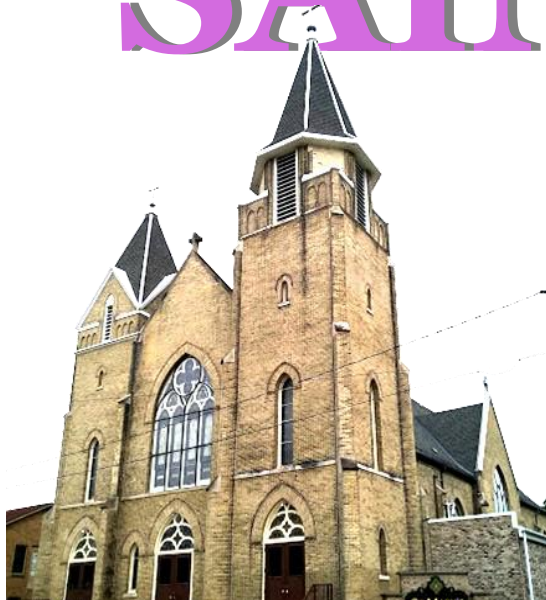


December 10, 2023

# SAINT MARY'S



**THE OLDEST EXISTING CATHOLIC PARISH  
IN THE DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE [est. 1851]**

**117 JUNEAU STREET N. • LYNDON STATION, WI 53944**

### *Parish Mission Statement:*

The family of St. Mary's of Lyndon Station, Wisconsin is a welcoming community of the Catholic faith united in Catholic tradition and growing in the spirit of Vatican II. We come together at Liturgical and Sacramental celebrations to be nourished so we may respond to the gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We strive as a Christian community and in our personal lives to serve God and all of His people, especially the poor.

### **PARISH OFFICE**

#### **Pastor**

Fr. Cryton Outschoorn  
608-386-7378  
coutschoorn@diolclergy.org

#### **Deacon Tom Hale**

608-415-1165  
deacontomhale@gmail.com

#### **Priest Office Hours**

Tuesday - Friday 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

#### **Secretary Office Hours**

Tuesday 8:30 am - 2:15 pm  
Thursday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

#### **Phone**

1-608-666-2421

#### **Mailing Address**

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

#### **Website**

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

#### **Email**

[office@stmlys.diolcparish.org](mailto:office@stmlys.diolcparish.org)

#### **Facebook**

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101508284817397/

#### **MASS SCHEDULE**

##### **Weekdays**

Tue, 5:30 pm  
Wed, Thurs, & Fri, 8:30 am

##### **Weekends**

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

#### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Wed, Thurs, & Fri 8:00 - 8:25 am

#### **Confessions**

Tues 5:00 pm & Saturday 6:00 pm  
\*\*Also by appointment\*\*

#### **Rosary**

Saturday 6:35 pm  
Sunday 8:35 am & 12:35 pm

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



'John was clothed in camel's hair,  
with a leather belt around his waist.  
He fed on locusts and wild honey.

And this is what he proclaimed:

"One mightier than I is coming after me.  
I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the  
thongs of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water;  
he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Mark 1:6-8

## Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, December 12**

5:30 pm † William Zenk  
By: Family

**Wednesday, December 13**

7:15 pm † Marjorie Senzig  
By: Jim Ryczek

**Thursday, December 14**

8:30 am † Fr. Eugene Trainer  
By: Family

**Friday, December 15**

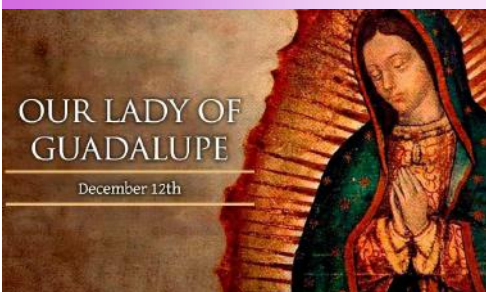
8:30 am † Bob & Bernadine Walsh  
By: Mark Walsh

**Saturday, December 16**

7:00 pm † Jan Pasciak  
By: Jozefa Pasciak

**Sunday, December 17**

9:00 am Parishioner Mass  
1:00 pm † Jeff Lankey  
By: Ann Lankey



## Upcoming Events

### **Land of Peace**

Selling religious articles from Holy Land after Masses December 9th & 10th

### **Finance Council Meeting**

December 12th - 6:30 pm

### **Advent Penance Service**

with Adoration, Confessions, & Benediction

December 13th - 6:00-7:15 pm  
Mass @ 7:15 pm

### **Decorating the church for Christmas**

December 21st - 6:30 pm

### **Christmas Masses**

December 24th - 7:00 pm  
December 25th - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

### **Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

Mass on January 1st - 9:00 am

If you have not already received it, you can pick up your family's gift from St. Mary's, the book *Beautiful Eucharist*, available on a table in the vestibule.



## *A Message from Fr. Cryton,*

### **Season of Advent & Need of Spiritual Preparation**

The Season of Advent: not material, but spiritual preparation; not external but internal preparation. Hence, on this second Sunday, the liturgy presents to us the main figure of Advent, St. John the Baptist. He is the voice crying in the desert: **"Prepare the way of the Lord!"** And the preparation he refers to is internal and spiritual. Based on the readings this Sunday, the essence of preparation is to make us get ready for the coming of the Lord. Physical and mental preparations can only take us so far. Spiritual preparation is the ultimate form of preparation; for this reason, St. Paul says: **"Live in the spirit and do not gratify the desires of the flesh" (Gal. 5:16)**. Let me share some thoughts from Fr. Bonnie, on spiritual preparation for the season of advent from the first reading today from prophet Isaiah.

### **The Prophecy of Isaiah gives us, three dependable ways to undertake spiritual preparation:**

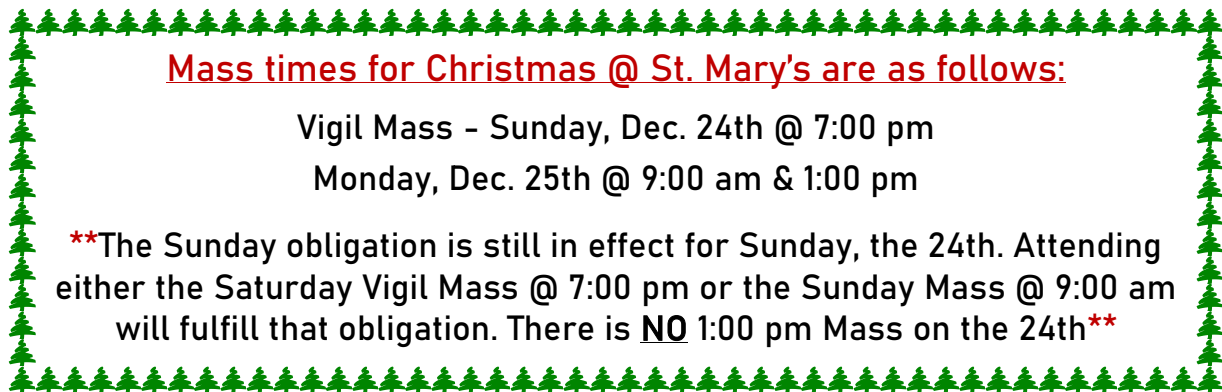
**(I) Filling the valleys:** A valley is a low land between two high lands. Spiritually it shows that something is lacking. Spiritual preparation here entails bringing back the values that we have lost in our lives. These include but are not restricted to our lack of faith, hope, trust, patience, and ultimately our lack of love for God and others.

**(II) Levelling the mountains and hills:** Mountains and hills are elevated landscapes. In this context, they appear to be obstacles. Leveling the mountains and hills entails removing the obstacles on our spiritual terrains. They include but are not reduced to an excessive attachment to material things or worldliness and defective mindsets.

**(III) Smoothing the rugged plain:** Something is rugged when it ceases to be straight. The two essential things our need to make straight are our relationship with God and others and our prayer life.

It is a fitting theme as we have organized the sacrament of Reconciliation this Wednesday in our parish. The sacrament of reconciliation embodies the Advent spirit of preparation, reflection, and renewal.

**"Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners" (Mark 2:17)**



### **Mass times for Christmas @ St. Mary's are as follows:**

Vigil Mass - Sunday, Dec. 24th @ 7:00 pm

Monday, Dec. 25th @ 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

**\*\*The Sunday obligation is still in effect for Sunday, the 24th. Attending either the Saturday Vigil Mass @ 7:00 pm or the Sunday Mass @ 9:00 am will fulfill that obligation. There is NO 1:00 pm Mass on the 24th\*\***

There is a sign-up in the vestibule for ministries for the Christmas Masses. Thank you to all who help out!!!

Don't forget to grab your 2024 offertory envelopes and 2024 Calendar! Those who don't have an assigned box of envelopes and would like one, please contact the parish office.

### **St. Mary's Advent Penance Service this Wednesday, December 13th at 6:00 pm**

Adoration, Confession, Benediction, and Holy Mass (at 7:15 pm)

### **Upcoming Area Advent Penance Services:**

St. Joseph's - Baraboo - Wednesday, Dec. 13th at 6:00 pm  
St. Cecilia's - Wis Dells - Saturday, Dec. 16th after 8:15 am Mass  
St. Patrick's - Mauston - Thurs, Dec. 21st at 7:00 pm



## St. Mary's Prayer List

Vinnie Bellock, Braun Family, Joan Burch, Rick Bornemeier, Mary Jean Cauley, Chris DeLange, Fr. Clayton Elmhorst, Jim & Adela Hagen, Chuck Huber, Roseanne Kenneth, Gloria Kramer, Noah, Mary Claire Marshall, Lizzie Mitchell, Pat Mitchell, Tony Oldigs, Karen Patton, Charlotte Rybicki, Marie Senzig, Preston Shields, MV, those who are sick, unemployed, in need, & all families who are suffering in any way; from illness, cancer, uncertainty, & anxieties; Families & Friends, please... **PRAY THE ROSARY!!!**

Updated Numbers for Campaigns are below. There are pledge cards and envelopes available in the back of church if you would like to contribute to either of these campaigns. **Every gift makes a difference and is truly appreciated!**

### Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

Goal: \$160,000.00  
 Total Pledged & Received: \$95,745.00  
 Percent of Goal Pledged: 59.84%  
 Number of Donors: 36



### 2023-24 Diocesan Annual Appeal

Goal: \$20,100.00  
 Total Pledged & Received: \$3,580.00  
 Percent of Goal Pledged: 17.81%  
 Number of Donors: 18

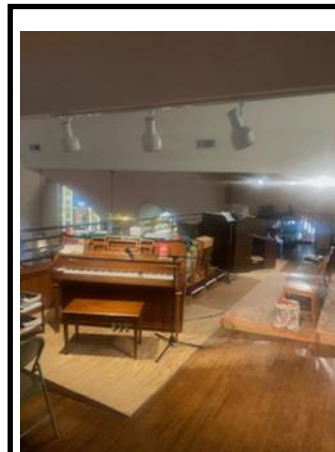


Thank you to all who attended, helped, and donated for the Christmas Brunch last Sunday!



## CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

If you would like to donate to the flowers in memory or honor of someone, we are now taking donations. Be sure to have your donation into the parish office by **December 17th**. This will give the office time to compile the list of donors and get it in the Christmas Bulletin.



### **Did You Know/Tour of the Church By Deacon Tom**

Our choir loft above the vestibule. You can access the choir loft from either side of the vestibule. So what will you find if you venture "upstairs?" The short answer is: Not Much! We have the piano, organ, some chairs and kneelers. If you are wondering how many people are allowed upstairs? The answer is 36. That is what the picture of the sign says.

## *Financial Stewardship*

### **December 3rd, 2023**

Adult Envelopes.....	\$2147.00
Student Envelopes.....	\$3.00
Offertory.....	\$241.00
Votive Candles.....	\$59.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,450.50</b>

(156 registered families)

### Fiscal year-to-date

Contributed.....\$62,897.41

### **Prayer Chain Assignments this Week:**

- December 11** Patricia Wilde
- December 12** Dan McGowan
- December 13** Jim McGowan
- December 14** Jim & Vicki McGowan
- December 15** Marlene McGowan

## *Liturgical Roles*

**Saturday, December 16, 7:00 pm**

- Lector**.....Karen Patton
- EMC**.....Karen Patton
- Servers**.....Stella Finucan  
.....Beckett Finucan
- Ushers**.....Dennis Franek  
.....Jasan Franek  
.....Jim Arens
- Gift Bearers**....Leo & Jeanette Crowley
- Musician**.....

**Sunday, December 17, 9:00 am**

- Lector**.....Larry Mueller
- EMC**.....Teri Mueller
- Servers**.....Anton Erickson  
.....Nellie Jo Erickson  
.....Brian Fox
- Ushers**.....Craig Kobylski  
.....Connie Walsh  
.....Pat Cauley  
.....Pete Cauley
- Gift Bearers**....Mick & Joan McCormick
- Musician**.....Jade Pusel

**Sunday, December 17, 1:00 pm**

- Lector**.....Zach Housworth
- EMC**.....Zach Housworth
- Usher**.....Rodney Senzig

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Let's take a look at the meaning of the Advent Wreath and Candles! (Part 2 of 4)

Traditionally, the Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches. It is often decorated with berries and pinecones. Both the evergreen branches and the circular shape symbolize the passing of time and eternal life. The shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, reflects the complete and endless love that Jesus has for us. The Advent wreath holds the four Advent candles. The candles represent Jesus coming as the light in darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday until all four candles are lit. As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us. This can be referred to as the "Christ candle."

The second week's candle is called the Bethlehem Candle and represents **peace and preparation**. During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and work on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

