

St. Rita

CATHOLIC CHURCH WEST ALLIS, WI

Welcome to St. Rita

We are happy that you decided to worship with us. If you are visiting just for today, we pray that God will be with you on your journey. If you are seeking a church home, we would be happy to welcome you into our parish community.

Parish Office Hours

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

Pastoral Staff

Administrator

Fr. Charlie Zabler Ext. 21
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Pastoral Associate

Barbara Krieger Ext. 39
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Pastoral Musician

Kevin Bourassa Ext. 31
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Business Office

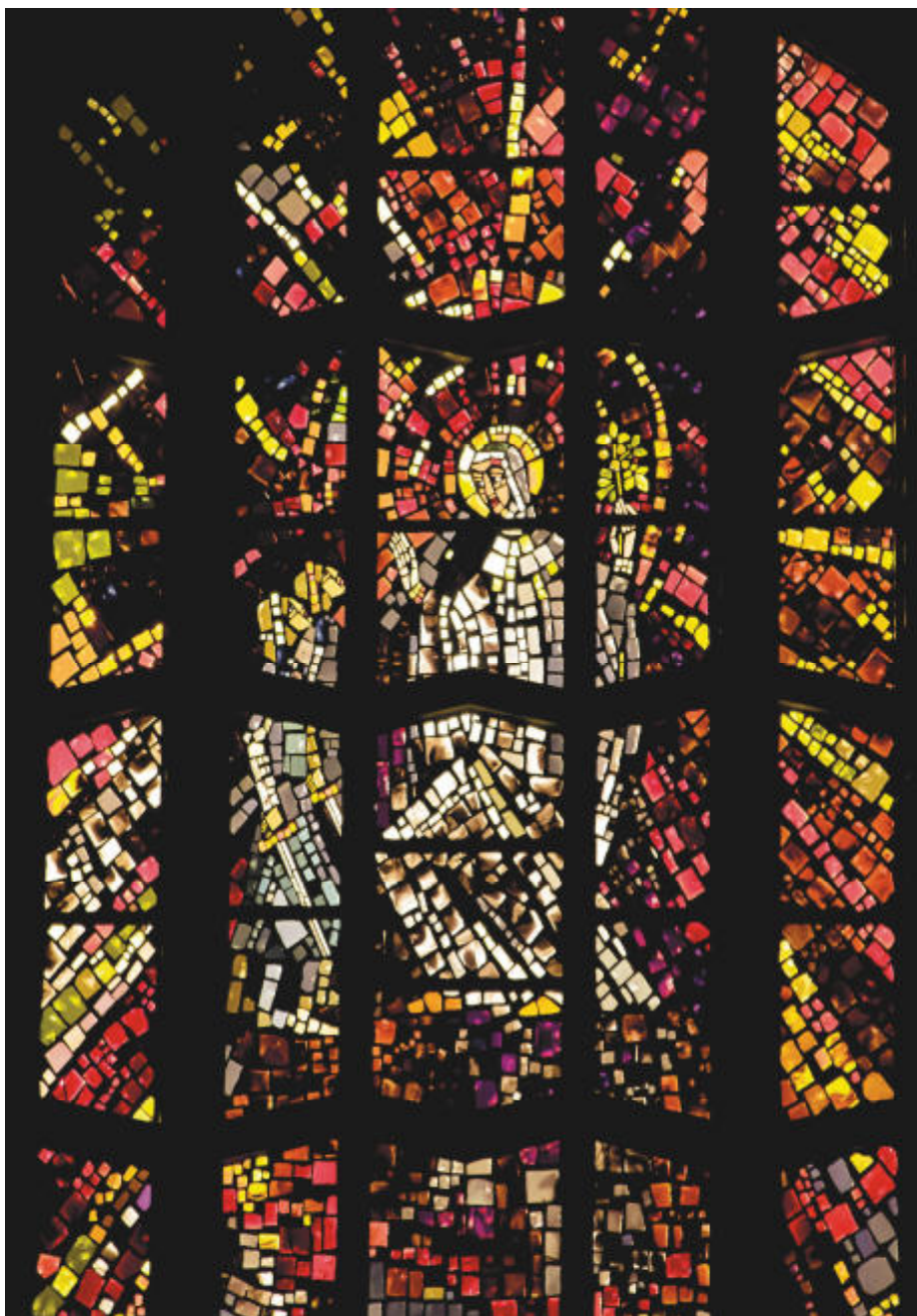
Ext. 15

Pastoral Council

DeAnna Grebe Chairperson
Rudy Erickson Secretary

Trustees

Pat Mitchell Jeff Anich



From the Desk of Fr. Charlie...



Fourth Sunday of Advent

How have your reflections on the "Promise" been going? Did you recall deals you made with God such as, "If I survive this illness I will never . . . ?" Maybe you felt betrayed by someone who broke a promise with you such as in partnership in a marriage, friendship or business venture? Such issues in life involving a "promise" are usually life changing for good or for bad!

The most emotional struggle for me was my need to "break a promise." I was sick with distress because I could not be present to someone. The event occurred while I was at the previous parish. There was a young man who sought Baptism. When the initial rites began I asked why he wanted to be baptized. He responded before the congregation, "Father Charlie helped me to know Jesus!" I was moved beyond measure. Within a few weeks I left for the Clergy Wellness Program in Pennsylvania.

The program designed with me and for me took longer than I had anticipated. When I became aware that I had to continue without interruption to the end I realized I would not be home for Easter Vigil, Jose's Baptism. What forced me to do what I needed for myself was the very event that liberated me from my trials and permitted new growth. Jose understood and I learned to accept that sometimes broken promises are necessary. Many of you have grieved over a broken promise, especially one that had to be for the sake of a better moral or ethical choice.

Sin came into the world because God's human creatures broke a promise, a test of loyalty and obedience as a sign of their relationship with God. God, however, is the keeper of promises which we call covenants. God cannot and will not break a promise. He kept the promise to save us by sending us the means of salvation. He fulfilled this promise in the conception and birth of Jesus. It was Jesus who in faithfulness to the Father entrusted to us a New Promise, a New Covenant sealed in his blood and signed with a kiss of peace. Peace for all who keep promises.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Charlie



Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for the January 12th / 13th bulletin is Wednesday, December 26th no later than 10:00 a.m.

From the desk of
the Pastoral Associate...

As we continue with the hustle and bustle,
as we check one more gift off our list,
as we bake one more batch of cookies,
as we hang those last few ornaments on the tree,
as we wrap just one more present,
as we finally get those cards in the mail,
as we finalize our plans for that great
Christmas feast,
as we get ready to leave those cookies for Santa . . .

As we start that list of New Year's resolutions,
as we begin thinking of those "return" lines in the stores,
as we give thanks for the kids being out of school,
as we wish school would start,
as we think about those holiday parties,
as we begin to notice that most people say "happy holidays,"
as we marvel at the beautiful light displays . . .

What is missing?

What have we forgotten?
It's not the gifts, the cards, the lights, the food, the parties . . .

It is the real REASON for this season . . .

Silent Night . . .

O Holy Night . . .

What Child is this . . .

JESUS!!! Happy Birthday to our King,
to our Lord and Savior.

It is not "happy holidays," it is MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Wishing you and yours a very blessed Christmas,
may you truly experience the real reason for
this season of light, love, and promise . . .

Blessings,

Barbara



The Parish Office will be closed from 3:00 p.m.
on Thursday, December 20th until 8:30 a.m.
Thursday, January 3rd.

Please plan accordingly.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, December 22

4:30 p.m. † Jane Page

Sunday, December 23

8:00 a.m. † Victor Mikecz

10:30 a.m. For the People of St. Rita Parish

Monday, December 24

4:30 p.m. † Arnold Pagelsdorf

Tuesday, December 25

9:00 a.m. † Eugene and Evelyn Owsiany

Saturday, December 29

4:30 p.m. For the People of St. Rita Parish

Sunday, December 30

8:00 a.m. † Edward Szopinski

10:30 a.m. † Kevin Soczka

December Tabernacle Light

In Loving Remembrance

Week 1: Sigmund Mischczak

Week 2: Reverend Marvin Lazarski

Week 3: Joan Bakke

Week 4: Ken and Kristine Miller



Readings for the Week of December 23rd

Sunday: *Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-18/
Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45*

Monday: *2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27
and 29/Lk 1:67-79*

Tuesday:
Vigil *Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25*

Day: *Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/
Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14*

Wednesday: *Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab,
16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22*

Thursday: *1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8*

Friday: *1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/
Mt 2:13-18*

Saturday: *1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35*

Next Sunday: *1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52*

Liturgical Publications Inc.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 23

NO Religious Education Classes

10:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, December 24 - Wednesday, January 2

PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Friday, December 28

Southside Meal Program

Sunday, December 30

NO Religious Education Classes

UPCOMING LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Prelude - 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Mass - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 25th

Christmas Prelude - 8:30 a.m.

Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 a.m.

Monday, December 31st

New Year's Eve Mass - 4:30 p.m.

(There will be no Mass on Tuesday, January 1st.)

In Loving Memory



We commend to God John Schlicht, Walter Usarek and Judith Ledvorowski, may their souls and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in eternal peace.

Southside Meal Program

This Friday, December 28th, is our Friday to provide for the Southside Meal Program. Please remember to bring your food to the server's entrance off the parking lot. If you have any questions, please call Sarah Walendowski at 414-837-6193 or Chris Crowbridge at 414-327-3932.





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