



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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DIOCESE of LA CROSSE

March 10, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
Ephesians 2:4-10
John 3:14-21

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

Catholicism, Socialism, and Voting

Dear Family,

Though socialism isn't a term that we encounter a lot, unless one is steeped in the political issues of the day, it is a real thing and is entrenched in many countries around the world. It has a fairly strong hold among a growing number of our elected officials. So, it raises the question for us as Catholics, "What is the Church's position on Socialism?" "Do Socialism and Catholicism agree with one another?"

Following are a few excerpts from Catholic Answers, a Catholic apologetics organization. Apologetics, when referenced in terms of the faith, is not a means of apologizing for Catholicism. Apologetics is the discipline of explaining the faith and the teachings of the Church. So, here's what they provided as an answer, in part, to these questions.

Full Question

Are the principles of the Socialist Party the same as those of the Catholic Church?

Answer

No, the Catholic Church explicitly rejects socialism. Though Socialism, like all errors, contains some truth (which, moreover, the supreme pontiffs have never denied), it is based nevertheless on a theory of human society peculiar to itself and irreconcilable with true Christianity. Religious socialism, Christian socialism, are contradictory terms; no one can be at the same time a good Catholic and a true socialist (Pius XI's [Quadragesimo Anno](#), 120).

The Church has rejected the totalitarian and atheistic ideologies associated in modern times with "communism" or "socialism" (*Catechism*, 2425).

Pope Leo XIII's [Rerum Novarum](#) explicitly rejects several main tenants of socialism.

Socialism severely curtails rights to private property. The Church, on the other hand, upholds the individual's right to private property (*Catechism*, 2401).

So, what type of political order does the Church uphold? It upholds a structure that supports freedom to serve the common good; freedom to worship publicly; freedom to speak and make arguments, supports and upholds family as defined by God. Whatever this is called, the Church supports it. As we are in an election season...yet again, or dare I say, still...we as Catholics have a moral obligation to vote. This vote should be informed by our Catholic faith. May God bless our country with whomever is most pleasing to Him!

God bless and Mary keep you!

Weekly Calendar

Monday, March 11 – No Mass - Office Closed

6:30pm Choir Practice

Tuesday, March 12

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass: † Tom Kren

Wednesday, March 13

6:00am Eucharistic Adoration

7:00am Mass: † Mary Diedrich

7:00pm CCD: Grades 7-12

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Thursday, March 14

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Rita Heil

9:00am Bible Study – Church Hall

6:00pm Family Life Committee Meeting

6:00pm Jesus & the Eucharist Study – Parish Office

Friday, March 15

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Milton Friemoth

6:00pm Soup & Stations – Church Hall

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 16 – Incense Free

8:00am Mass: † Grace Spencer

4:00pm Confession

4:00pm Knights of Columbus Take Out/Drive-Thru Chili Feed

5:00pm Mass: † Betty Opelt

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:00am Confession

8:00am Mass: † Tennille Thomas & Allen Mohr

9:00am Knights of Columbus Take Out/Drive-Thru Chili Feed

9:45am Confession

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

3:00pm Communal Confession

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

March 2-3, 2024

Tithe	\$3,662.00
Student	2.20
Offertory	499.75
Easter Flowers	20.00
Fuel Offering	160.00
Catholic Times	40.00
Total	\$4,383.95

Weekly Budget **\$5,600.00**

Green Envelope Fund	\$285.00
Uganda – Student	
Sponsorship	\$200.00
Uganda – Orphanage	\$275.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday March 16-17

Lectors

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

<u>5:00pm</u> Jared Thomas	<u>8:00am</u> Donna Opelt	<u>10:30am</u> Gary Veltus
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Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u> Andrew Hoesser Adam Hoesser	<u>8:00am</u> Brody Swita Landon Schoen	<u>10:30am</u> Henry Schoen Nathaniel Schoen
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Cantor

10:30am
Jody & Judy
Conner

Ushers for March

<u>5:00pm</u> Larry Nauertz Richard Hagen Larry Hoesser Cindy Hoesser	<u>8:00am</u> John Langton Walter Domaszek Ritch Kohlnhofer Bev Friemoth	<u>10:30am</u> Rick Fitzmaurice Gretchen Fitzmaurice Michael Norks William Poeschel
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Rosary Leader

<u>5:00pm</u> Jared Thomas	<u>8:00am</u> Rick & Donna Kuhn	<u>10:30am</u> Gary Veltus
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Proverbial Wisdom

"You can never have a revolution in order to establish a democracy. You must have a democracy in order to have a revolution".

GK Chesterton – "The Wind and the Trees", *Tremendous Trifles*

Parish Announcements

There is a Pastoral Council Meeting Thursday March 21st at 6:30pm in the Parish Office

Communal Confession for Lent

There will be Communal Confession for Lent on Sunday March 17th from 3pm to 5pm. *"Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many."* Hebrews 12:14



The Stations of the Cross will be available as follows:

- Wednesdays starting February 21st and every Wednesday to follow thru Wednesday March 27th
- Fridays starting February 16th and every Friday to follow thru Friday March 22nd

All Stations of the Cross will start at 7pm

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 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.

Pastoral Election - The Pastoral Council Election will be held the weekend of April 13th & 14th, 2024. To broaden the representation of the pastoral council we will ask you, the parishioner to nominate who you think would be a good candidate. **This weekend, March 9th & 10th** there will be nominee ballots in the pews for all registered parishioners to nominate who they would like to see on the council. There will be a box marked "Nominee Ballot" in the narthex to drop your completed ballot. Our present members are, Jody Conner, Gretchen Fitzmaurice, Clinton Hannasch, Larry Hoeser, Adam Kren and Tina Schoengarth.

PCCW News

There will be no meeting in March. Members are encouraged to attend Mass and Adoration; participate in Soup & Stations and pray for the upcoming Eucharistic Renewal to be held in June. Please check future bulletin announcement for April meeting date.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Faith Formation News



CCD students (grades 7-12) will be attending Stations of the Cross on March 13 at 7 pm and confession will be offered for the 7th, 8th and 9th grade students that night. If time runs short for all to have the chance to go to confession, know that there are confessions on the weekend before each Mass. There will also be a communal confession on Sunday March 17 from 3-5 pm.

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.



The Knights of Columbus will be having their Annual Chili Take Out/Drive Thru Charity Fundraiser **NEXT WEEKEND** Saturday March 16th from 4pm to 7pm and Sunday March 17th from 9am to Noon or until it is gone. **Free Will Offering!** If you would like to bring your own container for you purchase of chili, please feel free to bring one from home. Proceeds will go to Pro Life. To order call 715-937-6551. Come taste the almost World Famous Yooper Chili!



St. Mary Cemetery Notice:

Just a reminder all flowers, plants, etc., need to be removed from the graves prior to April 1st and October 1st each year. Thank you!



An Invitation - Currently there is a group of men and women that meet every Thursday morning from 9-11am to reflect on and discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel and readings. Workbooks with

Sunday's readings and reflections are available to order for \$20.00 (Or just bring your bible, or just yourself!) All who attend have said this weekly reflection has made the Sunday Gospel so much more meaningful and with added anticipation for Father' Greg's homily. Come every week, once or twice a month. All are welcome any time. Meetings are in the Church Hall.

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. Sponsored by relevant radio, Sartori Foundation, Nicolet National Bank and Hospital Sisters Health System.

Be A Joseph – Join Troy Kroening on Tuesday March 19th

at 6:30pm at St. John's Catholic Church in Marshfield in the Columbia Room to learn about the power of St. Joseph and how Joseph can be an example for us, especially husbands and fathers, in our everyday sorrows and joys. For more information you can call Troy at 715-383-3660 or at troy@gotojoe.com.

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/>

Diocesan Annual Appeal

2023-2024 Assessment

\$45,050.00

As of March 7, 2024

\$22,100.00

Parishioner participation: 23%

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.



"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.

Our Lady of Fatima Home of the Needy Children – Uganda –

Sister Salome, formerly Head Mistress of Uganda's St. Kizito High School, and now head of Our Lady of Guadalupe High School (which some members of our parish helped build) is currently filling her days with running the Our Lady of Fatima Orphanage. Sister Salome is in the process of building more rooms for the orphaned children. In this season of Lent as we focus on the pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving please pray for Sister and the people of Uganda. When almsgiving, if you can find it in your heart to make a donation to the worthy cause so that we can make Sister's Easter one of greater joy, put an envelope in the offertory collection with your name and labeled UGANDA. If writing a check, please make it to St. Mary Parish. If you have questions, please contact K Weirauch at 715-797-7157. Thank you!

Area Events

Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #10774 Fish Dinner

Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #10774 at St. Raymond of Penafort Church, in Fall Creek, will be having a Fish Dinner Friday March 15th 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.

St. Anthony Holy Name Society 14th Annual Door County Style Fish Boil –

St. Anthony's Church in Loyal is having their fish boil, Drive Thru Only Friday March 22nd from 4:30pm to 7:30pm. Cost is \$15. Deliveries are available within the City of Loyal, call 715-255-8017. Menu includes fish, potatoes, onions, coleslaw, rolls, carrots and strawberries with shortcake. There will also be a raffle. Tickets available at Fourmens, House of Spirits and St. Anthony Rectory. Proceeds to go towards upgrades for St. Anthony Church and School.