

October 25, 2020

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 22:20-26

1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

Matthew 22:34-40

Life Without Law

Where would we be without lawyers? Heaven so the joke says, but maybe not. The remaining, tattered ethics and morals displayed in communities today rely heavily on that same intricate web of laws we so like to abuse. While we may grouse at legal complexities as we file our tax returns those verbal gyrations have grown out of the need to protect, not to annoy. Our laws have sub-clause after sub-clause to help us define what is meant by the very words used. When laws are not specific we must rely on the honesty and goodness of the judge to ensure that proper decisions are rendered. And as we live in a human world, what judge can be unfailingly good, honest and fair?

Thankfully God has an entirely different, if scarier, legal system. He has cut through the Gordian knot of religious law and customs. There are only two tenets to obey in the heavenly kingdom: 1. Love God with all your heart, soul and mind. 2. Love your neighbor as yourself. Imagine the implications of a divine, perfect judge applying those tenets to your life. Think, pray and live accordingly.

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Weekly Calendar

Monday, October 26

No Mass

Tuesday, October 27

7:00 am: Mass: Richard Sieg

7:00 pm: Pastoral Council Meeting – Church Hall

Wednesday, October 28

Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, apostles

8:00 am: Mass: Clifford & Alice Gross

Thursday, October 29

8:00 am: Mass: Clifford & Alice Gross

3:00 pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet; Rosary to follow

6:00 pm: Finance Council Meeting – Church Hall

Friday, October 30

8:00 am: Mass: Birthday Blessings for Ella
Nowobielski

Saturday, October 31

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 pm: Confessions

5:00 pm: Mass: Eugene & Mildred Walter

Sunday, November 1

Solemnity of All Saints

7:00 am: Confessions

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

10:30 am: Mass: Gervase Kyle

General Parish Information

Emergency Cell Phone: 906-282-2049

New Parishioners: You are most welcome to join the family of St. Mary's. Please contact the parish office (715) 743-3840

Prayer Chain: Jean Kuhn (715) 937-1161

Meal Ministry: Mary Sladich (715) 743-4466

Bereavement Ministry: Annie Augustine
(715) 937-1432

Visitation Ministry: Anne Durst (715) 743-3352 or
Annie Augustine (715) 937-1432

Elizabeth Ministry: Renee Schoen (715) 743-4059

Marriage: Contact with the parish is required six months to a year before marriage. Preparation begins with the first contact.

Baptisms: Baptisms can be celebrated during any of the Masses or following any Mass. Preparation classes are required. Please call the Parish office for more details.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Gretchen Fitzmaurice
(715) 486-6674.

Weekly Collection

October 18, 2020

Tithe	\$4,414.00
Offertory	61.00
Student	3.70
Total	\$4,478.70

Weekly Budget

\$4,269.60

Building Fund	\$55.00
Uganda Donation	\$500.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday, October 31st – November 1st

Lectors

(A)

Sat. 5:00 pm	Mary Hartung
Sun. 8:00 am	Wayne Thomas
Sun. 10:30 am	Gary Veltus

Cantors

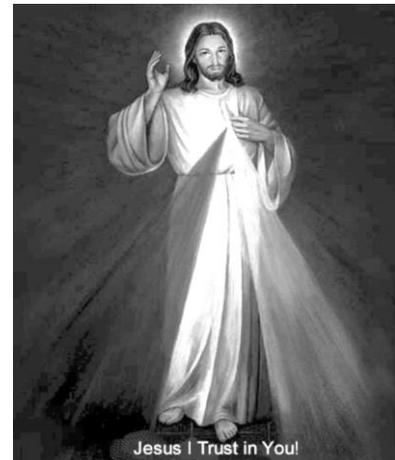
Sat. 5:00 pm	Jody & Judy Conner
Sun. 8:00 am	Rose LaBarbera
Sun 10:30 am	Mike Hart

Ushers for November

Sat. 5:00 pm	Mike Poziombke/ Russell Ratsch
Sun. 8:00 am	Ray Pagenkopf/Russell Pagenkopf
Sun. 10:30am	Mary Nauertz

Rosary Leaders

Sat. 5:00 pm	Larry Hooser
Sun. 8:00 am	Dr. Greg & Linda Foster
Sun. 10:30 am	Rick & Gretchen Fitzmaurice



St. Joseph

Dear Family,

Back in June – I believe – Bishop Callahan announced that, for the Diocese of La Crosse, the next twelve months would be The Year of St. Joseph. St. Joseph is the patron saint of our diocese under the title of St. Joseph the worker. But, don't let that title overshadow all that St. Joseph provides us by his example.

As you likely are aware, St. Joseph is what you might call the silent saint in that there are no words ascribed to him in Sacred Scripture. Despite that, his silent life continues to speak volumes to us.

St. Joseph, under the title The Worker, lets us know the value of work. The value of work in reference to St. Joseph is found in the sanctity of work. Work is holy and dignified. Work gives people a sense of purpose in that the work we do should contribute to the common good of society. When we work, we are an integral part of something greater than ourselves. Our work makes life better for others and for ourselves. It's a win/win.

Does this mean that our work defines us or gives us our ultimate value as a human being? Not at all! Our work is not who we are; our work is what we do. Who we are is determined by the fact that God created each of us out of love! The life of St. Joseph bears that out. The fact that God chose St. Joseph to be the protector of the Immaculate Mother of God and God's Son was not at all due to the fact that Joseph was a construction worker. It had everything to do with the fact that Joseph was humble, obedient, and created for that role by God Himself.

St. Joseph was a hardworking, tough construction worker. But, most importantly, St. Joseph was a humble, obedient, and CHASTE husband and father.

As a matter of Church dogma, we know that Mary is a virgin before, during, and after the conception and birth of Jesus. But doesn't Scripture refer to Jesus' brothers and sisters? There have been many attempts over the years by Catholic writers to explain how this could be, especially since she was married to St. Joseph. Some claimed that Joseph was married before and his wife died and those brothers and sisters are from that previous marriage. Others have suggested that Joseph was an older man and therefore was more like a father figure to Mary rather than a husband. Neither of those represent the messaging of Sacred Scripture which calls us to live like Christ Himself. Jesus was pure in every way! Joseph was not married before, nor was he an old man; Joseph was CHASTE! In other words, Joseph lived in perfect accord with God's will in his life. Joseph shows all of us but especially husbands how powerful obedience to God is in leading one's family to heaven. Please pray each day to St. Joseph for our diocese, our parishes, and our families.

St. Joseph, pray for us! May God bless and Mary and Joseph keep you all.



Parish Announcements

All Saints Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation due to it falling on a Sunday this year. The regular Sunday Mass will fulfill the obligation.

Mass Coordination - Please remember to meet occupancy requirements for Mass all parishioners must register at a designated time EVERY WEEK to attend Mass. Please call or email the Mass Coordinators below. Thank you!

- 5 pm Mass call Mary Hartung at 715-743-3468 or email 5pmmass@stmaryneillsville.org.

- 8 am Mass call Rogene Matuszak at 715-743-8138 or email 8ammass@stmaryneillsville.org.

- 10:30 Mass call Phyllis Carney at 715-743-2464 or email 1030ammass@stmaryneillsville.org.

St. Mary's Parish Report for 2019-2020 is available in the Narthex. We encourage all families to take one.



Just a reminder that there is a Pastoral Committee Meeting Tuesday October 27th at 7 pm. Also, there is a Finance Council Meeting Thursday October 29th at 6 pm. Both will be held in the Church Hall.

The new Rosary schedules are available in the carport vestibule for those who lead the Rosary before each Mass. Please pick your copy up. Thank you.

Matthew 18:20 "For where 2 or 3 are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Everyone is invited to share in the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by the Rosary held weekly at **St. Mary's in Neillsville at 3 pm on Thursday afternoons**. If you have any questions, please contact Rogene Matuszak at 715-743-8138.



During this health pandemic we know many of our parishioners are homebound. St. Mary's Parish would like to reach out to those parishioners. Starting the first Friday of each month Father Greg will reach out to them with a phone call. If you know someone who is homebound and would like a little conversation, please call the Parish office at 715-743-3840. Thank you!



Box of Joy: This year Box of Joy donations will be strictly monetary donations. We hope everyone will have an opportunity to support the program that brings so much to children in impoverished countries

around the world. Your donation will help pay for shipping for boxes and support the religious communities that support this program and their ongoing relationships with these international communities. You will find envelopes in the Narthex and ANY donation is appreciated and will be put to good use. You can also participate online at <https://crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/>. May God bless you and however you choose to be generous this year.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

Teaching the faith begins in the home.

The Diocese of La Crosse is dedicated to training and education to protect our children and young people. This training is called Safe Environment. All adults and youth need to be trained every year. This year, youth training will take place during CCD on November 11th. Please contact the office with any questions.

CCD Assignments

Grade 1 – Mrs. Grotz: Draw a picture of Adam & Eve leaving the garden of Eden. They were sad & sorry for committing original sin. Say the Lord’s prayer daily with your parents.

Grade 2 – Mrs. Carney: Say your prayers every day. Parents pray with your child. Learn your prayers well. Learn the Act of Contrition. Review Chapter 5 “God is Offended”. Complete the homework pages sent home. Review the questions and know the answers at the end of the chapter. Look up “words to know” in the back of your textbook.

Grade 9 – Dr. Foster: Consider what you will want to ask your Priest, Father Michaud as he visits our class next Wednesday. Ask about the faith, the priesthood, the Church or anything on your mind.

Sunday Mornings at 9 am on 1370 AM & 98.5 FM Register Radio shines the truth of the Gospel on the events of the day...to equip Catholics with the insight and encouragement necessary to engage the culture for Christ.

UDIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (employee, volunteers, vendors, religious or clergy). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to the Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan, Bishop of La Crosse, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Karen Becker, Victim Assistance Ministry, 608-519-8002 or kbecker@cclse.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of the Vicar for Clergy or on the diocesan website at: www.dioc.org. **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the [diocesan website](#). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at (608) 791-2679; or tbrown@dioc.org

Are you 55 or Older and seeking employment?

Low-income seniors may qualify for paid training opportunities. To learn more, call the Clark County Job Center at 715-743-4631 – A proud partner of the American job center network



Clark County Area Food Pantry & Resource Center is OPEN at 1031 Division St. Suite 4, Neillsville (across for the fairgrounds) – Hours of operation are Tuesdays 9 am to 1 pm, Thursdays 1 pm to 5 pm or please feel free to call for an appointment at 715-743-2885.

Rally with the Alley and E.T.S. to Support Veterans! Saturday November 7th at 11 am at Strike Time Lanes in Neillsville. Chili Feed and Baked Potato Bar ALL DAY! Curbside pick-up is available. Raffles & Silent Auctions throughout the day! 9 pin Tap Tournament. Registration at 5 pm. Entry Fee is \$15 or sign up a whole lane with 5 bowlers for \$60!!! Call 715-743-6600 for more information!

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Jason A. Bourget, FIC, PGK 715-937-7039
Field Agent jason.bourget@kofc.org



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Please continue to root out wickedness and evil from the Catholic Church. *St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

Building & Grounds: St. Mary's is in need of a late model riding lawn mower or lawn tractor in good condition to serve as a back-up mower for the Church lawn and for light chores. If anyone has such a machine they would like to sell, please contact the parish office.

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