

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

June 24, 2018

Welcome, Father Augustine

Please extend a warm welcome to Father Augustine John Temu, representing the Tanzanian Diocese of Kogoma, for the missionary cooperative Propagation of the Faith collection. Over the years his Diocese has experienced an influx of refugees, who need care and services which his Diocese provides, along with spiritual and pastoral services. Your help would be much appreciated!

Introducing ... First Saturday Devotion at St. John

During her 1917 apparitions, our Lady of Fatima said, "Jesus wishes to establish in the world devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary," known today as First Saturday Devotion.

To learn more about the story of Our Lady of Fatima and requirements for making the First Saturdays, leaflets and pamphlets are available on the table at the rear of church. We encourage you to take them upon leaving church.

Graduates' Reception & Coffee Hour at St. John

Don't forget to drop by the reception/coffee hour celebrating this year's graduates after 11:15am Mass.

St. Peter Coffee Hour

Celebrate the beginning of summer by enjoying some camaraderie (& coffee!) after the 9:30 am Mass.

Thank you to all who made the Holy Family Bake Sale such a success -- \$202.75!

GRIEF MINISTRY

If you have suffered loss recently or a while ago, our Grief Ministry is available to help by offering solace and empathy. Mission Statement: To provide a listening ear, compassion, and possible recommendations/direction for a positive life journey moving forward with the help of our Faith! Contact Kathy: 607.376.1633, katscr74@gmail.com.

St. Paul the Apostle Healing Mass today at 2pm.

Why Do We Celebrate the Birth of John the Baptist?

The nativity of St. John the Baptist is a sacred reminder of the fact that we need born in our life every day:

- someone who leaps with joy before the presence of the Lord making me want to live my own relationship with Jesus with greater ardor and fervor;
- someone to prepare the way of the Lord and to give me knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of my sins;
- someone who turns my attention away from my distractions and preconceptions so that I will behold the Lamb of God as the true desire of my heart;
- someone who models for me that there is no greater joy in my life than for Jesus to increase and for me to decrease, especially as regards my self-reliance, my self-assertion, my self-importance;
- someone who is a burning and shining lamp whose radiance gives light to my path and courage to my heart, making me want to live for others;
- someone so committed to the truth that he is willing to lay down his life for the Truth-become-flesh witnessing to me that all true happiness comes through self-sacrifice;
- someone whose sanctity proclaims that there is no man born of woman greater than he is but that I can share his greatness if I love Jesus as he did.

In the tender compassion of our God, the Dawn from on high has broken upon us through the birth of John the Baptist. Father Peter John Cameron

The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat & bring me safe to his heavenly Kingdom. 2 Tm 4:18

NCYC Fundraiser Help Needed

Attention all out youth & family members: We are trying to coordinate a church yard sale for the Walton Community Sale Days on July 6 & 7. This is the largest fundraiser we have to support the youth trip to Indianapolis.

If you are at all interested in participating in any of the youth events in the future, please consider supporting us by helping with set up Thursday night, help with sale on Friday and/or Saturday, clean up Saturday night and possibly Sunday after Mass. Please call Brigid at 607.434.5874 if you plan to help.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Discipline does not mean punishment. The purpose of discipline is to help your child learn to become responsible. Allow your child to experience the consequences of their actions: if a child chooses not to study for a test, they will get a poor grade; if they leave their bicycle out in the yard, it may get rusty or stolen; if they do not set their alarm, they may miss the school bus.

These may seem like hard lessons, but better to learn them when the stakes are low than when losing a job or having an untimely pregnancy might be the consequence.

Catholic Charities RAFFLE

On June 30 and July 1, Catholic Charities representatives from our parish will partner with the Knights of Columbus to sell tickets for the annual raffle after all Masses. Raffle tickets are \$20 each, and there are three money prizes-- First Prize: \$1,200, Second Prize: \$500, and Third Prize: \$250. Catholic Charities celebrates over 100 years of assisting the poor and vulnerable in our area and the proceeds from this raffle help us to continue our mission. Pamphlets are available outlining the organization's continuing role. Only 300 tickets will be sold for this raffle. Thank you for your support and good luck!

~ Bishop's Appeal Pledges & Gifts ~ thebishopsappeal.org

Don't forget the ease of making your pledge online. Online pledges are reported to the Churches by the Diocese. Diocesan payment statements will be mailed shortly so please send your payments directly to the RCDA Stewardship & Development Office, 40 North Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203 for up-to-date balances and records.

Hearts Aflame Eucharistic Congress

A "Eucharistic Congress" is a special gathering led by the bishop focused on our Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. It is a time of joy, fellowship, prayer, and unity. This will be a time of spiritual renewal for our whole diocese, and all Catholics in our diocese are invited to attend. The day will include Mass with Bishop Scharfenberger, inspirational speakers, activities for children, Eucharistic Adoration and procession, tours of the Shrine, fellowship and unity with other Catholics.

Hearts Aflame is being held at the "spiritual center" of our diocese, the Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville. The Shrine is a beautiful 600-acre property situated on the banks of the Mohawk River. It commemorates the martyrdom of three Jesuit missionaries, as well as Saint Kateri and other heroes of the faith who impacted this part of the country.

Hearts Aflame is a free event open to all; there is no cost to attend. Lunch will be available for purchase online ahead of time or you may bring your own.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

"But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren..." Luke 1:7

God said to Zechariah, "Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son." Luke 1:13

Perhaps you long for a child. Perhaps you already have a child or several. Regardless, ponder how your married love can reflect the generativity of God by supporting a child who is not your biological child.