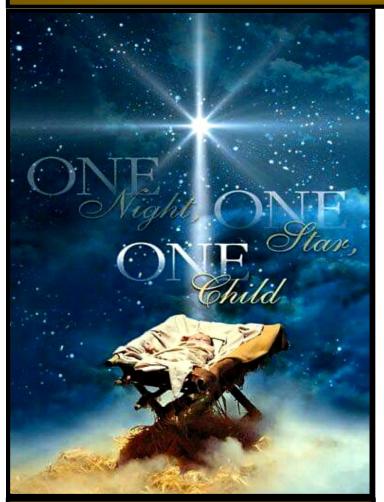
Saint Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church



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: Chav Schmitt Minister of Holy Communion: Deacon Tully Servers: Avery & Daryn Kepler, Colyns Morris Adelvn 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 Mass 8:15 am † Joe Jara

Saturday, December 30th Confessions 4:15 pm Mass 5:15 pm † Ben Ryan

Sunday, December 31st 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 <u>Christmas begins rather than ends with Christmas Day</u>. 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.





" 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

<u>CHRISTMAS FLOWER & MEMORIALS</u> <u>In Loving memory of</u>		<u>CHRISTMAS FLOWER & MEMORIALS</u> In Loving memory of		
		Frank & Vietta Reising	" Tina Franseen	
Janet Aber Audrey Barnett Jack Bauer Dave & Anne Barsi	 Byron & Dorothy McBain Christmas Flowers Janice Bauer Francis Barsi Phyliss Barsi Henry Nellett 	Paul & Mary Jo Salisbury	 Mr & Mrs. Eugene Reising Seth Grenday Francis Mueller Randy Mueller Miranda Mueller Linda Mueller 	
Ronald & Janet Bladl	Lyle & Ruby BaltzIrwin & Florence Bladl	Jason & Sara Schultz	 Mueller & Seep Families Christmas Flowers 	
Virgil Cosgrove Jerome & Sandy Durst Gretchen Jelinek Irene Joyce	 Flowers St. Mary's Parish Family Marvin & Mary Jelinek Joe Joyce John & Marguerite Kinney Family 	Colleen Schroeder	 Bill Schroeder Alice Richards Helen Schroeder Olsen Ronald Olsen Joseph Weisensel 	
Kraig & Jean Kinney	 Harry & Erma Joyce Family Kraig Goplin Families Hackl & Stanek Families Daisy Fuzz 	David & Doreen Short Joseph Simon	 Frances & Ina Schultz Carl Simon Margaret Simon Simon & Vodak Families 	
David & Delores Lenz Mary Lu Marshall	Dooerer & Lenz FamiliesJack & Shirley Curnow	Ronald & JoAnn Tennant	Joe & Marguerite SlaneyLarry & Lillian Tennant	
Candace McGrath	Nicholas LawsonWilliam L. Richardson	Joe & Sue Triggs	Charles BeranekJoanne Beranek	
Tena Moore Bernadine Mueller	 Flowers Mueller & Seep Families Francis Mueller Randy Mueller Miranda Mueller 	June Welte Brad & Diane Walker Richard Wastlick Brian & Alisa Weiss	 Alan Welte Christmas Flowers Betty Wastlick Jerry Hackl Gary Weiss 	
Marcia Mueller	 Linda Mueller Randy Mueller Miranda Mueller Carol Kraska Martin (Pat) Kraska 	Linda Wymer Melanie Ziaja	FlowersRichard ZiajaClara Zydlo	
Judy Murphy Jennifer Myers	 Flowers Agnes Auz Keith Auz 			
Phil & June Nee	 Kenneth Auz Sr. Jim Nee Rosemary Nee Frank Stafford 	Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 1 (Is 61:10b)/	Readings for the week of December 17, 2023 unday: 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	
Audrey Oliver Paul & Julie Peckham	 Flowers Edmund & Jane Guelig Cam & Agatha Peckham Jesse Sheilds William Shaw Mary Ann Shaw 	Monday: Jer 23:5-8/P Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 2 Lk 1:5-25 Lk 1:5-25 Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/P Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or 20-21/Lk 1:3 20-21/Lk 1:3	Sonday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25 uesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/ Lk 1:5-25 Lk 1:5-25 rednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38 nursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45	
Audrey Pletzer Rodney Reetz	 Herb Pletzer Sandy Reetz Nordy & Fae Reetz Cleo "Tootie" Hasburgh 	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		



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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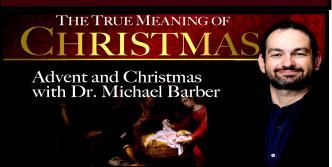
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Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish 160 W 4th Street, Richland Center WI. Parish website www.stmarysrc.com 608-647-2621 (fax) 647-6029

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: <u>pccwstmarys@gmail.com</u> Secretary-Candace McGrath Treasurer-Patty Pulvermacher

Knights of Columbus Fr. Mc Kevitt Council #3492 Grand Knight: Calvin Sebranek Deputy Grand Knight: Randy Birkholz Chancellor: Ed Pulvermacher Financial Secretary: Brian Weiss Chaplain: Monsignor Roger J. Scheckel Email: grandknight3492@gmail.com w.richlandcenterknightsofcolumbus.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.