

November 12, 2023

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 6:12-16
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

"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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What a Christian Is

Dear Family,

Quite a long time ago I explained what the Liturgy of the Hours is but to refresh your memory it is the liturgical prayer of the Church that is recited at least 5 times per day (called "hours", though not 60 minute periods) by diocesan priests. One of those hours is called the Office of Readings in which there are three Psalms followed by a lengthy Scripture reading. This is followed by a writing by some important theologian, Church father, or Church document.

One such reading from the Office of Readings, a theologian by the name of Diognetus, who lived in the 2nd century, was addressing Christians of that day about what a Christian is. What he said then, most certainly applies today. *"Christians are indistinguishable from other men either by nationality, language or customs. They do not inhabit separate cities of their own, or speak a strange dialect, or follow some outlandish way of life. With regard to dress, food and manner of life in general, they follow the customs of whatever city they happen to be living in, whether it is Greek or foreign.*

And yet there is something extraordinary about their lives. They live in their own countries as though they were only passing through. They play their full role as citizens, but labor under all the disabilities of aliens. Any country can be their homeland, but for them their homeland, wherever it may be, is a foreign country.

They live in the flesh, but they are not governed by the desires of the flesh. They pass their days upon earth, but they are citizens of heaven. Obedient to the laws, they yet live on a level that transcends the law. Christians love all men, but men persecute them. Condemned because they are not understood, they are put to death, but raised to life again. They live in poverty [detachment from material things], but enrich many; [even if] they are totally destitute, [they still] possess an abundance of everything. They suffer dishonor, but that is their glory. They are defamed, but vindicated. A blessing is their answer to abuse, deference their response to insult. For the good they do they receive the punishment of malefactors, but even then they, rejoice, as though receiving the gift of life."

Diognetus' letter can be summed up this way, I think: "Christians are supposed to change the world from what it is to what it should be by engaging the world on its terms and then, while doing that, transforming it by living according to Christ's terms."

May God help me as a priest to do this first. God bless and Mary keep you,

Weekly Calendar

Monday, November 13 – No Mass – Office Closed

Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, virgin

6:30pm Choir Practice – Choir Loft

Tuesday, November 14 – No Mass

Wednesday, November 15 – No Mass

Memorial of Saint Albert the Great, bishop and doctor of the Church

7:00pm CCD: Grades 7-12

Thursday, November 16 – No Mass

Memorials of Saint Margaret of Scotland; Saint Gertrude, virgin

9:00am Bible Study – Church Hall

Friday, November 17 – No Mass

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, religious

Saturday, November 18 – Incense Free

Memorials of the Dedication of the Basilicas Saints Peter and Paul, apostles, Saint Rose Phillipine Duchesne, virgin

8:00am No Mass

6:00pm Confession

7:00pm Mass: † Deceased members of the Clarence Becker Family

Sunday, November 19

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Confession

8:00am Mass: † Rise' Schoen

9:45am Confession

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

2:00pm Confirmation - St. Bernard/St Hedwig Parish in Thorp

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

Bereavement & Visitation Ministry Annie Augustine – 715.937.1432 or august.anne09@gmail.com

Spiritual Direction Renee Schoen – 715.743.4059
Elizabeth Ministry Contact with the parish is required six months to one year before marriage. Preparation begins with the first contact.

Holy Matrimony

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

October 31-November 1/November 4-5, 2023

Tithe	\$4,357.00
Student	5.75
Offertory	435.00
All Saints	1,287.79
Total	\$6,085.54

Weekly Budget **\$5,600.00**

Building Fund \$475.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday November 18-19

Lectors

<u>5:00pm</u> Delores Schmitt	<u>8:00am</u> Dr. Gregory Foster	<u>10:30am</u> Gary Veltus
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Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

<u>5:00pm</u> Rogene Matuszak	<u>8:00am</u> Scott Swita	<u>10:30am</u> Gretchen Fitzmaurice
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Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u> Andrew Hoerer Adam Hoerer	<u>8:00am</u> Faustina Thomas Perpetua Thomas Angeline Thomas Gibeon Thomas	<u>10:30am</u> Hayden Poeschel Henry Schoen Nathaniel Schoen
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Cantor

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

<u>5:00pm</u> Don Kotcon Michael Morks Russell Ratsch Eugene Walter Jr.	<u>8:00am</u> Bev Friemoth Jim Langreck Sandy Mayer Ritch Kohlhofer	<u>10:30am</u> Al Durst Larry Kyle William Poeschel Tom Silbernagel
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Rosary Leader

<u>5:00pm</u> Rogene Matuszak	<u>8:00am</u> Bonnie Langreck	<u>10:30am</u> Larry Kyle
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Proverbial Wisdom

There is no limit to the amount of good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit.

--Ronald Reagan

Parish Announcements



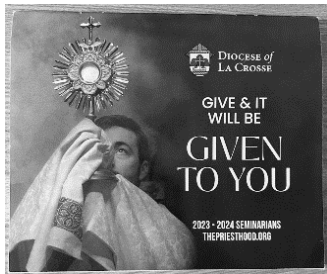
Daily Mass will not be celebrated November 14th through November 18th.

Also note that Mass time for the opening of deer hunting season, Saturday November 18th will be celebrated at 7pm. Confessions

will be heard at 6pm. There will not be a 5pm Mass. Masses on Sunday November 19th will be as usual 8am and 10:30am.

Reminder for all Ushers! Father Greg has asked the ushers to count how many parishioners are at Mass each weekend. Please see the information on the bulletin board where the tithing baskets are. If you have any questions please feel free to call the Parish Office. Thank you for helping with this information.

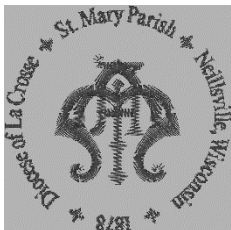
2024 Church Calendars are available in the carport vestibule. These calendars are a great resource to help follow the liturgical year. Please take a moment to pick one up.



Please feel free to take a Seminarian Prayer Booklet, they are located in the carport. Priests for Tomorrow. This booklet is meant to help pray for our priestly vocations.

Helping Those in Need: There is a sign-up sheet in the carport vestibule for a list of volunteers names and phone numbers who would be willing to give a ride to someone to Mass on Sunday or maybe even a Holy Day. You can list your name under your preferred Mass.

Hunters' Bake Sale, November 18th & 19th, after each Mass. The sale offers a wide variety of delicious items including breads, cookies, bars, sweet rolls, donuts, pies and so much more. There are very talented ladies in the parish and they will share some of their specialties for all to enjoy. Stop by, you will be sure to find what you are looking for. Thank you for supporting this endeavor. Proceeds will be donated to a worthy cause.



St. Mary's Parish Logo Wear available: We are excited to offer you St. Mary's Parish Logo Wear! You can check out what's available and order directly from St. Mary's website at: www.stmaryneillsville.weebly.com

under the Church Merch tab. Or you may stop in at JBC Screenprinting and Embroidery LLC at 708 Grand Ave, Neillsville or call them at 715-743-3113 if you have any questions.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Faith Formation/CCD News



There will be NO CCD classes (grades 7-12) on Wednesday November 22 due to Thanksgiving on November 23. The next CCD class will be on November 29.

The next Family Formation parent and student meeting will be Wednesday December 6th starting at 5 pm to 5:50 for the meal and 6 pm for classes.

This week's at home lesson

First week in November lesson – Celebrating the Real Presence- The Mass is the highest praise we pray to God. We recognize the Mass as a time when Jesus offers His perfect sacrifice to God the Father.

*The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of the Catholic Christian life. It is the most important part of our faith because it is Jesus Himself!

*The consecration is when the bread becomes Jesus' body and blood. It is called transubstantiation.

Memory item:

Grades K-3: "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me." ~Matthew 25:35

Grades 4-6: The Corporal Works of Mercy: Feed the Hungry. Give drink to the thirsty. Shelter the homeless. Clothe the naked. Visit the sick. Visit the imprisoned. Bury the dead. (See Matthew 25:31-46 and CCC 2447)

Friday December 8th is the Immaculate Conception of Mary, which is a Holy day of obligation. Masses that day will be at 12:10pm and Vespers at 5:30pm with Mass to follow at 6pm.

CONFIRMATION



There are 15 youth who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on November 19th at St. Bernard/St Hedwig Parish in Thorp. Please keep them in prayer as they prepare for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to strengthen them in their journey to be soldiers for Christ in the Church on earth!



Christmas Angel Tags are available in the narthex. Consider giving Christmas gifts to children in the Neillsville area that are in need. Please return items to St. Mary's by Wednesday, November 29, 2023. You may place the unwrapped items under the tree. Thank you for your support.

Pilgrimage for Life - January 17-21, 2024: The Diocese of La Crosse is excited to offer the Pilgrimage for Life. We will be traveling by coach bus to Washington, DC to participate in the annual March for Life. This opportunity is for anyone ages 13 and up. The estimated cost is estimated to be \$400 per person. Parishes/Schools wishing to get a group to join us will have their participants complete the registration online by filling out all of the required forms and pay a non-refundable deposit of \$100. The remainder of the fee will be paid to the parish/school. All information and registration link can be found at <https://diolc.org/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

“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/>

House of Mercy 6th Annual Fundraiser – House of Mercy is having it's 6th Annual Fundraiser Sunday, December 10th at St. Mary Parish Neillsville. 4:30pm gathering, 5pm dinner. They will be serving a chicken dinner catered by Schmitty's on Main - \$20 a ticket. The Neillsville Show Choir will be performing at 5:30pm. Please make your reservation by November 30th by calling the House of Mercy at 715-503-1005 or Gary Veltus at 715-937-6551. Join the fun and support the House of Mercy.

The Neillsville Kiwanis Club will be presenting “Facing Homelessness in Clark County”, with guest speaker Mike Basford, Director of the State of Wisconsin Council on Homelessness, Monday November 13th at 6:30pm at the American Legion, Neillsville, on 6 Boon Blvd. “Before you ignore another homeless person on the street, just remember that they could be someone's fther or someone's mother and they have a story,” – Syska Mercado

Thank you – The Roger Ingold family would like to thank everyone for their support prayers, phone calls, visits, food and cards that were shared with the family during Roger's illness. Special thanks to the PCCW ladies for many pans of bars for Roger's Celebration of Life. All was very much appreciated. God Bless, Mary Ann, Jim, Julie and Wendy



Be a part of an exciting community initiative in Loyal. Catholic Charities seeks a Program Coordinator to provide case management services to program participants including budgeting, goal setting, independent living and tenancy skills, and connections to community-based services. Position requires prior experience working with the homeless or vulnerable populations and prior housing and/or case management experience. Bachelor's Degree in Human Services or Social Work preferred, minimum of an Associate's Degree required. Position is 20-25 hours per week, and eligible for generous paid time off benefit and 401(k). Help us fulfill our mission of service to others! For immediate consideration, please fill out an application online at <https://cclse.org/program-coordinator-house-of-mercy/> and attach your resume and cover letter.

Area Events

St. Michael's 32nd Annual Chicken Dinner – St. Michael's will be having their annual Chicken Dinner Sunday November 12th at 324 Main St. Junction City from 11am to 1pm. Drive-Thru Only! They will be serving a Chicken Dinner with Chicken soup and all the trimmings. Cost is \$14.

All Saints Craft Show – All Saints Craft Show Saturday November 18th from 9am to 3pm at Holy Family Hall, 136 E. 3rd Ave., Stanley. Area crafters selling various crafts, decorations & more! Sponsored by All Saints Crafters

Melody Gardens Skateland - There will be a *Christian Music Skate* on Friday, November 24, 2023 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm. Admission is \$3.00 and a \$1.00 skate rent. Families and groups welcome.

St. Hubert Patron of Hunters - Prayer for Hunters

Dear Lord, You open wide your hands and grant us every good gift.

We pray through the intercession of St. Hubert for a safe hunt; that we may worthily receive from Divine hands the gift of game and joy of sport that you provide for our enjoyment.

May we be nourished as to both increase our devotion and further our salvation in service to You.

We ask this through our Lord. Amen.

TRIVIA

NIGHT

Mark Yor Calendar!!!

Trivia Night Saturday February 3, 2024!!!

More details to come soon!!!

