St. John Víanney Church

September 17, 2023 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Forgive as the Lord forgives you.

#### Catholic Diocese of Peoria Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA, Pastor Fr. Chris Haake, Parochial Vicar Mass: Sunday 8:00 AM Wednesday 5:30 PM

Reconciliation: 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM PO Box 183, 313 S West St Cambridge IL 61238 Phone: 309-937-3304 Email: stjohnvianney3@gmail.com www.facebook.com/stjohnvianneycambridge

Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA: Email: frghislain@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org PO Box 249, 390 E Highway Ave, Woodhull IL 61490 Fr. Haake: Email: fatherhaake@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org 406 W. Central Blvd, Kewanee IL 61443

> Religious Education: Terri Borkgren 309-945-2628 Greeting Cards: Mary Kay Newman: 309-944-7032 Parish Secretary: Rita Taylor 309-714-8278

St John, The Apostle Mass Sunday 5:00 PM PO Box 249 390 E Highway Ave Woodhull IL 61490 Phone: 309-334-2180 Fax: 309-334-2136 Secretary: Tena Anseeuw stjohnchurch@divcominc.net St John, The Evangelist Mass Saturday 4 PM | Sunday 10:00 AM PO Box 18 212 NE 1st St Galva IL 61434 Phone: 309-932-2409 Secretary: Linda Simmons stjohngalva2@gmail.com

Date	Mass Intentions	Given By	
Sep 17 8:00 AM Sunday	For: Bob Dobbels For: Maurice Franck	By: Dale & Linda Doubler By: The Franck Family	
Sep 20 5:30 PM Wednesday	For: Orville Ossian	By: The Family	
Sep 24 8:00 AM Sunday	For: Richrd Nichols For: Jeff Nichols	By: Pat Ripperger By: Ruthann Nichols	
Sep 27 5:30 PM Wednesday	For: Carolyn Ossian	By: The Family	

# Serving at Our Lord's Altar

Lay Ministry Schedule for September 17 - 27, 2023				
Sunday Extra Min: Lector:	September 17 Bill Taylor Don Hulin	8:00 AM		
Wednesday Weekday M	, September 20 ass	5:30 PM		
	September 24 Chris DeKezel & M Larry Lavin			
Wednesday, September 27 5:30 PM Weekday Mass				
USHERS				
September: Brian Boberg & Dale Stiles October: Bob Olson & Dwaine VanMeenen				
COUNTERS				
September: Don & Sharon Hulin October: Brian Boberg & Carol Dobbels				

#### Other Weekday Masses:

Woodhull: 8:00 AM Tuesday & Thursday Galva: 8:00 AM Wednesday

# For Prayer Chain requests contact:

Terri Borkgren: 309-945-2628 or Julie Dwyer: 309-507-1627

#### Dates to Remember:

Sep 20: Finance Meeting after 5:30 PM Mass Sep 21: Blood Drive in church hall 2-6 PM Sep 28: A&R Meeting 6:30 PM Oct 08: Father G's 50th birthday

#### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Xander Carlson, Donna Dobbels, Tom Montgomery, Mary Lou Robinson, and Judy Brockway Skelton. Please pray for the sick, their loved ones, and caregivers. May they never lose sight of the



love of God.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

Before going into the hospital, please call Fr. Ghislain at 309-334-2180. If you are admitted to the hospital or nursing home prior to Fr. Ghislain anointing you, please tell admittance that you are Catholic. They will arrange for the designated chaplain to anoint you and will notify Fr. Ghislain.

# Thank You to the September

A & R Committee for providing the delicious food at the Coffee Hour last Sunday. The food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.



The new Living Faith booklets for October-December are available at each door. Everyone is invited to take one home.

# GIVE GIVE LIFE

# **American Red Cross Blood Drive**

Thursday, September 21, 2023 2 to 6 PM St John Vianney Church Hall Contact: Don Hulin 937-2648

"A happy marriage is the union of two good forgivers."

~Robert Ouillen~

## In the Words of St. Augustine

"There are many kinds of alms, the giving of which helps us to obtain pardon for our sins; but none is greater than that by which we forgive from our heart a sin that someone has committed against us."

**Bulletin Information-**Next combined bulletin will be Oct 1st. Please send in your information to the parish secretary by Sept 18th.

## Mass with Bishop Tylka

at St. John's in Galva at 10 AM Sunday, September 24th. See bulletin board for details.



#### St. John's Woodhull Chicken Dinner Sunday, September 24th.

See bulletin boards for details.

Trivia Question (answer on last page) What is the condition for receiving God's forgiveness? a) you have to be kind to others b) you have to be humble c) you have to forgive others who sin against you



#### **September 10, 2023** Gifts to God

**Collection:** 

\$845.09 **Building Fund:** \$440.00 Sunday Total: \$1,285.09

**BUILDING FUND:** To make a donation towards the upcoming project to repair or replace the parking lot, please mark your weekly envelope "Building Fund".

2023 ADA-The 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway in our parish. Thank you to all who have already made a pledge. No gift is too small, and our parish is trying to reach 100% participation. If you received your pledge card in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. If you have not, there are pledge cards in the pews. Every dollar raised over our goal of \$12,998 will be returned to our parish and used for needed projects.



# Forgíve From the Heart

As Christian stewards, we recognize that all we have and all that we are is a gift from God, and we live our lives in a grateful response to such extravagant love. This calls for continuous conversion of heart. The

practices of giving a portion of our time, our talents and our treasure are essential steps on the path to conversion. But they serve an even deeper purpose than helping us remember our good intentions. They open our minds and hearts to ever-deepening surrender to the Lord, who has given us every good thing. Today's readings call us to look inward to the state of our hearts, those aspects of ourselves that cannot quite be quantified or measured, but which are the deepest part of us — our thoughts and emotions.

Our first reading, from Sirach, addresses the complicated emotion of anger. "Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight... Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?... If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath, who will forgive his sins?" We have all been wounded by others at some point, some perhaps quite deeply. Our emotions are gifts from God. But we must steward them well, rather than allowing them to overcome us. How do we do this? Sirach tells us. "Remember your last days, set enmity aside... Think of the commandments... remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults." We embrace the stewardship mindset — not brooding over hurts, but recalling all the gifts our good God has given us, all the love He continually pours out upon us, and we put our focus and trust in Him.

In other words, we live for God and not ourselves. What freedom this approach to life brings! All we have is a gift from the Lord. He loves us completely and we can rest in this truth. Knowing this, we need not cling to anger over injustices. God is Lord over all. St. Paul puts it this way in our second reading from Romans: "For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's."

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus gives us a provocative reminder of the true position we have before Him in light of all that He has done for us. He compares the kingdom of heaven to a "king who decided to settle accounts with his servants." In the parable, a debtor is brought before the king, owing such an overwhelming debt that it could not possibly be repaid. Yet, the king is filled with compassion for the servant, forgives the debt and lets him go free. Doesn't that sound like each of us in relation to the King of Kings? The Father has given us life, and then sent His only Son to die for us to free us from our sin "debts" and make eternal life with Him possible for us. Like the servant in the parable, it is impossible to repay this debt. All we can do is thank God by giving Him our whole selves — our outward actions and our inner selves — and by treating our fellow debtors with the same compassion and forgiveness He has shown to us. In fact, Jesus rightfully and justly commands us to "forgive your brother from your heart." What joy and freedom of heart we find in the stewardship way of life!