

# Saint John Neumann Catholic Church

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

He delivered us from the power of darkness  
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

— Colossians 1:13



St. John Neumann exists to lead people to a  
transformative encounter with Jesus Christ.

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Closed Monday & Wednesday: 11:00-11:30 a.m. for Daily Mass

9633 E. OH-37, SUNBURY, OHIO 43074 • [WWW.SAINTJOHNSUNBURY.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTJOHNSUNBURY.ORG) • 740-965-1358



# ADVENT A SEASON OF INVITATION

You're invited!

Starting December 1st, St. John Neumann will journey together through Hallow's Pray25 Challenge, preparing our hearts for Christmas through daily prayer and reflection. Need help getting started? Visit our website or scan the QR code to get started.

Advent Begins: November 30

Mass Times:

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Advent Reconciliation Service: December 3

Time: 6:30 pm

The Vigil Project Concert: December 4

Time: 7:15 pm

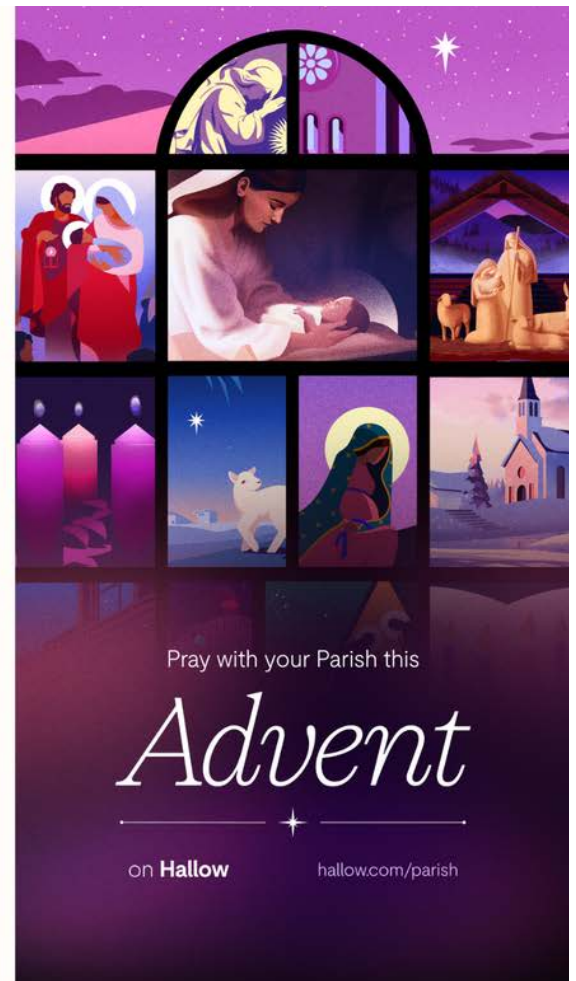
Immaculate Conception

of the Blessed Virgin Mary: December 8

Mass Times: 11:00 am, 6:30 pm

Children's Christmas Pageant: December 21

Time: 3:00 pm



## THANKS GIVING DAY Mass

There are no Confessions or 6:00 pm Mass this day.

NOVEMBER 27 | Thursday  
10:00 am

We will also be collecting 40 oz cans of yams and 16 oz cans of frosting mix for Big Walnut Friends Who Share for Family Christmas Boxes.



ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS:  
**THE VIGIL PROJECT**

# WAY OF THE STAR

A one-night Advent mission experience of  
Scripture, music, art, and Eucharistic encounter



THURSDAY DECEMBER 4, 2025 // 7:15 PM

ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
9633 E, 9633 OH-37, SUNBURY, OH 43074

- QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT
- PAUL STOKELL PSTOKELL@STJOHNSUNBURY.ORG

THEVIGILPROJECT.COM







**Children's Christmas Pageant Final Call**

Our Children's Christmas Pageant rehearsals are underway—and there's still time to join! Kids in Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to rehearse Sundays from 2:00–3:00 pm in the church.

Register on our website or contact Rich Krehnovi at [rkrehnovi@stjohnsunbury.org](mailto:rkrehnovi@stjohnsunbury.org).

The Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 21, at 3:00 pm.



## YEAR-END WIN-WIN

Do you want to support St. John Neumann while enjoying tax benefits this year? Start now – IRA rollovers can take up to a month to complete.

**Make your retirement savings work twice as hard before year's end. Donors 70½+ can give up to \$108,000 tax-free from their IRA to a qualified charity like The Catholic Foundation, through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD)—lowering your tax bill while building St. John Neumann's future through our endowment fund. For those ages 73 or older, QCDs also count toward the required minimum distribution (RMD) for 2025.**

Christy Steffy, Development Officer at The Catholic Foundation, will make the process simple and answer your questions. Contact Christy at 614-443-8893 x 1100 or [CSteffy@Catholic-Foundation.org](mailto:CSteffy@Catholic-Foundation.org) today!



**SOLEMNITY OF  
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**Holy Day of Obligation  
Mass Times:  
11:00 am & 6:30 pm**



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

## KEEP CHRIST *In Christmas*

### POSTER CONTEST & MAGNET SALE

The Knights of Columbus will be selling *Keep Christ in Christmas* magnets after each Mass over the Nov. 29th & 30th and Dec. 6th & 7th weekends. Magnets are \$5.00. They make great Christmas gifts for family and friends.

The Knights also invite all boys and girls in Kindergarten through 8th grade to participate in the *Keep Christ in Christmas* poster contest!

- Entry forms, rules, and timelines will be available after all Masses the weekend of November 29–30 in the Hall of Saints.
- Entries and posters will be collected before all Masses the weekend of December 13–14.
- Forms can also be completed online on the SJN website.
- Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners in each age group!

See the full details on the SJN Website or scan the QR Code





# LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups are small groups dedicated to connecting, studying, praying, and serving.



## Join Now!



### What is a Life Group?

Life Groups make space to share the authentic joys and challenges of life while striving to live out our Catholic Faith.

### Why Join a Life Group?

- You desire to find connections and friendships in our parish.
- You want to study and grow in your faith.
- You want to be part of a community that prays with and for each other.
- You want to be challenged and supported in your relationship with Christ.

By joining or forming a life group, you are helping our parish to bring people to a transformative encounter with Jesus Christ. Life Groups continue to be one of the most effective means to draw individuals, small groups, and our entire parish closer to Christ, the Catholic Church, and a life of prayer and the Sacraments. Join a Life Group and help transform our parish!

[saintjohnsunbury.org/join-a-life-group](http://saintjohnsunbury.org/join-a-life-group)

## EUCCHARISTIC Adoration



We currently have four hours each week with no scheduled adorers.

Please consider signing up for an hour to help fill these open slots:

- Sunday: 2:00–3:00 am, 3:00–4:00 am
- Friday: 2:00–3:00 am
- Saturday: 4:00–5:00 am

### Holiday Adoration Schedule

Blessed Sacrament Reposed:  
Wed, Nov. 26 – 11:00 am  
Blessed Sacrament Exposed:  
Mon, Dec. 1 – 11:30 am

#### Christmas & New Year's

Blessed Sacrament Reposed:  
Mon, Dec. 22 – 11:00 am  
Blessed Sacrament Exposed:  
Mon, Jan. 5 – 11:30 am

Sign up for your hour at  
[saintjohnsunbury.org/adoration-chapel](http://saintjohnsunbury.org/adoration-chapel) or scan the QR code.



### Thank You for Your 2026 Offertory Pledges!

**WE'RE GRATEFUL TO THE 422 FAMILIES WHO HAVE ALREADY SHARED THEIR COMMITMENT, HELPING US REACH 41% OF OUR GOAL.**

**If you haven't yet had the chance, we invite you to share your intention to give – even if your gift remains the same. Your participation supports the mission of our parish and reflects your ongoing faith journey.**

Let's continue to grow together in faith and generosity.

Submit Your Offertory Pledge on the website at  
[saintjohnsunbury.org/offertory-drive](http://saintjohnsunbury.org/offertory-drive).  
**Thank you for your generous support!**







# Family of Faith

Our desire is to help all members of the family to grow as disciples of Jesus.

## Coming Soon: Family of Faith 2025 Advent Collection Challenge

What We're Collecting:

New socks and underwear for children (ages 5-18) served by the Brian Muha Foundation's Run the Race Center. We'll also gladly accept infant/toddler sizes and diapers for the Racers' families.

Who's Competing:

Family of Faith students will compete in three teams:

1. Elementary (Grades 1-4)
2. Middle School (Grades 5-8)
3. High School (Grades 9-12)

Goal:

Collect the most new pairs of socks and underwear!

- 1 point = 1 pair donated
- Team bins will be located in the Faith and Family Center

Collection Dates:

November 30 – December 31, 2025

Prize:

Winning team earns an Ice Cream Sundae Bar during a 2026 ministry session!

Donations will be sorted and packed for delivery at our Family of Faith Community Night on Tuesday, January 27th.

## High School Youth Ministry Friendsgiving

Join us for an evening of thanksgiving, friendship, and worship!

Enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving meal, fun games and activities, and a time of Adoration with praise and worship music.

Date: Sunday, November 23

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

Location: Faith and Family Center and the Church

## NOVEMBER 2025 EVENTS

### 11/23 (Sun)

- Baptism Preparation Class 10:15 – 11:15 am
- Baptisms 12:15 pm
- Confirmation Class 3:00 – 4:30 pm
- High School Youth Ministry Friendsgiving 6:00 – 8:00 pm

## DECEMBER 2025 EVENTS

### 12/7/ (Sun)

- SEEK A First Communion Prep Session 10:15 – 11:15 am
- Middle School Youth Group 3:00 – 4:30 pm
- Youth Discipleship Facilitator Training 6:00 – 8:00 pm

### 12/9 (Tues)

- SEEK B First Communion Prep Session 6:30 – 7:30 with Pizza at 6:15 pm

### 12/10 (Weds)

- First Reconciliation Service for First Communicants 6:30 pm

### 12/14 (Sun)

- Baptisms 12:15 pm
- Confirmation Class 3:00 – 4:30 pm
- High School Youth Ministry Advent/Christmas Party 6:00 – 8:00 pm

### 12/21 (Sun)

- Baptism Preparation Class 10:15 – 11:15 am
- Baptisms 12:15 pm

**Save the Date!**

**High School Youth  
Discipleship Launch:  
January 18**

# SJN OUTREACH

## **FAMILY PROMISE SERVICE WEEK – NOVEMBER 23–29**

Our parish's final Service Week of 2025 begins this Sunday, November 23, during Thanksgiving week. We'll be providing all meals, groceries, and supplies for the families this week. To help ease the load over the holiday, the meal items have been divided.

- **Tuesday: Pizza night** – a volunteer is needed for side dishes and a \$5 tip for the driver (by 5:15 pm).
- **All other nights:** Meal drop-off between 5:15–5:45 PM (earlier is fine).

For more information or to sign up, visit the SJN Volunteer page or scan the QR code.

Please note what meal you're bringing in the comments to avoid duplicates. Supply donations can be placed in the Family Promise bin in the Hall of Saints.

**Family Promise House: 39 N. Washington St., Delaware, OH**  
**Parish collection item: Paper Towels**



## **BIG WALNUT FRIENDS WHO SHARE CHRISTMAS & ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION DATES: NOVEMBER 22–30**

### **St. John Neumann Donations for Family Christmas Boxes:**

- 60 cans of yams (40 oz)
- 60 cans of frosting mix (16 oz)

### **Annual Food Drive**

Most Needed Food Drive Items:

- Canned soups & broths (all varieties)
- Crackers (saltine or oyster)
- Canned meats (roast beef, pork, diced ham, chicken, tuna)
- Chili & sloppy joe mix (e.g., Manwich)
- Peanut butter (18–24 oz) & jelly (24–30 oz)
- Pasta & pasta sauce (especially meat flavor)
- Cereal, pancake mix, syrup, & oatmeal
- Mac & cheese; noodle & rice side dishes
- Canned veggies
- Canned fruit, especially oranges & pineapple
- Mashed potatoes & stuffing; gravy mixes or jars



# Christmas Angels

## Annual Christmas Angel Project

The Annual Christmas Angel Project, sponsored by the Good Samaritan Ministry, offers our parishioners a meaningful way to support families and individuals in need during the holiday season. This is a wonderful opportunity for our parish family to lend a helping hand.

### Requesting Assistance

If you or someone you know needs assistance in the form of gift cards for food, Christmas presents, household items, or gas, please visit the Christmas Angel Display on the counter in the vestibule between the church and the walkway.

There, you can complete the form titled "Do You or Someone You Know Need a Christmas Angel?"

We encourage you to help those in need by inviting them to participate or by offering to complete the form on their behalf. Once completed, please place the form in the provided envelope and deposit it in the white drop box located on the wall outside the Parish Office.

**All requests must be submitted by December 2, 2025.**

### Becoming a Christmas Angel

If you'd like to be a Christmas Angel, please provide gift cards from Kroger, Walmart, Aldi, Meijer, Kohl's, Target, or Visa/Mastercard/gas cards. Place them in the provided envelope found in the vestibule, write the gift card amount on the card, and include your name and address. Drop the envelope in the white drop box outside the Parish Office.

**All gift cards must be submitted by December 2, 2025, so we can ensure timely delivery to the individuals and families.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to:  
Jacci Asbury: 614-395-6735 or Jacciasbury@gmail.com

Thank you for your generosity and support!

## ST. JOHN NEUMANN (SJN) CONFERENCE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (SVDP)

### Annual Expense Summary

In this season of Thanksgiving, the members of the SJN conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) wish to share our gratitude with the parish for your support of our service to the poor.

**"No work of charity is foreign to the Society," but we depend on others to help us fulfill our mission.**

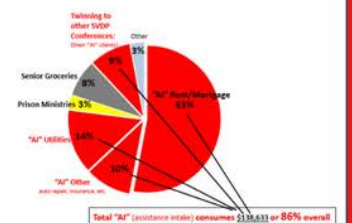
Donations (parish envelopes, grants, Walk for the Poor sponsorship) increased again this past fiscal year. This allowed us to continue serving local individuals in need as the cost of rent, utilities, and food all increased. Your donations provided food and helped keep neighbors in their homes with working utilities. Your prayers allow us to "serve in hope."

The pie chart illustrates how our conference used our financial blessings from 10/1/24 through 9/30/25. 86% of our funds (\$138,633) were directed to Assistance Intake (AI): rent/mortgage, utilities, and other bill paying AND "twinning" (sharing funds with other SVDP conferences when the need was more than one conference could handle). 14% of our funds supported our conference's other ministries: "Senior groceries" (food given once monthly to residents of two low-income housing complexes in Sunbury); "Prison Ministries" (Bible studies and navigating life after release); Big Walnut Friends Who Share; Family Promise; and others.

**We thank God for your role in making sure we can serve & support the needy in our community. Vincentians bear witness to the love of Christ in many ways, including their relationships with those in need. All are invited to join us in spiritual growth and service. We meet every 4th Monday (except Dec.), 7:00 pm in Room 3 below the Faith and Family Center (FFC). Please contact Angela Ray, conference president, [aeray5@msn.com](mailto:aeray5@msn.com) if you have questions or comments. God bless.**



St. John Neumann Conference  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
Sept 2025 Fiscal Year Expenses by Category





# To Everything There is a Season: The Roman Liturgical Calendar

By Paul Stokell, Adult Formation Director

*“Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas... and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind to Christ’s second coming.”*

*If you have questions about how the Mass is celebrated (in this parish or elsewhere), or about any of the other Sacraments, send them to [pstokell@stjohnsunbury.org](mailto:pstokell@stjohnsunbury.org)!*

Are you ready for the “New Year”? Our Church’s liturgical calendar is a rhythm of created time (*Chronos*) that unfolds for us the timeless mysteries of Christ in this world and the next (*Kairos*)—from Incarnation to Ascension, from Pentecost to the Parousia. Rooted in Scripture and shaped by centuries of tradition, the Roman Calendar guides communal worship and personal discipleship. As the Constitution on the *Sacred Liturgy* teaches, “In the course of the year, the Church unfolds the whole mystery of Christ” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, no. 102).

Advent begins the liturgical year, a season of *hopeful expectation* and preparation for both the Nativity and Christ’s Second Coming. Marked by violet (not purple!) vestments and the gradual lighting of the Advent Wreath, it invites us to “stay awake” (Matthew 24:42) and prepare our hearts. The *General Norms for the Liturgical Year* emphasize its dual focus: “Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas... and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind to Christ’s second coming” (GNLY, no. 39).

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation—God made flesh in Jesus Christ. The season begins with the Vigil Mass on December 24 and continues through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 12 this coming year). White and gold vestments reflect joy and heavenly glory. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14) is its central proclamation. The *Roman Missal* offers rich texts that echo the angelic hymn: “Glory to God in the highest” (Luke 2:14).

Ordinary Time follows in two segments: after the Baptism of the Lord, and after Pentecost. “Ordinary” means “counted,” not “plain,” and is a time of *spiritual growth*, marked by green vestments. The Church reflects on Christ’s public ministry, calling us to discipleship. Sunday readings from the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke, “seen together” by its common sources) guide our journey. As the *Lectionary for Mass* notes, “The Sundays in Ordinary Time... present the mystery of Christ in all its aspects over the course of the year.”

Lent is a penitential season of *conversion* and *renewal*, beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 5 in 2026) and culminating in Holy Week. Again, violet vestments and the omission of the *Gloria* and the *Alleluia* signal its muted, somber tone. Inspired by Jesus’ 40 days in the desert (Matthew 4:1–11), the Church calls us to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The *Ceremonial of Bishops* reminds us: “Lent prepares the faithful for the celebration of Easter through a spirit of repentance and renewal” (no. 249).

The Sacred Paschal Triduum—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil—is the heart of the liturgical year. It commemorates the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. Each day has its own liturgical color: white for Holy Thursday, red for Good Friday, and white/gold for the Vigil. “Christ our Passover has been sacrificed” (1 Corinthians 5:7) resounds in the Easter Proclamation (*Exsultet*). The *Roman Missal* emphasizes the unity of these days: “The Easter Triduum of the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord is the culmination of the entire liturgical year.”

Our Easter Season spans 50 days from the Vigil to Pentecost, a time of *joyful celebration* of the Resurrection and the birth of the Church. White vestments and the repeated singing of “Alleluia” mark its festivity. The Acts of the Apostles is central, narrating the early Church’s witness. “He is not here; he has risen!” (Luke 24:6) is the Easter cry. The Church’s *Directory on Popular Piety* encourages the faithful to live Easter “as a time of spiritual joy and renewal.” Pentecost, the fiftieth day, celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit and the Church’s mission. Red vestments symbolize the Spirit’s fire. “They were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:4) marks the beginning of the work of evangelization. The General Instruction of the *Roman Missal* notes: “Pentecost Sunday concludes the Easter season and celebrates the gift of the Spirit.”

Ordinary Time (Part II) resumes after Pentecost, continuing the journey of discipleship. It includes solemnities like Corpus Christi and Christ the King, which deepen our Eucharistic and eschatological awareness. The green vestments remind us of ongoing growth in faith and charity.

Through these seasons, our Church not only remembers but *makes present* the saving mysteries of Christ. As Benedict XVI wrote, “The liturgical year is a journey with Christ through the mysteries of his life” (*Sacramentum Caritatis*, no. 61). Let’s walk this path with reverence, joy, and renewed commitment to live as missionary disciples.

Read more Little Liturgical Lessons like this:

<https://saintjohnsunbury.org/little-liturgical-lessons>



## SCHEDULE

**Sunday, November 23**

**Giving Tree Gifts Due**

**SCRIP**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

8:30 am Confessions

9:00 am Mass (People of the Parish)

10:15 am Baptism Preparation Class-Padre Pio

10:30 am Confessions

11:00 am Mass (Peter, Deodit and Polly Borges††)

12:15 pm OCl

Baptisms

2:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant rehearsal

3:00 pm Confirmation Class - FFC

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Mass (Steve Napolitano †)

6:00 pm High School Youth Friendsgiving

**Monday, November 24**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

10:30 am Rosary

11:00 am Mass (Ed Kramer †)

6:00 pm Society of SVdP Meeting

**Tuesday, November 25**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

5:00 pm Confessions

5:30 pm Rosary

6:00 pm Mass (John Corbett)

**Wednesday, November 26**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

10:30 am Rosary

11:00 am Mass (Connie Corbett)

The Blessed Sacrament Reposed

12:00 pm Parish Office Closed at Noon

**Thursday, November 27**

**Thanksgiving Day**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

**The Blessed Sacrament Reposed**

10:00 am Mass (Jim Akers)

6:00 pm No Mass or Confessions

**Friday, November 28**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

**Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale**

10:30 am Rosary

11:00 am Mass (Susan Devlin)

**Saturday, November 29**

**SCRIP**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Family Promise Week**

**Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale**

3:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass (Delphine Guanciale †)

**Sunday, November 30**

**SCRIP**

**BWFWS - Christmas Collection**

**Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale**

8:30 am Confessions

9:00 am Mass (Anna Tornos †)

10:30 am Confessions

11:00 am Mass (People of the Parish)

2:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant rehearsal

4:30 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Mass (Carole Cordi †)

## CONDOLANCES

We offer our condolences to, and our prayers for, the Kavage/DeGenova and Kuhn/Koch families. Michael Kavage, father of parishioner Mary Kavage DeGenova, passed away on November 9th. James Kuhn, brother of parishioners Jack, Mark, and Joe Kuhn, and Amy Koch, passed away on November 12th. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

## SACRAMENTS & PARISH REGISTRATION

### Anointing of the Sick

Call the Parish Office at 740-965-1358. After office hours, you will select Option 1.

### Bulletin Requests

Monday at Noon Deadline. Contact Krissy Ciacchi - kciacchi@stjohnsunbury.org

### Becoming Catholic

Contact Paul Stokell - pstokell@stjohnsunbury.org

### Confirmation (2-year prep)

Contact Sarah Gantz - sgantz@stjohnsunbury.org

### First Communion (2-year prep)

Contact Amanda Westrick - awestrick@stjohnsunbury.org

### Funeral Planning

Contact Lynne Stelmach - lstelmach@stjohnsunbury.org

### Marriage Prep / Weddings / Baptism

Contact John Pratt - jpratt@stjohnsunbury.org

### Parish Registration

Contact Julie Bando - jbando@stjohnsunbury.org

## ADORATION, CONFESSION AND MASS TIMES

### Confession

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 5:00-5:50 pm

First Fridays: 10:00-10:50 am

Saturdays: 3:00-3:50 pm or by appointment

Sundays: 8:30-8:50 am, 10:30-10:50 am, 4:30-4:50 pm

### Eucharistic Adoration

Perpetual Adoration is located in the Chapel.

Unlocked hours: 7:00 am-7:00 pm. To sign up, visit:

[saintjohnsunbury.org/adoration-chapel](http://saintjohnsunbury.org/adoration-chapel)

### Mass Times

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 11:00 am

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 6:00 pm

Saturdays: 4:00 pm

Sundays: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

First Saturday of the Month: 9:00 am

## OFFERTORY

Thank you for supporting St. John Neumann's mission. Your generosity is vital to the success of our community. The offertory for November 16, 2025, was \$48,954. Thank you for your commitment. To donate online, please scan the QR code below.





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