

Saint Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church



Sunday, December 24th, 2023
4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 30th, 5:15 pm

Lector: Donna Urbach

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Eleanor Jelinek, Andrew Mata,
Danicka Spencer, Brielle Weeden

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Gifts: Kevin Jelinek Family Scrip: Judy Murphy

Sunday, December 31st, 8:00 am

Lector: Chay Schmitt

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Avery & Daryn Kepler, Colyns Morris
Adelyn Wertz

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Gifts: Andrew Wright Family Scrip: Fran Wilkinson

Sunday, December 31st, 10:30 am

Lector: Cheryl Blankenship

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Lydia Durst, Brayden, and Tristan Arms

Gifts: Collen Schroeder Family Scrip: Susan Walter

Mass Schedule

Monday, December 25th **The Nativity of the Lord**

Mass 9:00am

Andrew Peckham SP.I.

Tuesday, December 26th **St. Stephen**

No Mass

Wednesday, December 27th **St. John**

Mass 8:15 am

The Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, December 28th **The Holy Innocents**

Mass 8:15 am

Adoration following

Mickie Alandy SP.I.

Friday, December 29th **St. Thomas Becket**

Mass 8:15 am

† Joe Jara

Saturday, December 30th

Confessions 4:15 pm

Mass 5:15 pm

† Ben Ryan

Sunday, December 31st **The Holy Family**

Confessions 7:30 am

Mass 8:00 am

Our Parish Family

Confessions 9:30 am

Mass 10:30 am

† Jerry & Florence Durst

Monday, January 1st **Solemnity of Mary,**

Mass 8:15 am

Mother of God

† Alan Welte

Merry Christmas!

Parish Calendar Events

12/24 Sunday ... 8:00 am Mass, 10:30 Mass

12/24 Sunday ... **4:00 pm, Christmas Vigil Mass**

12/24 Sunday ... **Midnight Christmas Mass**

12/25 Monday ... **9:00 am, Christmas Day Mass**

01/01 New Year's Day Mass 8:15 am

From your pastor . . .

I take this occasion to wish all of you a blessed Christmas Day and Christmas season that we celebrate beginning this evening (Sunday) with the Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m., followed by the Midnight Mass and Christmas Mass of the Day at 9:00 a.m. (which will not use incense).

I thank all of you who have made contributions toward the poinsettias and other decorations that grace the church. I extend a special thank you to Marilu Marshall who directs the decorating (interior and exterior) as well as many others who help with the trees and crib. In anticipation of the Christmas Masses, I wish to acknowledge the choir, cantors and organists who always provide us with beautiful music to give thanks and praise to God at Christmas. Also, I thank the readers, the servers, ushers, 4th degree honor guard of the Knight of Columbus, and in a particular way, the diaconal ministry of Deacon Tully.

I usually remind you each year of what follows in this column and do so again. Please allow me to remind you that the celebration of Christmas begins rather than ends with Christmas Day. Many people will have their Christmas tree out on the curb and be taking down their Christmas decorations a few days after Christmas. Our Catholic Faith celebrates what is known as the Octave of Christmas; the eight days (including Christmas Day) that are a continuance of Christmas Day itself.

During this Octave, the Church celebrates several feast days. After Christmas we will gather on Saturday, December 30th and Sunday the 31st to celebrate the Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. On January 1st which celebrates the beginning of the new Year 2024, we ordinarily celebrate a Holy Day of Obligation to honor our Blessed Mother under her title of Mary, Mother of God. However, this year because the Holy Day appears on a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass has been lifted by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops. **January 1st is a holy day but not a holy day of obligation.** For that reason, only one Mass will be offered on January 1st at 8:15 a.m. With the celebration of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, the Christmas Octave comes to conclusion.

While the Octave of Christmas ends with the holy day dedicated to our Blessed Mother, the Christmas season continues through the celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord on January 6-7, concluding with the celebration of the Baptism of our Lord, on Monday, January 8th. If it is possible to keep your Christmas decorations intact until January 8th, you should do so.

Finally, I give thanks for the many greetings and best wishes I have received from so many of you on the occasion of Christmas. May God bring to your lives the abundant graces that come to God's people during this sacred time.

Until I write again, may God bless you
and all the parishioners of Saint Mary Parish.

Monsignor Roger J. Scheckel



“ O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! That the Lord of the whole universe, God and the Son of God, should humble himself like this and hide under the form of little bread, for our salvation.”

St Francis of Assisi

CHRISTMAS FLOWER & MEMORIALS

In Loving memory of

Janet Aber	“	Byron & Dorothy McBain
Audrey Barnett	“	Christmas Flowers
Jack Bauer	“	Janice Bauer
Dave & Anne Barsi	“	Francis Barsi
	“	Phyllis Barsi
	“	Henry Nellett
Ronald & Janet Bladl	“	Lyle & Ruby Baltz
	“	Irwin & Florence Bladl
Virgil Cosgrove	“	Flowers
Jerome & Sandy Durst	“	St. Mary’s Parish Family
Gretchen Jelinek	“	Marvin & Mary Jelinek
Irene Joyce	“	Joe Joyce
	“	John & Marguerite Kinney Family
	“	Harry & Erma Joyce Family
Kraig & Jean Kinney	“	Kraig Goplin Families
	“	Hackl & Stanek Families
	“	Daisy Fuzz
David & Delores Lenz	“	Doerer & Lenz Families
Mary Lu Marshall	“	Jack & Shirley Curnow
Candace McGrath	“	Nicholas Lawson
	“	William L. Richardson
Tena Moore	“	Flowers
Bernadine Mueller	“	Mueller & Seep Families
	“	Francis Mueller
	“	Randy Mueller
	“	Miranda Mueller
Marcia Mueller	“	Linda Mueller
	“	Randy Mueller
	“	Miranda Mueller
	“	Carol Kraska
	“	Martin (Pat) Kraska
Judy Murphy	“	Flowers
Jennifer Myers	“	Agnes Auz
	“	Keith Auz
	“	Kenneth Auz Sr.
Phil & June Nee	“	Jim Nee
	“	Rosemary Nee
	“	Frank Stafford
Audrey Oliver	“	Flowers
Paul & Julie Peckham	“	Edmund & Jane Guelig
	“	Cam & Agatha Peckham
	“	Jesse Sheilds
	“	William Shaw
	“	Mary Ann Shaw
Audrey Pletzer	“	Herb Pletzer
Rodney Reetz	“	Sandy Reetz
	“	Nordy & Fae Reetz
	“	Cleo “Tootie” Hasburgh

CHRISTMAS FLOWER & MEMORIALS

In Loving memory of

Frank & Vietta Reising	“	Tina Franseen
	“	Mr & Mrs. Eugene Reising
	“	Seth Grenday
Paul & Mary Jo Salisbury	“	Francis Mueller
	“	Randy Mueller
	“	Miranda Mueller
	“	Linda Mueller
	“	Mueller & Seep Families
Jason & Sara Schultz	“	Christmas Flowers
Colleen Schroeder	“	Bill Schroeder
	“	Alice Richards
	“	Helen Schroeder Olsen
	“	Ronald Olsen
	“	Joseph Weisensel
David & Doreen Short	“	Frances & Ina Schultz
Joseph Simon	“	Carl Simon
	“	Margaret Simon
	“	Simon & Vodak Families
Ronald & JoAnn Tennant	“	Joe & Marguerite Slaney
	“	Larry & Lillian Tennant
Joe & Sue Triggs	“	Charles Beranek
	“	Joanne Beranek
June Welte	“	Alan Welte
Brad & Diane Walker	“	Christmas Flowers
Richard Wastlick	“	Betty Wastlick
Brian & Alisa Weiss	“	Jerry Hackl
	“	Gary Weiss
Linda Wymer	“	Flowers
Melanie Ziaja	“	Richard Ziaja
	“	Clara Zydlo



Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/ Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Friday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/ Lk 1:46-56
Saturday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/ Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-3



A Christmas Prayer For The Forgotten



Dear Lord,

As we prepare for Your coming,
let us reflect on the journey Your
earthly parents took.

They were tired and alone,
yet there was no room for them at the inn.
There was no one to lend a helping hand.

Lord, help us to recognize those who may
need our help or love this Christmas.
Let us pray for those who have none.
We pray that those without loved ones
will still share in the season's blessings.
We especially pray for those who feel
forgotten and unloved.

Lord, break our hearts for what breaks Yours.
Help us to see with Your eyes,
serve with Your hands, and to give of the
talents and treasures You have blessed us with.

We implore you, O Lord, to stretch forth
Your paternal arms to anyone feeling the
sting of loneliness or pangs of sadness
this Christmas season. Please bring them
into Your love and peace.

Amen.



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THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Advent and Christmas
with Dr. Michael Barber



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

160 W 4th Street , Richland Center WI.

Parish website www.stmarysrc.com

608-647-2621 (fax) 647-6029

Rev. Msgr Roger J. Scheckel

roger.scheckel@stmarysrc.com

Deacon Donald Tully

donald.tully@stmarysrc.com

Administrative Assistant ... Cheryl Blankenship

cheryl.blankenship@stmarysrc.com

Prayer Chain... prayer.chain@stmarysrc.com

Mary Ellen Boak

Bereavement minister...

Colleen Pulvermacher 608-647-2450

Custodian, Patrick Schwingle 608-513-3791

School Office 647-2422 fax 647-5914

Principal, Stacia Kohlstedt

stacia.kohlstedt@stmarysrc.com

Secretary, nichole.myers@stmarysrc.com

School Lunch Director /Kitchen 647-4470

Erin Jelinek erin.jelinek@stmarysrc.com

Coordinator of Religious Ed 647-0400

Candace McGrath re@stmarysrc.com

Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW)

President– Alisa Weiss **Vice-President**– Marissa Ewing

Email: pccwstmarys@gmail.com

Secretary–Candace McGrath **Treasurer**–Patty Pulvermacher

Knights of Columbus Fr. Mc Kevitt Council #3492

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Chaplain: Monsignor Roger J. Scheckel

Email: grandknight3492@gmail.com

w.richlandcenterknightsforcolumbus.com

Wedding Planning Information

For those seeking the Sacrament of Marriage in our Church

please notify the pastor as soon as you are engaged,

but **not less than six months**

prior to the proposed wedding date.