



# **St. James & St. Mary Mt. Carmel**



## **8:15 am Daily Mass Schedule**

**Tuesday Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 8:15 AM at SJ**

(Steven & Laura Gehrke)

**Wednesday Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 8:15 AM at SM**

(Special Intentions of Marge Iwanski)

**Thursday Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 8:15 AM at SM**

(Diane & Bill Dombrowski)

**Friday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 8:15 AM at SJ**

(John Hebblewhite)

## **Weekend Dec 8<sup>th</sup> & Dec 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM at SJ**

(Special Intentions of Fr Hackel)

**Saturday Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM at SM**

(Deceased members of the Loecher Family)

**Sunday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM at SJ**

(Audrey Kadow)

**Sunday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 10:30 AM at SM**

Parishioners of our two parishes

## **Mass Schedule for Immaculate Conception, December 8**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception this year is Saturday, December 8, and it remains a holyday of obligation. Masses on Friday evening, December 7, and during the day of Saturday, December 8, will observe the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

Masses beginning the evening of Saturday, December 8 will observe the Second Sunday of Advent. Catholics are to attend Mass twice that weekend, once to fulfill the holyday of obligation (Immaculate Conception) and once to satisfy the Sunday obligation.

### **Immaculate Conception of Mary Mass**

**Saturday Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM at St James**

## **Fr. Daniel Hackel, Pastor**

**Catholic Central Office**

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

**Phone: 715-824-3455**

**Office Hours: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Tuesday–Friday**

**St. James/St. Mary website-sjsmmcc.weconnect.com**

**Senior Priest: Fr. Bob Pedretti**

### **Amherst/Fancher:**

Office Assistant: Karen Stuczynski 715-824-3455

catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

DRE/Parish Life Coordinator: Ann Hemmy 715-316-7056

sjsmdre.plc@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Yvette Shulfer

sjsmbkkpr@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor/Webmaster: Jane

**Send your bulletin info by Monday by midnight directly to: bulletininfo06@gmail.com**

### **Confession Schedule**

St. James Saturday 9:00 am

St. Mary Saturday 4:00 pm-4:45 pm

Any time by appointment

### **Eucharistic Adoration:**

St. James, after Mass on first Fridays of the month.

St Peter, Stevens Point every Wed starting at 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM Thurs

### **Pastoral Council**

Borski, Cindi SM

Griggs, Lauren SJ

Juris, Michael SJ

Kwiatkowski, Randy SJ

Lea, Shawn SM

Lorsung, Pat SJ

Piesik, Steve SM

Prater, Jacob SJ

Shulfer, Michelle SJ

Spierings, Don SJ

Zinda, Judy SM

### **Finance Council**

Doll, Mark SM

Patoka, Gilbert SM

Stratton, Sharon SJ

Stuczynski, Dave SM

Trzebiatowski, Sandy SJ

**December 2, 2018  
1st Sunday of Advent**

Waiting is not always so easy. If you lack patience, like me, you probably want whatever is going to happen to just happen already. I remember waiting on the births of my children. There was the time I sat with my dying father in the hospital. One year, we waited to see if our oldest child got into the college of his choice, or any college at all, which was nerve-wracking.

So, to make the time pass more easily, and because it is prudent and wise, we make preparations. We put together nurseries, go over last will and testaments, and look through endless college mailings. Then, when the event finally happens or our fate is unveiled, the preparation ends. Either you have prepared well or you didn't.

Unlike events in our lives that only happen once, we have been through Advent many times before. Even though this is the case, when Christmas arrives many of us will think we missed it again, and next year will be the year we really get into Advent. Of course, there is no promise of next year. What if you knew this was your last Advent ever?

I once read a book about how to live your life as if you only had one year to live. The author said that doing this provides incentive for a real commitment to living life to its fullest. You notice things for the first time. You make plans that you always put off. You tell people what you always wanted to say.

I hope all who read this have many wonderful years ahead of them. However, let's approach this Advent like it is our last. I bet Christmas will seem that much sweeter. And who knows, we may find a new and improved way to live all year long.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



### **SJ Contributions**

**Total Contributions November 25, 2018**

**\$1,641.00 Total**  
**\$1,171.00 Envelopes**  
**\$120.00 Offertory**

**We Share On-Line Contributions \$120.00**  
**To Date Thanksgiving Donations \$230.00**

### **SMMC Contributions**

**Total Contributions November 25, 2018**

**\$2,776.05 Total**  
**\$1,787.00 Envelopes**  
**\$390.00 Offertory**

**We Share On-Line Contributions \$40.00**  
**To Date Thanksgiving Donations \$559.05**

### **St. James and St. Mary Cemeteries:**

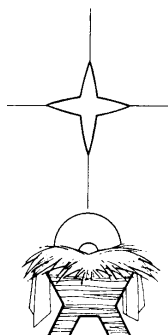
In consultation of the Finance Councils of both parishes the cost of cemetery plots for St. James and St. Mary parishioners will increase to \$500 on **Jan 1, 2019.**

### **The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

Monday Dec 24 th 4:00 PM at St Mary  
 Monday Dec 24 th 7:00 PM at St James  
 Tuesday Dec 25 th 8:30 AM at St James  
 Tuesday Dec 25 th 10:30 AM at St Mary

### **Solemnity of Mary**

Monday Dec 31 st 5:00 at St Mary  
 Tuesday Jan 1 st 9:00 at St James



### ***SCRIP NEWS***

#### **SJ SCRIP Update:**

Total sales: \$1,700 Local sales: \$350 Total earned: \$75.88.

If you plan to send Christmas Cards via US Mail, stamps may be purchased with Walgreen's gift cards which pays 6% back to our parish. Simply ask for stamps at the time of check out.

#### **SMMC SCRIP Update:**

Gift cards on sale this weekend. Our next sale will be on December 15th & 16th. Need any gift cards for Christmas? Please call Pat Zielinski at 715-824-3762 by December 11th to place your order. Your participation in our Scrip gift card program is much appreciated!

## Parish News...

**ST. MARY'S COAT DRIVE**- Warm coats can warm hearts! Many people will go without a warm coat this winter... You can help! If you have any new or gently-used winter coats that could be donated, please place them in the Coat Collection Box located in the back of SMMC church. This year there is a particular need for children's coats. All coats will be donated to those in need. Collection dates will be from **Nov 10 - Dec 2**. If you have any questions, please call Laurie Hintz at 715-592-4604.

**Grief Share support group** has finished the fall session and will resume in the spring. If you or someone you know is struggling with the death of a loved one, please consider attending in the spring. Please watch the bulletin for dates. If you have an urgent need or any questions, please call Shawn Lea @ 715-824-2300 or Cindi Borski @ 715-570-0755. God Bless!

**SMMC All are invited** to a coffee and donut Social after Mass on Sunday, December 9th after the 10:30 Mass.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**..... Our Sign-up Sheets for Greeters, Rosary Leaders & Monthly Socials, have been updated & are ready for **YOU** to sign up to help here at SMMC. We encourage those who have helped in the past to consider signing up again. We welcome new individuals & families to sign up in these ministries. This is a great way to take an active role in your parish & a good way to meet other parishioners. If you have questions please call: Julie @ 715-340-0004 for Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters) Barb @ 715-824-3649 for leading the Rosary or organizing our Monthly Socials.

**RADA KNIFES** will again be for sale in the St. Joseph's Room **Dec. 8th** weekend. Could you use at least one SHARP knife in the house or need an amazing sharpener? Do you have someone on your gift list that you don't know what to get? Then, come down to see what's available or place an order. I would like to place the last order now to insure delivery before Christmas. Call Kathy Somers 715-824-3770.

**SMMC & SJ are looking for money counters** to help for about an hour or so on Tuesday mornings. Counters are placed in groups of three & are scheduled to count every fifth week. If interested in joining the teams, please call Barb at 715-824-3649, Carol Teschner 715-824-6481 or Tina Maves 715-341-6169. Thank you to all who have helped in the past & to those who continue to help. May God bless you for faithfully giving of your time.

**Praying Book Club** Have you ever compared the Beatitudes in the Gospels of Matthew & Luke? Raniero Cantalamessa, O.F.M. CAP highlights subtle differences with significant meaning. Matthew says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit" where Luke says, "Blessed are you poor." Matthew's "poor in spirit" points to an interior attitude more than the social aspect emphasized by Luke. What Jesus has in mind by proclaiming the poor "blessed" is that these people have a better readiness to believe. They are not self-sufficient, they do not have a closed attitude, & they don't believe they can save themselves. They fully depend on God with great faith. Jesus exemplified perfect poverty by choosing to live poorly & be poor with no earthly possessions, he accepted scarcity, hunger, thirst, cold, hard work, austerity, & hardship. Most importantly, he accepted God's will and was stripped of his divine nature. He became a servant out of love for us. A precious gift indeed! The question that remains is, are you poor in spirit?

**ATTENTION EMHC & THOSE INTERESTED IN JOINING:** If you are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at SM or SJ, please notify the office or call Barb @ 824-3649. We plan to have a training session for current EMHC & new folks joining this ministry. More info on date & time will follow.

**SMMC Are you missing a bowl or cake pan?** Please look over the items on the 3 tiered cart in the main Church entryway. Many things are not marked so if it belongs to you, please take it home.

## Diocesan News...

### **Bishop Callahan's Advent Prayer Request Automated Phone Message - Dec. 6**

Bishop Callahan will be sending out his Advent Prayer Request via an automated call originating from 608-352-9565 on December 6, 2018. To submit your intention, just leave it as a message when you receive the call. Alternatively, you can call 608-352-9565, or you can go to [diolc.org/pray](http://diolc.org/pray) to submit your request. All intentions will be presented and prayed for at his Christmas Masses.

### **Br. James Miller to be Beatified**

On Thursday, November 8, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis authorized the beatification of Stevens Point native Br. James Miller. He was shot to death on February 13, 1982 in Guatemala outside the school where he taught. We give thanks to the Holy Father and congratulate the Christian Brothers for Br. James Miller's heroic witness to his Faith.

### **Please support the Retirement Fund for Religious**

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. All of us, in some way or another, have benefitted from their many years of service in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes. Your gift to the national Retirement Fund for Religious provides funding for medication, nursing care, and more. The collection for this campaign will be at Holy Mass the weekend of December 8-9. Thank you for your support! *Roughly 94 percent of donations to the fund directly aid senior religious and their communities.*

## *Faith Formation...*

### **CCD**

**Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary Church—  
First Reconciliation St. James & St. Mary 2<sup>nd</sup> graders

### **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

### **A Little Something For the Parishioners:**

Are you interested in passing on our Catholic Devotionals and/or sharing your faith experiences to our youth?

Examples include: Adoration, Benediction, Divine Mercy Chaplet, All Souls Day, Stations of the Cross, Triduum, etc. Please consider instructing our middle school students from 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings at St. James. You may come forward as an individual parishioner or as a team of parishioners who would like to present a given devotion and give witness to your faith life.

Dates: Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, Mar. 13<sup>th</sup>, Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Apr. 10<sup>th</sup>.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Ann Hemmy (715) 316-7056. Please know all are welcome to attend that have a desire to learn more and practice these beautiful devotions.

### **Advent Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Beginning the First Sunday of Advent, December 2nd through the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23<sup>rd</sup> children ages 4 to 7 from St. James and St. Mary parishes are invited to participate in the Advent Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Mary. The children do not have to be signed up or attend from week one to participate.

## *Adult Faith Formation*

**Adult Faith Formation** will be starting up Saturday's after the 5:00 pm Mass at St. Mary's church basement. We will be having horderves at our gathering. Bring an appetizer to pass and your hunger to learn more about your faith.

## *Upcoming* EVENTS

**Nativity Crib Lighting Ceremony;** Please join the Knights of Columbus in lighting up the Christmas Nativity Scene at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse on Tuesday **December 4<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 pm. Help us start our this Christmas season at our "Light up for Christ" event with the Knights along with Chaplain Fr Todd Mlsna who will bless the crib and the Pacelli Choir will join in with many Christmas carols. There will be a light lunch and hot chocolate at the Clubhouse after the lighting ceremony. Bring the kids and grandkids to this annual event which will help "keep Christ in Christmas".

### **Annual Christmas Meal Saturday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>**

Will feature a 14-16 oz tender and flavorful choice Rib Eye Steak for only \$22, or choose Chicken Cordon Bleu with special topping for only \$12 or choose our Famous BBQ Baby Back Ribs with our own special sauce for only \$17. The meal includes salad, potato, roll, coffee or lemonade. Price includes sales tax and tip. Serving 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. Lounge specials for your favorite beverage. Lounge opens at 5 p.m. The meal is open to the public at the Knights of Columbus Clubhouse, 401 W. Clark St., just across the Clark Street Bridge. At this annual event we will have many gifts and everyone will draw for their special Christmas present from us to you. Mark your calendar so you don't miss this once a year event. A great way to start the holiday season with a meal with that special person at the KC Clubhouse.

### **Reconciliation/Confessions at Franciscans Downtown**

Fr. Placid Stroik, OFM is available to hear confessions at *Franciscans Downtown*, 1000 Main Street, Stevens Point **Thurs, Dec. 6, Thurs, Dec. 13, Thurs, Dec. 20** 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

### **Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Lyon & Paris with hosts Bob Dolan and Bishop William Callahan**

Please join me on a nine-day pilgrimage to Lourdes, Lyon and Paris. On this all-inclusive pilgrimage you will experience sites such as the Grotto of Massabielle and the pilgrim's path to Compostela, the Carmelite Monastery of St. Therese, the "Little Flower", Omaha Beach, and the City of Light, Paris, plus many more. Each guest will enjoy 4-star hotel accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, as well as an opportunity for daily Mass and spiritual activities. For more info contact my office at 608-788-7700.

**Travel to Italy, Germany, Austria and Switzerland** with Pacelli Catholic Schools student and staff! Anyone can sign up to travel with us, friends, family, parishioners! The dates of the trip are **June 10-21, 2019**.