



St. Mary Catholic Parish

WORSHIP AND SERVE GOD WITH US IN
SACRAMENT AND PRAYER IN OUR FAMILY
OF FAITH

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 7:30 - 3:30
Friday - 7:30—Noon
Closed Saturday & Sunday

PARISH OFFICE CONTACT INFO

www.stmaryspokane.org
stmary@dioceseofspokane.org
304 S ADAMS ROAD, SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99216

PARISH CLERGY

Parish Office Number	509-928-3210
Rev. Jeffrey R. Lewis, Pastor	x 109
Fr. Michael Kwiatkowski, (Priest in Residence)	
Deacon Mike Miller	509-928-3210
Deacon Dan Glatt	509-928-3210
Emergency Anointing of the Sick (afterhours)	x 9

PARISH OFFICE 509-928-3210

Suzie Frei, Office Manager	x 150
Marie Bricher, DRE & Faith Formation	x 111
Sharon Greany, Business Manager	x 107
Mark VanDriel, Maintenance Manager	x 7
Emma Smith, Youth Director	x 112

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Craig Smentek, Grand Knight	509-991-4692
John White, Faithful Navigator	509-994-1023

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Diana Thomas	509-828-9500
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HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR

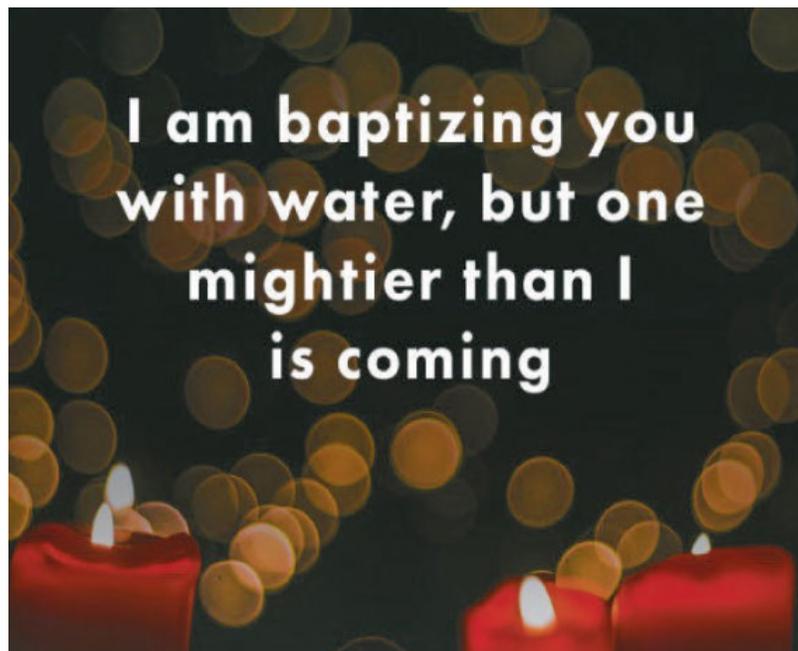
Jaymie Miner	509-999-6631
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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Bill Flerchinger, President	509-703-7867
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ST. MARY SCHOOL

Ben Walker, Principal	509-924-4300
Chelsea Weiler, School Secretary	x 202
Lou Turner, Advancement Director	x 200
Sharon Greany, Business Manager	x 206
	x 204



Third Sunday of Advent December 12, 2021

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Mass: 5:00pm
 Sunday Masses: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:30am
 Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday 5:30pm
 Wednesday, Thursday 7:00am
 Friday 7:00am & 5:30pm
 First Saturday 9:00 am

Confessions

Wednesday 4:30-5:30pm
 Friday 6:00-7:00pm
 Saturday 3:30-4:30pm
 First Fridays 7:30-8:30am

Adoration

Friday 6:00 - 7:00pm
 First Friday 7:30am - 12pm
 First Saturday 9:30am - 10:30am

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to St. Mary Parish Community. If you would like to register with the parish, please fill out form on website, stop by the Parish Office, or call (509) 928-3210.

CARE OF THE SICK

Communion is taken to the sick and elderly on a regular basis. Please call Karen Grewe (Homebound Ministry) at (509) 927-4941

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: The family should be registered and active in St. Mary Parish. For arrangements call the Parish office, 928-3210.

Marriage: Couples must contact the parish at least six months prior to their desired wedding date.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) or RCIC (for children over 7)

Have you thought about becoming a Catholic? Do you know someone who is thinking about it? Please call Marie Bricher at 928-3210 ext. 111 for more information.

For the convenience of those with hearing difficulties, Masses at St. Mary can be heard on personal FM-band radios or in the car in the parking lot. Tune to **89.9 FM**.

Prayer Requests

All those feeling lonely and isolated, those who are ill

Doug C, Larry M., Irene Z., Susan Curalli., Matt C, Ella Miller, Ann G., Derek D., Mary L. Joe S.

To have a name listed in the bulletin call Suzie in the office at 928-3210.

Names will be listed for 3 weeks, then removed unless requested again.

- ◆ If a family member is admitted to a local hospital, please call the parish office at 928-3210 if you would like a priest.
- ◆ To add someone to the prayer chain or to be part of the prayer chain ministry please join the *Prayer Chain* group in Flocknote or call the parish office.
- ◆ For those not "on-line" call Bobbie Bailey at 928-9584.

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses:

4pm Children/Family Mass (incense)

7pm

10pm

Midnight Mass, 12:00am Midnight - all chant, incense, subdued lighting for a quieter, more reflective environment

Christmas Morning Mass:

10am

Additional Confession Times:

Monday Dec 20, 4:00-5:00pm (Fr Mike)

Tuesday Dec 21, Noon-1:00pm (Fr Lewis)

4:00—5:00pm (Fr Mike)

Wednesday Dec 22, 7:30-8:30am (Fr Lewis)

4:30-5:30pm (Fr Lewis)

Thursday Dec 23, Noon-1:00pm (Fr Lewis)

5:00-6:00pm (Fr Lewis)

Friday Dec 24, Noon-1:00 (Fr Lewis)

Saturday Dec 25 *** No Confessions

*** No 5pm Mass

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

St. Patrick's Seminary Discernment Retreat

FEBRUARY 25 - 27, 2022

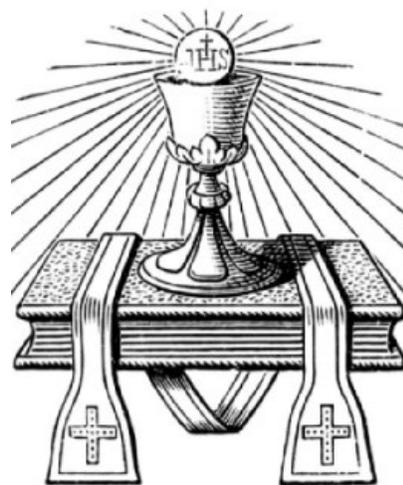
Must be a single man 21 years or older.

All meals and lodging provided.

To register contact :

Rev. Kyle Ratuiste (509) 313-7100

kratuiste@dioceseofspokane.org



CHRISTMAS CHOIR VOLUNTEERS

Help us sing at the 10 PM Christmas Eve Mass

1/2 hour of Caroling before Mass

Rehearsals Tuesdays 7—8 PM

Please contact Diana Thomas

509-828-9500

PRIESTS MASS INTENTIONS

12/13	MONDAY	Josh Burkhardt +
12/14	TUESDAY	Andrew Amuna +
12/15	WEDNESDAY	Ron van Tassel +
12/16	THURSDAY	Kent Smith +
12/17	FRIDAY	Henry Olg. San Nicolas + Rosa C Reyes + Reyes Family +
12/18	SATURDAY	James McShane +
12/19	SUNDAY	
	7:30am	Guy Dumais +
	9am	Pro Populo
	11:30am	Ann M. Klepinger +

To have a Mass offered by the priest please call the parish at (509) 928-3210 or email stmary@dioceseofspokane.org

Parish Collection Report

Weekly income Nov 29 : \$ 7,963.90
Nov total monthly income : \$46,625.43
Yearly Income (Jan - Nov) : \$ 653,049.74





Pastor's Column

St. Mary Catholic Parish

December 12, 2021 - Third Sunday of Advent

Journey Through the Bible, Part 5

Our Sunday bulletin Pastor Column series continues: a journey through the New American Bible Revised Edition (NABRE), a Catholic translation of the Bible. Last week, we considered the Wisdom Books (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Wisdom, and Sirach – also known as Ben Sira). Today, we consider the Prophets, and that will conclude our journey through the Old Testament.

The prophetic books bear the names of the four major and the twelve minor prophets, and this section of the Bible also includes Lamentations (held to have been composed by Jeremiah) and Baruch. The terms “major” and “minor” refer to the length of the respective compositions, not to their relative importance. Jonah is a story *about* a prophet rather than a collection of actual sayings that he may have proclaimed. Lamentations is comprised of statements of sorrow expressed over the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians. Daniel is regarded a prophetic book, although it consists of a collection of six edifying diaspora tales (chapters 1–6) and four apocalyptic visions about the End Times (chapters 7–12). Baruch is not included in the Hebrew canon but is in the Septuagint version of the Bible, and from the beginning, the Church has acknowledged its sacred and inspired character.

The prophetic books contain a deposit of prophetic preaching, and several of them are filled out with narrative *about* prophets (for example: Isaiah chapter 7, chapters 36–39; Jeremiah chapters 26–29, 38–45; Amos chapter 7). In ancient Israel, a prophet was understood to be an intermediary between God and the people, somebody who is called to proclaim the word of God. The prophets received such communication through various means, including visions and dreams, often in a state of transformed consciousness, and transmitted them to the people as God’s messengers via oracular utterances, sermons, writings, and symbolic actions.

It would be misleading to think of these works as books in our sense of the term. Although some prophecies originated as written material, prophetic activity more commonly took the form of public speaking. Prophetic discourse addressed to different audiences in different situations would, typically, be committed first to memory and then to writing, often by the prophet’s own followers, and sometimes by the prophet himself. Small compilations of such pronouncements and discourses would be put together, arranged according to subject matter (for example: pronouncements against other nations), audience (for example: Jeremiah to King Zedekiah in chapters 21–24), chronological sequence (for example: Ezekiel), or by verbal association (that is, catchwords). These units would be circulated, edited, expanded, and interpreted as the need arose to bring out the contemporary relevance of older prophecies, and eventually integrated into larger collections. The titles would have been added at a later date, in some instances centuries after the time of the prophet himself.

The office of the prophet came about as the result of a direct call from God. Unlike that of the priest, the prophetic function was not hereditary and did not correspond to a fixed office. In Israel as elsewhere in the ancient Near East, there were, however, prophets who were employed in temples and at royal courts; some of the biblical prophets may have begun as “professionals” of this sort. Prophecy also differed from priesthood in ancient Israel in that there were both male and female prophets. Though none of the biblical books is named for a female prophet, Miriam (see Exodus 15:20) and Deborah (see Book of Judges 4:4) played important roles at the beginning of Israel’s history, and Huldah (see 2 Kings 22:14) toward the end. The Bible gives great importance to the calling or the commissioning of the prophet, which was often accompanied by visionary or some other extraordinary experiences (see Jeremiah 23:21–22; Ezekiel chapters 1–2). In many prophetic accounts, prophetic speech is often introduced with the form used in the delivery of a message, such as “Thus says the Lord” or some similar formula. Often, the prophetic calling could be expected to involve struggle, persecution, and suffering.

While prophetic messages sometimes bore on the future, their primary concern was with contemporary events in the public sphere of social life and politics, national and international. They focus on public morality, the treatment of the poor and disadvantaged, and the abuse of power, and especially abuse of the judicial system. They pass judgment in the strongest terms on the moral conduct of rulers and the ruling class, in the belief that a society that does not practice justice and righteousness will not survive. They view international affairs, the rise and fall of the great empires, in the light of their own passionate belief in the God of Israel and the destiny of Israel. They never take political and military power as absolutes. They do not preach a new morality. They are radicals only in the sense of a radical commitment to and interpretation of the religious, legal, and moral traditions inherited from Israel’s past. But prophetic speech is not confined to judgment and condemnation. The prophets also exhort, cajole, encourage; they announce salvation and a good prognosis for the future. Sometimes present realities and situations shade off into, or are taken up into, a panorama of a more distant future. In many instances, too, prophetic pronouncements are developed by a cumulative and incremental editorial process into a more inclusive and total vision of a final salvation and a final judgment, with or without the presence of a messianic figure. This process is particularly evident throughout the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, and played an important part in the self-understanding of early Christian churches and their interpretation of the person and mission of Jesus. For early Christianity, therefore, prophetic texts were used to describe the new reality of Christ and the Church (for example: Matthew 1:23; Acts 2:14–21; Galatians 4:27).

Looking for an at home retreat for Advent?! Check out:

“Kerigma : A 30 Day Retreat with the Greatest Story Ever Told”

On the parish website under “About” and then “Pastor’s Homilies”

New!! St Zelig’s Village, A Mothers Group

Motherhood is an essential vocation to God’s great plan! At St. Zelig’s Village, we will gather together in fellowship, learn together, support each other, and pray together as we strive like St Zelig Martin to raise up saints in this crazy world. This group is for all mothers: those who aspire to motherhood, those in the thick of it, and those veterans with adult children. We need you all!! There will be childcare next door, goodies and hot tea. Starting Thursday, Jan 6th, 9-11 am in the Martha/Mary Rooms.

Contact Jaymie Miner for further details or just show up!

angeljay1@aol.com (509) 999-6631

St. Mary **St. Vincent de Paul** conference members send greetings for a Blessed Christmas season as we continue to assist our neighbors with food, hygiene products, utility & rental assistance. Our pantry is in particular need of hygiene items (hand soap, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste & toothbrushes), paper products (toilet paper/paper towels), and cooking oil. The emergency assistance message line is **(509) 703-7867**, a member will return your call.

Monetary contributions can be dropped in the 3rd Sunday Basket or online at www.stmaryspokane.org : 1. tap on “Give”, 2. then “Donation Designation”, and 3. scroll down to “**St Vincent de Paul**”

We sincerely thank you for your generosity during 2021!!



Respect Life

Join us in praying at Planned Parenthood on Thursdays at 11:00 - Noon.
The address is 12104 E Main St., Spokane Valley.
Contact Rose Hays at 509-990-5708 for questions.



St Mary Knights of Columbus : 4196

Keep Christ in Christmas Cards : for sale in Gathering Space

The Catholic diocese of Spokane and St Mary are hiring substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year.

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of students within the St. Mary community? If interested, please contact the Diocese office of Education for more information:

509-358-7330 or spotter@dioceseofspokane.org

Catholic Daughter's Luncheon : St John Vianney Hall on January 8th at 9 AM. Come join a wonderful group of faithful women. For more information and tickets call Diana Picone 541.550.6728 or doberbarn@aol.com.

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center will be holding Advent Individual Silent Retreats 1, 2, 3 Days, or more! Nov. 29 – Dec. 21, 2021

Come spend time in silence to get yourself ready for the coming of Jesus. "Rejoice! The Lord is near." (Third Sunday of Advent)

For more information or to register in advance, Please call: [\(509\) 448-1224](tel:5094481224) or visit www.ihrc.net retreat cost is \$117 per person per day, (includes meals and overnight).

New-ish Parishioner Meet and Greet!

Save the Date : January 9 Between the 9:00 & 11:30 Masses

Our parish has grown significantly over the past two years, and we would like the opportunity to welcome you into the parish and help you establish a supportive Catholic community. Especially if you have ventured into Spokane Valley from the west, we'd love you to join us for a light breakfast social.

Come meet "the family"!

Contribute to St. Mary Catholic Church from your IRA by December 31, 2021

Donating directly from a qualified retirement account to St. Mary Catholic Church can help us continue our mission to help others know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. It can also help you reduce your taxable income.

Those 72 years of age are required to take an annual minimum distribution from their IRA. The IRA distribution creates taxable income. If you are in a position where that money is not needed, and you would rather use it for charitable purposes, you can designate a portion, or all of it, as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QDC). This allows you to fulfill the required IRA distribution without increasing taxable income. Call us at 509-928-3210 or email sgreany@stmarysspokane.org.

AVAILABLE NOW!

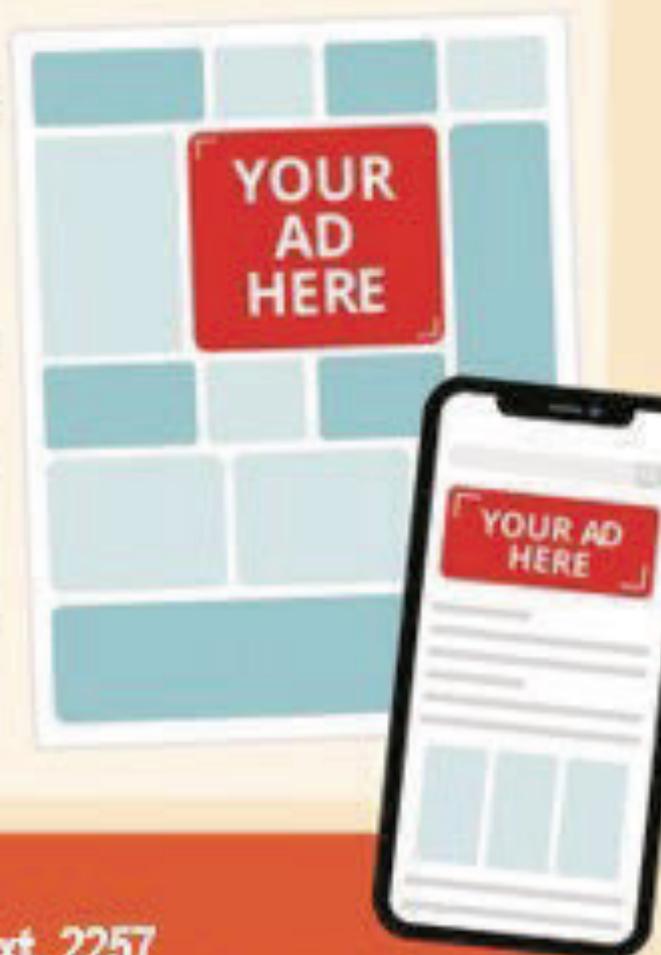
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Shannon Miller from L*Pi*, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church during **December**. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

Church bulletin advertising is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

Digital advertising allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a church profile page on ParishesOnline.com — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!



Shannon Miller

p: (800) 950-9952 Ext. 2257

c: (253) 370-6757 e: smiller1@4Lpi.com

Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



Today John the Baptist is visiting your church. You ask him, “What should my family do to serve God?” He answers, “If you have two winter coats, give one to someone who doesn’t have any. If you have food, share it with someone else.” You tell him, “I can give away a coat and a pair of shoes that’s too small for me. I can share a can of carrots from our shelf at home.”

PRAYER

Help me share what I have with others, Lord.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

This week I will give money, canned food, and/or clothing to the poor.

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