



NATIVITY^{of} MARY

313 E. WALL STREET • JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN 53545-3047

Rectory

**313 E. Wall Street
Janesville, WI 53545-3047**
Website..... www.nativitymary.org
Phone..... (608) 752-7861
PastorMsgr. Daniel Ganshert
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Dir. of Pastoral Outreach.....Sr. Ruth Brings
Email: rbrings@nativitymary.org
Dir. of Liturgy Bob Craig
Email: liturgy@nativitymary.org
Coord. Religious Ed.....Jan Bier
Email: re@nativitymary.org
Business Manager.....Sandra Lee
Email: accounts@nativitymary.org
Parish Secretary.....Sharlet Collins
Email: psec@nativitymary.org

St. Mary School

**307 E. Wall Street
Janesville, WI 53545-3047**
Phone..... (608) 754-5221
Principal.....Kim Ehrhardt
SecretarySue Vodak &
Lisa Nemeth

Religious Education

Phone.....(608) 752-7861
Coordinator.....Jan Bier

Prayer Network

Mary Ann Venable.....(608) 754-5284

Janesville/Milton Mass Times

Nativity of Mary Sat. 4:30 pm
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 am
St. Patrick.....Sat. 7:30 am & 4:00 pm
Sun. 9:00 am
Spanish Mass - Sun. 12:00 pm
St. John VianneySat. 8:15 am
& 5:00 pm
Sun. 8:15 & 10:00 am
St. William.....Sat. 4:00 pm
Sun. 8:00 & 10:30 am
St. Mary - MiltonSat. 4:00 pm
Sun. 8:30 am

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

God, our Father and Creator,
be with us in our schools.

Help us to treasure Your gift of life,
and treat one another with care.

Guide our administrators, teachers,
parents, staff and students,
to recognize You in all people.

Help all of us to grow in faith and love.

Amen.

St. Mary Catholic School



We, the Catholic family of Nativity of Mary, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Through worship, the sacraments, fellowship, evangelization and outreach, we will share the word of Christ in our community. -Mission Statement

NEWS & NOTES

From the desk of Msgr. Dan

Catholic Schools Week for 2021 is here. First of all, I wish to thank all of you, our Nativity of Mary parish family, for your unfailing support of our school. This takes sacrifice and commitment, all of which you have made in ways that are bringing us through the present challenges we face.

Person to person instruction has continued this year without interruption in the face of the pandemic. We thank our school principal, Dr. Ehrhardt, for his tireless attention to successful procedures mitigating the threat of COVID-19 for our teachers, staff, students and their families. His leadership has been outstanding in concert with the dedication of all of our employees who serve our school families.

It is with no little pride that I encourage all of us to make the celebration of Catholic Schools a focus for this coming week and beyond. We have every reason to rejoice in our storied history since 1914 and in the ongoing and exciting promise of the future of St. Mary's School in the years to come. Thank you all.

Msgr. Dan



Stay connected to St. Mary's Parish

Go to www.nativitymary.org for parish information, bulletins, uplifting stories, current news and other relevant Catholic content. Check in frequently to view the video series "A Moment with the Bishop". Here, Bishop Hying takes a few minutes with us, nearly every day, to reflect on the gospel, scripture, the sacraments and more, delivering worthwhile messages about our Catholic faith directly to parishioners of the Madison diocese.

A link to our Facebook page, as well as one to St. Mary School's website can be found here, too.

Weekend Masses are livestreamed at our website and on Facebook. Recorded Masses are accessible as well.

Other Live Stream and Televised Masses:

WISC-TV / Channel 3000 Sunday 6:00 AM
TVW and Direct TV 14 Sunday 7:00 AM
EWTN Live Weekdays at 7:00 AM
(replays during the day)
<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live>

NEWS & NOTES

St. Mary School



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Our theme this year is "Be the Light" and wonderful activities are being planned to celebrate what's great about teaching and learning at St. Mary School.

Parents are invited to attend our school Mass on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, at 8:15 a.m.

Thanks again for all our parent helpers at lunchtime. It's great to see all of you and your assistance is appreciated.

Also, our appreciation is extended to Mike Thrall and Steve Skelly who built a series of new "cubbies" for our students in the 3K program. The kids love them!



SCRIP cards can be purchased in the school office, or online at ShopWithScrip.com

MONEY MATTERS

Money Counts for 2020-2021

	Received	Budgeted	Variance
Week 29			
01-17-2021	\$15,665.00	11,635.00	4030.00
2 YTD	\$331,132.00	337,415.00	-6,283.00

FOCUS ON FAITH

Please Pray For Our Parishioners

Bill, Valerie Boggs, Karen Bullis, Noah Cotter, Sue Creek, Gerri, LeeAnn Gilligan, Corbin Grieving, Jackie H., Alice Jensen, Ken Kunkle, Rosemary Ludwig, Pat & Mark, Mary McGuire, Patricia Mosher, Richard Peck, Max Rammer, Heather Saalfeld, Madelynn Schieve, Colleen Schroeder, Andrew Stuehler, Tammy, Cory & Barb, Edna Thorp, Mary Tullis, Avalon Widner



A word about home visits: Due to the pandemic Msgr. Ganshert and Sr. Ruth will not be making pastoral visits to the hospital, nursing homes, or to those who are homebound except for people who are end of life or are very seriously ill. If you, a family member, or someone you know fits this description, please contact the parish office at 608-752-7861.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Tuesday evening from 5:00 - 6:00 pm and Saturday morning from 9:30-10:30 am.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call us at 752-7861 when a loved one has a serious illness.

Weddings: Please contact the rectory six months in advance. One party must be a parish member in good standing.

Infant Baptism: Registered members of the parish are welcome to arrange for their baby's baptism by signing up for the necessary preparation program for parents.

RCIA

Please call anytime if you would like to discuss Catholicism and see how joining the Church may offer you a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Contact Colleen Szerlong at 868-6386 or irishcatholic56@gmail.com.

Catholic Women's Club

Contact Jan Bier at 752-4387 for more information.

Knights of Columbus

Contact Jim Mullen at 608-201-9860 for more information.

Adult Catholic Spirit Club

Contact Dolores Dilley 752-2587.

Bulletin Deadline

Mondays at 9:00 AM. Please contact Sharlet Collins at the Rectory, 752-7861 or email psec@nativitymary.org.

SCRIPTURE

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.

(Mk 1:22)

Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trail blazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope and an example of holy living.

We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause, write books or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.

St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, "When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties." We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.



Readings for Sunday, January 31, 2021

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

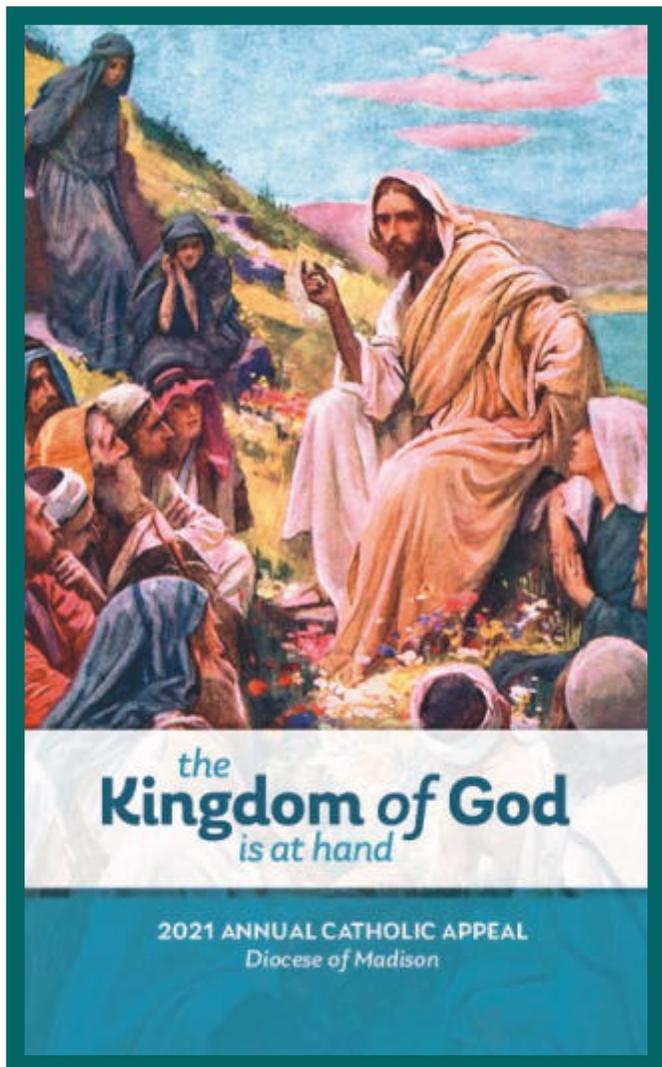
Dt 18:15-20 / 1 Cor 7:32-35 / Mk 1:21-28

Readings for Next Sunday, February 7, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7 / 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 / Mk 1:29-39

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Diocese of Madison Annual Catholic Appeal 2021 "The Kingdom of God is at Hand"

The theme for the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal of the Diocese of Madison is "The Kingdom of God is at Hand." We ask that God guide us, and give us the ability to put our *faith* in Him to allow us the capacity to love and care for those in our parishes, our diocese and the Church throughout the world. We ask that His grace make us even more generous in supporting those needs.

Each pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal supports diocesan ministries, education and services and assures a strong future for the Diocese of Madison and the people that it serves.

This year each of us is asked to consider making a pledge, payable over six months. Your gift will help enable the diocese to reach its goal and provide to the ministries supported by the appeal.

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration, and generous response.

May we all join together, to show our support of this year's Annual Catholic Appeal to demonstrate the Kingdom of God has taken root in all of our hearts by sharing the Good News of Jesus with everyone in the Diocese of Madison and giving generously to support its ministries and initiatives... We pray to the Lord.

- ◆ Don't let Covid keep you from taking time for your relationship. Join us for a virtual WWME experience from the comfort of your home.
- ◆ Want to put the romance back into your relationship?
- ◆ The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend offers married couples an opportunity to get off the treadmill of life and focus on each other.
- ◆ It is a chance to look deeply into your relationship with each other and with God.
- ◆ Sign up today to attend a virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter from the comfort of your home during Lent, February 18 - March 31 once per week for roughly 2 hours each. Upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are April 9-11 in Brookfield, WI and June 25-27 in Geneva, IL.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



Our very own Katie Bier made her initial vows at the Carmelite monastery in Hudson, Wisconsin, on Sunday, January 10. She is now officially **Sr. Katie!** Tom and Jan were privileged to attend the ceremony and spend the weekend with their daughter and the other nuns at the convent.

We wish her well!



MEALS ON WHEELS

Thank you to all my drivers, for Meals on Wheels. The weather wasn't good, but no one complains.

A special thank you to the Royce family. Rollin passed away this month. He and his wife Jan, have driven for me as long as I've been coordinator for our parish. They always said yes. May God rest his soul.

Drivers: Maria Caya, Bill & Mary Foss, Bill Peroutka, Jerry & Andrea Morse, Mary Murray, Kathleen Steed, Mike & Diane Williams.

If you'd like to volunteer to deliver meals, please call me at 608-754-5284. -Mary Ann Venable



PARISH CALENDARS

The theme of our parish calendar this year is "Devotions to our Lady". It has been a challenging year, but we have so many reasons to look forward with great hope and prayer to our Blessed Mother for her protection and intercession to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Thank you to the McDonald Law Office for generously donating the calendars once again this year. If you would like a calendar please call the parish office at 608-752-7861 extension 100, and arrange for curbside pickup.



Wanted: Pray-ers

If you are a person of prayer, have compassion, and have a phone, you are eligible. The prayer network needs more members. Members receive a phone call with a prayer intention, pass the intention on to the next person, and then prays for the intention.

For more information and to volunteer, call Sr. Ruth at 752-7861 Extension 103 or Mary Ann Venable at 608-754-5284.

Mass Intentions

♥ = Living

Monday, February 1

No Mass

Tuesday, February 2

12:10 PM Edward Campion

Wednesday, February 3

8:15 AM Ryan & Sandibel Stowe ♥

Thursday, February 4

8:15 AM Connie Lazachek

Friday, February 5

8:15 AM

Saturday, February 6

4:30 PM

Sunday, February 7

8:30 AM

10:30 AM

Mass Intentions

Mass intentions are issued based on the universal law of the Church. Mass intentions are scheduled on a first-come-first-served basis. The suggested offering is \$10 per intention. Please call your parish secretary, Sharlet, at 608-449-7736.

A request may be made for:

- a person who is living
- a person who is deceased
- members of a family
- an intention fitting to the Eucharistic celebration; vocations, dedication to life, persecuted Christians, world peace, etc.

Current reminders about attending Mass

If you will be attending Mass, please note the following guidelines from Rock County and the Diocese of Madison:

Those parishioners at risk (over 65 or anyone with a health condition) are strongly encouraged to stay home.

Attendance will be first come, first seated. Our maximum occupancy, observing social distancing, is 100 people.

Wearing a face covering at all times is required in the church & school, including during Mass.

As always, if you or a family member are not feeling well, please stay home and rest.

Together we can do our part to help everyone in our community stay healthy!

When making your estate plans, or funeral pre-arrangements, please remember to include Nativity of Mary as a memorial.

Wearing Masks in the Communion Line

Parishioners, please continue to wear your masks while in the communion line at Mass. The Vicar General of the Diocese of Madison advises, "A communicant should only remove one's mask in preparation to receive Holy Communion as the person immediately in front of the communicant is receiving Holy Communion. So, the communicant should keep one's mask on in the communion line prior to that point in time. The communicant should shortly thereafter resume the wearing of the mask after receiving Holy Communion."

Also, please remember to maintain a distance of 6 feet between you and the person in front of you in line.

Thank you for your cooperation. We wish to keep all of our parishioners and guests safe.



Join ECHO for an online Silent Auction, February 1-10, 2021.

For more information, visit www.echojanesville.org

Diocese of Madison
CATHOLIC HERALD

Deepen your faith with the Catholic Herald!

Do you receive the Diocese of Madison Catholic Herald newspaper? If you don't and you would like to, please call the parish office at 752-7861 and we'll see that it gets delivered to your home every week. The cost of a one-year subscription is \$22. *Please submit your payment directly to Nativity of Mary parish, with a note requesting a new subscription.* If you already receive the Catholic Herald, but no longer wish to, please let us know that and we'll cancel your subscription. Thank you.



Thursday, February 4 (ZOOM)

6-7 pm Catechumenate

7-8 pm Inquirer/Catechumenate

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Explore Catholicism and discover a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, by joining the Church. Contact Colleen Szerlong at 868-6386 or irishcatholic56@gmail.com.

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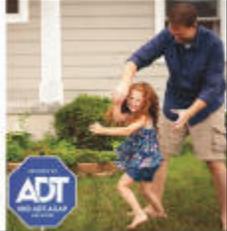


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