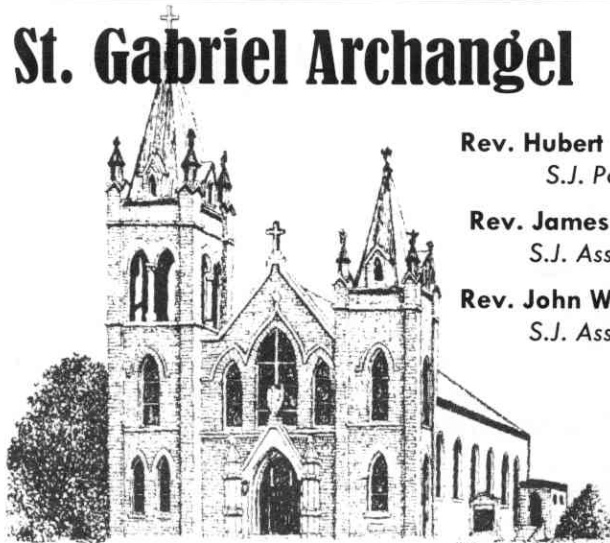
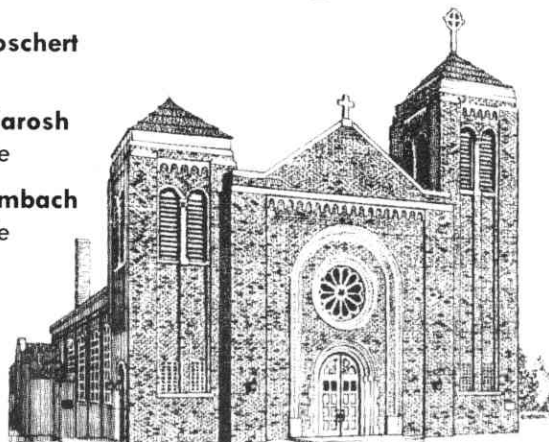


St. Gabriel Archangel



506 N. BEAUMONT ROAD • 326-2404

St. John Nepomuc



710 S. WACOUTA AVENUE • 326-6511

Rev. Hubert G. Boschert
S.J. Pastor

Rev. James B. Warosh
S.J. Associate

Rev. John W. Wambach
S.J. Associate

MASS SCHEDULE

ST. GABRIEL'S

Tuesday / Thursday	6:45 am
Monday / Wednesday / Friday	8:30 am
Saturday	4:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am

ST. JOHN'S

Monday / Wednesday / Friday	6:45 am
Tuesday / Thursday	8:30 am
Saturday	7:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am

Baptism Please make arrangements with the Pastor

Marriage Please contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to the wedding date.

Joint Parish Pastoral Council

Joe Faust, Mark Forsythe, Norma Lochner, Jim McGrath, Mike Mezera, Steve Schwager, Mike Steiner, Pat Mercaitis, Keith Neisius, Debbie Morovits, Patrick Nolan, Carl Orr

Joint Parish Finance Council

Lucy Cornford, Pat Dagnon, Mark DuCharme, Mike Garrity, Gary Hamann, Mark Mara, Phil Mezera, Brad Linder, JoAnn Shea, Tom Stram, Jim Welsch, Jerry Wachuta

Endowment Trustees:

St. John's: Roy George, Mary Pellock & Mike Leard

St. Gabriel's: Dan Kussmaul, Mary Jaynes, Cathy Bierman

Prairie Catholic School

Phil Mezera, Paul Stark, Mark Mara, Leslie Orr

Prairie Catholic School Principal Kathleen Schwartz

Parish Administrators Paula Check & Kathleen Schwartz

Office Managers Paula Check, Lana J. Gratace

Director of Religious Education Pat Prochaska

Parish Nurses Rose Bauer & Shirley Cipra (357-2000)

Education Committee Chad Trautsch, Steve Pellock, Todd Ehlers, Linda Moser, Deb Trautsch, Rochelle Fulcher, Kathy Schneider, Tracy & Laurie Pedretti, John & Carrie Nolan, Rochelle Neisius, Dixie Jackson, Tim Steger

Confessions

Saturday	St. Gabriel's	3:00 pm to 3:45 pm
	St. John's	6:00 pm to 6:45 pm
	At Rectory	anytime; phone to set up a time

THIS WEEK

at St. Gabriel's and St. John's

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM	"Children's Mass" at St. John's Parish
4:00 PM	"Children's Mass" at St. Gabriel's Parish
7:00 PM	"Midnight Mass" at St. John's Parish
7:00 PM	"Midnight Mass" at St. Gabriel's Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS

8:00 AM	Mass at St. John's Parish
9:00 AM	Mass at St. Gabriel's Parish
10:00 AM	Mass at St. John's Parish

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00 AM	Exposition & Adoration at St. John's Parish until 1:00 PM
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

E-Mail Address: stgabriels@centurytel.net

December 23, 2007 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Offertory Gift Bearers-December 29/30

Saturday 4:00 pm Volunteers

Sunday 8:00 am John Kramer Family

Eucharistic Ministers-December 29/30

Saturday 4:00 pm Russ Gillitzer & Karen Fritsche-Bread

Louis Steger & Volunteer-Cup

Sunday 8:00 am Ann Lessard & Lori Waller-Bread

Jeri Kluesner & Cathy Bierman-Cup

Home Communion Ministers for December 30:

Elinor Pine, Eileen Hermesen

Servers-December 29/30

Saturday 4:00 pm Becky & Dan Welsch

Sunday 8:00 am John David & Hunter Slaght

Lectors-December 29/30

Saturday 4:00 pm Don Cipra

Sunday 8:00 am Jack Mulrooney

Ushers-December 29/30

Saturday 4:00 pm Jim Stoeher, Brent Fassbinder, Doug Morovits, Jeff Groom

Sunday 8:00 am Don Osterhaus, Layne David, Jerry Matousek, Butch Boland

Scrip Workers-December 29/30

Saturday 4:00 pm NO SCRIP SALES

Sunday 8:00 am NO SCRIP SALES

Parish Support

	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Envelopes for 12/16	\$4,714.00	\$4,239.00
Plate for 12/16	303.50	343.39
Students	11.25	11.50
Total	\$5,028.75	\$4,593.89

Our average weekly goal at St. Gabriel's for adult envelopes is \$4,650.00.

The School fund envelopes came to \$35.00 at St. Gabriel's.

Thank you for your offering!

Some children were asked. "What is love?"

One little girl answered, "Love is when your mommy reads you a bedtime story. True love is when she doesn't skip any pages."

- Author Unknown

St. Gabriel's Mass Intentions**Monday, December 24**

8:30 am Robert David: by Family & Friends

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Priest's Intention (Children's Mass)

7:00 pm Priest's Intention ("Midnight Mass")

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

9:00 am Priest's Intention

Wednesday, December 268:30 am †Donald "Duke" Peloch:
by M/M Chad Mezera**Thursday, December 27**

6:45 am †Mary Radovan: by Family

Friday, December 28

8:30 am †Ronnie Moris: by Janette DuCharme

Saturday, December 294:00 pm †Charles & Evelyn Heisz &
deceased family member: by Family**Sunday, December 30**8:00 am For the People of St. Gabriel's &
St. John's Parishes

Bingo Winners from Monday, December 17th will be published in next week's bulletin.

Bingo will not be held for the next two weeks because of the holidays. Bingo will resume on Monday, January 7th.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule for Christmas**Christmas Eve - 4:00 PM Mass (Children's Mass)****Gift Bearers** - Students; **Lectors** - Students; **Servers**- Sam Neisius & Brady Kozelka; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Nancy DuCharme, Lyle Marfilus, Virginia Konichek, Laura Meyer; **Ushers** - Bob, Jeffery, Nicholas Ziel, & Richard Steiner**Christmas Eve - 7:00 PM "Midnight Mass" Lec-****tor** - Debbie Morovits; **Servers** - Volunteers; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Howard Gillitzer, John Chaffee, Mary Daskocil & Russ Gillitzer; **Ushers** - Bill Check, Ed Steger, Randy Ginsterblum, Jerry Matousek**Christmas Day - 9:00 AM Mass****Lector** - Rhonda Stubbe; **Servers** - Jeff Kussmaul & Nikki Stevens; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Judy O'Kane, Joe Atkins, Mark DuCharme & Lorraine Rice; **Ushers** - Mike Stram, Bill Farmer, Tom Stram, Butch Boland

We realize that some of the above time slots may not work for some and we would really appreciate it if you could get a sub. Many thanks!

Notes Common to Both Parishes

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Theme: Faith. King Ahaz had more faith in a treaty with the Assyrians than in God who approached him through the prophet Isaiah. It is faith in God, who approaches us in the Lord Jesus, that saves us from a meaningless existence. God is willing to step into the darkness of our confusion, if we *"let the Lord enter"* (Responsorial Psalm).

Loneliness is the greatest threat to happiness. A person alone has no answers. A loner is an unhappy person, depressed, facing absurdity. "Emmanuel" (God with us) in Jesus Christ saves us from ourselves.

Time and again, Christmas reminds Christians that God came to share our human situation on this planet. Looked at in this way Christmas will become a happy and meaningful day for us. *"Lord...as Christmas draws near make us grow in faith and love to celebrate the coming of Christ our Savior"* (Prayer after Communion).

Vocation Viewpoint: Stop asking for a sign and become one. Consider becoming a priest or religious. (Isaiah 7: 10-14)

Choose life: The Christmas story is one of the greatest pro-life stories of all time! How much clearer could God make the statement that an unborn child is a human being whose passage through the womb has been sanctified by Jesus' similar journey?

The end of the year is fast approaching....if you want to receive credit for your contributions for the tax year 2007 - please have your donations in to either parish office by December 31, 2007. Also, please note that your report on the contributions that were made to the Capital Campaign and the Bishop's Annual Appeal will be mailed to you from the Diocese.

The three Jesuit Fathers and all the staff of St. Gabriel's & St. John's and of Prairie Catholic School take this opportunity to extend greetings for the holidays and to thank each and all of you for your continued support throughout the calendar year. A blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Christmas is not just a commemoration of our Lord's birth, but the celebration of the great "Emmanuel" (God-with-us) mystery. A wealth of symbolism is used in the prayers and Bible readings of this season to shed some light on this tremendous fact: that God wants to share our human condition...the light versus darkness theme is perhaps the most primitive one.

We have no evidence of Christmas earlier than approximately 330 AD and it appears to have been determined not primarily by our Lord's birth date, which is unknown, but rather by the pagan festivals of the winter solstice, when worshippers of the sun celebrated the return of light after the shortest day. At Christmas, Christians celebrate the dawn of God's light shining upon human beings, who go through a valley of darkness.

Over the centuries, popular piety has sentimentalized Christmas into the well-known "baby Jesus" cult. This kind of piety is not reflected in the liturgical prayers and scripture readings of the Church. The four Christmas masses, the feast of the Holy Family, The Solemnity of Mary, The Other of God, the Epiphany (Manifestation) of the Lord, and His Baptism elucidate the various aspects of God's self-disclosure in the Lord Jesus, in whom He is really "Immanuel - God-with-us." In Him (Jesus) we see our God made visible and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see" (Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer at Christmas).

Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. John's Parish

Offertory Gift Bearers-December 29/30

Saturday 7:00 pm Mavis Godden
Sunday 10:00 am Neil Gillitzer Family

Eucharistic Ministers-December 29/30

Saturday 7:00 pm Nell Bowar & Mary Pellock-
Bread
Gail Ehlers & Tim Steger-Cup
Sunday 10:00 am Norb Aschom & Donna Cipra-
Bread
John Fischer & Linda Moser-
Cup

Home Communion Ministers for December 30th:

Nell Bowar, Anne Mezera & Joan Poots

Servers-December 29/30

Saturday 7:00 pm Jessica Steger &
Ryan Schickert
Sunday 10:00 am Courtney & Cole Pattison

Lectors-December 29/30

Saturday 7:00 pm Rita Krahn
Sunday 10:00 am John Tramburg

Ushers-December 29/30

Saturday 7:00 pm Tim Looney, Bernard Mayer,
Roger Check
Sunday 10:00 am Ron Trautsch, Steve Rickleff,
Dale Cipra

Scrip Workers-December 29/30

Saturday 7:00 pm NO SCRIP SALES
Sunday 10:00 am NO SCRIP SALES

Parish Support

	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes for 12/16	\$3,901.00	\$5,866.00
Plate for 12/16	241.25	276.75
Students	16.14	8.45
Total	\$4,158.39	\$6,151.20

The School Fund Envelopes at St. John's came to \$40.00.

Thank you for your offering!

To parishioners of both parishes.....

Natural Family Planning offers you a reliable way to avoid or achieve a pregnancy without artificial chemicals or devices. Recent research findings on the long-term health risks of the pill, patch or shot have made many couples rethink their family planning options. NFP is completely safe and scientifically proven, and it is also in harmony with the teaching of the Church. All you have to do is listen to your body.

A **Natural Family Planning 3-class series** will be offered at Franciscan Skemp Hospital in the Lang Conference Room in LaCrosse from 2:30-4:30 pm on the following Sundays: January 20, February 10 and March 2. To register or to obtain more information call the NFP office at 1-800-255-6226.

St. John's Mass Intentions

Monday, December 24

6:45 am †Elaine Staszewski:
by Ervin Staszewski

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Priest's Intention (Children's Mass)
7:00 pm Priest's Intention ("Midnight Mass")

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

8:00 am Priest's Intention
10:00 am Priest's Intention

Wednesday, December 26

6:45 am †Mary Sabins (Ann. 12/24): by Family

Thursday, December 27

8:30 am †Fred & Marcella Zins:
by Linda Ginkel & Family

Friday, December 28

6:45 am †Anna McGuire:
By Duane & Dianna Quick

Saturday, December 29

7:00 pm †Norbert & Caroline Laufenberg:
by Paul & Matilda Flansburgh

Sunday, December 30

10:00 am †Robert Neuman (Ann. 12/20):
by Shirley Neuman

Liturgical Ministers Schedule for Christmas

Christmas Eve - 4:00 PM (Children's Mass) - Gift

Bearers - Students; **Servers**: Jesse Steiner & Michael Garrity; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Mary Ellen Pellock, Nell Bowar, Doris Krogman, Sharon Boylen; **Lectors** - Students; **Ushers** - Tim Looney, Doug Rickleff, Dan Schickert, Ron Trautsch

Christmas Eve - 7:00 PM - Lector - Jerry Cum-

mings; Servers - Volunteers; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Mary Nash, Cathy Swenson, Betty Butteris & Gail Ehlers; **Ushers** - Curt Root, Dennis Mezera, Bernard Mayer, Scott Vorwald

Christmas Day - 8:00 AM - Servers - Volunteers;

Lector - Rita Krahn; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Barb Frommelt, Kathy Leard, Donna Steiner, Lucy Cornford; **Ushers** - Butch Pedretti, Jeff Sjoborg, Art Conley, Mike Mezera

Christmas Day - 10:00 AM - Servers: Volunteers;

Lector - Donna Cipra; **Eucharistic Ministers** - Jan Duve, Verna Panka, Peg Gallagher, Linda Moser; **Ushers** - Dale Cipra, Chet Knutson, Richard Panka, Steve Steiner

We realize the above time slots may not be convenient for some of you and we would sure appreciate it if you could get a sub. Many thanks!

PEACE ON EARTH

TO PARISHOINERS OF BOTH PARISHES
The Family Life Committee is accepting names of adult & high school age parishioners who would like to be a secret prayer partner to one of our Prairie Catholic and CCD 8th grade students as they prepare for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on April 30, 2008. It doesn't take much time and anyone can easily be involved. Prayers are powerful and your prayers can make a difference during this important period of spiritual decision in a young person's life. Just give Verna Panka a call at 326-2196 and leave your name and phone number or contact any Family Life Committee member. The committee will send you a name of an 8th grade student along with a brief note

Raffle Calendars....You may purchase your raffle calendar at either school, both rectories, Dick's Piggly Wiggly or from John Fischer (326-2827). Only \$20 for one calendar or six for \$100.00. A chance to win several times a year! Get yours soon! Please help us raise some added funds for Prairie Catholic School.

Thank you to Rose Wright and to all the individuals that donated used printer cartridges throughout 2007. The total donations came to \$4, 623.00!! What a fantastic job! Keep on saving them.

Christmas Schedule

December 24th, Christmas Eve

4:00 pm - Children's Mass at St. Gabriel's
 4:00 pm - Children's Mass at St. John's
 7:00 pm - "Midnight" Mass at St. Gabriel's
 7:00 pm - "Midnight" Mass at St. John's

December 25th, Christmas Day

8:00 am - Mass at St. John's
 9:00 am - Mass at St. Gabriel's
 10:00 am - Mass at St. John's

The offertory envelope boxes for 2007 are in the back of both churches. Please take a few minutes to pick these up. The envelope boxes for St. John's are in numerical order and if you do not know your envelope number, there is a 3 ring binder by the boxes with your name & number. The envelope boxes for St. Gabriel's are in alphabetical order. If you cannot find your envelope box, please call your rectory office. Many thanks!

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