

December 15, 2024



St. Mary ' s
Immaculate Conception

7176 Esker Road, Custer, WI 54423

Phone: 715-592-4330

Website: www.stmaryscuster.net



Please submit bulletin notices to stmary@wi-net.com
by noon on Tuesday.

PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Mark Miller, Pastor 715-600-6942

fr.miller@sacredheartpolonia.com

Deacon Jim Sniadajewski

dcn.jim@sacredheartpolonia.com

You may reach Father Miller for both emergency and non emergency situations by calling Sacred Heart office at any time of the day.

PARISH STAFF

Secretary-Donna Wierzba...stmary@wi-net.com

Bookkeeper-Rebecca Jones

stmaryicfinance@gmail.com

Coordinator of Religious Education-

Jessica Bielen

Custodian-Jeanne Hintz

Maintenance/Grounds keeping

Josh Genskow

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples requesting the celebration of Marriage should contact the parish at the time of formal engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Please contact the parish to schedule a baptism class and request a date for the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism. Parents are encouraged to attend before the birth of their child.

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.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 17,

8:15 am +Norbert Groshek by Virginia Groshek

Wednesday, December 18,

8:15 am Living & deceased Perzinski family members

Thursday, December 19

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8 am Confessions

8:15 am +Loretta Klesmit by Roger Klesmit

Friday, December 20

7-8 am Adoration 7:30-8:00 am Confessions

8:15 am: +Michael V. Kosobucki

Saturday, December 21, @ SH

8:15 am +Henry Koziczkowski by Marie & Family

+Clarence Ramczyk by Tom & Julie Wanserski

+Emil & Angie Wojtalewicz by Dave +Edwin

Gagas by Family +Ronald Karch by Knights of

Columbus Council 11-170 +Gary Perron by Family

+Margaret Jansen by Family

2:45 pm Confessions @ SH

4:00 pm +Paulette Blaskey by Greg & Kari Blaskey

Sunday, Dec 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am @SH Frank & Alvina Marchel; Chester

Sobish by Lori Shroda

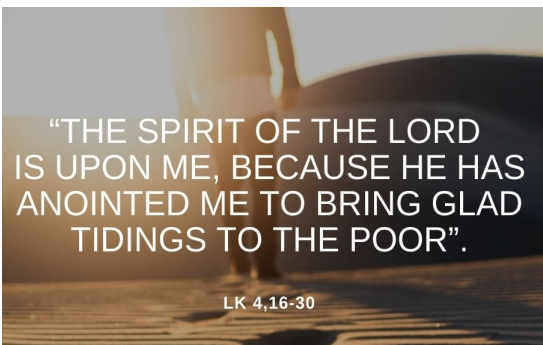
10:00 am St. Mary's I.C. & Sacred Heart Parish Families

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

3:30 pm Christmas Carols

4:00 pm +Richie Zblewski

by Sharon, Barb, Lori, Richard Jr, Amanda, Suzy





"Make us we implore You, O Lord our God, watchful and heedful in awaiting the coming of Your Son, Christ our Lord; that when He shall come and knock He may find us not sleeping in sin, but awake, and rejoicing in His praises; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."
(from the Gelasian Sacramentary)

A Minute with Jesus: Jesus Came Into the World to be Our Model of Holiness

Jesus, God of the universe, the eternal Son of God, the second person of the Trinity, humbled Himself and took on human flesh, being born as a tiny infant in Bethlehem. The New Testament highlights the fact that Jesus' entire Earthly life was dedicated to loving and serving each person He met. Today, Jesus is our model of unconditional love in giving Himself to us in the holy Eucharist. Through receiving Him in holy communion, we are strengthened to follow Jesus' example of giving ourselves in love and service to others.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: *Jesus, help us to read the Bible so that we can learn to follow Your example of self-giving love in all circumstances.*

This week, read how Mary responded to the "hint" from the angel Gabriel to go and serve Elizabeth, who was with child in her old age through a miracle of God in Luke 1:36-56.

Prayers for those in need are so very important; so if you would like someone added to the list please contact the parish office. Always be sure you have permission to add someone's name.

Please remember in your prayers

Please pray for the following and all who are ill in our parish:

Valerie Stanczyk, Henry Gagas, Sharon Zblewski, Joe Raschka, Jean Miller, Shirley Pliska, Betty Kowalski, Ruthie & Lenny Pliska, Henry Heim, Jerry Lepak, Mike Mrozek, Ken Wierzba, Brigid & Al Pellatt

If anyone is in need of spiritual care at your home or the hospital (e.g. Holy Communion, confession, or Anointing of the Sick) please call the parish to make arrangements. Father Miller is here for your spiritual and sacramental needs. Also, be aware that if you are in the hospital for an extended period of time, and would like a visit, please contact the parish. This is important, hospitals do not make us aware of these situations.

For prayer support through the unpublished **St. Mary's I.C. Parish Prayer Chain** please call *Elsie Mansavage 715-592-4174, or the Parish Office 715-592-4330 or stmary@wi-net.com FIRST NAMES ONLY will be used; members promise to respect your request in confidence.*

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

December 7-8 & 9

<i>Offertory</i>	\$ 428.35
<i>Retirement Collection</i>	315.00
<i>Christmas Flowers</i>	165.00
<i>Building Fund</i>	345.00
<i>Adult Env & ACH</i>	5248.00
<i>Total</i>	\$ 6501.35

2024-2025 Diocesan Annual Appeal St. Mary's I.C.

Goal: \$22,455.00

Pledged: \$13,612.50

#of Donors 49

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.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TO OUR BUILDING FUND

PLEASE NOTE

There will be NO MORNING MASSES on December 26th-28th at St. Mary's I.C. and Sacred Heart. Also, NO MASS on December 31st.

Please pick up your **2025 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 envelopes. Included with the weekly offering envelopes are Holy Days, Special Collections and Building Fund. Thank you for your support.



St. Mary's I.C. Faith Formation Program

Coordinator of Religious Education Jessica Bielen
(715)347-3367 or jwier319@gmail.com



St. Mary's Immaculate Conception
Faith Formation

Scan this QR code and join!

Advent Sets the Stage for Christmas Joy

Even if you are too busy or exhausted from all that you desire to accomplish during Advent, you can ask the Holy Spirit to give you a hunger for Christ's presence. He will answer that prayer. Planning the specified time for prayer each day is important; otherwise, it can so easily fall by the wayside. Further, making a good confession during the season of Advent is something you don't want to miss. Your burden of guilt and the weight of sin will be taken away, which leads to healing and interior freedom. This cleansing from sin allows more room in your heart for the Christ Child. You can also fast from TV programs or desserts or other things that you like a little too much, which in the end, really don't satisfy your heart. Fasting helps increase your hunger for Christ.

Please know that it is not too late to begin the internal preparation for the coming of the Christ Child! During these days, prepare your heart so that the birth of the Christ Child coming as your Savior is your greatest gift on Christmas Day.

YOUR HELP is NEEDED on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd after Mass. We will be decorating the Church for Christmas. Please stay after Mass and lend a hand! Your help will be greatly appreciated.




CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATION envelopes can be found in your Church Support envelopes and also in the Church entrance. Please include the name of the person you wish to donate in memory of.
Thank you



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. Please check the expiration date on items you are donating.



Christmas Mass Schedule

4:00 pm CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

will be held at St. Mary's I.C.

Beginning with Carols at 3:30 pm

Midnight Mass & 9 AM Christmas Day Mass at Sacred Heart

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Wednesday January 1st, 2025, is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses at 8:15am at St. Mary's I.C. 6:00pm at Sacred Heart

St. Mary's I.C. Meetings:

Rescheduled for January Pastoral Council

If any member of the parish has an item that they would like discussed or added to the Pastoral agenda, please contact any of the members: Fr. Miller, Pastor, Nora Stransky-chair, Christine Sapa-secretary, Carolyn Iwanski, Pat Johnson, Deacon Jim Sniadajewski



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TOWARDS OUR HOOKED ON LOVE PROJECT

If you would still like to donate towards HOOKED ON LOVE, drop off your items by **next Sunday, December 22nd**. Please drop them in the pack n play by 10 a.m. Items will be donated to the First Choice Pregnancy Resource Center. Thank you!

Inclement Weather Policy:

Parish Office and Scheduled Activities.



St. Mary's I.C. and Sacred Heart Parishes follows Stevens Point Public Schools for delays, closures, and cancellations. When Stevens Point Public Schools close and/or cancel evening activities, the Parish Office and Sacred Heart School will close and all activities at the parish are cancelled. Cancellations and closures will also be posted on the website.

If Parish office is closed due to inclement weather, Father will still celebrate daily Mass at scheduled time at Sacred Heart. There will be no Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

PLEASE NOTE: When Mass is scheduled at St. Mary's I.C.

Father will still celebrate the Mass, but at Sacred Heart. If you are ever unable to drive safely, please do not risk coming to Mass.

2025 Calendars.... A gift for St. Mary's I.C. parishioners, please one per house hold. **A SPECIAL THANK YOU to PISARSKI FUNERAL HOMES, 703 Second Street, Stevens Point, and 2911 Plover Road, Plover, for donating the calendars.**

BUY SCRIP After Mass JANURAY 12th & 26th

If you need scrip before Scrip Sunday, please call Shelly (715-592-3775)

Thank you for supporting our scrip program.

Pregnant and in distress? Confidential help is available from First Choice Pregnancy, Stevens Point, 800-712-help or www.firstchoiceprc.org. or diolc.org/pregnancy-resources.

Join Tens of Thousands at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Sign up for the Pilgrimage for Life, Jan. 22-26, our diocesan participation in the national March for Life in our nation's Capital. This is a wonderful opportunity for adults, families, and young people to bear witness to the sanctity of human life. To learn more, visit diolc.org/pilgrimageforlife,

Our Women and Men Religious Offer Gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

Liturgical Appointments

SUNDAY, Dec 15

LECTOR Kirk **USHERS** Randy & Anthony
SERVERS Hutton, Keaton, Nolan
MONEY COUNTERS Dave, Lorraine, Kirk
MUSICIANS Carolyn & Jacquie

SUNDAY, Dec 22

LECTOR Christine **USHERS** Kyle & Vincent
SERVERS Maddie, Elizabeth
MONEY COUNTERS Brad, Bette, Marie
MUSICIANS Mary & Cheryl

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE 3:30 pm Carols

LECTOR Deb **USHERS** Travis
SERVERS Leo & Landon
MUSICIANS Carolyn & Jacquie



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

16th-Bernie Fritschler 21st-Colleen Raschka
23rd-Lisa Piesik 24th-Deb Sniadajewski & Randy Iwanski



Calling All Crafters!!!

You are invited to join us for a day of Crafting!
Saturday, January 25, 2025, from 8am-9pm at St. Joseph Parish, Stevens Point

Help us to celebrate our **11th year** of crafting at St. Joes!

Bring your crafting tools, laptops, and supplies. We will have electrical hookups as well.

Cost is \$40/person

Price includes lunch, dinner, snacks, and beverages
Participants must be at least 18 years of age.

Registration information available at www.pointcatholicfaith.org/sj-craft

If you need a registration form mailed to you, please contact the parish office at 715-341-1617.

***Deadline to register is January 15, 2025!!!**