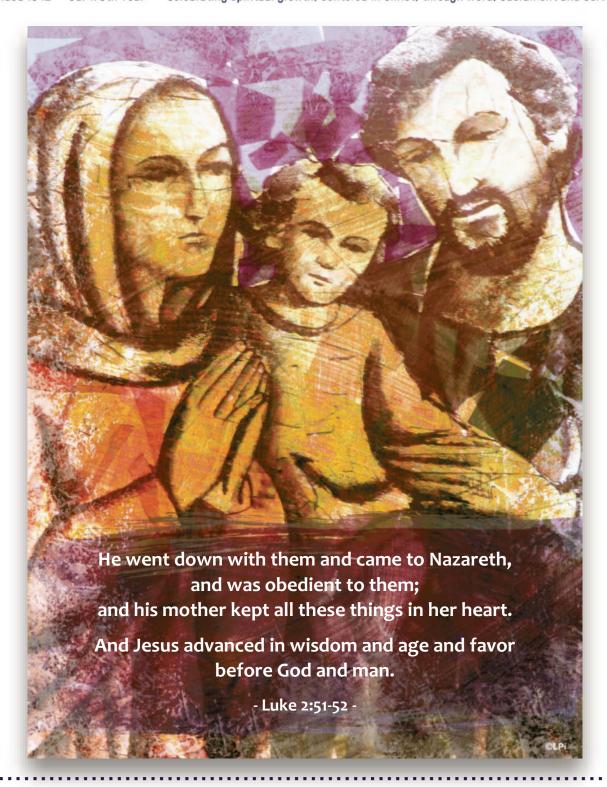
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Praised be Jesus Christ!

I hope everyone is enjoying and celebrating the birth of our Savior! I feel so blessed to celebrate Christmas in my new home, St. Mary Parish. Everything has been so beautiful from the spirit of prayer, to the music, to the decorations, and everything in between. If you are a guest to our parish, please know that you are always welcome and we are happy to pray with you!

Our attention now turns to the Holy Family. Having celebrated Jesus' birth, we look to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as the model for family life. What we learn from the Holy Family is that they were very faithful. They adhered to all the practices of their faith, and know that both Joseph and Mary had intimate personal relationships with God. That doesn't mean their life was perfect. They too experienced stress, heartache, worry, and perhaps even confusion. Any parent who has lost a child in the grocery store knows that horrible feeling of not knowing where your child is. What Joseph and Mary must have felt when they couldn't find Jesus, only to learn he was teaching in the Temple. We look to the Holy Family not as model of perfection that is unattainable, but rather as an example of holiness and fidelity to God which bolstered their fidelity to one another. Joseph, for instance, was not the father he was for his own sake or by his own power. He fulfilled that role with joy because that is what God asked of him. It was God's grace that allowed him to be the faithful protector of the Holy Family.

Each home is a domestic church and the primary place of formation for children. For the Holy Family, their home was where God dwelled - literally. So too, our homes are meant to be dwelling places of God where all members of a family grow together in holiness and children learn the ways of faith. When I meet with a family to plan the funeral for their mom or dad, so often do family members tell me about how their parents taught them about God. They can recall stories of praying the rosary as a family, always making sure to come to Mass as a family, and being taught to always seek the good. Those memories are vivid and their lives were formed well because of their parents.

In the words of our Holy Father Pope Francis, "Let us fervently call upon Mary Most Holy, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, and St. Joseph her spouse. Let us ask them to enlighten, comfort and guide every family in the world, so that they may fulfil with dignity and peace the mission which God has entrusted to them."

...... 🔊 Blessings, Fr. Aaron

Liturgical Schedule and Mass Intentions

Monday, December 27

8:15 am Mass 4:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday, December 28

8:15 am Mass

† David Tamblyn

Wednesday, December 29

8:15 am Mass

Thursday, December 30

8:15 am Mass

† Donald Seitz

No Reconciliation

Friday, December 31

No Daily Mass

Saturday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

9:00 am Mass (LB)

- † Bonnie Bungert
- † Yvonne Echelard
- † Tony and Cindy Galvan

Saturday, January 1

The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00 pm Mass of Anticipation (AL)

No Anointings after 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 2 The Epiphany of the Lord

7:15 am (XAV), 9:00 am (AL), 11:00 am (AL) Masses

- † Ray Markowiak
- † Anne Pach
- † Frank Harycki
- † Dolores Thompson
- † Joanne Pellegrini
- † Patricia Banaszynski
- † Dennis Loughney† JoeAnne Weber
- † Steven Gavin
- † Gordon Conant
- † Blake Wesner
- † Joyce Zignego
- † Ralph and Lucille Tischer
- The living and deceased members of St. Mary Catholic Faith Community

AL: Fr. Aaron Laskiewicz

LB: Fr. Leonard Barbian

XAV: Xaverian Missionary Fathers

Parish Office Holiday Closings

Friday, December 24 through Monday, December 27 Friday, December 31, 12:00-Noon through Monday, January 3

Pray for:

Patricia Benoit • Wesley Finseth • Gloria Hapka
Jim Herrmann • Barbara Kostrzewa • Amy Krueger
Gerdi Machnitzky • Doug Marcelini • Cindy Murkow
Nick Lascari • Phyllis Nickchen • Kathleen O'Brien
Byron Ohmdahl • Lisa Przybayla • Jim R.
Robert Rogalinski • Andrea S. • Ella Schmidtknecht
Bill Stein • Lavonne Tuska • Kenneth Voss
Carol Anne Werkowski • Pat Wilken

Wedding Bans

I Ryan Lucchesi and Courtney Leister

- Readings -

December 26, 2021 through January 2, 2022

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10;

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7c-8; Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35 **Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Saturday: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7;

Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a,

5-6: Mt 2:1-12

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a,

5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Opłatki (\$2.00) is still available in the Gathering Space and Parish Office.

Jacob's Ladder Photo Removal

Please pick up your pictures and mementos in the Gathering Space after any weekend Mass in December.

Thank you for sharing your loved one's life and love with our faith community.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Thank you kindly St. Mary parishioners, for all of the food you have generously donated to our pantry! Currently our shelves are nicely stocked; the only staple items we continue to need are boxes of cold cereal and instant hot oatmeal in single-serving packets. We find that we use the cereals not only for our guests, but we also provide them to Repairers of the Breach for 100 homeless individuals each week. & Christmas Blessings!

Announcements

2021 Contributions

The Internal Revenue Service requires that any donation you wish to have included on your 2020 Contribution Statement must reach us before the end of this calendar year. If you decide to *bring* your donation to the Parish Office, please keep in mind we close Friday, December 31 at noon. Any checks *mailed* to us must be dated "2021" and postmarked in 2021 for them to be applied to the 2021 tax year.

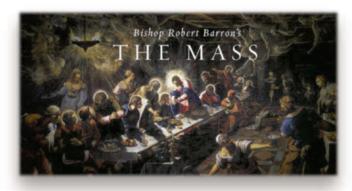
You may also donate online. **Please check out** *Ways to Give* **on our website**, <u>www.stmaryhc.org/Give</u>. Online giving is easy, safe, accurate, and most important during the holiday season, it's 24/7/365. Your donation made in 2021 will be reflected on your annual giving statement for tax purposes. Thank you for your generosity and support!

"The Chosen" Wednesday Evenings, January 5 through February 23 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Gathering Space

Join us in viewing *The Chosen*, a multi-season show about the life and ministry of Jesus Christ from the perspective of his early followers and founded on Sacred Scripture. Come to know Jesus in a deeper way as he shares his love, mercy, and compassion with those he met on the way - the sinners, the wounded, the outcasts.

Encounter the humanity of Christ, his mother Mary, Mary Magdalen, John the Baptist and the disciples. Bible stories will come alive to you. Each night you'll view an episode beginning with "Called by Name", followed by small group discussion.

Bring a friend, you won't be disappointed. Register NOW; visit the parish website, www.stmaryhc.org, or call Jeff Kacala in Catholic Formation at 414-425-2174, ext. 235.



"The Mass" A Catholic Study Program

by Bishop Robert Barron Hosted by Fr. Aaron Laskiewicz

Tuesday Evenings
January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, and March 1
from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Gathering Space

Watch for sign-up coming soon.

Dear Catechists and Small Group Leaders in Catholic Formation

Your time is invaluable, and the gratitude we feel for your service is not expressed often enough. So, in this season of Christmas, we want to share just some of the reasons we are deeply grateful for your ongoing perseverance in shepherding our young people to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his saving death and resurrection by calling, forming and sending them to go and make new disciples through the sacramental life of the Church.

- We are thankful to you for following the Lord's leading and moving forward with joy into this work. It's clear that you believe this is a vital ministry and a worthy call. Thank you for thinking creatively about new ways to love, teach, and mentor our children and youth.
- We are thankful for your willingness to listen to our kids. You listen intentionally, trying to understand their world and their perspective. Because of this, they tend to share openly with you. Thank you for carrying their burdens on many occasions.
- We are thankful for your involvement in the church outside, in our neighborhoods and communities. Because of this, many have been blessed by you, and our kids have learned by watching your service. Thank you for showing the value and the joy in being a part of the body of Christ.
- We are thankful for your love for Jesus. We know that there are many aspects of this calling that are uniquely challenging, and at times wearisome, but your love for Jesus is evident and it overflows onto the kids even when your energy is lacking. Because you love Jesus, you are able to love our kids.

Kindly take some moments in this Christmas season to pray for our catechists and small group leaders, as this is the Pope's prayer intention for the month of December:

"Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit, with joy and much peace."







Open House

January 30, 2022 . 8:00am to 12:00pm



Tour our school and 3K-8th grade classrooms









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Tour our 3K through 8th grade classrooms on Sunday, January 24. Come to experience everything St. Mary Parish School has to offer!

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- Understand how faith is entrenched in all aspects of learning
- Discuss what it's like to be part of our learning community.

Visit stmaryhc.org/school or call 414-425-3100

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General Parish Information

Parish Office Phone: 414-425-2174
Parish Website: www.stmaryhc.org

Parish Address:

9520 W. Forest Home Avenue Hales Corners, Wisconsin 53130-1614

Liturgical Schedule THIS Week

Please refer to "Liturgical Schedule and Mass Intentions" on page 2 of this bulletin.

Parish Office Hours THIS Week

Tuesday through Thursday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Friday: 8:00 am to 12:00-noon

Parish Membership

New-to-the-area families and individuals are welcome and invited to join St. Mary Catholic Faith Community. Young adults should join as members on their own. You may register online by emailing the Parish Office or in person at the Parish Office during our regular office hours. Registration is required for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist Preparation, Confirmation, Marriage, and enrollment in Catholic Formation (religious education) programs.

Infant Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated generally on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 1:00 and 2:00 pm (four families per time slot). Please contact the Parish Office during the first trimester. Baptism preparation work is required for parents.

The Sacrament of Matrimony

The Sacrament of Matrimony may be celebrated most Fridays and Saturdays of the year, with the exception of the Seasons of Advent and Lent. The bride or the groom or both must be registered as members of the parish and are expected to be attending Mass regularly. Weddings must be scheduled at least nine months before the actual wedding date. For more details or to schedule a wedding, please contact the pastor.

Pastoral Care Ministry

If you are going to have surgery or if you suddenly take ill and would like a priest to anoint you, please call the Parish Office and let the administrative assistants know you would like the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Also, Pastoral Care ministers can call and pray with you if you are ill or as you recover; again, please call the Parish Office staff to set up a connection with a Pastoral Care minister.

St. Vincent de Paul Outreach

St. Mary St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to serve those who need food or other resources. If you need assistance, call the Parish Office at 414-425-2174 and at the voice prompt, enter extension 310. A St. Vincent de Paul representative will call you back to discuss your needs.

St. Mary Staff Information

Parish Office Phone: 414-425-2174 School Office Phone: 414-425-3100

Parish and School Staff

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Rev. Aaron Laskiewicz • laskiewicza@stmaryhc.org
Administrator (ext. 242)

Deacon John Burns
Deacon Bill Goulding

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Parish School Principal (ext. 227)

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Jacob Majstorovic • majstorovicj@stmaryhc.org
Maintenance Supervisor (ext. 153)

Sybil Grandeck • SMCFCHCArchivist@aol.com
Parish Archivist

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.

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Maureen Riemer

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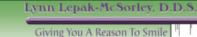
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