

## St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14, 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.

*St. Mary's I.C. is open Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from 9:00am-5:00pm for private prayer.*

### 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, February 16 (SH)

8:15 am † Deceased members of the Gagas  
& Glienecke family  
by Ralph & Theresa Kostuch



**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 17**

8:15 a.m. † Bette Maslowski  
by Bernard & Marlene Schulist

6:00 pm @ SH † Deacon Hugh Walker

Thursday, February 18 (SH)

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

8:15 am † Helen Czaplinski  
by Joe & Yetta Somers

**Friday, February 19**

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

8:15 am † Denny Stransky by Nora

**Saturday, February 20 @ SH**

8:15 am † Lorraine Tuskowski  
by Sophie Koziczowski

† Myron Orlikowski by Family

2:45 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Anticipatory Mass @ SH

St. Mary's I.C. &

Sacred Heart Parish Families

**Sunday, February 21, First Sunday of Lent**

8:00am @ SH † Marcie Rozek by Family

9:25am Stations of the Cross @ SMIC

10:00am † Carol Gile by LeRoy & Pat Wierzba

### Mass Readings Week of February 14:

Sunday: Lv. 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps. 32;

1 Cor. 10:31-11:1; Mk. 1:40-45

Monday: Gn. 4:1-15, 25; Ps. 50;

Mk. 8:11-13

Tuesday: Gn. 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Ps. 29;

Mk. 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl. 2:12-18; Ps. 51;

2 Cor. 5:20-6:2; Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt. 30:15-20; Ps. 1; Lk. 9:22-25

Friday: Is. 58:1-9; Ps. 51; Mt. 9:14-15

Saturday: Is. 58:9-14; Ps. 86; Lk. 5:27-32



**Inclement Weather Policy.** If either the Stevens Point or Rosholt School Districts cancel school due to weather, the daily Mass that day, whether it be at Sacred Heart or St. Mary's, will also be cancelled. Any scheduled evening events in the parish will also be cancelled. If Mass is cancelled, Father will say Mass privately for the intention.

Dear Friends in Christ,

On Wednesday, February 17th, the Church will celebrate Ash Wednesday and we will begin the Lenten Season. During Lent, our lives as Christians will be punctuated by the three great pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The Season of Lent is a penitential season: a season in which we show sorrow and repentance for our sins. We prepare through self-denial and devotion for the coming Easter celebration in when we celebrate the fact that Christ broke the prison-bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld.

In the United States, we are accustomed to receiving ashes on our foreheads in the shape of a cross. This method of receiving ashes is a custom of North America. The official instructions for Mass (called *rubrics*) simply state that “the priest places ashes on the head of all those present who come to him.” Throughout much of Europe, the distribution of ashes takes place with the priest sprinkling a little bit of ash on the crown of each person’s head. If you watch the pope’s Mass on Ash Wednesday, you will see the pope distribute (and receive) ashes in this way. Receiving ashes on the forehead in the shape of the cross is not the usual way to receive ashes in much of Europe.

This year, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Vatican has released special instructions about the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday for this year. The notable change is that the exhortation normally said to each person (either “Repent, and believe in the Gospel” or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”) will be said only once to everyone in attendance. Then, after cleansing his hands and putting on a face mask, the priest will distribute ashes to each person in silence, using the “European method”—that is, the priest will take the ashes and sprinkle them on the head of each person, not the forehead. Each person should come forward and bow the head to receive a small amount of ash on the crown of the head.

Some people have asked me why the Vatican has mandated this change. The primary reason is that this method of distribution does not entail touching each person and possibly spreading disease. Since it is not practical for the priest to his wash hands or use hand sanitizer between each person, this method solves that issue. Placing ashes on one’s head is also biblical: Daniel begged God for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes; when tempted, Job sat in the ashes rather than sin; in the Book of Esther, we read that Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes in mourning; finally, our Lord cries woe to the unrepentant cities of Chorazin and Bethsaida who should have repented by sitting in sackcloth and ashes. In fact, we will all be following our Lord’s command closer this year: “When you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden.”

The late 10th century English abbot and writer, Ælfric of Eynsham, tells us: “in both the Old Testament and the New, men who repented of their sins bestrewed themselves with ashes and clothed their bodies with sackcloth. Now let us do this little [thing] at the beginning of our Lent—that we strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast.” Regardless of *how* we receive ashes, the purpose of the ashes is to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during Lent. That is what we should be concerned about this year, not where those ashes are placed on our heads. A blessed Lent to you all!

In Christ,  
Fr. Guanella

## WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

2/7/21

Offertory:	\$ 11
Adult Env + ACH:	\$1040
Building Fund:	\$ 265
CCHD	\$ 50

**Total: \$1366**

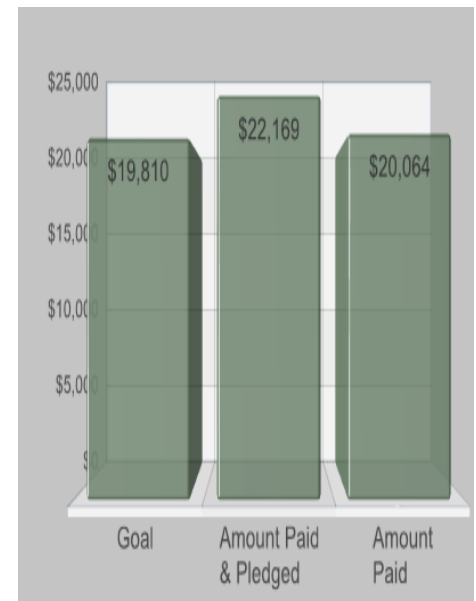
**ACH applications:** Please consider signing up for ACH for your regular Weekly/Monthly contribution. Extra forms are in the entrance of Church, or please call the office, 715-592-4330 for more information.

**\*\*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.

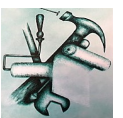


**HIS CHURCH**  
**IS STILL HERE**  
**IT STILL PROVIDES**  
**IS YOU AND ME**

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



**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**





## Religious Education No Class this weekend

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

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S *Wishing you Birthday Blessings!*

15th-Cassie Demski, 18th-Amy Stremkowski, 20th-Kirk Wille,  
26th-Myron Soik, 27th-Kenny Glodowski, 28th David Firkus

### Please remember in your prayers

*Gladys Pampuch, Tom Schmenk,  
Ruthie & Lenny Pliska,  
Mike Mrozek, Myron Soik,  
Mary Ann Meyer, Ken Wierzba,  
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.



*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 APRIL**

Information please contact  
Gina 920-540-7804



### **CAN A WEEK campaign**

Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> is the first day of **LENT** and the start of **CAN A WEEK** campaign which will merge with our **Food Pantry during Lent**. We will continue to help our three Families but with a 11% poverty level, there are more in the county that need help. Aid is needed NOW more than ever with a pandemic filled with isolation, chaos, unemployment, uncertainty, loss of business and death. The challenge is overwhelming. Please add a nonperishable food item weekly to your grocery list to donate towards our CAN A WEEK Campaign. Help those that are going hungry this Spring. Please drop your donation off at Church, before March 21st. Church will be open Sundays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9am - 5 pm. Monetary donations especially SCRIP appreciated, please deposit in the church collection in envelope marked CAN A WEEK Drop food in the shopping cart at main entrance of church. Expired cans will be thrown in the garbage.

Know of a friend or neighbor that needs help, let us know, recorder is always on at 715-592-4330 or 715-592-4971.

**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

## *The Greatest Gift is Love!*

OUR 7TH GRADE CLASS MADE  
VALENTINES TO SHARE WITH YOU.  
PLEASE TAKE ONE OFF OF OUR TREE ON  
YOUR WAY OUT OF CHURCH BETWEEN  
NOW AND FEBRUARY 14TH.



### **The Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Divine Image**

The Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Divine Image (MSDI) was founded in 2010. Our congregation is growing fast! We are 36 sisters who are all under the age of 55 and are rendering humanitarian services in Ghana, Nigeria, Germany and the US—now establishing a convent in Polonia, Wisconsin. (on Church Street near Sacred Heart Church).

The specific purpose of our Apostolate is:  
1) To promote the dignity of the human person by being cognizant that each one is an image of God, 2) To render services (Pastoral, Medical and Educational) to the poor and less privileged, especially to the sick and elderly, 3) To encourage and recruit young people for the service of nursing the sick and elderly, 4) To learn and respect the cultural and social rules of the Country where we serve, 5) To integrate properly into society without neglecting one's roots, 6) To promote youth exchange programs in collaboration with MSDI sisters in other Countries. The congregation is in need of help to fully establish the order in Polonia.

Please contact us to find out how you can help, for information and/or donate to support the work we do [info@divineimagesisters.com](mailto:info@divineimagesisters.com) or visit our website at <http://divineimagesisters.com>.

### **Missionary Sisters of the Divine Image (MSDI)**

invite you to visit their new gift shop within the Polonia convent. 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!



LITTLE FREE PANTRY at St. Mary's!

Take as you need, Donate if you are able! My Girl Scout Troop 6207 has built a **Little Free Pantry** to work toward earning their bronze and silver awards and placed it at St. Mary's IC.

If you know anyone in need, please spread the word that we have a LITTLE FREE PANTRY at St. Mary's! Thank you for your support! If you have any questions or wish to donate but the pantry is already full, please reach out to me at (715) 409-6163. Jenny Genskow Girl Scout Troop #6207 Leader



**Christ Our Cornerstone Campaign.** More than \$2.4 million has been pledged to restore the Cathedral! These gifts, combined with the generous match from St. Ambrose Financial Services brings the total up to

more than \$5.4 million! The total \$6.1 million restoration need is well within reach! We are so grateful for the outpouring of support we have seen from throughout the diocese, and especially from within this community. If you have not yet had the chance to make your pledge, now is the time to act. Pledges can be made using the materials in the entrance of church or [cathedralsjworkman.org/cornerstone](http://cathedralsjworkman.org/cornerstone)

#### 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.

### *Liturgical Appointments*

#### SUNDAY, February 14

LECTOR Nora USHERS Eddie  
SERVERS Julia & Vincent  
MONEY COUNTERS: Dave & Lorraine  
MUSICIANS Mary & Jim

#### SUNDAY, February 21

LECTOR Kirk USHERS Travis  
SERVERS Cassie & Madison  
MONEY COUNTERS: Kirk  
MUSICIANS Carolyn & Jacquie

#### SUNDAY, February 28

LECTOR Christine USHERS Eddie  
SERVERS Julia & Vincent  
MONEY COUNTERS David & Rosemarie  
MUSICIANS Mary & Cheryl

### 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.*

## St. Adalbert Parish

Every Friday

**February 19 through March 26, 2021**

**4:00 to 7:30 P.M.**



Fish or Shrimp or Combo - \$11.00

Children's Fish or Shrimp - \$7.00

Includes choice of potato, coleslaw and bread.  
(No desserts this year)

**Take-out orders only!**

**Call: 715-677- 4518 or 715-677- 4517**

#### 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](mailto:stmary@wi-net.com) FIRST NAMES ONLY will be used; members promise to respect your request in confidence.*

**LENTEN FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Begin on February 19, Noon at St. Peter Parish, Stevens Point) Beginning Feb. 26: Quarts of Soup sold 12:30-2 pm

St. Peter Parish, 800 Fourth Ave., Stevens Point SOUP SALE, Sat. Feb. 20, 11:00-2pm Drive through pick up: Ham & Bean, Tomato Basil Bisque, Swiss Broccoli, Chicken Noodle Homemade, Convenient, Tasty, and Freezable - \$9 per Quart

**SOUP TO GO FUNDRAISER** At St. Maximillian Kolbe February 20th-21st after the weekend Masses. You can pick up your soup to go. YOU WILL NEED TO PRE-ORDER so we can plan appropriately. Place your order by phone or text message to Mary 715-340-7217 or Chris 715-340-7810. Chicken Noodle, Chicken Dumpling, or Beef-Vegetable Barley soup. \$8 per quart and can be paid for at the time of pick up. The soup can be put in the freezer, too. All proceeds will be applied to our fundraiser for the new religious education classrooms and social hall

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

Job Posting: St. Adalbert, Rosholt is hiring an Administrative Assistant to perform general secretarial and clerical duties. For more information or to apply for the position, please visit [www.rosholtcatholic.org/employment](http://www.rosholtcatholic.org/employment).

**February 14, — Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time** Today's readings prepare us for the penitential season of Lent.

In our Gospel, a leper knelt before Jesus and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Jesus reached out and touched this diseased man and healed him. He then encouraged the man to show himself to the priest and offer himself a cleansing, referencing what was commanded in the Law of Moses. By completing these rituals, this man might be reinstituted into the community.

Let us approach this holy season of Lent like the leper. By our faults, we have distanced ourselves from God and His community. The leper reminds us Who to go to so that we might be healed. Let us approach the Lord this season on our knees asking for forgiveness and healing from our offenses, saying, "If you wish, you can make me clean." There is no doubt that, if we have a contrite heart, Jesus will stretch out His hand in forgiveness, and His mercy will touch our lives.

And like the leper, we too should go forth from being healed with a commitment to cleanse ourselves from the lasting effects of sin. Lent is a time to offer acts of reparation through Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving so that we might be purified in all areas of our life and walk with the Gracious Healer, who sacrificed His life for our sake.

This holy season of Lent is an opportunity to be healed and cleansed on our journey as disciples of Christ. Let us consider what we can do to offer acts of reparation so that we might be purified and one day partake in the resurrection of Christ

# LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

## Lenten Regulations

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17.

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.

2. In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday

and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

**Free Daily Lenten Reflections** Sign up to receive a daily email with a short video to help you connect in a stronger way with Jesus. This begins on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17) and continues through the forty days of Lent.

\*Sign up for Bishop Barron daily Lenten reflections [lentreflections.com/](http://lentreflections.com/) or

\*Sign up for "Best Lent Ever" with Matthew Kelly at [dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever](http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever)

\*Choose a Prayer Card for Lent in order to "Go Deeper" in your relationship with Jesus and your understanding of the prayer. [diolc.org/deeper](http://diolc.org/deeper) for adult resources and [diolc.org/prayer](http://diolc.org/prayer) for children and young people resources.

## Excellent Lenten resources for Individuals and Families

□ 33 Days to Merciful Love: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC in Preparation for Consecration to Divine Mercy. Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, brings to light one of the most beloved saints in modern times, St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Topics include trust, the Little Way, the Offering to Merciful Love and spiritual darkness. The 33 days is a preparation for consecration to Divine Mercy. A book can be purchased at [ShopMercy.org](http://ShopMercy.org)

□ Consecration to St. Joseph by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC During this Year dedicated to St. Joseph, a six-week preparation beginning on February 15 and ends on March 19th on the Solemnity of St. Joseph would be a most-timely study during Lent. The book is arranged for the consecration with 10-15 minutes of reading per day. A book can be purchased at [ShopMercy.org](http://ShopMercy.org)

□ Discovering a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit with Fr. Dave Pivonka This is 14-part series features Fr. Dave Pivonka, a regular host of Steubenville Youth Conferences. Shot in various locations from Niagara Falls to the California desert, the presentations invite viewers to an encounter, or a renewed encounter, with the Holy Spirit. The entire series is available for free on [wildgoose.tv](http://wildgoose.tv) or if you prefer you can purchase the DVD set as well.

