

# Sunday Connection

A Gospel Reflection by Loyola Press

**Sunday, December 21, 2025**  
4th Sunday of Advent (A)

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-24

An angel appears to Joseph.  
The child Mary bears will be  
called Emmanuel.



## Family Connection

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. Joseph does as the angel directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God.

Joseph and Mary are our models for family life as well. Even when the circumstances seemed unclear, Joseph trusted God and led his family with faith and love. Healthy family life is built upon love, leadership, and trust--trust in God and trust of one another.

Spend some time talking as a family about the importance of trust in your family life, including the ways in which the children trust the adults in the family, as well as the ways in which the adults trust the children. Then read today's Gospel. Talk about Joseph's trust of God and reflect together on how your family trusts in God.

Pray together that your family life will be built on trust and love, as was the family life of Joseph and Mary. Pray and sing together an Advent song, such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

For more background information on the Gospel for the weekend, visit  
www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/



# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

DECEMBER 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

100 S. Main St. - PO Box 187 - Spearville, KS 67876 - [www.stjohnspearville.com](http://www.stjohnspearville.com)

## Pastor

Fr. John Forkuoh, 385-2212

## Parish Secretary/DRE

Jenny Schmidt, 385-2202

## Bookkeeper

Tena Gleason, 385-0615

## Parish Council-1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays @ 8PM

President: Stephanie Hornung

## Parish Center Office Hours

Hours listed are approximate and change often.

**Fr. John - [frjohn47@yahoo.com](mailto:frjohn47@yahoo.com):**

T/W/F : 10 am-12 pm

(by appointment for sacramental needs)

**Jenny - [jschmidt@stjohnspearville.com](mailto:jschmidt@stjohnspearville.com):**

M-F: 12 pm-3:30 pm (during the school year)

## Get Connected



1. Visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup)
2. Enter our zip code and select our parish.
3. Enter your name & email.

## Join the Email Prayer Chain

To join the list or to send a prayer request, email Ginny Werner ([ginny\\_werner@yahoo.com](mailto:ginny_werner@yahoo.com)) or Lynnette Hessman ([nettemae1984@yahoo.com](mailto:nettemae1984@yahoo.com)).



St. Leonard's Council #1539

## K&C Meetings

1st Mondays  
7:45 PM Rosary  
Meeting Follows



The Daughters of Isabella  
St. Vincent de Paul #211

## D of I Meetings

2nd Mondays  
7:00 PM  
Oak Room

## BIRTHDAYS: 12/22-12/28

**12.23** Carol Durler  
Joyce Schulte  
Kim Steimel

**12.24** Kevin Mages

**12.25** Rose Thomas

**12.26** Vern Stein

**12.27** Kreg Fagen

## MASS SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 22ND - 28TH

| DAY                                                         | TIME                                  | LOCATION      | MASS INTENTION               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| <b>M-12.22</b>                                              | No Mass on Mondays - Father's Day Off |               |                              |
| <b>T-12.23</b>                                              | 8:30am                                | Parkview      | Tonya Kasselmann (B-day)     |
| "                                                           | 9:30am                                | Southwind     | Annette Stein                |
| <b>W-12.24</b>                                              | <b>7:00pm</b>                         | <b>Church</b> | All Parishioners of St. John |
| <b>Th-12.25</b>                                             | <b>9:00am</b>                         | <b>Church</b> | Elmer Schuette               |
| <b>F-12.26</b>                                              | 8:30am                                | Parkview      | Jim Sanko                    |
| <b>Sat-12.27</b>                                            | 6:30pm                                | Church        | Bob Peintner                 |
| <b>Sun-12.28</b>                                            | 8:00am                                | Church        | George Heskamp               |
| <b>Confessions: Saturdays at 5:45 PM or by appointment.</b> |                                       |               |                              |

## MASS MINISTERS - DECEMBER 27TH & 28TH

**Collection:** Austin Hornung & Kevin Mages

| MASS             | SATURDAY - 6:30 PM                                | SUNDAY - 8:00 AM                            |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sacristan</b> | Tonya Hubbell                                     | Jenny Schmidt                               |
| <b>Servers</b>   | Aubrey Huston<br>Dawson Huston                    | Jace Langlois<br>Hudson Schmidt             |
| <b>Lector</b>    | Tonya Hubbell                                     | LaWana VanNahmen                            |
| <b>EMHC</b>      | Lynnette Hessman<br>Mike Hubbell<br>Steve Hubbell | Phil Gleason<br>Jeff Hubbell<br>Frank Mages |
| <b>Music</b>     | Dawn Burke                                        | Jenny Schmidt                               |
| <b>Ushers</b>    | Scott Burke<br>Tom Burke                          | Keith Brack<br>Kevin Mages                  |
| <b>Gifts</b>     | Ushers                                            | Cody Langlois Family                        |



## Parish Announcements, News, and Events

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:** *When he discovered that Mary was with child, Joseph resolved to end their engagement with as little disgrace as possible. But obedient to the voice of God, he changed those plans and became instead the protector of the child Jesus and His mother Mary. God, grant that I may be as open to the leading of the Holy Spirit!*

### **TITHING REPORT for DECEMBER 13th & 14th:**

Box Collection: \$ 1,731.00

Online Collection: \$ 970.00

| December 24th & 25th         | Christmas Eve Vigil - 7:00 PM<br>Choir Prelude - 6:30 PM | Christmas Morning Mass<br>9:00 AM                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Collection</b>            | Kaden Stein & Rich Gleason                               |                                                    |
| <b>Sacristan</b>             | Jenny Schmidt                                            | LynAnn Bowman                                      |
| <b>Servers</b>               | Cammack Dvorak<br>Kaleb Konrade<br>Hudson Schmidt        | Madeline Bowman<br>Isabel Bowman<br>Korbin Wheaton |
| <b>Lector</b>                | Ashley Hubbell                                           | Craig Bowman                                       |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> | Drew Hubbell<br>Larry Tasset<br>Jolene Tasset            | LynAnn Bowman<br>Laura Stein<br>LaWana VanNahmen   |
| <b>Music</b>                 | Bryce Ackerman & Choir                                   | Kiley Myers & Ashley Wheaton                       |
| <b>Ushers</b>                | Phil Gleason & Rich Gleason                              | Nathan Stein & Vern Stein                          |
| <b>Gifts</b>                 | Justin Schulte Family                                    | Melvin & Pat Habiger                               |

| Holy Day of Obligation<br>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God | Vigil Mass at Church<br>December 31 <sup>st</sup> - 7:00 PM |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sacristan</b>                                           | Dana Howerton                                               |
| <b>Servers</b>                                             | Kaley Konrade & Kambre Konrade                              |
| <b>Lector</b>                                              | Cindy Hubbell                                               |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                               | Katie Gleason, Steve Hubbell, Tonya Hubbell                 |
| <b>Music</b>                                               | Howertons                                                   |
| <b>Gifts</b>                                               | Larry & Jolene Tasset                                       |



**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD HOLY DAY MASS:**  
Mass for this Holy Day will also be offered on  
Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 AM at Parkview.

### **VOCATION REFLECTION:**

*'When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel had commanded him.'* (Matthew 1:24)  
God's invitation demands a response. If He is calling you, pray for the courage to respond wholeheartedly, as did St. Joseph.

*If you're discerning the priesthood, contact our Diocesan Director of Vocations:  
Fr. John Stang @ 620-227-1500 or [vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org](mailto:vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org)*

### **ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:**

**Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Fr. John, Fr. John Stang and Fr. Ted Stoecklein will be available from 4:00-5:00 pm in Spearville, and from 7:00-8:00 pm in Wright to hear confessions before Christmas.

### **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT:**

The Youth Committee invites all kids and families to enjoy a movie during Christmas Break!

*"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"*  
Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30pm  
St. John Parish Center

Come for a comfy, cozy night in!  
If you want, bring your pillows, blankets, bean bags, or even your favorite lawn chairs.



We'll provide popcorn and a hot cocoa bar. We hope families of all ages can join us for an enjoyable evening!



### **ROSARY CHALLENGE:**

*As always, when you receive the statue, pray for increased vocations in our diocese, your own personal intentions, and the special intentions listed for the month below.*

**December Intention:**  
*For Christians living in areas of conflict and persecution, especially the Middle East and Nigeria.*



**December 21st-28th:**  
Kurt & Jess Halling Family

### **CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:**



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
of DODGE CITY

JOIN US FOR OUR

## CONFIRMATION Retreat

*Hosted by the Diocese,  
but right here in Spearville!*

**Sunday, January 4th**  
**10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**St. John Parish Center-Spearville**

Join other Confirmation students from the area for a day to further reflect and prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

\$10 per student

Email Emma Webs to RSVP:  
[dcyouth@dcdiocese.org](mailto:dcyouth@dcdiocese.org)