



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: [sjsmmcc.weconnect.com](http://sjsmmcc.weconnect.com)  
[myparishapp.com/download](http://myparishapp.com/download)



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**Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

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**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 26th, 8:15 AM @ SJ  
..... Stephen Hodgkins  
Wednesday, March 27th, 8:15 AM @ SM  
..... Carol Shulfer  
Holy Thursday, March 28th, 7:00 PM @ SM  
..... Steve Borski

**Good Friday Service—March 29th, 12:00 Noon @ SM**

**Weekend Mass Intentions**

Easter Vigil Saturday, March 30th, 8:00 PM @ SM  
..... Philomena Solensky  
Easter Sunday, March 31st, 8:30 AM @ SJ  
..... Parishioners of Our Two Parishes  
Easter Sunday, March 31st, 10:30 AM @ SM  
..... Theresa Kitowski

**A TRIDUUM PRAYER**

*Lord Jesus, as we enter into these sacred  
days of the Triduum, we humbly walk with  
you on your journey of suffering, death,  
and ultimate resurrection. Help us to  
understand the depth of your love for us,  
and grant us the grace to embrace the  
cross as a path to new life. May we,  
like you, find strength in moments of  
trial and hope in the face of despair.  
In your name Jesus Christ, we pray.*

*Amen*

**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 4:30-5:30 PM

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE:**

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

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is impossible to ignore today's liturgy of the word, because the word we heard is very strong. It is not only about the description – more or less detailed – of Jesus' suffering, all the insults he had to endure, the physical pain he experienced, or the humiliation that befell him. It's more about the fact that today's word – and even more so the entire context of today – is sometimes reflected in the lives of average Christians.

Let's see that we are accompanied by two opposing images today. On one hand, there is an image of Jesus applauded by crowds of people, most of whom raised palms and olive branches over their heads. Palm branches – a symbol of victory – were given to various types of winners in ancient times. Olive branches, in turn, symbolize mercy, because olive oil from the fruit of the olive tree was used to relieve pain caused by various physical injuries. Therefore, the people cheering Jesus when He entered Jerusalem recognized His victory, His reign, and praised the mercy that should characterize human relationships, which Jesus called for in His teaching.

The second image is the suffering of Jesus – described quite precisely. The suffering and the accompanying cries of the same people: **Crucify Him, crucify Him!!!** There are no more olive branches, there is no joyful greeting, but there is spitting and insults, there is a death sentence.

I am afraid that among these people we could see many Christians today, many believers, and maybe even ourselves. Because how many times in our lives do we welcome Jesus, enjoy His presence, receive sacraments, which are sometimes accompanied – as in the case of baptisms or marriages – with sumptuous feasts? We accept the sacraments of confirmation assuring God of our Christian maturity, the sacrament of marriage assuring each other of mutual love for the good and the bad or the sacrament of priesthood, promising to serve God's people and be faithful until the end of our lives. Sometimes, it doesn't take much time to move without much difficulty to the second attitude – to the attitude of a man mocking Jesus, hurting Him through some of his minor infidelities or by clearly opposing Him. Young people receive the sacrament of confirmation one day, only to say the next day that they no longer need anything from God or the Church. Others vow love and fidelity to each other until death, and in a few months, they plan to break up because they imagined their life together differently. Or a young priest decides after half a year of his ministry that he made a mistake, that this is not his path. Parents who do not go to church on Sundays because they have other (more important) plans set an example for their children *continued....*



## Stewardship *a way of living*

### St James

Week Ending March 17, 2024

Received \$1,802

Budget \$3,430  
(\$1,628)

	Feb 2024	Jul 2023 - Feb 2024	Jul 2022 - Feb 2023
Received	\$10,873	\$102,123	\$112,936
Budget	<u>\$14,578</u> (\$3,705)	<u>\$116,624</u> (\$14,501)	

### St Mary of Mount Carmel

Week Ending March 17, 2024

Received \$2,642

Budget \$3,564  
(\$922)

	Feb 2024	Jul 2023 - Feb 2024	Jul 2022 - Feb 2023
Received	\$13,783	\$134,123	\$121,355
Budget	<u>\$15,148</u> (\$1,365)	<u>\$121,184</u> \$12,939	

... which side of the crowd to join: *Hosanna or crucify Him!* "Well, that's life", you might hear in response. We are like that, or we are like that from time to time. One day we entrust our lives to Jesus, cheering Him, and the next day we are nailing Him to the cross with our sins. And in all this, the words of Jesus spoken on the cross sound amazing: **Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.** This is our God who fights for us in every moment of our lives and still reaches out to us – no matter how much we hurt Him or even reject Him.

Brothers and Sisters, God is always on our side! – and this is probably the strongest and most important message of today's liturgy. Let this thought guide us as often as possible. Which side of the crowd will you stand on today?

*Fr. Jerzy*

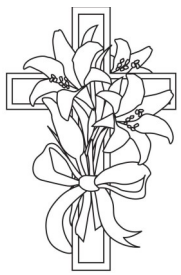


## Easter Homebound Visits

Father Jerzy will be scheduling homebound visits

**Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

If you would like to receive the Grace of God during this beautiful season of Lent, please call the office at **715-824-3455**



## Holy Week Schedule

**No Morning Mass on Thursday or Friday. No 4:00pm Saturday Mass**

**Holy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**

7:00p.m. Mass at St. Mary  
"Adoration after Mass 'til 9:00 pm"

**Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 p.m. Service at St. Mary

**Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 p.m. Mass at St. Mary

**EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>**

8:30 a.m. Mass at St. James

10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary

## Parish News...

### OFFICE CLOSED:

In celebration of Easter the Parish Office will be closed Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> & Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> (*No Foolin'*).

### INSTITUTION OF THE PRIESTHOOD:

On Holy Thursday we not only celebrate the institution of the Eucharist the true body & blood of Jesus Christ, but also the institution of the Sacrament of the priesthood. Let us remember and continue to pray for all the deceased priests that have served the parishioners of St. James and St. Mary Mount Carmel Parishes.

### BIBLE STUDY AT ST. JAMES OR AT HOME:

Join us for Bible Study on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm at St. James. We are doing the video study 'HOLY IS HIS NAME' from the St. Paul Center. We encourage you to take time this Lent to join our Bible Study or to view it online by going to: [stpaulcenter.com](http://stpaulcenter.com) and log in with: [sjsmevangelization@gmail.com](mailto:sjsmevangelization@gmail.com) – Password: WeBelieve – go to Bible Studies & click on Video Studies to find HOLY IS HIS NAME.

### SIGN-UP TODAY FOR WASHING OF FEET ON

**HOLY THURSDAY:** This is an important ceremony as we follow the example of Jesus washing the feet of the Apostles. We encourage parishioners from both parishes to sign up. Sign-up sheets at entryways.

### RICE BOWL BOXES & GOOD FRIDAY ENVELOPES

can be placed in baskets that will be set out in front of Church during the veneration of the Cross on Good Friday.

### SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING MORNING MASS ON DAYS THAT WE HAVE A FUNERAL:

There WILL BE morning Mass on days that we have a funeral, even if the funeral and morning Mass are at the same parish.

### DIVINE MERCY NOVENA:

Begins on Good Friday. Pamphlets with the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Intentions for each day of the Novena are at the entryways of Church.

### INCENSE WILL BE USED DURING THE TRIDUUM:

For those who are sensitive to incense, we have purchased Hypo-Allergenic resin incense and will be using this during the Triduum. During Holy Week, we will be using this incense several times. We will have incense on Holy Thursday, on Easter Vigil and at the two Masses on Easter Sunday.

## “DID YOU KNOW”

### from the Sacred Worship Committee

The Triduum, begins with the Last Supper on Holy Thursday and ends with the most important mass of the liturgical year, the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday.

During my research, I came upon the following teachings that I would like to highlight. One of the reasons that we know Jesus is the Son of God is that he fulfilled many prophecies. Have you ever wondered why a point is made that “none of His bones were broken” while hanging on the cross? If a crucified man was not dead prior to the Sabbath, which was at sundown, soldiers broke the legs of the man so they no longer had the power to lift themselves up to breathe, which led to immediate death.

The paschal lamb is seen as a prophetic type of Christ. In Exodus 12:46 and Numbers 9:12 Moses' description of the preparation of the lamb for sacrifice states that the bones of the lamb shall not be broken.

Five hundred years later, in Psalm 34:21 we read: “He watches over all his bones, not one of them shall be broken”. The timing of Jesus' death was carefully orchestrated by him so that he would fulfill this prophecy. He could have died during the gruesome scourging prior to his crucifixion, or on his way to Golgotha. He could have died while nailed to the cross in the first hour. Or he may have been alive when the soldiers came to break the legs of the two men on either side of him. But he succumbed to death at a time of his choosing, exhibiting his power over life and death.

Have you wondered why we gather in the dark for the mass of the Easter Vigil? Our celebration begins with the lighting of a fire, then the Easter candle is lit, representing the light of Christ. This light is passed on to all of us in the church until the church is slowly and gradually lit, just as we emerge joyfully with Jesus from the darkness of the tomb.

The Triduum may be seen as a pilgrimage.

May we sit with him at the Last Supper, stand with him in mourning at the crucifixion on Good Friday and emerge joyfully from the tomb with him at the Easter Vigil.

### **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

## **Support Scrip Gift Cards**

*Please contact Hydrie Laidlaw or*

*Pat Zielinski for more information.*

*Hydrie 715-347-3544 - Pat 715-824-3762*

## **Bishop Callahan Retires**

Pope Francis announced this past week that he accepted Bishop William Patrick Callahan's retirement request and appointed Bishop Gerard Battersby to succeed Bishop Callahan and serve as the 11<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse.

Bishop Battersby will be installed as the Bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman.

Please keep in your prayers Bishop Callahan in gratitude of his service and Bishop Battersby as he guides our Diocese as its spiritual father.

## **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.

## **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  
sjsmparishlife@gmail.com

### **DRE:**

**Bookkeeper:**  
Sandy Trzebiatowski  
sjsmbkkpr@gmail.com

Michelle Shulfer  
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  
Justen Pacocha SM  
Barb Gutschow SM  
Judy Zinda 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 and Co-chairs**

**Family Life:** Laura Gould

**Sacred Worship:** Judi Marquard &  
Barb Groholski

**Social Concerns:** Pat Zielinski and

Laura Trzebiatowski-Przekurat