

January 24th, 2021 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

# SAINT MARY'S

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

117 JUNEAU STREET N. • LYNDON STATION, WI 53944

**Fr. Clayton Elmhorst**

Website: [www.stmaryparishlyndon.com](http://www.stmaryparishlyndon.com)



### PARISH OFFICE

#### Hours

Tuesday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

#### Phone

1-608-666-2421

#### Mailing Address:

St. Mary Parish  
P.O. Box 303  
Lyndon Station, WI 53944

#### Email:

[frclaytonstmaryschurch@gmail.com](mailto:frclaytonstmaryschurch@gmail.com)  
[stmaryparishlyndon@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryparishlyndon@gmail.com)

#### Facebook:

St-Mary-Parish-Lyndon-Station-WI-  
101508284817397/

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Weekends

Saturday 7:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

#### Confessions

Saturday 6:00 pm

#### Rosary

Saturday 6:35 pm  
Sunday 8:35 am

#### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pat Mitchell (Chair)  
Jeanette Crowley (Secretary)  
Jerome Senzig, Sandy Madland,  
Joan Holig-McCormick, &  
Linda Lochner

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Kim Betthauser (Chair)  
Sheri Guyse (Secretary), Jim Cauley,  
Cory Holig, & Tanya Walsh



**Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.**



## Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, January 26**

Private Special Intention

Mass By: Fr. Clayton

**Wednesday, January 27**

Private † Joe Cauley

Mass By: Steve & Jane Powers

**Thursday, January 28**

Private Jane Jorgerson

Mass By: Michael & Darlene Gruszka

**Friday, January 29**

Private † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Mass By: Dziewior Family

**Saturday, January 30**

7:00 pm Fr. Clayton

By: Michael & Darlene Gruszka

**Sunday, January 31**

9:00 am Parishioner Mass

1:00 pm † Joe & Lillian Rogge  
By: Mary & Lee Feldman



## Upcoming Events

**Fr. Clayton back from leave**

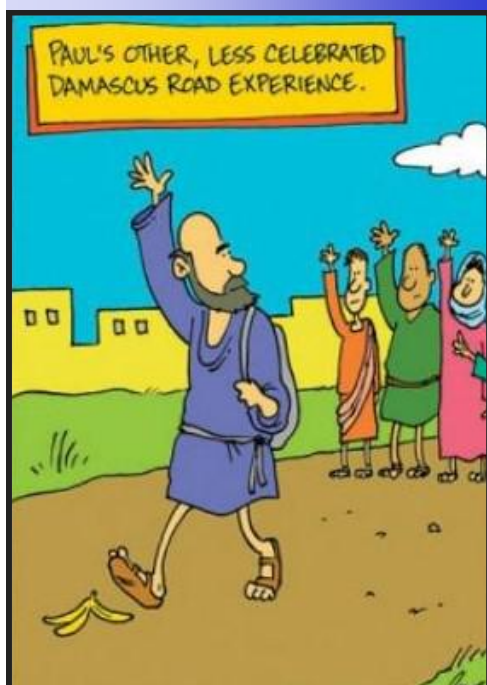
Weekend of February 5 & 6

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Canceled: Future date coming

**Parish Finance Council**

February 9th at 6:30 pm



## Jonah, the Man Who Ran From God

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Jonah 3:1-3

Jonah is one of the most beloved Old Testament prophets. Why? Perhaps because of the fascinating story of him being swallowed by a whale. This image lends intrigue to one's imagination and is somewhat fairytale-like. It's a good story and a fun story!

But what we may easily forget is why Jonah was swallowed by the whale. It was because he heard God call him to a particular mission in life and he ran as fast as he could the other way. He did all he could to avoid his calling. But God was relentless. In the end, God won and Jonah went to Nineveh to preach. The best part is that the people of Nineveh listened to him and changed their lives! Jonah's preaching was, in the end, a great success.

Imagine what would have happened if Jonah would have just listened to God from the very beginning. It may have left us with much less of that fairytale-like story, but it certainly would have saved Jonah and others a great amount of stress. He would not have had to endure the great storm at sea, the wrath of the crew on that ship, the distress of being thrown over the boat and the experience of being held captive in the belly of the whale for those three days. All this could have been avoided if he would have just listened to God from the very beginning.

With that said, it's also interesting and insightful to look at the story from another perspective. The truth is that Jonah did endure all of these difficulties. And though we may be tempted to judge him for that and shake our finger at him, we may want to be careful. Why? Because it's entirely possible that God actually allowed him, by an act of His divine permissive will, to go through these struggles for a reason. It's entirely possible, and perhaps probable, that it was part of the wisdom of God that Jonah, at first, resisted His will. Why would God do this? Most likely for our sake, in that Jonah becomes a great example for us. It seems clear that one of the main lessons from Jonah's life was that God is relentless in His love for us and is relentless in calling us to embrace His will. So Jonah's life and actions become prophetic and teach us a great lesson.

God does not give up on us. He does not simply throw us away the moment we turn from Him. Instead, our denial of Him only makes His resolve to pursue us all the greater. He takes our brokenness, our lack of resolve, our failings and weaknesses and uses them for His glory and His perfect plan.

Reflect, today, on whether you are discouraged in life and feel like you have failed in following the will of God for your life. If so, then the message of Jonah is clear. Don't give up. Don't lose hope. God has not given up on His plan for you, and He has not lost hope. In the end, you may discover that those parts of your life that seem to be the greatest burden and obstacle for you will be turned upside down by God's grace and become the very source of the manifestation of His glory!

*Lord, You never give up on me. You never lose hope. Give me the grace to change, to listen and to respond. Use my weakness and brokenness and let Your strength and grace shine through. Jesus, I trust in You.*

*-Taken from Catholic Daily Reflections - My Catholic Life!*

## St. Mary's Prayer List

Mildred Blank, Vinnie Bellock, Joan Burch; Jamie Donnelly; Joan, Henry, Bill, William, Clayton & John Elmhurst, Jim & Adela Hagen, Elizabeth Hall, Roseanne Kenneth, Gloria Kramer, Helena Kwit & Family, Mary Claire Marshall, Anna McGowan, Courtney Miller, Lizzie Mitchell, Tony Oldigs, Lucille Ryczek, Charlotte Rybicki, Marjorie Senzig, Jeri Smith, Jane Torgerson, Rosalee Verette, William & Jackie Zenk, Nancy Zingsheim, Bob Walsh, those who are sick, unemployed, in need & all families who are suffering in any way; from illness, cancer, uncertainty, anxieties & to the end of the COVID-19 pandemic; Families & Friends please...PRAY THE ROSARY!!



## Anna McGowan passed away on January 13

Her funeral Mass was at St. Mary's on Saturday, the 16th. She was an active and devoted member of our Parish and the Ladies Sodality for many years. She will be missed dearly by everyone who knew her. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for God to comfort her family and friends.

GRANT ME, O LORD MY GOD,  
A **MIND** TO KNOW YOU,  
A **HEART** TO SEEK YOU,  
A **WISDOM** TO FIND YOU,  
A **CONDUCT** PLEASING  
TO YOU, FAITHFUL  
A **PERSEVERANCE**  
IN WAITING FOR YOU,  
AND A **HOPE** OF FINALLY  
EMBRACING YOU.

*amen*

-St. Thomas Aquinas  
Feast Day January 28th



## END OF YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2020 contribution statements are in the back of church. If you made a donation outside of the offertory envelopes (i.e. floor project, security system, etc.) please contact the office if you would like a print out of those donations. They are not included in the statements provided. Thank you!

## Virtual March for Life from Washington, D.C.

January 29, 10:00 am

**"Together Strong: Life Unites!"**

The March for Life in Washington, D.C. has shifted to a virtual event out of safety concerns. It will still feature inspiring speeches from pro-life leaders, information on how to stay involved in the pro-life movement all year long, and a performance by Christian singer and songwriter Matthew West.



## Diaconate Discernment Retreat

Saturday, February 27

Are you a man at least 35 years of age who feels a yearning to give yourself more radically to the service of God and the Church – preaching the Gospel, serving those in need, assisting at the altar? If you think God may be calling you to be a deacon, talk to your pastor about attending the Diaconate Discernment Retreat at St. Mary's Church in Altoona on February 27, 2021. Then contact Deacon Bryan Hilts, Director of the Office for the Diaconate at [bhilts@diolc.org](mailto:bhilts@diolc.org). A new deacon formation class will begin in the fall of 2021 and attendance at the Discernment Retreat is a prerequisite.

## Financial Stewardship

January 17, 2021

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Adult Envelopes.....   | \$1213.00         |
| Student Envelopes..... | \$5.00            |
| Offertory.....         | \$292.00          |
| Utility Envelopes..... | \$530.00          |
| Votive Candles.....    | \$80.50           |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$2,120.50</b> |

Weekly Budget \$2,548.07

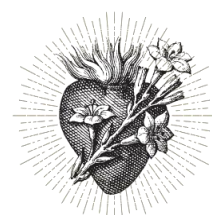
(164 registered families)

### Year-to-date\*

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Budgeted    | \$73,894.66 |
| Contributed | \$83,630.71 |

## Time to go to St. Joseph

St. Joseph protected the Holy Family & we can trust ourselves, to him at a time when fatherhood is so needed. We can ask him to help strengthen our families – as well as the bonds of our parish during this time of hardship.



MOST CHASTE HEART OF ST. JOSEPH,  
*Pray for Us!*

## St. Mary's Floor Project

Parishioners' Goal: \$75,000  
Total Received: \$72,650.00  
Percent of Goal received: 96.87%

## 2020-21 Annual Appeal

Goal: \$15,810  
Total Pledged & Received: \$10,545.00  
Percent of Goal pledged: 66.70%



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