

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION

CCD: Catholic Christian Discipleship

THE NATIVITY of ST. JOHN the BAPTIST

It's a boy! The priest Zechariah watched with joy as his wife held the miracle of their newborn son in her arms. Their younger cousin, Mary, had helped Elizabeth all through the birth with her strong and gentle care.

Even though Zechariah was bursting with happiness, he could not speak. He remembered the day, nine months before, when the Archangel Gabriel, a messenger of God, appeared to him. The angel told him that Elizabeth would bear a son that would turn many people to God. He was to name the baby, John. But Zechariah did not believe this since he and his wife were very old. He thought this miracle would be impossible for God. Because of his doubt, the angel took away his ability to speak. He would not be able to talk until the angel's words were fulfilled. Now the miracle had come true, but Elizabeth and Zechariah had to name their son.

Elizabeth said they would name the baby John. The neighbors and relatives were confused because Jewish tradition said a baby was to be named after a family member. They asked Zechariah about this and he wrote, "**John is his name.**" The people were amazed. With the naming of the baby, the angel's words came to pass. Suddenly Zechariah could speak again! He praised God and the people wondered what great things John would do when he grew up, since God was surely with him.

Zechariah sang a song in praise of God for the birth of his son. "And you, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways (Luke 1:76). He, Elizabeth and Mary knew that John would prepare the way for Mary's son, who was the Messiah. John would be a voice calling out in the desert of Galilee, "Make straight the way of the Lord."

St. John the Baptist, help my heart to be always ready for Jesus!



SARAH HART in Concert at **St. James** the Greater Catholic Church: 2502 11th St, Eau Claire - Monday, July 24th at 7:30 p.m. She will also be hosting a Workshop for musicians on Tuesday, July 25th from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The workshop and lunch is \$20. Please see the flyer in the entrance to church. Register by using the scan code or email sherrylynnmac@gmail.com

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

| | <u>COLLECTED</u> | <u>*NEEDED*</u> |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| June 17-18 | | |
| Ss. Peter & Paul | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 665.00 | 970.00 |
| Loose | \$ 76.00 | 77.00 |
| Total | \$ 741.00 | *1,047.00* |
| Month of June Building Fund = | \$ 1,655.00 | *1,667.00/mo* |
| St. Stanislaus | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 285.00 | 500.00 |
| Loose | \$ 56.00 | 77.00 |
| Total | \$ 341.00 | *577.00* |
| Month of June Building Fund = | \$ 465.00 | *500.00/mo* |
| St. John | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 1,645.00 | 827.00 |
| Loose | \$ 160.00 | 120.00 |
| Total | \$ 1,805.00 | *947.00* |
| Month of June Building Fund = | \$ 313.00 | *667.00/mo* |
| St. Michael | | |
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 40.00 | 250.00 |
| Loose | \$ 120.00 | 29.00 |
| Total | \$ 160.00 | *279.00* |
| Month of June Building Fund = | \$ 115.00 | *84.00/mo* |
| *The weekly Envelope & monthly Building Fund totals needed are based on the 2022-2023 budget set by each Parish Council. | | |

Centered in the Eucharist

Catholic Services Appeal 2022-2023

| | Assessment | Payments & Pledges | Amount Due |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Ss. Peter & Paul | \$ 10,860.00 | \$ 7,110.00 | \$ 3,750.00 |
| St. John | \$ 9,049.00 | \$ 9,049.00 | Paid in Full |
| St. Stanislaus | \$ 5,759.00 | \$ 4,825.00 | \$ 934.00 |
| St. Michael | \$ 3,018.00 | \$ 3,018.00 | Paid in Full |

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

GILMAN CORNER STORE

447-8376

GAS - POP - BEER - LOTTERY

SNACKS - BULK FOODS

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. M-F

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. S-S