them) before dying. As we get ready to start a new year, let Stephen inspire you to reflect on your baptismal call to spread the gospel and how you might renew your efforts in word and witness.

FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696). "You will be hated by all because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved."

Tuesday, Dec 27, 2022

Love remains

What should your true love gift you on the third day of Christmas? How about the reminder that Saint John was the "beloved disciple" of Jesus? So beloved that Jesus—even as he was dying on the cross—entrusted his own mother to John's tender care: "'Woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother'" (John 19:26). As the dust settles on our often hectic celebrations of Christmas, remember that "faith, hope, and love remain . . . but the greatest of these is love." So don't fret if your holiday feast doesn't include a Martha Stewart masterpiece; simple love should be the main course—and makes for the best leftovers.

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). "Beloved: What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen . . . and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life."

Wednesday, Dec 28, 2022

Dry every tear

In the midst of celebrating the great octave of Christmas we are reminded that Jesus was born into a world much like our own: filled with violence and terror, impacting especially the most vulnerable. Pope Francis stated in his 2016 address for the Feast of the Holy Innocents: "Christmas is . . . accompanied, whether we

like it or not, by tears.... It is the sobbing of mothers bewailing the death of their children in the face of Herod's tyranny and unbridled thirst for power. Today too, we hear this heart-rending cry of pain, which we neither desire nor are able to ignore or to silence." How shall we respond, to bring some comfort to those who grieve?

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18 (698). "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you."

Thursday, Dec 29, 2022

No disposable lives

"Will no one rid me of this turbulent priest?" Those words are attributed to King Henry II. This provocative question signaled to Henry's armed forces that Bishop Thomas [Becket] of Canterbury should be killed. And so he was. Catholic teaching tells us that every single life is precious, whether a bishop or a pauper. On this memorial of Saint Thomas Becket, consider ways our community can reject the notion of ridding ourselves of turbulent human beings—be they convicts, the bedridden, or other troublesome or inconvenient lives.

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP, MARTYR TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35 (202). "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel."

Friday, Dec 30, 2022

All in the family

Families come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. One thing they all share, however, is that they are not perfect. "Perfect families do not exist," said Pope Francis in a 2015 address. "This must not discourage us. Quite the opposite. Love is something we learn; love is something we live; love grows as it is 'forged' by the concrete situations which each particular family experiences. Love is born and constantly develops amid lights and shadows." As we remember the Holy Family, let us also recommit ourselves to this kind of love within all our family experiences.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (17). "And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection."

Saturday, Dec 31, 2022

Slow down to celebrate

Part of the wisdom coming to us from our long church tradition is found in the realization that some mysteries take a while to unfold. That is why during the Christmas season we celebrate the great mystery of God in the world for an entire octave, the eight days between Christmas and the solemnity tomorrow of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. As we approach the end of this great celebration, ponder for a few moments how the mystery of this event has unfolded for you this year. And take a moment to feel the joy of Christmas once again.

SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18 (204). "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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