

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

### ***Third Sunday of Advent***

December 13, 2020

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-**Diane Wysocki

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

**CCD Coordinator-**Jessica Bielen

**Custodian-**Jeanne Hintz

**Maintenance/Grounds keeping**

Josh Genskow

### **Mass Intentions**

Tuesday, December 15 (SH)

There will be No Mass

**Wednesday, December 16**

**8:15 a.m. † Michael & Emily Wierzba**

**by Dominic & Joyce Biadasz**

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

Thursday, December 17 (SH)

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

8:15 a.m. † Jerome Ackern by Holy Name Society

**Friday, December 18**

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

**8:15 a.m. † Michael V. Kosobucki**

**Saturday, December 19 @ SH**

8:15am † Norbert Groshek by Virginia Groshek

2:45pm Confessions

4:00pm Anticipatory Mass @ SH

† Randy Flisakowski by Knights of Columbus

**Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

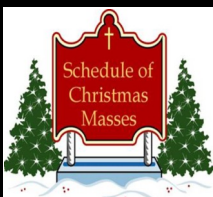
**8:00am @ SH St. Mary's I.C. & Sacred Heart**

**Parish Family**

**10:00am † Conrad Glodowski**

**by Dave & Lorraine Glodowski**

**After Mass: Confessions**



#### **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

### **Advent Confessions**

**Sacred Heart Parish Wednesday, December 16th  
from 6 to 7:15 PM.**

**St. Mary's Parish after the Sunday Masses (until  
all are heard) December 13th, and 20th.**

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

At the end of the homily at this weekend's Masses, I presented briefly on the *Christ Our Cornerstone* campaign that seeks to help fund needed repairs at our diocesan Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman in La Crosse. The Cathedral is a special church for me personally since my parents were married there, my grandparents were buried from there, and I was baptized, confirmed, and ordained a priest there. As I mentioned, the repair of the Cathedral is both critical and urgent. The Cathedral was dedicated in 1962 and is presently facing some severe difficulties with several heavy stone pieces from the steeple have already fallen, posing the risk of further structural damage and creating hazards. This has necessitated closing off the main entrance from public use.

It is important to understand that while the Cathedral has its own parishioners who belong to her, she is also the Mother Church of the entire diocese. It is at the Cathedral that our priests and deacons are ordained. From there they are sent to bring Christ's mission and their ministry to serve across our entire diocese. At the annual Chrism Mass, the holy oils are blessed and the chrism is consecrated to be sent and used in all of our parishes for the sacraments. While the Cathedral is located in La Crosse, its impact is diocesan wide.

The total estimated cost of restoring the steeple and other needs of the Cathedral is \$6.1 million. Thus far the campaign has raised \$2.5 million from the parishioners of the Cathedral Parish itself. In order to help fund this necessary and urgent restoration, St. Ambrose Financial Services, Inc. has agreed to match \$2 for every \$1 generously pledged to this campaign up to \$3 million so your gift is effectively tripled. All the faithful of the Diocese of La Crosse are being invited to participate in this campaign. One-time donations are appreciated as well as three-year pledges. If you wish to contribute to this campaign, brochures and envelopes are provided in the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity in this one-time request.

In other matters, Bishop Callahan has written to the priests to underscore the importance of following the pandemic protocols at Mass. The bishop reiterated the importance of keeping our churches at 25% capacity (*so please continue to call the office to register for Mass*), of wearing face masks, and keeping a 6 foot social distance from one another. Bishop Callahan states: "By doing our part in following the guidelines, we demonstrate the value of everyone working together in charity with a commitment to care for one another. I recognize that we each have a different perspective of the pandemic situation but I am confident that we all agree that we have a responsibility of respecting human life."

I am fully aware that not everyone is in agreement with how churches should respond to the restrictions, but I ask that you please put those feelings aside and give thanks for all that has been done to ensure we have implemented the procedures necessary to safely reopen our parish. Moreover, keep in mind that not everyone may feel as you do, so please be considerate of others. As regard to everyone wearing masks at Mass, I will simply underscore what the bishop has directed. I am not going to be involved in matters of enforcement if someone is not wearing a mask. If you are in close proximity with people who are not from your household, it would be an act of charity to wear a mask.

In Christ,  
Father Guanella

## WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

12/6/20	Offertory Plate	\$ 18
	Adult Envelope	\$3155
	Building Fund	\$ 875
	Flower Donations	\$ 90
	Mission Coop	\$1000
	<u>Ach Adult Envelope</u>	<u>\$ 983</u>
	TOTAL	\$6121

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

THANKS to those who have contributed.

GOAL \$19,810.00

Total Pledged

& Received: \$16,159.00

Amount Received: \$14,594.00

**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 2021 envelope numbers have changed**

### Mass Readings for the Week of December 13th:

Sunday: Is. 61:1-11; Lk. 1:46-54;

1 Thes. 5:16-24; Jn. 1:6-28

Monday: Num. 24:2-17; Ps. 25;

Mt. 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep. 3:1-13; Ps. 34;

Mt. 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is. 45:6-25; Ps. 85;

Lk. 7:18-23

Thursday: Gn. 49:2-10; Ps. 72;

Mt. 1:1-17

Friday: Jer. 23:5-8; Ps. 72; Mt. 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs. 13:2-7, 24-25; Ps. 71;

Lk. 1:5-25



## Religious Education Class

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

**\*\*Special Thank you to the students for making tie blankets for the Hooked on Love Advent Project.**

*Coordinator of Religious Education*  
Jessica Bielen [jwier319@gmail.com](mailto:jwier319@gmail.com)

**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

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

BE THE  
*Reason*  
SOMEONE  
*Smiles*  
TODAY

**Stay in touch!** Give your neighbors a call, check in to say a quick prayer together. There is nothing better than a quick hello from a friend.

### Please remember in your prayers

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

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.



**HOOKED ON LOVE** The last day; you can bring gifts is next Sunday Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> for young mothers and families that need an extra hand in our area. **We are extending the collection for one more week because of the lack of**

**contributions.** All the families we are helping are in the local area. We will be getting supplies together after Mass on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your gifts before then. Gift certificates, SCRIP or monetary donations are always welcome.,

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). (Mark envelope of monetary donations or SCRIP cards as Baby Supplies) and drop it in the collection box. **NO Formula or Food items.** Put your items in Pak n Play in the church entrance

### 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



This weekend, the Diocese of La Crosse is announcing the launch of the *Christ Our Cornerstone* campaign to restore the steeple and facilitate other restorations to the St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse. The impact of the Cathedral is diocesan wide and stands as the iconic cornerstone of our faith which radiates as a place of prayer and worship to all our people. St. Ambrose Financial Services, Inc. has offered to match \$2 for every \$1 generously pledged to this initiative up to \$3 million. All families within our diocese are invited to participate. Please know that while one-time gifts are appreciated, we are encouraging everyone to consider making a pledge. Pledges can be made by using the pledge cards found within the brochures in the back of church. We thank you for your kind assistance in this historic endeavor.

Support aging religious: **The Retirement Fund for Religious.** Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps pay for medications, nursing care, and other needs for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Envelopes are in the pews and on the table in the entrance of Church, drop in collection today or bring back next Sunday. Thank you for your support!

**2021 Calendars**-A gift for St. Mary's I.C. parishioners: **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,** 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.

### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S** *wishing you Birthday Blessings!*

14th-Fr. Guanella, 16th-Bernie Fritschler, 21st-Colleen Raschka, 23rd-Lisa Piesik, 24th-Deb Sniadajewski, Randy Iwanski & Nick Stremkowski, 29th-Jim Groshek



### **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.*

*People Helping People*



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

*If you or someone you know is in need of assistance please call office 592-4330 or Marie Helminiak 592-4971.*

*Thank You*

To our Saint Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish Family,  
We say "Thank You" for all you have done for us after the sudden loss of our Father/Grandfather, Jerry. They say that a family comes together in difficult times, and our Parish Family truly came together for us.

Have a Merry and Blessed Christmas. The Family of Jerry Rozek

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! **Take as you need, Donate if you are able!** 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

## *Liturgical Appointments*

### 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



### **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 SERVERS FOR JANUARY**

Information please contact  
Gina 920-540-7804

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

**Thank you** to everyone who purchases SCRIP.