



February 4, 2024 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 7:1-4, 6-7
1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23
Mark 1:29-39

*"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

A Different Kind of Penance!

Dear Family,

The following on penance is from a devotional book, "In Conversation With God". You might find it interesting for your Lenten journey.

What is penance? Penance is knowing how to reconcile your duties to God, to others and to yourself, by making demands on yourself so that you find enough time for each of your tasks. You are practicing penance when you lovingly keep to your schedule of prayer, despite feeling worn out, listless or cold.

Penance means being very charitable at all times towards those around you. It is to be full of tenderness and kindness towards the suffering, the sick and the infirm. It is to give patient answers to people who are boring and annoying. It means interrupting our work or changing our plans, when circumstances make this necessary, above all when the just and rightful needs of others are involved.

Penance consists in putting up good-humoredly with the thousand and one little pinpricks of each day; in not abandoning your job, although you have momentarily lost the enthusiasm with which you started it; in eating gladly whatever is served, without being fussy.

For parents and, in general, for those whose work involves supervision or teaching, penance is to correct wherever it is necessary. This should be done bearing in mind the type of fault committed and the situation of the person who needs to be so helped, not letting oneself be swayed by subjective viewpoints, which are often cowardly and sentimental.

A spirit of penance keeps us from becoming too attached to the vast imaginative blueprints we have made for our future projects, where we have already foreseen our master strokes and brilliant successes. What joy we give to God when we are happy to lay aside our third-rate painting efforts and let Him put in the features and colors of His choice!

Just a little prep for Lent which is fast approaching. God bless and Mary keep you!



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Weekly Calendar

Monday, February 5 – No Mass - Office Closed

Memorial of Saint Agatha, virgin and martyr

6:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, February 6

Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, martyr

11:30am Cemetery Committee Meeting –
Parish Office

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass: † Glenn & Helen Harker

Wednesday, February 7

6:00am Eucharistic Adoration

7:00am Mass: † Milton Friemoth

5:00pm Family meal for religious education
families

6:00pm Family Formation: Parents & Grades K-6

7:00pm CCD: Grades 7-12

Thursday, February 8

*Memorials of Saint Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine
Bakhita, virgin*

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Parents of Tony & Mary
Langreck & Eugene Langreck

6:00pm Family Life Committee Meeting –
Church Narthex

Friday, February 9

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Marge Becker

Saturday, February 10 – Incense Free

Memorial of Saint Scholastica, virgin

8:00am Mass: † Janet Boh

4:00pm Confession

5:00pm Mass: † John Mazola, Jr.

Sunday, February 11

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Confession

8:00am Mass: † Mark Lezotte

9:45am Confession

10:30am Mass: St. Mary's Parish Family

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

January 27-28, 2024

Tithe	\$5,177.00
Student	2.25
Offertory	321.00
Fuel Offering	40.00
Catholic Times	545.00
Total	\$6,085.25

Weekly Budget **\$5,600.00**

Uganda Mission \$200.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday February 10-11

Lectors

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Mary Hartung	Donna Kuhn	Bob Barth

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Jared Thomas	Cheyenne Thomas	Gretchen Fitzmaurice

Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Andrew Hoeser Adam Hoeser	Joseph Roehl Veronica Roehl Peter Rosno	Hayden Poeschel Corbin Wirkuty

Cantor

<u>10:30am</u>
Mike Hart Mary Ann Ingold

Ushers for February

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Brent Ahlgren Al Durst Gary Nauertz Mary Nauertz	David Bohac Walter Domaszek John Langton Sandy Mayer	Byrne Family

Rosary Leader

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Jared Thomas	Rick & Donna Kuhn	Larry Kyle

Proverbial Wisdom

"The free man is not he who thinks all opinions equally
true or false;
that is not freedom but feeble-mindedness.
The free man is he who sees the errors as clearly as he
sees the truth."

--GK Chesterton

Parish Announcements

Friendly
Reminder

There is a Cemetery Committee Meeting Tuesday February 6th at 11:30am in the Parish Office.

There is a Finance Council Meeting Thursday February 15th at 6pm in the Parish Office.

Ash Wednesday Mass Times 2024

Lent begins February 14, 2024 with Ash Wednesday.

The Mass times are 12:10pm and 7pm.

Liturgical Ministries

Ash Wednesday February 14, 2024

Lector

12:10pm

Judy Conner

7pm

Dr. Gregory Foster

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Jack Hammond

Donna Opelt

Servers

Steven & Gregory Lehn

Colton, Carter & Clayton
Hannasch

PCCW News

There will be a PCCW Meeting, Tuesday, February 6 at 6:30pm in St. Mary's Church Hall. If possible, please attend Mass and pray for the PCCW; then join your fellow PCCW members for the monthly business meeting which will also feature a special presentation, "Answering God's Call to become Catholic" by Earl & Jennifer Elmhorst. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited.

"Early" Spring Cleaning – The parish office has done some early spring cleaning and would like to offer all of you a chance to get the first choice of FREE books. Please take a look at the books that are on the table in the Narthex. You might find something interesting.

SOUP and STATIONS: A beautiful Lenten devotion is walking the passion of Christ through praying the Stations of the Cross. We invite everyone in our parish family to gather every Friday during Lent, starting February 16th at 6pm in the Church Hall to enjoy a simple soup supper. If you would like to help prepare the meal, bake bread or help cleanup, there is a sign up in the carport. Childcare will be provided during the 15-minute presentation. Following the meal, we will all go up into the Church to pray the stations together.

St Mary's First Responder Ministry - "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Gal 6:2 The Family Life Commission has formed a First Responder ministry who are looking for new members. This ministry, made up of parish volunteers, would respond early and expediently to catastrophic events within our parish family as well as the local and surrounding community. Anyone wishing to be a part of this important ministry should contact Mary Luedtke at 715-937-5054 or contact Parish Office as soon as you become aware of a situation.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Faith Formation News



The next Family Formation meeting for children and parents will be February 7 at 6pm.

The meal planned is Italian Night! Spaghetti with meat pasta sauce or chicken alfredo sauce, garlic bread, side salad, desserts and white and chocolate milk. Serving from 5-6:30 pm to accommodate middle and high school students. There is a sign-up sheet in the carport vestibule if you would like to bring a treat.

Family Formation

Memory item:

Grades K-3: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."
1 Samuel 3:9

Grades 4-6: Family Vocation Prayer: Oh God, We earnestly ask You to bless this diocese with many priests, brothers and sisters who will love You with their whole strength and gladly spend their entire lives to serve Your Church and to make You known and loved. Bless our families, bless your children. Choose from our homes those needed for Your work. Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us, pray for our priests and religious, obtain for us many more. Amen

*Next Faith Formation meeting is February 7 at 6pm. Dinner served before lesson at 5:00 pm.

* February 14th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season. Mass times are 12:10pm and 7:00pm



There will be a Bruce Mound Tubing Night for Grades 6-12 on Saturday, February 10th from 5-8 pm. This will be a fun night joining with our community's protestant brothers and sisters families for fun and laughter. Families will need to provide transportation for their children. Cost is \$10 per student. Please RSVP by Feb 2 to Judy Conner, CRE at cre@stmaryneillsville.org. Please submit payment to St. Mary Parish, drop it off at the office or put it in an envelope with your name on it and put it in the collection at Sunday Mass.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

2023-2024 Assessment

\$45,050.00

As of February 1, 2024

\$20,950.00

Parishioner participation: 22%

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.

Encounter Jesus!

Join Us in a Lenten Small Group Series

Lent calls us to deepen our relationship with Jesus. One of the best ways to do this is with a group of like-minded Catholics. We develop strong friendships in Christ as we walk with others who are also seeking to grow closer to God. With this in mind, you are invited to participate in *Jesus and the Eucharist*, a seven-week series that is beautiful, compelling and presented in a way that is understandable for people at all levels of faith. The sessions incorporate well known presenters like Chris Stefanick, and short personal testimonies. There is no better time to get involved in this small-group series than this Lent. Catholics all over the country will be participating in it as part of the Eucharistic Revival. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for more details. Contact Judy Conner at cre@stmaryneillsville.org or call the office at 715-743-3840 by February 7th if you would like to take this journey during Lent.

Parish Lenten Mission



Jesse Romero will be offering a talk entitled *What is Authentic Eucharistic Revival* on Wednesday, February 21, beginning at 7pm at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Marshfield. Jesse is a bilingual Catholic Lay Evangelist who is nationally acclaimed for his dynamic, upbeat, Christ centered preaching. His preaching apostolate is "On Fire Evangelization." Jesse has been on Catholic radio for over 15 years, currently on virginmostpowerfulradio.org hosting "The Terry and Jesse Show," and "Jesus 911." Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

Domestic Church Retreat - Save the Date – The next Domestic Church Retreat will be held April 13-14, 2024, at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Wisconsin Rapids. During the retreat, couples are invited to delve more deeply into the graces of their shared spiritual journey. The retreat's goal is to strengthen the couple's spousal union and lead them to experience complete harmony and joy in their marriage through simple formation and meaningful dialogue that intentionally places Christ in the center. To register and for more information, go to: <https://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/>



The Annual Soup-er Bowl Soup Can Collection Challenge

The local Churches in Neillsville are having a Soup Can collection to help keep the Food Pantry stocked. The Church with the most collected soup cans will have bragging rights. The collection will run through Super Bowl Sunday February 11th. There will be a display in the Narthex for you to drop off your cans. Kick off the new year by helping those in need. Thank you! (*Food pantry soups will be added to this collection also*)



"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 cost for this event is only \$15 per person. This rally is for youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. **Tickets will go on sale Dec. 15, 2023.** 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.



Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of past abortions? Project

Rachel Ministry offers a compassionate heart and confidential help. Call 608.860.6698 or email projectrachel@diolc.org.

Area Events

Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #10774 Fish Dinner

The Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #10774 at St. Raymond of Penafort Church, in Fall Creek, will be having a Fish Dinner Friday February 16th from 4pm to 7pm. Carry-outs are available call 715-877-3400. They will be serving deep fried & baked cod loins, coleslaw, dessert, famous bread pudding, au gratin potatoes, french fries, green beans, baked beans, milk & coffee. 3 pc. Dinner \$15, 2 pc. Dinner \$13, ages 6-11 \$7.

60th Annual Turkey Dinner – St. Mary's Parish, Greenwood is having their Drive thru only 60th annual turkey dinner Sunday February 18th in the St. Mary's School Hall. Serving from 11am to 1pm. Cost is \$14. Sponsored by Holy Name Society, Greenwood.

Mission Uganda 2024 – Join Father Woody Pace on a Mission to Uganda May 7-23, 2024. Join a group to visit Our Lady of Guadalupe School which was founded through a faithful relationship with St. Mary Parish, Neillsville. The host will be Sr. Salome Nambi and the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Reparatrix. Mission Trip cost: \$2500. More info: contact Julie Studinski 715-340-4846 or julieastud@gmail.com

