

Saint Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church

FOURTH SUNDAY OF
LENT



March 15th, 2026

Saturday, March 21st, 5:15 pm

Reader: Judy Murphy

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Declan & Eleanor Jelinek

Sofia Mata, Olivia Mueller

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Gifts: Kevin Jelinek Family Scrip: Nancy Schumacher

Sunday, March 22nd, 8:00 am

Reader: John Tennant

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Alayna, Brynlee & Wyatt Mueller

Blake Parker

Ushers: Knights of Columbus

Gifts: Brian Parker Family Scrip: Judy Barnicle

Sunday, March 22nd, 10:30 am

Reader: Sara Schultz

Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully

Servers: Blake & Makenna Mueller

Jolee Larse, Andrea Ortiz

Gifts: Cheryl Blankenship Family Scrip: Mary Jo Nigl

Mass Schedule

Monday, March 16th

No Mass

Tuesday, March 17th

St. Patrick

Mass 8:15 am

† Charles & Georgine Worthington

Wednesday, March 18th **St. Cyril**

Mass 8:15 am

L& D Members of the Bradford & Mutz Families

Thursday, March 19th **Solemnity of St. Joseph**

Mass 8:15 am Adoration following Mass

Staff of St Mary's

St Joseph's Table (undercroft)

5:00 to 7:00 pm Adoration and Confessions

St Joseph Mass at 6:30 pm (Spanish)

Friday, March 20th

Day of Abstinence

Mass 8:15 am

† Mary Barnett

Mass 10:00 am at Schmitt Assisted Living

† Helen Berns

Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm

Saturday, March 21st

Confessions 4:30 pm

Mass 5:15 pm

† Wayne "Fuzzy" Kiely

Sunday, March 22nd

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Confessions 7:15 am

Mass 8:00 am

† Beverly Nee

Confessions 9:45 am

Mass 10:30 am

Our Parish Family

Confessions 12:30

Mass 1:00 pm (Spanish)

03/15 Youth Group 6:00 to 8:00 pm

03/20 Friday, Stations of the Cross, 6:30pm

04/06 PCCW Meeting 6:30pm

04/12 Sunday, Children's Liturgy, 8:00 am Mass

04/18 Extravaganza ... Save the Date

04/26 Donut Sunday, following 8:00 & 10:30 am Masses

From your Pastor

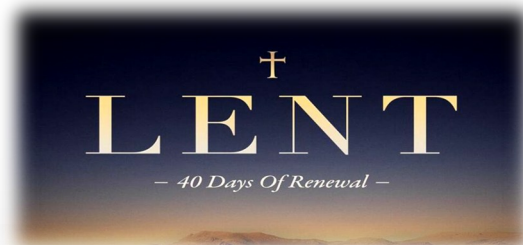
“Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.” (Cf. Is 66: 10-11). These verses from the Prophet Isaiah are the verses traditionally said at the beginning of Mass this weekend as we have come to Laetare Sunday. The name Laetare is the Latin word for rejoice, the first word of the above verse. Laetare Sunday presents us with this theme of rejoicing, not because we are done with Lent, but to encourage us during the final weeks and preparations that need to be made before the celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection on Easter. The fourth Sunday is close to a midway point of Lent or halftime, which allows us to consider how we have been doing, what we did well, maybe what we didn’t, and to reassess for the final weeks. But this is to be done in a joyful and hopeful way, as we are getting closer. Other than the opening antiphon/verse, we also have a visible reminder of this day as I will wear rose vestments. This is one of the two times each year that rose vestments are worn; the other being the third Sunday of Advent, both are to symbolize rejoicing and anticipation.

Along with this Sunday being a day that is a bit out of the ordinary, as we look ahead to this upcoming week, we have a couple of days that are also different. The first is Tuesday when we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. I was sharing some of the tradition and history of St. Patrick and his celebration with the youth group and many found it quite interesting. For example, up until the late 1960s to early 70s, pubs in Ireland were closed because it was during Lent and drinking alcohol was not permitted. It wasn’t until the early 90s that the day became a day of celebration in Ireland, taking after the celebrations here in the US. Other traditions like parades and even the “traditional” meal of corned beef and cabbage was not originally from Ireland but began in New York City. Often, St. Patrick, the saint, is forgotten or overlooked because of the celebrations. We don’t often hear about his early life, his re-discovering of the Faith, his courage to travel back to Ireland where he had been enslaved to share the Gospel, and how he dedicated the rest of his life tirelessly preaching the Faith in Ireland. His only writings that we have are a brief compilation of his life entitled *The Confessions of St. Patrick*, which I encourage you to read.

The second day this week that is worth noting is Thursday, which is the celebration of St. Joseph. While in some countries in the world this day is a Holy Day, here it is celebrated as a solemnity or the highest form of feast day. It is a day for us to recognize the holiness and model of a man, chosen by God, to care for the Blessed Mother and Jesus. This role is very significant as Joseph’s holiness and care for Mary and Jesus helped them to be able to do what God asked them. In a way, he is the model for all of us to be able to help others follow God’s call and grow in holiness ourselves. He holds a very high place within the Church and has been given titles of honor for his intercession such as: Model of Workers, Pillar of Families, Patron of the Dying, Terror of Demons, Protector of Holy Church, and many more. He is a powerful intercessor for all of us and our families as we go through our daily lives, striving for holiness. As a way of celebrating this day, after our morning Mass, we will have a St. Joseph’s Table, an Italian (Sicilian) tradition of honoring St. Joseph who interceded for the country during a great drought. The St. Joseph’s Table contains sweets and bread to celebrate his help during that time and to gather the community together, rich and poor alike to join in the festivities. We will have some small sweets on our table in the undercroft that will be blessed and shared with anyone who joins us. Also, Fr. Juan will be celebrating Mass that evening in Spanish at 6:30 as a way to culminate the day.

Lastly, our Gospel this week encourages us to open our eyes and believe in Christ. May we all seek to know Jesus, who desires to rid us of our blindness and peer into the wonders of His love.

**In Christ through Mary,
Father Nate Kuhn**



Sportsman's Extravaganza

Saturday April 18th

The Grand Prize will be a 2025

Kawaski UTV

Purchase your tickets on line through our website, call or stop at the rectory.

The winner will be announced that evening.

Many raffles, chances to win, good food and companionship Join Us!



Changes that went into effect July 1, 2024

from the Catholic bishops
of the State of Wisconsin

Mass Stipend \$20.00 (formerly \$10.00)

Funeral fee \$75.00 (formerly \$50.00)

Wedding fee \$100.00 (formerly \$75.00)

These offerings are paid to St Mary's Parish

St Mary's School Weekly Intention

We pray for those who may be struggling with their faith, perhaps due to illness or grief. We pray for veterans and Olympians, who have represented our country in different yet meaningful ways. We ask God's mercies upon those caught in turmoil throughout the world, especially Mexico, where much violence is occurring. May God place a hedge of protection around all our loved ones, wherever they are. - 6th Grade Class

Free Download Inside

Suffering

Dr. Mark Giszczak

Already have a
FORMED Account ?

1. Visit FORMED .org
2. Click Sign In
3. Enter your email
4. Click link in email
5. You're in!

Want to create a new
FORMED account?

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign-up
3. "I belong to a Parish
4. Find St Mary's by zip
5. Enter your email, done!

February March 7/8, 2026

Adult Tithe.....	\$4,381.00
Offertory.....	865.11
Student Offertory.....	39.62
Catholic Schools	25.00
Endowment Fund.....	20.00
Easter.....	50.00
Easter Flowers.....	135.00
Total.....	\$5,515.75
February 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) 608-647-6029

Fr. Nate Kuhn

father.kuhn@stmarysrc.com

Deacon Donald Tully

deacon.tully@stmarysrc.com

Administrative Assistant: Cheryl Blankenship

cheryl.blankenship@stmarysrc.com

Prayer Chain: Mary Ellen Boak

prayer.chain@stmarysrc.com

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: Erin Jelinek

erin.jelinek@stmarysrc.com ~~~ 608-647-4470

Religious Education: Lindsay Perna

re@stmarysrc.com ~~~ 608-475-2087

Hispanic Ministry

Fr. Juan Diego Borja, SJS

Parochial Vicar OLMBS Parish

Email address: jborkja@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

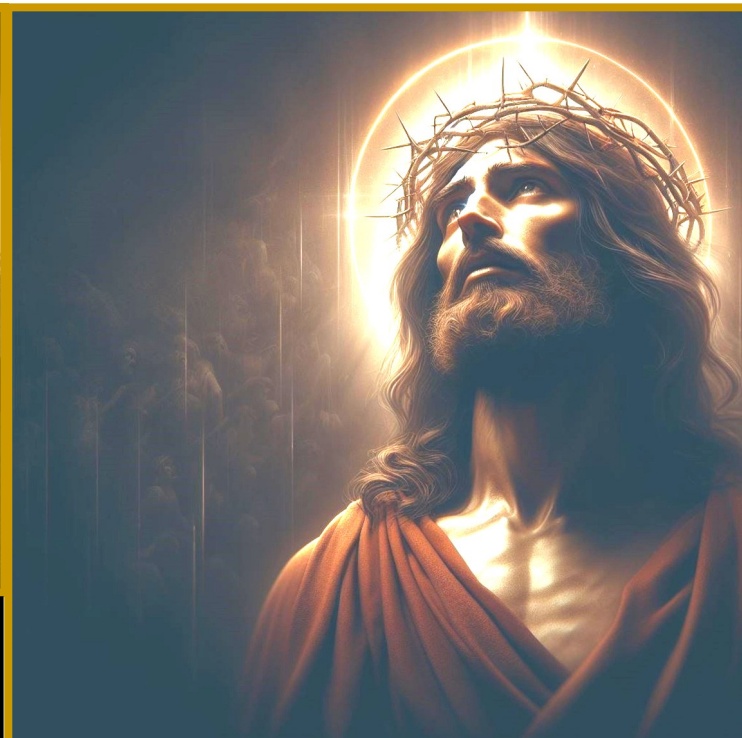
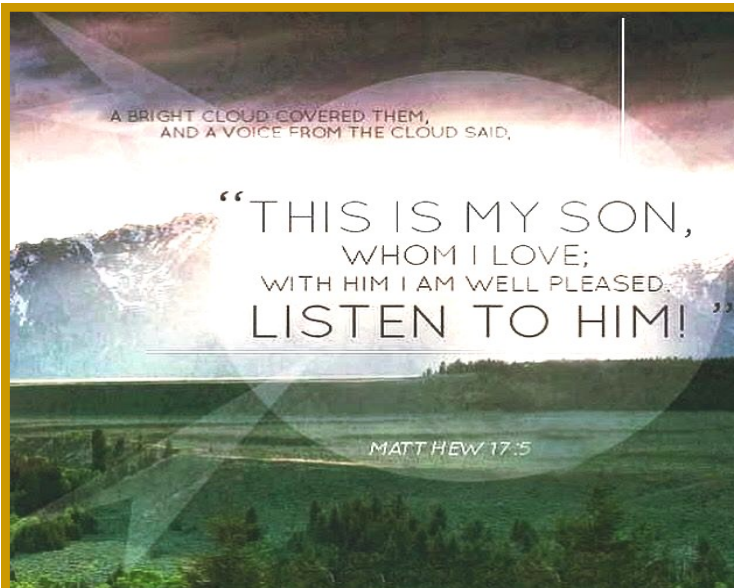
Chaplain: Fr. Nate Kuhn

Email: grandknight3492@gmail.com

www.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.



Extravaganza Items Needed!

Accepting donations of New Items for
our Extravaganza ...

Items can include Camping, Hunting ,
Fishing and all things Outdoors!

We are also looking for door prize items!
Please drop off at the rectory!

St Andrew Dinner

Young men, (14 and older) who want to learn
more about the Catholic priesthood are invited
to attend Vespers (Evening Prayer) and dinner
with Bishop Gerard Battersby and local priests
at various local parishes.
(Parents cannot attend)
Sunday, March 22, 2026
Holy Cross Diocesan Center, La Crosse

The evening attire is business casual

"There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already
borne for us, and does not now bear with us. And on
the far side of every cross we find the newness of life
in the Holy Spirit, that new life which will reach its
fulfillment in the resurrection. This is our faith. This is
our witness before the world."
- Pope Saint John Paul II

Readings for the week of March 15, 2026

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/
Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27
and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Rom 8:8-11/
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

**"It is so hard to admit
that one is a sinner;
it is so hard to climb
the hill of Calvary and
kneel beneath a cross and
ask for pardon, forgiveness.
Certainly it is hard.
But it is harder to hang there."**

~Archbishop Fulton Sheen~

