



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

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

**-- Fr. Jerzy Rebacz --
Deacon Art Schaller**

**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

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



Sunday, March 26th, 2023

Mission Statement:

We, the stewards of St. James and St. Mary of 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 of 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.



Weekday Mass Intentions

- Tuesday, March 28th, 8:15 AM @ SJ
..... Jim Koehl
- Wednesday, March 29th, 8:15 AM @ SM
..... Steve Borski
- Thursday, March 30th, 8:15 AM @ SM
..... Daniel Ostrowski
- Friday, March 31st, 8:15 AM @ SJ
The Living & Deceased Members of the Loecher Family

Weekend Mass Intentions

- Saturday, April 1st, 4:00 PM @ SM
..... Andrew Kurszewski
- Sunday, April 2nd, 8:30 AM @ SJ
..... Parishioners of Our Two Parishes
- Sunday, April 2nd, 10:30 AM @ SM
..... LaVerne Trzebiatowski

Lent 47 days?

“These forty days of Lent, O Lord with you we fast and pray” goes the hymn. Lent started February 22. Easter falls on April 9.

How do we get forty days? Isn't it more like... forty-seven? It might seem that way, but try counting it with this in mind, every Sunday is already a “Little Easter” over sin and death. So, when you take the Sundays out of the reckoning and add the Paschal Triduum, you get the Church's iconic forty days. Every Sunday, even in Lent, is a “Little Easter.” We gather on Sundays because it is the Lord's day of resurrection. Sundays are never days of penance. They are always days of celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death.

ADORATION:

St. Mary: First Thursday of the month after morning Mass.
St. James: First Friday of the month after morning Mass; First Thursday of the Month 4:30-5:30PM

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

After weekday Masses at respective Church. Saturday at 3:30 PM at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel
Sunday after 10:30 AM Mass at St. Mary.

“DID YOU KNOW” from the Sacred Worship Committee

What is the proper way to receive Holy Communion?

There are two ways we can receive communion, either on the tongue or in the hand. The minister holds up the Host and says, “The Body of Christ,” and we the communicant answers, “Amen,” and it means, “So be it.” “I agree.” “I believe.” “It is the Body of Christ.” This is what the “Amen” means: “I honestly believe that when I receive, It Is Christ. And so I say Amen.”

As a sign of piety, it's proper to make a gesture of reverence as you approach receiving the Eucharist, by genuflecting or bow.

If you are going to receive on the tongue while standing or kneeling, you should keep certain things in mind. First, come straight forward, face the minister, and don't be too far away, because it's difficult at times to reach. The head should be bent back slightly. The tongue should come out over the bottom teeth, equal with the bottom lip, so that the minister has someplace to put the Host. If you're going to kneel for Communion, remember to rise straight up, thinking about the people behind you.

If you're going to receive on the hand, the best way is to put the dominant hand down and put the other hand on top of it to make a throne for the Lord. When the minister puts the Host on your hand, you say, “Amen.” At that moment consume the Host IMMEDIATELY. If you do not, you will be approached and directed to consume the Host or return the Host to the minister.

After you have received the Eucharist, you don't need to move aside and pause before the tabernacle because the Lord is within you, you are the tabernacle.

If the Host should accidentally fall on the floor, indicate it to the minister, don't pick it up, only the priest, deacon or extraordinary minister can do that.

Upon receiving the Eucharist reflect on, “**It is the Lord**” which is what our faith demands. **It is the Lord** that we are worshiping. **It is the Lord** that we received into ourselves. **It is the Lord** who is giving us in the Eucharist a special way to participate in divine life. **It is the Lord** who is sanctifying us. That should be the overwhelming disposition with which we approach Holy Communion: **IT IS THE LORD!**

What are the guidelines to receive Holy Communion?

The Catholic Church sets out specific guidelines regarding how we should prepare ourselves to receive the Lord's body and blood in Communion. First, you must be in a state of grace. “Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup” (1 Cor. 11:27–28). This is an absolute requirement that can never be dispensed. To receive the Eucharist without sanctifying grace in your soul profanes the Eucharist in the most grievous manner. That is why it is so important to go to confession before receiving communion with a mortal sin on your soul.

A mortal sin is any sin whose matter is grave and which has been committed willfully and with knowledge of its seriousness. Grave matter includes, but is not limited to, murder, receiving or participating in an abortion, homosexual acts, having sexual intercourse outside of marriage or in an invalid marriage, and deliberately engaging in impure thoughts (Matt. 5:28–29). Scripture contains lists of mortal sins (for example, 1 Cor. 6:9–10 and Gal. 5:19–21). For further information on what constitutes a mortal sin, see the Catechism of the Catholic Church.



Stewardship

a way of living

| St James | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Week Ending March 19, 2023 | | | |
| Received | \$2,043 | | |
| Budget | <u>\$3,430</u> | | |
| | (\$1,387) | | |
| | Month of Feb 2023 | Jul 2022 - Feb 2023 | Jul 2021 - Feb 2022 |
| Received | \$11,544 | \$112,936 | \$94,501 |
| Budget | <u>\$14,578</u> | <u>\$116,624</u> | |
| | (\$3,034) | (\$3,688) | |

| St Mary of Mount Carmel | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Week Ending March 19, 2023 | | | |
| Received | \$3,642 | | |
| Budget | <u>\$3,564</u> | | |
| | \$78 | | |
| | Month of Feb 2023 | Jul 2022 - Feb 2023 | Jul 2021 - Feb 2022 |
| Received | \$18,413 | \$121,405 | \$102,185 |
| Budget | <u>\$15,148</u> | <u>\$121,184</u> | |
| | \$3,265 | \$221 | |

Support Scrip Gift Cards

SMMC SCRIP UPDATE:

Our next Scrip gift card sales will be on the weekends of April 1st & 2nd and April 16th & 17th. Cards can be purchased at any time by calling Pat Zielinski at 715-824-3762. Thanks to everyone who supports our Scrip program.

*Thanks to everyone who supports
our Scrip Gift Card Program*

ST. JAMES SCRIP CARDS:

Remember that every purchase through SCRIP helps offset the cost of our annual dues to Pacelli Catholic Schools. To purchase Scrip, stop by the parish office during office hours or contact Hydrie Laidlaw at 715-347-3544.

Parish News...

PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION:

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The pandemic hit particularly hard the Christians in the Holy Land. Most of them depend on pilgrimages to work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is also necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land where the Church was born. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY:

The Bible and the Virgin Mary Study through the St. Paul Center will be held on Monday, March 27, 5:30 pm at St. James. *All are welcome.*

THANK YOU – THANK YOU:

A special Thank you to all who came to help clean St. Mary's this past week. It was wonderful to see so many willing hands working together to clean our church. It was a perfect opportunity to help clean & visit with other parishioners who volunteered. *May God Bless all who pitched in to help!*

ROSARY BEFORE MASS AND STATIONS:

A rosary will be prayed ½ hour before all weekend and weekday Masses at both Parishes and before Stations of the Cross at St. Mary's. Plan to come early to pray and meditate on the life of Jesus Christ, through the mysteries of the rosary. A perfect way to increase your prayer life during Lent. If you would be interested in leading the rosary, please call the office and leave your name and telephone number.

WASHING OF FEET ON HOLY THURSDAY:

Volunteers are needed to represent the 12 Apostles having their feet washed by Jesus. The foot washing ceremony is an important call for all people that they too should be willing to serve others. Yes, even if it means we must do things we might not like to do. Even if the work is dirty or hard, we must still do our work. After all, Jesus Himself, the Son of God, washed the feet of His disciples. And we are no greater than Jesus, so surely, we too should do the same. Sign up sheets at both parishes. Please sign up.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

TUESDAY - 5:30 pm

AT ST. JAMES:
March 28th, 2023

FRIDAYS - 2:00 pm

AT ST. MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL:
March 31st, 2023

LENTEN DINNERS:

Join us after Stations of the Cross on Tuesday, March 28th. Stations begin at 5:30 and dinner at 6pm. Take this time to pray and then enjoy a meal with our community. Contact Misty Prater at mistyprater@gmail.com or 785-633-5206 (call/text.)

EASTER FLOWERS:

If you wish to give a donation towards Easter flowers, please put your donation in an envelope marked with Easter Flowers, your name and parish. Thank you.

SJ-SMMC SOCIAL CONCERNS:

The Seraphic Adorers of the Child Jesus is a contemplative community of women in the Diocese LaCrosse who currently reside in Plover. They have been in our Parishes and recently spoke at our Masses. The sisters are consecrated to the Divine Child Jesus. The Seraphic Adorers devote their lives to prayer and do accept prayer requests. Requests can be placed in an envelope marked "S-A prayer request" and put on the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office. Father Jerzy will deliver them for us. Requests can also be mailed to Seraphic Adorers, PO Box 550, Plover, 54467. You can learn more about them by going to their website seraphicadorers.com

The Annunciation of the Lord is on March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord refers to the time when the angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary to tell her that she would be the mother of the savior. Mary was the first to hear and believe that God would do what he promised the world. Mary at her Annunciation models faith for us. She shows us that faith is more than assent, but is also trust, commitment, obedience, and submission.

MARRIAGE:

Couples requesting the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the office at the time of engagement, at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage. If a couple wishes to be married as a registered parish member, 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

Upcoming...

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:

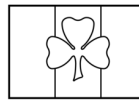
Everyone is welcome to Sacred Heart Parish on Sunday, April 16th as we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday! In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST:

Breakfast at the Knights of Columbus:
Sunday, March 26th, serving from 8:15am-11am.
401 W Clark St., just across the Clark St. Bridge in Stevens Point. *Open to the Public!*

ST. BRON'S ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST:

will be held Sunday, March 26, 2023 from 8:30am-Noon at St. Bronislava Catholic Church located at 3200 Plover Road in Plover.



St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish (Almond) is hosting a pilgrimage to the Emerald Isles, Ireland, August 20-30th, 2023.

This is an amazing trip. Fr Peter and those participating will take a Charter bus from St. Maximilian to Chicago for an overnight flight to Dublin. Every day will take us to new sites. The trip will include airfare, 4-5 star hotels stays (double occupancy), breakfast at each hotel, dinner at local restaurants, professional English speaking tour guide, entrance fees to all the sites and transportation in a fully air-conditioned luxury coach. The cost will be \$3,799 USD, with the first payment of \$1,000 due the end of June, and the balance due the end of July.

The quote is based on a minimum of 25 passengers. *Note that the above cost does not yet include the cost of the bus to/from Chicago. Any passport expenses and/or travel insurance is your responsibility.*

**If interested or have questions contact:
Mary at 715-340-7217**

Parish Staff

Office:

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

Send your Ambo announcements into the office via email by Noon Tuesday

Parish Life Administrator:

Ann Hemmy DRE:
sjsmparishlife@gmail.com

Bookkeeper:

Sandy Trzebiatowski PH: 715-316-7056
sjsmbkkpr@gmail.com sjsmdre@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
Barb Gutschow SM
Judy Zinda SM
Justen Pacocha 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