

June 24, 2018

## The Nativity of St. John the Baptist Solemnity



### “What, Then, Will This Child Be?”

The solemnity of the Nativity of John the Baptist is six months before the solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord.

Since the early Church, John the Baptist has been revered as one of the greatest saints. He is the one who is the precursor of Jesus, the Word made flesh. John the Baptist proclaimed a baptism of repentance. He said, “I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals on his feet.”

Today’s Bulletin is in memory of  
Emmie & George Michalec  
sponsored by Mary & Ray Michalec.

Flowers for the Altar this weekend are donated  
by the Evelyn & Frank Darilek Family.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, June 27

8:00 a.m. Maynard Reinders

Thursday, June 28

8:00 a.m. Spec. Int. – Fr. Gabriel’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Friday, June 29

8:00 a.m. Margaret Satsky Berckenhoff

Saturday, June 30

6:30 p.m. Georgia & Isidor Kalisek

Sunday, July 1

6:30 a.m. Frank Heinrich

9:30 a.m. Irene & George Leininger

### PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading:** Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 30

**Second Reading:** 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15

**Gospel:** Mark 5:21-43

The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week  
in memory of Annie Mae Dierschke.

### ST. JOSEPH’S SOCIAL CENTER UPDATE



We thank God for the blessing of the much needed rain this week. It delayed the construction a couple of days but the crew is back on site. They began installing studs and erected the beams to join the three sections of the building together.

*Please note that the playground at the Youth Center is closed for the Summer to ensure the safety of the children during this period of construction.*

### Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles – June 29 Solemnity

These two most eminent apostles are venerated throughout the Christian world: Peter as the great evangelist to the Jews and Paul as apostle to the Gentiles. In the early Church, the witness of Saints Peter and Paul was regarded as the same, according to Clement of Rome and the historian Eusebius of Caesarea. Peter and Paul were martyred in Rome at about the same time, perhaps the year 67. It is no surprise, therefore, that the Church honors their martyrdom together in this solemnity.

### ST. JOSEPH’S QUILTING CIRCLE UPDATE

The ladies have begun quilting their third quilt for this year’s picnic. They meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have some free time and would like to help quilt contact Betty Maskey.



*We thank the anonymous donor for the five tubs of quilting material they donated recently. It will be put to good use.*

### Praha Pancake Sunday Next Sunday, July 1



Free breakfast sponsored by the Praha Altar Society will be served after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 10:30 a.m. in Praha. Free will offerings will be appreciated.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

TUESDAY – Quilting Group Meets, Quilting Room

THURSDAY – Quilting Group Meets, Quilting Room  
– KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall.

FRIDAY – Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral emergency, call the Parish Office at any time.

Remember the sick in your prayers,  
especially Irene Portales

## REFLECTION

### Born To Be The Front-Runner

We hear the prophet Isaiah speak of a “servant” of God in our First Reading today. From the beginning God called, fashioned and offered the “servant” an important place in extending the glory and kingship of God. The “servant” hears that he is not to toil merely for the restoration and union of Israel, but to open the way for the light to the “nations” that is beyond the borders of God’s chosen people. Salvation is going to come to all the world and this “servant” is going to toil for the coming of that salvation.

The Second Reading is a little historical review about how God has been preparing for the light of Jesus. Here too John is saying of himself he is not the Christ.

Today’s Gospel recalls the birth of John, but even more, his naming. Elizabeth and Zechariah are advanced in age and so the lack of fertility was seen as a kind of curse. She is found to be pregnant and when her time for deliverance comes he is born. All come to marvel and give praise to God. The neighbors are from the hill country of Judea. They expect the naming at the circumcision to follow custom. His father, in the previous verses is struck speechless by God for his questioning.

His mother announces his name to be John and his father is given a tablet and writes the same. Upon this writing, his speech returns giving thanks and praise to God. After the naming, John grows up and is the man in waiting for God’s time to be fulfilled.

John is born to be the front-runner, the advance-publicity man for the coming on stage of Jesus. We too are the co-runners who have been radiated by His Light and extend that Light to the ends of our neighborhoods, the end of our abilities, and to the end of our time. We are “servants” whom the Lord has known before we were born and in our life’s time we give birth to Him according to our individual personalities and history. John was born to make known the coming of Jesus. We are born for the remembering of His life, death and Resurrection. We are born to announce that He lives and gives new birth and life to all the nations.

- Larry Gillick, S.J.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



June 25 – Kenneth Filipp

June 26 – Michael Hanslik, Kenton Kirkland, Heather Welfl

June 30 – Mary Lou Dierschke, Pat Lawrence, Paula Self

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

June 25 – Anne & Daniel Raabe

June 28 – Congratulations Mary Ann & Dwight Henry

on your 10<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

– Patricia & Leroy Mikulencak, Jr.

– Nancy & Charles Tomek

## SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

### PETER’S PENCE

This collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the neediest throughout the world – those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters.

*Please be generous.*

## CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD

Our Parish Picnic will be here before you know it – September 16. Here is an update on the Picnic.

**Picnic Chairpersons** look out for a letter in the mail.

**Raffle Tickets** will also be in the mail. Parishioners are being sent two tickets to help sell. Join in the effort for a successful Picnic.

Donation – \$30 32 prizes given away!

**Grand Prize - \$5,000.00 Gift Certificate**

## Liturgy Spotlight

### Prepare the Way

Today we celebrate the solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist. John the Baptist was the great prophet and herald of Jesus the Messiah. He prepared the way of the Lord and revealed Jesus to others as both the Messiah and the Lamb of God. Saint John exemplifies the Christian life as one who proclaims the Gospel message



of healing and repentance while he points out Christ to others and shows them the way to become united with God.

This is an ancient solemnity, reaching back to the fourth century, though the date of the celebration varied in Eastern and Western Churches. In the East, the birth of the forerunner was celebrated on the day after Epiphany, January 7, because of the association of that feast with the Baptism of the Lord. In the West, it was celebrated on June 24, in keeping with Luke 1:36, which notes that Elizabeth was six months pregnant at the time of the Annunciation of the Lord. It is not by coincidence that the birth of John the Baptist falls shortly after the summer solstice (June 21), while Christ’s birth is after the winter solstice (December 22). In the northern hemisphere, June 21 is the longest day of the year; after that, the days will grow shorter and shorter. After the winter solstice, the days will gradually increase in length. Saint Augustine drew a connection between this cosmic pattern and the saint we honor, who said, “he must increase; I must decrease. (John 3:30)

## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual V.B.S. – July 9-13

Plans are underway for another exciting Vacation Bible School. Can’t wait to see what is in store for this year!

**Daily snacks & refreshments** are provided by:

Mon. – Catholic Daughters      Tues. – Altar Society

Wed. – Christian Mothers      Thurs. – K.J.Z.T. Society

Fri. – Knights of Columbus