

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 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 22 (SH)

8:15 a.m. †Wanda Domaszek by Pat Domaszek

Wednesday, December 23

8:15 a.m. †Don Johnson by Judi & Family

Thursday, December 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**

3:30 pm Christmas Music

4:00 pm (SMIC) †Jeff Pliska by Jane & family

6:30 pm (SH) †Deacon Larry Agema

Friday, December 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** (SH)

Midnight †Leo Kurszewski by Virginia Groshek

9:00 am St. Mary's I.C. & Sacred Heart

Parish Families

Saturday, December 26 @ SH

4:00pm Anticipatory Mass @ SH

†Edwin Gagas by Family

Sunday, December 27, The Holy Family of

Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00am @ SH †Antoinette Zywicki

by Joe & Yetta Somers

10:00am †Ed & Kathryn Maslowski, Ed &

Agnes Berna by Pat & Bette Maslowski

Wishing you
 the spirit of Christmas
 which is **PEACE**
 the blessing of Christmas
 which is **Hope**
 the heart of Christmas
 which is **Love**



The 4 pm Christmas Eve Mass at
 St. Mary's I.C. We are at capacity

All St. Mary's parishioners are
 welcome to attend these Masses at
 Sacred Heart:

6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass,
 Midnight Mass or the Christmas Day

Mass at 9:00am. **YOU MUST CALL** Sacred Heart office
 to sign up 715-592-4221.

Dear Friends in Christ,

The great fourth/fifth century archbishop of Constantinople, St. John Chrysostom, wrote about Christmas: "I behold a new and wondrous mystery. My ears resound to the shepherd's song, piping no soft melody, but chanting full forth a heavenly hymn. The angels sing. The archangels blend their voices in harmony. The cherubim hymn their joyful praise. The seraphim exalt God's glory. All join to praise this holy feast, beholding the godhead here on earth, and a man in heaven. The one who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and he that was lowly is by divine mercy raised."

In a few short days, we will celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas. Like St. John Chrysostom, we will "behold a new and wondrous mystery." What is this mystery? It is the mystery of the Incarnation: The one who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and he that was lowly is by divine mercy raised.

As we celebrate today the Fourth Sunday of Advent - the final Sunday before Christmas—our Scripture readings for today focused more intently on the story of Christ's birth. We must, like Mary, say 'Yes' to God's plan for our lives. We must always celebrate Mary as the spotless dove, as the holy Jerusalem, as the exalted throne of God, as the ark and house of holiness which Eternal Wisdom built, and as that Queen who came forth from the mouth of the Most High, entirely perfect, beautiful, most dear to God and never stained with the least blemish—the Virgin of whom Jesus was born. The English monk, the Venerable Bede (673–735) wrote in one of his Christmas homilies that "it is indeed fitting in every respect that when God decided to become incarnate for the sake of the whole human race none but a virgin should be his mother, and that, since a virgin was privileged to bring him into the world, she should bear no other son but the son who is God."



May Jesus Christ fulfill his saving task by saving us from our sins; may he discharge his priestly office by reconciling us to God the Father, and may he exercise his royal power by admitting us to his Father's kingdom, for he is our Lord and God, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen. Merry Christmas to you all. Safe travels for those traveling. God bless you all this Christmas.

In Christ,

Father Guanella

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

12/13/20	Offertory Plate	\$ 40
	Adult Envelope	\$1272
	Building Fund	\$ 30
	Flower Donations	\$ 110
	Religious Retirement	\$ 230
	15th of month	\$ 683
	Ach Adult Envelope	\$ 335
	TOTAL	\$2700

Please turn in your 2020 Church support by Dec 31st to be included in the 2020 tax report. ALL DONATIONS after the 31st will be entered as 2021 contributions. Thank you.

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.



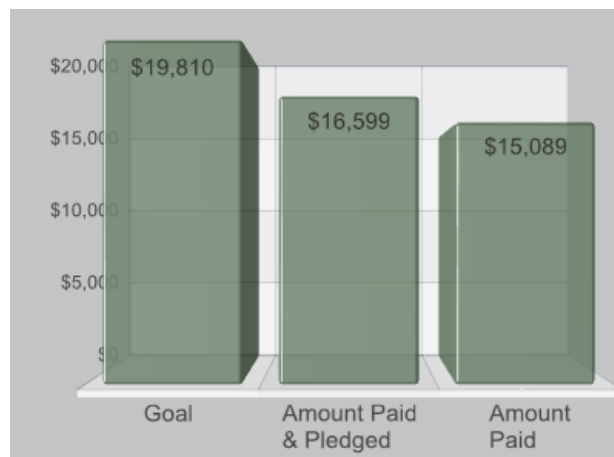
ENVELOPES FOR MONTHLY BUILDING FUND DONATIONS
Envelopes for the Ground Level Hall and Church Renovations can be found in your Parish support envelopes. This project is for current and future generations of St. Mary's parishioners. Please be generous.

Advent Confessions

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

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

THANKS to those who have contributed.





Religious Education Class

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

No Classes Next Sunday, December 27th,
Merry Christmas and many blessings in the New Year!

Coordinator of Religious Education
Jessica Bielen jwier319@gmail.com



HOOKED ON LOVE Today we will be packing up the supplies you have donated for young mothers and families that need an extra hand in our area. Thank you for your generous donations. Special Thank you to our Religious Education Students for making tie blankets.

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.

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

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.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

Wishing you Birthday Blessings!

21st-Colleen Raschka, 23rd-Lisa Piesik, 24th-Deb Sniadajewski,
Randy Iwanski & Nick Stremkowski, 29th-Jim Groshek

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

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.



A special thank you to everyone who participated in our *Christ Our Cornerstone Campaign*! 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. Please join your fellow parishioners and parishes by participating in this campaign. Pledges can be made using the provided materials found on the table in the entrance of church or by visiting cathedralsjworkman.org/cornerstone.



The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31st 4:00 pm at Sacred Heart

Friday, January 1st at 9:00 am at St. Mary's I.C.

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

Thank you to everyone who purchases SCRIP.

Support aging religious: **The Retirement Fund for Religious.** Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. 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!

Liturgical Appointments

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

Friday, January 1st

LECTOR Pat USHERS volunteer
SERVERS LeRoy
MONEY COUNTERS Pat & LeRoy
MUSICIANS Jim & Deb S

SUNDAY, January 3

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

SUNDAY, January 10

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

SUNDAY, January 17

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

We are..... *thankful
grateful
blessed*
for our volunteers

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.

Reminder-Weekend Masses cannot exceed 25% capacity and seating is limited, please call the parish office, 715-592-4330 every week **By Wednesday** (Office will be closed Dec 24 & 25, Dec 31 & Jan 1) And we don't check answering machine and emails on Saturday & Sunday ~ Thank you for your cooperation.



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.



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

Mass Readings for the Week of December 20th:

Sunday: 2 Sam. 7:1-16; Ps. 89;
Rom. 16:25-27; Lk. 1:26-38
Monday: Sgs. 2:8-14; Ps. 33;
Lk. 1:39-45
Tuesday: 1 Sm. 1:24-28; 1
Sm. 2:1-8; Lk. 1:46-56
Wednesday: Mal. 3:1-4, 23-24;
Ps. 25; Lk. 1:57-66
Thursday: 2 Sm. 7:1-16; Ps. 89;
Lk. 1:67-79
Friday: Is. 52:7-10; Ps. 98;
Heb. 1:1-6; Jn. 1:1-18
Saturday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59;
Ps. 31; Mt. 10:17-22



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 FEBRUARY

Information please contact
Gina 920-540-7804

*God Bless Our December Servers:
Bob & Sandie Armatoski*



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.