



April 7, 2024 Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35
1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31

*"In the divine image He created them
male and female; He created them." Genesis 1:27*

St. Mary Parish

1813 Black River Road
Neillsville, WI 54456

Parish Office

Phone
715.743.3840

E-Mail
parishoffice@stmaryneillsville.org

Website
www.stmaryneillsville.weebly.com

Hours
Monday Closed
Tuesday – Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Daily Adoration 1 hour prior to Daily
Mass except Saturday

Tuesday	6:00pm
Wednesday	7:00am
Thursday-Saturday	8:00am
First Friday	7:00am

Sunday	
Saturday (Vigil)	5:00pm
Sunday	8:00am 10:30am

Confessions

Saturday	4:00pm-4:45pm
Sunday	7:00am-7:30am 9:45am-10:20am
First Friday	6:00pm-7:00pm

Parish Staff

Rev. Fr. Gregory A. Michaud
Pastor
Emergency Cell: 906.282.2049

Judy Conner
Coordinator of Religious Education

Cindy Hooser
Administrative Assistant



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IF I HAD ONLY KNOWN THE WHOLE STORY!

Dear Family,

Does the name Paul Potts ring a bell? If not, he was a mobile phone salesman in Wales, England up until about 15 years ago when he auditioned on Britain's Got Talent, the precursor to today's America's Got Talent, the Voice, and the like. Paul was a very shy, somewhat overweight man with a broken front tooth that was impossible to not notice when he wrestled out a partial smile. It was hard for Paul to smile because of his self-consciousness and the fact that he had been the target of cruelty from his peers much of his life.

Anyway, Paul's wife encouraged him to try out for Britain's Got Talent because she actually knew him and knew he had an amazing talent...he could sing opera...not just at an ok level; he could really sing. But, almost no one else knew. So, with his wife's encouragement, Paul signed up for the show.

At his audition, like with all the other contestants, he was questioned by the judges about who they were, what they did and what they were going to perform. The judges were Simon Cowell, the creator of Britain's/America's Got Talent. Simon is notorious for his insulting commentary about people's lack of talent. The other two were Amanda Holden an English actress/singer/model, and Piers Morgan who would one day be a talk show host in the United States. At one point during the questioning, Amanda Holden asked Paul Potts, "Paul, what are you here for today, Paul?" He answered, "To sing opera." At that point the camera panned to Piers Morgan as he leaned back in his chair while turning toward Simon Cowell with a look that was, at the same time, a combination of seeming disgust and disbelief.

With that, they wished Paul luck and the music began. By the time Paul got to the second line of the song Nesum Dorma, everyone watching knew something about Paul Potts they couldn't know by just looking at him...THIS MAN COULD SING AT AN ELITE LEVEL. Paul Potts has gone on to become a worldwide star using the amazing vocal talent God gave him.

So why recount this story? Because it's so common. We so often jump to conclusions based on what we see and we won't admit to ourselves that we don't know the whole story about someone or something.

Piers Morgan and the others had already judged Paul Potts as someone who couldn't possibly have an exceptional singing voice. No, he just didn't "LOOK" like he could. After Paul concluded they admitted as much. After the long, standing ovation, Simon Cowell said, "So, you work at Car Phone Warehouse and you did that; I wasn't expecting that, Paul". Amanda Holden admitted the same thing and later, Piers Morgan would go on to say that his expectations were low, in part, because of Paul's "horrible looking suit". Their comments proved that they had judged Paul ONLY BY WHAT THEY COULD SEE.

Whether it's thinking someone couldn't possibly sing well because they don't "look right" or whatever it is, every one of us MUST admit that when it comes to anyone else about anything else, we just don't know the whole, amazing story. God bless and Mary keep you.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, April 8 – Office Closed

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

6:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, April 9

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass: † Maureen Meier

6:30pm PCCW Meeting – Church Hall

Wednesday, April 10

6:00am Eucharistic Adoration

7:00am Mass: † Anne Durst

7:00pm CCD – Grade 7-12

Thursday, April 11

Memorial of Saint Stanislaus, bishop and martyr

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Helen Kerska

9:00am Bible Study – Church Hall

6:00pm Family Life Committee Meeting - Narthex

Friday, April 12

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Laverne Schmitt

Saturday, April 13 – Incense Free

Memorial of Saint Martin I, pope and martyr

8:00am Mass: Blessings for Father Greg

4:00pm Confession

5:00pm Mass: † John Matuszak

6:00pm AED Training

Sunday, April 14

Third Sunday of Easter

7:00am Confession

8:00am Mass: St. Mary's Parish Family

9:00am AED Training

10:15am Confession

10:30am Mass: † Tom Kren

11:30am AED Training

General Parish Information

Father Greg's Emergency Cell 906.282.2049

New Parishioners We invite you to join St. Mary's Parish family! Please contact the Parish Office at 715.743.3840

Prayer Chain Parish Office – 715.743.3840

Meal Ministry Mary Sladich – 715.743.4466

Elizabeth Ministry Renee Schoen – 715.743.4059

Holy Matrimony Contact with the parish is required six months to one year before marriage. Preparation begins with the first contact.

Baptisms May be celebrated during or following any of the Masses. Preparation classes are required. Please call the Parish Office for details.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Gretchen Fitzmaurice – 715.486.6674

Weekly Collection

Holy Thursday – March 28, 2024

Tithe	25.00
Easter	45.00
Offertory	248.00
Total	\$318.00

Good Friday – March 29, 2024

Tithe	180.00
Good Friday	35.00
Offertory	473.40
Total	\$688.40

March 30-31, 2024

Tithe	1,962.00
Student	2.50
Offertory	729.21
Easter	4,785.00
Easter Flowers	125.00
Total	\$7,603.71

Building Fund	\$50.00
Uganda Orphanage	\$20.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday April 13-14

Lectors

<u>5:00pm</u> Mary Hartung	<u>8:00am</u> Donna Kuhn	<u>10:30am</u> Bob Barth
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Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

<u>5:00pm</u> Delores Schmitt	<u>9:00am</u> Rick Kuhn	<u>3:30pm</u> Gretchen Fitzmaurice
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Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u> Andrew & Adam Hoeser	<u>8:00am</u> Faustina, Perpetua, Angeline & Gibeon Thomas	<u>10:30am</u> Henry & Nathaniel Schoen
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Cantor

<u>10:30am</u> Lorraine Spencer JoAnn Blum
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Ushers for April

<u>5:00pm</u> Larry Nauertz Richard Hagen Larry Hoeser Cindy Hoeser	<u>8:00am</u> Ray Pagenkopf, Sr. Ray Pagenkopf, Jr. Jack Hammond Clinton Hannasch	<u>10:30am</u> Larry Kyle Wayne Opelt Dan Schreiner Kevin Schoen
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Rosary Leader

<u>5:00pm</u> Larry Hoeser	<u>8:00am</u> Dr. Greg & Linda Foster	<u>10:30am</u> Gary Veltus
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Proverbial Wisdom

Mercy is having pains in my heart for the pains of another
And taking pains to do something about their pain.
--Fr. George Kosicki, CSB

Parish Announcements

Divine Mercy Sunday

THIS SUNDAY is Divine Mercy Sunday!! It is the pinnacle of Easter where God's mercy is poured out like no other day of the year. Our parish family is having our Third Annual Divine Mercy celebration with prayer, confessions, a talk on Divine Mercy by Father Aaron Becker, and Mass at 3:30pm. Come for some or all of it. The profound peace of God's Divine Mercy awaits you!

Schedule for Divine Mercy

Eucharistic Adoration	Noon
Confession	Noon
Speaker	1pm
Chaplet of Divine Mercy	3pm
Holy Mass	3:30pm

AED Training for all Ushers and Medical Volunteers –

There will be an AED training **NEXT WEEKEND**, Saturday and Sunday April 13-14th after each Mass. Office Isaac Guyer is volunteering his time to train this weekend. All ushers and medical volunteers are asked to attend one of the sessions. Any questions, please call the office.

PCCW News

There will be a PCCW Meeting, Tuesday April 9th at 6:30pm in church hall. A video presentation by K. Weirauch on Sister Salome's Orphanage will be shared. All ladies invited and encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

Spiritual Bouquet - Spiritual bouquets are a beautiful Catholic tradition of presenting prayers or acts of charity, mercy or devotion that someone has or will offer for someone else. As a gift to Bishop William Patrick Callahan and to Bishop Gerald Battersby, Father Greg would like to send both of them a Spiritual Bouquet from St. Mary's Parish Family. In the Narthex you will find a sheet to fill out. Please take 2 sheets if you would like to give to both Bishops. There will be a box to put the spiritual bouquet in when it is completed and then we will send them.



Mother's Day Banquet

Saturday May 11, 2024

The evening will begin after the 5pm Mass. The banquet will be held in the church hall. The signup is available in the Narthex. Plan to come and enjoy. All are welcome!!!

Volunteers for Mother's Day Banquet: Looking for men and boys to help set tables, serve food and clean up at the banquet. The sign up is available the Narthex.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Faith Formation News



This week's at home lesson- First week of March –

God's Covenant with Moses: "By the covenant God formed his people and revealed his law to them through Moses." "God has revealed himself fully by sending his own Son, in whom he has established his covenant forever." (excerpts from CCC 72-73)

*Moses has an important part of the history of Israel and also for Christians. He played a big part in the forming of the people of Israel. His story is very interesting and can be found in the Book of Exodus.

*The Commandments are our guide for how to live our lives in a way that we show our love for God and others.

Memory item:

Grades K-3: "Teach me wisdom and knowledge, for in your commands I trust." Psalm 119:6

Grades 4-6: The Ten Commandments: I am your God. You shall not have other gods before Me.

2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. 3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day. 4. Honor your father and mother. 5. you shall not kill. 6. You shall not commit adultery. 7. You shall not steal. 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

Adventure Camp – There are 2 weeks available this year for Adventure Camp. Week 1: June 23-28, 2024 and Week 2: July 7-12, 2024. These two weeks are for youth in grades 6-12. The cost is \$430 per person (including adults) for an early bird registration (registered before June 10, 2024). The regular price after June 10, 2024, rises to \$450 per person (including adults). Funds are available thru the Family Life Committee to help with cost. For more information, registration link, click here: diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/adventure-camp/.

Q&A on YouTube – Don't forget to tune in to St. Mary's Q&A on YouTube. Father Greg, Larry Hoeser and Judy Conner discuss questions that are asked by you, the parishioner. Just go in and google YouTube.com and once you are there just search St. Mary Neillsville and the Q&A will pop up. Please subscribe and like the page while you are there. If you have a question you can drop the question in the What's on your Mind box in the carport or email the parish with a question. The parish email is parishoffice@stmaryneillsville.org.



We would like to offer Vacation Bible School for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade this summer. This is a fun and energetic program designed to enhance the children's knowledge of their Catholic faith through lessons, music, crafts and games. We would like to switch it up and have a morning VBS from

9 am until 12 noon. Tentative date is July 29-August 2nd or other dates based on volunteers and their availability to teach the different areas. We are in need of youth grades 6 and up, adult leaders for each of the following areas: Bible/faith lessons, snacks, games and childcare. **If you can help with this, please call or talk to Judy at the Parish office by April 23.** We will then determine if we have enough help to provide this great summer program.

Project Milk Fundraiser: No Bake Bake Sale

The PCCW will be having a "No Bake Bake Sale" to raise money for Project Milk. Hundreds of families in Peru are struggling to put food on the table for some that means rotating days on which children can eat. Your donation goes straight to the purchase, preparation and shipment of the milk. Ladies are requested to contribute monetarily instead of making bake goods. Please drop the envelope in the collection or the drop box in the Narthex. Thank you for your generosity. All funds are greatly appreciated.

Walk To Mary – United in Step from Shrine to Shrine –

Why we walk - We walk to Her because she calls us. Walk To Mary will be Saturday May 4, 2024. The walk is a 22-mile walking pilgrimage starting from the National Shrine of St. Joseph at Old St. Joseph Church on the St. Norbert College campus in De Pere, WI to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion, Champion, WI. (Shorter routes are available). For more information and to register go to WalktoMary.com.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

2023-2024 Assessment

\$45,050.00

As of April 4, 2024

\$25,250.00

Parishioner participation: 26%

Please prayerfully discern your pledge and return your pledge card in the offertory collection or mail it directly to the Diocese of La Crosse. Thank you to those who have already submitted their pledge for this year.

Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Jason A. Bourget, FIC, PGK
Field Agent
715-937-7039

Member N15964 Copenhaver Avenue
Stanley, WI 54768
jason.bourget@kofc.org

Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
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"The Answer" Eucharistic Rally: We are very excited to announce "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally that will be held on June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. This event kicks off the six days that the Marian Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La Crosse. "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will begin with a Eucharistic Procession across the Cameron Street Bridge in La Crosse and will end at the La Crosse Center where the rest of the rally will take place. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilibagize, and Josh Rosa, music from Luke Spehar, and plenty of vendors. **The early bird special is now over, the cost for this event is now \$20 per person.** This rally is for youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. You can find more information about the event and the other days the Marian Route will be in our diocese by visiting: <https://diolc.org/the-answer/> or scan the QR code above.



Thank you so very much for all who donated to help fund Our Lady of Fatima Orphanage! Thanks to your generosity we were able to donate \$1,960.00 toward the building of another wing to accommodate more

children. There is still time if you wish to participate. Also, there will be a presentation at this week's PCCW meeting to help you learn more about the orphanage. Plan to attend. Thank you again!

Area Events

Belgian Waffle & Pancake Breakfast – Holy Rosary Parish, Owen is having their Belgian Waffle & Pancake Breakfast Sunday April 14, 2024 from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Includes regular & Potato pancakes, breakfast links, and waffles topped with strawberries & cream. Adults \$10, students under 14 \$5 and Preschoolers are FREE!! Handicap Accessible. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Scrambled Eggs & Pancake Breakfast – St. Joseph Church in Boyd, WI is having a scrambled eggs and pancake breakfast benefit to raise money for area food pantries Sunday April 14. Serving from 9am to 12:30pm. A free willing offering will be accepted. All proceeds benefit Food Pantries serving the Stanley, Boyd and Cadot communities. Sponsored by Emer-Quinn Council Knights of Wisconsin

You're invited to something NEW – Soup & Sandwich Supper Wednesday April 17, 2024 at Holy Rosary Parish, Owen from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. 3 kinds of soup, beef vegetable, chicken noodle and chili! There will also be assorted bars & beverages! Adults \$10, ages 5-10 \$5 and age 4 & under FREE! Handicap accessible! Sponsored by Parish Council of Catholic Women