



VENÍTE, ADORÉMUS,
DÓMINUM



FROM THE DESK OF THE PARISH DIRECTOR

A very blessed Christmas to all! We especially welcome all who are visitors and guests with us today. Whether you are new to our community, a traveler, a guest of one of our parishioners, a student home from college, a former parishioner who has returned to celebrate with us, or someone looking for a church community, we are so happy that you have joined us. We hope you join us again, too!

On Christmas we celebrate God, the giver of all good gifts, as well as the gift of Jesus in our lives. We also celebrate the fact that each and every one of us is the recipient of that gift of Jesus. We only need to open our hearts to him. There may not have been room for Jesus in the inn, but we simply need to make room for Christ in our lives.

May you continue to be touched by the presence of Christ in your lives throughout the year ahead.

Debbie

SACRAMENTAL LIFE & PRAYER

SUNDAY: December 23 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:30PM **Mass** - Dorine DeLonay
†Foster & Gladys Braby
9:30AM **Mass** - †Richard Goehre
People of St. Catherine

MONDAY: December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:30PM **Mass** - People of St. Catherine
9:00PM **Christmas Concert** - Adult Choir
9:30PM **Mass** - People of St. Catherine

TUESDAY: December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

9:30AM **Mass** - People of St. Catherine

WEDNESDAY: December 26 - St. Stephen, the First Martyr

THURSDAY: December 27 - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

10:00AM **Mass** - Diane Watke for healing

FRIDAY: December 28 - The Holy Innocents

SATURDAY: December 29 - St. Thomas Becket

3:30PM **Reconciliation**
4:30PM **Mass** - †Gavin MacMurdo
People of St. Catherine

SUNDAY: December 30 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

9:30AM **Mass** - †Kurt Gross
†Claude & Michael Bechtel

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Tuesday, January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God, is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be celebrated as follows:

St. Catherine

December 31, 2018: 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
January 1, 2019: 9:30 a.m. Mass

Our Lady of Good Hope

December 31, 2018: 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

St. Bernadette

January 1, 2019: 9:00 a.m. Mass

Epiphany Concert

Join us for the performance of "Nativity" presented by the St. Catherine Choir on January 6, 2019 at 10:45 a.m. after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. It will also be presented at Lasata Crossings, Cedarburg, on Thursday, January 3. at 6:30 p.m.

2019 CALENDAR RAFFLE

Sale of calendars will end on December 31. Help support our parish by buying and/or selling a few.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

If you have been worshipping with us, but are not yet a registered member of the parish, we invite you to join. Even if you only plan to be in the neighborhood for a short time, joining the parish helps us to serve you and helps you feel like you belong. All Catholic adults who are 18 years old or older (unless they are in school or the military) are encouraged to register. You can do so on the first weekend of the month in the Granville Room following each Mass or by stopping in at the parish office. We appreciate your presence and your support.

AN INVITATION TO THOSE WHO'VE BEEN AWAY FROM THE CHURCH

Are you a Catholic who has been away from the church and recently returned . . . or have been thinking of returning? Do you have questions or concerns about the church that you would like to talk about? You are welcome to contact any member of our pastoral staff. They are more than happy to meet with you and help you explore any questions you might have. See the staff's contact information on the flap of this bulletin.

OUTREACH TO OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES, HOSPITALS & HOMEBOUND

Times of illness are stressful. We wish to visit with you or your loved one at home or in the hospital. Please notify us at the parish office, 414-365-2020, of your desires for prayers, regular visits, Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick and other needs.

ANOIDING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Sick (previously known as the "Last Rites") is meant for anyone who is ill, chronically sick, growing weaker or disabled. Twice a year we have a communal celebration at all of our weekend Masses. If you or a loved one desires the sacrament and are unable to come to this service or if you need it at another time, please contact our parish office to arrange a visit from one of the priests. (It is a great support for the sick person to have his or her family present for this sacrament.)

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

IRS regulations declare that contributions are deductible in the year that they are made. Cash or check donations for 2018 will be credited to your year end statement as long as they are received in the parish office by December 31, 2018. If you mail your contribution to the parish, the postmark should be no later than December 31, 2018. Otherwise all contributions postmarked January 1, 2019 or later will be recorded as a 2019 contribution.

ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER

If you are interested in making your contributions to the parish through regular deductions from your bank account, please contact Jon Gabik, our parish Director of Administrative Services, at 414-365-2020, ext. 12, or jgabik@stcatherinemke.org. You can also access the form on the parish website by clicking on "Giving", then scroll down to "Electronic Contributions" and click on the link "ACH Contribution".

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Our parish staff will not be in the office for regular hours over the holidays from December 23, 2018-January 1, 2019. If you wish to stop by or wish to meet with a particular staff member, we recommend you call ahead. The parish office will be closed on Monday-Tuesday, December 24-25, and the following week, Monday-Tuesday, December 31-January 1. In case of an emergency, when calling the parish office, press 4 upon hearing the outgoing message, leave a message and Debbie Hintz will be paged and will return your call.

FOCUS ON FORMATION

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Or were you baptized in the Catholic Church, but not raised in the faith and never received your First Communion? If you would like more information about preparation, please contact Lorrie Maples in the parish office at 414-365-2020, ext. 14, or email her at lmaples@stcatherinemke.org.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Were you or someone you know baptized and received First Communion, but have not been confirmed? If so, consider joining or inviting someone to join our adult confirmation process. This preparation program is for those who, for whatever reason, were not confirmed at the usual age (for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, the usual age of confirmation is 16/17 years or while in high school). If you are interested, please contact Lorrie Maples at 414-365-2020, ext. 14, or lmaples@stcatherinemke.org.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

First Reconciliation and First Communion are celebrated, generally, in second grade. Preparation for each sacrament consists of three parent/student sessions, and a mini-retreat held on Saturday mornings. Parents are an integral part of their child's preparation. Information regarding preparation for these sacraments was mailed home in August. If you did not receive this information or if your child still needs to celebrate one or both of these sacraments and is older than second grade, please contact Lorrie Maples at 414-365-2020, ext. 14, or lmaples@stcatherinemke.org.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

To have your child baptized, you will need to attend baptism preparation classes either during your pregnancy or after your child is born. Baptisms are celebrated at Mass on select weekends throughout the year. For more information, contact Lorrie Maples at 414-365-2020, ext. 14, or lmaples@stcatherinemke.org.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

If your child isn't enrolled in our Christian Formation classes or our school, Northwest Catholic, and you would like more information about classes, contact Lorrie Maples at 414-365-2020, ext. 14, or lmaples@stcatherinemke.org. Classes for grades 1 - 8 are held on Wednesday evenings; classes for high school on Sunday evenings. It's never too late to begin.

*As the Christmas season unfolds
for you and your family,
may you know the fullness of Christ,
the one who comes as a light in darkness
filling the world with protection,
power and presence;
the one who brings Christmas
to our hearts and our homes.*

*Blessings of peace, beauty and light
be yours now and in the New Year!*

A very blessed Christmas from the parish staff –
Debbie, Andy, Fr. Joe, Fr. Dick,
Lorrie, Jon and Teresa

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

FIRST FRIDAY BREAKFAST MINISTRY

St. Catherine extends its parish outreach by providing breakfast once a month to those in our neighboring community affected by the economy and anyone who wants to enjoy a delicious breakfast. The gathering offers breakfast from 8:00-9:00 a.m. on the first Friday of the month in the gym. All are welcome.

FOOD PANTRY

Our St. Vincent de Paul operates a food pantry on our premises. The pantry is open every other Friday. Call the parish office for a schedule. We also have a monthly food collection to stock the pantry on the weekend of the first Sunday of the month. However, you can bring donations of non-perishable food items at any time and place them in the barrels at both entrances of church. (Please, no items that have passed their expiration date.) Monetary contributions are also gladly accepted. Make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the second Friday of every month. The love of knitting and crochet combine a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort. Each shawl begins with a prayer and receives a final blessing on completion. Shawls are available for anyone who may need one. Call the parish office at 414-365-2020 to arrange to pick one up.

INTERFAITH FOR OLDER ADULTS

St. Catherine is a sponsor of the Granville Interfaith for Older Adults. This program assists older adults by helping them with transportation needs and shopping, escorting them to doctor visits, running errands for them and doing minor home repairs. Some people simply need someone to visit them. Others need regular check-in phone calls just to make sure they are doing okay. Because Interfaith is sponsored by churches, there is no charge for these services. If you know someone who could benefit from these services, call the Interfaith office at 414-353-0731.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUBSTITUTE MUSICIANS

We are grateful for our substitute organists/pianists who are with us while Andy Kucek is out on medical leave. Andy hopes to return soon after he recovers from knee replacement surgery. He is doing well at this point.

MARDI GRAS CASINO NIGHT

We're "letting the good times roll" before the start of Lent with our 8th Mardi Gras Casino Night on Saturday, March 2, in our school gym. The night will be held from 5:30-9:30 p.m. and includes dinner, casino games, silent auction and raffles. You won't want to miss out on the fun! Tickets will be on sale beginning the weekend of February 2-3.

WINTER FARMERS' MARKET & BRUNCH RETURNS IN 2019

The Tri-Parish Human Concerns Committee is again hosting the *Winter Farmers' Market and Brunch* on January 20, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This time the Market will be held in the cafeteria at St. Bernadette Parish. The event is jointly sponsored by the *Food, Faith and Farming Network* and the *Harvest of Hope*, a Wisconsin Family Farm Crisis Fund. More information will be forthcoming so please mark your calendar for this event.

PARISH INCOME

AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2017 (WEEK 25)

Due to this past week's early bulletin deadline, last week's income figures were not available at the time of printing.



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Northwest Catholic is sponsored by St. Catherine, St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Good parishes and exists to serve a diverse urban community through strong academics and service rooted in the Catholic tradition.

For a tour or more information, please contact the school office at the number listed below. You can also visit www.nwcschool.org. Northwest Catholic School participates in the Milwaukee School Choice Program. Before and after school care is available beginning at 6:30 am and ending at 6:00 pm.

Michelle Paris **Head of School**
Connie Peterson **School Leader**
Phone: 414-352-NWCS (6927) **Website:** www.nwcschool.org
Follow us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/nwcschool

Grades K4-8
7140 N. 41st Street, Milwaukee, WI 53209

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE

Our parish website at www.statherinemke.org contains a great deal of information about our parish. It includes information about all our many ministries, contact information for staff and the heads of our different ministries and groups, the weekly bulletin, upcoming events and more. Check us out!

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP

St. Catherine has a mobile app. With this app you can receive notifications about parish news and ministries, follow the daily readings from home or during Mass, read real-time news feeds from trusted Catholic sources, find more than three dozen frequently sought prayers. To download the app, iPhone users text [scoamke1](https://www.scoamke.com) to [555888](https://www.scoamke.com), and Android users text [scoamke2](https://www.scoamke.com) to [555888](https://www.scoamke.com).

EMAIL FROM THE PARISH

St. Catherine uses an email program called Constant Contact to send out weekly announcements to parishioners. This includes general information regarding liturgies, programs and ministries as well as funeral announcements. If you have not been receiving these, we most likely don't have your email address. If you would like to be added to our list, click on the link at the bottom of our website home page or contact Teresa in the parish office at 414-365-2020, ext. 10, or at tgross@stcatherinemke.org.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Our council members welcome your input and questions. Please feel free to contact them. You will find their contact information on our parish website or by calling the parish office. The Council generally meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Current Parish Pastoral Council members are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sue Niemi, Chairperson | Sue Armacost, Vice Chair |
| Debbie Hintz, Parish Director | Les Paulson, Secretary |
| Rick Korpela, Trustee-Treasurer | Pat Lehman, Trustee-Secretary |
| Ralph Boeckl | Nicole Hartley |
| Barbara Holt | Patrick O'Neil |
| Bill Protz | Sue Wassenberg |

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS		
December 9	Donation to St. Catherine	
December 10	Kathy Nead	Brown Deer
December 11	Phil DiPerna	Milwaukee
December 12	Meg Puckhaber	Onalaska
December 13	Ted David	Brown Deer
December 14	Ellie Imig	Thiensville
December 15	Kaitlin Beay	Grafton



ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA CATHOLIC CHURCH

8661 North 76th Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:30PM · Sunday: 9:30AM

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Tuesday 8:00AM Mass
Thursday 8:00AM Mass
Friday 8:00AM Mass on First Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Confessions are heard every Saturday from 3:30 - 4 p.m. and by appointment. Our reconciliation room is reached through the sanctuary. You will find it to the right of the altar. Communal services are held in Advent and Lent.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the Parish Office to begin the preparation process at least six months prior to the anticipated date. Parish membership is required.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In the past, the sacrament was known as the "Last Rites" and was given to a person who was near death. It is now known as the Sacrament of the Sick and is meant for anyone who is ill, chronically sick, growing weaker or disabled. Twice a year we have a communal celebration at both of our weekend Masses. You can also contact the parish office to arrange a time for one of the priests to visit. (It is a great support for the sick person to have his or her family present for this sacrament.)

PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office 414-365-2020
Parish FAX Number 414-365-2021

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday 8:30AM - 3:30PM

WEBSITE www.saintcatherinemke.org

PARISH STAFF

Debra Hintz.....Parish Director
Ext. 11, dhintz@stcatherinemke.org
Fr. Richard Mirsberger.....Assisting Priest
dmirs39@gmail.com
Fr. Joseph Hornacek.....Assisting Priest
hornacekj@wi.rr.com
Andy Kukec.....Director of Liturgy & Outreach
Ext. 15, akukec@stcatherinemke.org
Lorrie Maples.....Director of Christian Formation
Ext. 14., lmaples@stcatherinemke.org
Jon Gabik.....Director of Administrative Services
Ext. 12, jgabik@stcatherinemke.org
Teresa Gross.....Parish Administrative Assistant
Ext. 10, tgross@stcatherinemke.org



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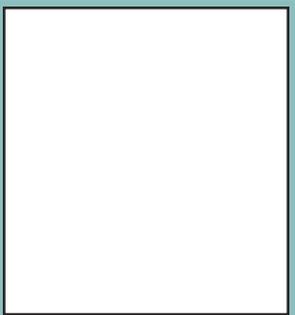
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