

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Cooks Valley Township – 4540 State Hwy. 40, Bloomer, WI

Web Site: <http://stjohns.bloomertel.net> – Mailing Address: 4540 State Hwy. 40, Bloomer, WI 54724

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. John The Baptist, Cooks Valley

Saturday, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

St. Paul's, Bloomer

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:00 & 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

St. John The Baptist, Cooks Valley

Monday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

First Friday Mass, 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul's, Bloomer

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. - 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday – School Mass, 8:00 a.m.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration begins immediately following the 8:30 a.m. Mass Thursday and ends with the 10:30 a.m. First Friday Mass.

To sign up for an hour with our Lord, contact Andy or Rita Shakal at 715-568-5243.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Please check bulletin

ROSARY

(Recited every Sunday morning at 9:00 am – suspended at this time)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays 7:00-7:45 p.m.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples should contact the pastor **before** the wedding date is set. Allow eight months for preparation before the wedding date.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Parents must receive baptismal preparation prior to the baptism of their first child. Please contact the parish office.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor – Fr. Victor Feltes

Secretary: Virginia Berge

Bookkeeper: Sheila Poirier

For all sacramental or emergency needs, please call Fr. Feltes at 715-568-3255.

e-mail: victorfeltes@gmail.com

TELEPHONE

St. John's – Cooks Valley715-568-3778

Email.....stjohns@bloomer.net

St. Paul's – Bloomer715-568-3255

PARISH COUNCIL

Finance

Liturgy

Kevin Butek.....715-962-3433

Family Life

Volunteer needed

Buildings and Grounds

Ken Schmitt.....715-568-5508

Education

Becky Paulson.....715-568-5111

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

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Patty Zwiefelhofer715-933-1849

Vice President

Jane Buchholtz.....715-559-2638

Secretary

Cathy Salm.....715-579-8535

Treasurer

Candy Sarauer.....715-568-5540

MUSIC MINISTRY

Organist

James Willi.....715-568-2158

Choir Director

Christi Larson.....715-568-2662

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome all new parishioners! Please contact the parish office for registration.

BULLETIN DEADLINE is Wednesday 9:00 am. Call the parish office with bulletin information, 568-3778 or e-mail:

stjohns@bloomer.net

FREE CATHOLIC MINISTRY NATIONWIDE

1-800-627-7846 or www.masstimes.org to find out Mass times at a church near your travel destination.

St. John's Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat, July 24	Vigil/Seventeenth in Ordinary Time
8:00 pm	+Rose Schindler
Sun, July 25	Seventeenth in Ordinary Time
9:30 am	+Ruth Ackerlund
Mon, July 26	Weekday/St. Joachim and St. Anne
8:30 am	+Marion Loew
Thu, July 29	Weekday/St. Martha
8:30 am	+Vernetta Clements
Sat, July 31	Vigil/Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 pm	St. John's and St. Paul's Parish Families
Sun, Aug. 1	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 am	+Dave Schultz

The Rosary is prayed, on Sundays at 9:00 am

Easter candle is in memory of Bud Zwiefelhofer

Liturgy Schedule at St. John's

Saturday, July 31 – 8:00 pm

Servers: Matthew Loew, Gabe Loew, Jarod Loew

Lector: David Loew

Ushers: Doug Zwiefelhofer, Darwin Helgeson

Sunday, August 1 - 9:30 am

Servers: Henry Leavens, Jack Leavens, Joe Mashak

Lector: Jim Ackerlund

Ushers: Nathan Hagenbrock, Vernon Steinmetz

Rosary Leader: Dan and Leah Shakal

Collection Counters: Mark Anderson, Pat Schultz

Upcoming Confessions

Fr. Feltes will be available for confessions in St. Paul's main sacristy this Sunday, July 25th at noon and in St. John's main sacristy Monday, July 26th at 9 AM until all are heard. To schedule a confession for some other time this week, give Father a call at 715-299-9556.

Christian Giving – July 18

Adults	\$	1,325.00
Offertory	\$	201.00
Youth	\$	----
Total	\$	1,526.00

St. John's Altar Rosary Society

All women of the parish are invited to the next Altar Rosary Society meeting on Tuesday, August 3rd. We'll pray the rosary at 6:30 pm, with snacks and meeting afterwards. Please join us as we finalize Fall Festival plans and look ahead to the Pork Steak Dinner!

OneFest Music Festival

The OneFest Christian music festival returns to the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds in Chippewa Falls this September 23rd-25th.

Project Milk 2021 - Revised

Many "Thanks" is extended to Wendy Loew for coordinating this project, all who volunteered, and to all who so generously donated to this effort.

Project Milk Proceeds for the Diocese orphanage Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II in Peru:

❖ Milk Can produced	\$ 610.64
❖ Sunday Brunch	283.00
❖ Saturday Evening Root Beer Float Social	210.00
❖ St. John the Baptist Day Event	137.00
Total	\$ 1,240.64

Summer Teen Week Returns!

St. John's is hosting Teen Week this August 1st-4th, Sunday through Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. nightly. Young people entering Grade 7 through high school this fall are invited to these evenings of fun, food, faith, and fellowship. The cost is free. No registration is needed. Invite your friends. For more details, call Erin Borofka at 715-933-0139.

Fall Festival Parish Letter and Raffle Tickets

The Fall Festival Parish Letter from Fr. Feltes and four books of raffle tickets are available for pick up in the entry. Postal laws do not permit raffle tickets to be mailed. After several weeks letters not picked up will have the tickets removed and mailed. Please support our parish pick up your envelope and save the parish the postage.

Fall Festival Silent Auction

Anyone who has something to donate to the Silent Auction at the Fall Festival, please call Jean Schindler 715-962-3026. It would be greatly appreciated.

Fall Festival Main Auction

We are now accepting items for St. John's Fall Festival Main Auction. We are looking for a few nice big items to draw bidders. The items can be consigned rather than donated and as always will take smaller items also. Please call Ken Schmitt at 715-568-5508. Please, no TV's, as the parish is charged to dispose of them if they do not sell.

National Family Planning

Tired of limiting your love? Look to Natural Family Planning (NFP) for a fresh, natural way to open up to God's plan for love and life. For more information, go to diolc.org/nfp.

St. Paul's School News

2021-2022 Registration in Progress! During this school year we have been fortunate to keep our school open and our classes in person. Our Catholic difference includes:

- Small Classes, Positive Behavior Management, Dedicated Teachers
- Parents Kept Well Informed and Supported
- New Family Referral Program, 25% Off Both New and Referring Families' 1st Child's Tuition for One Year
- 4K Free Tuition
- All Faiths and Transfer Students Welcome
- Bussing Provided for 4K Students and Rural Families
- Contact Mrs. Peterson (See Below) for Details!

Summer Scrip Selling! Scrip will be sold on Tuesday nights from 5:30-6:00 pm in the school lobby as well as during weekend Masses.

Staff Openings! We have openings for teachers in 4K, Elementary/Middle School, and part time in Art, or Music. We also have cafeteria positions open as Manager and Assistant. Please help us spread the word among your family and friends. Training and guidance are available. Please contact Mrs. Jackie Peterson for more details at stpaulpr@bloomer.net or leave a message at 715-568-3233!

Was St. Mary of Bethany Cognitively Disabled?

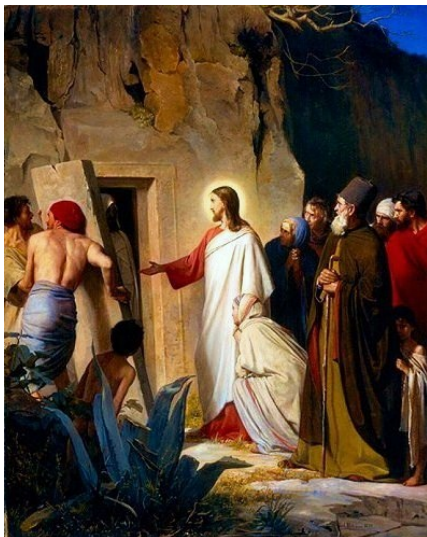
By Fr. Victor Feltes

One very interesting scriptural interpretation theorizes that St. Mary of Bethany, the beloved sister of Martha and Lazarus, had some form of cognitive disability, perhaps from a genetic disorder. While we cannot prove this speculation – short of DNA testing her purported first-class relics – this theory fits with the Gospels and illuminates familiar stories and figures.

Martha's Toil & Mary's Rest (Luke 10)

Jesus and his disciples journeyed to Bethany where a woman named Martha welcomed him. Martha's sister, Mary, lived with her because (as per this theory) Mary was unmarried and could not live on her own. While Martha was burdened with much serving, Mary sat beside Jesus at his feet, listening to him speak. Mary was oblivious to the social expectation that she should not assume the place of a disciple like a man, yet Jesus showed no signs of disapproval.

Martha, frustrated and knowing that Mary would not heed a quiet cue, called upon Jesus to redirect her, *"Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me."* Jesus said to her in reply, *"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."* Mary was not accustomed to her decisions being praised and she smiled broadly as she got to remain close to Jesus.



The Mourning of Lazarus (John 11)

Jesus loved Martha and Mary and their brother Lazarus, and they each believed in him. So the sisters were heartbroken when Jesus did not come in time to save Lazarus on his deathbed. When Martha heard that Jesus had finally arrived she went to meet him outside the village while Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, *"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."* The two spoke for a time and then Martha went to secretly call her sister. Martha was so discrete because the village of Bethany was just two miles from Jerusalem and she knew that Jesus' enemies were out to get him.

Martha went into the house and whispered to Mary, *"The teacher is here and is asking for you."* As soon as Mary heard this, she rose quickly (without caution or subtlety) and went single-mindedly to Jesus. Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother, so when the Jews who were with Mary in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. (They had not previously followed Martha out, but they felt it prudent to

accompany Mary and make sure that she would be safe and alright.)

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and tearfully repeated the same lament that she had heard her sister saying over the past four days: *“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”* (These are the only words of St. Mary of Bethany recorded in the Gospels.) Imagine her unrestrained joy when she soon saw her brother Lazarus alive once again.

Mary’s Anointing of Jesus (John 12, Matthew 26, Mark 14)

[Although these three persons have sometimes been conflated, we assume here that that Mary of Bethany is neither Mary of Magdala (also known as Mary Magdalene) nor the penitent woman who anoints Jesus in Luke’s Gospel.]

Jesus’ Passion was near and he came with his disciples to a supper in Bethany. Lazarus was there, reclining at table with Jesus, while Martha served. Mary was also present, holding a stone, alabaster flask containing a liter of very expensive ointment. (It was made



from genuine aromatic nard, an oil derived from a plant in the Himalayas.) Perhaps Mary borrowed the perfume from her sister, or perhaps she had inherited it when their mother died. Regardless, although Mary treasured this perfume and loved to smell it from time to time, she was resolved to make a gift of it to Jesus. She approached him, anointed his head and feet, and dried his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

Mary loved Jesus very much and was delighted to do something extra special for him. But the other guests at table became indignant: *“Why was this ointment wasted? Why was it not sold for three hundred days wages and given to the poor?”* Mary began to cry, but Jesus defended her. *“Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing for me. For you will always have the poor with you... but you will not always have me. ... In pouring this ointment on my body she has done it prepare me for burial. And truly, I say to you wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”* Indeed, Jesus’ prophecy is fulfilled in your sight.

Mary of Bethany, One of Jesus’ Simple & Beloved Little Ones

Jesus said, *“Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.”* (Matthew 18:3-5)

In a world with often little welcome or regard for the mentally or physically flawed, the acceptance and love that Jesus shows a disabled St. Mary of Bethany presents an important and powerful statement. Her openness, generosity, and childlike devotion to Jesus made her truly great. She is now celebrated in Heaven and throughout the whole world, wherever the Gospel is proclaimed, and perhaps we know her better than we ever have before.

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