

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

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

Pastor -

Fr. Alan M. Guanella (715) 592-4221
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

Bookkeeper-Diane Wysocki

stmaryicfinance@gmail.com

CCD Coordinator-Jessica Bielen

Custodian-Jeanne Hintz

Maintenance/Grounds keeping

Josh Genskow



Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15 a.m. @SMIC † Denny Stransky
by Ron & Donna Wierzba

12:30 p.m. (SH) St. Mary's I.C. &
Sacred Heart Parish Family

Wednesday, December 9

8:15 a.m. † Ruth & Ron Werachowski
by Jim & Cindi Borski

6:00-7:15 p.m. (SH) Confessions

Thursday, December 10 (SH)

7-8 a.m. Adoration 7:30-8a.m. Confessions

8:15 a.m. † Michael Wierzba by Holy Name Society

Friday, December 11

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

8:15 a.m. † Dominic & Tillie Mansavage, Donald
& Verna Woyak by Elsie & Family

Saturday, December 12 @ SH

8:15am † Gladys Lepak by LeVerne & Cindy Lepak

2:45pm Confessions

4:00pm Anticipatory Mass @ SH

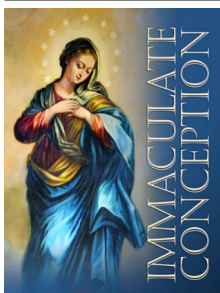
† Romona Lilla by Ernest & Carol Kezeske

Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am @ SH † Julia Chodzinski by Family

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

After Mass: Confessions



Mass Schedule:

The Immaculate Conception Tuesday, December 8th

8:15 am: St. Mary's I.C.

12:30 p.m. at SH

Advent Confessions

Sacred Heart Parish

Wednesdays, December 9th and 16th
from 6 to 7:15 PM.

St. Mary's Parish

after the Sunday Masses (until all are heard) December 6th, 13th, and 20th.

All are encouraged to make a good confession in preparation of Christ's birth at Christmas.

Reminder-Weekend Masses cannot exceed 25% capacity and seating is limited, please call the parish office, 715-592-4330 every week before Thursday, to sign-up to attend the weekend and Christmas Eve 4 p.m. Mass. ~ Thank you

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm not entirely sure why, but during my eight years in the seminary, the Season of Advent was always my favorite time of year. Perhaps it was because the daylight was short and time in the chapel seemed more cozy. Perhaps it was because of the light of the Advent wreath and the near-daily singing of *Creator of the Stars of Night*. For some reason, Advent always struck me during those years. It still does. It's still my favorite season of the liturgical year.

It seems as though we humans like waiting expectantly for things. Most of don't like waiting and most of us could work on our patience at times, but *expectantly* waiting is something different. Before a big event, we are happy to get to the venue a bit early "lest we miss out." We are anxious to celebrate parties and events. Before sports games, the tailgating experience can be even more fun than the game itself. There is something about the buildup before something big that we humans enjoy. When we look at children and young people, this is even more clear: the buildup to birthdays and Christmas is almost bigger than the main event.

Advent is a time of expectant waiting and of preparation. Because we know that the Lord will come, we aren't impatient. We can, however, make ill use of the time we have been given to prepare. It's all too easy to push our preparation off for another day. Before we know it, Christmas is here and we hardly did anything to prepare. The popular Advent hymn *People Look East*, written by the British writer Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965), puts this preparation in metaphorical language: *Make your house fair as you are able. Trim the hearth and set the table.*

We should not be impatient, therefore, during Advent. We know that the Lord will come at Christmas. It is our duty to wait expectantly and prepare our hearts. If we can give such energy to birthdays, weddings, baby showers, and tailgate parties, we can certainly give more to our Lord. It always bothers me to see people toss out their Christmas tree the day after Christmas or when radio stations stop playing Christmas music the day after Christmas. We are preparing our hearts for Christmas (which lasts until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord in the current calendar). It reminds me of a text from the Liturgy of the Hours for the morning of December 24th: *Today you will know the Lord is coming, and in the morning you will see his glory.*

Happy Advent to you all!

In Christ,
Father Guanella



Christmas Eve Mass will be held at St. Mary's I.C. at 4pm. We are still limited to 25% capacity (or 68 persons). **Please call the parish office to sign up to attend this Mass** as soon as you are able. After Dec. 17th, if there are any spaces left, will be opened to Sacred Heart parishioners.

Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass at 9:00am will be held at Sacred Heart. All St. Mary's parishioners are welcome to attend these Masses but must call the Sacred Heart office to sign up (715-592-4221). St. Mary's parishioners may sign up to attend the 6:30pm Christmas Eve Mass at Sacred Heart after December 17th or when the 4:00pm Mass is at capacity, whichever comes first

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

11/29/20

Adult Env.	\$ 500
Ach Adult Env.	\$ 335
Offertory	\$ 25
Building	\$ 50
Xmas Flowers	\$ 25
TOTAL	\$ 935

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

Our THANKS to those who have contributed.

GOAL	\$19,810.00
Total Pledged & Received:	\$15,714.00
Amount Received:	\$14,149.00

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.

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.

Please Take Note: Some parishioners envelope numbers have changed for 2021.

Mass Readings, Week of December 6th:

Sunday: Is. 40:1–11; Ps. 85; 2 Pt. 3:8–14; Mk. 1:1–8
Monday: Is. 35:1–10; Ps. 85; Lk. 5:17–26
Tuesday: Gn. 3:9–20; Ps. 98; Eph. 1:3–12; Lk. 1:26–38
Wednesday: Is. 40:25–31; Ps. 103; Mt. 11:28–30
Thursday: Is. 41:13–20; Ps. 145; Mt. 11:11–15
Friday: Is. 48:17–19; Ps. 1; Mt. 11:16–19
Saturday: Zec. 2:14–17; Jud. 13:18–19; Lk. 1:26–38



Religious Education Class

Meet on Sunday: K—8th Grades 8:30—9:40 am
10th Grades 6:00—7:15 pm

Congratulations to our Confirmandi! We had 4 candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Sunday at St. Mary's I.C.

Eddie "Michael" Sapa, son of Edward & Christine
Kaden "Henry" Stanczyk, son of Scott & Melanie

Cade "Hubert" Yenter, son of Kyle & Jenny
Joshua "Cecilia" Dudas, son of Mike & Branka

May the Lord bless each of you with His guidance from this day forward, and may the Holy Spirit be with you to renew and strengthen you in your commitment to follow Christ

CORRECTION error in Financial Report for fiscal year 2019-2020 summary to the parishioners of the amount in the building fund collection.

There was a misunderstanding of the explanation of the balance. Our checkbook balance of the building fund was \$3,528 on June 30th, 2020. BUT this balance IS AFTER transferring the Parishioner donations from 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 to our building account at the Diocese

During our 2019-2020 fiscal year we have received \$14,480 in Building fund donations. During 2018-2019 we had received \$23,113 in donations. Our total building fund savings account at the Diocese as of October 26, 2020 is \$62,054.30.

So our project fund is well on the way, thanks to your generous donations for a project still going through the planning stages

A Mass of Christian Burial was held for our parish family member, **Eileen Bronk**, on Tuesday, December 1st. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of Eileen. May we continue to pray for the happy repose of her soul and for the comfort of her family during this difficult time.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, And let the perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen



HOOKED ON LOVE The holiday season is a time of loving and giving. Think of single mothers, especially if they are unemployed. What joy baby supplies will bring to them. You would like to give, but have no idea how to do it. With Hooked on Love we try to make sharing your love easier.

Please select a candy cane from our Christmas tree in the Church entrance. The color of the ribbon indicates the cost of the suggested item. **RED** (\$5-\$10.00), **WHITE** (\$10) **GREEN** (\$15). Grocery, Target or gas gifts cards can be purchased with SCRIP. We accept any monetary donations, (**Mark envelope of monetary donations or SCRIP cards as Baby Supplies**) and drop it in the collection box. LIST of NEEDED ITEMS on entrance table. **NO Formula or Food items**. Please bring to Church before evening of Dec. 14th. Items will be donated to the Portage County Prenatal Care Coordination Program and First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center. **Put your items in Pak n Play in the church entrance**

WANTED NAMES OF PARISHIONERS that could use extra Baby Supplies! If you know of **anyone** in the parish or area who could use a help with baby supplies contact Marie Helminiak (715-592-4971) and leave a message, before Dec. 13th. Names will be kept confidential.



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

We will be meeting this Monday, Dec 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement to complete a Christmas project for the homebound within the parish. All women are welcome to join us.

Please remember in your prayers

Gladys Pampuch, Tom Schmenk,
Ruthie & Lenny Pliska, Mike Mrozek,
Myron Soik, Edward Lukasavage,
Ken Wierzba, Brigid & Al Pellatt,
Nora Miller, Ray Sommers, Doris Wierzba

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.

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

*Daily Mass readings www.usccb.org/bible/readings

*Daily Mass from the Cathedral at: www.dioc.org/live

*Sunday Mass

11am: 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

*Relevant Radio broadcasts Mass Noon & 7:30PM every day, 9AM Sundays

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.

2021 Calendars-A gift for St. Mary's I.C. parishioners, please one per household.

A SPECIAL THANKS to Pisarski Funeral Homes, 703 Second St, Stevens Point and 2911 Plover Rd, Plover for donating the calendars.

Saturday Mass Intentions: Beginning January 9, 2021, the Sacred Heart Saturday Mass intention will be a "collective intention." This means that there is no limit to the number of Mass intentions for the Mass. 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 contact the Sacred Heart Parish office to add an intention or if you have questions.



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.



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.



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.



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**

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Information please contact
Gina 920-540-7804

God Bless Our November Servers: Eunice Zwicky & Carolyn Iwanski.

BUY SCRIP -

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

Thank you to everyone who purchases SCRIP.

November Sales:

Total = \$8,685.00

Profit = \$ 359.53

Next weekend more information will be provided regarding the Cathedral steeple renovation project and the Christ Our Cornerstone campaign. Since its dedication in 1962, St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral has been an icon of faith and a magnificent place of worship. As the Mother Church of the Diocese, she has welcomed all within her walls. As Christ is the cornerstone of our faith, our Cathedral is the cornerstone of our diocese. Now, it is our time to make a difference in the life and future of our Mother Church. Next weekend, there will be an opportunity for us to join together as one body united in Christ and take part in this momentous effort!



Liturgical Appointments

SUNDAY, December 6

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

SUNDAY, December 13

LECTOR Tom USHERS Travis
SERVERS Addy & LeRoy
MONEY COUNTERS Tom & Brenda
MUSICIANS Jim & Mary

SUNDAY, December 20

LECTOR Deb USHERS Randy
SERVERS Samantha & Zach
MONEY COUNTERS Lisa & Jeremy
MUSICIANS Carolyn & Jacquie

Christmas Eve Dec 24...4:00p.m.

LECTOR Christine USHERS Travis
SERVERS Julia, Vincent, Eddie
MUSICIANS Jacquie & Carolyn

SUNDAY, December 27

LECTOR Nora USHERS Eddie
SERVERS Cassie & Madison
MONEY COUNTERS Dave & Lorraine
MUSICIANS Mary & Cheryl

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S *Wishing you Birthday Blessings!*

7th-Betty Rozek, Bernice Kepler & Michael Demski, 8th-Mary Zurawski, 10th-Sue Stremkowski, 11th-Dennis Mocadlo, 14th-Fr. Guanella, 16th-Bernie Fritschler, 21st-Colleen Raschka, 23rd-Lisa Piesik, 24th-Deb Sniadajewski & Randy Iwanski, 29th-Jim Groshek

Give in thanksgiving. "I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education" writes a donor. Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. **Next week's second collection** is for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.