



## 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 – Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm  
Friday Closed

### Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Daily Adoration 1 hour prior to Daily Mass except Saturday

Tuesday	5:15pm
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	5:00pm-6:00pm

### 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

## September 7, 2025 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9:13-18b  
Philemon 9-10, 12-17  
Luke 14:25-33

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

### FORMING OUR CONSCIENCE

Dear Family,

Though this is not yet another election cycle, it is never a wrong time for all Catholics to reinvigorate our efforts to properly form our consciences within the teaching of the Catholic Church. This is done primarily through the prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture and the study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The forming of our consciences is a moral obligation for which we will be judged by Jesus Christ Himself. Ignorance of the truth does reduce and can even eliminate the culpability of an individual in an immoral act, so long as the ignorance is invincible, that is unavoidable. There are two types of ignorance in the moral order and by which we will be judged: Feigned and Invincible.

Invincible ignorance is that knowledge which I could not know; I did not have the realistic opportunity to obtain. Feigned ignorance is that knowledge that I did have the opportunity and the obligation to know but did not take the time and effort to obtain. In order of priority, knowledge of our Catholic faith is top priority. It does not mean that we must know all of what the Church teaches, but it does mean that we must seek to know the information more and more each day, beginning with that which is of fundamental importance, i.e. the Church's teachings on those issues that help shape society, i.e. life, marriage, poverty, etc.

If this isn't an election cycle, then why is this being brought up relative to election cycles? Because, elections have such enormous impact on our society, especially local elections. And Holy Mother Church tells us that, "It is necessary that all participate, each according to his position and role, in promoting the common good. This obligation is inherent in the dignity of the human person. . . . As far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life" (nos. 1913-1915). (*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: The U.S. Bishops' Reflection on Catholic Teaching and Political Life, USCCB*)

This will begin a multi-part series on helping us as faithful Catholics to know which issues are of the highest priority in order that we may be true disciples of Jesus Christ and His voice in the public square not only through the choosing of those candidates who most closely hold to the priorities of God and His Church but also in how we can influence people in our circles of family and friends.

The document mentioned above, *Forming Consciences...* which comes from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, will be the working document for this series. It can be found at <https://www.usccb.org/sjp/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>.

Let us stand as a united front on the fundamental principles that our Mother, the Church, says will shape a good and just society. Let us pray for and support the protection of unborn babies, marriage as between one man and one woman, and the poor among us. God bless and Mary keep you!

### Weekly Calendar

#### **Monday, September 8 - No Daily Mass**

*Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
6:30pm Choir Practice

#### **Tuesday, September 9**

*Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, priest*  
4:00pm Eucharistic Adoration  
5:15pm Mass: † Maynard and Dolores Parker

#### **Wednesday, September 10 – Change of Mass Time**

7:00pm Mass: Opening Mass for CCD and Family Formation - † Nora and Ezra Sharratt

#### **Thursday, September 11**

7:00am Eucharistic Adoration  
8:00am Mass: † Maureen Meier  
9:00am Bible Study – Church Hall

#### **Friday, September 12 - Office Closed**

*Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary*  
7:00am Eucharistic Adoration  
8:00am Mass: † Dave Lavey and Sherry Rogstad

#### **Saturday, September 13 – Incense Free**

*Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor of the Church*  
8:00am Mass: † Jeff McNeely  
4:00pm Confession  
5:00pm Mass: † Ed, Mary and Lawrence Prem

#### **Sunday, September 14**

*Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*  
7:00am Confession  
8:00am Mass: St. Mary's Parish Family  
9:45am Confession  
10:30am Mass: † Donald and Isabelle Gall

### 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

#### August 30-31, 2025

Tithe	\$4,252.00
Student Offering	.75
Offertory	743.62
CCD Tuition	60.00
CCD Donation	30.00
Bazaar & Dinner donation	245.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,331.37</b>

#### **Weekly Budget**

**\$6,560.00**

### Liturgical Ministries

**Reminder** – If you are unable to fulfill your assignment please remember to get a replacement. Thank you!

#### Saturday-Sunday September 13-14, 2025

##### Lectors

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Mary Hartung	Cheyenne Thomas	Sherry Hickey

##### Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Cindy Hoesser	Rick Kuhn	Phyllis Carney

##### Altar Servers

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Abigail and Alivia Luchterhand	Peter Rosno Landon Schoen Brody Swita	Matthew and David Schuller Corbin Wirkuty Hayden Poeschel

##### Cantor

10:30am  
Renee Schoen  
Annie Mrozek

##### Ushers for September

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Jim Zschernitz	John Langton	William Poeschel
Al Spaete	Clinton Hannasch	Al Durst
Doug Spaete	Ritch Larry Kyle	Volunteer
Don Kotcon	Kohlhofer	
	Sandy Mayer	

##### Rosary Leader

<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>
Larry Hoesser	Rick & Donna Kuhn	Gary Veltus

### Proverbial Wisdom

"We must also listen more to our conscience. Be careful, however, this does not mean We ought to follow...whatever suits or pleases us."  
--Pope Francis

## Parish Announcements

Just a reminder to please attend the 90 minute session to learn the first steps of the strategic and pastoral planning for the Diocese of La Crosse, this Saturday Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Only by gaining clarity on our shared mission in Christ can we decide how to best live our lives and structure our parishes.

**Change of Mass Time** – Daily Mass on Wednesday September 10<sup>th</sup> will not be celebrated at 7am. Daily Mass that day will be celebrated at 7pm to opening the new year of CCD and Family Formation. Please see the calendar on page 2.

**Help Wanted**

Help Wanted!!! St. Mary Parish is looking for a sexton and groundskeeper. The sexton responsibility would be for both St. Mary Parish in Neillsville and St. Stephen's

Cemetery in Chili. The groundskeeper responsibility would be for the Church campus and St. Mary's cemetery. If you are interested in the position, please contact the Parish Office for more details.

**St. Stephen's Chapel** – We are looking for a volunteer to help keep the St. Stephen's Chapel in Chili clean. There is a resident of Chili that has been cleaning it for many years and needs some help cleaning the storm windows once or twice a year. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish office. Thank you!

**Seasonal Produce and Bake Sale THIS WEEKEND** - Baked goods, canned and fresh seasonal produce, etc. will be available to purchase after each Mass, this weekend September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, in the Narthex at St. Mary's. If you would like to donate items, all items must be at the church by 4pm on Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup>. 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.



### **4 Person K of C Charity 9 Hole Scramble**

**THIS Sunday, September 7 @ 3:00 PM  
Neillsville Country Club**

Hole in One Contest Too, With A \$10,000.00 prize! Cost: \$45.00 per person for non-members of the Neillsville Country Club \$35 for members of NCC (cart not included). Cost includes Golf, refreshments, hole prizes & steak dinner. Additional Steak Dinner tickets available at \$20 each!!! Men and Women invited!!! Proceeds will go to help seminarians. Contact Larry Hoesser at (715-937-5831) to sign-up.

**Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4963**

## CATHOLIC EDUCATION

### Faith Formation News



#### **Registration Reminder**

If you haven't registered your children yet—especially those in Family Formation—please call the parish office as soon as possible. Materials have already been ordered, and unregistered families may not receive their packets in time for the first session.

#### **September Highlights**

- September 10 – Opening Mass at 7:00 PM

All Family Formation and CCD families are invited to join us for a beautiful evening of prayer and community as we begin the new year together.

- September 13 – Confirmation Retreat for Junior Students Held at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse. All students preparing for Confirmation in November are required to attend this special retreat.

- September 17 – First Night of Classes

- Family Formation begins at 6:00 PM

Parents of second graders will have an additional 10–15 minutes to receive important information about sacramental preparation.

Please note: While we won't be serving a full meal, snacks and drinks will be provided.

- CCD begins at 7:00 PM

- September 24 – CCD at 7:00 PM

#### **Substitute Catechists Needed for CCD & Family Formation**

Occasionally, our dedicated catechists are unable to attend due to illness or other commitments—and that's where you can make a difference. If you feel called to share your time and talents by stepping in as a substitute, we would be so grateful for your support in helping our children continue to grow in faith, even when their regular catechist is away.

Please contact Judy at the parish office if you're willing to help. Your presence could be the light that keeps a lesson shining!

**Interested in Becoming Catholic?** If you've been thinking about joining the Catholic Church, know someone who is or simply want to learn more, we'd love to hear from you. Whether you're new to the faith or returning after time away, our parish is here to walk with you. Please call the parish office to begin a conversation—we're happy to answer questions, share resources, and help you explore the next steps in your faith journey.



## **DIocese 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 (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the Diocesan website at: [diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting](http://diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting). 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@diolc.org](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org).

During this time of preparation for our Diocesan renewal, Bishop Battersby is asking all priests to encourage the blessing of homes and the enthronement of the Sacred Heart in their parishes. Fr. Greg is inviting you to consider having your home blessed and/or having the Sacred Heart enthroned this year. If you would like to do that, please call the office to set up a time. Please pick up the prayer card with the Jubilee Prayer, which is in the carport.

### **Rural Life Day - Sept. 22, 2025 - Warrens, WI**

Join us for the 44th Annual Rural Life Day at the Van Wychen Family Farm in Warrens on Monday, Sept. 22! Mass with Bishop Battersby at 10:00 AM will be followed by awards, the blessing of farm animals, crops, and machinery, and a delightful lunch. The Van Wychen Farm is located at 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI 54666. This is a day to celebrate rural life and to rejoice in the way its values contribute to the Church at large.

### **Mass of Hope and Healing | Sep 23 | Cathedral of St.**

**Joseph the Workman:** Bishop Gerard Battersby will celebrate a Mass of Hope and Healing on **Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 6:30 pm** at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, 530 Main St, La Crosse. This Mass will be offered for anyone grieving the loss of children through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, abortion, stillbirth, accident or infant death. There will be a reception to follow. Volunteers with name tags will be present to offer assistance, support, and comfort.



Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of past abortions? Project Rachel Ministry offers a compassionate heart and confidential help. Call 608.860.6698 or email

[projectrachel@diolc.org](mailto:projectrachel@diolc.org). There are also post-abortion healing retreats offered in the Diocese of Madison (next will be Nov. 7-9, 2025). For more information, visit [madisondiocese.org/Rachel](http://madisondiocese.org/Rachel).

### **19th Annual Queen of the Americas Guild Conference**

Please consider joining this wonderful weekend of prayer and spirituality on October 17-18, 2025, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, WI. Speakers are His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke, Joseph Julian Gonzalez & Monique Gonzalez and Karl Keating. For more details and to register go to [QueenoftheAmericasGuild.org](http://QueenoftheAmericasGuild.org). Please see the flyers in the carport.



**St. Mary Cemetery Notice:** Just a reminder all flowers, plants, etc. need to be removed from the cemetery prior to October 1 and April 1 each year for clean-up. Thank you!

### **Area Events**

#### **Sacred Heart Charcoal Chicken Dinner and Bazaar**

Sacred Heart Parish in Marathon is having a Charcoal Chicken Dinner and Bazaar on Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will start at 10am until all the chicken is gone! There will be live music, kid games, basket raffles and BINGO!!! Rain or Shine!

#### **Neillsville Fire & Rescue Steak Feed Fundraiser**

Come support the Neillsville Fire & Rescue Crew Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Neillsville Fire Hall for their Drive-thru/Carry outs only Event Steak Feed. Serving is from 3pm until 8pm. Steak Meal is \$20 and kid's meals are \$5. Carry outs only. Tickets are available from any Neillsville firefighter. Up to \$1000 matching funds provided by Catholic Financial Life. Proceeds will be used for new equipment.

#### **Prolife Basket Raffle & Ponczka Pickup**

St. Michael's PCCW in Junction City is having their Prolife Basket Raffle & Ponczka Pickup Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 11am at St. Michael's Church Hall. Mass will be at 9am with the Prolife Walk to follow. Basket Winners will be drawn after the walk. To Order ponczkas contact Brionna @ 715-540-0327 or Kylee @ 715-457-5265. Come support Prolife!!!