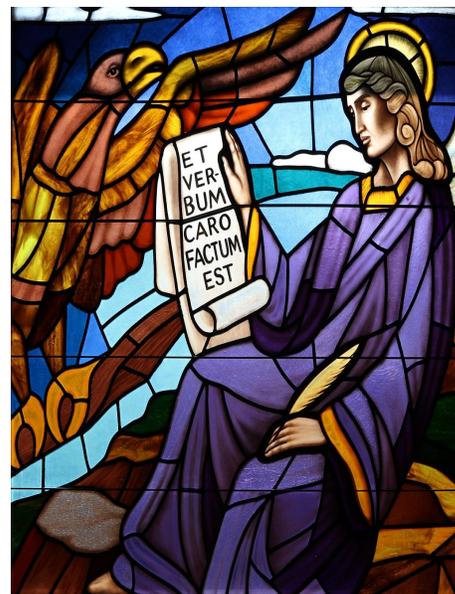
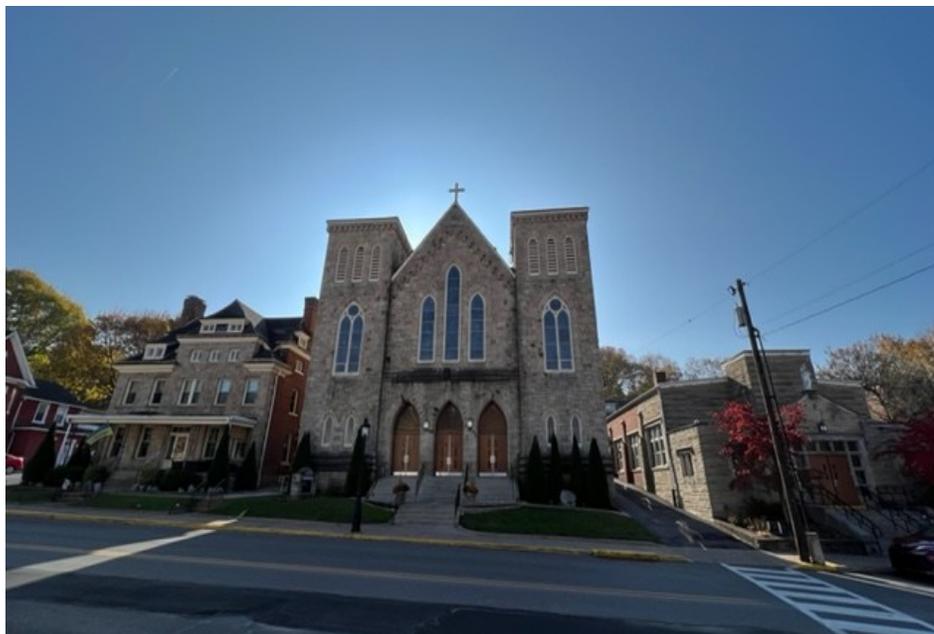


ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

134 East Bishop Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823

December 15th, 2024/ Third Sunday of Advent



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

Weekday: Varies—see weekly

Mass schedule

St. Kateri Church: 12:00 p.m.

Sunday

CONFESSION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

CONTACT US

(814) 355-3134 | saintjohnsoff@gmail.com

www.bellefontecatholicchurch.org

Join us on FlockNote!

Text "SJ814" to the number 84576

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Brian Saylor, Pastor | Deacon Tom Boldin

Fr. Joshi Narisetti, HGN, Parochial Vicar

Lorraine Fello and Rose Truglio: Office Staff

Kristina Tice: St. John School Principal

Tony and Paula Roland: Directors of Rel. Ed.

David Harry: R.C.I.A. Coordinator

Deacon Tom & Shirley Boldin:

Confirmation Directors

Natalie Stanton: Music Ministry Coordinator

Joe Baummer: Maintenance

SACRAMENTS

Confession: Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m.

Baptism: Call the rectory

R.C.I.A.: Call the rectory

**Marriage: Notify pastor 9 months
in advance**

Masses for the week

Saturday, December 14

5:00 PM Alice Buttenschon
(Doug & Sharon Johnson)

Sunday, December 15

8:00 AM Michael Kushwara
(Rose Marie Kushwara)

10:15 AM Reba Files (Rosemary Truglio)

Monday, December 16

9:00 AM Carol Repasky (Nicole Niemi)

Tuesday, December 17

8:00 AM Michael Braddock (Barbara Sevinsky)

Wednesday, December 18

8:00 AM Jack Dowling (Forstmeier Family)

Thursday, December 19

6:00 PM Rose Bolick & Lillian Paskevich
(The Family)

Friday, December 20

8:00 AM Jerry Robine (His Wife)

Saturday, December 21

5:00 PM Shelia Neidigh Frankenfield
(Anspauch, Neidigh & Kowalski Families)

Sunday, December 22

8:00 AM Sick, Dying, Elderly & Caregivers
(Suzanne & Richard Egli)

10:15 AM Living & Deceased Priests & Religious
(CDA Court #448)

Eucharistic Minister/Lector Altar Server/Music

Saturday, December 21 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Connie McCulley/Volunteer
Lector: Marie Lingle
Servers: Cameron Niemann&AJ Cleaver
Music: Folk

Sunday, December 22 8:00 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Louise Manginell/Volunteer
Lector: Kevin Trimpey
Servers: Jonathan Gasper/Matthew DeRemer
Music: Traditional

Sunday, December 22 10:15 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Boldin/Volunteer
Lector: Teresa Jurewicz
Servers: Grayson Evans/Michael Herzing
Music: Youth

Religious Education

CCD grades k-10

Sundays 9-10 AM in the school
December 15th– Class 7th-10th grade Reconciliation
December 22nd-No Class-Merry Christmas
December 29th– No Class-Happy New Year

11th Grade Confirmation Class

Sundays from 11:15 am-12:30 pm in the school auditorium
Sunday, December 15– No Class
Sunday, December 22– 5:00 PM Christmas Party
Sunday, December 29-No Class-Christmas Break

Questions - please contact Deacon Tom & Shirley Boldin at 814-355-4234(H) or text to 814-883-8123 or email at stboldin@verizon.net

BAPTISM CLASS DATES 2024: Families who would like their first child baptized must attend a baptism class. Class dates for 2025 are March 9, June 8, September 14, December 14. For additional information or questions contact Deacon Tom Boldin at 814-355-4234(H) or text to 814-883-8123 or email stboldin@verizon.net

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday, Third Sunday of Advent
Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18
Monday, Advent Weekday
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday
Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday
Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Thursday, Late Advent Weekday
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Friday, Late Advent Weekday
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday, Late Advent Weekday
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Sunday, Fourth Sunday of Advent
Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

EARLY BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

Submissions for the December 29 bulletin need to be emailed to the parish secretary by Wed. December 18. Submissions for the January 5 bulletin need emailed to the parish secretary by Monday December 23rd.

TRAVELING VOCATION CRUCIFIX PROGRAM: The Traveling Vocation Crucifix will began traveling the First Sunday of Advent! The Vocation Crucifix will be available to travel from home to home for one-week intervals. During that week the host family will be asked to make a special effort to pray together with emphasis on an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, as well as a clear understanding as to the vocation Christ is calling each family member. A booklet of prayers will accompany the chalice. Sign-up by calling or emailing the Church Office.

Weekly events

Sunday Dec. 15 **8:30-Noon KOC Breakfast**
6:00 PM Choir Christmas
Concert

Monday Dec. 16 **9:30 AM Adoration**

Thursday Dec. 19 **6:30 PM Healing Through**
Faith

The Knights of Columbus would like to say Thank you to all who donated toys for the Toys for Tots Campaign. They were turned into the Penn Stater Monday December 9th. Thanks for bringing joy to many children!

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST on Sunday, Dec. 15th hosted by the Bellefonte Knights of Columbus. Open to the public from 8:30 am until Noon. Price is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, and free for children under 7. The menu includes orange juice, bacon, sausage, potatoes, eggs, French toast, pancakes, sausage gravy, oatmeal, hot syrup, peaches, waffles, coffee and hot chocolate. We make specialty eggs and Blueberry or Chocolate chip pancakes upon request. Please come enjoy a great breakfast at the Bellefonte Knights of Columbus Home at 315 Stoney Batter (up the hill from Dollar General). Eat in and Take out is available.

JOB OPENING

Good Shepherd Church in Port Matilda, PA has an immediate need for a Facility Manager. This position will be Flex Time averaging 30 hours per week and is benefits-eligible. The schedule will include some early morning, evening and weekend time, based on specific needs. The Facility Manager oversees and guarantees the safety and functionality of the facility. If you are interested or know someone who might be please contact the Parish Office at 814-238-2110 or email jkovacik@dioceseaj.org

Giving Tree Thank You: Thank you so much for your kindness and overwhelming generosity in support of the Christmas Giving Tree Program. Our parish was able to help make Christmas a LOT brighter for over 250 area families and residents. Your gifts helped children and families from the Bellefonte and Bald Eagle Schools. Gifts were also provided for clients of FICS and Parenting Plus. Many residents of Centre Care will also be excited to receive gifts on Christmas morning.

Thank you to everyone who provided gifts and donations for our 29th year of this project. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to move and sort the gifts, load vans, and deliver to schools and agencies. Also, thank You to those who helped behind the scenes with preparations, organization, and deliveries. Have a Merry Christmas and may God bless everyone in the coming year.

Weekly Financial Report

For the Weekend of December 8th, 2024

ORDINARY COLLECTION INCOME RECEIVED:

Adult Offertory (regular & online):	\$ 7,298.15
Loose Offertory:	\$ 1,996.35
Children's Offertory:	\$ 13.00
Special Monthly:	\$ 1,030.00
Christmas	\$ 670.00
Votive Candles:	\$ 158.16
Latin Mass:	\$ 102.00
ORDINARY TOTAL	\$ 11,267.66

EXTRA ORDINARY INCOME RECEIVED:

Maintenance:	\$ 70.00
Local Family Assistance	\$ 0.00
EXTRA ORDINARY TOTAL:	\$ 70.00

ORDINARY & EXTRA TOTAL: **\$ 11,337.66**

SCHOOL COLLECTION: **\$ 330.00**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: (Diocesan or Other)

Catholic Charities	\$ 40.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 280.00
Holy Name of Mary	\$ 155.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 75.00
Retirement Fund Religious	\$ 747.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,745.00

Thank you for your generosity!

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

Dec. 17, 7:00 PM Good Shepherd, Port Matilda

Dec. 18, 6:30 PM Queen of Archangels, Clarence

Dec. 20, 6:00 PM Our Lady of Victory, State College

PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT-Sunday, December

15 at 6:00 PM: A beautiful evening of music with all the music ministers from the parish. Cookie reception to follow in the school auditorium.



St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church

P.O. Box 159, 3503 Penns Valley Rd Spring Mills, PA 16875 | www.stkaterichurch.org | Rev. Brian Saylor, Pastor

Mass is celebrated Sunday at 12:00 Noon | Confession: 1st Sunday after Mass (1:00 pm)

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday December 15

12:00 PM Joseph & Pauline Bosak
(Phil & Kathy Bosak)

Sunday December 22

12:00 PM In memory of Ann Butz
(Her Family)

LECTOR SCHEDULE

December 15 Shelly Ash
December 22 Millie Turner

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

December 15 Deb Cusatis
December 22 Sandy Rockey

Poinsettias for Christmas: There are envelopes by the collection basket for Donations for Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas.

WEEKLY COLLECTION TOTALS (regular & online)

December 1, 2024 \$1,403.00
December 8, 2024 \$1,301.00

HOSPITALITY

December 15 Christmas Pageant & Church Dinner
December 22 No Hospitality– Merry Christmas
December 29 No Hospitality– Happy New Year

ROSARY at St. Kateri is prayed before Mass most Sundays beginning at 11:30 am. Why not come a little early to church that day to pray the rosary to Our Lady with us! Contact Millie Turner (mlt3557@verizon.net) if you would like to lead the rosary on occasion.

COMMUNION SERVICE

There will be a Communion Service this Tuesday, December 17 at 11:00AM. followed by Adoration.

CCD SCHEDULE

December 15-CCD-Christmas pageant during Mass/
dinner afterward
December 22-No CCD Merry Christmas

ST. KATERI CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & CHUCH DINNER: On Sunday December 15, during Mass, the CCD students will be performing their annual Christmas pageant. After Mass there will be a Christmas dinner. The church provides the meat and drinks. Bring a dish to pass that goes with turkey and ham. Or bring some Christmas cookies for dessert. All are welcome! Let's celebrate Christ's birth together!!

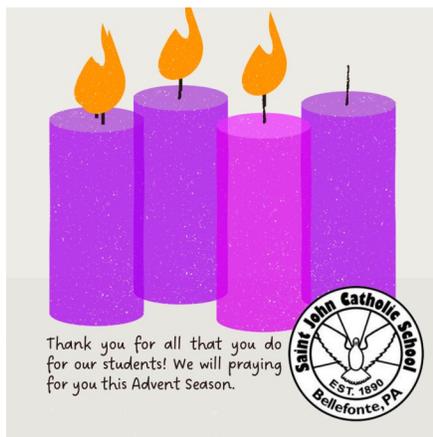
OPLATKI WAFER is a popular, family-centered Christmas tradition enjoyed by families from Eastern Europe. The Oplatki tradition originated in Poland and is traced to the early centuries of Christianity. This Christmas custom began with a simple white wafer baked from flour and water. Today, Oplatki wafers are very thin with a look and feel not unlike a communion host. Each wafer is rectangular in shape with a Christmas image pressed into them, such as the Nativity, the Star of Bethlehem, or the Holy Family. In English this word means "Angel Bread." In America the tradition is sometimes simply called "Christmas Wafers." Whatever the country, many nationalities have come to love this warm and wonderful Christian tradition!

The Christmas wafer tradition began because the word "Bethlehem" means "House of Bread." The breaking of bread has long been a sign of charity, unity, and friendship in many cultures. The Oplatki reminds us of this symbol of communion common to humanity, as well as in a fuller way the Eucharistic meal that Catholics participate in at each Mass. Just as Christians share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ, the Oplatki wafer allows for one's family to come together and share the love they have for one another.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store: December Specials

- 50% off framed wall art
- \$5 Christmas Sweaters. Check out our large selection of Holiday Decor & Apparel.
- Cold weather is here. We have lots of warm Winter Coats, Vests, Blazers & Snow/Ski Apparel.
- Beautiful Leather Coats are featured in our Boutique.
- Scrapbook BOGO Sale: All scrapbook supplies now Buy One, Get One Free.
- That Special Gift: The Thrift Store has a number of excellent gift items (many brand new) that are featured at prices that are a fraction of retail or even online prices for similar pieces. Stocking Stuffers are also included, smaller items perfect for child—or adult stockings.

Please consider volunteering with the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store. Visit the Store at 1300 Benner Pike, open Monday thru Saturday, 10:00am to 4:00pm, and speak to the Day Manager if you would like more information about volunteering.



MEMORIALS & DONATIONS

School Collection (November): \$2,368

Angel Fund Donation: Genevieve Robine

Alumni Donation: J. Ronald Hughes

General Donation: Sam Cross

Memorial donations for Glenn Barry McMullin: Rob & Kate Baker, Ken and Carol Boland, William Douglass, Christine Ebeling Family, Marybeth Smith

Thank you to all of our benefactors and God bless your generosity to and support of our school!

A SPECIAL THANKS Thank you to Mr. Mark Rhine for making our feast of Saint Nick extra special on Friday.

TWINKLE TUESDAYS

This Advent season, our students are excited to again spread joy throughout the community with our Twinkle Tuesdays initiative. Through donations, we aim to support Children and Youth Services, Out of the Cold - Centre County, as well as a member of our school family who is bravely battling cancer. In line with our school-wide theme of being "Saints in the Making", we strive to live out the spirit of compassion, kindness, and service, bringing light and hope to those in need. Together, we can make a difference and reflect Christ's love to the world.

WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL? Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you'll make. At Saint John Catholic School, we provide a unique, nurturing environment where faith, academics, and community support your child's growth.

FAITH: At the heart of our school is a strong spiritual foundation. We believe in educating the whole child—mind, body, and spirit—providing a safe, supportive environment where your child can grow in their faith and moral character.

ACADEMICS: Our academic program is both rigorous and enriching, blending current technology and curriculum with time-honored teaching methods. Our dedicated teachers ensure that each child is challenged and supported in their learning, helping them achieve their academic potential while fostering a lifelong love of learning.

SERVICE: We emphasize the importance of service and community, instilling values of empathy, compassion, and the joy of giving back. Through service projects, students gain hands-on experience in making a positive impact, all while developing a deep sense of responsibility to society. With small class sizes, our teachers truly get to know each student, creating a close-knit, family-like atmosphere. ,

Teachers form meaningful connections with students and their families, allowing for a personalized and holistic approach to education.

We invite you to experience the Saint John difference. Contact us today to schedule a tour and discover how we prepare students for academic success and a fulfilling life of faith, purpose, and service. Together, we'll shape tomorrow's leaders. 814-355-7859
www.saintjohnsch.net | sjadmin@saintjohnsch.net

EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credit)

Let your PA tax dollars help Saint John School! We have partnered with RedefinED Advisors to help local businesses and individuals direct 90% of their already owed tax dollars to help Saint John School through the Educational Improvement Credit (EITC). Please contact Hayley Wounkin if you are interested in learning more or share her information with an individual or business you know that might be interested.

- Redefiningeducation.org
- 814-505-9835
- hayley@redefiningeducation.org

GIFT SUGGESTION

Are you at a loss for gift suggestions for the relative who has everything? Saint John Catholic School would be so grateful if you'd consider giving a donation to our school in honor or memory of a loved one. This can be done into the general budget or as a donation to the Angel Fund. Money given to the Angel Fund is used to assist with the tuition of a student(s) or request that the school administration choose the recipient(s). To make a donation, please call the school office.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE AWARD

Each year during Catholic Schools Week, we honor an alum of Saint John School with the National Catholic Educational Association Distinguished Graduate Award. This award, that honors the achievements of Catholic elementary school graduates, was created as "a means of highlighting the people, who as adults, put into practice the values and ideals they learned in their Catholic elementary school." We are currently accepting nominations for this year's award. If you would like to nominate a former graduate of our school for this recognition, please send your nomination to sjadmin@saintjohnsch.net.

