



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

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Pastoral Associate

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Pastoral Musician

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Business Office

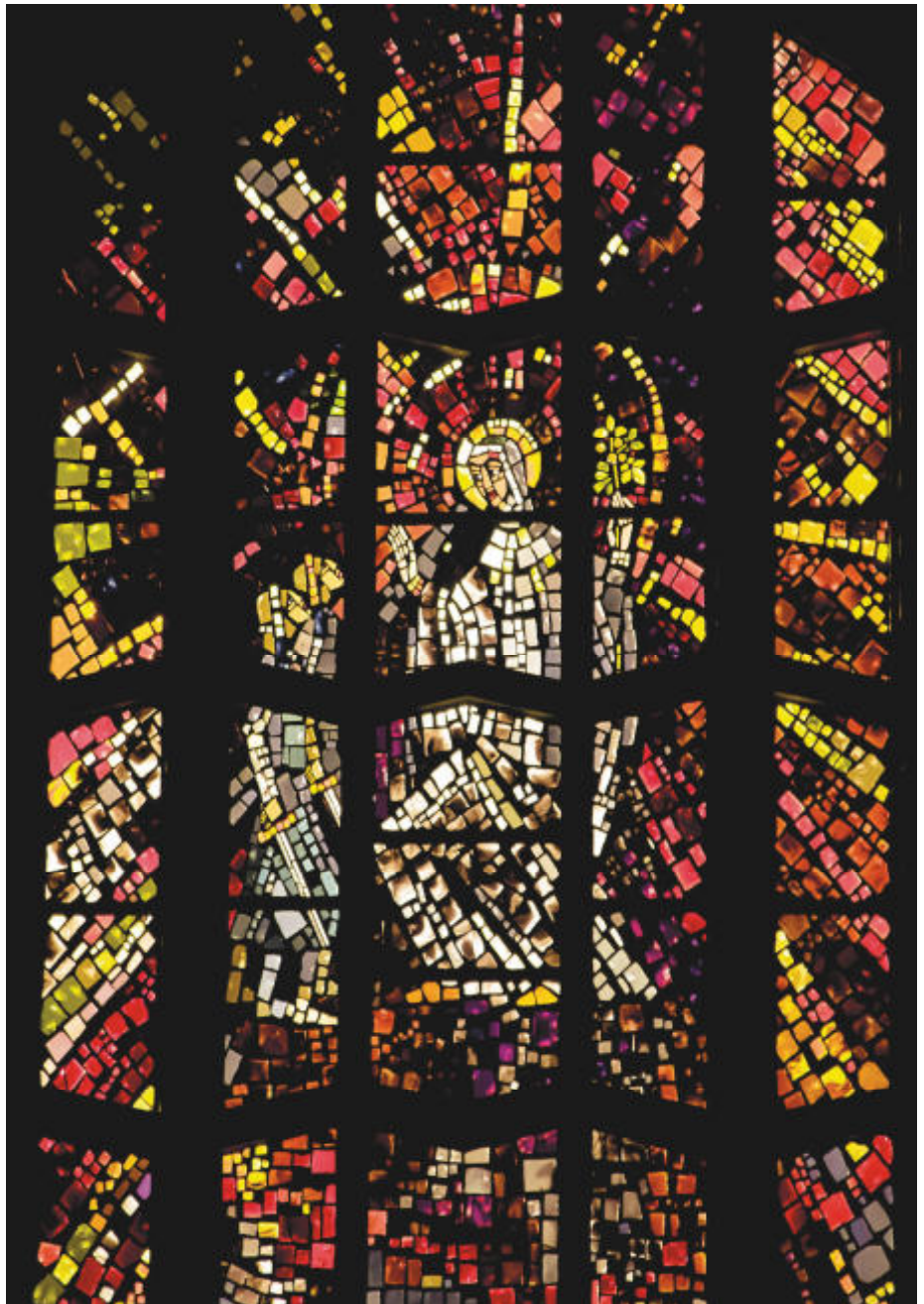
Ext. 15

Pastoral Council

DeAnna Grebe Chairperson
Rudy Erickson Secretary

Trustees

Pat Mitchell Jeff Anich



From the Desk of Fr. Charlie...



Holy Family

Mary and Joseph, with their child Jesus, form for us a family unit which we have come to reverence. It is good for us to pray about family life and relationships. As we know all too often, families today are often long suffering in tolerance of pain. Some families are formed without a true commitment to life shared between husband and wife as partners. While the chemistry of "love" has its initial infatuation, it will not sustain the relationship for years to come. The vow "to love and honor you in good times and in bad, in sickness and health for as long as we both shall live" is not fully at the core of the marriage.

Families exist for the mutual growth and security of the partners bringing out their best because of their love. Their support and companionship is designed to make them stand strong in the presence of blessings and trials. We also know that God uses the family as the environment for the creation, birth and rearing of children. Yet, today the cooperation of God in the process of bringing forth children is reduced to a biological function which reduces the meaning of what we gain in making love. While some hold sexual expression is only for the birthing of children, in the best of theological reflection sexuality is integral in the maturing of the individuals and their acceptance of sexuality in marriage is to produce children as both the expression and the character of the actions.

Today half of the marriages recorded with the state end in divorce. This pattern says something about those who make promises without the passion to keep the promise and covenant of marriage. Yet, the good news I have experienced is this: more and more couples are returning to religious celebrations of marriage and establishing a home. While we have fewer marriages in the church and active catholic members, the awareness of the preparation for the Liturgy of Marriage is most often profound and intimately an expression of faith.

The concept of a "Holy Family" is trying for those who are of same gender who enter civil relationships. Yet, many who do celebrate their love as believers are denied the right and the rites of marriage. I wonder what Jesus would say about this! Lord, bless every relationship with fidelity and love. Amen!

Fr. Charlie

Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for the January 19th / 20th bulletin is Thursday, January 10th no later than 10:00 a.m.

From the desk of
the Pastoral Associatg...

Bible Study is Back!!!

Our Bible study will return for an 8 week series beginning Monday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m. As in the past, the session will repeat Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Both sessions will be held in the chapel, so please park on 61st Street.

We will be studying Acts of the Apostles. The cost of the book is \$13.00 and can be paid at the first session. Please call me and let me know you'd like to join us.

Quad Parish Religious Ed Program

Just a reminder . . .

There are NO CLASSES today, Sunday, December 30th. Classes resume for grades 1 - 8 on Sunday, January 6th. There is NO CLASS for K4 / K5 on Sunday, January 6th.

Classes resume for K4 / K5, grades 9 and 10 on Sunday, January 13th.

Class resumes for grade 11 on Sunday, January 27th.
CONFIRMATION RETREAT - SATURDAY,
JANUARY 12th; 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Human Sex Trafficking Session - Sunday, January 13th at 6:00 p.m. in Church. This session is required for all high school teens.

One More Time . . .

I truly need to extend another HUGE "Thank You" to all of you for the Gifts at the Stable. The people from Women's Support Centers and the Center for Deaf and Blind Persons, were truly overwhelmed by your generosity.

Being the first year they have worked with us, they really didn't know what to expect. They were most thankful and grateful!! This Parish never ceases to amaze me with your generosity.

You truly have brought Christ's Light to so many this Christmas season.

Parish Life Committee

Please plan on joining us on Thursday, January 3rd at 6:30 p.m. as we finalize our plans for our "Cabin Fever Reliever" on Saturday, January 26th; 5:30 p.m. New ideas encouraged, needed, wanted!

We meet in the Parish Office complex. Please enter Parish Office door on 61st Street.

So, as we close out another year, may the new year bring you good health, love of family and friends, and many, many blessings . . .

Blessings,

Barbara

Mass Schedule and Intentions

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

Monday, December 31

4:30 p.m. For a Year of Peace

Tuesday, January 1

No Mass today

Saturday, January 5

4:30 p.m. † Ceranowski Family

Sunday, January 6

8:00 a.m. † Arnold Pagelsdorf

For the People of St. Rita Parish

10:30 a.m. † Charmaine Warns

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 30th

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

Monday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96: 1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/
Lk 2:16-21

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Friday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Liturgical Publications Inc.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 30

NO Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, December 24 - Wednesday, January 2

PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Thursday, January 3

6:30 p.m. Parish Life Committee

Parish Office Complex

6:30 p.m. Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Church

Sunday, January 6

9:00 a.m. Grade School (1st - 8th Grade) Religious
Education Classes Day School

Just a Friendly Reminder

The first full weekend of each month there is a basket in front of the altar. For the past 35+ years, St. Rita Parish has been helping our sister Parish, St. Rose, located at 33rd and Michigan. The money collected helps to support their food pantry and their ministry. So, please, bring an extra dollar or two. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated and much needed.

** YEAR END FINANCIALS **

All contributions to be included in the 2018 year must be in the Parish office no later than December 31st. If you place your contribution in the collection basket at the New Year Eve's Mass, it will count for 2018.

Per IRS regulations - money donated after December 31st will be applied to the calendar year of 2019. Any money donated on December 31st will be applied to 2018, even if it is in a 2019 envelope.

The contribution statements for 2018 will be mailed by the end of January.

Sr. Margaret Anne Puhek, who taught at St. Rita School for over 20 years, passed away on Friday, December 14th at Sacred Heart in Milwaukee. Her funeral was held on December 27th at St. Joseph's Center in Milwaukee.

May she rest in the Lord's peace.



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