

St. Mary & St. Charles St. Mary & St. John Parishes

We welcome you to our parishes. If you would like to become a member of one of our parishes, please contact the parish office (994-2526) Bloomington or (725-5595) Cassville to register. For those who are interested in becoming Catholic or returning to the Catholic faith, please contact Fr. Greg.

Reconciliation

Thursdays- 7:30-8:00 a.m. St. Mary's, Bloomington
Saturdays- 3:30-4:15p.m. at St. Charles, and 7:15-7:45 p.m. at St. Mary's Glenn Haven

Communal Reconciliation (with visiting priest)
Dec. 13 -St. Mary Church, Bloomington at 7:30 p.m.

May God bless our new parents! Please contact Fr. Greg to schedule the baptism of your child and to attend a baptismal preparation session.

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage! Please call Fr. Greg at least six months before the wedding. One of the parties must be a practicing Catholic.

If someone is seriously ill, hospitalized, or is dying, please contact the Bloomington parish office immediately. Please call the parish office if there is someone who would like to be included in the Mass prayers.

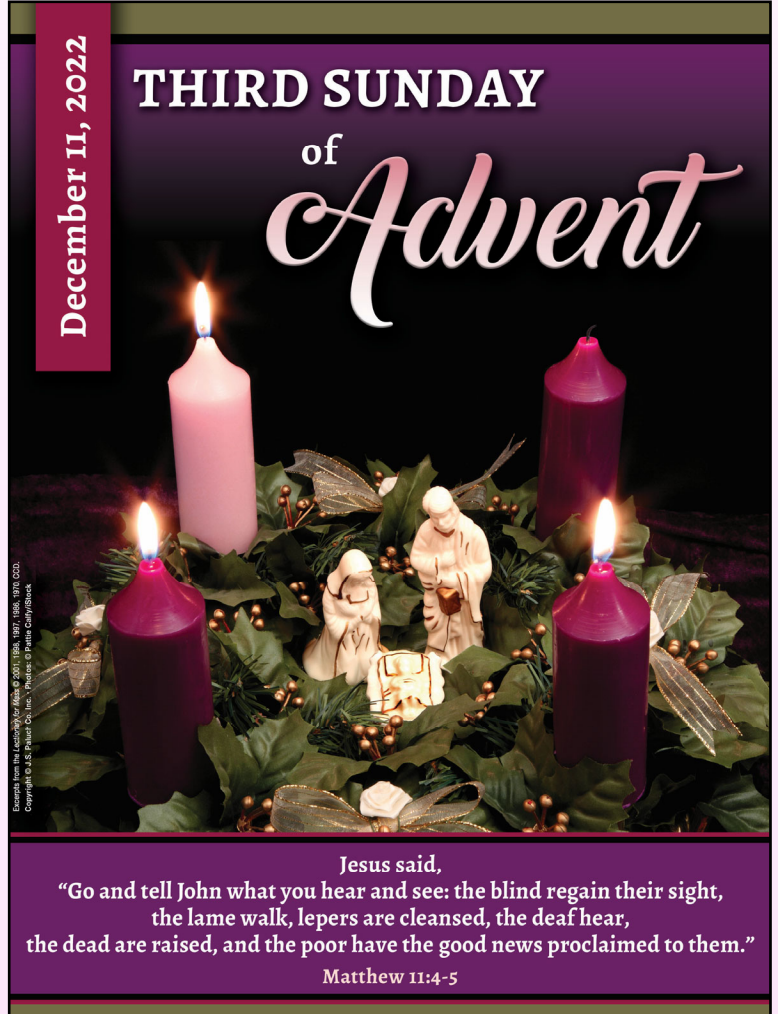
Please contact Fr. Greg if you or someone you know would like to learn more about becoming a priest, brother, sister, deacon, or lay church minister. Please pray for more vocations to the priesthood and all religious ministries!

Family and Academic Excellence

St. Mary and St. Charles Schools admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin.

St. Charles Parish Office Hours (608)725-5595
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 a.m.-noon

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



1421 The Lord Jesus Christ, physician of our souls and bodies, who forgave the sins of the paralytic and restored him to bodily health, has willed that his Church continue, in the power of the Holy Spirit, his work of healing and salvation, even among her own members. This is the purpose of the two sacraments of healing: the sacrament of Penance and the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

stchas@tds.net (Cheryl Junk)

at www.swwicatholicparishes.com.



Liturgy Schedule

Sat.	12/10	4:30 PM	Joe Esser	(Cassville)
		8:00 PM	Pro Populo	(Glen Haven)
Sun.	12/11	7:30 AM	Living and deceased members of the Charlie & Cathy Martin family	(Patch Grove)
		9:30 AM	Jim and Shirley Wegmuller	(Bloomington)
Mon.	12/12	8:15 AM	Gene Walz	(Cassville)
		8:45-9:30 AM	Adoration	(Cassville)
Tues.	12/13	8:15 AM	Henry & Margaret Makovek	(Cassville)
Wed.	12/14	8:15 AM	Lucille, Gene and Gary Vogt	(Bloomington)
Thurs.	12/15	8:15 AM	John, Peter and Lorraine Mergen	(Bloomington)
Fri.	12/16	8:15 AM	No Mass	
Sat.	12/17	4:30 PM	Living and deceased members of the Pete & Eileen Brinkman family	(Cassville)
		8:00 PM	Bill Thornton and David Coates	(Glen Haven)
Sun.	12/18	7:30 AM	Pro Populo	(Patch Grove)
		9:30 AM	Susan Mergen and Joanne Mergen Guess	(Bloomington)

Scripture for the week of December 12, 2022

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any
readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



Baptism

We joyfully welcome to God's holy family
Millie Elizabeth Junk, daughter of Cody Junk and
Phoebe Fure who was baptized at St. Charles church.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses on December 24:

4:30 p.m. at St. Charles Church, Cassville

8:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church, Glen Haven

Christmas Day Masses on December 25:

7:30 a.m. at St. John Church, Patch Grove

9:30 a.m. at St. Mary Church, Bloomington

FRASSATI FEST IS BACK!

If you are a current high school student or someone who works with them plan to attend the Diocese of Madison's Frassati Fest at the Kalahari in the Wisconsin Dells this Feb. 10-12! Join the two hundred-plus teens and adults from across the diocese for a weekend of fun and prayer. The cost is \$250.00 (financial assistance is available if needed to attend this event.)

Please contact a parish office or Fr. Greg before December 19 for more information and to register.



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

"You come to me and unite
Yourself intimately to me under
the form of nourishment. Your
Blood now runs in mine, Your

Soul, Incarnate God, compenetrates mine, giving courage and support. What miracles! Who would have ever imagined such!"- St. Maximilian Kolbe



Fr. Greg's Reflections

Blessed Gaudete (Rejoice!) Sunday

The desert and the parched land will exult... Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you.

When we experience trauma we respond in an attempt to prevent being hurt again. Bodily muscles react this way (example: sprained ankle swells and stiffens to protect itself); the human heart acts similarly. We are going to look at the Anatomy of a Wound: think of 3 concentric circles the inner most one represents **Wounds**, the middle circle are **Beliefs**, and the outer circle are **Inner Vows**. "Together they form a fortress of self-protection (a stronghold), representing layers of insulation around our heart, a futile attempt at protecting us from further pain." (p. 113) There are two types of traumas the first "may include not being cherished and celebrated by one's parents; not knowing we are a delight; not being understood or nurtured; not receiving appropriate discipline or boundaries; not being able to develop personal freedom or talents. Have you ever thought of these as wounds or traumas?" The second type of trauma "are the bad things that happen to us. They are what we typically think of as traumatic events: death, divorce, violence, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, abandonment by a parent or spouse, witnessing someone else being abused or injured, and so forth." (p. 114)

Seven Deadly Wounds and Identity Beliefs

Abandonment: "I am alone; no one cares or understands.

Fear: "I am afraid; if I trust I will be hurt/die."

Powerlessness: "I can't change it; I am too small/weak."

Hopelessness: "Things will never get better; I want to die."

Confusion: "I don't understand what is happening."

Rejection: "I am not loved, wanted, or desired."

Shame: "I am bad, dirty, shameful, stupid, and worthless
(Because of what happened to me I am unlovable; I will never recover.)

"When we are wounded, we often internalize messages about ourselves. We may believe with our intellects that we are God's beloved children, but our hearts believe a different message.... Initially our distorted beliefs protect us from feeling pain, but in the long-term they become part of the mechanism by which our pain gets locked into our body and soul." (p. 115-116)

"Inner Vows are decisions we make consciously or unconsciously to protect ourselves, comfort ourselves, and take care of ourselves, usually in the midst of chaos and trauma... These unholy vows are quite different from the holy vows we pronounce as part of the sacraments. Inner vows are often taken unconsciously, in the depths of our hearts in response to fearful circumstances. In contrast, sacred vows are spoken publicly for everyone to witness." (p. 118)

Examples of Inner Vows: "I will never fail again"; "I will take care of myself, I don't need anyone else"; "I don't want this other person to have what I can't have"; etc.

"Bring all you are suffering to [Jesus]... only open your heart to be loved by Him as you are. He will do the rest." St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Quotes and paraphrasing are taken from "Be Healed" by Dr. Bob Schuchts

Communal Reconciliation (with visiting priest)

Dec. 13 -St. Mary Church, Bloomington at 7:30 p.m.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL NEWS

Faith, Family and Academic Excellence

If you would like to get into the Christmas Spirit come to the **St. Mary School Program on Wednesday evening, December 14.** The program starts at 7:00 p.m. with the younger children singing Christmas carols

followed by a play presented by the 5th - 8th graders which emphasizes the True Meaning of Christmas.

The Home and School Association is sponsoring a Calendar Raffle for the month of January. Please contact the school office at 608-994-2435 if you are interested in purchasing a chance to win.

Every year at this time we have what is called "Christmas Club" where people can donate money for gifts for the St. Mary Parish staff. If interested you may leave a donation at the parish office or at school.

SCRIP Fundraising Challenge

"The SCRIP program will be holding a Scrip push this year again. Our goal this year is to sell \$40,000 from November 27 - December 31. SCRIP has over 150 companies who support our program, including local businesses right in Bloomington and is a great way to raise money for our church and school year round.

This year Route 35 will be helping us host a pizza party along with the Home and School Association if our Scrip goal is met. We are very appreciative of their generosity. SCRIP may be purchased at Economy feed mill or the school. If you have questions about SCRIP please reach out to Molly Breuer 563.608.5734."



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

It is time again to think of decorating our churches for Christmas, and we are asking the members of St. Mary's and St. John's churches to help by purchasing poinsettias in memory of their loved ones. **The prices for the flowers are \$17.00 for a small poinsettia, \$30.00 for a medium poinsettia, and \$42.00 for a large poinsettia.** Parishioners also have the option of making a donation to help offset the cost of decorating the churches.

Memorials may be dropped off at the parish office or put in the weekend collection before December 18. Please indicate on the envelope what size plant, which church it is being given to, the name of the person(s) it is being given in memory or honor of, and your name.

Love God, serve God; everything is in that.
- St. Clare of Assisi



2022 HARVEST FUND

Thank you to everyone who has supported our St. Mary's Harvest Fund! We are very gratefully to the families who have given donations totaling \$21,240.00 so far. We hope all of our parish members will be able to share their bounty and blessings to help with fall and winter expenses for the parish. We asked that each single person donate at least \$150.00 and each family donate \$300.00. Thank you to the very generous parish members who have donated a wagon load of corn. We deeply appreciate all contributions large or small and thank the many generous parishioners for their continued support.

Goal:
\$50,000
\$45,000
\$40,000
\$35,000
\$30,000
\$25,000
\$20,000
\$15,000
\$10,000
\$5,000
\$0



Religious Education

The next Family Faith Formation classes will be at **St. Charles School on Wednesday, December 21 in Cassville with a meal at 6:30 p.m. and class at 7:00 p.m.**

The Youth Group will meet on Wed., January 25, 2023 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's, Bloomington.



St. John's Doughnut Sunday

St. John's Doughnut Sunday Christmas gathering after the 7:30 a.m. Mass on December 11, 2022.

Come and enjoy fellowship and a sweet treat.

The One for Whom Our Hearts Long

Put yourself in the scene of today's Gospel passage. John the Baptist is in prison. He has heard stories of what Jesus is doing, and wants reassurance that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. John's disciples and those who surrounded Jesus were faithful Jews who would have known Isaiah's prophecies by heart. God would send One who would bring sight to the blind, healing to those who were ill, salvation to all who longed to know God's mercy and peace. Jesus' response to the disciples' question rings as powerfully in our ears today as it surely did for the people who were with him that day. His actions are precisely those that the people had been told to expect. Jesus is the One for whom the people have been patiently yet anxiously waiting, like the farmer who waits for the fruits of his labor. Jesus is the One for whom our hearts long.

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATES

PLEASE HELP US PAY OUR EXPENSES

<u>St. Mary's Collections for the period ending December 2, 2022</u>	
Church Support.....	\$2,920.00
Offertory.....	\$316.55
Harvest Fund.....	\$580.00
School Tuition.....	\$61.64
Matching Funds from Alliant Energy.....	\$3,700.00
Memorial Candles.....	\$50.00
Rent of Parish Facilities.....	\$75.00
St. John's Reimbursement for Expenses.....	\$1,746.17
Votive Candles.....	\$277.90

St. Mary's families are asked to generously contribute toward the support of parish expenses. It is suggested a family to give \$1,000.00 and a single person \$500.00 per year.

St. John's Collections for the week ending on December 2, 2022

Church Support.....	\$200.00
Offertory.....	\$197.10
Harvest Fund.....	\$200.00

St. John's families are asked to generously contribution toward the support of parish expenses.

St. John's Ministry Schedule for December 18, 2022

<u>7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass</u>	
Lector:	Bob McLimans
Communion:	Roger McKinney
Ushers:	Ray Breuer, Gene Harris
Servers:	Matthew & Ty Tolle

St. Mary Ministry Schedule for December 18, 2022

<u>9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass</u>	
Lector:	Pat Casey
Communion:	Pat Casey
Sacristans:	Pat Casey
Gifts:	Volunteers Needed
Ushers:	Eric Fuerstenberg, Tony Trento
Servers:	Leif & Gabe Kluesner



Christmas Flower Memorials

St. Charles Cassville Parish members and St. Mary's Help of Christian, Glen Haven: If you would like to request Christmas Memorial Flowers, please put the person you want listed for the memorial and your donation (any amount), in an envelope and drop it off or put it in the offertory collection. You may also mail it to P.O. Box 166, Cassville, WI, 53806.



Advent Breakfast Thank You's

Thank you to all who supported our school and religious education students by attending the breakfast and purchasing raffle tickets! Joe Breuer was the first place winner of \$100. Thank you to all who worked at the breakfast and to all who donated raffle items. A special thank you to the following businesses for their donations: Rosemeyer Management Group (Platteville), J&J's Sand Bar, Janet's Flowers, Hair by Holly, Cassville BP, Royal Bank, and Oak Haven Distillery (Glen Haven).

Religious Education

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The Youth Group will meet on Wed., January 25, 2023 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's, Bloomington.

St. Charles Celebration Musical CD's

St. Charles Church Celebration Musical CD's are available for \$10. Sign up for one in church or contact the St. Charles Parish office at 725-5595 and leave a message.



Canned Beef for Sale

St. Charles has pints of Canned Beef available for \$10.00. This would make a great Christmas Gift! Contact Cheryl at 608-725-5595 to place your order.



St. Charles School

Please call the office 608-725-5595 for more information about enrolling your child(ren) at our school.

St. Charles' school admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

WANT TO KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS?

FEED THE HUNGRY, CLOTHE THE NAKED, FORGIVE THE GUILTY, WELCOME THE STRANGER AND THE UNWANTED CHILD, CARE FOR THE ILL, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, AND GO TO MASS.



Reflection

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."
James 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.



Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12)

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, first appeared to Cuauhtlatzin (Juan Diego) on December 9, 1531 while he was on his way to a Eucharistic celebration in Tlatelolco, Mexico. The Virgin addressed him by his indigenous name, asking him to go to the palace of Archbishop Zumarraga to request that a shrine be erected there at the site of the apparition, in Tepeyac, so as to share her love and compassion for all believers. Juan Diego did so, but the archbishop did not believe him, demanding proof of his story and of the Lady's identity. He returned to Our Lady daily, and on December 12, he conveyed to her the archbishop's request for proof. She showed him Castilian roses blooming there through the stony ground despite the winter's cold. He picked the flowers and carried them in his *tilma* (mantle) to the archbishop. When he unfolded his *tilma* to present the roses, Mary's image was imprinted on the mantle! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a *mestiza*, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.

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PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATES

St. Mary's, Glen Haven for December 3, 2022:

Church Support.....\$110.00
Offertory.....\$32.00

St. Charles, Cassville for December 3, 2022

Church Support.....\$1,990.00
Offertory.....\$126.00
Christmas Flowers.....\$155.00

PLEASE HELP US PAY OUR EXPENSES

St. Charles suggested giving is \$1,400.00 a year for a married couple and \$700.00 a year for a single household.

Of what use are riches in eternity?

-St. Aloysius Gonzaga

St. Charles' Ministry Schedule for December 17, 2022

4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass
Lector: Abby Tasker
Communion: Judy Adrian
Servers: Audrey & Aimslee Tasker
Ushers: Tim, Holly & Adison Tasker

St. Mary's, Glen Haven 8:00 p.m. Mass on Dec. 17, 2022

Lector: Joe Breuer
Communion: Joe Breuer
Servers: Luke Patterson, Tim Breuer
Ushers: Ed Breuer, Ken Breuer



Celebrate Life

"One thing is certain: When the time has come, nothing which is man made will subsist. One day, all human accomplishments will be reduced to a pile of ashes. But every single child to whom a woman has given birth will live forever, for he has been given an immortal soul made to God's image and likeness."

— Alice von Hildebrand, *The Privilege Of Being A Woman*

Life Begins at Conception!

At 18 days a baby's heart begins to beat and by the 43rd day after conception a baby's brain is coordinating movements. All of a baby's organs are functioning at 8 weeks and a baby can smile, suck his/her thumb and make a fist by 12 weeks.

Help is Available

If you need support for an unplanned pregnancy, please contact the **Clarity Clinic of SW Wisconsin** at 608-348-5787 or email at clarityservices@claritywi.com or the **Women's Care Center in Madison, WI** at 608-241-8100. For more information on pro-life issues, visit www.WisconsinRightToLife.org.

Natural Family Planning

Register for in-person education courses or for a self-paced online course: <http://www.madisondiocese.org/classes-andregistration> Questions? Call 608-495-6117 or email: nfp@straphael.org

Project Rachel - Healing from Abortion

Are you or a loved one carrying the sorrow and regret from abortion? Whether recent or long ago ... God is waiting ... Healing is possible. **For confidential help**, call or email Mary: 608-821-3177 or visit www.madisondiocese.org/rachel.



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." This Advent make the decision to grow in your marriage by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Jan. 20-22 virtual; Feb. 10-12 in Geneva, IL or April 21-23 in Brookfield, WI. For more info go to: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.

Cassville AA and Al-Anon Meetings

The AA meetings are every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building in Cassville.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is now: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

-Call, text or chat. Mention you are a farmer and they will provide help specific for farmers.



"Eternal Father I offer you the most precious blood of your divine son Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen." **Prayer of St. Gertrude for the Souls in Purgatory**

MEETINGS

- *January 5, 2023– St. Charles Parish Council meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- *January 16 - St. Mary's Parish Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in Bloomington
- *March 15-St. John's Parish Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

EVENTS

- *December 13-St. John's Food Pantry at 12:30-1:30 p.m.
- *December 14-St. Mary's School Christmas Program
- *January 10 -St. John's Food Pantry at 12:30-1:30 p.m.
- *January 28—St. Mary's Spaghetti Supper
- *January 29-February 4 -Catholic Schools Week
- *March 3 - St. Mary's Fish Fry

KC Council 4416 News

Our Council received the 2022 State Raffle Ticket Rebate in the amount of \$1,778. The council now has the 2023 State Raffle Tickets for any member wanting to take tickets to family gatherings during the holidays. The sales of these raffle tickets help keep the council viable. The council will disperse raffle tickets with the dues notice on January 1, 2023. If a member wants raffle tickets before Jan. 1, please call Gordon Kremer at 608-778-7159.

The council will not be holding meetings during the holidays, so our next meeting will be Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church basement in Bloomington.

SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS (c. 1542-1591) Feast December 14-

How beautiful the experience of love for God and neighbor, a fire deep within! How disheartening when love suddenly cools and our souls grow dark, our prayer arid. How painful when misunderstanding, even rejection, comes our way, sometimes from those we least expect. For all such "seasons of the soul," an inspiring fellow-pilgrim is the poet and mystic John of the Cross. As a young Carmelite, he was recruited by Teresa of Ávila for her Discalced ("barefoot," evangelical poverty) Carmelite reform, striving to renew the Church from within after the Protestant Reformation had led countless religious away. John suffered unspeakably harsh abuse, even imprisonment, from friars who rejected this reform. Yet during these times of deepest suffering, John composed spiritual masterpieces that still guide souls to God, their titles reflecting his own painful yet ultimately victorious journey: from *The Dark Night of the Soul* through *The Ascent of Mount Carmel* to his *Spiritual Canticle* and *The Living Flame of Love*. John summarized his spirituality simply: "Put love where there is no love, and you will find love." —Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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and community.

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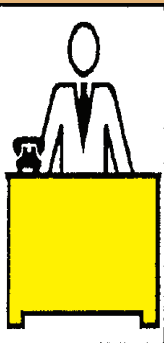
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