



September 3, 2023 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

*"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

The Spiritual Over the Worldly

Dear Family,

Following is a great homily from St. Pope Gregory the Great, that helps us to navigate all the possessions we are blessed with, especially in our country. St. Gregory says:

I would like to urge you to forsake everything, but that I do not presume to do. Yet, if you cannot give up everything of this world, at least keep what belongs to the world in such a way that you yourself are not kept prisoner by the world. Whatever you possess must not possess you; whatever you own must be under the power of your soul, for if your soul is overpowered by the love of this world's goods, it will be totally at the mercy of its possessions.

In other words, we make use of temporal things, but our hearts are set on what is eternal. Temporal goods help us on our way, but our desire must be for those eternal realities which are our goal. We should give no more than a side glance at all that happens in the world, but the eyes of the soul are to be focused right ahead; for our whole attention must be fixed on those realities which constitute our goal.

*Whatever is vicious must be utterly eradicated, wrenched away not merely from being [acted out] but even from being so much as thought of. No carnal pleasure, no worldly curiosity, no surge of ambition must keep us from the Lord's Supper. But further, **our minds should merely skirt even the good deeds we perform in this life**; in this way, the physical things which give us pleasure will serve our bodily needs without hindering the soul's progress. You see, my brothers, I dare not say to you, give up everything. Yet, if you will, you can give everything up even while keeping it, provided you handle temporal things in such a way that your whole mind is directed toward what is eternal. A man can use the world as if he were not using it, if he makes all external needs minister to the support of his life without allowing them to dominate his soul. They remain external to him and under his control, serving him without halting the soul's drive to higher things. For such man, everything in this world is there for their use, **not to be desired**. Nothing should interfere with your soul's longing; **no created pleasure in the world should ensnare you**.*

*If the object of love is what is good, then the soul should take its delight in the higher good, the things of heaven. If the object of fear is what is evil, then we should keep before ourselves the things that are eternally evil. In this way, **if the soul sees that we should have a greater love and a greater fear about what concerns the next life, it will never cling to this life**.*

To help us to achieve all this we have the help of the mediator between God and man. Through him we shall obtain all this the more quickly, the more we burn with a great love for him, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

I don't know about you, but this seems very helpful to me since I need to hear it more than anyone. Please pray for me that I can put those things that are spiritual and heavenly as my first priority and allow all that is good that is earthly serve the purpose of leading souls to heaven! Please be assured of my prayers for you!

God bless and Mary keep you all!



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Weekly Calendar

Monday, September 4 – No Mass – Office Closed

3:00pm Holy Hour for Ukraine

Tuesday, September 5

3:00pm Holy Hour for Ukraine

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Mass: † LaVerne Schmitt

6:30pm PCCW Meeting – Church Hall

Wednesday, September 6

6:00am Eucharistic Adoration

7:00am Mass: † Mark Lezotte

3:00pm Holy Hour for Ukraine

Thursday, September 7

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † Duane Peterson

3:00pm Holy Hour for Ukraine

Friday, September 8

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration

8:00am Mass: † William A. Kastern

3:00pm Holy Hour for Ukraine

Saturday, September 9 – Incense Free

Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, priest

8:00am Mass: Living & deceased members of
Catholic Financial Life Branch 150

4:00pm Confession

5:00pm Mass: † Eugene & Mildred Walter

Sunday, September 10

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Confession

8:00am Mass: † Mavis Langton

9:45am Confession

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

3:00pm Knights of Columbus Golf Outing –
Neillsville Country Club

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

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. May be celebrated during or following any of the Masses. Preparation classes are required. Please call the Parish Office for details.

Baptisms

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Gretchen Fitzmaurice – 715.486.6674

Weekly Collection

August 26-27

Tithe	\$4,189.00
Student	2.25
Offertory	405.00
Assumption	4.00
CCD Donation	265.00
Bazaar and Dinner	35.00
Total	\$4,900.25

Weekly Budget

\$5,600.00

Building Fund

\$75.00

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday-Sunday September 9-10

Lectors

5:00pm

Larry Hooser

8:00am

Rogene

Matuszak

10:30am

Sherry Hickey

Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

5:00pm

Jared Thomas

8:00am

Dr. Gregory

Foster

10:30am

Bob Barth

Cantors

5:00pm

Jody & Judy

Conner

Altar Servers

5:00pm

Andrew Hooser

Adam Hooser

8:00am

Brody Swita

Gregory Lehn

Landon

Schoen

10:30am

Theodora

Hannasch

Kennedy Kren

Corbin Wirkuty

Ushers for September

5:00pm

Don Kotcon

Al Spaete

Doug Spaete

Jim Zschernitz

8:00am

Clinton

Hannasch

Ritch

Kohlhofer

John Langton

Sandy Mayer

10:30am

Mike Boon

Al Durst

William Poeschel

Gary Ruzic

Rosary Leader

5:00pm

Russ & Annie

Augustine

8:00am

Dr. Greg &

Linda Foster

10:30am

Larry Kyle

Proverbial Wisdom

To do [true] penance is to bewail the evil we have done,
And to do no evil to bewail.

--Pope St. Gregory the Great

Parish Announcements



This past Sunday, we welcomed three new members to St Mary's and the Catholic faith! Earl and Jennifer Elmhorst and Daxtyn, son of Bryce and Wendy Backaus! We are so glad to have you in our family!

Potluck

**St. Mary's Parish Potluck is
Sunday, September 17, 2023 after the
10:30am Mass**

Come and enjoy a potluck dinner with your parish family featuring chicken grilled by Gary Nauertz and his crew. Following the dinner there will be games and fun for everyone. Signups and more information is available in the narthex of the church. See bulletin insert for more details.



St. Mary's Parish is looking for someone to plow snow this coming winter. Anyone interested in this job, please send or drop off a bid at the Parish office.

PCCW News

The Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:30pm in the church hall. Program will be "Mom, I Want to be a Priest or Nun". Guest presenters Donna Kuhn and Sherry Hickey will share the blessings and challenges of being mothers of children who have chosen to pursue a religious vocation. Business meeting will follow presentation. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be offered.

Save the Date! All choir members and anyone wanting to join the choir, there will be choir practice Monday September 11th at 6:30pm in the choir loft. We will be learning new music from the CREDO Hymnal.

Faith Formation/CCD News



If you have not registered for the new school year yet, you can still do so, but be aware that your home packets may not be here for the September home lesson.

Substitute Catechists - We are still looking for substitute catechists for all grade levels to help out when a teacher is unavailable.

CCD & Family Formation (FF) starts Sept 13 with an opening Mass at 7 pm. All families enrolled in CCD/FF are invited to attend with their children. CCD kids (grade 7-12) are to meet in the Narthex for roll call. Praying for and placing the Religious Education of our children in God's hands is the most important work we can do!

September 20- Family Formation begins at 6 pm and runs to 7 pm in the Narthex with an additional 15 minutes for parents and children in 2nd grade. CCD begins at 7 pm in the school and office buildings.

Treats will be served the first night of CCD/FF in the Narthex for all kids in our Religious Education programs. All children and parents stop in for a treat! Please sign up on the sheet in the carport vestibule to bring a treat to share (cookies, bars, or other treats). Childcare will be available in the Church Hall.



Nursery Workers: We are in need of child care helpers during Faith Formation. The time commitment is for about an hour to 1 ½ hours once a month, typically the first Wednesday of the month from about 5:45-7:15 pm. At this time, we are in need of 2-3 adults or responsible youth. Please call the parish office if you would like to be a child care worker.

Youth Ministry Team - St Mary's would like to offer youth activities but we need parishioner help and involvement. We would like to have an individual or couples be part of a team with each person organizing one event in the year. For example, a couple currently leads a yearly All-Saints Day event in October. We would love to add more activities for youth-perhaps with each season. The volunteer would lead one activity per year that they are most interested in doing, like a Bruce Mound tubing day, youth camp fire evening, fishing activity, hiking fun, etc. Please contact Fr. Greg or Judy Conner CRE if you are willing to help provide this needed ministry for our youth.



Boxes of Joy! Bless a child in an impoverished country with a Christmas Gift to tell them they are loved by God and you. Boxes are available in the Narthex along with instructions and gifting guides.

Knights of Columbus News

**Mark your calendar for the
4 Person Knights of Columbus
Charity 9 Hole Scramble
Sunday September 10, 2023 at 3pm
at the Neillsville Country Club.**

**\$35 per person for Neillsville Country Club Member
\$45 per person for non-members**

All are invited to attend

**Cost includes golf, hole prizes, refreshments and a
steak dinner!**

Additional Steak Dinner tickets are available for \$20

Portion of the proceeds will go to our local
seminarians!!

**Contact Larry Hooser at 715-937-5831 to sign up
your team!**

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4963



**Catholic
Financial Life**

Seasonal Produce and Bake

Sale - Baked goods, canned
and fresh seasonal produce,
etc. will be available to

purchase after each Mass, the weekend of
September 16th and 17th, in the Narthex at St. Mary's. If
you would like to donate items, all items must be at
the church by 3pm on Saturday September 16th. For
any questions, please contact Mary Ann Ingold at
715-743-2508 or Lorraine Spencer at 715-937-0230.
Sponsored by Catholic Financial Life Branch 150. All
proceeds and matching funds will be going to support
St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**Rural Life Mass September 13th 11875 US Hwy. 10 in
Marshfield** - The 42nd Annual Rural Life Day will be held
on Sept. 13, 2023, hosted by Ken and Joellen Heiman
of Heiman Holsteins, at 11875 US Hwy 10 in Marshfield.
The day begins with a 10:00 AM Mass celebrated by
Bishop Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the
blessing of crops and machinery and a catered meal.
There will also be wagon rides to tour the ridge-top
farm. All are welcome to this celebration of the
uniqueness of rural life, giving thanks to God for the
contribution of rural values to the life of the Church in
the Diocese of La Crosse.

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

November 16-19, 2023

NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) is a
powerfully unique three-day experience of prayer,
community, evangelization, catechesis, service and
empowerment for Catholic teenagers (of high school
age) and their adult chaperones. NCYC is the premiere
Catholic youth event on a national scale that gathers
people from all across America for a life-changing
encounter with Christ.

Our diocese will be taking a group and would love to
have youth from around the diocese join them! St.
Mary's would help with fundraising efforts and finances
if anyone would like to go.

If you are interested in learning more please visit the
website at diolc.org/ncyc.

Please note that St. Mary's Confirmation students will
not be able to attend due to Confirmation on
November 19th.

Please contact Christopher Rogers at the Diocese of La
Crosse or Judy Conner if you have any questions.

National Eucharistic Congress - In July 2024, the
National Eucharistic Congress will be held in
Indianapolis, Ind. This 5-day experience, "Eyes
Opened, Hearts on Fire," will be held July 17-24, 2024.
Speakers such as Bishop Robert Barron, Fr. Mike
Schmitz, Fr. John Burns, Bishop Andrew Cozzens, and
many more, will inspire and invite people to return to
the source and summit of our Faith in the celebration
of the Eucharist. In addition to the work being done in
our Diocese as part of the Eucharistic Procession to
Indianapolis, we are exploring the possibility of taking
a group from the Diocese of La Crosse to attend the
Eucharistic Congress. To prepare for such a
pilgrimage, we need to know the number of pilgrims
interested in joining a group from the Diocese of La
Crosse to attend the National Eucharistic Congress. If
you are interested in being part of this special
pilgrimage, please email cre@stmaryneillsville.org.
Once we know the number of people wishing to
participate, we can provide further information
related to costs, travel, and registration.

Area Events

Fall Festival - St. Mary Catholic Church in Colby at 205
S. 2nd St., is having their Fall Festival Sunday September
10, 2023. Mass will be celebrated at 10:30am. A
chicken and ham dinner will be served from 10:30am
to 1pm. Adults \$12, children 12 & under \$5 and
preschoolers are free. There will be indoor and outdoor
seating and drive up available (715-223-3033). An
Outdoor Auction, with matching funds by Catholic
Order of Foresters and a cash raffle drawing at 3pm.
There will be games and other activities for the whole
family.



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Jason A. Bourget, FIC, PGK
Field Agent
715-937-7039

Member N15964 Copenhaver Avenue
Stanley, WI 54768
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