

Saint Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter
every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be
glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.” - Mt 5:10-12a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

February 1st, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 7th, 5:15 pm

Reader: Gretchen Jelinek

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Declan & Eleanor Jelinek, Sofia Mata
Danicka Spencer

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Gifts: Kevin Jelinek Family Scrip: Susan Tully

Sunday, February 8th, 8:00 am

Reader: Students

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Colyns & Lincoln Morris
Blake Parker, Gage Tennant

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Gifts: Students Scrip: Fran Wilkinson

Sunday, February 8th, 10:30 am

Reader: Cheryl Blankenship

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Blake & Makenna Mueller
Brayden Arms, Ethan Kauffman

Gifts: Donna Bodinet Family Scrip: Suzanne Walter

Mass Schedule

Monday, February 2nd **The Presentation of the Lord**
No Mass **World Day for Consecrated Life**

Tuesday, February 3rd **St. Blaise**
Mass 8:15am **St. Ansgar**
† Arlene Miller

Wednesday, January 4th
Mass 8:15 pm
† Frank & Vietta Reising

Thursday, February 5th **St. Agatha**
Mass 8:15 am **Adoration following Mass**
† Jane Erlandson
4:00 to 7:00 pm Adoration
4:30 to 7:00pm Confession (Spanish & English)

Friday, February 6th **First Friday**
Mass 8:15 am **St. Paul Miki and Companions**
† Cheri Spitz

Mass 10:00 am Schmitt Woodland Hills
† Jim Williamson

Saturday, February 7th **First Saturday**
Mass 8:15 am
† Edwin (Gene) Slaney

Confessions 4:30 pm
Mass 5:15 pm
Our Parish Family

Sunday, February 8th **5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Confessions 7:15 am
Mass 8:00 am
† Jane Guelig & Joan Bestor

Confessions 9:45 am
Mass 10:30 am
† Herb Pletzer

Confessions 12:30 (Spanish)
Mass 1:00 pm (Spanish)

Parish Calendar of Events

02/18 Ash Wednesday, Mass at 8:15 am & 5:15 pm
02/18 Soup & Supper following Mass
02/20 Fish Fry 4:30 to 7:00 pm
02/28 Saturday, KC Bingo Community Center, 6:30pm

From Your Pastor

If we ever had any doubt, winter is here and has been for the last few weeks. My brother-in-law sent me a message a short time ago as we were talking about the cold and in it was three small pictures, one of a large snake (presumably poisonous) crawling up someone's front door, one of a large alligator lying in front of someone's door, and a third with an exceptionally large spider on a wall. Below the three pictures was the caption, "This is why I live where the air hurts my face!" Although this is true, it doesn't take away those moments of stepping outside and being hit by the cold wind that sends a shiver down your spine. But to be positive, spring is only two (or maybe three) months away!

This week our readings give us a foundation for our approach to daily living of one's faith. To perhaps oversimplify it, we are instructed to humble ourselves before God so as to rightly serve Him and our brothers and sisters, putting aside our pride, jealousy, and anything else that distorts the authentic call to holiness. It is rather straight forward, yet it is anything but easy. Maybe you have heard me make this distinction before, but it is worth mentioning again. There is a difference between simple and easy. Simple describes the steps or process of accomplishing a task, it is not complicated whereas easy refers to the amount of effort it takes to achieve the goal. It would be like describing a path to get from point A to point B, that would be simple. But the effort it would take, if to get from point A to point B was to climb a mountain, would be very different as it would take a lot of work.

I bring this up because the invitation of Love that God gives us is very simple, it is not complicated. To live a holy life is very straightforward. But, as we can probably all attest to, it is anything but easy, and this can be for many reasons. So how do we take on this simple yet challenging path? We work at it, little by little, every day. We ask the Holy Spirit to provide what we need to endure or to overcome the challenges we face. And if we fall short or make a mistake, we get back up and try again!

As we look ahead to this week, I want to point out two important days. The first is Monday, Feb. 2nd. This is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. If we consider the account from the Gospels, 40 days after the birth of Jesus, Mary and Joseph took Him, as was prescribed in the Law, to the Temple to present Him to God. While this seems unnecessary because Jesus was God, it was fitting because it showed the willingness of Mary and Joseph to follow God's instructions. While they didn't fully understand what Jesus was going to accomplish, they did know that He was God's plan. This is also highlighted by the two encounters that the Holy Family had as they arrived in the Temple with the prophet Simeon and prophetess Anna. Both recognized Jesus as the Messiah and proclaimed for all to hear that He was the fulfillment of the prophecies from of old. Two great examples of what it looks like to be actively seeking out God's will and in recognizing it, to celebrate it and share it! Traditionally, this feast day would have marked the end of the Christmas season and the celebration of Candlemass took place (the Mass for the Presentation was Candlemass). Candlemass is where candles are blessed that will be used throughout the year to acknowledge the words of the prophet Simeon of Jesus as "a light to reveal [God] to the nations and the glory of His people Israel."

The second day is the following day, Feb. 3rd. where we celebrate the feast day of St. Blaise who was a bishop and martyr. The tradition is that blessed candles (from Candlemass) are used to bless the throats of everyone who comes forward to ask St. Blaise's intercession for health in the coming year. It always seems appropriate that this day falls during this season as many deal with colds and other illnesses. So let us ask St. Blaise to pray for all of us to keep us safe and healthy!

As we go forth today and every day, let us commit ourselves to God, strive for holiness, and seek to be the light of God's love in the world!

In Christ through Mary,

Fr Nate Kuhn

Diocesan Annual Appeal
Goal ... \$ 33,415.00
Amount Received ... \$ 45,300.00
Amount Over ... \$11,885.00 as of (1/13/26)
Thank you!



FEAST OF THE
Presentation of the Lord

Ash Wednesday
February 18th, 2026
Mass 8:15 am & 5:15 pm
Day of Fasting & Abstinence

ASH Wednesday
Soup & Sandwich Supper
Wed, February 18th
6:00 to 7:30pm (following the 5:15 Mass)

Lenten
 Soup Supper

All are Welcome!
 Proceeds benefit Richland Community Food Pantry
 Sponsored by PCCW

Readings for the week of February 1, 2026

Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1
 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

Monday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/
 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Ps
 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a,
 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/
 Mk 6:30-34/Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5,
 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/ Mt 5:13-16

January 24/25, 2026

Adult Tithe.....	\$3,397.00
Offertory.....	793.00
Students Offertory.....	13.02
Building & Maintenance.....	50.00
Religious Education	25.00
Parish Festival	20.00
Pastoral Care	405.00
Total.....	\$4,703.02
January ACH Tithe	\$5,665.00

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

Fr. Nate Kuhn
father.kuhn@stmarysrc.com
Deacon Donald Tully
deacon.tully@stmarysrc.com

Administrative Assistant ... Cheryl Blankenship
cheryl.blankenship@stmarysrc.com

Prayer Chain... prayer.chain@stmarysrc.com
 Mary Ellen Boak

Grief Counselor...
 Colleen Pulvermacher 608-647-2450
School Office 647-2422 fax 647-5914
Principal, Stacia Kohlstedt
stacia.kohlstedt@stmarysrc.com

Secretary, nichole.myers@stmarysrc.com
Assistant Secretary, ciji.weeden@stmarysrc.com
Custodian, James Ueek 608-343-1548

School Lunch Director /Kitchen 647-4470
 Erin Jelinek erin.jelinek@stmarysrc.com
Religious Ed, Lindsay Perna
re@stmarysrc.com
 608-475-2087

Hispanic Ministry
Fr Juan Diego Borja, SJS
 Parochial Vicar OLMBS Parish
 Email address: jborja@slsonline.org
 Phone number: (608) 397-7120

Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW)
President– Alisa Weiss **Vice-President**– Donna Bodinet
Email: pccwstmarys@gmail.com
Secretary–Sue Walter **Treasurer**–Joanne Hall

Knights of Columbus Fr. Mc Kevitt Council #3492
Grand Knight: Randy Birkholz
Deputy Grand Knight: Andrew Kinastowski
Chancellor: Ed Pulvermacher **Financial Secretary:** Nicholas Perna
Chaplain: Fr Nate Kuhn
Email: grandknight3492@gmail.com
w.richlandcenterknightsocolumbus.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.

BLESSING OF THROAT PRAYER
on the feast of St. Blaise

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen"



St. Mary's Fish Fry

Father McKevitt Council # 3492
Friday February 20th, 2026

Fish Fry will be a drive-thru only.
4:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Baked and Fried Fish, cheesy and baked potatoes, coleslaw, applesauce, and a garlic biscuit. \$13.00 per meal, with the option to add extra fish for \$3 per piece, up to 3 pieces per meal. Please enter the drive-up on 4th Street and Central Avenue, turning left onto 5th Street, and entering the school and parish parking lot to place and receive your order.



“ ”
The only reason for my being killed is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ. I thank God it is for the reason that I die.

Saints Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

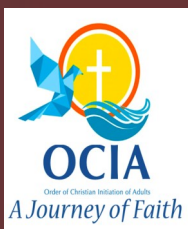
St. Mary/s PCCW Scholarship

Applications are to be submitted to:
St Mary of the Assumption Parish
Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW)
160 West Fourth Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
Applications available in the entrance of Church
Or Parish Office 608-647-2621 must be received no
later than ... **March 15, 2026**

St Mary's School Weekly Intention

We are asking to pray for all community helpers that they stay safe and healthy. For our elderly that they are not lonely and remember the love of Jesus. For the Homeless so they stay warm, for those that are poor and sick. We pray for pregnant women's health and safety. For all Gods children to have friends to play with. We pray that all hear God's commandments and follow them. Most importantly we pray for everyone to hear the GOOD NEWS that God loves us all and wants us to live with him some day

...St. Mary's 2nd Grade Class...

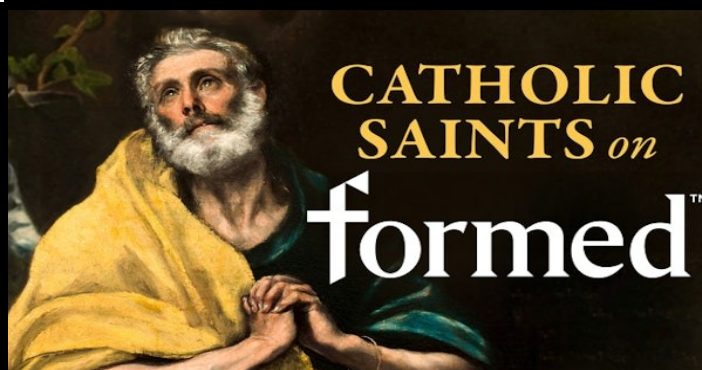


OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
The Next Class will be Wednesday
February 11th at 7:00 pm



Door of Hope Pregnancy and Family Care Center is our local resource for meeting needs and enabling young families to keep their babies and nurture them as they grow. We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint your congregation with Door of Hope and its services and how you can partner with us. All of our services are confidential, permission based and free of charge. Phone 608-637-8688
Email-office@viroquahope.com Visit-304 North Washinton Street Viroqua, WI. 54665



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4. Click link in email
5. You're in!

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3. "I belong to a Parish
4. Find St Mary's by zip
5. Enter your email, done!