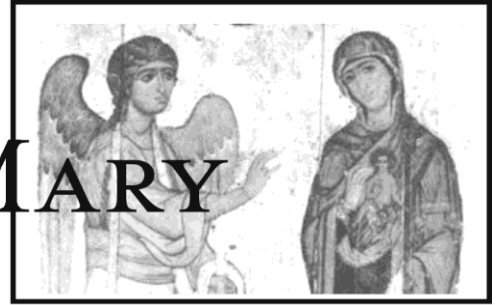


ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH



This Week in Our Parish

SYMBOLON “The Catholic Faith Explained” series, church library, Sundays, 9:15 – 10:15 AM.

St. Mary’s Council of Catholic Women - St. Anthony’s circle is in charge of the decorating and treats for the Caroling of the Choirs on December 2nd. Help would be appreciated as well as cookies or bars.

Caroling of the Choirs will again be at Good Shepherd Church **Sunday, Dec. 2nd starting at 7 p.m.** This year St. Mary’s will be the hosting church. This event is a great way to usher in the Holiday season. Come and show your support for the area choirs. A good will donation will be offered with proceeds given to the food pantry.

A Family Life Committee and Social Justice Committee joint meeting will be held in Marion Hall on Tuesday, December 4th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come and be a part of these committees. A brief description of each committee is below. We hope to see you there.

Social Justice Committee: The Social Justice Committee assists the parish pastoral council in fostering pastoral concern and action for justice in the world, especially in all areas of parish life. Its concerns include: promotion of the respect for all human life; the pastoral care of the afflicted, the needy, and the imprisoned; the pastoral care of migrants and refugees, just structures in the parish; stewardship; and the greater understanding of the Church’s teaching on social justice.

Family Life Committee: The Family Life Committee assists the parish pastoral council in fostering Christian family life in the parish. Among its concerns are: the central place of the family in all parish pastoral activities; parish hospitality and social activities; youth ministry, vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life; pre-marriage preparation; marriage enrichment; natural family planning; and the pastoral care of single adult Catholics, divorced Catholics, divorced and remarried Catholics, and widows and widowers.

The PCCW will be collecting gifts for the residents of Vernon Manor the next two weeks. There is a list in the Atrium of suggested gifts for the residents. Gifts should be wrapped and labeled exactly what it is so that staff can distribute appropriately.

December 2, 2018

1st Sunday of Advent

today’s readings are in the hymnal, page 993

Sunday Mass

Saturday

5:15 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Daily Mass

Tuesday

5:15 PM

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
8:00 AM

Youth Mass – 3rd Sunday 10:30 AM
Mass, November to May

Liturgy of the Hours

This ancient communal prayer of the Church is prayed after all weekday Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard 30 minutes before all Weekend and 20 minutes before all Weekday Masses

Rosary

The Holy Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before all Masses

Bethel Home

Mass and Rosary held on 3rd Friday of each month at
10:15 AM

Norseland

Mass and rosary held on 2nd & 4th Wednesday each month at 9:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of each month after 8:00 AM Mass until Noon

Parish Website www.stmaryviroqua.org; Parish Fax (608) 299-3721

In case of emergency, Fr. Janusz Kowalski, Pastor (715) 456-1450

Frances Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper (M-Tu & Th-F – 8 am-4 pm) stmaryparish@mwt.net (608) 637-7711

Tony Shay, DRE ABVM.youthfaithformation@gmail.com (608) 638-7879

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

December 2, 2018

This week we welcome Rosa Evelyn Kane, daughter of Aaron and Andrea (Seifert) Kane, into the Christian community through the Sacrament of Baptism during the 10:30 AM Mass, on December 2. Welcome to this community of Faith!

Parish Christmas Party!! Join our parish family for some Christmas cheer and fellowship on **December 8th in Marian Hall (after the 5:15 p.m. Mass)**; we will gather to celebrate Christ's birth and Honor the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be fun for all ages which will include a gift exchange, a cake/dessert walk, kids' games, teen activities, music, and more.

This is a potluck; so, if you are able, please plan on bringing some or all of the following:

- A dish to pass (Main dish, side or salad)
- Dessert for the cake/dessert walk (Cake, bars, cookies)
- Bottle of wine (optional)
- a small wrapped gift(s) for the gift exchange

If you are not able to bring any of the above...please come. What is most important is that "you" are there. Be sure to look for the signup sheet in the atrium as we will need little elves to help bring this all together! Contact Fran in the parish office if you need more information. 637.7711

Support the Retirement Fund for Religious – A donor writes, "Your flier touched my heart—seeing the retired religious, such memories surfaced." Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give to next week's second collection.

Our first Finance Council meeting will be **Tuesday, December 11, at 6:30 PM in Marian Hall**. The Finance Council will be meeting every other month.

Dates and times of special Masses:

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass – Friday, December 7, 6:30 PM and Saturday, December 8, 8:00 AM – Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, December 8, 5:15 PM Mass will observe the second Sunday of Advent

Youth Mass, Sunday, December 16, 10:30 AM

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 5:00 PM Children's Mass

Christmas Day Masses, Tuesday, December 25 – Holy Day of Obligation: Midnight
8:00 AM
10:30 AM

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Tuesday, January 1, 8:00 AM and 5:15 PM – Holy Day of Obligation

Two Marches for Life – Washington, D.C. or Chicago - There are two excellent opportunities to march for life once again this year. The Pilgrimage for Life to Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, runs **Jan. 16-20, 2019**. Visit www.diolc.org/yya and click on "Pilgrimage for Life" to sign up. The March for Life Chicago is one day only, **Jan. 13**, and you can sign up by visiting www.prolifewi.org and scrolling down to the link. Both pro-life marches have buses leaving from locations around our diocese.

For our parish, if you know of anyone who is hurt or needs assistance, contact the parish office.

December 2 , 2018

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekend November 25, 2018

Adults: \$2,025.10

Offertory: \$315.60

Youth: \$2.00

All Saints: \$10.00

Christmas Flowers: \$70.00

Total: \$2,422.70

Needed Weekly: \$3,400.00

2018-2019

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$32,405.00

Pledged: \$19,266.00

Cash to date: \$12,977.25

THANK YOU!

Saints of the Week

**St. Francis Xavier*

St. John Damascene

St. Nicholas

St. Ambrose

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday, 1 December, 5:15 PM +Paul Penchi, Jr.

(Paul Penchi Family)

Sunday, 2 December, 8:00 AM +People of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

Sunday, 2 December, 10:30 AM +Paul Penchi, Jr.

(Patricia Rubasch)

Monday, 3 December, +No Mass

Tuesday, 4 December, 5:15 PM +Carl Downing

(Pat & Ed Klos)

Wednesday, 5 December, 8:00 AM +Marcia Mezera

(Jerry & Carol Langkamp)

Thursday, 6 December, 8:00 AM +Stanley & Carnelia Gros

(Diana Sarma)

Friday, 7 December, 8:00 AM +Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW)

Friday, 7 December, 6:30 PM +Virginia Leis

(Jim & Shirley Wuench)

Saturday, 8 December, 8:00 AM +David Lenske

(Joseph & Patricia Biebl)

Saturday, 8 December, 5:15 PM +Gerald Stoltz

(Joyce & Roger Humfeld)

Sunday, 9 December, 8:00 AM +Charlie & Lucille Dickman

(Jay & Diana Thurston)

Sunday, 9 December, 10:30 AM +People of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

Saturday, December 1, 2018 – St. Mary's Craft Show – 8 AM – 1:30 PM; Coon Valley Village Hall, 108 Roosevelt St., Coon Valley, WI; exhibits by area crafters and baked goods, concessions/lunch counter opens 8 AM; Free admission.

Sunday, December 2, 2018 – 12th Annual St. Charles Steak Fry – serving 11 AM to 2:30 PM; cost: \$13/person. Location: Retreat Sportsmen's Club, E3460 County Road M, DeSoto.

A Christmas Concert to benefit A Place of Grace will be held **Sunday, December 2nd, 2 PM** at the Roncalli Newman Chapel, 1732 State Street, La Crosse. Music will be provided by Prairie Smoke with special guest Ariane Lydon on harp and guitar. Cash and non-perishable food donations will be joyfully received to assist in the mission of A Place of Grace.

December 9th, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm. Please join us for our annual Advent Day of Prayer. This is a day of reflection and prayer. We will journey with Mary to Bethlehem. Using imaginative prayer, we will enter into "deep listening" to all she "pondered within her heart." Inspired from Mary's journey, we will pause and reflect on our own personal "journey to Bethlehem" in anticipation of celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus in our lives. Sunday Mass will be celebrated together. Presented by Sr. Sandy Setterlund SSJ-TOSF. The cost for this day is \$45. Please call St. Anthony's at 715-443-2236 or visit us online at our Facebook page or at www.sarcenter.com to register for this day of prayer. If you would like to stay at St. Anthony's on the night before or after this event, please call to inquire about the cost and availability of overnight accommodations.

This week we highlight **Effinger Equipment** as the bulletin sponsor of the week.
Please Support the Businesses that Support Our Parish Bulletin

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish's Mission Statement

As a community of faith, St. Mary Parish celebrates the love of Jesus through sacred worship and religious education; we cherish the dignity of each person, and we aspire to minister to all. We revere our history, embrace God's presence among us each day, and walk hopefully into the future.

Please note:

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Book Club will meet regularly the third Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM in the church library. Everyone is welcome to attend and share and discuss your current reading selection – biographies, historical, religious, human interest.

Gentle reminder to please return books borrowed from our church library so others may enjoy them, too.


Youth Masses will be celebrated the 3rd Sunday 10:30 Mass, November to May.

A children's Mass is scheduled for Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018 at 5:00 PM.

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"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit". ~ Romans 15:13