



ST. JAMES ST. MARY MOUNT CARMEL PARISHES

453 S. Main St.
P.O. Box 280
Amherst, WI 54406

– Fr. Daniel Hackel, Pastor –

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Tuesday—Friday

Parish Website: sjsmmcc.weconnect.com

myparishapp.com/download

– Senior Priest, Fr. Bob Pedretti –



December 15th 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Parish Staff

Office Assistant:

Karen Stuczynski
PH: 715-824-3455

catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

**Send your Ambo announcements
into office via email by Wednesday**

DRE/Parish Life Coordinator:

Ann Hemmy
PH: 715-316-7056

sjsmdre.plc@gmail.com

Bookkeeper:

Yvette Shulfer
sjsmbkkpr@gmail.com

Bulletin:

bulletininfo06@gmail.com

Please send your request via email by
midnight Monday. Please refrain to a
maximum of 100 words and in a word
document.

Church Councils

Pastoral Council

Borski, Cindi SM
Lea, Shawn SM
Piesik, Steve SM
Zinda, Judy SM
Juris, Michael SJ
Griggs, Lauren SJ
Kwiatkowski, Randy SJ
Shulfer, Michelle SJ
Spierings, Don SJ

Finance Council

Doll, Mark, SM
Patoka, Gilbert SM
Stratton, Sharon SJ
Trzebiatowski, Sandy SJ

Committees Chairperson Co-chairs

Family Life: Laura Gould & Tiffany Ostrowski

Sacred Worship: Judi Marquard & Barb Groholski

Social Concerns: Laura Trzebiatowski-Przekurat &
Pat Zielinski

Education: TBA

Stewardship: TBA

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday Dec 17th 8:15 AM at SJ (James Kesler)

Wednesday Dec 18th 8:15 AM at SM (Steven Borski)

Thursday Dec 19th 8:15 AM at SM (Anton & Agatha Konkol
and deceased family members)

Friday Dec 20th 8:15 AM at SJ (Carl Repinski)

Weekend Dec 21st & Dec 22nd

Saturday Dec 21st 4:00 PM at SJ (Anita Gosh)

Sunday Dec 22nd 8:30 AM at SJ (William Trzebiatowski)

Sunday Dec 22nd 10:30 AM at SM Parishioners of our two parishes

Confession Schedule St. James Saturday 3:15 PM, St. Mary Sunday 9:45 AM.
Or anytime by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick If you or a loved one is in need of the Anointing
Sacrament especially before a hospital procedure please contact the office
for an Anointing.

Eucharistic Adoration St. James, after Mass on first Fridays of the month.
And at St. Peter, Stevens Point, every Wed 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM Thurs.

United Prayers to Heaven Prayer Chain If you or anyone you know is in
need of prayers, please let us know. We will keep your name & prayer
request confidential, names are included only if you so desire.

Contacts for prayer chain Laurie plhintz5@gmail.com, Darlene 715-592-4443,
Barb 715-824-3649

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are
masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and
deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.” *Pope Francis*

DID YOU KNOW....

America is the “Land of the Free” – “According to U.S. Government,
NOT APPLICABLE TO AMERICANS IN THE WOMB”

ADVENT: A TIME TO PREPARE

Each year the Catholic Church gives us an incredible opportunity for a powerful encounter with Jesus. In her genius, the Church invites us during Advent to take a step back and look at who we are, what we are doing, and where Jesus fits into our lives. Jesus came into this world at that first Christmas for 'you', to bring meaning and deep satisfaction into your life, to fill you with lasting joy, and ultimately to bring you to eternal happiness with him in heaven. That's what we celebrate at Christmas. Are you ready?

Advent Devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

ADVENT PRAYER FOR THIRD WEEK

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

Lenten Material & Christmas Wafers, 'Oplatki' are available at the entryways at SJ & SM. Are you ready?? Let us prayerfully prepare our hearts for the coming



Christmas Mass Schedule

Dec 24, 2019

St James 4:00 PM

St Mary 6:00 PM

Dec 25, 2019

St Mary 9:00 AM

Dec 31, 2019

St James 4:00 PM

Jan 1, 2020

St Mary 9:00 AM

Advent Reconciliation

December 15, 2019 at 3:00 PM

St Mary Mount Carmel

Parish Offices will be closed

December 24th & 25th 2019

January 1st 2020



Stewardship

A way of living

SJ Contributions

Total Contribution from December 8, 2019

\$2,767.50 Contributions Totals

\$1,740.00.00 Envelopes

\$197.50 Offertory

Thanksgiving \$105.00

Immaculate Conception \$67.00

We Share On-Line Contributions \$830.00

Building Funds Fiscal YTD - \$4,800.00

SMMC Contributions

Total Contribution from December 8, 2019

\$3,257.00 Contributions Totals

\$2,685.00 Envelopes

\$457.00 Offertory

Thanksgiving \$297.00

Immaculate Conception \$1,179.00

We Share On-Line Contributions \$115.00

Building Funds Fiscal YTD - \$25.00

2020 Contribution Envelopes

are out and ready to be picked up – St James are in the gathering space and St Mary's are in the St Joseph's room. Please remember these envelopes are for 2020 not this year.

Please Remember: Any cash or loose checks that are received are put into the offertory. To ensure your contributions are included on your yearly contributions statements please use your contribution envelopes or make your contributions on line at sjsmcc.weshareonline.org

SCRIP NEWS

SMMC Scrip Update Gift cards on sale this weekend.

Check next week's bulletin for results. Our next sales will be January 5th and 19th

SJ Scrip Update Total sales: \$ 935 Local: \$150

Stop by the gathering space to pick gift cards for the holidays. We have many to choose from for those last minute stocking stuffers.

Parish News...

"Ye Olde Madrigal Feast" featuring the Midwest's Merry Carolers Madrigal Troupe will be held on Sunday, Dec. 15th at St. James Church in Amherst, WI. Cocktail hour begins at 5 pm with the four course meal and interactive show beginning at 6pm This is a great way to gather with friends and family, partake in a delicious meal and experience uplifting entertainment during the holiday season. There are remaining seats available for this event for only \$40 per person Tickets may be purchased by calling 715-572-3406.

If you are volunteering to help in the kitchen or waiting tables at the Madrigal Dinner in Sunday, Dec.15 please wear a black top and slacks and arrive by 4 pm to the dining room at St. James. Thank you for your service!

FROM ANNUNCIATION TO CHRISTMAS – JUST ONE WEEK TO GO AND WE WILL KNOW THE NAME OF OUR BABY!! FROM ANNUNCIATION TO CHRISTMAS - On Sunday, Dec. 22, we will be drawing a name for our baby, bringing an end to our display showing the development of a baby in utero, from conception to birth. This is how Jesus grew and matured in his mother's womb. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus & our baby, let us give praise to God for the gift of new life. Our baby is 38 weeks. What color eyes will our baby have. If they are blue or brown, will it stay? Check out our display to find out. This is your last week to write down a name for our baby. To honor the birth of Jesus, let us reach out & help a young mother who chose life for her child. 'Client's needs list' available at display. Items will be donated to First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center in Stevens Point who provide pregnancy & parenting support. "HELP US TO FILL THE CRIB"

ADORATION TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR.... What a perfect way to close out the year giving thanks to God for His many blessings & to ring in the New Year with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament asking for His special blessings upon us & our families. Adoration will begin on Dec. 31 at 5:00 pm at SMMC in the St. Joseph room. We will close with Benediction on Jan. 1, at 8:50 am, just prior to the 9:00 am Mass. Sign-up sheets are available at SJ and SM. We need three people to sign up for each 1 ½ hour time slot. We welcome all to come & spend quality time with our Lord. How would you answer Jesus if He asked you, "Can you not spend 1 ½ hour with me for all that I've given you?"

The Blue Army will not be meeting for the months of December, January, and February. We are grateful to all those that came to pray the rosary with us. May Our Lady protect everyone until we meet in the spring. We wish all the parishioners from St. Mary's and St. James a Blessed and Joyful Christmas

Calling All Moms Mom's Group will not meet on December 20. We will meet again on the First Friday of January, the 3rd, from 9:30-11:30pm in the St. James gathering space. Questions? Contact Misty at 785-633-5206 or mistyprater@gmail.com

St James PCCW will be sponsoring 4 families through the bootstrap program. Items needed are listed on the board displayed in entrance. Please take a lightbulb tag. Bring back item and place in gathering space. DEADLINE IS DEC 20TH

The Social Concerns Committee is sponsoring a non perishable food drive. Items given will be donated to area food pantries. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please place your checks in the collection basket in an envelope marked "food drive". Checks should be made out to either St Mary Mt Carmel or St James. Thank you!

Diocese News...

Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Feb. 21-22, 2020 – Stevens Point Through a Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack™ event at the Stevens Point Airport, Noel Hangar, on February 21-22, 2020, our community will provide 108,000 nutritious meals for God's starving children around the world. We invite you to join us! We need 545 volunteers to pack meals and help raise \$26,000 for this MobilePack™ event. Adults and children 5 years and older will measure and scoop ingredients, seal bags and prepare boxes for shipping. Volunteer registration will open online in January. Event Coordinator is Michelle Shulfer: 715-346-2780, mshulfer@uwsp.edu. Is your marriage drifting apart?

Retrouvaille is designed to give you the tools you need to restore joy and hope to your marriage. The next retreat in our area will be February 14-16, 2020 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon. "We Needed to Refresh Our Marriage ...It was wonderful." See more comments from program participants at HelpOurMarriage.org. For more information, call 877-922-HOPE (4673) Fully Confidential; or go to: <https://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-help/>

Faith Formation...

CCD Class Schedule

Grades 1 – 5 for both St. James and St. Mary students: 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at St. James

Grades 6 – 11 for both St. James and St. Mary students: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at St. James

CCD Upcoming

December 18th – January 1st: No Class – Christmas Break

January 8th: Classes Resumes

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Karen Becker, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Becker at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679; or tbrown@diolc.org.

Upcoming EVENTS

Monday Morning Mass October through December will be celebrated at St. Stephen Parish. Mass time is 8:15 a.m.

Thurs Morning Mass Beginning December 5, St. Stephen Parish will change the time of the Thursday morning Mass from 8:00 am to 6:30am

Bake & Craft Sale - Dec. 14th & 15th St. Bronislava Parish, Plover We have baked goods and crafts available to purchase. Get what you need for the upcoming festivities! Sales will start after all Masses; Sat. 4:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am & 10:30 am. Proceeds will go to: St. Bron's Works of Charity, Interfaith Food Bank & the Pacelli Infant program.

St. Joseph Parish Christmas Light Recycling Feeling frustrated by your strings or ball of Christmas Tree lights? Are your strings of holiday lights missing bulbs, broken or tangled? Are you tired of using the same lights? Don't throw them away! We have an easy solution for you. Bring them to the St. Joseph for recycling. The copper inside the strings can be turned in for cash. The greater the weight of the copper, the more cash the parish receives! It's an easy way to help! St. Joseph Parish, 1709 Wyatt Ave., Stevens Point, will be accepting lights until January 15, 2020. Place the lights in the red box in the Gathering Space. Thank you

New Year's Eve Dinner Knights of Columbus Clubhouse New Year's Eve Dinner, Dec. 31, with serving from 5 until 8 p.m. The menu consists of a combo plate of a 6 oz. steak, 4.5 oz. chicken Cordon Bleu and a skewer of shrimp, along with a baked potato, vegetable, roll, full salad bar, coffee and ice cream for dessert. The cost is \$18 per person including beverage and sale tax. – This event is open to the public

St. Bronislava Parish seeks an experienced person for the job of Facility Manager. This person is responsible for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of the St. Bronislava Parish physical plant which includes the school, church, rectory and the grounds. This is a full-time position. Compensation includes wage based on experience and benefits. Interested persons should send a resume or a letter of interest stating experience before December 31, 2019 to: businessoffice@stbrons.com or mail to: Business Office, St. Bronislava Parish, P. O. Box 158, Plover, WI 54467

ARE YOU ANY OF THE BELOW IF SO PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT PH: 715-824-3455

- ◆ **Interested in joining the parish?** Please stop by or call the office for Registration Papers
- ◆ **Engaged to be Married:** Marriage arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to the wedding, contact the office
- ◆ **Are you Expecting a Child:** contact the office to scheduled a baptismal class.
- ◆ **Do you know someone that is Homebound:** please contact the office for us to add them to the schedule for visits or to receive Holy Communion.