



November 26, 2023

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Matthew 25:31-46

*"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 PARISH OF THE
DIOCESE of LA CROSSE

CONFESSION – Part 1

Dear Family,

Following is the first of a two-part series on confession. The text comes from our Diocesan Office of Catechesis and Evangelization. This year we will be a deanery reconciliation service on Sunday, Dec. 17th beginning at 3pm. If you have school aged children, please exemplify for them your desire for God's mercy and bring them with you to confession.

Each year during Advent and Lent we focus on God's mercy and the sacrament of penance as a means of preparing ourselves for Christmas and Easter. Please, however, do not relegate your confession visits to only these. St. John Paul II said that we should go to confession at least once per month. We need the grace received through frequent use of the sacraments in order to make any real spiritual progress. Without that progress, no heaven! It's that simple. A holy Advent means a happier Christmas celebration!

Pope Francis spoke these words a few years ago, "Be courageous and go to Confession!" Why is the Sacrament so important for our well-being? Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Confession because we need healing from the effects of personal sin after Baptism. The Lord is the doctor of the soul. Let's take a closer look.

Pope Francis further explains in the following remarks made on February 19, 2014. Dear Brothers and Sister, through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist man receives new life in Christ. However, we are still subject to temptation, to suffering, to death and, because of sin, we can even lose this new life. Jesus therefore willed that the Church continue His works of salvation for her members, in particular through the Sacrament of Reconciliation...a Sacrament of healing.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation flows directly from [the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus]. In fact, on the very evening of Easter the Lord appeared to the disciples, saying, "Peace be with you! Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven" (John 20:21-23). This passage reveals to us the most profound dynamic that is contained in this Sacrament.

First of all, the fact that the forgiveness of our sins is not something that we can give ourselves. I cannot say: "I forgive my sins." [When we sin, who is it that is sinned against? Is it me? When I sin, do I sin against myself? Modern relativism says that is the case. President Obama was asked once, "What is sin?" His answer is shocking and yet is almost to be expected from anyone of us who have been formed by relativism. He said that sin was defined as "Being out of line with my own values." Think about that for a second...King David says, "Against You, [Lord], You alone have I sinned, what is evil in our sight I have done." (Ps 51) If sin is contrary to what I have determined is right or wrong, then where does God fit in? What about the 10 Commandments? God wrote those laws, not me; not you. So, when we sin, we must ask God, Himself, for forgiveness. And, as that we read above, He chooses to be present through the priest.]

Forgiveness is asked from Jesus. Forgiveness is not the fruit of our efforts but it is a gift of the Holy Spirit, who fills us with the purification of mercy and grace which flows incessantly from the wide-open Heart of the crucified and risen Christ.

Next week we will conclude this two-part series. Please use the Examination of Conscience in preparation for confession. No mercy, no peace: Know mercy, know peace. God bless and Mary keep you.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, November 27 – No Mass – Office Closed

6:30pm Choir Practice – Choir Loft

Tuesday, November 28

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass: †Tom Kren

Wednesday, November 29

6:00am Eucharistic Adoration

7:00am Mass: † Mark Lezotte

7:00pm CCD – Grades 7-12

Thursday, November 30

Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Duane Peterson

9:00am Bible Study – Church Hall

6:00pm Beverage and a Book Study – Parish Office

Friday, December 1 – First Friday

7:00am Mass: † Al Mohr

7:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6:00pm Confession

7:00pm Benediction

Saturday, December 2 – Incense Free

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00am Mass: † Joyce Beyer

4:00pm Confession

5:00pm Mass: † Gena Mayer

Sunday, December 3

First Sunday of Advent

7:00am Confession

8:00am Mass: † Jane Mayer

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

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.

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

November 18-19, 2023

Tithe	\$4,391.00
Student	2.25
Offertory	551.26
Christmas Flowers	10.00
Total	\$4,954.51

Weekly Budget **\$5,600.00**

Building Fund \$ 50.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday December 2-3

Lectors

<u>5:00pm</u> Mary Hartung	<u>8:00am</u> Cheyenne Thomas	<u>10:30am</u> Bob Barth
-------------------------------	----------------------------------	-----------------------------

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

<u>5:00pm</u> Mary Sladich	<u>8:00am</u> Wayne Thomas	<u>10:30am</u> Phyllis Carney
-------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------------

Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u> Andrew Hoesser Adam Hoesser	<u>8:00am</u> Joseph Roehl Veronica Roehl Peter Rosno	<u>10:30am</u> Henry Schoen Nathaniel Schoen Hayden Poeschel
---	--	---

Cantor

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

Ushers for December

<u>5:00pm</u> Al Durst Richard Hagen Cindy Hoesser Larry Nauertz	<u>8:00am</u> Robert Bautch James Boyer Walter Domaszek Russell Pagenkopf	<u>10:30am</u> Byrne Family
--	---	--------------------------------

Rosary Leader

<u>5:00pm</u> Jared Thomas	<u>8:00am</u> Rick & Donna Kuhn	<u>10:30am</u> Kathy Nicks
-------------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------------------

Proverbial Wisdom

He who shuts his ear to the cry of the poor
Will himself also call and not be heard.

--Prov 21:13

Parish Announcements

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Day of Obligation
Mass Times
Friday December 8
12:10pm
5:45pm Vespers with Mass at 6pm

Happy Feast Day St. Mary's Parish – After the 6pm Mass on Friday December 8th there will be a Potluck. Bring your favorite dish to pass and join in the Solemnity. What better way to observe the Holy Day of Obligation!

Come and Pray

First Friday Adoration
Friday, December 1, 2023
7:30 am to 7 pm

Confession available from 6 pm to 6:45 pm with Benediction to follow

Sign-up sheet located in the carport vestibule

"The Eucharist is a priceless treasure: by not only celebrating it but also by praying before it outside of Mass we are enabled to make contact with the very wellspring of grace." St. John Paul II, Church of the Eucharist Encyclical (April 17, 2003).



Come and Spend Time with Jesus

Thank you to everyone who displayed their loved ones pictures for the month of November for the All Souls Day remembrance. Please pick up your pictures sometime in the next week. God Bless.

CREDO Hymnals - If you would like to purchase a Credo Hymnal they are \$24 a-piece. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

The Word Among Us Advent 2023 Books are available on the carport vestibule. They are a great resource during Advent. Thank you to St. Mary's PCCW for sponsoring the book for Advent and Lent each year.

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.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Faith Formation/CCD News



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 5:50pm for the meal and 6 pm for classes.

December 6th Family Formation/CCD Meal Menu:

Taco Night! All the fixings to make soft shells, corn chip taco salads, or loaded nachos! Also serving a variety of desserts along with white and chocolate milk. Serving from 5-6:30p.m. to accommodate middle and high school students.

Please sign up on the sheet in the carport vestibule if you can bring a treat to share with the meal on Wednesday, December 6.

This week's at home lesson

Third week of November – The Corporal Works of

Mercy - "...Jesus announced the judgment of the Last Day in his preaching.Our attitude about our neighbor will disclose acceptance or refusal of grace and divine love. On the last day Jesus will say: "Truly I say to you, as you did to the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

* Jesus wants us to carry on His work on earth by caring for all the people whom God has made and love so much.

*The word 'corporal' comes from Latin and means body and Mercy is another word for kindness (not necessarily deserved) We could say Corporal Works of Mercy are acts of kindness toward the body of our neighbor.

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)

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

Diocesan Annual Appeal 2024 – The Diocesan Annual Appeal information will be mailed out the first week of January 2024. Our goal amount is \$45,050.00 If you would like to donate to the appeal earlier please contact the parish office.



Christmas Angel Tags – Just a reminder to please return the Christmas Angel Tree items to St. Mary's by Wednesday, November 29, 2023. You may place the unwrapped items under the tree. Thank you for your support.



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.



There is a Food Pantry donation basket in the Narthex in the seating area. Feel free to make a donation any time, weekend or week day, of non-perishable food/paper supplies/baby needs.

When the basket is full, it will be delivered to our local food pantry in the name of St. Mary's. (If any other organization has a food drive, the items will be donated to their cause as well.) This is an opportunity for the family of St. Mary's to praise and give thanks to God. "Your generosity will give thanksgiving to God" 2Cor 9:11

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. Contact the Parish Office or Mary Luedtke as soon as you become aware of a situation.

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. **Please register by November 28th.** All information and registration link can be found at <https://diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR WORLD FOR LIFE

Jason A. Bourget, RIC, PFC
Field Agent

715-937-7029
815964 Coppenhaver Avenue
Stanley, WI 54788
NRE* Jason.bourget@kofc.org

Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance
Protecting Catholic Families since 1882

"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/>

Area Events

Melody Gardens Skateland - There will be a *Christian Music Skate* on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm. Admission is \$3.00 and a \$1.00 skate rent. Families and groups welcome.

Optimist Holiday Party – Plan on attending the Optimist Holiday Party Sunday December 3rd at 1pm at CART, 201 E. 4th St., Neillsville. The Optimist Club and the Neillsville Public Library will be presenting Jake Jalapeno and his son Enoch Jalapeno. There will be juggling, a magic show and loads of fun for the whole family!

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.

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

TRIVIA NIGHT

Mark Your Calendar!!!
Trivia Night Saturday
February 3, 2024!!!
More details
to come soon!!!