

ST. MARY PARISH

1813 Black River Road | Neillsville, WI 54456

Phone: 715.743.3840

www.stmaryneillsville.org

April 5, 2020

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Matthew 27:11-54

Stirred, Not Shaken

What would it take to get your attention today? A soft question or a brass band? A tap on the shoulder or something that rattles your cage? We all think we're excellent listeners. But somehow we still miss things, even important things. Life crowds in and we stop responding to the needs around us because we don't even notice them. God doesn't stand a chance when we've tuned out the voices in our own living rooms.

Today's gospel tells us God will keep reaching out, no matter what it takes. Whether we are Simon the Cyrenian when the gentlest breath of God's Spirit will stir our willingness to carry His cross, or the centurion who must be thrown to the earth, a great crack opened in our spirit to hear His voice, God will find His children. Sooner or later, gentle or earthmoving, God's voice will call our name until we hear. Let's pray today that we stay so close to His heart and hand that we need only be stirred, not shaken, to hear His voice and follow.

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Weekly Calendar

Monday, April 6

Tuesday, April 7

Private Mass: The Health of Mark Lezotte

Wednesday, April 8

Private Mass: Alice Gross

10:00 am – 11:30 am: Confessions

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Confessions

Thursday, April 9 – Holy Thursday

Office Closed

Private Mass: Leonard, Ruby & Clem Schultz

Friday, April 10 – Good Friday

Office Closed

Private Mass: Clarence & Rosalie Becker

Saturday, April 11 – Holy Saturday

Private Mass: Leonard, Ruby & Clem Schultz

Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday

Private Mass: Mary Sue Kyle

General Parish Information

Father Varkey Emergency Cell Phone: 715-937-3664

New Parishioners: You are most welcome to join the family of St. Mary's. Please contact the parish office (715) 743-3840

Prayer Chain: Jean Kuhn (715) 937-1161

Meal Ministry: Mary Sladich (715) 743-4466

Bereavement Ministry: Annie Augustine (715) 937-1432

Visitation Ministry: Anne Durst (715) 743-3352 or Annie Augustine (715) 937-1432

Elizabeth Ministry: Renee Schoen (715) 743-4059

Marriage: Contact with the parish is required six months to a year before marriage. Preparation begins with the first contact.

Baptisms: Baptisms are celebrated during the 10:30 am Mass on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Baptisms following Mass can also be scheduled.

Preparation classes are required.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Gretchen Fitzmaurice (715) 486-6674.



Blessed Palms will be available Saturday April 4th after 5 pm. For your convenience they will be in the Narthex. Thank you.

Weekly Collection

March 29, 2020

Tithe	\$1,560.00
Easter	50.00
Easter Flowers	70.00
Catholic Times	20.00
Total	\$1,700.00
 Weekly Budget	 \$4,276.21

Thank you! - Thank you to those who have been mailing in their weekly contributions to the Parish Office. We have installed a drop box in the Narthex if you'd like to drop them off. The box is checked many times per day.

The Church is OPEN for personal prayer. Please come in and sit with Our Lord anytime you would like.

The Cathedral Live Stream Schedule is available at diolc.org/live. All Masses are with Bishop Callahan and are live broadcasts. Palm Sunday 9:30 am; Holy Thursday 5 pm Good Friday Noon; Holy Saturday 7 pm Easter Sunday 9:30 am

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most Merciful and Triune God,
We come to You in our weakness.
We come to You in our fear.
We come to You with trust.
For You alone are our hope.
We place before You the disease present in our world.
We turn to You in our time of need.
Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.
Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in Your care.
(mention your particular concerns and prayers now)
Jesus, I trust in You. Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.
Amen.

How to Spend Your Charity Dollars Wisely

Just the facts: If you regularly follow the church bulletin you have seen the box on the third page highlighting the Diocesan Annual Appeal. In faith and generosity parishioners that have pledged to this year's appeal have given **97% of the \$37,815 goal**. That is good news! Looking at the numbers in the box one cannot ignore the obvious; a balance of \$1,000 still remains to reach the goal set for St. Mary's Parish. Every parish in the diocese has a goal that is set according to the number of families enrolled in the parish as well as other calculations.

Nobody likes penalties: If we do not meet our goal by June 30th each year the parish still has to pay the balance from its operating budget. This leaves less funding for important ministries within the parish such as adult and student education, social justice and charity, family life issues, and sacred worship. If the goal is exceeded the surplus amount is sent to the parish for funding its needs, including funding for local and international charity works.

Dollars well spent: The Diocesan Annual Appeal funds some very important areas in the life of the Church. The Appeal seeks to raise \$5.6 million dollars and spends only 5% of that to raise the funds. That is remarkable in modern fund raising efforts. Where does the rest of the money go?

Vocations: Praise God that there are 24 seminarians for the La Crosse Diocese in training! The future health and welfare of the Church depends upon the education and training of these men.

Priests: Continuing education for priests is given to keep them updated and uplifted for our benefit.

Retired priests: Many senior priests in the diocese continue to help out in parishes and as substitutes. Medical insurance and other basic needs are given to them.

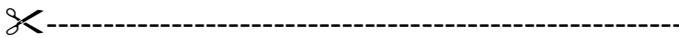
Ministries, Services, and Administration: Diocesan offices for Marriage and Family Life, Social Concerns, Sacred Worship, Youth and Adult Ministries are just a sample of the important area that the Appeal helps fund.

Catholic Education and Faith Formation: Catholic Schools, Televised Mass for shut-ins, ministries to Hispanic, Hmong, and other migrant Catholics are just a few of the areas covered. The future of the Church relies on the success of all of these ministries.

Charity, Missions, and the Worldwide Church: Facilities to house the homeless, disaster relief, birthparent and adoption services, services to the disabled, and domestic violence ministry are just a few of the areas the Church assists people within the Diocese. Catholic Charities does a magnificent job providing counseling for people needing financial advice, for troubled marriages, and other needs.

Let's pledge our support for these important needs: If you have not had the chance to participate in the Diocesan Annual Appeal for the 2019 - 2020 year that ends on June 30, 2020, please fill out the form at the bottom of this page and return to the parish office or place in the Sunday collection. If you have already made your pledge encourage others you know to do so. Every dollar pledged helps the present and future church by funding important needs in Catholic life in western Wisconsin.

You cannot spend a dollar for charity in a better place! It is with sincere understanding that the current Safer at Home Orders for the COVID-19 epidemic has affected the finances of many families in St. Mary's Parish family. Please prayerfully consider if there is anything you can do to help erase this \$1,000 deficiency. Even a small share of God's blessings is greatly appreciated. Whether you can afford just a few dollars or several hundred dollars please make your best effort to participate. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this request.



ST MARY PARISH, NEILLSVILLE

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ Apartment/Unit # _____ New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

Please send me information about Planned Giving.
Please do not send reminders.
Please do not send Acknowledgment/Thank You.
Please do not send Tax Statements.
This gift is anonymous.

 2019519

One-Time Gift (Paid in Full)
 Monthly Pledge (Monthly until 6/30/2020)
 Sustaining Member Gift (Indefinite monthly withdrawal)

Please select one of the following amounts:
 \$250 \$100 \$25
 \$200 \$75 Other: \$ _____

Total Amount Pledged \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Diocesan Annual Appeal.
Please do not send cash.

(Note: See reverse side for Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) and Credit Card payments information. Gift of Securities, Stock or Grain, please call Stewardship and Development Office 608-791-2653.)



FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, CONTACT SARAH AT 608-791-2653 OR SKOMPERUD@DIOLC.ORG

Sustaining Gift, I authorize the Diocese of La Crosse to automatically withdraw from my checking account or debit my credit card account on the 15th of every month. Donations will continue indefinitely until notification to cancel is given to the Diocese of La Crosse.

For Electronic Funds Transfer from a checking account, please enclose a voided check.

Credit Card: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card Number: _____

3-digit Security Code: _____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____

Cardholder Name _____

Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

By signing, I authorize the Diocese of La Crosse to debit/charge my account as listed above.

Thank you for your support

GIVE ONLINE
<https://diolc.org/donate-online>