

## ***St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish***

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17, 2021

7176 Esker Road, Custer, WI 54423

Phone: 715-592-4330

Website: [www.stmaryscuster.com](http://www.stmaryscuster.com)

### **Parish Mission Statement**

St Mary's Parish is a practicing Catholic Community providing spiritual, social and educational opportunities for all God's people that we may deepen our love of God and one another through prayer and deed.

#### **CLERGY**

##### **Pastor -**

Fr. Alan M. Guanella (715) 592-4221  
[aguanella@gmail.com](mailto:aguanella@gmail.com)

*In case of emergency only please call*  
 715-629-9952

##### **Senior Priest in Residence**

Fr. Roy R. Witucki

#### **PARISH STAFF**

**Secretary-**Donna Wierzba

[stmary@wi-net.com](mailto:stmary@wi-net.com)

**Bookkeeper-**Rebecca Jones

[stmaryicfinance@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryicfinance@gmail.com)

**CCD Coordinator-**Jessica Bielen

**Custodian-**Jeanne Hintz

**Maintenance/Grounds keeping**

Josh Genskow

### **Mass Intentions**

Tuesday, January 19 (SH)

8:15 am †Ernest Zywicki

by Ernest & Carol Kezeske

**Wednesday, January 20** *St. Fabian & St. Sebastian*

8:15 a.m. †Jeremy Firkus

by Charlie & Judy Sankey

Thursday, January 21 (SH) *St. Agnes*

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8 am Confession

8:15 am †Marcie Rozek

by Family

**Friday, January 22** *St. Vincent*

7:30-8:00 a.m. Confession

8:15 am †John Bronk

by St. Mary's Altar Society

**Saturday, January 23 @ SH**

8:15 am +Jeanette Wiza

by CCD Staff Family

2:45 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Anticipatory Mass @ SH

†Jerome Somers

by Joe & Yetta Somers

**Sunday, January 24, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00am @ SH †Nick & Alvina Kurszewski,

Mary Raflik by Roger & Loretta Klesmith

**10:00am St. Mary's I.C. & Sacred Heart  
 Parish Families**

### **Mass Readings for the Week of January 17th:**

Sunday: 1 Sm. 3:3-10, 19; Ps. 40;

1 Cor. 6:13-20; Jn. 1:35-42

Monday: Heb. 5:1-10; Ps. 110; Mk. 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb. 6:10-20; Ps. 111; Mk. 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb. 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps. 110;

Mk. 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb. 7:25-8:6; Ps. 40; Mk. 3:7-12

Friday: Heb. 8:6-13; Ps. 85; Mk. 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb. 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps. 47;

Mk. 3:20-21

#### **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You with all my heart. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already in my heart and unite myself to You completely. Please do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.



I have always been inspired by those who achieve a level of intellectual, athletic, artistic, or economic superiority. You know that it took a great deal of work and effort; rightfully, the society holds them up as role models. However, without a doubt, the most influential impact on my life has been by those who exercised kindness in any field I was engaging in. It's not that any of the achievements of role models in various fields are less important, but without kindness, those achievements lose a sense of connectedness.

It has been through the kindness of others that I was encouraged to strive for goals. Embedded in the sense of kindness is the care of others. In college, it was the kind teacher who encouraged me to consider law studies and did so to the advantage of the Church that I love. In high school, it was the kind English teacher who took the time to critique my creative writing and share his passion for literature that this column, as well as many of my homilies, respect the written word and its influence. It was the kindness of a college baseball teammate who consoled me after a two error game to shake it off and come back the next day, helping me to get over my self-pity and see the larger responsibility to the team. In my priesthood, and as a bishop, I have been the recipient of many acts of kindness by women, men, and children, which has shaped my priestly ministry and made me a better Christian.

I believe at the root of our Christian faith is kindness. Kindness is more than empathy. Empathy identifies with another person, but with kindness, there is outreach and an act of goodwill. Kindness moves one to speak or act on behalf of another person, who really has no obligation to do so.

I imagine that one of the attractive traits of Jesus was His kindness. You hear in the Gospels that He was moved to pity for the crowd; he cured them, he fed them and he preached to them. He owed them nothing; in fact, they owed Him. Kindness doesn't always receive a thank you. Did the couple at the wedding feast send Him a note of gratitude for the wine? Even on the cross, Christ did not think of Himself but of Dismas, reassuring the good thief of his place in paradise.

Our society could use a strong dose of kindness. We are so politicized that we are unable to give simple praise for a job well done or support for leadership efforts on behalf of our nation without accusations that bespeak partisan politics.

Part of evangelization starts with a sense of kindness. There is a balance in kindness. We want to be a member of a Christian community that reflects a sense of kindness that contributes and builds up rather than wastes or tears down. We can easily practice kindness by the way we love one another.

+ Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI  
Archbishop of Milwaukee



## BUY SCRIP

Scrip is always available just a phone call away, Shelly 715-592-3775.

## WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1/10/2021

Offertory	\$ 26
Adult Env. (including ACH)	\$ 819
Building Fund	\$ 90
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 10
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 945</i>

## END OF YEAR STATEMENTS

are available on the table in the entrance of the Church. If you have any questions please contact Rebecca 715-592-4330 or [stmaryicfinance@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryicfinance@gmail.com)

**ACH applications:** Please consider signing up for ACH for your regular Weekly/Monthly contribution. Extra forms are in the entrance of Church, or please call the office, 715-592-4330 for more information.

**\*\*You can mail your weekly contributions** to St. Mary's I.C. 7176 Esker Road, Custer, WI 54423 or dropped in collection box. Thank you for your continued support.



ENVELOPES FOR  
MONTHLY BUILDING  
FUND DONATIONS  
Envelopes for the Ground  
Level Hall and Church

Renovations can be found in your Parish support envelopes. This project is for current and future generations of St. Mary's parishioners. Please be generous.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE  
DONATED TO OUR BUILDING FUND**



**HIS CHURCH**  
IS STILL HERE  
IT STILL PROVIDES  
IS YOU AND ME

## St. Mary's I. C. Parish 2020-21 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

GOAL	\$19,810.00
Total Pledged	
& Received:	\$18,814.00
Amount Received:	\$17,404.00

Percent of Goal Received 87.85%

THANKS to those who have contributed.



## Religious Education Class

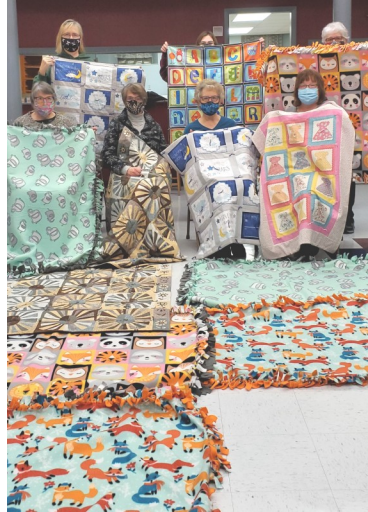
Meet on Sunday, K-8th Grades 8:30-9:40 am  
10th Grade meet 6:00-7:15 pm

*Coordinator of Religious Education*  
Jessica Bielen jwier319@gmail.com

## Women On A Mission

*Our Mission is to provide an environment of learning, giving and loving to enhance the fellowship and growth of the women's faith community of St. Mary's*

The 6 tied quilts and the 6 tied fleece blankets were delivered to **The Kids Closet** via Dee. The Closet opens this week for the first time in a long time and while kids are unable to attend, parents will have an opportunity to actually choose items for their children. The blankets were much needed and will be a great hit! Imagine the smiles on the faces of 12 children who benefit from the love and warmth included while Women on a Mission worked on them! Thanks to all who participated. Make sure to see the pictures on the parish website.



Our next meeting will be **February 8th** where we will be working on a sweet project! Join us at **6:30 P.M.** All women of the parish are welcome. We practice social distancing and wear masks.

Please pick up your 2021 Church Support Envelopes located on the table in back of Church.

*If you contribute through Direct Withdrawal, you will still need to pick up your box of envelopes. Included with the weekly offering envelopes are Building and Holy Day envelopes.*

### St. Mary's I.C. Parish Prayer Chain

*ANYONE REQUESTING PRAYERS please call Elsie Mansavage 715-592-4174, the Parish Office 715-592-4330 or stmary@wi-net.com*  
*FIRST NAMES ONLY will be used; members promise to respect your request in confidence.*

Please use these following resources to help in your Sunday prayer:

- \*Daily Mass readings [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings)
- \*Daily Mass from the Cathedral at: [www.dioc.org/live](http://www.dioc.org/live)
- \*Sunday Mass 11am: [www.nationalshrine.org/mass](http://www.nationalshrine.org/mass)
- Noon: on Public Access Cable Channel 984 5:30 p.m. on Saturday
- \*EWTN broadcasts Mass daily and online at [video.ewtn.com/daily-mass](http://video.ewtn.com/daily-mass)
- \*Relevant Radio broadcasts Mass Noon & 7:30PM every day, 9AM Sundays

### Please remember in your prayers

*Gladys Pampuch, Tom Schmenk,  
Ruthie & Lenny Pliska, Mike Mrozek,  
Myron Soik, Mary Ann Meyer, Ken Wierzbza,  
Brigid & Al Pellatt, Ray Sommers*

Due to the coronavirus situation, home visits and communion calls are suspended. If there is an emergency situation (that is, end of life) please do not hesitate to contact the parish or Father Guanella's emergency line in order for the sacraments to be administered. Special procedures are currently in place.

**Reminder-Weekend Masses** cannot exceed 25% capacity and seating is limited, please call the parish office, 715-592-4330 every week **By Wednesday** ~ Thank you for your cooperation.

*The dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass remains in effect for those who are vulnerable and have concerns returning to a publicly celebrated Mass.*

**FACE MASK NOTICE** Governor Tony Evers has issued an emergency order which includes a statewide mask mandate. All individuals over the age of 5 are required to wear a mask in all enclosed spaces except their personal residence. Bishop William Callahan calls on the Catholic faithful to comply with these regulations, given our reverence for life and human dignity. Face masks/coverings must be worn by all individuals, 5 years or older, present within all churches, businesses, and office spaces, or attending any function associated with the ministry of the Diocese of La Crosse. Face coverings are required even if you are able to maintain proper social distancing. They must be worn to cover the nose and mouth completely and should not include face shields, mesh masks or masks with holes, openings or vents

**JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S** *Wishing you Birthday Blessings!*

17th-Kevin Zurawski, 28th-LeRoy Feltz & Trevor Kluck, 30th-Tom Fields





### **St. Mary's I.C. FOOD PANTRY**

*We will continue to collect non perishable items and monetary donations for local families. Please help us help those in need. Drop off items in the cart in the entrance of the Church.*

*THANK YOU for your generous support that has helped 3 parish families during this difficult time.*



**Missionary Sisters of the Divine Image (MSDI) in Polonia** invite you to visit their new gift shop within the Polonia convent (on Church Street in Polonia near Sacred Heart Church). This new order of Sisters has established a permanent presence in our area. Ring the doorbell at any of the Polonia convent entrances or call ahead at 715-592-4213 to pick a time to visit. The MSDI Gift Shop includes winter hats, scarves, rosaries, craft items and more. Come and see!

**Portage County Right to Life** Due to all the complications caused by the virus situation, Portage County Right to Life regretfully will not be hosting their annual Walk for Life this year. However, Portage County Right to Life asks everyone to join them in personal prayer on the anniversary date of Roe v Wade ( January 22nd ) for the legal protection of the Unborn. Portage County Right to Life is grateful for your support of the Unborn and all life from conception until natural death.

January 30 – Pro-Life Virtual Afternoon of Reflection: “Walking with Moms in Need” Some people accuse pro-lifers of caring only about the child in the womb and not women in need. Not true at all, as you will see from this virtual afternoon of reflection on January 30, with keynote speaker Bob Perron, Executive Director of JMJ Pregnancy Center in Orlando, FL. You will also hear about the fourteen Pregnancy Care Centers in the Diocese of La Crosse and what you can do to help one near you. Visit [diolc.org/respect-life](http://diolc.org/respect-life) -- More details coming soon!

100% Catholic, 100% Boys, 100% Boarding: **St. Lawrence Seminary High School** is an all-boys, Catholic boarding high school focused on college prep and spiritual depth. Located in Mt Calvary, WI since 1860, SLS students live, learn, work and pray together. Come explore this vibrant high school experience where 200 students from around the globe prepare for life after high school! Individualized and safe options are available for families to visit. (920) 753-7570 or visit [www.stlawrence.edu/get-started](http://www.stlawrence.edu/get-started)

**In Search of Young Adults!** SPIRITUS is seeking Catholic young adults, 21-29 years of age, to join the SPIRITUS missionary team this August. SPIRITUS ignites the faith in thousands of young Catholics through retreats and parish youth ministry each year! Missionaries live in community and travel to parishes and schools throughout Wisconsin; they receive training, formation, spiritual direction, lodging, food, a monthly allowance, health insurance and a \$2,000 stipend upon completion of the 9-month program. It is a unique opportunity to serve our Lord and help young Catholics grow in faith. [www.spiritusministries.org/beamissionary](http://www.spiritusministries.org/beamissionary), contact Rachel recruiter@spiritusministries.org, or (920) 722-8918 x113 for more information

Reminder: Sacred Heart Saturday 8:15am Mass intention is now a “collective intention.” This means that there is no limit to the number of Mass intentions for that Mass (and that Mass only). Anyone can add to the collective intention. The \$10 stipend is still requested (the priest only receives one, however). Everyone who submits an intention must be informed that the Mass will have a collective intention. Since open Mass intentions are few, this is a good way to have a Mass said for your loved ones. Please see Father Guanella if you have any questions.

### **Liturgical Appointments**

#### **SUNDAY, January 17**

LECTOR Jim USHERS Travis  
SERVERS LeRoy & Addy  
MONEY COUNTERS: Kirk  
MUSICIANS Jacquie & Carolyn

#### **SUNDAY, January 24**

LECTOR Christine USHERS Eddie  
SERVERS Julia & Vincent  
MONEY COUNTERS Dave & Lorraine  
MUSICIANS Mary & Cheryl

#### **SUNDAY, January 31**

LECTOR Tom USHERS Travis  
SERVERS Cassie & Madison  
MONEY COUNTERS: Tom & Brenda  
MUSICIANS Bob & Sandie

St. Bron's Ponczka sale scheduled for February, 2021 has been cancelled due to Covid. We must keep our volunteers safe. Hope to see you February, 2022.  
St. Bronislava Ponczka Committee



*As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, You did it for me.*

### **St. Mary's I.C.**

#### **Salvation Army Servers**

We prepare dinner for people in need at the Salvation Army on the **First Monday** of every month. Please consider donating your time for this wonderful cause.

#### **NEED SERVERS FOR MARCH**

Information please contact  
Gina 920-540-7804