



St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish

DECEMBER 15, 2019

3rd Sunday of Advent

7176 Esker Road, Custer, WI 54423

Phone: 715-592-4330

Website: 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

Parochial Administrator -
Fr. Alan Guanella (715) 592-4221
aguanella@gmail.com

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

Senior Priest in Residence
Fr. Roy Witucki

PARISH STAFF

Secretary-Donna Wierzba
stmary@wi-net.com
Bookkeeper-Diane Wysocki
stmaryicfinance@gmail.com
CCD Coordinator-Jessica Bielen
jwier319@gmail.com
Custodian-Jeanne Hintz
Maintenance/Grounds keeping-
Kenny Rozek

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, December 15,

10:00 a.m. +Edwin & Verona Herek by Family

@ SMIC 6:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration & Evening Prayer

Tuesday, December 17, @ SH

8:15 am +Linda Konkol by Richard

Wednesday, December 18, @ SMIC

8:15 am +Eugene Glodowski by Karen & Tom Miller

Thursday, December 19, @ SH

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8 am Confessions

8:15 am +Margaret Megal by Dan & Carol Sekerka

Friday, December 20, @ SMIC

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8 am Confessions

8:15 am +Michael V. Kosobucki

Saturday, December 21, @ SH

8:15 am +Norbert Groshek by Virginia Groshek

2:30 pm Confession

4:00 p.m. +Ben Wiza by Mike and Judy Yenter

SUNDAY, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. @ SH Special Intentions of Tom & Kim
Glodowski by Children

***10:00 a.m. +Regina, Felix, Frances, Conroy Soik
by Myron Soik Family***

11:00 a.m. Confessions

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, Christmas Eve

3:30 p.m. Carols & Music

4:00 p.m. @ St. Mary's I.C.

***WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25,
Christmas Day***

Midnight Mass 12 a.m. @ SH

8:00 a.m. @ SH

10:00 a.m. @ St. Mary's I.C.



Today
following
Mass in the
Parish Hall
Join us as
we celebrate
Fr. Guanella's
birthday!

ALL ARE WELCOME! Hosted by
Pastoral & Finance Councils

Dear Friends in Christ,

Praised be Jesus Christ! I was asked once about whether-or-not the Season of Advent is a penitential season as Lent is. The liturgical color is purple for both seasons, after all. I myself did not think that Advent was a penitential season but then I did some research and found out that I was mistaken. In 1966, the Catholic bishops of the United States wrote a *Pastoral Statement on Penance and Abstinence*. In that *Statement* there is a section on the Season of Advent and penance. It rings as true now in 2019 as it did in 1966. Here's what it says:

"Changing customs, especially in connection with preparation for Christmas, have diminished popular appreciation of the Advent season. Something of a holiday mood of Christmas appears now to be anticipated in the days of the Advent season. As a result, this season has unfortunately lost in great measure the role of penitential preparation for Christmas that it once had.

Zealous Christians have striven to keep alive or to restore the spirit of Advent by resisting the trend away from the disciplines and austerities that once characterized the season among us. Perhaps their devout purpose will be better accomplished, and the point of Advent will be better fostered if we rely on the liturgical renewal and the new emphasis on the liturgy to restore its deeper understanding as a season of effective preparation for the mystery of the Nativity.

For these reasons, we, the shepherds of souls of this [bishops'] conference, call upon Catholics to make the Advent season, beginning with 1966, a time of meditation on the lessons taught by the liturgy and of increased participation in the liturgical rites by which the Advent mysteries are exemplified and their sanctifying effect is accomplished.

If in all Christian homes, churches, schools, retreats and other religious houses, liturgical observances are practiced with fresh fervor and fidelity to the penitential spirit of the liturgy, then Advent will again come into its own. Its spiritual purpose will again be clearly perceived."

In Christ,
Father Guanella



Weekly Financial Support December 8, 2019

Total:	\$ 3379.00
Envelopes	\$ 2190.00
Offertory	\$ 249.00
Building Fund	\$ 200.00
Retirement fund	\$ 565.00
Flowers	\$ 175.00

Please remember **in your prayers:**

Mike Mrozek, Eileen Bronk,
Bev Krusick, Bette Maslowski
Myron Soik, Tom Schmenk,
Clarence & Gladys Pampuch,
Gladys Lepak, Ken Wierzba,
Flonnie Pliska, Doris Wierzba,
Nora Miller, Julia Chodzinski
Brigid & Al Pellatt

Please contact Father Guanella as soon as possible should a loved one become ill and need anointing. Otherwise, contact the parish office to schedule a visit for a non-emergency situation.

PARISH GOAL:	\$ 18,785.00
PLEDGES RECEIVED:	\$ 15,935.00
Under Goal:	\$ 2,850.00



Advent Confessions Additional times for the Sacrament of Confession will be offered during the Season of Advent: *St Mary's I.C.* confessions will be heard ***following Sunday Mass***, until all are heard.

Please consider making a good confession in order to prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas.



St. Mary's I. C. Parish

2019-20 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Our "THANKS" to those who have contributed.
WE WOULD LIKE TO MEET OUR GOAL
BY THE END OF THE YEAR. Please drop

your pledge card in the collection by **DECEMBER 29th. Extra cards in the entrance of Church.** Thank you!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CLASS Meet on Sundays,
8:30-10 a.m.

FAMILY MASS: Today
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th,
ALL Parents are asked to attend this
Mass with their children.

Coordinator of Religious Education
 Jessica Bielen jwier319@gmail.com



Bambinelli Sunday.....A tradition on the **3rd Sunday of Advent**. Pope John Paul II during his papacy, instituted the celebration of Bambinelli Sunday. For the past several decades, each year on Gaudete Sunday, children and adults bring their baby Jesus figurines from their home crib to St. Peter's Square where the Pope will bless both the people and the figurines during Angelus. Father Guanella will continue this tradition at St. Mary's I.C.



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 will prepare and server dinner for people in need at The Salvation Army on the **First Monday** of every month. We need groups of 3-4 people to volunteer. Please consider donating your time for this wonderful cause.

NEED SERVERS
FOR FEBRUARY

Information please
 contact Gina Kempf
 at 920-540-7804

*Spending time
 with our Lord
 is a great way
 to end and
 begin our week!*
Sunday
Eucharistic
Adoration &
Evening Prayer
December 15th

6 pm @
 St Mary's I.C.
 Visit [https://
 divineoffice.org/](https://divineoffice.org/)
 more
 information
 or contact
 Jim or Deb
 715-824-6747.
 This will be
 our last one
 until Lent.

Cold and Flu Season. With winter and the cold and flu season upon us, please be prudent when deciding whether-or-not to offer the sign of peace or receive the Precious Blood at Mass. Furthermore, if you are scheduled to usher, read, serve, or be an extraordinary minister and are sick, please consider finding a replacement. A ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Thank you.



HOOKED ON LOVE Gifts for babies and young mothers in our area. Gift cards or monetary donations are always welcome.

Please put your items in the pack n play in the entrance of Church.

On **Monday, Dec. 16th**, at 5:30 pm we will be packing up the donations, please bring items to the church by then. Thank you for your donations towards our Advent project. *Special Thank you to the Religious Education Students for making the blankets for the babies!*

A Mass of Christian Burial was held for *Jeff Pliska* on Wednesday, December 4th. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of Jeff. May he and all the souls of our faithful departed rest in peace. *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, And let the perpetual light shine upon him.*



Women on a Mission will be ***selling Soup in a Jar*** after Mass while supplies last. This is a fund raiser which helps us fund our charitable activities. Thank you to all who donated jars for this project. God bless!

MEMORY BRICKS: Once again St. Mary's Cemetery Committee will have memory bricks available for purchase. The memory bricks will be placed within a walkway from the reflection area to the new cross. Each brick can be individualized with three lines with a total of 14 letters and spaces per line and will be available for \$50.00 per brick. Visit our reflection area to view memory bricks memorialized by our Parishioners. There's a sample brick in the back of Church, the bricks will be installed in the spring. Please contact, Diane: 715-592-5013

CHURCH SUPPORT ENVELOPES FOR 2020: An note from Cathedral Corporation: Due to a high influx of orders and some unexpected internal delays due to equipment upgrades, you will not be receiving your envelopes prior to the start of January. Our print department is severely backlogged and our team is working diligently to get your order to you as quickly as possible.

BUY SCRIP December 22nd after Mass



Looking for that perfect gift? Last minute shopping
BUY SCRIP!!! We have gift cards for area stores
and restaurants! **Scrip is sold on the first full and third weekend after Mass.** Scrip is always available just a phone call away, Shelly 715-592-3775. **Thank you** to everyone who purchases SCRIP



DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Envelopes can be found in the entrance of the Church. Please include your name and the name of the person you wish to donate in memory of Thank you for your generosity

THANK YOU TO THE FAMILY LIFE FOR HOSTING THE POTLUCK DINNER LAST SATURDAY! Thanks to those who helped with the potluck Carolyn, Diane, Heidi, Tom, Gina, and Kathy. Also thanks to those who donated BBQ for the event that were unable to attend, Kate, Jacquie, Jessica and Joanna.

Saturday was also Our Welcome to St. Mary's I.C. Parish Family: The following families joined our parish this year:



Shawn & Wendy Demski
Michael & Asha Demski, Elleigha & William
Cassie Demski
Sarah & Bill Raschka, Elizabeth, Lucas & Levi
Jeff & Terri Soderberg

2020 Calendars....A gift for St. Mary's I.C. parishioners, please one per household. **A Special Thank you to Pisarski Funeral Homes, 703 Second St, Stevens Point and 2911 Plover Rd, Plover for donating the calendars.**

Effective January 1, 2020, I will be stepping down from my duties as groundskeeper as well as the maintenance duties here at St. Mary's. I no longer have the time that is necessary to fulfill these responsibilities. I have enjoyed the time I spent working here, and I will gladly take the time to show anyone what I did to maintain these grounds as well as the maintenance within the Church.
Thanks again, Kenny Rozek

***Please contact the office if interested in Maintenance Grounds keeper position.*

The Tradition of the "Nativity Scene" Families are encouraged to set up the Christmas crib at home together so that children learn the facts of the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto. The Nativity Scene can help us understand the true meaning of Christmas because it expresses the humility and merciful goodness of Jesus Christ, who *though He was rich He made Himself poor* for us (2 Corinthians 8:9). Christmas brings joy, peace and hope to those who, like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the angel's words: "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Luke 2: 10-12) This is still the true meaning of Christmas. We need a Savior; the Son of God came to us as a tiny infant in the poorest of circumstances. Jesus is the Savior because in Him and through Him is the grace necessary for us to overcome all of the dysfunction, sinfulness, shame and guilt which separates us from God and from one another. In Him is the grace to overcome all obstacles to friendship with God. In Bethlehem "a Savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."

Liturgical Appointments

SUNDAY, December 15

LECTOR Deb USHERS Carson, Kaden, Travis
GREETERS Genskow family
SERVERS Zach, Samantha, Caly, Nick
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Dave, Nora, Kirk
MONEY COUNTERS Dave, Lorraine, LeRoy K
MUSICIANS Jacquie & Carolyn

SUNDAY, December 22

LECTOR Carolyn GREETERS: O'Keefe Family
USHERS Sabrina, Lonna, Ron
SERVERS Raeana, Cassie, Madison
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Brenda, Kate, Tom
MONEY COUNTERS David, Rosemarie, Tom
MUSICIANS Mary & Cheryl

The Retirement Fund for Religious:.
Prayer-filled thanks for your donation
to last week's second collection
565.00 was collected.

The **Knights Of Columbus** would like to thank everyone who supported the cinnamon roll sale, it will make a lot of children real happy at a time of need.



DECORATING OUR CHURCH FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Next Sunday, Dec 22nd after Mass. Please share your time & talents and help make our church beautiful for our Lord!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

Wishing you Birthday Blessings!

14th-Fr Guanella

16th-Bernice Fritschler 17th-Butch Gagas

21st-Colleen Raschka 23rd-Lisa Piesik,

24th Deb Sniadajewski & Randy Iwanski