

# St. John Vianney Catholic Parish

# St. Paschal Catholic Parish

**Gaudete Sunday, Third Sunday in Advent  
December 14, 2025**

Welcome!

To make St. John Vianney or St. Paschal your parish home,  
register with the office or online!

**Pastor:** Fr. Raymond Kalema

rkalema@dioceseofspokane.org

**Bookkeeper/Business Manager.:** Kristi Sampica

ksampica@dioceseofspokane.org

**Director of Religious Education/Office Mgr:** Shelly Humbert

shumbert@dioceseofspokane.org

**Maintenance & Custodial Manager:** Paul Schuster

pschuster@dioceseofspokane.org

**Office Hours:** M-F 9am to noon

**Bulletin Notices:** bulletin.sjvchurch@gmail.com

**Deadline is noon Monday**

**SJV Parish School** 509-926-7987

Principal: Janelle Turcotte

Secretary: Joan Olson

Website: www.st.johnvianney.com

**SP Educare** 509-922-7616

Director: Mary Jo Paschall

## Prayer Chains

SJV: Jayne Seaboldt 509-921-0945

If unavailable: Mary McLeslie 509-926-0460

SP: Rosalie Thompson 509-443-7268

## Assistance Program

If you need assistance with food, utilities, prescriptions,  
please call the SJV office Tues.—Thurs., 9 a.m. to noon

## Catholic Family Service Counseling

Call the Diocesan Office 509-242-2308

## SJV & SP Parish & Finance Council Members

### SJV Parish Council:

Ric Wesselman (Chair), Greg Takisaki, Angie Nordhus, Ruth  
Ann Pfeifer, Sue Kappen, Mark Sullivan

### SJV Finance Council:

Erik Wakeling (Chair), Barbara Ewers, Nick Durgan, Cathy Suda,  
Greg Takisaki

### SP Parish Council:

Kathy Foreman, Fred Meyer, Joan Dunn, Emily Klein, Lori  
Sullivan, Tom Lutyens

### SP Finance Council:

Bill Trudeau (Chair), Fred Meyer, Carmen Ballard



## Mass Times:

SJV: Sat. Vigil 4 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.

SP: Sun. 8 a.m.

Daily Mass: SJV 8:15 a.m., Tues.-Fri.

## Eucharistic Home Visits

If you are homebound or ill, and want to receive Holy  
Communion, please call the office.

## Eucharistic Exposition for Adoration

SJV: Wed. 8:45a.m. - 5p.m.

2:30 p.m. — 3:30 pm Every First Saturday is  
Holy Hour for Vocations

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Every Last Saturday is  
Holy Hour for SJV School

SP: Tue. 5-6 p.m.

## Confessions By appointment, and regularly at:

SJV: Sat. 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

SP: Tues. 5-6 p.m.

## Sacraments of Baptism & Holy Matrimony

Parents seeking baptism for their child should fill out a  
baptism request form on our website 3 months  
intended baptism date. Engaged couples should contact  
the office 6 months before the intended wedding date to  
begin marriage preparation.

## Interested in Becoming Catholic?

Interested in becoming Catholic, or want to ask about our  
OCIA program? Please call Mike Heywood, 509-999-8374.

Office: (509) 926-5428 SJV / SP

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141125, Spokane Valley, WA 99214

SJV Location: 503 North Walnut Road / SP Location: 2521 North Park Road

Website: www.sjvchurch.org / Email: sjv@dioceseofspokane.org / Facebook: StJohnVianneyCatholic

## LECTORS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday Dec.20	SJV		
Lectors	S. Kappen	L. Tannehill	
EMs	M. Johnson	J. Kappen	V. Moore
Sunday Dec. 21			
Lectors	P. Sauve	A. Nordhus	
EMs	D. Hamlin	J. Williams	B. Haugen
Sunday Dec. 21	SP		
Lector	M. Frei		

## Stewardship Report - SJV

12/7/25	Collected	Budgeted	YTDCollected	YTDBudget	Difference
Offertory:	\$ 13,139	\$ 7,692	\$ 157,568	\$ 176,923	\$ <b>19,355</b>
Assistance	\$ 1,110		\$ 17,859		
Building	\$ 1,152		\$ 13,011		
School:	\$ 1,528		\$ 26,752		
Special Projects	\$ 160		\$ 1,172		

## Stewardship Report - SP

12/7/25	Collected	Budgeted	YTDCollected	YTDBudget	Difference
Offertory:	\$ 1,952	\$ 1,481	\$ 34,819	\$ 34,058	\$ 761
Assistance	\$ 370		\$ 2,020		
Building	\$ 195		\$ 1,752		
Fuel	\$ 145		\$ 960		
School:	\$ -		\$ 50		

## MASS INTENTIONS

	Offered For	Requested By
Tue	+ Harold Kellams	Don & Arlene Spragg
Wed	Thanksgiving Florian	Rhea Devera
Thu	+ Scott Freeman	Gene & Mavournene Daspit
Fri	PENANCE SERVICE	
Sat	John Oliveri	Tim & Ann Sandiford
Sun	8 am People of SP	
	10 am People of SJV	

If Mass is ever canceled, please know that the intention will be offered in the next available Mass.

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Second collection for the Assistance Fund - **NEXT WEEK**

## FAMILY FUN!

This Sunday (Dec. 14) after 8 a.m. Mass come join the SP Knights of Columbus and SP Altar Society for Breakfast with Santa and their annual Bake Sale and Craft Fair at St. Paschal

## YOUNG AT HEART LUNCH

Join the *Young at Heart* for a potluck lunch this Thursday, Dec. 18 at noon in the Kathy Reisenauer Parish Hall at SJV. Enjoy good food & company. Everyone is welcome!

## THANK YOU!

The Court Madonna of the Valley #2556 thanks everyone who attended the Annual Catholic Daughters Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction. Your generosity allows us to continue to provide financial assistance to local non-profit agencies in the Spokane area. We appreciate your support.

Christmas is a time of giving as we celebrate the special gift of Jesus Christ. In the spirit of the season, we ask you to prayerfully consider bestowing a special Christmas gift to our programs. Different programs you can support include; **Religious Education** - It is our Religious Education program that helps us to live and share our Catholic faith through the integration of academics, moral values, spiritual growth and pray. Includes OCIA (Adults), Sacramental Preparation (children/youth), Bible studies, prayer groups and Vacation Bible School.

**Assistance Fund**- This program disburses thousands of dollars annually to help the poor in our community. By providing food, gas cards and help with utility bills, we share Christ's love with our community.

**Lighting Project** - Next year we are planning on redoing our lights in the church - improving functionality, supporting energy savings and enhancing worship.

**SJV Catholic School** - By providing a quality Catholic education, regardless of ability to pay, St. John Vianney Catholic School helps to create faithful servants of Christ.

**Rectory Improvement** - Part of our call to service is to care for our priests. Improvements at the rectory provide a safe home for the priests who serve our parishes.

**Kathy Reisenauer Endowment** - We are blessed with an endowment to help ensure the continued success of St. John Vianney parish and school. By contributing to the growth of the endowment, you help secure the financial stability of our community.

Thank you for considering a special gift to the parish programs this Christmas.

## Help Decorate for Christmas

To prepare our parishes for the coming of Christ, we need help with decorations. If you are available, please consider lending a hand.

St. Paschal - December 21 after Mass  
St. John Vianney - December 22 at 9 a.m.

## Sunday Reflection

Friends, on every Third Sunday of Advent the Church cannot refrain from “jumping the gun”, so to speak, by anticipating, if only briefly, the coming mood of celebration. Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin meaning “Rejoice!” So, on this Sunday of rejoicing the rose candle is lit, the priest’s vestments lighten, and the tone of Advent shifts. All this is to remind us that even in the midst of Advent’s waiting and longing, joy breaks through. Yes, our liturgy today invites joy to overflow in us but let’s be honest: when we look around the world, joy can feel like a contradiction. Wars are persistent, innocent lives are lost daily, families continue to break up, and reports of injustice and violence dominate the news. Even in our personal lives, we carry burdens, illness, grief, and uncertainty. So, how can the Church dare to command us: Rejoice!?

Mother Church invites us to rejoice on this Sunday, not because things are wonderful, with no pain or sorrow or uncertainties, but because God is in our midst. Joy is the witness that should come out of us when we truly and freely embrace our faith. It is the reality that cannot come from my country or culture but from the fact that I know that God is here and now in my situation, in my family and in my circle of friends, and that I am known, loved and accepted by Him. Joy should be the basic mood of the Christian or as G.K. Chesterton once said; “Joy is the gigantic secret of the Christian”. It should not be something artificial or forced but something that bubbles up naturally from our sharing Christ’s vision of life.

Our readings for today drive the above point home very well. In the 1st reading the Prophet Isaiah speaks to a people in exile, crushed by despair. Yet he proclaims: “The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.” Joy here is not naïve optimism. It is rooted in God’s promise: that the wasteland will bloom, that the weak will be strengthened, that sorrow will be turned into everlasting joy. Isaiah reminds us that joy is not the denial of suffering but the presence of God’s saving power in the midst of it. It is the conviction that suffering does not have the last word.

And in the Gospel, John the Baptist who has given everything for the mission is now in prison. He sends his disciples to ask Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” This is a question born of struggle, doubt, and pain. Even John, the great prophet, wrestles with doubt in the darkness of his cell. And Jesus responds not with a simple “yes, or no” but with signs of joy: “The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” In other words: wherever Jesus is, despair is met with hope, brokenness with healing, death with life. That is the cause for joy not because the world is free of atrocities, but because God has entered into the world’s pain and is transforming it from within.

At the heart of this Gaudete Sunday is the fact that Joy is not a denial of hardship. It rather is the conviction that Christ is present, healing, and saving even when life feels like a desert. It is the courage to trust that God’s promises are true, even when we cannot yet see their fullness. Like John, we may have questions. Like Israel, we may feel exiled in our own struggles. But the joy of Christ is not brittle, it is resilient. It blooms in deserts, it sings in prisons, it shines in the darkest nights.

So how do we live this joy or be agents of Christ’s Joy. We can start by noticing the small signs of God’s presence; this can be a kind word, a healing moment, a glimpse of hope. By strengthening the weak hands and encouraging fearful hearts around us. By proclaiming good news to the poor not only materially, but even through our presence to anyone who feels forgotten or unloved. Let us always remember one thing, Joy is contagious. When we live it, we spread it.

May we always keep in mind that on Gaudete Sunday, the Church does not ask us to ignore the darkness. It asks us to light a candle in it, to rejoice not because everything is perfect, but because Emmanuel, “God with us” is near. Let our joy be defiant and prophetic. Let it say to the world around us; “You may wound us, but you cannot steal our hope. You may break our hearts, but you cannot erase the promise of Christ.

### SCHOOL NEWS Christmas Concert



Celebrate the season with us! Our Christmas Concert is Thursday, December 18.  
Dress Rehearsal is at 1:30 p.m. and the concert is at 6:30 p.m.

Stay after the evening concert and enjoy some fellowship and cookies, baked by our 8<sup>th</sup> Graders.

### Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

Please consider making a donation to the Catholic Charities Christmas collection.

- Feed the hungry.
- Heal the hurting
- Welcome the stranger

You can pick up envelopes from the vestibule or make a secure donation online at [www.donateCCEW.org](http://www.donateCCEW.org)

### PRO-LIFE ROSARY

Join in prayer to intercede for the lives of the unborn. Prayer of the Rosary outside of Planned Parenthood in the Valley every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon. Questions? Contact Mary Riehle at 509-995-5575

### UPCOMING SERVICES

- **December 19** - Advent Penance Service 4 p.m. at SJV
- **Christmas Eve** - 4 p.m. at SVJ with Christmas Carols beginning at 3:30 p.m.
- **Christmas Day** - 9 a.m. at St. Paschal
- **January 1** - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - 9 a.m. at SJV

There will be no Adoration on Christmas Eve





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