



# ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE

## Faith Development & Youth Ministry

December 2024

More than 2000 years ago, a little child in Bethlehem was born in a manger and he had the weight of the salvation of the world on his shoulders. He is the reason for the season, our savior, Jesus! We all get caught up in the busyness of the holiday season with family get-togethers, shopping, decorations, and so much more and we may all lose sight on why we have the season, which is Jesus. Without Him guiding us, our lives become crazy and we lose the way. By keeping hold of what the season actually means, our lives and the holidays become less chaotic.

As this year comes to an end, it is a time to reflect on the past year and see what is ahead. Our new Parish Center is now open and it is very exciting as we will have new spaces for Faith Development so students continue to learn about the good news God gives us every day and to spread to others. I look forward to seeing everyone enjoy our new space in 2025 and the years to come! I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and blessed holiday season.

*May God's Blessings Be with You.*

*Tyler Stern*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY

January 8th: Class Night - Grades 1-3 5-6 pm, Grades 4-8 6:15-7:30 pm

January 12th: Confirmation Class with sponsors 8 am - 12 pm

January 15th: Family Event during Normal Class Time

January 19th: Confirmation Prep Year 1 & 2 Class 8 am - 12 pm

January 22nd: Class Night; Grades 1-3 5-6 pm, Grades 4-8 6:15-7:30 pm

January 26th: Youth Mass for Grades 1-3 at 10 am Mass

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# Doing Good in the Community

On December 18th and December 22nd, Faith Development students in grades 6-11 participated in our annual Bag Drop. Students put together bags of Christmas goodies and dropped them off at doors in our community. Great job everyone spreading Christmas cheer to our neighbors!!



## Christmas Program

On Wednesday December 18th, students in grades 1-5 sang and performed in Room at the Inn. The play is about the owner of the Stable Inn offering couples with the names of Mary and Joseph to stay for free on Christmas Eve. Each couple that came in believing they know what Christmas was all about. In between each act, each grade had a song they sang. 1st Graders sang "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer", 2nd Graders sang "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas", 3rd Graders sang "We Wish You a Merry Christmas", 4th Graders sang "The 12 Days of Christmas", and 5th Graders sang "Silent Night". The program concluded when all grades came together to sing "Joy to the World". All grades did a great job singing and 4th & 5th graders did a great job acting as well!!! After the program, students and families when into the community to participate in their own Bag Drop.





# Catechist Spotlight - By Jonathon Karrels

I have been involved with St John Parish since I was hired as a teacher at St John School in 2017. I was on staff for 5 years, and am now a kindergarten teacher in Oshkosh. My family and I became parish members in 2019 when we moved closer to the area and were looking to be part of a Catholic parish that felt welcoming to everyone.

I've been a catechist with Faith Formation since 2019, sharing faith, prayer and gospels with students in 3rd, 4th, and currently 5th grade. It is fun to connect with these students and share our faith and values with these students. You may also see my family setting up coffee bar, my daughters serving, and my wife leading Children's Liturgy and serving as a Eucharistic Minister. We are blessed to be part of the St John Community to Love, Serve and Share Our Faith.



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MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

