



**ST. JAMES
ST. MARY MOUNT CARMEL
PARISHES**

**453 S. Main St. P.O. Box 280
Amherst, WI 54406
715-824-3455**

-- Fr. Jerzy Rebacz --

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 am to 12:00 pm**

**Parish Website: sjsmmcc.weconnect.com
myparishapp.com/download**



Sunday, January 2, 2022

Mission Statement:

We, the stewards of St. James and St. Mary Mount Carmel Parishes in the Diocese of LaCrosse, strive to live as disciples of Christ.

Vision Statement:

As Parishioners of St. James and St. Mary Mount Carmel Parishes, we are called as stewards to celebrate the presence of Christ in our life as we worship together in prayer, in liturgy and in the Sacraments. We endeavor to strengthen our Catholic faith and Christian service as individuals, as families, and as a parish community as we seek to spread the teachings of Christ through our words, through our witness, and through our actions.



THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES IN JANUARY

Weekday Mass intentions will be honored by Father Jerzy in Poland.

DEACON ART will lead First Thurs. (Jan. 6) 8:15 @ SM & First Friday (Jan. 7) 8:15 @ SJ

Weekday Mass Intentions

- Tuesday, January 4th
..... Deceased Members of Kurszewski Family
- Wednesday, January 5th John Somers
- Thursday, January 6th
..... Living & Deceased Members of Raflik Family
- Friday, January 7th Carol Sauter

Weekend Mass Intentions

- Saturday, January 8th, **4:00 PM** @ SJ
..... Elsie Modrzewski
- Sunday, January 9th, 8:30 AM @ SJ
..... Parishioners of Our Two Parishes
- Sunday, January 9th, 10:30 AM @ SM
..... Michael & Emily Wierzba

**Dedication to
Mary Mother of God**

O May, Mother of God and our mother, we offer ourselves to your loving care. Today we choose you as our mother, guide and friend. May we always be faithful to you, and do only what is pleasing to you. O most tender and loving mother, we beg you through the goodness of your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, to keep us especially dear to you and to obtain for us the strength to lead a holy life, a life of goodness, purity and love, offered to God in thanksgiving and praise. Be present with us at all times, O blessed Virgin Mary, and especially at the hour of our death. Protect us from the evil one, the enemy of our souls. Guide us safely into the presence of Jesus so we may, with you and all the saints, share His life, happiness and love, forever. Amen

ADORATION

St. Mary: First Thursday of the month after morning Mass.

St. James: First Friday of the month after morning Mass;
Third Sunday of the Month from 4:00-6:00 PM

- NO CONFESSION TIMES SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY -

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When God gives us the grace to celebrate Christmas and to welcome the New Year 2022, as your pastor, I would like to invite you on the path of trust in God, entrusting ourselves to the Mother of the Redeemer - the Holy Mother of God - Mary and Saint Joseph, so that we can show good to each other, listen to one another, and become more and more aware of the Christian vocation, give the world a bold and joyful witness to the Father's Love that overcomes all fear and renews the face of the Earth.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the preparation of our parishes for Christmas. Thank you very much for your commitment and time! Additional thanks to everyone for the Christmas cards received, the kind wishes and gifts.

This Sunday afternoon (January 2nd) I will be on my way to the Chicago O'Hare Airport where I will depart for Poland for a few weeks. The first eleven days after my arrival (Jan. 3-14) I will be on my priestly retreat in Krakow. I am asking for your prayers and thank you in advance. I plan to spend the remaining two weeks with my father.

Once again, I wish you All a healthy and blessed New Year 2022.

Fr. Jerzy



Stewardship a way of living

St. James Contributions

Week Ending December 26, 2021

Received \$7,162
Budget \$3,430
\$3,732

	Month of Nov 2021	Jul 2021- Nov 2021	Jul 2020- Nov 2020
Received	\$17,658	\$62,170	\$67,234
Budget	<u>\$14,578</u>	<u>\$72,890</u>	
	\$3,080	(\$10,720)	

St. Mary of Mt Carmel Contributions

Week Ending December 26, 2021

Received \$13,334
Budget \$3,564
\$9,770

	Month of Nov 2021	Jul 2021- Nov 2021	Jul 2020- Nov 2020
Received	\$16,144	\$60,875	\$51,005
Budget	<u>\$15,148</u>	<u>\$75,740</u>	
	\$996	(\$14,865)	

Scrip Gift Cards

SMMC SCRIP UPDATE:

Scrip Gift Cards will be sold on January 2nd and January 16th. Gift cards can be purchased at any time by calling Pat Zielinski at 715-824-3762. Thank you to everyone who supports our gift card program!

ST. JAMES SCRIP CARDS:

Scrip cards are available for purchase. Stop by the parish office during office hours or contact Hydie Laidlaw at 715-347-3544 for more information.

Please contact Hydie Laidlaw or Pat Zielinski for more information.

2022 Contribution Envelope Boxes

The 2022 Contribution Envelope Boxes are available for pick-up. This includes envelopes for our online givers as well. We want to ensure that all parishioners have an awareness of all special offerings through-out the year. Please pick up your box of envelopes at respective parish, if you are unable to find them, contact the office.

Parish News...

NO WEEKDAY MASSES THIS MONTH

at St James or St. Mary. Father Jerzy will be traveling to Poland. Weekday Mass intentions will be honored by Father.

First Thursday, January 6, at St. Marys:

Deacon Art will be leading Communion Service at 8:15 followed by Exposition and Benediction.

First Friday January 7, at St. James:

Deacon Art will be leading Communion Service at 8:15 followed by Exposition and Benediction.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH ADORATION

on Jan. 2, 2022: Join us this Sunday for Adoration, at St. James, from 4-6pm. A perfect way to thank God for the Blessings of 2021 & pray for blessings in the New Year!

FIRST FRIDAY AFTER MASS CLUB:

Friday, January 6th the First Friday After Mass Club (AMC) will meet at St. James in the Gathering Space after 8:15am Mass and Adoration. All are welcome to this club - moms, dads, older adults, young adults, and kids of all ages. There will be a short study on the Doctors of the Church and prayer for the adults (no prior preparation needed) and activities for the kids. Refreshments will be provided. Questions? Contact Misty Prater at mistyprater@gmail.com or 785-633-5206 or Laura Gould at laura_n_natalie@yahoo.com

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP:

Will meet Monday Jan. 10th, 2022. This will be a continuation of Father Mike Schmitz's 365 Day Bible Study from 2021. All are welcome.

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION:

Exposition and Benediction will continue through the New Year on the First Thursday & First Friday of the month. Come spend extra time with Jesus.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS - THINGS OF INTEREST

During the Twelve Days of Christmas the Catholic Church celebrates many important feast days. On (Dec. 27), St. John, Apostle, who wrote the Gospel of John and the Book of Revelation, as well as three epistles; the Holy Innocents (Dec. 29), the children who were slaughtered at the order of King Herod, when he was trying to kill the Christ Child; & the Holy Family (normally celebrated on the Sunday after Christmas. None, however, is as important as the feast celebrated on the octave (eighth day) of Christmas, January 1: the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD JANUARY 1, 2022:

The Church regards the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, as so important that it is a Holy Day of Obligation. On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Christ's Birth was made possible by Mary's fiat: "Be it done unto me according to Thy word." As we begin another year, we draw inspiration from the selfless love of Mary, who never hesitated to do the will of God. And we trust in her prayers to God for us, that we might, as the years pass, become more like her. ***O Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!***

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JAN. 2, 2022:

The Epiphany of Our Lord is the Christian feast observed on the first Sunday in January. The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek epiphanien, that means "to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him. God used a unique star to call them to adore the Christ Child. They realized that something special was happening. God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the "star" that God is using to call you. It's closer than you may think.

THE STORY OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS DECEMBER 28, 2021:

Matthew 2:1-18 tells the story: Herod, king of Judea was troubled when astrologers from the east came asking the whereabouts of "the newborn king of the Jews," whose star they had seen. They were told that Jewish Scriptures name Bethlehem as the place where the Messiah would be born. Herod told them to report back to him so that he could also "do him homage." They found Jesus, offered him their gifts, and warned by an angel, avoided Herod on their way home. Jesus escaped to Egypt. Herod became furious and "ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem 2 yrs. old and under".

REFLECTION: The Holy Innocents are few in comparison to the genocide and abortion of our day. But even if there had been only one, we recognize the greatest treasure God put on the earth – a human person, destined for eternity, and graced by Jesus' death and resurrection.

MARRIAGE:

Couples requesting the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the office at the time of formal engagement of at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage. If a couple wishes to be married as a registered member or our parish, they must actively participate in the faith (Sunday worship) and be a registered member of our parish at least 3 months prior to requesting the Sacrament of Marriage. Weddings are not celebrated during Lent.

BAPTISM:

Parents may request the baptism of their infant at least two months prior to the anticipated date of baptism. Family should be members of our parish, they must actively participate in the faith (Sunday worship) and be a registered member of our parish. To request baptism, please call the parish office at 715-824-3455.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:

If you or a loved one is in need of the Anointing Sacrament especially before a hospital stay or procedure - please contact the office.

UNITED PRAYERS TO HEAVEN

PRAYER CHAIN: Notice to all Parishioners. If you or anyone you know is in need of prayers, please let us know. We will keep your name & prayer request confidential, names are included only if you so desire.

CONTACTS FOR PRAYER CHAIN:

Laurie plhintz5@gmail.com
Darlene 715-592-4443
Barb 715-824-3649

Faith Formation...

CCD Classes:

Please make sure you have downloaded "myparishapp" for any unexpected cancellations. Also, keep the students & teachers in your prayers.

GREAT RESOURCES TO HELP YOU LEARN

and Grow in your Faith: stpaulcenter.com – Click upper right 'Log In', then enter Email: sjsmevangelization@gmail.com -- Password: WeBelieve -- Click on Bible Studies (upper left), then click on Video Studies, scroll down to Genesis to Jesus or whichever study you would like and click on the blue "Watch Now" button to begin.

TO SIGN UP FOR FR. MIKE SCHMITZ'S **new podcast, 'The Bible in A Year':**

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration> - Father Mike will be using The Great Adventure Bible Timeline learning system, developed by renowned Catholic Bible teacher Jeff Cavins.

Alter Servers Needed



St. James and St. Mary's are in desperate need of Altar Servers. We are looking for people of all ages to serve. If you would like more info. or would like to arrange a training, contact Theresa Shulfer: tmshulfer@gmail.com 715-592-4477 or Trish Cohen: cohen@wi-net.com

Parish Staff

Office:

Tina Maves
PH: 715-824-3455
catholiccentral54406@gmail.com

Send your Ambo announcements into office via email by Noon Tuesday

DRE/Parish Life Coordinator:

Ann Hemmy
PH: 715-316-7056
sjsmdre.plc@gmail.com

Bookkeeper:

Sandy Trzebiatowski
sjsmbkkpr@gmail.com

Bulletin:

bulletininfo06@gmail.com
Please send your request via email by **midnight Sunday**. Please refrain to a maximum of 100 words and in a word document.

Church Councils

Pastoral Council

Cindi Borski SM
Shawn Lea SM
Steve Piesik SM
Judy Zinda SM
Justen Pacocha SM
Barb Gutschow SM
Michael Juris SJ
Michelle Shulfer SJ
Christine Thompson SJ

Finance Council

Mark Doll SM
Gilbert Patoka SM
Sharon Stratton SJ
Sandy Trzebiatowski SJ

Committees Chairperson Co-chairs

Family Life: Laura Gould & Misty Prater

Sacred Worship: Judi Marquard & Barb Groholski

Social Concerns: Pat Zielinski and Laura Trzebiatowski - Przekurat

Education: TBA

Stewardship: TBA