THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

“Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.”

Acts 13:25
NEW PARISHIONERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
Call or come to the Parish Center to register.

BAPTISMS: Dates for Baptism will be arranged after attending the Pre-Baptismal Catechesis. Call Annette in the Parish Office for information.

MARRIAGES: Call Annette in the Parish Office to arrange preparation 6 months in advance.

SICK CALLS: Call Annette in the Parish Office and Ministers of Care will visit the sick or shut-in.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:20-4:40PM in the Reconciliation Room.

FOOD PANTRY: Our pantry is open Wednesdays from 9AM-12PM. Call 630.393.2400 x 112.

FUNERALS: The Pastoral Staff works with families to plan the Funeral Mass.

SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES: Call Dwight Sherman at 630.393.3221 or 630.362.1324.

CRISIS PRAYER CHAIN: Contact Deacon Joe Urso at 630.853.2070 at joe.urso@outlook.com.

Staff Directory

PARISH CENTER: 28W441 Warrenville Rd.
Warrenville, IL 60555

PHONE: 630.393.2400

FAX: 630.393.9680

WEB: www.st-irene.org

E-MAIL: parishoffice@st-irene.org

PASTOR: Rev. James Antiporek x 113

DEACONS: Brad Hentz - brad@st-irene.org
Bill Murphy - murphy807@aol.com
Joe Urso x 130 - joe@st-irene.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Annette Kubalanza x 122

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ryan Matthew Rump x 118

BUSINESS MANAGER: Richard Kaffka x 114

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Pat Jackowiak x 110
Shari Meyers x 110

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
1-6 GRADE COORDINATOR: Jacqueline Skelly x 121

7th & 8th GRADE COORDINATOR: Pamela Keating x 120

SCHOOL: 3S601 Warren Avenue

PHONE: 630.393.9303

FAX: 630.393.7009

WEB: www.st-ireneschool.org

PRINCIPAL: Maggie Detwiler x 136

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Julie Duquette x 116

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Reflecting on God’s Word

Luke’s infancy narrative would make a wonderful opera. One song leads to another, beginning with Elizabeth’s joyful greeting to Mary, then Mary’s Magnificat, followed by Zechariah’s song at John’s birth, climaxing with the angels’ hymn at Christ’s birth, and gently closing with old Simeon’s canticle in the temple.

Today we focus on the event that motivated Zechariah’s great song of praise, the birth of John the Baptist. To appreciate this story we must remember the events leading up to what we hear in the Gospel. The archangel Gabriel had appeared to the priest Zechariah as he was offering incense in the temple, telling him that he and his long-barren wife, Elizabeth, would finally have their prayers answered with a son who would do great things for God. Quite taken aback, Zechariah asked how he could know this to be true. Wrong question! For doubting, he was made mute.

Just as Elizabeth gave birth to a son, Zechariah gave birth to a song, one of the most beautiful in scripture, recognizing “the Lord, the God of Israel who has visited and brought redemption to his people,” and hailing his infant child as one who would be called “the prophet of the Most High, going before the Lord to prepare his way” (see Luke 1:68–79). John, of course, would go into the desert to sing his own song: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” And, in the fullness of time, Jesus, God’s love song to the world, came, and the singing still goes on.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

Eucharistic Adoration

- Join us on Thursdays from 7:30AM-8PM. Please sign up for a 1/2 hour or a 1 hour segment by calling Cathy Kott at 630.393.9543.

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LIVING GOD’S WORD: God of all creation, from the beginning creation sang as you brought the world from chaos into light. Throughout the story of Israel, men and women raised their voices in praise. In Jesus you sang your song of love to us. May our voices join the joyful song with all the angels and saints.

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Mass Schedule
- Daily: M-F 7AM
- Saturday: 5PM
- Sunday: 8AM & 10AM

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June 24, 2018

Reflecting on God’s Word

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June 24, 2018                        THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST                    PAGE THREE

It's midsummer day! We have the advantage of celebrating one of the great hidden treasures of our liturgical calendar on a Sunday this year. There are only three “nativity” feasts on our calendar: for the Lord, the Blessed Mother (September 8), and today’s birth of the Baptist. Today’s date is anchored by the Annunciation (March 25), when Mary learns not only of her own child’s advent, but of Elizabeth’s child. We are exactly half a year away from Christmas Eve. There are strong traditions around this feast. Just as the winter solstice provides a rich vocabulary for Christmas, so does the abundance of light at midsummer inform this celebration. Just as at Christmas, a religious festival spills over into culture. As summer light reaches its peak, the sun-drenched zones of northern Europe see people staying up all night, lighting “St. John’s fires” in the long summer twilight. Bonfires seem to be the unifying force in all these celebrations, kindled along the shores of the St. Lawrence in Quebec and Montreal, with harbor illuminations in France. You may be most interested in the custom in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Baptist’s own city. People there will leap into the sea between midnight and dawn to honor John. Why not find your way to a pool, a lake, or a sandy beach today and plunge in to recall your baptism? It’s a tradition!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

What is the R.C.I.A.?
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—it is the way the Catholic Church welcomes new members.

Who is it for?
Primarily this Rite is for unbaptized adults and children of school age; however, it has been adapted for those adults and children baptized in other Christian denominations who seek membership in the Catholic Church.

What about baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist? Adults seeking these Sacraments will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Christian Initiation is the responsibility of the entire faith community. If you are interested in becoming active in this dynamic ministry, phone Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122 for information.

Inquiry sessions: These sessions are ongoing.

Thanks to all who participated in operation rice bowl. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

School Supplies

The churches of Warrenville once again will collect school supplies for the needy children in our community. This year St. Irene has been assigned 55 5th grade students. We will collect the school supplies through Sunday, July 22nd. This year we will distribute “supply packs”, therefore there is no need to purchase backpacks.

♦ 1 Box- CRAYOLA Crayons - 24 count
♦ 1 pkg colored pencils
♦ 1 black sharpie
♦ 2 yellow highlighters
♦ 2 dry erase markers
♦ 20 Sharpened Wood Pencils - #2 regular
♦ 1 Box CRAYOLA Washable Markers - Broad tip, Assorted colors (8 ct)
♦ 4 Spiral Notebook - Wide rule, Single subject 8 1/2 X 11” (70 sheets)
♦ 6 Individual Vinyl Folders with 2 pockets - No Rings, No Trappers, No Portfolios, Plain (1) each Purple, Red, Yellow, Green, Blue & Orange
♦ 1 pink Pearl eraser
♦ 1 Scissors - Fiskars (steel blade)
♦ 1 - 4 oz ELMER’S White School Glue
♦ 1 - Glue Stick
♦ 1 pkg. index cards
♦ 1 pair of earbuds

We will sort and pack the supplies on Wednesday, July 25th at 10AM in the ACL. The block party will be on Saturday, July 28th at Johnson school from 5-7PM. If you can help distributing the supplies or manning our treat table, phone Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122 or sign up in the narthex.

Thank you for your generosity.

Treasures from our Tradition
Whole Parish Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Reading I: Isaiah 49:1-6
♦ I will make you a light for the nations.

Background: This is the second of the four “servant of the Lord” oracles. The servant’s vocation extends beyond restoration of Israel to bring the knowledge of God to the rest of the earth. More than a servant, God will make you a light to the nations; one that will reach far and wide and steadily.

Reading II: Acts 13:22-26
♦ Jesus descended from a man after God’s own heart, David.

Background: John’s proclamations were made to all those born into Judaism or those who joined. David, John and Jesus participated in the fulfillment of God’s plan. John accepted his calling, not for his own sake, but for God’s glory. John the Baptist brought a baptism of repentance in preparation as he heralded Jesus’ coming.

♦ The hand of the Lord was with John.

Background: John is established by the report of his circumcision as wholly part of he people of Israel. This is important to note so that Luke can argue that Christianity is the direct descendant of Pharisaic Judaism. Luke is the only evangelist who reports the birth of Jesus. All of them report on John’s mission. In contrast to the large gathering welcoming Zechariah’s and Elizabeth’s newborn, John, Mary and Joseph were on the road with no place to stay at Jesus’ birth. God chose John’s name

Theme: God’s promises will be fulfilled.

Question for Adults:
When and where have you seen God’s promises fulfilled? How did it make you feel?

Question for Youth:
How do you think people received John’s news that Jesus’ arrival was at hand? What fears, doubts, or joys do you think they experienced at the news?

Question for Children:
How did you feel when you first heard about Jesus?

Many thanks to all the people who made our Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School an inspired success! We had over 100 students participate in our action packed week of praise, worship, song, dance, games, crafts and growing closer to Jesus.

St. Irene volunteers are helping to feed the hungry at Hesed House in Aurora this summer. No cooking involved, just setting up, serving lunch and cleaning up. Shifts are from 10AM-1PM on Monday, June 25 and Friday, June 29. "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40.

For more information or to serve, please contact Marge at mpst37@aol.com or 630.851.3708.

SAVE THE DATE!
ST. IRENE ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018
BLISS CREEK GOLF CLUB, Sugar Grove
1PM Shotgun Start

We are currently looking for silent auction donations, sponsors, and volunteers.

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING!
For more information or to help, contact Scott Reid or Shannon Nevins at saint.irene.athleticboard@gmail.com
Are you looking for an education change for your children?

St. Irene School welcomes you to consider us for the 2018/2019 school year. There are openings in all grades, Pre-K through 8th Grade. Public school transfers are also eligible for a $2,000 discount per child for grades 1 through 8 for their first year. Scholarships may also be available. Please contact our school office at 630.393.3903 x 116.

www.st-ireneschool.org

Escape the Kingdom of Man: Discover True Happiness

Kingdom of Happiness: Living the Beatitudes in Everyday Life is a new 8-part parish program that unveils Jesus’ plan for happiness in the Beatitudes.

In a world that offers fleeting pleasures in place of true happiness and false promises that actually lead us away from happiness, it’s time more than ever to turn to the Beatitudes and enter into the Kingdom of Happiness.

Kingdom of Happiness will:

♦ Show how the Beatitudes are much more than nice sayings, they are the path to happiness charted by Christ himself.
♦ Expose the “anti-Beatitudes” for what they are: the kingdom of man’s false promises of happiness that lead only to misery.
♦ Inspire a renewed resolve to live the Beatitudes through video profiles of real-life people living the Beatitudes in their everyday life.

Featuring teaching videos by Fr. Jeffrey Kirby, and powerful profiles of normal people living out the Beatitudes in heroic ways, Kingdom of Happiness will not only inform about the Beatitudes, it will show the way to living them and achieving true happiness.

Please join us at 1PM or 7PM in the ACL on Mondays from June 25 to August 20 (No meeting on July 16th).

Cost is $10 for the Study Guide. For information, or to register, call Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122 or email annette@st-irene.org.

Mission Trip

For over 25 summers, CHWC has been providing opportunities for Catholic teens and adults to share their gifts, get out of their comfort zone and serve others.

In July, St. Irene is sending 6 teens and 1 adult (along with 20 others from St. Michael and St. Anne) to southern Indiana to serve and restore homes and hearts, feed the hungry, lift the spirits of children and the elderly, and to give tirelessly of themselves. The cost of each camp volunteer is approximately $500 which will be supplemented by fundraising efforts, supply & monetary donations, and personal contributions.

Please consider supporting our youth with any of the following contributions:

♦ 4” paint brushes and disposable drop cloths
♦ paint scrapers, painters tape and safety goggles
♦ 7-11 sturdy work gloves size small
♦ 1 - $500 full scholarship
♦ 10 - $50 gifts toward transportation fees
♦ 10 - $25 partial scholarships

Thank you for your prayers for a successful mission trip.

Healing Horizons is a parish support group where people help people through the difficult experience of loss through death, divorce, or separation. Our focus is on the spiritual, intellectual, and emotional growth of those who attend. People from all faiths are encouraged to join us. Join us on Wednesdays, July 11, July 25, August 8 and August 22 from 6:30-8PM in the lower level of the Activity Center. For more information, please contact Sue Battaglia at 312.213.2119.

2018 JOLIET DIOCESE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS - June 29th

Father Paul Hottinger - Presider  Deacon Dan Danahey - Assisting
St. Margaret Mary Church, 1450 Green Trails Drive, Naperville, IL 60540
Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30PM  Mass 7:30PM

For information, call Joey Rose at: 630.926.6576. For directions go to www.smmp.com/info/directions.html
The world’s greatest need is not more Christians but more Christians who practice their Christianity.
—Anonymous

FEED the HUNGRY
Please help us refill the Food Pantry shelves with cereal, chili, pork & beans, toilet paper, paper towels and laundry detergent.
The loving spirit of the St. Irene Community is shown through your generosity to the poor.

Opportunities to become involved in the ministries of YOUR Church

Social Justice Ministry:
♦ Food Pantry

Education Ministry:
♦ Catechist/assistant: Preschool
♦ Catechist/assistant: Elementary
♦ Catechist/assistant: Jr. High
♦ Catechist/assistant: High School
♦ Bible Study Facilitator

Formation Ministry:
♦ RCIA
♦ Baptism prep
♦ Baptism prep child care
♦ Marriage prep
♦ Small Christian Communities

Liturical Ministry:
♦ Lector
♦ Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist
♦ Altar Server – Elementary/ Jr. High Level
♦ Altar Server – High School
♦ Choir – Adults
♦ Choir – Children
♦ Children’s Liturgy of the Word Leaders/ Assistants/ Musicians
♦ Usher/ Greeter

Hospitality:
♦ Seniors LunchBunch Leader & Assistants
♦ New Parishioner Welcome Team
♦ Monthly Hospitality

Pastoral Ministry:
♦ Minister to the Homebound

YES! After prayerful consideration, I will help! (Please drop in collection.)

Name:___________________________________
Phone:__________________________________
Email:___________________________________
Ministry: _________________________________

Can’t find what you’re looking for?
Phone Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122.
St. Irene Vocation Prayer

In every age Lord, You raise up women and men who are strong in their faith and bold in their actions to give witness to the Gospel. Fill St. Irene Parish Community with Your Spirit and give us a burning desire to make a difference in our world. Because of our love for You, Bless our Church with holy and courageous priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, devoted married couples, dedicated single men and women, and enthusiastic youth. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Ps 48:2-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Ps 119:33-37, 40; Mt 7:15-20
Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79:1b-5, 8, 9; Mt 7:21-29
Friday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19
Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Mt 8:15-17
Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15; Mk 5:21-43 [5:21-24, 35b-43]